



2024 King Edward VII Cup

Dr William Clive Patrickson

Dr William Clive Patrickson (Clive) commenced working and volunteering with The Royal Life Saving Society shortly after achieving his Bachelor of Education in 1979. He was personally responsible for coordinating all educational programs, publications and internal volunteer management for the Society.

In 1984, Clive and his family immigrated to Australia in order for Clive to accept the role of National Technical Director with the Royal Life Saving Society Australia. In this role, he coordinated the development of all lifesaving educational programs and publications, which included Swim and Survive together with a suite of support materials and resources which became Australia's leading swimming and water safety education programme.

Clive was soon recognised for his leadership and skills in lifesaving resulting in a offer and acceptance for the role of Chief Executive Officer of the RLSSA Victoria Branch in 1986. Over the ensuing three years, Clive expanded the work of what was already Australia's leading lifesaving State by initiating numerous innovations including the development of Australia's first professional swimming pool lifeguard training programme and Australia's first national swimming pool safety guidelines now adopted in all States.

In 1989 Clive was approached by Laerdal Medical to establish the Australian arm of the company, a role which he accepted although chose the location for the new Laerdal Australia office to be a short distance from the RLSSA Victoria Branch office, enabling Clive to continue in a volunteer role for RLSS providing guidance and advice on industry leading activities such as establishing and chairing the Australian Water Safety Education Centre (AWDEC).

In 1994 Clive was the volunteer Director of the RLSSA Australian Centenary Lifesaving Championships, Asia-Pacific Lifesaving Championships and the RLSS Commonwealth Lifesaving Championships all held at the Dandenong Oasis in Victoria.

Clive volunteered his time to be the Hon. State Treasurer of the RLSSA Victoria Branch (2001-2005) providing sound financial advice and guidance to the volunteer Board of Directors. In addition, Clive was a volunteer member of the Interim Board of Life Saving Victoria from 2002 to 2004 providing valuable governance and operational guidance to this new entity formed in 2002 through the merger of Surf Life Saving Victoria and the RLSSA Victoria Branch. For significant services to lifesaving in Victoria, Clive received Life Membership of RLSSA Victoria Branch in 2004.

Even while leading Laerdal Medical and the RQI Partners, Clive still found time to volunteer for RLSS. From 2014 to 2023, Clive has been the RLSS Hon. Treasurer and Chair of the Business Development Committee which has seen revenue growth as well as growth in grants and donations enabling an expansion in worldwide drowning prevention projects. During 2023, Clive led the strategic review for the RLSS, and for the first time ensured that all member organisations contributed to the Society's future plans and late in 2023, Clive stepped into the role of Strategy Director for the RLSS.

Having dedicated more than four decades contributing significantly to the saving of life through his leadership and innovation in a branch range of life saving developments and initiatives in Australia and internationally, it is with great pleasure that Dr W Clive Patrickson is awarded the King Edward VII Cup for 2024.