



COMMONWEALTH DROWNING PREVENTION

June 16, 2018

NOTICE OF DIPLOMA AWARD

Richard Franklin, Queensland, Australia **Diploma Award Recipient**

The Royal Life Saving Society is very pleased to announce that Dr. Richard Franklin, Queensland, Australia has been honoured with the Diploma Award for his significant contribution to our knowledge in the areas of drowning, near drowning, lifesaving and lifeguarding, through 20 years of productive impactful research about why people drown, risk factors and explored possible prevention solutions.

The Diploma is one of the Society's oldest and most prestigious international awards. RLSS Diploma is awarded to individuals and groups who have added to our knowledge in ways that can save lives and prevent drowning.

Dr. Richard Franklin has contributed significantly to our understanding of drowning (25 articles and 3 book chapters in the last 4 years) and its prevention. His work has spanned a broad array of drowning topics from children to older people, and from dams to rivers to swimming pools. He has worked on developing epidemiological evidence for why people drown, risk factors and explored possible prevention solutions.

Dr. Franklin's work has been used to develop many Australian drowning prevention programs such as the Grey Medallion, Keep Watch @ the Farm, Keep Watch @ Public Pools, and river safety programs. He is a mentor to younger researchers in drowning and has supervised Masters and PhD students to completion, exploring issues around drowning. He teaches into undergraduate and postgraduate programs at James Cook University on Drowning. He works closely with the National Branch of the Royal Life Saving Society – Australia.

The Royal Life Saving Society commends Dr. Richard Franklin for his stellar contribution and his commitment to drowning prevention.