



SURF LIFE SAVING  
NEW SOUTH WALES

# RESCUE OF THE MONTH.

## FEBRUARY 2025

**Club/Service: Bondi SBLSC & North Bondi SLSC**

**Lifesavers and Lifeguards involved: Siobhan O'Toole, Spencer Watson, David Freedman, Mackenzie Palmer**

An austere situation unfolded on 15 February 2025 at Bondi Beach when a man who had evaded police on land entered the water near North Bondi surf club at around 2.30pm without his clothes on, drifting towards the Bondi SBLSC patrol flags on the current.

There was significant concern for the man's wellbeing, with a rescue board paddled by North Bondi's Mackenzie Palmer initially sent in to make contact. From the shore, David Freedman kept communication lines open, particularly with Bondi patroller, Spencer Watson, as the man looked like he would eventually float into their flagged area.

Supporting NSW Police, Mackenzie and David helped to put a hooded towel on the man and remove him from the water, where he then began to have hyperthermic seizures and was in severe distress.

Bondi's Senior First Aid Officer, Siobhan O'Toole was called upon as other patrolling members and police officers created a safe space for the man's treatment.

He later complained of a loss of feeling in his legs and neck pain, and once paramedics arrived, he was escorted from the scene to a nearby ambulance on a spinal board via ATV.



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

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**Peter Agnew**  
President  
Surf Life Saving NSW