



# BULLETIN

**SEA**

**2025  
OCTOBER**

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89.9% of our  
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jobs!

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# FROM THE DESKS OF OUR LEADERS

Welcome to the Spring 2025 edition of the AUSTSWIM Bulletin, a celebration of the people, programs and partnerships driving excellence in aquatic education across our international community.

As one of the world's most trusted providers of swimming and water safety teacher education, AUSTSWIM is proud to highlight the stories, initiatives and achievements that reflect our shared commitment to saving lives through quality teaching.

In this issue, we recognise our 2025 AUSTSWIM Awards of Excellence winners, explore the importance of safeguarding, share insights from the National Aquatic Industry Workforce Report, and introduce new training opportunities through World Wide Swim School.

Every article in this Bulletin shows what makes AUSTSWIM unique. We are focused on teacher quality, industry collaboration and ongoing professional development.

👉 Enrol in a [Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety](#) or [Extension course](#) to build your teaching career.

👉 Complete one of our [Professional Development courses](#) to expand your knowledge and stay current in the industry.

Together, we can make sure every person, in every community we reach, has access to safe and high-quality swimming and water safety education.

**Brad Maunsell** (AUSTSWIM Chief Executive Officer)

**Georgie Nichol** (AUSTSWIM Executive General Manager)



Pictured above L to R: **Georgie Nichol** (AUSTSWIM Executive General Manager), **Melinda Crole** (AUSTSWIM Chairperson) and **Brad Maunsell** (AUSTSWIM Chief Executive Officer) at the recent Safeguarding event at MSAC, VIC.



# 2025 AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE



Earlier this month, AUSTSWIM was proud to announce the winners for the AUSTSWIM 2025 Awards of Excellence.

The awards began in 2004 with just three national award categories. These awards have now continued to grow to recognise the incredible impact our Australian and International Teachers have on industry and their outstanding accomplishments. The growth of AUSTSWIM's awards is a testament to the dedication and passion within our industry and the continued importance of aquatic education.

We are incredibly proud to see our industry come together to recognise brilliance, commitment, and innovation in the teaching of swimming and water safety.

## Australia

<b>Teacher of the Year</b>	Ji-Yeon Kiddle (New South Wales)
<b>New Teacher of the Year</b>	Isabel Santibanez (New South Wales)
<b>Specialist Teacher of the Year</b>	Beth Crabb (New South Wales)
<b>Trainer of the Year</b>	Kylie Chrisakis (South Australia)
<b>Swim School of the Year - Small</b>	Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre (Northern Territory)
<b>Swim School of the Year - Large</b>	Angelo Anestis Aquatic Centre - Bayside Council (New South Wales)

## New Zealand

<b>Teacher of the Year</b>	Denise Andrews (Queenstown)
<b>New Teacher of the Year</b>	Amadis Guerra (Hastings)
<b>INF Teacher of the Year</b>	Kim Komene (Kerikeri)
<b>TAI Teacher of the Year</b>	Kirstie Nash (Auckland)
<b>TCS Teacher of the Year</b>	Chuli Galgamuwa (Auckland)
<b>AD Teacher of the Year</b>	Margaret Higgison (Stratford)
<b>Trainer of the Year</b>	Karen Dalldorf (Christchurch)

## International

<b>Teacher of the Year</b>	Nguyen Van Tuong (Vietnam)
<b>Specialist Teacher of the Year</b>	Harshinie Jayakody (Sri Lanka)
<b>Trainer of the Year</b>	Weide Tan (Singapore)

[Click here for more information](#)





## AUSTSWIM Professional Development



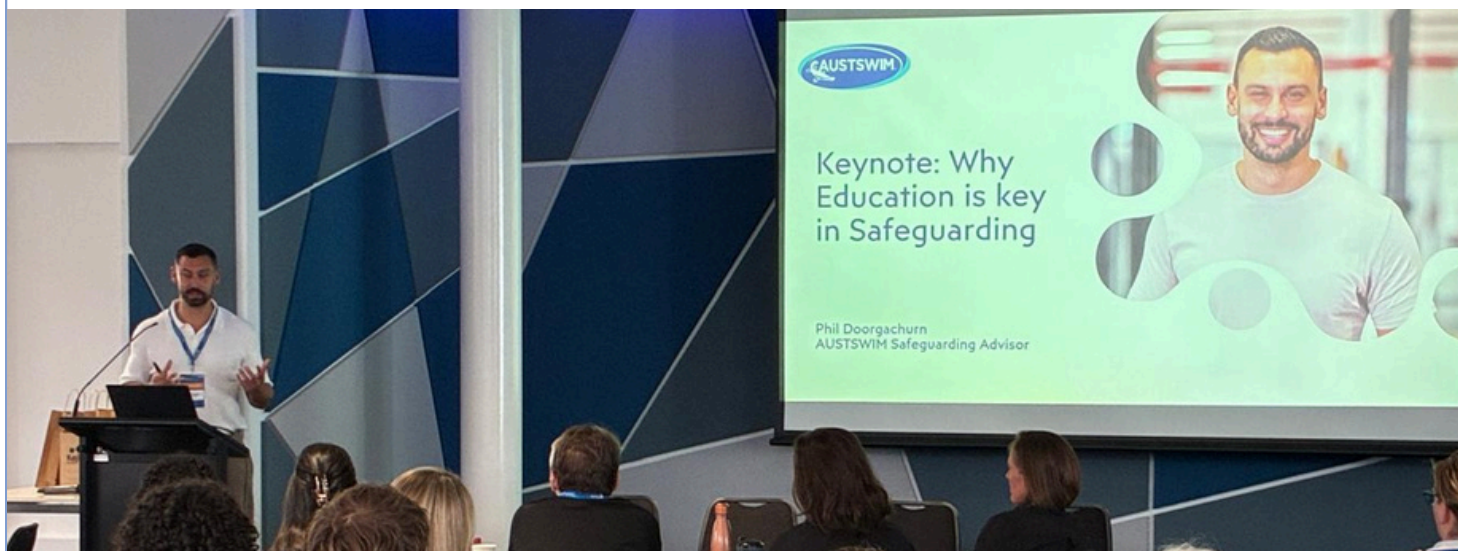
# CHAMPIONING CHILD SAFETY

To date more than 200 aquatic industry professionals have undertaken our online safeguarding professional development for swim teachers, co-created with our safeguarding advisor Phil Doorgachurn. Feedback has been extremely positive.

The course explores the 5 R's of safeguarding - **Recognise, Respond, Report, Record, and Reflect** - while gaining insight into child abuse statistics in Australia and the **10 National Principles for Child Safe Organisations**.

You can now complete the training in your own time, and earn 5 hours of PD.

[Click here for more](#)



[Read here: Why safeguarding matters in aquatics](#)

[Read here: Safeguarding PD launch in NSW](#)

[Read here: Keeping safeguarding on the aquatics & leisure industry's agenda](#)



# NATIONAL DROWNING REPORT 2025

The National Drowning Report 2025 released last month by Royal Life and Surf Life Saving Australia revealed heartbreaking news:

- **357 lives lost** to drowning in the past year
- A **27% increase** on the **10-year average**
- The **highest number of drownings** since records began



Every statistic is a person, a family, a community impacted.

At AUSTSWIM, we believe every child deserves the chance to learn to swim. Quality swimming lessons, delivered by skilled teachers, give children lifesaving skills that stay with them for life.

Now is the time for action – together with governments, schools, communities and parents – to reverse this devastating trend.



Pictured from L-R at the launch of the report in Canberra:

**Rob Woodhouse** (CEO Swimming Australia), **Brad Maunsell** (CEO AUSTSWIM), **Adam Weir** (CEO Surf Life Saving Australia), **Brendon Ward** (CEO Swim Australia) and **Justin Scarr** (CEO Royal Life Saving Australia)



Join the national network of swim schools proudly aligned with Australia's most trusted swim teacher training organisation.

Our recently launched AUSTSWIM Swim School Network is already connecting over 70 swim schools around Australia with the benefits, credibility and recognition that come from being part of a national movement focused on safety, quality and lifelong aquatic education.

Whether you're a large swim school or a small community program, joining the network means you'll be recognised for your commitment to AUSTSWIM-accredited training, gain exclusive discounts, first access to networking opportunities and feature on our national Swim School Finder.

**Membership quickly pays for itself with all members free or discounted enrolment benefit (valued at up to \$630) and a 10% saving for every candidate who enrolls in an AUSTSWIM course at your venue.**

\*The Swim School Network is currently an Australian only program.

## SOME BENEFITS OF JOINING

## PRICING



National recognition



Staff training discounts



Swim School Network badge



Swim School Finder listing



Access to webinars and priority support

✓ Under 1,000 Learn to Swim Students - \$499/year

✓ Over 1,000 Learn to Swim Students - \$649/year

**CLICK  
HERE  
TO GET  
STARTED**

"We are seeing so many of our new Swim Schools taking advantage of the free TSW Course for some of their new staff members!

Perfect timing with Summer around the corner"



# **WE'RE GROWING!**

## **Welcome to our newest schools in the AUSTSWIM network!**

- Bay & Basin Leisure Centre (NSW)
- Roxby Link Swim School (SA)
- Little Lappers Swim School (WA)
- Bergman's Swim School (QLD)
- Aqua Learn to Swim - Blacktown (NSW)
- Aqua Learn to Swim - Stanhope (NSW)
- Aqua Learn to Swim - Emerton (NSW)
- Aqua Learn to Swim - Riverstone (NSW)
- Shelley's Swim School - Yeronga (QLD)
- Shelley's Swim School - Dunlop Park (QLD)
- All About Aquatics - Quilpie (QLD)
- All About Aquatics - Cunnamulla (QLD)
- All About Aquatics - Eromanga (QLD)
- DR Swim (WA)
- Northlakes Swim Centre (NSW)
- Kurrajong Swim School (NSW)
- Aquafit on Maggie (QLD)
- Advantage Aquatics (NSW)
- Canterbury Taipan's (QLD)
- Frog Pond Swim School (NSW)
- JCPC Sports Swim School (VIC)
- 360 Fitness Club Learn to Swim (NSW)
- Swan Active - Beechboro (WA)
- Swan Active - Midland (WA)
- Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre Swim School (NSW)
- School of Little Swimmers (SA)
- Southern Seals Swim School (TAS)
- Burnside Swim School (SA)
- Tullamarine Swimming School (VIC)
- Coffs Harbour Aquatic Centre (NSW)
- WestSwim - Westminster School (SA)
- Splash Leisure Learn to Swim (QLD)
- Ford Swim Centre (VIC)
- Parramatta Aquatic Centre Swim School (NSW)
- Maccabi Aquatics (VIC)
- Turramurra Learn to Swim (NSW)
- YMCA SA - Thebarton Aquatic Centre (SA)
- YMCA SA - The Parks Recreation & Sports Centre (SA)
- YMCA SA - Purrana Spencer Newton Centre (SA)
- YMCA SA - Port Lincoln Leisure Centre (SA)
- YMCA SA - Whyalla Recreation Centre (SA)
- YMCA SA - Valleys Lifestyle Centre (SA)
- YMCA SA - Fleurieu Aquatic Centre (SA)
- Kinswim (NSW)
- Hale Swim School (WA)
- Virgin Active Swimsters (NSW)
- Wanneroo Aquamotion (WA)
- Streamline Swimming Centre (QLD)
- Ballarat Aquatic & Lifestyle Centre (VIC)
- Mako's Swim School (QLD)
- Paddles2Swim (TAS)
- Waterwise Swim School (WA)
- Zeeswim Aquademy (NSW)
- Arena Joondalup Swim School (WA)
- Perth HPC Swim School (WA)
- Kemp Aquatics (VIC)



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STARTED**



# AUSTSWIM AUSTRALIA IN MALAYSIA!



AUSTSWIM Trainer Alina Graham spent a week in Malaysia, delivering our **Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety, Teacher of Infant and preschool aquatics and Teacher of Towards Competitive strokes** courses to Candidates, working alongside passionate educators from AUSTSWIM Southeast Asia who are dedicated to building water safety in their communities.

It's inspiring to see the ripple effect of empowering local trainers - strengthening partnerships, sharing knowledge, and creating safer aquatic environments for all.





# [Click here for the National Aquatic Industry Workforce Report 2025](#)

Royal Life Saving Australia, with the support of the National Aquatic Industry Committee and State and Territory Member organisations, has released the ***National Aquatic Industry Workforce Report 2025***.

## Key Findings

- The national aquatic industry employs approximately 85,000 people.
- Key roles include swimming and water safety teachers (33%), lifeguards (20%), and customer service staff (15%).
- Women now represent 54% of senior leadership positions.

## Issues & Needs

- Almost 45% of the aquatics workforce is employed casually, and 34% work fewer than 15 hours per week.
- Although the share of those working 32+ hours has more than tripled since 2019, this increase highlights a growing demand for greater job stability and financial security.

## Challenges

- Occupational violence and aggression (OVA) remains a major concern, with 90% of workers reporting exposure and 25% experiencing it frequently.
- Safety perceptions are troubling—44% feel unsafe to a concerning degree, and 18% report feeling unsafe at an alarming level.
- While leadership quality is viewed positively by 57%, 15% rate it as low, showing uneven perceptions across the workforce.

## Opportunities

- Over half of workers (53%) believe the aquatic industry offers strong career prospects, and 51% express long-term ambitions to remain in the sector.
- Staff continue to cite purpose and community contribution as the most fulfilling aspects of their roles, reinforcing the potential to attract and retain talent through values-based engagement.



# World Wide Swim School Webinar

Inclusive teaching begins with the right language, attitudes, and understanding. In this practical session, discover strategies to communicate effectively, adapt lessons, and create a supportive aquatic environment where every swimmer can thrive.

[Click here for to watch now](#)



worldwideswimschool.com



## UNDERSTANDING DIFFERENCES INCLUSIVE PRACTICES FOR SWIM TEACHERS SUPPORTING DIVERSE LEARNERS

Presented By:  
Wendy Beutel and Laurie Lawrence



### Strategies for Neurodivergent Students 4PD Pack

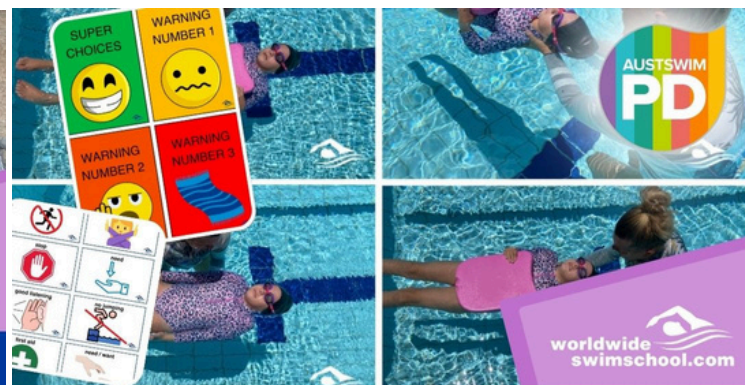
Navigating the Challenges with ODD & PDA  
Autism Awareness in the Learning Environment  
Learning Key Word Sign  
How to develop an Adapted Aquatic Program  
Teaching Students with Additional Needs

#### SPRING OFFER

Get 30% Off - \$68.60 (RRP \$98 AUD)

Offer ends 16<sup>th</sup> November 2025

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### Inclusion Teaching Tool Kit Visual Communication Cards

Download, print, laminate - Visual learning cards with  
230 plus images - Behavioural management tools -  
Communication cards with 250 plus images -  
How to use videos - 12 months access

30% Off - \$87.50 (RRP \$125.00)

Offer ends 16<sup>th</sup> November 2025

[GET THE OFFER HERE!](#)



## ARE YOU PART OF YOUR REGION'S FACEBOOK COMMUNITY?



Join our exclusive online group for swim teachers and aquatic professionals.



Share ideas  
and teaching  
tips!



Connect with your peers,  
grow your network and be  
part of a vibrant  
community that  
champions quality aquatic  
education.

Ask questions  
and get  
support!



**[Click here to join the SEA group!](#)**



Teaching Swimming and Water Safety

AUSTSWIM Southeast Asia Community



## FIND US ON SOCIALS!



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From  
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