



NEW SOUTH  
WALES

# RESCUE OF THE MONTH

— SEPTEMBER 2018 —

**Club:** Central Coast Support Operations Team

**Lifesavers involved:** Sean Leicester, Brianna Coyte, Anthony Smith, and Gavin Brown

On Saturday 15 September, Central Coast Duty Officers David Sneddon, Glen Clarke, and Josh Cole received a call at around midday alerting them to two teenagers stranded in a cave at Snapper Point near Frazer Park. The rising tide and hazardous conditions were preventing the teenagers from escaping the cave.

The incident prompted a multi-agency response which included Police, Volunteer Rescue and the Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter. Rescue agencies on scene decided against attempting a vertical extraction of the trapped teens and Surf Life Saving assets were tasked to assist.

Central Coast Duty Officers received the callout and lifesavers at The Lakes SLSC launched a jetski and Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB) and made their way to the cave location, notorious for numerous rescue incidents and drownings.

The Central Coast Support jetski driven by Sean Leicester (The Lakes) was able to drop Brianna Coyte (Toowoong Bay SLSC) at the entrance to swim into the cave and assist the female patient to swim out to the jetski safely. Brianna then returned to the cave to rescue the young male in the same way.

Both patients were transferred to the IRB driven by Anthony Smith and Gavin Brown and taken to Frazer Park beach, unharmed with no injuries.

A very similar incident had occurred several months before and earned Central Coast lifesavers the National Rescue of the Month for June 2018. Remote rescue training had also been held at this location two months prior, which aided in the quick retrieval of the teenagers.

The efforts of the lifesavers involved reflect the importance of additional training and without their timely intervention the outcome for the teenagers could have been very different.

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Director of Lifesaving  
Stuart Harvey

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

President of Surf Life Saving NSW  
David Murray

