

RESCUE OF THE MONTH.

SURF LIFE SAVING
NEW SOUTH WALES



AUGUST 2023

Club: North Curl Curl SLSC, South Curl Curl SLSC, SNB Support Operations, Lifesaver 21

Lifesavers and Lifeguards involved: Matthew Truman, Matthew O'Connor, Kurt Wegenaar, Timothy Hext, Natasha Spencer, Max Puddicombe, Luca Stein, Amanda Cannon, Terence Durnin, Larry Stein, Michael Golden, Samuel Allen, Tracey Hare-Boyd, Robert Stark, John Molnar, Jake Cleal-Cook

Just before 5PM on Sunday 6 August 2023, the Surf Life Saving NSW State Operations Centre became aware of an incident unfolding at North Curl Curl, with NSW Police requesting assets on scene where four persons were stuck in a rip current.

The Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter was activated as well as call-out teams from North Curl Curl SLSC and South Curl Curl SLSC. Members from the North Curl Curl club arrived on scene and, by Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB), were able to rescue a male and a female from the water. Both presented on the beach cold and exhausted and were assisted by other club members and NSW Ambulance.

Once on scene, the Helicopter was able to observe a third person – a male – face down in the water south of the North Curl Curl rock pool and acted quickly to winch the man from the water. Crewmen performed CPR in the

Helicopter before handing over to NSW Police and members of the South Curl Curl club at a pre-determined safe landing zone not far from the scene.

Following approximately eight rounds of CPR and two shocks via a defibrillator, the male began breathing. He remained unconscious, however, and was transported to Northern Beaches Hospital via NSW Ambulance under a police escort.

The fourth person – another male – had self-rescued and was already on the beach by the time the Helicopter arrived on scene.

The team, totalling sixteen people across two clubs, the Helicopter and a Sydney Northern Beaches Branch Duty Officer, acted quickly and decisively to provide the best outcome for what could have been a devastating incident.

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

Joel Wiseman
Director of Lifesaving
Surf Life Saving NSW

A stylized signature in black ink, reading 'Peter Agnew'.

Peter Agnew
President
Surf Life Saving NSW