

# RESCUE OF THE MONTH.

SURF LIFE SAVING  
NEW SOUTH WALES



## APRIL 2024

Club: Shelly Beach SLSC

Lifesavers and Lifeguards involved: Steven Lee, Matthew O'Reilly, Matthew Farrugia, Martin Rea, Harper Kingsley, Harrison Kingsley, Mikaela Williams-Potts

At around 3.45pm on Thursday 25 April, patrolling members of Shelly Beach SLSC – having raised the flags for ANZAC Day – observed a large group of swimmers, estimated at the time to be as many as nine, get caught in a rip and begin to drift away.

A mass rescue was enacted by Patrol 2, with Steven Lee, Matthew O'Reilly, Matthew Farrugia, Martin Rea, Mikaela Williams Potts, and Harper and Harry Kingsley all involved.

The latter three, all junior members of the club, were some of the first to react, with both Mikaela and Harper swimming straight to the aid of a seven-year-old girl in distress while Harry swam out to a fully clothed female of poor swimming ability who was struggling to stay above the water.

Senior patrol members, Martin and the two Matthew's went about assisting the remaining swimmers, with Matt O'Reilly taking the rescue board out to support Harry in bringing the fully clothed female into shore.

The Patrol 2 team provided minor first aid treatment on the beach, with their swift action in the surf and triage capacity on the sand ensuring no further assistance was required.



A handwritten signature in white ink that reads 'Joel Wiseman'.

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

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads 'Peter Agnew'.

**Peter Agnew**  
President  
Surf Life Saving NSW