

RESCUE OF THE MONTH.

SURF LIFE SAVING
NEW SOUTH WALES



OCTOBER 2019

Club: Mona Vale SLSC and Palm Beach SLSC

Lifesavers and Lifeguards involved: Alex Taylor and Jemima McGahey

During the October long weekend, Alex Taylor from Mona Vale SLSC, Jemima McGahey from Palm Beach SLSC and a group of their friends were on a camping holiday at the Booti Booti National Park south of Forster.

A member of the public ran into their campsite yelling and asking for help to rescue some children struggling to stay afloat in the surf.

Alex responded immediately. A strong swimmer, Alex was able to reach the people in distress quickly and swam them out of a rip.

Jemima took her surfboard and paddled out to Alex to assist the group back to shore.

One man who was rescued was out of breath, off colour and had ingested a lot of water.

Alex's friends called Triple Zero and waited with the patient until paramedics arrived.

The rescued swimmers were part of a large group from Greenacre Mosque in Western Sydney who were on a father-son camping holiday.

The next day, the alarm was raised again. Another group of swimmers were caught in the same rip.

Again, Alex responded and raced to the beach. He saw four people struggling in the water and dived straight into the rip.

Two people were struggling to stay above the water. One was a man in his forties, the other a teenage boy. Alex reached the boy, reassured him and swam him out of the rip.

Meanwhile, Jemima and her friends paddled out on their longboards. They managed to get the other two men onto their boards.

The two men Alex rescued were brought up the beach. They were both vomiting and had ingested water. They called Triple Zero and monitored the patients until paramedics arrived.

Without the assistance provided by off-duty surf lifesavers Alex Taylor, Jemima McGahey and their friends, lives would likely have been lost.



A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Joel Wiseman', is written over the blue background of the water.

Joel Wiseman
Director of Lifesaving
Surf Life Saving NSW

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'George Shales', is written over the blue background of the water.

George Shales
President
Surf Life Saving NSW