



MEDIA RELEASE

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RE: 2017 National AUSTSWIM Most Outstanding Contribution to AUSTSWIM Award.

AUSTSWIM LIMITED

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of Swimming and Water Safety
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WA water safety stalwart receives national recognition

Her 45-year commitment to swimming and water safety was acknowledged when WA's Valerie Henderson was named recipient of the 2017 National Most Outstanding Contribution to AUSTSWIM Award.

The award was one of eight presented at the 2017 AUSTSWIM 'Soak It Up' National Conference and Aquasummit in Tweed Heads at the end of September.

AUSTSWIM CEO Jennifer Schembri-Portelli said the national awards were the pinnacle of recognition for swimming and water safety educators.

Throughout her career, Valerie worked with the WA Department of Education delivering in-term and holiday programs to ensure WA children developed swimming and water safety skills.

"Val is a person of great integrity and has a passion for the teaching of swimming and water safety," said Gary Shaw, AUSTSWIM State Advisory Committee (WA) chairman.

"She has successfully fulfilled the roles of a swimming teacher, supervisor, regional advisor as well as presenter of AUSTSWIM swimming and water safety courses.

"Val has over many decades demonstrated a commitment and dedication to the swimming and water safety community that is difficult to match."

Although Valerie no longer teaches students she is still actively involved in the aquatics industry.

A not-for-profit body, AUSTSWIM is Australia's pre-eminent provider of swimming and water safety teacher training. Its licensed teachers are accredited to the ISO17024 standard and provide an essential link in drowning prevention and safer aquatic participation.

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