



NEW SOUTH
WALES

RESCUE OF THE MONTH

— FEBRUARY 2018 —

Club: Burning Palms SLSC

Lifesavers involved: Garth Taylor, Peter Pearce, Jarrod Phillips, Andrew Woolner, Adam Dansie, Matthew Leary, Michael Leary and Paul Leary

On a busy Sunday in February surf lifesavers on patrol at Burning Palms SLSC needed to call on all their skills when they went to the aid of an injured man at Sydney's renowned Figure 8 Rock Pools.

Patrol team 3 were on duty on the morning of 18 Feb when a phone call came in just after midday asking if they were aware of an incident at Figure 8 Rock Pools.

The circumstances surrounding the incident were unclear but the lifesavers knew that the only way to find out what was happening was to walk the 1.5km over fairly challenging terrain.

In addition, Patrol Captain Garth Taylor sent an IRB out to investigate while he and another member of his team set off on the track, stopping first to grab first aid supplies including a defibrillator in case it was needed.

The IRB radioed back that nobody was in the water but they could see a man lying on the rocks with two members of the public attending to him.

This information was relayed to Garth and when they reached the site, the two lifesavers found the man had suffered a significant laceration to his leg. After a quick assessment of his injuries, the lifesavers redressed his leg and provided reassurance, though it was clear he was going to need to be extracted from the area.

Fortunately his condition was relatively stable and he was able to talk and breathe normally despite being in some discomfort.

Paramedics arrived some time later to assist with stabilising the patient and after several hours the man was winched out. The two lifesavers remained with him during this period and assisted with preparing for the extraction, while their teammates were busy back on the beach.

They had also taken the pre-emptive action of informing the public that the Figure 8 Rockpools were closed so there would be no distractions during the rescue attempt.

On their way back to the club the lifesavers assisted another patrol member who was attending to a woman who was suffering severe dehydration. The professionalism of the team ensured that the injured patient was given the best possible care, and their dedication to keeping the beach open despite the logistical challenges of a busy day was a reflection both of their skills as surf lifesavers, and their commitment to public safety.

Director of Lifesaving
Stuart Harvey

SLSNSW President
David Murray

