

# RESCUE OF THE MONTH

## SURF RESCUE 50

MAY/JUNE 2017

**Lifesavers Involved:** Glenn Matthews, Shane Wicks, Rhys Dawson, Tom Daly and Greg Delahunty

**On Saturday 3 June 2017 at 1:30am, surf lifesavers from Surf Rescue 50 (SR50) rescued a rock fisherman who was washed into the ocean at the northern end of Jones Beach.**

The State Duty Officer was informed that a fisherman had been washed from rocks at the northern end of Jones Beach in the early hours of the morning. South Coast Branch Duty Officer, Glenn Matthews was contacted about the incident with the decision made to activate SR50. Fellow Duty Officer, Shane Wicks joined Glenn at the scene alongside Kiama Surf Lifesavers and SR50 crewmembers Rhys Dawson, Tom Daly and Greg Delahunty.

Conditions were rough and there was very little light for Rhys, Tom and Greg as they launched SR50. Luckily the fisherman was wearing a lifejacket and waving a torch so the surf lifesavers could locate him. Within minutes they reached the male who was floating over 100m from the rocks. He was conscious but appeared to be suffering from a head injury and hypothermia.

As the surf lifesavers pulled the man aboard, he was placed on a spinal board, wrapped in blankets and administered oxygen therapy. Meanwhile, Shane coordinated the rescue at the Kiama boat ramp with Police, and Paramedics waiting to treat the rock fisherman who had a body temperature of 28°C.

Once SR50 arrived at the boat ramp, the fisherman was handed over to Paramedics and was airlifted to St George Hospital in a serious condition. He has since made a full recovery.

The SR50 crew and Branch Duty Officers worked together as a team with great professionalism, and it was the quick response and experience of the surf lifesavers combined with the man's decision to wear a lifejacket ultimately ensuring the fisherman's survival.



Director of Lifesaving



President

