

# RESCUE OF THE MONTH.

SURF LIFE SAVING  
NEW SOUTH WALES



## OCTOBER 2021

**Club: Bulli SLSC**

**Lifesavers and Lifeguards involved:** Members of Bulli SLSC, with assistance from members of Bellambi SLSC, Woonona SLSC, Sandon Point SLSC, Thirroul SLSC, Wollongong City SLSC, and SLS Illawarra Support Operations

More than 60 members across six surf lifesaving clubs were involved in a mass rescue of several males, six of whom required CPR or first aid, following reports a vessel had capsized at Waniora Point in October 2021.

It was about 10.20am when the rescue began to unfold – a rescue which has been recognised by Surf Life Saving NSW as the Rescue of the Month.

Bulli SLSC, supported by Bellambi SLSC, Sandon Point SLSC, Woonona SLSC, Wollongong City SLSC and Thirroul SLSC, responded and deployed Inflatable Rescue Boats (IRBs) within two minutes of the report coming through.

In a fortunate turn of events, Bulli was preparing for a search and rescue exercise at the time, unrelated to the incident, and had boats and jetskis ready to go onshore which allowed for the quick response time.

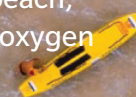
When rescuers got to the boat, multiple persons were found to be caught in the hull, with lifesavers diving underneath to extract them.

Four of the men were found to be unconscious and were transported back to Sandon Point beach, while three other men were treated with oxygen and first aid onshore.

Local surfers who were in the water nearby assisted with the rescue effort, as did Illawarra Duty Officers.

Once on the beach, CPR was commenced on the four unconscious men by lifesavers, paramedics and members of the public and continued before they were transported by helicopter or road ambulance to hospital.

While one man couldn't be saved, the actions of those involved certainly saved lives.



A handwritten signature in white ink.

**Joel Wiseman**  
Director of Lifesaving  
Surf Life Saving NSW

A handwritten signature in white ink.

**George Shales OAM**  
President  
Surf Life Saving NSW