

# RESCUE OF THE MONTH.

SURF LIFE SAVING  
NEW SOUTH WALES



## OCTOBER 2024

Club/Service: Wanda SLSC

Lifesavers and Lifeguards involved: Harry McNamara, Denny Rowlands, Paul Russell, Kaylene Walker, Lou Southwell, Alex Brown, Henri Carrera, Lawrence Scanlon

At around 3pm on 6 October the tide was going out at Wanda Beach and volunteer lifesavers were directing swimmers back to the red and yellow flags, no more than 20 metres from the shore, four beachgoers were swept off the northern bank of the flagged area by a large dumping wave.

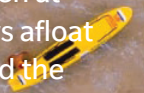
The beachgoers were sucked into a deep, fast flowing gutter and while a member of the public tried to assist at first, they were dragged into the gutter as well, making for a fifth person in distress.

Patrol Captain Harry McNamara and Club Captain Denny Rowland were straight onto the scene with rescue boards, with four of the swimmers grabbing hold of Harry's board and the fifth using Denny's.

Soon assisted by club member, Paul Russell, who was on scene training with his children at the time, the lifesavers kept the swimmers afloat until Council lifeguards arrived and ferried the swimmers back to shore by jet ski.

On the beach, patrol members Kaylene Walker, Lou Southwell, Alex Brown, Henri Carrera, and Lawrence Scanlon assisted in assessing the patients.

The rescue is a fantastic example of a patrol working together and the need to always be vigilant at the beach.



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

A handwritten signature in black ink.

**Peter Agnew**  
President  
Surf Life Saving NSW