

RESCUE OF THE MONTH.



SURF LIFE SAVING
NEW SOUTH WALES

JANUARY 2025

Club/Service: Dee Why SLSC

Lifesavers and Lifeguards involved: Herve Vichemont, Chris West, Craig Katen, Dave Spink, Matthew Molina, Jeremy Ferguson, Colin Kjoller, Adam King, Bailey Dickinson-Bubb, Mark Rosenthal, Jenny Graves, Hamish Pankhurst, Lee Wellings, Matilda Langtry, Toby Hagon

On 25 January, the Saturday of the Australia Day long weekend, members of the Dee Why SLSC patrol were setting up at around 8.45am ready for their shift when a member of the public alerted them to a potential incident unfolding on the southern end of the beach, where a swimmer had potentially come off the rocks.

Patrol Captain, Herve Vichemont first asked Chris West to paddle out and assess the situation, before engaging Matt Molina and Dave Spink, who were at the beach to conduct IRB proficiencies and training, to launch the IRB and assist.

The IRB crew drove the rescue craft in a search pattern from the last known location by the rocks and quickly found a woman face down and in

black clothing, below water level. This set the Patrol team into action, with the IRB immediately calling in the incident as a rescue.

With the assistance of Council lifeguards and Paramedics, the Dee Why Patrol team delivered CPR on the beach for a total of nearly 40 minutes before a pulse was detected and the woman was taken by ambulance to Northern Beaches Hospital.

The successful rescue was the sum of all its parts, with each member of the Patrol - Herve, Chris, Dave, Matt, along with Craig Katen, Jeremy Ferguson, Colin Kjoller, Adam King, Bailey Dickinson-Bubb, Mark Rosenthal, Jenny Graves, Hamish Pankhurst, Lee Wellings, Matilda Langtry, and Toby Hagon – playing a part.



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