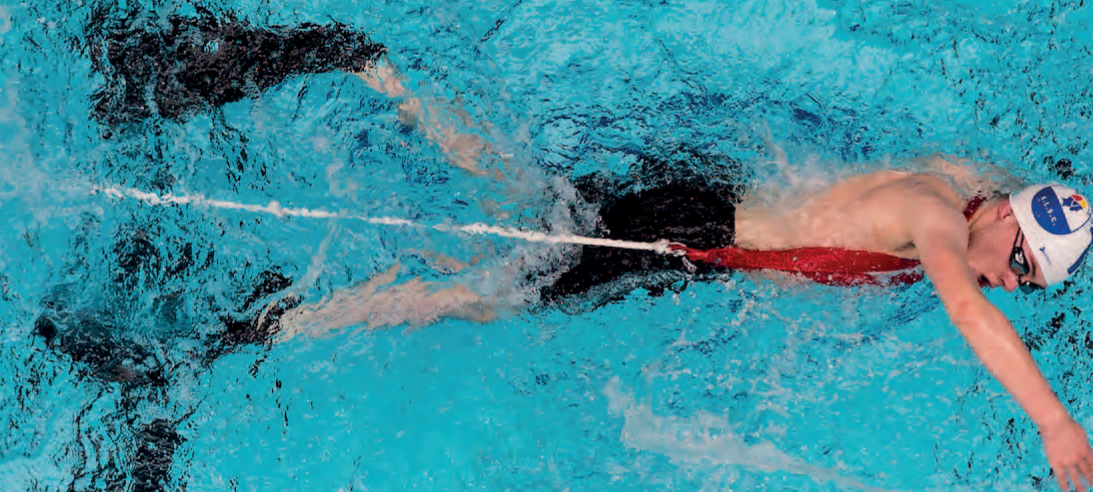


John Wilmott from Tramore, Co Waterford competing in Irish Water Safety's Stillwater Lifesaving Championships at UL in Limerick. Photograph: David Branigan



Irish Water Safety
Sábháilteacht Uisce na hÉireann

2018

Together, let's bring drownings down

A Christmas Message from the Chairman of Irish Water Safety



As Chairman of Irish Water Safety, I have great pleasure in presenting you with the IWS Calendar 2018. It is brought to you through the kind and generous support of a number of sponsors to whom I extend our appreciative thanks. You'll find a range of planned activities listed in the calendar that reflect the wide and varied remit of our work to promote swimming and water safety. 2017 saw the appointment of the new Council of Irish Water Safety. They have been working diligently and with dedicated commitment on your behalf since the inaugural meeting in March. The Commissions, Committees and Working Groups have equally been conscientious and thorough in dealing with the tasks set for them by the Council. On your behalf I thank them all for their enthusiasm. As the Chairman and on behalf of the Council, I take particular delight in acknowledging and thanking all the members of IWS for the tremendous voluntary work that you undertake nationwide throughout the entire year. I especially wish to highlight the excellent work of our Summer Weeks Organisers who are, even now, engaged in preparations to ensure that the Summer Weeks 2018 will be delivered successfully throughout the country. The popularity of these courses spans generations and although this summer's weather was not kind to our Instructors, it did not affect the enthusiasm of the children who availed of the swimming and lifesaving classes at Training Centres in aquatic environments nationwide. The number of lives saved and aquatic accidents avoided as a result of the work carried out by all of our active volunteers can never be fully enumerated although one figure that brings home the importance of their work is the number of rescues actioned by Lifeguards each year, a figure that reached a total of 302 this summer. These same Lifeguards, trained and assessed by Irish Water Safety administered first aid on 3,777 occasions and reunited with their loved ones, a total of 298 lost children found wandering alone by the water's edge. In terms of the Sport of Lifesaving, Irish Water Safety's National teams had their best performances ever abroad, bringing home the highest number of medals from an International Lifesaving Championship than ever before. Every member of each team, be they juniors, seniors, masters or coaches, played a pivotal role in achieving this success and we congratulate them and celebrate their achievements. The Swimming Commission have been developing and updating all IWS Swimming syllabi and resources. These will be ready for launch in early 2018. Updating is also the task undertaken by the Lifeguard Commission who are focused on bringing

our Lifeguard Manuals into line with best international standards. The Education Commission have decided to update the Code of Ethics Handbook, a crucial task which will be completed in 2018. The Rescue Commission has a very interesting new project whereby strong relationships will be built with the Community Rescue Boats Ireland. Our new Commission is the IRB Commission who are focused on the provisions of Rescue Boats in the context of both lifeguarding and competitions. A number of marketing campaigns were rolled out throughout the year on TV, radio, in the press, online and on billboards on roads and in shopping centres nationwide. The Olympic rowers Gary and Paul O'Donovan played a key part in some of these campaigns and for this we are deeply grateful. A cinema campaign is currently playing nationwide. The thirty second advert can be seen on our online channels and has influence beyond our shores in that our colleagues in Australia will now roll out the same campaign on their screens down under. This is particularly gratifying in terms of our endeavours to share drowning prevention initiatives with each other at every opportunity, at local, national and international level. Additional marketing campaigns will hit your screens in the new year as we focus on changing people's attitudes and behaviours around water so please like our Facebook page to stay in touch with the latest developments. At this time of year in particular, our thoughts are with the families of those members who have passed. This year, we lost: Jack Barry, Life Governor, Wexford, Margaret Flynn, Cavan WSAC, Paddy Phipps, former staff member and Dublin Examiner, Sé Rooney, former Dublin Instructor, Michael Giles, former Instructor & Examiner with Dublin WSAC, John McNally, former Instructor & Examiner with Carlow WSAC and a founder of the Bagnalstown outdoor swimming pool and member of the Council of the National Safety Council. I extend on your behalf, our deepest sympathies to all families who are feeling such loss. I wish you and your loved ones good health and happiness for the festive season. I hope you enjoy the fellowship of friends new and old and cherish the company of family, in this season of loving and sharing.

Together, let's bring drownings down.

Martin O'Sullivan
Chairman



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January | 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
• New Year's Day 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	• IWS Technical Committee meeting 17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	• Holiday World Show, RDS 26	• Holiday World Show, RDS 27	• Holiday World Show, RDS 28
29	30	• Deadline for WSACs to submit year-end financial reporting forms • Council Meeting 1 31	1	2	3	4



Proof that Lifesavers not only walk on water but run on it too. The waterline running track for Irish Water Safety- Dublin's summer training courses.
Photo: Ronan Kelly, Dublin

Notes

For updates on all courses and events, please check Calendar of Events on www.iws.ie

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February | 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 • Ntl. Junior & Senior Pool Championships UL, Limerick	11 • Ntl. Junior & Senior Pool Championships UL, Limerick • Ntl. Masters Pool Championships UL, Limerick
12	13	14	15	16	17 • Ireland Angling Expo, Ntl. Show Centre, Swords	18 • Ireland Angling Expo, Ntl. Show Centre, Swords
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11



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March

2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
26	27	28	1	2 • Skipper Expo International, Galway	3 • Skipper Expo International, Galway	4
5	6	7	8	9 • Annual Meeting of ILSE Commissions, Serbia	10 • Annual Meeting of ILSE Commissions, Serbia	11 • Annual Meeting of ILSE Commissions, Serbia
12	13	14 • IWS Technical Committee meeting	15	16	17 • Saint Patrick's Day	18
19 • Bank Holiday • Local Authority Beach Lifeguard Exams commence	20	21	22 • United Nations World Water Day	23	24	25
26	27	28 • Council Meeting 2	29 • Holy Thursday	30 • Good Friday	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8



Preparing for their ocean swim are Irish Water Safety-Cork's Dillion Mulcahy, Niall O'Donovan, Lewis Timmons and Eamonn Murphy.
Photo: Sarah-Jane O'Donovan, Cork

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April

2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 • Easter Sunday
2 • Easter Monday Bank Holiday	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 • Water Safety Development Officer's Conference, Limerick	20 • Water Safety Development Officer's Conference, Limerick	21	22 • National Nipper Pool Championships NAC, Dublin
23	24	25 • IWS Technical Committee meeting	26	27	28	29 • Water Safety Area Committee's National Seminar
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

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A group of swimmers add to their skills with Irish Water Safety's Junior Lifeguard programme, available for any qualified Swim Teachers nationwide. Search Junior Lifeguard at www.iws.ie. Photo: Gerry Brennan, Coral Leisure Centre, Ballinasloe, Co Galway.

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May

2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
• May Bank Holiday 7	8	• Council Meeting 3 9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	• European Maritime Day 20
21	22	23	24	• Annual General Meeting ILSE, Board of Directors, Portugal 25	• Annual General Meeting ILSE, Board of Directors, Portugal 26	• Annual General Meeting ILSE, Board of Directors, Portugal 27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10



Gently building these children's water confidence is Irish Water Safety-Wexford Instructor Aisling Lyons on the first day of a "Summer Swim Week" at Tinaberna, Kilmuckridge, Co Wexford, now in its 30th year.
Photo: Sorcha Lyons, Wexford

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June

2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
• June Bank Holiday						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
• National Water Safety Awareness Week	• National Water Safety Awareness Week	• National Water Safety Awareness Week	• National Water Safety Awareness Week	• National Water Safety Awareness Week	• National Water Safety Awareness Week	• National Water Safety Awareness Week
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
• Nationwide Summer Weeks Classes Commence				• Deadline for WSACs to request grant		
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

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European and Olympic rowing champions Paul and Gary O'Donovan ask that you stay safe from drowning by following Irish Water Safety's simple tips at www.iws.ie Photograph: David Branigan

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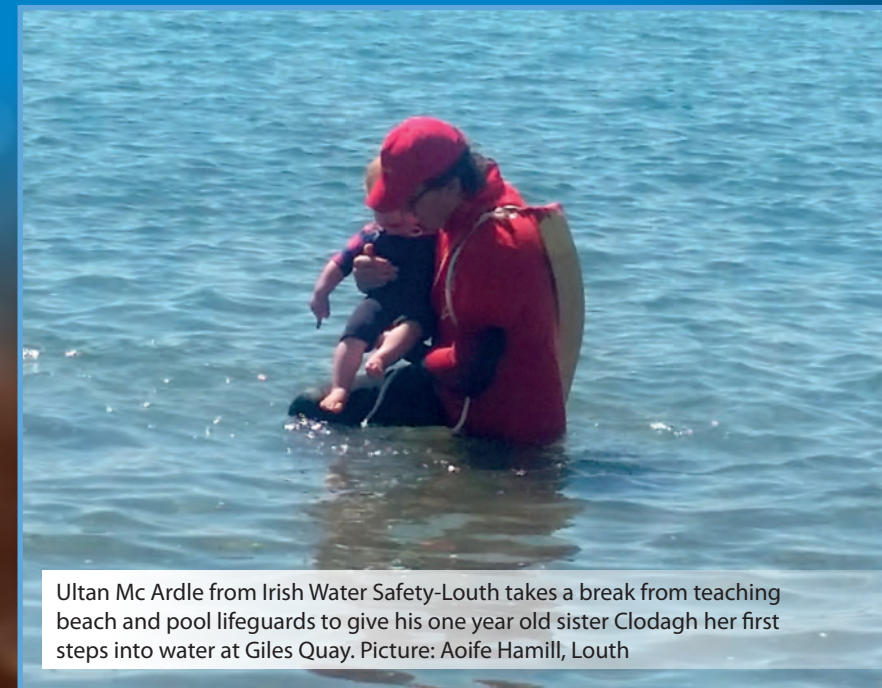
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July

2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers 2	• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers 3	• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers 4	• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers 5	• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers 6	7	8
• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers 9	• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers 10	• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers 11 • IWS Technical Committee Mtng.	• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers 12	• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers 13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	• Council Meeting 4 25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5



Ultan Mc Ardle from Irish Water Safety-Louth takes a break from teaching beach and pool lifeguards to give his one year old sister Clodagh her first steps into water at Giles Quay. Picture: Aoife Hamill, Louth

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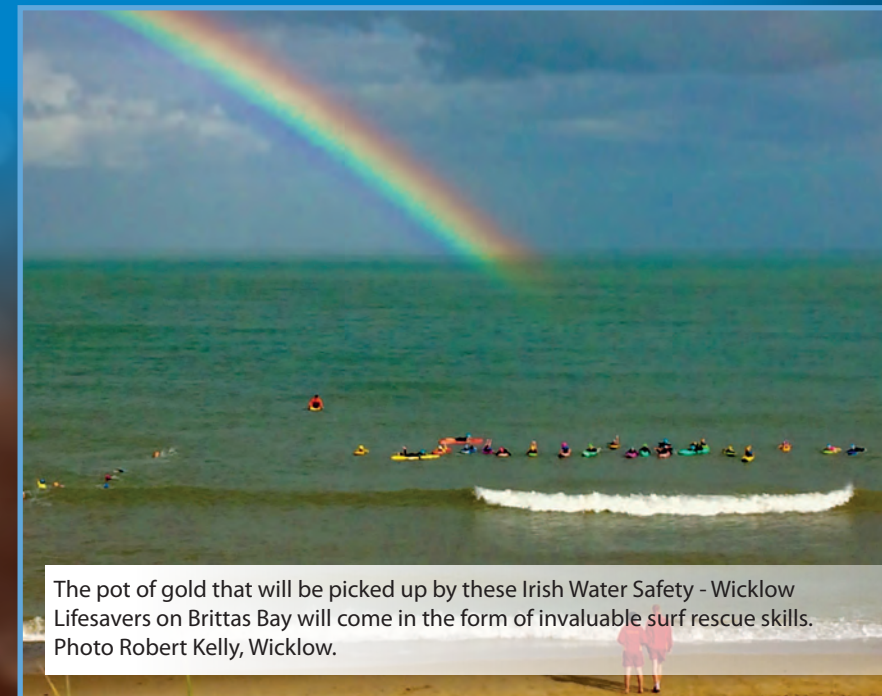
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August | 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
• August Bank Holiday					• Regional Nipper/Youth Championships	• Regional Nipper/Youth Championships
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers	• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers	• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers	• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers	• Education Centre In-service Courses for Primary School Teachers		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	• National Nipper/Youth Championships, Kilkee, Clare	• National Nipper/Youth Championships, Kilkee, Clare
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9



The pot of gold that will be picked up by these Irish Water Safety - Wicklow Lifesavers on Brittas Bay will come in the form of invaluable surf rescue skills.
Photo Robert Kelly, Wicklow.

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September | 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
26	27	28	29	31	1 <i>National Senior / Masters Championships</i>	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Suicide Prevention Day European Junior Lifesaving Championships: UL, Limerick & Kilkee, Clare 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> European Junior Lifesaving Championships: UL, Limerick & Kilkee, Clare 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> European Junior Lifesaving Championships: UL, Limerick & Kilkee, Clare 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> European Junior Lifesaving Championships: UL, Limerick & Kilkee, Clare 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> European Junior Lifesaving Championships: UL, Limerick & Kilkee, Clare 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> European Junior Lifesaving Championships: UL, Limerick & Kilkee, Clare 15	16
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Ploughing Championships, Tullamore, Co Offaly 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Ploughing Championships, Tullamore, Co Offaly IWS Technical Committee Mtng. 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Ploughing Championships, Tullamore, Co Offaly 20	21	22	23
24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Safety Development Officer's Seminar, Mullingar 25	26	27	28	29	30
1	2	3	4	5	6	7



Irish Water Safety-Wicklow's Cara Ryan and Emily Clarke carry Rachel Bentley competing in the National Surf Rescue Lifesaving Championships. Photograph: David Branigan

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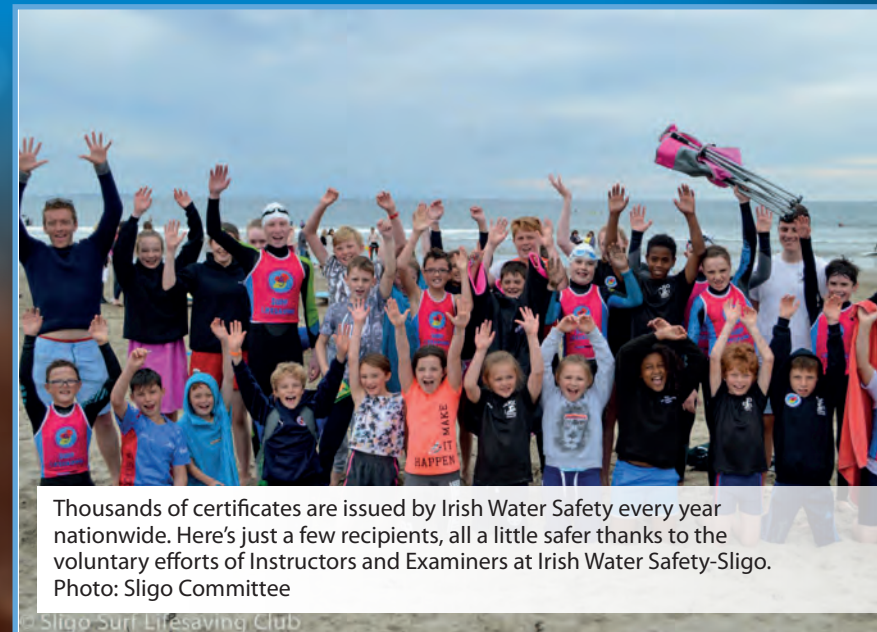
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October | 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3 • Council Meeting 5	4	5	6 • Designated Liaison Person's Seminar	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 • October Bank Holiday	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11



Thousands of certificates are issued by Irish Water Safety every year nationwide. Here's just a few recipients, all a little safer thanks to the voluntary efforts of Instructors and Examiners at Irish Water Safety-Sligo. Photo: Sligo Committee

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November | 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 • Irish Fly Fair & International Angling Show, Galway	11 • Irish Fly Fair & International Angling Show, Galway
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 • IWS Technical Committee meeting	22	23	24	25
26 • National Awards Ceremony (Actual Date TBC)	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9



Many of those taking Irish Water Safety classes learn invaluable lifesaving skills without ever entering the water such as these two traffic wardens on a Pre-Hospital Emergency Care course in Nenagh Leisure Centre. Photo: Tom Mackey, Tipperary

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December | 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5 • International Volunteer Day • Council Meeting 6	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 • Christmas Day	26 • Saint Stephen's Day	27	28	29	30
31 • New Year's Eve	1	2	3	4	5	6



Smiles all round as Lifesaving Sport builds friendships for life such as that enjoyed by Anna O'Gara Dublin and Tara Mc Evoy Clare
Photo: Margaret Purcell, Clare

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What we do...

Teach swimming, lifesaving, water confidence, safety, survival, rescue skills and basic life support. Courses are provided nationwide to the general public and also to children as part of the primary school curriculum. Many qualifications such as our Pool and Beach Lifeguarding Awards are recognised internationally.

Arrange conferences, lectures and demonstrations to Local Authorities, Government Agencies, NGO's, schools, Colleges and members of the public.

Publish literature to promote water safety and target at-risk groups. We provide publications for all aquatic activities to assist the public adhere to best practices.

Our volunteers carry out Risk Assessments on bathing areas and waterways nationwide that may pose a particular risk to the public, in order to make them safer by the erection of Public Rescue Equipment, signage and other necessary facilities. We also advise and assist Local Authorities, state agencies and private enterprises on matters relating to water safety and we complete Public Rescue Equipment checks.

Our staff support the work of approximately 4,500 volunteer members and we also administer those teaching swimming, lifesaving and CPR training on a commercial basis

Beach Lifeguards are trained and tested by our examiners for the Local Authorities, prior to the annual summer season each year.

Train and examine rescue boat crews for the Community Inshore Rescue Services.

Promote marine safety along with other members of the Marine Safety Working Group and the Irish Marine Search and Rescue Committee.

National and local media help build public awareness by actively communicating our safety messages to the public.

Press releases target the seasonal hazards at sea, on our inland waterways and other aquatic environments.

Analysis and provision of drowning statistics that enables effective targeting of "at risk" groups in Ireland.

Work with a range of organisations to help reduce the high number of drownings by suicide annually.

Organise the Annual National Lifesaving Championships; some of our members then go on to compete in international events each year.

Organise the National Water Safety Awards Ceremony. The "JUST IN TIME" Rescue Award and other awards recognize people's work, providing training and promoting Water Safety in Ireland.

Partners from the private sector sponsor the delivery of messages to key "at risk" groups.

Provide information on the locations of Lifeguarded waterways in Ireland.

Public and private bodies call on us to make submissions on water safety related matters.

Maintain a comprehensive websites of water safety advice, publications and courses.

IWS is registered charity CHY 16289



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