




**LIFE
SAVING
VICTORIA
ANNUAL
REPORT
2010/2011**

Life Saving Victoria 



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MISSION

TO PREVENT AQUATIC RELATED DEATH AND INJURY IN ALL VICTORIAN COMMUNITIES.

VISION

ALL VICTORIANS WILL LEARN WATER SAFETY, SWIMMING AND RESUSCITATION AND BE PROVIDED WITH SAFE AQUATIC ENVIRONMENTS AND VENUES, THROUGH INNOVATIVE QUALITY SERVICES AND PROGRAMS.

COVER

Life Saving Victoria's diverse roles include (L-R, top to bottom):

- Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB) Crew
- General Manager
- Pool Lifeguard
- Youth Member
- Club President
- Education Program Team Leader
- Nipper
- Volunteer Lifesaver
- Trainer
- Professional Lifeguard
- Victorian Athlete
- Helicopter Crew
- Risk Assessor
- Receptionist
- Education Program Instructor

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



LIFE SAVING VICTORIA WORKS HARD TO SET BENCHMARKS AND ADOPT BEST PRACTICES IN DROWNING PREVENTION THROUGH OUR VAST RANGE OF OPERATIONS, ACTIVITIES, SERVICES AND EDUCATION.

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for Life Saving Victoria for the financial year 2010/2011.

As President of this unique and very special organisation, I am pleased to report great progress in 2010/2011.

Life Saving Victoria (LSV) works hard to set benchmarks and adopt best practices in drowning prevention through our vast range of operations, activities, services and education.

I am pleased to report that 2010/2011 statistics show drowning deaths in Victoria are at an all-time low. This is a significant achievement for our organisation, further validating that our hard work is collectively making a difference to the safety of Victorian communities.

For the second year running, we were able to combine the senior and junior Victorian Lifesaving Championships, which ran concurrently over the Labour Day long weekend at Lakes Entrance. A special thank you to Surf Life Saving Lakes Entrance for hosting this event, which attracted over 2200 competitors and over 7000 spectators.

LSV was honoured to be recognised by Westpac and Collingwood Football Club at the Westpac Community Cup AFL match between Collingwood and Adelaide on 22 May 2011. A highlight of the match was the opportunity for Nippers from around the state to walk a 'thank you' lap around Etihad Stadium in a pre-game parade. The game followed the successful 'Breakfast at the Beach' event held with Westpac and Collingwood Football Club, at Lifeguards@200 on 16 May 2011, while Collingwood players completed their recovery session between the red and yellow flags. Both events proved fantastic successes in promoting the amazing work of our volunteer lifesavers.

Another highlight was Anglesea Surf Life Saving Club winning the DHL Club of the Year award at Surf Life Saving Australia's Awards of Excellence in October 2010. This is the second year in a row a Victorian club has won the national Club of the Year award, following Surf Life Saving Lakes

Entrance's win last year. Anglesea Surf Life Saving Club was recognised for its outstanding achievement in club development, resulting in a safer beach and aquatic environment for the community. Congratulations to all at Anglesea Surf Life Saving Club.

Our organisation is enabled by a number of great partnerships with supporters and government. I'd like to acknowledge and thank all of our sponsors this year, for their assistance in enhancing our capability to deliver services, training and education to our members as well as to communities right across Victoria.

In particular, I would like to thank the Victorian Government, for their continued support of the annual Play it Safe by the Water campaign, and for funding and grants which have assisted in enhancing operational facilities, equipment and services.

This year has again seen an increase in volunteer membership across the state and particularly an increase in our number of junior members. Our junior carnival at Cosy Corner hosted the highest number of competitors on record, with over 1300 nippers participating on the day.

I'd like to thank each of our clubs and all of our dedicated volunteer members, who continue to give their time to undertake and deliver training, develop our young members, assist in organising and marshalling carnivals, patrol our beaches, and promote water safety.

I'd also like to thank our committed staff members for their efforts to continually improve our business and operations.

Finally, I'd like to acknowledge and thank the Chief Executive Officer, Nigel Taylor, as well as my fellow Directors, Life Saving Council Members and the Executive Management Team for their support throughout the year.

On behalf of the Board, I commend to you this annual report and wish you and your families a safe and happy 2011/2012 season.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Martin', written over a horizontal line.

Mike Martin
President, Life Saving Victoria



CEO'S OVERVIEW



**WE HAVE HAD
ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL
YEAR, WITH THE
DROWNING TOLL
AGAIN REACHING
A NEW RECORD LOW.**

This report aims to cover Life Saving Victoria's (LSV) broad activity base in terms of its undertakings in 2010/2011. At the very high end of our aims, we have had another successful year, with the drowning toll, as measured by a five year average per capita (100,000 of population), again reaching a new record low of 0.72.

This is still too high, but the lowest of any Australian state/territory and with every drowning being one too many, we are pleased to see this continued downward trend in Victoria.

Another highlight has seen our membership reach a new record high, with over 26,000 volunteer members.

To give you some idea of our working environment, if we combine Parks Victoria and aquatic industry figures we can conservatively estimate visitations to beaches, bays, inland waterways and public aquatic facilities were greater than 73 million in 2010/2011. In attempting to address this audience, included in this report is a map of LSV's services and programs, which indicates the length and breadth of our efforts.

These achievements and the many others noted in this report were realised as a result of significant input from our internal and external communities, the aquatic industry and all levels of government. Our working model is a powerful indication of what can be achieved by using a cooperative and collaborative approach. I will very briefly note a number of specific 2010/2011 achievements to give you some idea of the range of initiatives required to continue to lower the drowning toll.

In the **training service** area, we continued to use a broad based delivery model including service members, licensed training providers, volunteer club personnel and staff. As you will see detailed in the training section of this report, a number of new award participation records have again been set this year. Our training team is also continuously reviewing our training systems and processes to ensure we are providing the best possible administrative support for our training delivery.

The high profile improvement to **lifesaving services** was the extension of the existing helicopter service to operate for a full 12 months and the addition of a second one to cover the peak summer period. We also launched a Port Phillip Bay Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB) to provide a service for the large number of twilight visitors at city beaches on very hot days. We note our sincere appreciation of the additional support from Westpac to make these additional services possible.

Another significant operational achievement was the opening of the new Inverloch Life Saving Clubhouse. After 13 years of operating out of three shipping containers, the club's determination to create this award winning facility is an inspiration to us all.

The big step forward in the **education** area was the finalisation of the new Swim and Survive resources. Following their introduction, we have seen a significant increase in their usage.



Through our schools programs, LSV undertook more than 54,000 face-to-face contacts, delivering water safety messages and skill development to one of our most crucial target markets. LSV's education delivery resources are now at capacity in terms of our summer time delivery, with a review underway to enable an expansion of our school activities capability.

Our **multicultural** reach continues to grow; we now have long term mutually beneficial relationships with many newly arrived communities. With over 80 per cent of the 48,000 new arrivals in Victoria each year acknowledging that they can't swim (LSV limited research), we are very conscious of the growing need for work in this area.

In an attempt to address this issue, over 6000 swimming lessons were delivered through LSV's multicultural programs this year. With the announcement of recurrent State Government support for this area of activity, together with the three year funding commitment from VicHealth we are now able to plan with confidence our programs in this area of activity.

Our **aquatic sports** season again culminated with a combined junior and senior state titles, hosted by Surf Life Saving Lakes Entrance over the Labour Day long weekend in March. The scale of the event was an impressive site. Overall we are seeing incremental increases in participation at the senior level and in the juniors we are now planning for events that regularly attract more than 1000 participants.

This year our **risk and research** activities were brought together to function as one business unit. The synergies from this merger should become evident in 2011/2012. It has been pleasing to see the development of the Watch Around Water program for public facilities and the greater use of LSV's risk assessment skills in the early stages of public aquatic facilities development.

There are always many highlights in the **member recognition** area. The two I would like to note this year were:

- For the first time we brought together all of our living Wishart Medallists, which was an inspirational night for all involved. The Wishart medal is awarded annually to LSV's Lifesaver of the Year, in honour of the late John Wishart. On the night, John Wishart's son Tim and the Portsea club donated a wall hanging to formally recognise John's story.
- It was also the year that Imtiyaz (Minty) Saberi received a Victorian Refugee Recognition Award for his work with LSV. A particularly impressive achievement for someone who just five years ago was living in Afghanistan with no aquatic background whatsoever.

The highlight in the **media** area would be the introduction of the new toddler drowning prevention promotion. Funded through the Play it Safe by the Water campaign, this promotion again indicated that with the appropriate input and support a difference could be made to a specific category within the overall drowning figure.

LSV's **planning** component saw the beginning of the governance/structural review. This review will aim to establish the appropriate governance for the organisation now that it is seven years old. Early work indicates that it is not broken but some refinement could be useful. In terms of LSV's 12 critical success factors, we continue to make satisfactory progress in each area and will continue to work towards delivery of these strategic objectives in 2011/2012.

For the overall aquatic industry, the Victorian Water Safety Master Plan is now in its final draft form, with a potential release expected to be at the beginning of summer.

Financially we were able to produce a positive result before depreciation. Given the number of activity centres it is always a challenge to ensure we remain financially sound. Without significant and much appreciated backing from supporters, government, donors and fundraising, many of our successes would not have been possible. This support is noted specifically in the supporters page of this report. Our detailed financials are provided as an attachment to this report and are also available from our website: www.lifesavingvictoria.com.au.

Finally, with so many activities to be delivered, we are reliant on the input of so many valued volunteers, members, supporters, officials and staff. Personally and on behalf of the organisation, I note our appreciation and admiration of your input. To the LSV Board, President Mike Martin, the two life saving national bodies and the various committees, thank you for your generosity in so many forms.

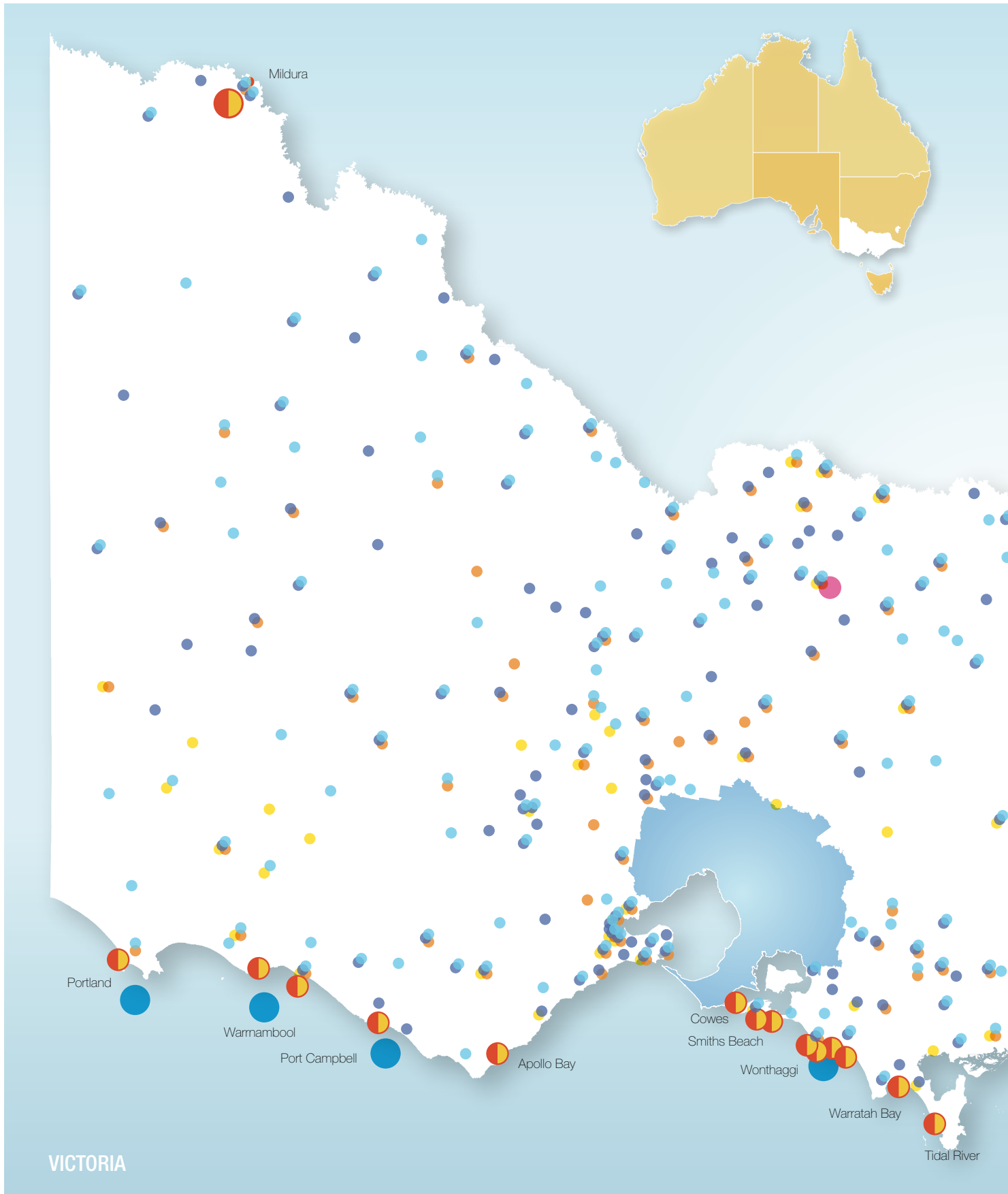


Nigel Taylor ESM

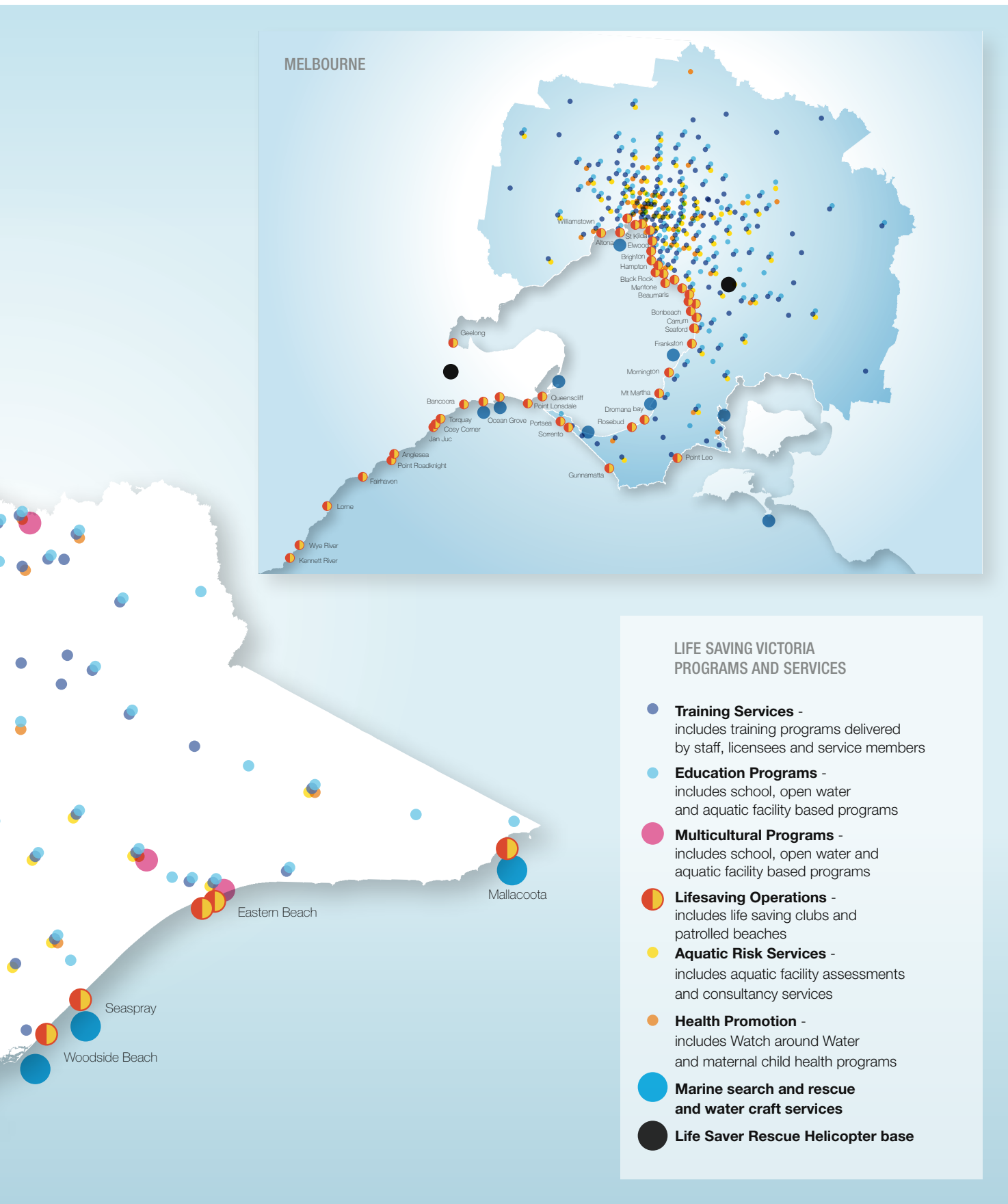
Chief Executive Officer
Life Saving Victoria



PROGRAMS AND SERVICES



LSV delivers one or more programs or services in 476 suburbs and towns in Victoria.



LIFESAVING OPERATIONS

KEY STATISTICS

2010/2011 Volunteer Lifesaver patrol statistics:

- 1,331,133 beach visitations
- 23,665 preventative actions
- 1118 minor first aid
- 72 major first aid
- 423 total rescues

2010/2011 Professional Lifeguard patrol statistics:

- 870,938 beach visitations
- 30,862 preventative actions
- 559 minor first aid
- 57 major first aid
- 268 total rescues



OVERVIEW

Victoria's patrol season was extended this year, with Port Phillip Bay clubs commencing patrols two weeks earlier than usual. This change was introduced to align with higher beach visitation earlier in the season and provided beach safety services to an additional 23,900 beach-goers.

With this early start and a late Easter, Victoria's longest patrol season concluded on 26 April 2011. The season included a range of weather conditions including a very hot Christmas and New Year period, which created a heavy workload for lifesavers.

Lifesavers provided more than 27,000 hours of beach patrols. Rescues were up significantly through the Christmas-New Year break, with almost 700 people rescued during the season. First Aid treatment was also in high demand, with more than 1800 cases recorded; of these, 129 were serious cases requiring ambulance attention.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Expanded Westpac sponsored rescue services to include:
 - A new Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB) to patrol Northern Port Phillip Bay.
 - A second Westpac LifeSaver Rescue Helicopter, to boost the aerial patrol service and emergency response capabilities for the Geelong and Surf Coast region.
 - Extended operational hours of the Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter Service to become a year-round service.
- Completed stage three of the radio network, with most clubs now having direct communications with LSV Communications from their portable radios.
- Realigned patrol times to support peak beach visitation.
- Rolled out Psychological First Aid resources to members, to improve welfare following traumatic lifesaving incidents.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The Victorian State Government May 2011 budget announcement of funding for LSV has ensured community lifesaving programs will continue over the next four years.

LSV will receive \$9.5 million over four years to provide services including:

- \$6 million for major clubhouse upgrades;
- \$1 million for LSV's Volunteer Support Network;
- \$1.2 million for administration assistance for LSV clubs; and
- \$1.3 million for the LSV Multicultural Water Safety Program.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Lifesaving Operations team would like to thank the multitude of stakeholders who collectively enable the provision of lifesaving services, including:

- Volunteer members for patrolling and club services;
- Natural Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme – LSV Communications Development;
- Natural Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme – Helicopter Crew Personal Protective Equipment (PPE);
- Department of Transport – Helicopter Emergency Position-indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) training buoys;
- RAPP Australia – additional helicopter equipment and aquatic sports equipment;
- Westpac;
- Telstra;
- DHL;
- Volunteer Emergency Services Equipment Program (VESEP);
- Department of Justice;
- Helen McPherson Smith Trust; and
- BlueScope Steel.



**TOTAL
RESCUES**

691

**TOTAL
FIRST AID**

1806

TRAINING

KEY STATISTICS

Commercial Training

- 814 participants in Community Surf Lifesaving Certificate courses*
- 26,687 commercial awards achieved
- 2149 participants trained by LSV Licensed Training Providers*
- 11,840 participants trained in CPR*
- 636 participants in Child and Infant CPR courses*
- 13,894 awards issued through Service Members accredited to deliver training on behalf of LSV

Club Training

- 6261 new awards issued to volunteer members
- 186 new training officers trained
- 43 new assessors trained
- 6895 awards requalified by members

**Indicates record number of participants.*



OVERVIEW

During 2010/2011, LSV's Training Services team continued to expand provision of quality training services to the community, the aquatics industry and our volunteer members.

The past 12 months have seen an increase in the number of participants in both commercial and community training courses, LSV has also seen an increase in participants in licencee training courses.

A large number of new volunteer awards and resources have been developed and updated throughout the year and will be rolled out to our volunteer members in the coming season.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Commercial Training

- Increased uptake of First Aid for Students programs within schools.
- Implemented a lifesaving team building and communication program for 150 students at Albert Park Secondary College, delivered in partnership with Port Melbourne Life Saving Club.
- Completed trial of "CPR Now" mannequin on all full Senior First Aid courses.
- Increased network of licensed training providers;
- Updated LSV resources in line with changes to the Community Recreation training package.

Club Training

- Updated LSV resources and trainers in line with changes to the Public Safety Training Package.
- Rolled out the Advanced Resuscitation Techniques certificate.
- Updated Inflatable Rescue Boat training, to include changed procedures resulting from a major review conducted by Surf Life Saving Australia.
- Completed review of internal award processing procedure.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

- Development of an online learning platform.
- Development of Certificate III in Aquatics with Royal Life Saving Society - Australia.
- Updates to the Pool Lifeguard Award.
- Upgrade to the new Training and Assessment Training Package.
- Review of proficiency processes.
- Finalisation and implementation of Certificate III in Public Safety (Emergency Communications Centre Operations).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Training Services team would like to thank:

- LSV volunteer members for training delivery and administration;
- Venues which have hosted training courses, including aquatic centres and lifesaving clubs and
- Department of Justice - Valuing Volunteers Grant.



**AWARDS
ISSUED
THROUGH
SERVICE
MEMBERS**

13,894

**PEOPLE
TRAINED
IN CPR**

11,840

EDUCATION

KEY STATISTICS

- 54,038 students participated in LSV school water safety education programs
- 149,069 participants in Swim and Survive programs, a 59 per cent increase in participation
- 9144 participants in the Open Water Learning Experience program, a 30 per cent increase



OVERVIEW

LSV's Education Services team provide a diverse range of programs to educate students, teachers and the community about water safety and lifesaving skills. During the past year, Education Services has seen a substantial increase in participant numbers for practical based aquatic programs, including the Open Water Learning Experience and Swim and Survive programs.

With over 200,000 participants taking part in water safety education state wide, LSV is leading the industry in water safety programs. LSV continues to work with Government and the Aquatics Industry to plan future programs and services, to address the importance of children learning water safety skills and learning to swim.

Victorian Government support has enabled LSV to offer the Victorian Water Safety Certificate (VWSC) free of charge to schools, private providers and aquatic facilities. The VWSC sets a benchmark for swimming and water safety ability for students exiting primary school. This program aims to increase teaching of swimming and water safety skills in Victorian schools and improve on current statistics, which show that one in five students exiting primary school cannot swim or demonstrate basic survival and water safety techniques, which could save their lives in an emergency.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Revamped Swim and Survive program launched in conjunction with Royal Life Saving Society – Australia, which includes a new key program strand targeting preschool children.
- Achieved record participation in the Open Water Learning Experience program, including delivery of the program to schools in flood affected areas, with support from local pools.
- Operated education programs at maximum capacity during school term four in 2010 and term one in 2011, due to high demand.
- Partnered with YMCA Victoria to deliver LSV's Open Water Learning Experience program to a further 670 participants through YMCA Victoria camps.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

- The development of industry-wide standards for the provision of water safety aspects of Learn to Swim programs. As part of this, the Victorian Water Safety Certificate will be offered as a key tool for providers to ensure students are meeting the benchmark standard in swimming and water safety when exiting primary school.
- Working in conjunction with Royal Life Saving Society - Australia to develop and review new aquatic based education programs and resources.
- Sourcing of additional sponsorship to support specific education programs.
- Looking at the prospect of working with industry partners to develop training models to up-skill teachers in delivering school aquatic programs.
- Working with YMCA Victoria to assist in delivery of LSV's Open Water Learning Experience program, to increase participation in the program thorough YMCA Victoria camps.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Education Services team would like to thank:

- Department of Justice - for continued support of the Play it Safe by the Water campaign. This funding assistance ensures that over 8000 participants learn key messages of water safety education each year through the Open Water Learning Experience Program.
- Victorian Government - for continued support of the Victorian Water Safety Certificate.



**INCREASE IN SWIM
AND SURVIVE
PROGRAM
PARTICIPATION**

59%

**STUDENTS
PARTICIPATED
IN THE OPEN
WATER LEARNING
EXPERIENCE**

9144

MULTICULTURAL PROJECTS

KEY STATISTICS

- 7643 multicultural community members took part in LSV water safety activities
- 6262 swimming lessons were offered to multicultural community members around Melbourne
- 130 multicultural groups and organisations worked with LSV to promote water safety



OVERVIEW

LSV's Multicultural Services team had a record breaking year, engaging over 7500 members of Victoria's significant multicultural community in aquatic education activities.

Demand for aquatic safety sessions within multicultural communities has grown rapidly over the last four years. More than 20,000 new arrivals, refugees, international students and migrants participated 'offsite' in local beach and pool activities and 'onsite' in classrooms and community centres through LSV's Meet a Lifeguard and Resuscitate a Mate sessions. Current research indicates that multicultural communities are at disproportional risk of injury or drowning around aquatic environments, highlighting the importance of water safety education for this group.

To tackle the water safety information gap for international students, Monash University, Victoria University and Box Hill Institute of TAFE each partnered with LSV to host beach days at Edithvale, Port Melbourne and Williamstown Life Saving Clubs. Students were introduced to the clubs, where they learned about water awareness, beach safety and the roles of lifesaving volunteers, while enjoying water activities with nipper boards, body boards and an assortment of other rescue equipment. A great outcome of this program has also been the number of participants who have taken up the invitation to become lifesavers. These events were delivered with continued support from the Rootvij Kadakia Foundation.

A three-year Lakes Entrance Indigenous Aquatics Project engaged over 1800 participants from within the East Gippsland region with activities and educational messages. Thank you to Surf Life Saving Lakes Entrance, which was a key partner in delivering the project.

Ethnic radio was also used state wide to deliver key water safety messages to multicultural communities, targeting 18 different multicultural communities and the Indigenous community. Community spokespersons were engaged as ambassadors to help strengthen the delivery of messages.

LSV's multicultural projects enable multicultural groups to be safer and happier around water and aim to reduce numbers of drowning deaths and injuries. These projects also aid in developing stronger mutual relations between lifesavers and beach users, as well as encouraging more diversity in lifesaving club membership.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Increased interest of Victorian multicultural communities in becoming involved in water safety activities.
- Expanded popular multicultural learn-to-swim projects in metropolitan regions.
- Developed a multicultural projects DVD and pamphlet for current and potential stakeholders, to showcase LSV's multicultural activities and programs.
- Imtiyaz Saberi, Edithvale Life Saving Club volunteer, awarded 2011 Victorian Refugee Recognition Award.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Longer-term funding was secured from Department of Justice and VicHealth in 2010/2011, ensuring LSV's multicultural water safety projects and programs will be preserved and expanded over the next four years.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Multicultural Projects team would like to thank:

- Department of Justice;
- Department of Justice- Koori Justice Unit;
- VicHealth;
- Sports Without Borders Foundation;
- Rootvij Kadakia Foundation;
- Parks Victoria; and
- City of Port Phillip.



7643

**MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS
TOOK PART IN WATER SAFETY ACTIVITIES**

AQUATIC SPORTS

KEY STATISTICS

- 3675 competitors participated at senior beach carnivals
- 877 competitors participated at Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB) carnivals
- 404 competitors participated at pool carnivals
- 8936 competitors participated at lifesaving carnivals
- 613 competitors participated on average at senior beach carnivals



OVERVIEW

The 2010/2011 Aquatic Sports season set new records, with an overall 10 per cent increase in competitor numbers. The Summer Surf Series Anglesea Carnival was the largest for the season, with over 760 competitors. All six Summer Surf Carnivals topped 500 competitors. The average number of competitors per carnival increased from 588 to 612, while the number of clubs competing increased from around 32 to 36 per carnival. This growth shows that the sport is healthy with increasing interest from competitors across LSV clubs.

The weather once again dictated the season's competition, with more rain than sun at the majority of carnivals. The season began at Ocean Grove and ended at Fairhaven, seeing new star athletes emerge into the spotlight. Hard work and determination was rewarded, with some of the season's best athletes gaining positions in the Victorian and Australian Teams.

Congratulations to award winners in all lifesaving competitions this season. The development of Aquatic Sports squads and increased competition will lead LSV onto greater achievement in years to come.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Combined Victorian Lifesaving Championships for the second year in a row, with senior and junior Championships run simultaneously over the Labour Day long weekend in March at Lakes Entrance. Over 2200 competitors and 7000 spectators attended the two-day event.
- Achieved overall third placing in both the National Inter-State Championships in January 2011 and the Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships in June 2011.
- Six Victorian athletes qualified for Australian teams, in Surf Life Saving Australia and Royal Life Saving Society - Australia squads.
- Anglesea Surf Life Saving Club won the 2011 Victorian Lifesaving Championships, breaking Ocean Grove's 11-year winning streak.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

- A new structure for Athlete Development will include additional High Performance squads and elite development training. These discipline-specific elite squads will create pathways into state teams.
- An increase in competitions and training throughout the year, including winter training and more beach, IRB and pool competitions will run across the state, with a focus on developing clubs.
- Craft, boat, pool and board riding competitions will also be introduced prior to the first Beach Carnival in the 2011/2012 Season.
- The 2012 Victorian Lifesaving Championships will return to its original structure, with the Junior Championships to be held on the weekend preceding the Labour Day long weekend in March and the Senior Championships to be held over the long weekend.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Aquatic Sports team would like to thank:

- Sponsors and supporters for ongoing support, including: Engine, Dolphin, Apex Steel, TRE Motorsport, Tohatsu, Steigen, Sea All Dolphin Swims, Sport and Recreation Victoria, the Victorian Government and the Australian Sports Commission;
- East Gippsland Shire Council, Surf Life Saving Lakes Entrance and local sponsors Dwyer's Toyota, James Yeates Printing & Design, Eastcoast Plumbtec, Patties Food and Lakes Sports & Community Club, for their support at the 2011 Victorian Lifesaving Championships at Lakes Entrance; and
- Panel members, coordinators, officials and coaches for their hard work, time and commitment over the season and beyond. These combined efforts and especially those of our dedicated volunteers, enable Aquatic Sports to continue successfully.



8936

COMPETITORS AT LIFESAVING CARNIVALS

YOUTH AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

KEY STATISTICS

- 102 accredited Age Managers
- 7964 Nipper members
- 5939 Nippers participated in Junior Lifesaving Carnivals
- 4083 Surf Education Certificates awarded
- 1329 Nippers participated in the 2011 Cosy Corner Carnival – the largest number of competitors on record for the carnival
- 1380 Nippers participated in the 2011 Victorian Junior Lifesaving Championships



OVERVIEW

This year saw a record number of junior members participated in the three-day Under 15 Development Camp at Yellingbo. Variable weather conditions did not deter 55 of Victoria's future leaders, as they battled the elements while learning leadership skills and participating in teamwork activities.

The camp, in its 11th year at the Yellingbo facility, is just one part of a more extensive Leadership and Development program run by LSV. This year our Building Leaders program, the pinnacle of the LSV leadership programs, has continued to grow, with Victoria's top leaders committing to a 12-month scholarship.

The Nipper program, run by clubs, provides a unique opportunity for kids to learn about water safety and lifesaving skills. This season a record number attended Nipper programs and junior carnivals across Victoria.

The 2011 Victorian State Development team travelled to Burnie, Tasmania for the annual Southern States Development Challenge. The competition involved three stages - beach, first aid and pool events. Although South Australia won the overall event, the Victorian team performed well, winning the pool, beach and ocean events. Thank you to LSV team managers and volunteers and sponsor Engine for their continued support of Victorian Representative teams.

LSV Nippers were also recognised at the Westpac Community Cup AFL match between Collingwood and Adelaide on 22 May 2011, with the chance to represent LSV by walking a 'thank you' lap around Etihad Stadium in a pre-game parade, promoting the amazing work of our volunteer lifesavers.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- The Cosy Corner Carnival had record numbers at a LSV carnival, with 1329 athletes participating in the one day event in January.
- The Under 15 Development camp exceeded capacity with a successful camp at the Yellingbo Lyrebird Park facility.
- The Victorian Lifesaving Championships were held at Lakes Entrance for a second year, with junior and senior Championships run simultaneously over the Labour Day long weekend. This achievement is still an Australian first.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The Youth and Leadership Development area is constantly looking for ways to improve its camps and programs, to be true 'leaders' in the development of its members. Next year will see the re-launch of the already very successful Building Leaders Scholarship program to take on a more international focus.

The Youth Involvement Programs (YIPs) will also be re-launched, with a focus on encouraging more clubs to participate and will include an updated activity book and recognition awards.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Youth and Leadership Development team would like to thank:

- Sponsors and supporters including Harris Family Trust, Engine, Dolphin, Apex Steel, Fruit Shoot and Sea All Dolphin Swims;
- Government support from the Victorian Government, Sport and Recreation Victoria and the Australian Sports Commission; and
- Panel members, coordinators, officials, coaches, staff and all who have assisted this season, for their hard work and support. Without their help, especially the dedicated volunteers, Youth and Leadership would not be what it is today in Victoria.



7964

NIPPER MEMBERS

AQUATIC RISK

KEY STATISTICS

- 82 safety assessments completed at aquatic facilities, the highest number of assessments since 2001
- 33 per cent of public aquatic environments across Victoria were visited, with feedback and improvement plans developed
- 18 facilities registered in the Platinum Pool Program, which challenges facilities to achieve best practice in managing risk and service delivery
- 20 kilometres of coastline assessed for risk



OVERVIEW

The key objective for Aquatic Risk Services this year was to continue to encourage and support the owners and managers of aquatic environments to undergo formal risk management processes. This aims to create a better understanding of aquatic risks and provide an improved platform to develop and implement treatment measures.

In addition to facility safety assessments, a range of consultation, mystery visits, presentations, training sessions and supervision assessments were delivered across Victoria.

The Aquatic Risk Services team assessed 35 kilometres of coastline and inland water, resulting in risk treatment recommendations including aquatic safety signage programs; education programs including arrival information; community education; barriers; emergency communications systems, such as emergency markers; and supervision.

Aquatic Risk Services has also played a key role in providing analytical assessment and support of the risks within the Frankston-Kingston Blackspot* area. As part of this role, a series of risk-orientated outcomes have been achieved. These include:

- A 'Vulnerability Assessment', examining and quantifying historical and likely risk exposure.
- A series of risk management reports which assessed known physical aquatic recreation risks and provided preliminary advice to reduce risks.

The Platinum Pool Program continued to challenge some of the best facilities in the state, with 18 facilities now registered. The range of assessments and support provided during this process will continue to be reviewed and developed to seek best practise and higher benchmarking within the industry.

Aquatic Risk Services has continued to develop visual mapping of data through spatial modelling, to support and increase understanding of research findings. Visual representations have been produced for lifesaving operations and general project planning.

* Blackspot areas are identified by LSV and Surf Life Saving Australia as high risk locations, due to the occurrence of a high number of drownings or rescues being performed in the area. Surf Life Saving Australia provides financial support through the National Blackspot Reduction program, to address these as key priority areas.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

The Aquatic Risk Services team engaged in a range of facility developments and refurbishments across public, school, Government and sporting club facilities, including:

- Leisurelink Geelong;
- Thomastown Recreation and Aquatic Centre;
- Glen Eira Sports and Aquatic Centre;
- Greensborough Recreation and Aquatic Centre;
- Huntingtower School; and
- The Linen House Centre (home of the St Kilda Football Club).

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The team will continue to develop relationships with the relevant governing bodies and State departments, with the aim to create centralised systems, to ensure regular visits to all aquatic facilities and environments.

The coming year will also see the team continue to assist with a range of new aquatic facility developments, including Warragul Leisure Centre, Noble Park Swim Centre, Hawthorn Leisure and Aquatic Centre and Box Hill Aqualink. Assessment processes for these new and developing facilities will continue to be refined and uptake for safety programs such as the Platinum Pools Program will be encouraged.

Aquatic Risk Services will continue to work with the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA) and other land managers and agencies in building support for the Emergency Marker program.

A new research project funded by Surf Life Saving Australia has also been initiated to build a model for assessing and determining how people see and interpret water safety signage and their recall of this safety information.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Aquatic Risk Services team would like to thank:

- All aquatic management bodies that have taken a proactive approach to risk management by using of one or more of LSV risk management services; and
- The facilities participating in the Platinum Pool Program for their ongoing commitment and continually high standards.



OF PUBLIC AQUATIC ENVIRONMENTS ACROSS VICTORIA WERE VISITED

33%

SAFETY ASSESSMENTS COMPLETED AT AQUATIC FACILITIES

82

RESEARCH

KEY STATISTICS

- 34 drowning deaths occurred in Victoria in 2010/2011*
- 85 aquatic facilities are registered Watch Around Water facilities, an increase of 166 per cent
- 300,000 people are estimated to have been exposed to the Watch Around Water safety messages
- 125 Victorian Maternal and Child Health Centre Coordinators and Swim Schools received Keep Watch safety information

* This figure includes both open and closed coronial cases and is therefore subject to change. (Figure correct at 9 September 2011.)



OVERVIEW

A new public awareness campaign targeting parents and carers of toddlers was launched in November 2010 in response to the dramatic increase in toddler drowning deaths in 2009/2010. TV and radio commercials were aired throughout metropolitan and regional Victoria, supported by advertising and editorials in online and print media.

The Watch Around Water program continues to expand since being introduced in Victoria in 2008/2009. Watch Around Water aims to educate and encourage parents and guardians to actively supervise their children at public aquatic facilities. There are currently 85 public aquatic facilities registered as part of the program in Victoria. LSV and Aquatics & Recreation Victoria will provide additional training to all registered facilities in 2011/2012, with funding from the Play it Safe by the Water campaign.

LSV has a strong commitment to working with the Coroners Court of Victoria to prevent further aquatic-related injury and drowning. Two submissions were provided to assist Victorian Coroners in relation to drowning cases going to inquest, as well as two responses to Coronial findings and recommendations. The Home Pool and Spa Safety Committee was re-established and provided a joint submission on home pool safety barriers, while a second submission focused on levels of supervision of children attending public aquatic facilities.

The Research Services team also collaborated with the Coroners Prevention Unit, to determine the prevalence of drowning deaths associated with alcohol in Victoria from 2000-2008. The results are vital for advising future alcohol-related drowning prevention strategies. The research has been disseminated at state, national and international levels, at the Young People, Risk and Resilience Conference in Melbourne in February 2011 and the World Conference on Drowning Prevention, in Da Nang, Vietnam in May 2011.

Collaboration and support from Surf Life Saving Australia also assisted research for the Kingston / Frankston Blackspot Project and the Spinal Injury Management Literature Review.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Launched a public awareness campaign in November 2010 to target carers of toddlers.
- Continued expansion of the Watch Around Water program.
- Collaborated with the Coroners Prevention Unit to determine the prevalence of drowning deaths associated with alcohol in Victoria from 2000-2008.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

- Plan to expand the Watch Around Water program to at least 10 additional metropolitan facilities, and 20 facilities overall.
- Evaluation of the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) community program and research into swimming ability and exposure to aquatic environments.
- Research into rock fishing, to help prevent further rock fishing drowning deaths in Victoria. This includes evaluation of the Emergency Response Alarm Pilot Project and research into rock fishing behaviours and potential barriers to wearing Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Research Services team would like to thank:

- Surf Life Saving Australia Spinal Injury Research Grant;
- Department of Justice;
- Aquatics & Recreation Victoria;
- Coroners Prevention Unit, Coroners Court of Victoria; and
- Members of the Home Pool and Spa Safety Committee, including Kidsafe Victoria, Swimming Pool and Spa Association, Building Commission, Municipal Association Victoria and Australian Institute of Building Surveyors.



2010/2011 VICTORIAN

DROWNING REPORT



**DROWNING
DEATHS
OCCURRED IN
VICTORIA IN
2010/2011***

34

COUNCIL EXECUTIVES AND COMMITTEES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Martin	President
Dr Michael Kennedy ^{OAM}	Independent Director
Martin Walsh	Independent Director
Nicolas Hall	Director Community Aquatic Education Council
Ian Swan	Director Community Aquatic Education Council (Part)
Nancy Joseph	Director Youth and Leadership Development Council
Richard Mitchell	Director Aquatic Sports Council
Stuart Mackinnon	Director Aquatic Sports Council
Mark Scott	Director Life Saving Operations Council
Andrew Doyle	Director Life Saving Operations Council (Part)
Stuart Wall	Director Life Saving Operations Council (Part)

AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Martin Walsh	Chair
Neil Morarty ^{OAM}	
Garry Martin	
Dr Michael Kennedy ^{OAM}	
Neil Hough	

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Dr Michael Kennedy ^{OAM}	Chair
Matt Finnis	
Jennifer Maclean	

HONOURS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

Michael Martin	Chair
Neil Morarty ^{OAM}	
Dianne Montalto ^{ESM}	
Chris Baker	
Andrew Barnes	
Belinda Porter	Awards of Excellence Committee
Genevieve Lehmann	
Dr Graham Cato	

COMMUNITY AQUATIC EDUCATION COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

Nicolas Hall	Chair
Genevieve Lehmann	Council Representative
Michael Bzdel	Specialty Member
Kathleen Roberts	Specialty Member
Jean Kemp	Specialty Member
Loretta Konjarski	Specialty Member
Keri Longwill	Specialty Member

AQUATIC SPORTS COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

Stuart Mackinnon	Director
Richard Mitchell	Director
Maurice McCutcheon	Youth and Leadership Development Representative
Graham Rice	Competition Panel Representative
Harry Hannas	Officiating Coordinator (Chief Referee)
Abby Lewtas	Athletes Representative
Jim Harrison	Aquatic Sports Development Coordinator
Peter van Deuren	Council Chairman
Mark Guy	Council Representative

LIFESAVING OPERATIONS COUNCIL

Lifesaving Operations Council Executive

Mark Scott	Director Lifesaving Services
Stuart Wall	Director Training and Assessment
Darren McLeod	Council Representative
Ben Griffin	Lifesaving Services Representative
Chris Stevens	Lifesaving Services Representative
Simon Wilson	State Training and Assessment Supervisor
Danielle Smith	State Resource Research and Development Officer

State Officers

Robert O'Brien	State Training Development Officer
Bree Ambry	Training Strategy and Communication Officer
Darren McLeod	State Emergency Management Officer
Chris Stevens	State Lifesaving Communications Officer
Ben Griffin	State Powercraft Officer
James Fitzsimmons	Service Efficiency and Standards Officer
Scott Ivey	State Gear and Equipment Officer

District Officers

Russell Stewart	Bass District Officer
David Barnes	Bayside District Officer
Sam Ficara	Bellarine District Officer
Ren Gargan	Flinders District Officer
David Whelan	Gippsland District Officer
Jim Stott	Kingston District Officer
Bree Ambry	Mornington District Officer
James Carew	Otway District Officer
Sebastian Phoenix	Port Phillip District Officer
Caitlin Paton	South Barwon District Officer
Katrina Antony	Western District Officer

Regional Officers

Scott Cameron	Bass Regional Officer
Matthew Ponsford	Bellarine Regional Officer
Barrie Smith ^{OAM}	Gippsland Regional Officer
Kerry Bell	Kingston Regional Officer
Adam Greig	Peninsula Regional Officer
William Boyd	Port Phillip Regional Officer
Paul Lunny	Surfcoast Regional Officer
Rebel Noter	Western Regional Officer

YOUTH AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

Nancy Joseph	Director
Simone Williams	Council Representative
Catherine McCraith	Member Protection Coordinator
Maurice McCutcheon	Competition Coordinator
Robert O'Brien	Leadership Development Coordinator
William Boyd	Membership Development Coordinator
Angela Malan	Lifesaving Development Coordinator

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATIONS PANEL

Michael Martin	Chair
Mark Scott	
Matt Righetti	
Leigh Coutie	
Dean Sibun	
Simon Cartwright	
David Blanks	
Charles Clarke	

LIFE MEMBERS

R Anthony	G Fry	M J Martin	A H Short
H G Ashworth	E Fry	J Mc Gee	J B Silom
H E Baker	J Furmedge	W C McBeath	C Simpson
S Barnes	C Gadd	L R McDonald	W Slater
N Bayles	J Gale	P J McGibbon	B J Smith OAM
M J Bell	K J Galloway	W H McLearn	T W Stanford
A Bellotti	A Goetz	D M McLeod	H Stephenson
P Bennett	D R Grant OAM	J Meehan	S G Stevens
W Birkenhead	B Gray	O G Merritt	P M Stevens BEM
A Birt	A Gray	J H Millett	D Stewart
R W Blackney	J S Gregson	R Millett MBE	M P Straford
R O Blackwood	N G Hall	R A Mitchell	T G Strahan
D L Boswell	E Handley	D G Montalto ESM	C L Swyer
W D Boulton	E J Harris	N W Morarty OAM	Sir G A Syme
B Bowman	D E Heathcote	J I Morgan	S R Tannahill
R Boyce	J B Heily	B A Morgan OAM	B Tayler
H Brereton	K R Hodgson	D G Morland	P F Taylor OAM
H F Brockhoff	J A Hogan	F L Muir	L R Thomas
M M Brodie	A M Holmes	M Napthine	M H Thompson
W Brodie	D R Hopkins	H A Norris	L H S Thompson AO CMG
K Brooks	M J Horne	G Nutbean	J Thomson
A S Buchannan	S L Horton	H O'Connor	J Thorburn
Q L Burke	W M Hull	J Olson	G Titter
J Burrowes OAM	F A Hunting	P J O'Rorke OAM	R H Tyas
G W Cato	R Hussey	B G Owen	F R Tyler
R Charrett	R Hutchings	W C Patrickson	P F Van Deuren
F M Clayton	F Inness	M E Pearce	T E Varley
I Collum	J Jackson	F Pebbles	R S Veale CMG
R B Cook	L Johnson	F Perrin	A W Walker OBE
A Cooper	C C Kelly	V Petersen	B Walklate
L Cooper	H G Kelly	T K Peterson OAM	J Wall
A Coulson	T R Kennedy	J Pettigrove	J M Waters
W Coyte BEM	A R Kennedy BEM	H M Pierce OAM	B J Webb
Sir G Cuscaden	W Keys	H Pittard	J Williams
R W Dale	E G Kidd	E A Pleasents	A Williamson
G Dann	H J Klauer	F Pollard	H Windmill
L Darbyshire	J Knight	M Portingale BEM	R S Wood ESM
A Davies	A M Laughton	F J Ramsay	J G Worrell
A G Dell	A Laven	F D Reid	A E Wright
J L Dobson	T G Leary	A Renfrew	A Wynne
T Donnett	J Lee	J F Revell	B J Young
O Douglass	G M Lehmann	M P Ricca	
E Doull	F Leiper	R Ricca	
J Duthie	A Lester	P E Rice OAM	
B Edmonds	W Lievesley	B B Richards	
N L Emselle	J M Lippmann OAM	A Robbie	
L Errey	J J Liston	K Roderick AFSM	
F M Evans	M A Lumley	N Rose	
W Everard	C R Lyne AM	A Rosen	
F J Fegan	J J Maclean	M R Scott	
C G Fitzgerald OAM	Sir W Manifold	A W Seals	
E Fitzsimmons	R W Markillie	M S Sharman	
A Forster	R Marsh	I D Shephard	
A R Frost BEM	E Martin	K J Shields	

HONOURS AND AWARDS

In February 2011 over 30 former winners of the Wishart Medal, awarded for Lifesaver of the Year came together to celebrate the history of the award.



Beaurepaire Shield Club of the Year:	Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club
Volunteer of the Year:	Nancy Joseph - Fairhaven Surf Life Saving Club
Outstanding Achievement of the Year:	Surf Life Saving Lakes Entrance
Victorian Lifesaver of the Year:	Michael Sullivan - Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club
Patrol Efficiency Club of the Year:	Dromana Bay Life Saving Club
Beach Lifeguard of the Year:	Shelley Paterson - Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club
Team of the Year:	Women's Five Person Rescue and Resuscitation Team: Point Leo Surf Life Saving Club Simone Williams, Katie Soldani, Rose Anderson Dayna Laurence and Ruby Wyatt Coach: Geoff Waters
Male Athlete of the Year:	Leigh Ryan - Jan Juc Surf Life Saving Club
Female Athlete of the Year:	Christina Ruiz - Jan Juc Surf Life Saving Club
Coach of the Year:	Geoff Waters - Point Leo Surf Life Saving Club
Competition Official of the Year:	Harry Hannas - Half Moon Bay Surf Life Saving Club
Club Training Officer of the Year:	Ned Douglas - Fairhaven Surf Life Saving Club
Assessor of the Year:	Rob O'Brien - Waratah Beach Surf Life Saving Club
Administration Club of the Year:	Altona Life Saving Club
Media Service to Lifesaving:	Triple M's Hot Breakfast Team
Fred Westfield Medal Junior Athlete of the Year:	Olivia Keppell and Caleb Grey - Point Leo Surf Life Saving Club
Under 17 Female Athlete of the Year:	Madeleine Hurst - Anglesea Surf Life Saving Club
Under 17 Male Athlete of the Year:	John Baker - Sorrento Surf Life Saving Club
Champion Junior Lifesaver:	Caitlin Foot-Connolly - Mentone Life Saving Club
Youth Parent of the Year:	Ian Stewart - Lorne Surf Life Saving Club
Youth and Leadership Development Service Award:	Winston Burger - Mordialloc Life Saving Club Bernadene Hansen - Mornington Life Saving Club Peter Anderton - Chelsea Longbeach Surf Life Saving Club
International Life Saving Federation Citation of Merit:	Richard Mitchell - Venus Bay Surf Life Saving Club
Pool Lifeguard of the Year: (Awarded by Aquatics and Recreation Victoria)	Michael Stevenson - Monash Aquatic and Recreation Centre

SUPPORTERS

LSV acknowledges the support from the following entities:

Government:



Australian Government
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet



Department of Planning and Community Development

Other



IT'S HOW WE CONNECT



Harris Family Trust

Baenziger Coles



Joe White Bequest



The Therapon Foundation

Diana Elizabeth Browne Trust



Mallard Signs and Engraving

State Trustees

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Ritchies Stores - Seaford

Murlid Family Endowment

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Cricket Victoria

The Vikings -

No 11 Masonic Masters Association

Mr David "Graham" Lewis

All Soul's Opportunity Shop

In memory of Michael Hajek

United Way Sydney

Mr. B Stokes



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