

# RESCUE OF THE MONTH.

SURF LIFE SAVING  
NEW SOUTH WALES



## DECEMBER 2021

**Club: Narrabeen SLSC**

**Lifesavers and Lifeguards involved:** Alexander Buckton, Hardus Van Vuuren, Graham Cook, Richard Whipp, Robert Buckton, Alex Gold, Chamonix Van Vuuren, Richard Andjelkovic, Adrienne Lowe, Michael Wasley, Tracey Hare-Boyd, Trae Hare-Boyd, Frankie Bryant, Belinda Dobson, Brianna Coyte and Northern Beaches Council Lifeguards

Surf Lifesavers on patrol at Narrabeen SLSC were faced with a sudden emergency situation in December 2021, with multiple patients requiring first aid and sadly one woman who died when she was struck by a falling pine tree.

At around 3.45pm on 19 December, the northern beaches was hit by a short but extremely violent storm which brought down trees and powerlines from Warriewood to Dee Why.

A large pine tree outside the Narrabeen SLSC was ripped from the ground and flung onto powerlines, striking three women nearby.

Volunteer lifesavers on patrol and council lifeguards scrambled to assist the injured, administering first aid for the two injured women until paramedics and police arrived. One of the women sustained serious spinal injuries.

As the storm cell moved away, bystanders came closer to take photos and raise drones, adding an additional need for crowd control. Patrolling members kept the public away from the treatment site and allowed for the most calm environment possible.

Paramedics praised the contribution of the lifesavers and said they were amazing, both in the way they remained calm in the chaos and the level of assistance they were able to provide other emergency services.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Joel Wiseman'.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'George Shales'.

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