



COMMONWEALTH DROWNING PREVENTION

2024

NOTICE OF DIPLOMA AWARD

Dr Ben Johns and Mr Jonathan Wallace

Diploma Award Recipients

The Royal Life Saving Society is very pleased to announce that Dr Ben Johns and Mr Jonathan Wallace have been honoured with the Diploma Award for their significant contribution to our knowledge in the areas of lifeguarding, water safety and drowning prevention, through a report exploring the experiences of RLSS volunteers in Wales.

The Royal Life Saving Society is a charity registered in the UK and we work with various organisations across different sectors to support communities in developing lifesaving education initiatives and drowning prevention programmes. Our Commonwealth President is HRH Prince Michael of Kent GCVO. The Diploma is one of the Society's oldest and most prestigious international awards and is awarded to individuals and groups who have added to our knowledge in ways that can save lives and prevent drowning.

Dr Johns and Mr Wallace's contribution, entitled *Recruitment and retention of RLSS UK volunteers within Wales*, is an insightful report on the needs, views and concerns of these volunteers. These deep insights will be useful for both RLSS UK (Wales) and the broader voluntary lifesaving movement in informing strategies for the recruitment and retention of our most vital assets. In particular, the recommendations made provide practical opportunities for addressing the most pressing concerns from volunteers.

The Royal Life Saving Society commends Dr Johns and Mr Wallace for this insightful contribution and their commitment to drowning prevention.