

# MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## 2010 National AUSTSWIM Learn to Swim and Water Safety Education Awards

On Saturday 3rd of July, 2010, members of the aquatic industry gathered to recognize, honour and congratulate some of Australia's unsung idols of learn to swim and water safety education.

Individual AUSTSWIM Teachers™, Presenters and Recognised Swimming and Water Safety Schools from across the country were identified for their respective contributions to aquatic education and water safety; with the 2010 National AUSTSWIM Awards Dinner held at the picturesque Radisson resort, Gold Coast, Queensland.

In the company of over 160 guests including presenters, teachers, swim schools, family, friends and special guests the evening kicked off as Master of Ceremonies for the evening; one of New Zealand's most popular and personable entertainers; Pio Teri officially opening the night while the sun set on the coast, providing the perfect environment to relax, socialise and recognise special achievements and reflections within the industry.

*"The 2010 National AUSTSWIM Awards are presented to individuals and swim centre's nationally, that achieve the highest standards of aquatic education excellence. They provide an opportunity to honor nominated AUSTSWIM teachers who have been outstanding in their field as well as making a significant contribution to the aquatic industry".* Said Gordon Mallett – AUSTSWIM Chief Executive Officer.

To be eligible for an award the nominees must have been able to demonstrate considerable experience and or knowledge in all areas of the selection criteria. The following sections were addressed:

- Personal Attributes
- Teaching Effectiveness
- Professional Development
- Leadership
- References

Awards for the evening were presented in the following categories:

- 2010 National AUSTSWIM Teacher of Aquatics for People with a Disability
- 2010 National AUSTSWIM Teacher of Infants and Preschool Aquatics
- 2010 National AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety
- 2010 National AUSTSWIM Presenter
- 2010 National AUSTSWIM Swimming and Water Safety School
- 2010 National Most Outstanding Contribution to AUSTSWIM

Mr. Mallett went on to say: *"AUSTSWIM was privileged to have in attendance, Sophie Valkan – CEO of Clark Rubber, Mark Sheridan, James Waterhouse, Ed Sinn and Ally Cox – HY-CLOR, Michael and Joanne Morris- Samuel Morris Foundation, Brooke Hanson - Olympic medalist and AUSTSWIM Ambassador, Mr. Ben Austin - three time Para Olympian, World record holder and team captain of the Athens and Beijing Games and James Pittar – blind marathon swimmer and ambassador of the Rainbow Club Australia."*

One of the highlights of the night came at the conclusion of formalities when special guest Pio Teri was kind enough to treat guests with a live performance with the band. The standing ovation he received was testament to the appreciation of the guests.

*"All nominees received were worthy of recognition for the exceptional work they have undertaken but unfortunately there can only be one recipient for each award category"* said Mr Mallett

The 2010 National AUSTSWIM Awards would not be possible without the support from each the following supporters:

- The Rainbow Club – 2010 National AUSTSWIM Teacher of Aquatics for People with a Disability™ Award
- Kimberly Clark Australia – 2010 National AUSTSWIM Infant and Preschool Aquatics™ Award
- HY-CLOR – 2010 National AUSTSWIM Presenter Award
- Royal Life Saving Society – 2010 National AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety™ Award
- YMCA - 2010 National AUSTSWIM Recognised Swimming and Water Safety School Award
- Clark Rubber – 2010 Most Outstanding Contribution to AUSTSWIM Award

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Special congratulations this year to the following 2010 National AUSTSWIM Award recipients:

Category 2010 National AUSTSWIM Teacher of Aquatics to People with a Disability Award  
Supporter The Rainbow Club Australia  
Recipient Lyn O'Brien  
Location Redlynch, Queensland

Lyn operates her own Swim School in Cairns- North Queensland. She has been a teacher of people with disabilities for many years. During this time she has introduced creative and innovative teaching practices to ensure each of her students get the most out of their aquatic experience. Lyn has implemented an inclusive program in her swim school where people with disabilities are included into mainstream classes yet continue to have their own personal instructor. Her immaculate communication skills and great positive attitude is evident in the way she operates her swim school and her classes.

Category 2010 National AUSTSWIM Teacher of Infant and Preschool Aquatics Award  
Supporter Kimberley Clark Australia – Huggies Little Swimmers  
Recipient Adel Gregory  
Location Forster, New South Wales

Adel is an excellent role model and a superb teacher. Teaching students from 6 months, she teaches her classes with confidence and enthusiasm. Adel has a very positive attitude, not only towards swimming but also to life in general. Adel's Talents, hard work, patients, nature, skills and experience is providing all of her students a skill that will benefit them for life.

Category 2010 National AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety Award  
Supporter Royal Life Saving Society  
Recipient Raelene Edgar  
Location Burleigh, Queensland

Raelene is a very positive and enthusiastic teacher. She is passionate about swimming and water safety and shares this passion with all those she encounters. Raelene provides students with an enjoyable experience in the water while simultaneously encouraging them to work hard. She has been an AUSTSWIM Teacher for over 10years and is always seeking ways to improve her skills and knowledge.

Category 2010 National AUSTSWIM Presenter of the Year Award  
Supporter HY-CLOR Australia  
Recipient Alina Graham  
Location Kedron, Queensland

With over 19 years in the aquatic industry coupled with her studies in Health and Physical Education and Child Development, Alina conducts courses in Aquatic Education all over Queensland. Alina brings passion to the teaching of swimming and Water Safety in all ages and ability levels. Alina's Work Ethic and Commitment to AUSTSWIM and the aquatic industry is paramount, her positive approach and willingness to take on new challenges is something everyone should aspire to.

Category 2010 National AUSTSWIM Recognised Swimming and Water Safety School  
Supporter YMCA  
Recipient Swim and Fitness at the AIS  
Location Belconnen, Australian Capital Territory

Swim and Fitness at the AIS has created an environment that has fostered great community involvement and satisfaction. The AIS team focuses highly on safety, leadership, motivation and customer service. It has been recognised for its initiatives and contribution towards the communities' water safety awareness. The swim School Provides water safety programs for people of all ages, abilities and community groups.

Category 2010 National AUSTSWIM Recognised Swimming and Water Safety School  
Supporter YMCA  
Recipient Fairholme Aquatic Swim School  
Location Toowoomba, Queensland

Fairholme Aquatics Swim School takes great pride in the learning and education of its Staff and Students. The centre Philosophy is "Swimming is your playground for Life" Classes are offered for people from 6 months to seniors all with varying abilities and experience. All Teachers are AUSTSWIM Qualified and work hard to promote the Teaching of swimming and Water Safety in the wider community.

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Category	2010 National Most Outstanding Contribution to AUSTSWIM
Supporter	Clark Rubber
Recipient	Marcelle Renforth - Frederick
Location	Mansfield, Queensland

Marcelle Has been actively involved with AUSTSWIM for over 15 years as a teacher, presenter and course coordinator. She is a valued member of the AUSTSWIM Queensland State Advisory Committee where she provides the relevant perspective of someone who truly understands the needs of AUSTSWIM teachers and Course presenters. Marcelle is presenting AUSTSWIM Courses in Queensland from Chandler to Longreach to Townsville to Cairns and now she has taken on Beijing and Hong Kong. Marcelle is an Asset to AUSTSWIM with her Professionalism and her willingness to be involved in the development of the industry as a whole.

*“Once again congratulations to all nominees, and recipients of the 2010 National AUSTSWIM Awards. AUSTSWIM would like to applaud you for the commitment and dedication you have displayed in your teaching endeavours.”* said Mr Mallett.

Over the past 31 years AUSTSWIM has gained an outstanding national and international reputation for the accredited training and licensing of quality AUSTSWIM Teachers of Swimming and Water Safety™.

AUSTSWIM has trained over 125 thousand teachers and over 19 Thousand of these have completed further AUSTSWIM accredited training in the specialist areas of the teaching swimming and water safety to infants, adults, people with a disability and competitive strokes.

The National AUSTSWIM Awards are in their 5th year and this year nominations were received across majority of categories from every state. There are undoubtedly many more individuals and organisations who do an outstanding job for the industry and would like to encourage you to nominate them in 2011.

For further information please contact:

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