

# IRISH WATER SAFETY 2003 REPORT

## **The Chairman's report to Martin Cullen TD, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government**

The Annual Report contains a comprehensive review of the many activities of Irish Water Safety for the year 2003. As you read through the report you will note the highlights of another exciting year of voluntary effort and professionalism on behalf of the Members and the Staff who make a determined effort to reduce drowning accidents in Ireland.

This commitment, is due in no small measure to all levels of involvement among all members, be it, Council, Commissions, Life Governors, Staff, Water Safety Area Committees, Examiners, Tutors, Instructors and Organisers at local level. This coupled with the positive financial support that we get from the Department of the Environment, Local Government and Heritage, Local Authorities, fundraising and voluntary contributions and the generous Corporate Sponsorship both monetary and in kind that gives us the resources necessary to save lives through the promotion of Water Safety Awareness throughout this island nation of ours.

While we, that is the National Council of Irish Water Safety, still considers that there are far too many drowning accidents, especially of young people, we do hold out hope that the Water Safety Awareness message is taking seed among all sections of the community and this is reflected in the 2003 drowning statistics released by the Central Statistics Office, which shows a slight reduction in the overall accidental drownings figure for the year. As the national voluntary statutory body responsible for water safety in Ireland, we are very conscious of the tremendous support given to us in our endeavors by the Department of the Communications, Marine and Natural Resources, the Maritime Safety Division (DCMNR), the Irish Coast Guard, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, the Royal Life Saving Society (RNLBI), the various other aquatic and sporting bodies such as the Irish Sailing Association who operate a code of good practice (second to none) for their members.

Irish Water Safety, through its collective expertise, leadership, and dedication, provides opportunities for the young as instructors, lifesavers, lifeguards, and competitors in Life Saving Sport to develop their leadership skills and to experience tremendous personal growth in a philanthropic organization in the service of mankind. There is no doubt that through Irish Water Safety these young people will undoubtedly carry this growth and development with them into their personal and professional lives. The record of commitment by young people throughout the years of Water Safety in the service of others is proven by the fact that many former young members have attained the highest accolades both in civic life and as captains of industry in this country. It is worthy of note that Irish Water Safety was one of the first voluntary organizations to put in place a "Code Of Ethics" and the organisation strives to attain the highest standards at all times in accordance with recognized good practice and standards.

It is essential that we build on our successes and learn by our failures if we are to survive as a voluntary organisation and to encourage continued growth in our membership. Many voluntary organisations are experiencing difficulty in recruiting new members, but thankfully, we continue to hold our membership numbers and it is pleasing to report a moderate increase.

Irish Water Safety places significant value on the commitment of its volunteers across the country. Who run courses both on winter nights and during summer holidays at many locations and even some very remote. In February 2003 at the National Concert Hall the largest number of members ever (120 in total) were honored in various ways, by being created either "Life Governors" or receiving Long Service medals with Gold/Silver/Bronze bars as appropriate. Mr. Martin Cullen T.D. the Minister of the Environment, Local Government and Heritage made the presentations, who on behalf of the Government thanked all concerned for their voluntary commitment to saving life and their voluntary commitment to Water Safety.

At International level Irish Water Safety is a very active member of International Life Saving (World Body) and also has a special working relationship with the Swimming Teachers Association (UK). We have much to offer at international level and in return we gain valuable hands-on lifesaving experience especially in relation to Lifesaving Sport. During 2003 we got much help from the National German Lifesaving Organisation (Deutsche Lebens-Rettungs\_Gesellschaft) through the good offices of their President and Chief Executive Officer. A number of our members received International Awards and this is indicative of the fine contribution made by our members at international level, one being conferred a Knight in the Order of Lifesaving.

Earlier within the report, I thanked all concerned for their financial support that our members so richly deserve to continue the work in all spheres of the association's activities. I am pleased to present on behalf of the Council, within this annual report a comprehensive and detailed summary of our financial expenditures throughout the year 2003. The Council has been compliant with all the necessary financial guidelines demanded of it by Government in relation to its financial activities and at all times striving to get value for money. The accounts have been examined by the Controller & Auditor General's Office and certified.

Sadly, during the year we lost some of our dedicated volunteers Examiners, Instructors, Helpers who died through illnesses. We express to their families and friends our sincere sympathy. We appreciate and always will; the very fine voluntary commitment they made during their lifetime to our organisation.

I wish to thank our Medical Advisor, Dr. Tony Handley for the expert medical advice he has given us throughout the year. We thank our Chief Executive Officer, the Officer Manager, the Marketing Manager and the other members of Staff for their dedication and loyalty throughout 2003.

On a personal note, I express my thanks to my colleagues on the Council for their fine contribution to the promotion of water safety awareness during 2003. However, it was with regret, that due to a reform in managerial structures within the Department of the Environment we lost one of our most dedicated and ardent Council Members, Mr. Ian Keating who was replaced by Mr. Martin Condon from the Department.

In conclusion, I feel that we can reflect on 2003 with satisfaction, in the knowledge, that we have promoted water safety to the best of our ability. We trust that those who will read this report will feel likewise, in the full and sure knowledge that there is a voluntary organisation working hard to reduce all forms of drownings throughout Ireland.

Finally, I extend the thanks of the members of Irish Water Safety to the Minister for the Environment, Local Government and Heritage, Mr Martin Cullen, T.D. who has been most supportive of our efforts. I also thank the Secretary General of the Department, Mr. Niall Callan and Staff Members who gave assistance to the Council throughout the year.

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**Frank J. Nolan.**

G.Kt.Odr. L.S.

***Chairman***

Irish Water Safety

## IRISH WATER SAFETY COUNCIL AND OTHER INFORMATION



**Frank Nolan, Chairman, Co. Waterford**

***Chairman***

Has been involved in Water Safety and Sea Rescue on a voluntary basis for 50 years. He is the Chairman of Irish Water Safety, a Vice President of European Life Saving and a European Director on the World Board of International Life Saving. He holds many National and International Honours including being a “Grand Knight of the Order of Lifesaving”. Recognised as an expert in inshore rescue boats and cliff rescue, he holds an “All Ireland” lifesaving medal with Waterford. He serves as the present Vice Chairman of Waterford Area Water Safety Committee.



**Kathryn Byrne, Co. Dublin**

***Occupation: MD of Limelight Communications***

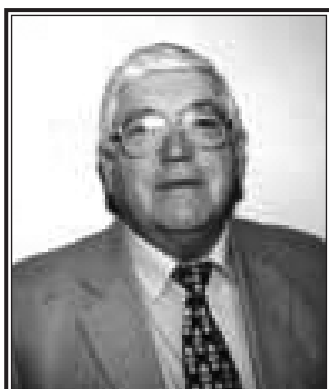
Kathryn is Managing Director of a Public Relations consultancy, Limelight Communications, based in Naas, Co Kildare. Kathryn brings her background in public relations to the Promotion Commission of which she is Chairperson.



**Breda Collins, Co. Kilkenny**

Joined Water Safety in 1986 and is an active Instructor, Examiner and Risk Assessor. She is an International Surf Lifesaving referee and an ILSE Risk Assessor Tutor.

Appointed to the Rescue Commission in 1998, which she chaired for 2 years. She is currently serving as Chairman of the WSAC and Swimming Commission.



**Michael Cuddihy, Co. Waterford**

Michael Cuddihy has been a member of the board since 1987. During this time he has served on many national and international committees and is currently the Chairman of the Sports Commission. He has a special interest in promoting sport within international lifesaving and has brought teams to South Africa, Australia, the USA and mainland Europe to compete successfully in international events.



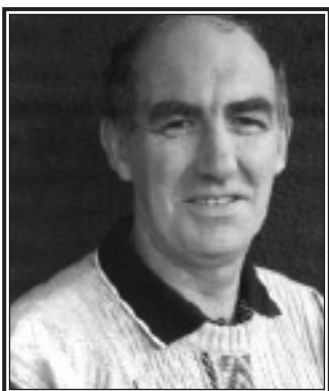
**Jim Lawlor, Co. Sligo**

A Ministerial appointment, Jim is a Company Director, former President of the Irish Basketball Association and two times former President of Sligo Chamber Of Commerce And Industry (96/97,2000/2001). He is also a current Member of the National Board of the Chambers of Commerce of Ireland and Vice President with special responsibility for the BMW region of Ireland. He is also a former Director of Sligo Regional Airport. He is a member of Sligo Mental Health Association and the Acquired Brain Injury Association. He is a member of the Promotion Commission, which he chaired for three years.



**Brendan McGrath, Co. Clare**

Brendan is current Chairman of Clare Water Safety Area Committee and serves on the Lifesaving Commission. Involved with water safety since 1970, Brendan is an active instructor, examiner and risk assessor.



**Michael Murphy, Co. Dublin**

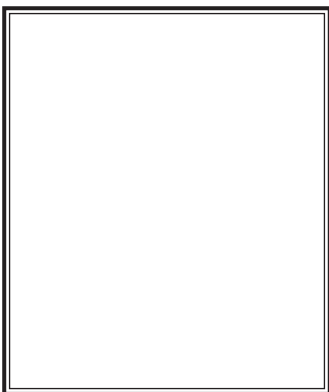
***Occupation: Principal of National School***

Michael's involvement in water safety goes back to 1963 when he took his Red Cross examinations. He became more involved with the administration of the organisation's instructors and examiners and is current Chairman of the Education Commission. He led the development of a Code of Ethics for the organisation.



**Martin O'Sullivan, Co. Cork**

Martin has been involved with water safety since 1971, when he did his lifesaving tests with the Red Cross. Martin has served as Chairman of Cork Water Safety Area Committee at various times since 1973 and is the current Chairman of the Rescue Commission. He has been involved internationally since 1990 as Chairman of World Lifesaving's Membership Committee and Chairman of the Rescue Committee of the European Region of ILS (Europe). Martin is the IWS representative on the Blue Flag jury.



### **Martin Condon**

Occupation: Principal Officer-Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. Martin joined the Department in 1977 and has worked in a number of different Divisions. He was previously in charge of the Roads and Local Services Section where one of his responsibilities was Water Safety.



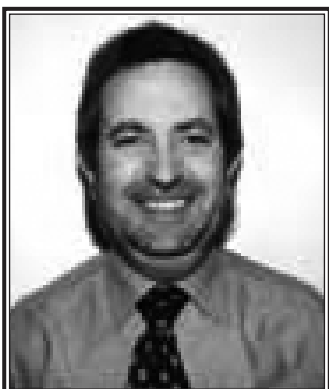
### **Brian Farrell**

Brian M Farrell Lt Cdr (Retd.). Cadetship with Irish Shipping and entered Naval Service in 1972 where he served in command of naval vessels and other naval appointments over a twenty year period. Now working as Harbour Master Dingle, he is involved in running the Dingle Sailing Club and his main interests are sailing and boating.



### **Martina Moloney**

A Ministerial appointment to the Council, Martina is County Manager at Louth County Council and former Director of Services with Galway City Council. She has had experience in working for numerous Local Authorities in her career to date, including Clare County Council, Limerick City Council, Donegal County Council, North Tipperary County Council and Galway City Council.



### **Mr. Ian Keating, Co. Dublin**

***Occupation: Principal Officer – Department of Environment & Local Government***

Ian has served in the Department of the Environment since 1973 and worked within many different divisions including Local Government, Planning and Construction. As Principal Officer in the Local Services Section, he has responsibility for water safety in the Department.

**Note: During 2003 Mr Martin Condon replaced Mr Ian Keating on the Council.**

**Secretary to Council**

Joan Harte

**Auditors**

Comptroller & Auditor General  
4-5 Harcourt Road  
Dublin 2

**Bankers**

Ulster Bank  
33 Eyre Square  
Galway

**Solicitors**

Lewis C Doyle & Co.  
Augustine Court  
Augustine Street  
Galway

**National Office**

Irish Water Safety  
The Long Walk  
Galway

## **WATER SAFETY AREA COMMITTEES**

The organisation has twenty-eight Area Committees, arranged almost on a county basis plus the Defence Forces and the Garda Síochána Special Water Safety Committees making a total of thirty.

Each Local Authority has a Water Safety Development Officer who is on the Water Safety Area Committee. Much recognition must be afforded these committees who devise a programme of events and courses to cover their areas for the year. Most programmes consist of pool sessions in the winter and water safety weeks at beaches, lakes and rivers in the summer.

The official membership structure is of a voluntary nature with over one thousand three hundred members nationwide. It operates on a number of different levels: Examiners, Trainee Examiners, Instructors, Trainee Instructors and Non-Technical Volunteer Organisers. Thanks to their efforts to promote water safety we have seen a huge increase in the development of water safety awareness in local communities.



## STAFF



**13 Lt. Cdr. John F.M. Leech, CEO**



**14 Roger Sweeney, Marketing Executive**

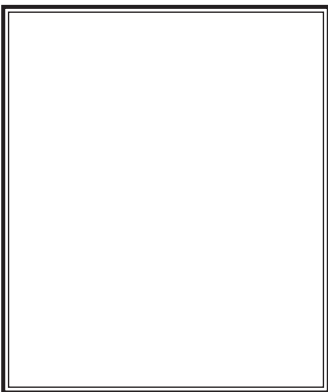


**15 Joan Harte, Office Manager**



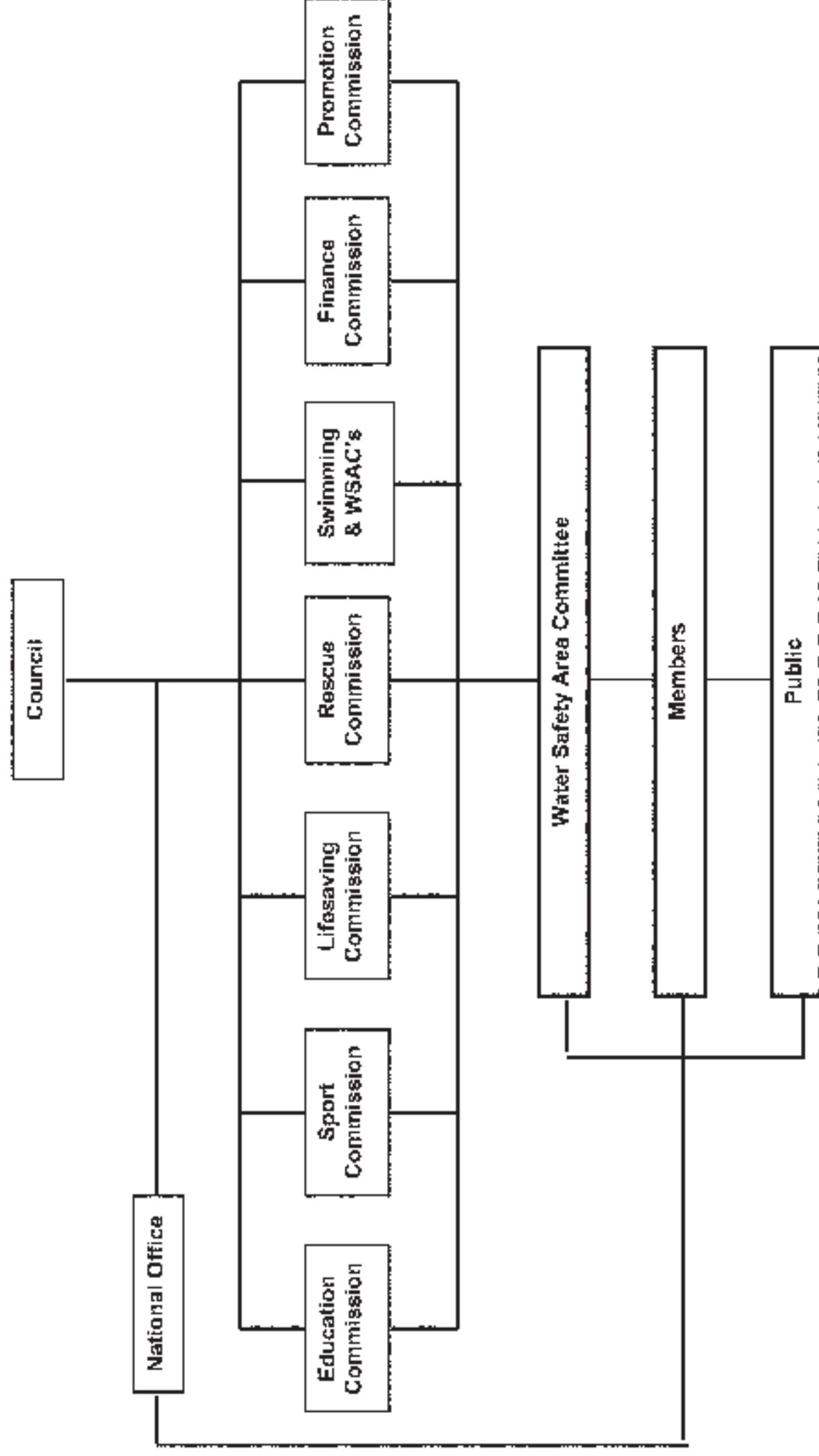


**16 Jocelyn Cunningham, Clerical Administrator**



**17 Caitriona Hanley, Clerical Administrator**

Management Structure of the Irish Water Safety Association





***Wicklow Junior team members enjoying the Championships***



***Mr Martin O'Sullivan being honoured by International Life Saving as a Knight of the Order of Lifesaving***



***Eager competitors at the Junior Championships in Donegal.***



***Dolores O'Sullivan proudly wearing her Long Service Medal - a veteran of Lifesaving***



***Kids enjoy supporting their team at the Junior Lifesaving Championships***



***IWS Chairman Mr Frank Nolan showing the Irish flag and the scroll of honour recognising Ireland as a member of ILS***

# THE WATER SAFETY AREA AND SWIMMING COMMISSION

## **Members**

Ms. Breda Collins, Kilkenny, Chairperson

Mr. Seamus O'Neill, Donegal, Vice Chairperson

Mr. Paul Murphy, Dublin, Secretary

## ***Duties assigned.***

## **Matters Dealing with Area Water Safety Committees**

Reports from Annual General Meetings for the last three years are being analysed. Most counties are operating programmes as before, but an increasing number are having difficulty in recruiting new instructors. We would encourage all Local Area Committees to try and recruit young people into the organisation at trainee level. The good news is that in 2003, eighty-five new instructors have qualified. Pool closures and increasing costs are also affecting some areas. If these are in areas where a pool is run in conjunction with a local authority, let us know. We may be able to intervene at National level.

## ***Improving membership, communication and profile***

The list of members registered to each county was forwarded to all Area secretaries to verify and update. Seven counties responded, adding a further forty members to our membership. The membership to end December 2003 stands at 1401, which is growing. New membership forms were designed by the commission for the registration of members for years 2004 – 2007. Extra membership categories were added to facilitate correct databases to be compiled at HQ, so that everyone receives correct information on courses and seminars. There is also a facility to attach a photo, so that all members will be issued with a National membership identity card. We hope all members will take up this option as it has been requested by a large group of members for many years.

Communication was discussed at the Chairperson's seminar. Many people are still concerned that email is the only method of communication of news bulletins. Just over 50% of members have email addresses. If these were to be posted out to all other members, excluding the pressure on staff time, the postage cost would be approx. 1,500 euro.

We would encourage Local Area Committees (LAC) to identify personnel who do not receive bulletins and circulate in whatever fashion suits them;- e.g. bring copies to pool session, put on minutes for LAC and instructor's meetings, or issue copies with notice of meeting. They could also be posted on IWS notice boards at pools. Any other suggestions would be welcome! There was a request for a "once off" notice of proposed upcoming events. This was included with this year's Christmas cards.

A facility for County email addresses. e.g. Dublin@IWS.ie was established at a request from the delegates attending the Chairperson's/instructors conference in Nenagh. It was felt that this would be of benefit to committees, both to communicate with each other and for the public to contact them. This address could be assigned to two committee members and used in local advertising of courses. Counties have signed up to this are: - Carlow, Kilkenny, Dublin, Limerick City, Limerick County, Mayo, Tipperary South and Wicklow. We encourage more committees to take up this facility. The AWSC commission also has a direct email address: - AWSC@IWS.ie should any committee wish to contact us directly.

A profile of local activities can be best highlighted through local media, contact with schools, and working in conjunction with the Water Safety Development Officers.

We ask that all counties appoint a PRO. There are currently 16 registered.

The Promotions commission intends to run a PRO seminar in February to support PRO's in their activities.

All LAC's were contacted with the suggestion of requesting their local authority to appoint two elected representatives to their committee as a method of highlighting the profile of LAC's and we are grateful to the one county that responded to this suggestion.

### **Organise Chairpersons Seminar**

The commission met for the first time in April. A Chairperson's meeting was held in May in Nenagh, in conjunction with the Child Liaison Officer seminar.

Each county was invited to include two instructors who would normally not attend national meetings. Workshops, group discussions and questionnaires were included and sixteen counties were represented.

Delegates felt that an earlier date would be more suitable as younger instructors were involved in college exams. We plan to run a Seminar for 2004 at the end of March.

The Commission was grateful for the time spent on questionnaires and discussion.

Delegates requested more interactive meetings in future.

### **Examine Reports from Annual General Meetings**

This process is ongoing.

There were a number of changes to rules and regulations.

### **February 2001:-**

Child Liaison Officers (CLOs) to be appointed at first meeting of area committee (Not elected). It was noted from several reports that this change needs to be highlighted. CLOs are officers of the area committee. The executive now consists of 5 members.

### **August 2003: -**

Change to Rule No.17.2 The rule will now be changed to read “control over all activities in Area with the exception of Specialist courses and conferences.” Water Safety Area Committees (WSAC) are to be notified in advance of courses being run by instructors from outside their area. Course organisers are to notify the National Office of all courses they are running outside of their local areas. The National Office will then notify the WSAC where the course will be run.

We encourage all area committees to hold their AGM's before 15th of March.

We ask all to note that under the rules, area committees should hold only one bank account.

### **Promotion of Swimming Courses**

In 2001 there were no IWS swimming teachers qualified.

Nineteen teachers have qualified this year to date. This does not include the recent course held in Clare. Sixty-seven assistant swimming teachers have also qualified.

One National course was run in Offaly, where candidates from other LACs have participated. €200 euro to a maximum of €1000 euro is available for every outside candidate on a course.

The first ever IWS swimming teacher's seminar was held on December 7th in Mullingar. The purpose of this is to give teachers a chance to keep up to date with teaching practices. Martin Kavanagh and Brendan McGrath provided the course. Forty-one people attended the seminar, which was a huge success with positive feedback from all attendees. Another seminar is proposed for October 2004.

The Commission is grateful to Martin and Brendan for their professional input to the day.

In December sixteen people were selected to go on an IWS swimming teachers tutors course. The pre-course work was issued and the practical part of the course was to be held over two weekends in January 2004.

Difficulties were highlighted from several WSACs regarding the inputting of certificate returns. The commission has appointed a sub-committee of three people with expertise in this area to collate and address the problems. They will meet early in 2004. The commission also identified the wish of members for all certificates to be bi-lingual; this will take place over 2004 as old stock is used up.

### **Examine Swimming Syllabus**

The Commission reviewed the proposed syllabus and agreed that the 2002 Lifesaving commission had completed this work.

## **Liaison with Swim Ireland and Swimming Teachers Association**

The CEO held a meeting with Swim Ireland in June, which principally dealt with financing from the Sports Council. The Commission hope to develop further contact with Swim Ireland in the future. The Commission appointed Brendan McGrath to continue to represent IWS at STA meetings. It is now proposed to join International Federation of Swimming Teachers Association, which would give International accreditation to IWS Swimming teacher's certs. Mr Seamus O'Neill was appointed to liase with the Institute of Leisure and Amenity Management (ILAM). Mr O'Neill's primary focus was with ILAM's involvement with the IWS Pool Lifeguard syllabus and to continue the work that had been progressed with ILAM to date. Seamus was invited to represent IWS at ILAM's conference in Donegal, which Charlie Kennedy, Chairman of Donegal attended on his behalf.

## **Fast Flowing Water and Flooding**

This responsibility was added to the Commissions brief in June and we are working towards establishing IWS's role in this area. Paul Murphy and John Doran (Dublin) attended a white water rescue course in Austria in June. Paul is currently liaising with Dublin Fire Brigade who already have a trained fast water team and who are currently training fire brigade members from other counties and civil defence members for rescue in these conditions.

The Commission's brief to set up better communication with area committees is in its infancy although we have identified some Committees that need extra support. While we don't hold the solution to all problems, if we can identify them we may be able to address some of these issues. We need area committees to communicate issues to us and we would like to thank those people who did respond to suggestions, (you don't have to agree with them!!), and to others who contacted us with direct issues. Any ideas and suggestions are welcome...even if it takes time to implement them!!



## **The Rescue Commission**

### ***Commission Members***

Martin O'Sullivan (Chairman)

Aine Stafford (Secretary)

Dave Kenneally

Chris Reynolds (IRCG)

Frank Nolan (Ex officio)

### ***Commission Projects***

All matters dealing with IWS Examiners

Blue Flag

VAT Inspections on Community Inshore Rescue Station (CIRS) Facilities

CIRS Training Programme

Rescue in Inland Waterways

Risk Assessment/Courses

Review Rescue and Just in Time Awards

### ***Courses***

RIB

IMSARC

D class

Risk Assessment

Rescue Driver

Trainee Examiners



***Children learn Basic Life Support***



***Primary school pupils learn  
Basic Life Support (BLS)***

## **The Blue Flag-An Update**

The ILS (E) Rescue Commission has been in discussion with FEEE regarding the changes needed in the Safety and Services criteria of the Blue Flag.

We are now in the final phase of implementation of the agreed changes to the Blue Flag criteria

### **What was agreed?**

Risk Assessment: Local Authorities must carry out Risk Assessments on all designated bathing areas for which applications for the Blue Flag have been made. These must take place every 3 years.

Zoning: Zoning must be introduced on all multi - purpose bathing areas where it is recommended by the RA

## **The Water Safety Management Checklist**

The Water Safety Management Checklist is completed every year in advance of the Blue Flag Jury Meeting. It can only be completed if a Risk Assessment has been carried out in the previous three years.

The Checklist is completed by a member of the Life Saving Federation of that particular country.

### ***So what does it consist of?***

It is a means of checking that the recommendations made as a result of the Risk Assessment have been carried out.

It consists of a series of safety checks which are either IMPERATIVE or GUIDANCE criteria

## **THE SAFETY CHECKLIST HEADINGS**

Normal Operating Procedures

Emergency Action Plans

Beach type

Physical Considerations

Activities - Zoning

Safety Signs

Safety Information

## **The Timetable**

The new criteria for the Blue Flag is due to be implemented in 2005

The changes extend across all aspects of the Blue Flag

The Beach Management section is first of all being piloted in Germany, United Kingdom and Ireland

## **Timetable for Ireland**

To ensure that we are ready for the 2006 Blue Flag season we need to get Risk Assessments carried out in 2004 and the Checklist in 2005

## **Progress**

This is the end of the show!!

## **Attention Areas**

List delays and problems since last status update was given

- list corrective actions being taken
- address schedule implications

## **Make sure you understand**

- issues that are causing delays or impeding progress
- why problem was not anticipated
- if customer will want to discuss issue with upper management

## **Schedule**

- List top high-level dates
- Keep simple so audience does not get distracted with details
- Distribute more detailed schedule if appropriate
- Make sure you are familiar with details of schedule so you can answer questions

## **Deliveries**

List main critical deliverables

- Yours to client
  - Yours to outside services
  - Outside services to you
  - Other departments to you
- 
- Understand your confidence rating to each deliverable
  - Indicate confidence level on slides if appropriate

## **Costs**

- List new projections of costs
- Include original estimates
  - Understand source of differences in these numbers - be ready for questions
- If there are cost overruns
  - summarize why
  - list corrective or preventative action you've taken
  - set realistic expectations for future expenditures

## **Technology**

- List technical problems that have been solved
- List outstanding technical issues that need to be solved
- Summarize their impact on the project
- List any dubious technological dependencies for project
- Indicate source of doubt
- Summarize action being taken or backup plan

## Resources

- Summarize project resources
- Dedicated (full-time) resources
- Part-time resources
- If project is constrained by lack of resources, suggest alternatives
- Understand that customers may want to be assured that all possible resources are being used, but in such a way that costs will be properly managed

## Goals for Next Review

- Date of Next Status Update
- List goals for next review
  - specific items that will be done
  - issues that will be resolved
- Make sure anyone involved in project understands action plan

## The Lifesaving Commission

*Members of the Lifesaving Commission this year are as follows:*

Paul Burke ( Cork); Ber O Connor ( Kerry) and Brendan Mc Grath (Clare).

One meeting is held every two months and the venue is alternated between the homes of the members.

In general, the work of the Commission is a continuation of the work started in 2003 on a number of projects. In 2003 the emphasis was on the development of projects. This year, many of these projects have been finalised and are in the process of being launched to our members. These include:

- A.** Much work went into the updating and the clarification of issues relating to Paediatric Basic Life Support (BLS). Paul Burke took responsibility for this project. It involved much consultation and informal meetings with the IWS medical advisor, Dr Tony Handley.

This work has been completed. All changes are now included in all BLS manuals being issued from HQ. Feedback to date has been positive and many previously confusing issues have been clarified.

- B.** A one-day BLS seminar for all IWS Instructors has been planned for October 17th, 2004. The venue will be the Abbeycourt Hotel, Nenagh. The guest speaker at this seminar will be Dr Tony Handley, one of the leading world experts in the area of Basic Life Support. The theme for the day will be "The Teaching and Examination of BLS". This course will have theoretical and practical elements. This will be an ideal opportunity for all who teach and examine BLS to clarify all aspects of the IWS syllabus. The course will also satisfy the need for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for the members of IWS. Although we are voluntary we need to update our skills on a regular basis to ensure best practice. This seminar will be formally advertised in August. We are at present rethinking the process of the examination of BLS. It is hoped that we may be in a position to recommend a new itemised BLS examination form at the above seminar.

- C. AED Course:** This module has now been completed and the first providers course is being held on July 11th, 2004, in Nenagh, Co Tipperary. On this first we are targeting, primarily those, who already have experience with the AED. This will ensure that IWS has a product, which is comparable to others. Along with the syllabus, a precise examination procedure has been developed. This includes set questions and expected answers for candidates.
- The ability to deliver this module puts IWS in a healthy position to satisfy the developing needs of the modern lifeguard. It is intended to run another providers course early in 2005.
- D. Pool lifeguard Manual:** Work on this is ongoing. It is hoped that the new manual and lifeguard provider courses will be ready for launch during August/September 2004.
- The initial brief of the commission was to organise Provider's courses. These courses were to be based on the new Pool Lifeguard manual. Unfortunately many shortfalls were discovered in the drafts of the new manual. This led the commission to begin the work of updating and completing the manual.
- The new manual will be a joint project between IWS and ILAM Ireland. Agreeing content and procedure between the two organisations has resulted in slower than expected progress.
- This project involves much input from Seamus O'Neill, who is the AWSC and Swimming Commission liaison person with ILAM.
- The Commission are confident that the new Pool Lifeguard manual will be extensive and in line with the demands and skills being placed on the modern Pool Lifeguard.
- E. Surf Lifesaving Awards:** Three awards are now ready for launch. It is hoped to have the awards being presented as part of the Summer Programme in some parts of the country. An assimilation course for Surf Award Instructors will be held in early July 2004. Time constraints on the commission members have prevented the running of this assimilation course in June 2004. The latter was our intention.
- These awards are aimed at the teaching of specific open water, lifesaving skills. Classes will be introduced to the skills of the modern, open water life guarding skills. The main focus is to introduce candidates to the skills necessary to complete the Beach Lifeguard Award of IWS. Also, they will introduce participants to some of the events of Surf Lifesaving competitions. The latter introduces a fun element.
- F. River Safety Awards:** The commission have completed two such awards. The aim is to introduce the public to River Specific Water Safety. The experience of commission member, Ber O'Connor and other IWS personnel has highlighted the need to become more specific in our teaching of both rescue and survival skills in moving bodies of water.
- The availability of suitably qualified personnel to introduce these awards has been a barrier to their launch. It is hoped to have them introduced before the end of Summer 2004.
- The awards are very basic and intended for use in grade 1 rivers, common to most parts of the country.
- Depending on the success of these awards, it is intended to develop a River specific Lifeguard's Qualification.

- G. Other Projects:** The commission continue to liase with the Irish Underwater Council and the Irish Surfing Association with a view to the development of Life Guarding Awards specific to their needs.

We are also working on the concept of Beach/Pool towels, which advertise specific water safety messages eg, BLS; Beach safety etc. The Promotions Commission will shortly be in the possession of a number of such proposals for their professional development and marketing.

We also continue to communicate with the Health and Safety Authority regarding the status of IWS awards.

Sharon Murphy, from Cork, is the Commissions representative on the White Flag Jury. Sharon attends the relevant meetings and reports relevant issues to the Commission.

While the Lifesaving Commission has officially three members, we follow a policy of contacting others who have skills and experience in certain areas. Many thanks to all of those too numerous to mention.

I would also like to thank the continuous back up from the staff in the national office.

Finally, the excellent work of the Commission members has to highlighted and praised. Work on our many projects extends far outside the formal meetings.

## **The Sports and Lifeguarding Commission**

### ***Members***

Mr. Michael Cuddihy, Co. Waterford, Chairman

Mr. Jack Mason, Co. Dublin

Ms. Joan Morton, Co. Wicklow, Secretary

*In 2003 the Commission was responsible for all matters concerning Lifeguarding and Competitions including:*

- IWS National Junior Lifesaving Championships in Donegal
- IWS National Senior Lifesaving Championships in Waterford
- The Commission also organised a team to represent Ireland in the Nivea Cup (The German Surf-Lifesaving Championships), which is held annually in Warnemunde, near Rostock, in Germany and attracts all the major surf lifesaving teams in Europe.

*Oisin Mc Grath Bronze in the Board Rescue*

*The women's team came 4<sup>th</sup> in the taplin finals.*

*An encouraging indicator for the future is that each team member made his or her respective finals in each event.*

- The Commission also sent a team to the German Cup which also attracts the major European teams. In 2003, the Australian Lifesaving team, possibly the strongest lifesaving team in the world also competed.

*This was a new experience for the Irish team as we have not been competing in International Pool events at this level.*

*The German organisers (DLRG) made reference to the impressive performance of the Irish team on the DLRG website.*



- The Commission envisaged that a winter league competition structure would be activated with a pool competition being hosted by a local Area Committee every 4 to 6 weeks (rotated). This would be important for keeping competitors fit and interested in competition.
- This Commission set out three years ago to raising the profile of competitions in this country. While, inevitably, some problems occurred along the way, the Commission members are pleased with the fact that the standard of lifeguarding in the country is ever improving ~ competitions ensure that lifeguards are fit and skilled at their job. The International success of our Nivea Cup Team has shown us that our lifesavers are amongst the best out there. The intention for 2004 is that the Irish pool and surf team will compete in the World Championships in Italy.
- Irish Water Safety International Referees continue to officiate at International competitions around
- The Competition rulebook was updated to include the Taplin event.
- Work is progressing on the Local Authority Beach Lifeguard test.
- Negotiations are ongoing with the RLSS (Republic of Ireland branch and Northern Ireland branch) with a view to joint participation in both domestic and international competitions.
- On-going monitoring of Community Games situation.

## **The Education Commission**

### ***Commission Members***

Michael Murphy (Chairperson) - Dublin

Ita Richardson (Vice Chairperson) - Limerick

Joe Molloy (Secretary) - Wicklow

Anna Byrne - Kildare

Eamonn Murtagh (Department of Education Appointee) – Wicklow

### **In-Service**

- This years courses were held in Wexford, Fermoy, Letterkenny, Limerick, Dunmanway, Ennis and Dublin with a total attendance of 251 primary teachers
- Primary Aquatics Water Safety awards (PAWS). Both the Land PAWS and PAWS awards have been finalised and the commission is working on a strategy to launch the awards. The launch of the awards will include writing to all primary school principals including sample PAWS certificates, 14 stage posters and ancillary items.
- Certificates for the PAWS awards have been produced, sponsored by Birdseye and are available. Certificates have been distributed on some In-service courses.
- It is anticipated that with a successful strategic launch of the PAWS awards, demand to run additional In-service courses will increase. The education commission encourages counties to participate in running In-service courses and will assist where possible. It should be noted that funding is available for counties who run In-service courses.



- Meeting held with Primary Curriculum Support Program to discuss PAWS awards.

### **Teacher Training Colleges**

- Student teachers at St. Patricks College, Foebel College, Marino College of Education, Church of Ireland College of Education and Mary Immaculate College of Education are taking Irish Water Safety courses.
- PAWS syllabus to be taught at the training colleges.

### **Child Protection**

- Child Protection Officers annual conference held on 17<sup>th</sup> May in Neneagh. Disappointing attendance with only 10 counties represented. The Education commission reiterate the importance of attendance of CPO's at the annual conference.
- Modifications to be made to the organisations Code of Ethics around the area of rules on the use cameras and video cameras and weekends away within water safety activities.
- Code of Ethics booklet produced however this can not be published until funding becomes available.
- Draft copy of logbook / class attendance sheets produced.

### **P.E. Teachers**

- Ongoing discussions with the P.E. Association of Ireland
- Junior Aquatics Water safety (JAWS) certificates to be printed and made available.
- The national co-ordinator of the Junior Cycle Syllabus introduction has agreed to include JAWS material in packs to be distributed at secondary school PE Teacher in-service courses.

### **Sports and Recreation at Third Level**

- Water safety involvement in third level colleges needs to be developed. With the newly formed AWSC & Swimming commission, the Education commission see this as an opportunity to further research and develop this area.
- Anna Byrne appointed FETAC representative and will arranged to meet with FETAC early 2004

## **Special Needs**

- IWS course content drafted for Special Needs Assistants (SNA's). The education commission is keen to develop this area and encourage local area committees to run SNA courses when course content is finalised.
- Disabilities Module for Pool Lifeguard award developed. Comprehensive document covering Lifeguards awareness and understanding of swimmers who have a disability or medical condition. The education commission ran a training course for Pool Lifeguard trainers.

## **Continued Professional Development**

- Draft document produced covering proposed continuing Professional development point system for Instructors and Examiners of the Irish Water Safety.

## **Other Developments**

- Video that can be shown via PC or Laptop produced for the purpose of showing video images outlining key elements / stages involved in swimming teaching. It is hoped that the video will become available on CD and could be used when running primary school teacher courses.

## **The Promotion Commission**

### ***Members:***

Kathryn Byrne (Chairperson)

Jim Lawlor

Ronnie Horan

Donal O'Sullivan

*The Promotion Commission is responsible for guiding the efforts to promote the Association through corporate partnerships, marketing and public relations. The Commission set the following goals:*

Develop a distinct brand identity

Increase brand awareness

Identify at-risk groups

Establish a full range of branded products

Effectively and efficiently deliver the water safety message

Recruit new partners

Maintain and develop existing partners

Improve internal communications

## Press Releases

Irish Water Safety thanks all media channels for bringing the water safety message to the public throughout the year.

- ◆ **138** Media Interviews on TV and radio
- ◆ **28** Press Releases
- ◆ **176** articles in National and local press and specialist periodicals

### Press releases 2003:

- ◆ There is no such thing as safe ice
- ◆ Irish Water Safety recognizes and honours volunteers and rescuers at Awards Ceremony in the National Concert Hall
- ◆ Boat Show - 81 accidental drownings in a decade of boating tragedies.
- ◆ Primary School Poster Competition - call for greater awareness on child safety
- ◆ St Patrick's Day - prevent tragic accidental drownings this St. Patrick's weekend
- ◆ Easter - Enjoy our sun drenched waters this Easter and when on the water: Be safe - Be Seen - Be Sober
- ◆ Bank Holiday lives can be saved this May bank holiday weekend
- ◆ Review of Drowning Mortalities - 24 fewer lives lost to Accidental drowning in 2002
- ◆ Water Safety Awareness Week
- ◆ June Bank Holiday
- ◆ Wise up for your splash up abroad
- ◆ National Lifesaving Championships
- ◆ August bank holiday
- ◆ Weever Fish Warning.doc
- ◆ Inaugural meeting of second IWS Council
- ◆ Junior Lifesaving Championships - Donegal
- ◆ Senior Lifesaving Championships - Waterford
- ◆ Anglers cautioned to wear a Personal Flotation Device or drown.
- ◆ October Bank Holiday
- ◆ Don't get stranded by advancing tides
- ◆ Launch of Annual Report 2002
- ◆ More people drown by suicide than by accident every year
- ◆ Eighty-six children perish in a decade of accidental drownings
- ◆ Many drownings occur inland
- ◆ Sixty-two drown accidentally in 2002
- ◆ Irish Water Safety Welcomes Minister for Communications Marine and Natural Resources new legislation on Passenger Boat Regulations
- ◆ Christmas - ten lives are lost to drowning every Christmas

## ADVERTISING, PROMOTIONS AND SPONSORSHIP

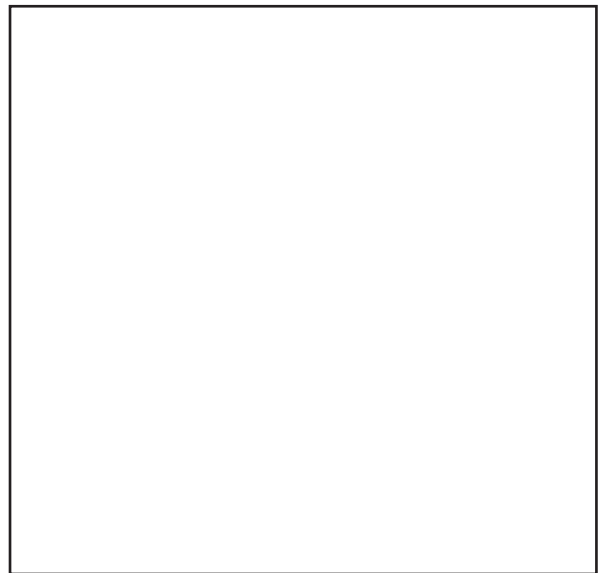
- ◆ National bus advertising campaign featuring water safety messages and cartoons promoting a primary school water safety poster competition.
- ◆ Two national TV campaigns with BSKYB. Our thanks are extended to Sarah Keating from the pop group SIX and to pop singer Mickey-Joe Harte for voicing the national TV campaigns.
- ◆ National TV campaign with TG4
- ◆ National radio campaign with RTE, featuring broadcaster Derek Davis
- ◆ National radio campaign on 23 local stations nationwide for National Water Safety Awareness Week sponsored by Captain Birds Eye.
- ◆ The above promotions led to huge demand for the summer water safety week classes nationwide.

## Publications

Cold Shock/Hypothermia leaflet  
Safe Swimming poster and leaflet  
Safe Boating poster and leaflet  
Website review and upgrade – [www.iws.ie](http://www.iws.ie)



***Mr and Mrs Weldon, founding  
President of ILS visits  
Waterford Mayor Oliver Clery***



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## **Sponsorship**

Irish Water Safety has been fortunate to have so many of its events and activities sponsored. The contributions of sponsors have played a key role in the breadth of promotional campaigns that we have been able to provide. We value each and every sponsor who partnered with us to raise water safety awareness throughout the year and express our great appreciation to them all.

An Post

Viacom

BSKYB

Telegael

Sarah Keating, pop singer

National Concert Hall

Health and Safety Authority

RNLI

Marine Safety Working Group

Bord Na Mona

Oceansport

Galway Crystal

Vodafone

TG4

Mickey-Joe Harte, singer

Strabane Recording Studios

BSKYB

ESB

Birds Eye

RTE

Derek Davis, broadcaster

Picture Works

Yachtsman Marine Insurance

Pole Covers

Seiko

Shop and Save Limited

Institute of Leisure and Amenity

Management

The many sponsors of the IWS Annual

Diary and wallplanner



***Adults and children alike enjoy summer water safety weeks***



***Children on Arranmore Island receive Summer week water safety certificates***

## **EVENTS**

National Water Safety Awareness Week: 26th May - 2nd June

National radio campaign featuring Captain Birds Eye

National primary school drawing competition sponsored by Captain Birds Eye

National Junior Lifesaving Championships, Mullaghmore, Co. Sligo, 22nd – 23rd August 2003

National Lifesaving Championships, Tramore beach, Waterford, 12th/13th September 2003  
Water Safety Weeks

A series of radio and TV campaigns resulted in an unprecedented number of enrolments at classes nationwide

Charles Thompson Award 2003

Winner - Craigavon Borough Council

Boat Show 2003

26th Feb– 2nd March

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership levels increased in 2003. The Association has 1401 members nationwide as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2003.

## **CERTIFICATION**

The online data entry system has been upgraded and as a result, the certification process has speeded up dramatically. Each Water Safety Area Committee enters candidate results to an online database at the back end of the IWS website. This information is relayed immediately to the national office where certificates are printed and distributed.

There are two broad categories of certification – Swimming and Lifesaving. Our Swim certificates are issued directly to and accounted for by Area Committees. The overall number of Swim certificates is significant and continues to grow reflecting the efforts of our voluntary members who instil water confidence and deep-water swimming ability in thousands of people every year. In recent years, these are accounted for at local level.

In addition to the 25,344 Swim certificates issued to Water Safety Area Committees, a further 29,723 Lifesaving certificates were processed through the online system in 2003 (see table below).

Aquatics organiser	230	Pool Lifeguard (1.7m)	15
Aquatics Pool Assistant	17	Rescue 1	1163
Assistant Swimming Teacher	97	Rescue 2	873
Beach Lifeguard	96	Rescue 3	1059
BLS 1	2876	Rescue 4	395
BLS 2	1392	Safety 1	2048
BLS 3	1283	Safety 2	2146
BLS 4	27	Safety 3	1610
Challenge 1	186	Safety 4	1572
Challenge 2	134	Splash	15
Endurance 1	100	Survival 1	645
Endurance 2	55	Survival 2	790
Examiners	27	Survival 3	92
Inshore Rescue 1 Day R.I.B.	9	Swim 1	2456
Inshore Rescue 3 Day D Class	9	Swim 2	2296
Instructor	85	Swim 3	2169
Junior Aquatics Water Safety 1	12	Swim 4	1563
Junior Aquatics Water Safety 2	8	Swim 5	1413
Pool Lifeguard	761	Swimming Teacher	25
Pool Lifeguard (1.5m)	1		



***Competitors enter the water at the National Lifesaving Championships***



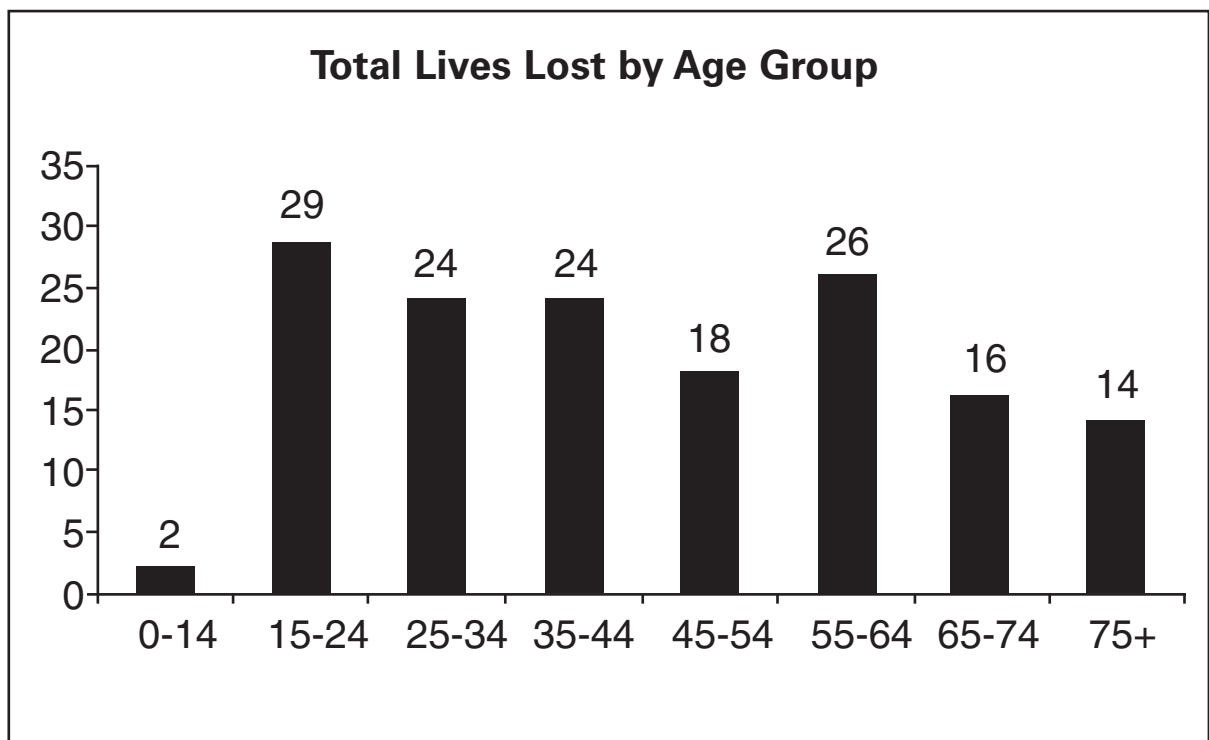
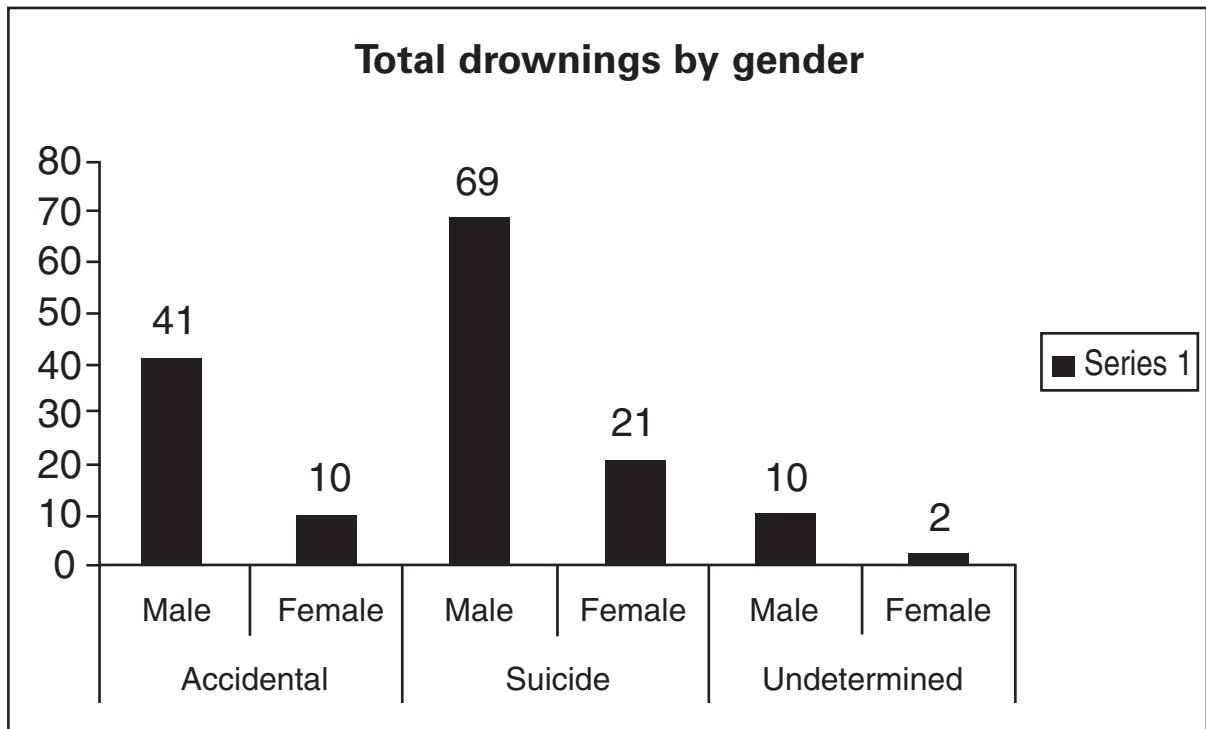
***Irish Water Safety Awards, Dublin - 6/2/03  
Student Garda Colm Finnerty from Carrick-on-Shannon is congratulated by Martin Cullen TD, Minister for Environment and Local Government at Wolfe Tone Quay yesterday (Thursday) for the rescue of three people from the River Liffey.***

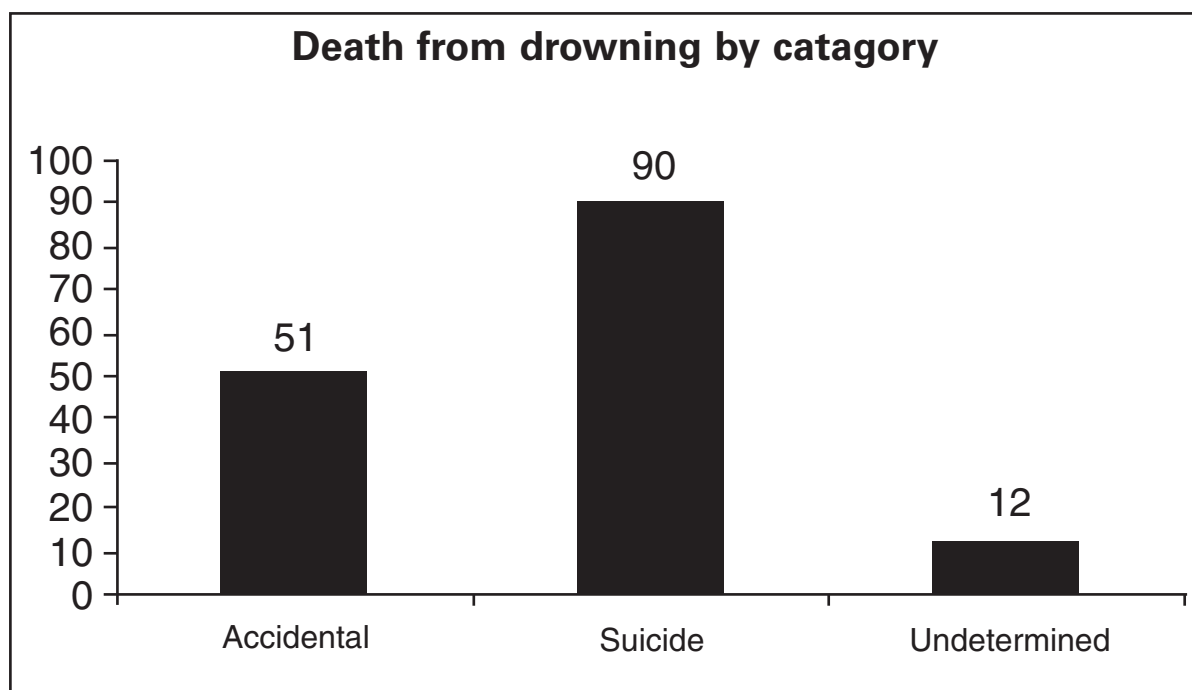


## STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

IWS maintains a comprehensive database of drowning incidents in Ireland. This database is constantly updated using information provided by the Central Statistics Office, An Garda Síochána and extracts from the national and local press.

Tragically in 2003 there were a total of 153 drownings.





### Total drownings by county

Province	Area of occurrence	All	Male	Female
<b>Leinster</b>	Dublin C.B.	25	20	5
	Dun Lgh. Rdown	5	4	1
	Wicklow	1	1	0
	Carlow	2	2	0
	Kildare	2	1	1
	Kilkenny	4	3	1
	Laois	1	1	0
	Louth	9	6	3
	Meath	3	3	0
	Offaly	1	1	0
	Westmeath	1	1	0
	Wexford	10	9	1
<b>Munster</b>	Waterford Co.	2	2	0
	Waterford C.B.	2	2	0
	Clare	1	1	0
	Cork C.B.	14	9	5
	Cork Co.	13	10	3
	Kerry	4	2	2
	Limerick C.B.	1	0	1
	Limerick Co.	3	2	1
	Tipperary N.R.	2	2	0
<b>Connacht</b>	Galway Co.	5	4	1
	Galway C.B.	11	11	0
	Leitrim	2	2	0
	Mayo	4	3	1
	Roscommon	2	2	0
	Sligo	3	3	0
<b>Ulster (part of)</b>	Cavan	4	1	3
	Donegal	13	9	4
	Monaghan	3	3	0
<b>All</b>		<b>153</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>33</b>

## Summer Water Safety Weeks

The Water Safety Area Committees run an extensive series of swimming and water safety weeks throughout the summer in pools, rivers, lakes and beachfronts. Many of these classes extend beyond the summer in places that have pools and leisure centres.

Swim weeks consist of instruction in swimming and water safety weeks develop skills in rescue, water survival and basic life support. Details of these programmes are regularly updated on the Association's website, [www.iws.ie](http://www.iws.ie). Many counties experienced an exceptional interest in classes following a series of successful radio, press and TV campaigns.

## International Activities

Chairman -	Cyprus -	June:	ILSE Board Meeting
	Bulgaria	January	ILSE Commission meetings
	St Lucia	May	World Body of ILS
	Belgium	February	as an appointed External Auditor, Mr Nolan examined the finances of ILS
CEO -	UK -	February:	ROSPA
	Switzerland	October:	ILSE Meeting
	Germany	October:	CEN – a safety review of inflatable products for use in water.
IWS team -	Germany	July	Nivea Cup Championships

in Tenerife in January 2003 for ILSE Development Aid Commission meeting. Also I was the Deputy Chief Referee for the European Junior and Masters Championships in Viareggio, Italy in September 2003

IWS had the pleasure of being visited by:  
Kevin Weldon, Founding President of ILS, June 2003  
Dr Klaus Wilkens, President ILSE, September 2003

## Conferences

### National Awards Ceremony 2003

The IWS Awards Ceremony took place on Thursday 6th Feb 2003 in the National Concert Hall, Dublin.

200 service awards were presented.

7 Appreciation Awards

12 SEIKO Just In Time Awards

12 Rescue Awards

6 Rescue Appreciation Awards

A list of Award recipients and a brief synopsis of their voluntary commitment to water safety and the saving of lives is given later in the report.

## **IWS Seminar and PRO Conference 2003**

17<sup>th</sup> May, Abbey Court Hotel, Nenagh

## **Water Safety Development Officer's Conference**

30<sup>th</sup> April – 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2003, Ennis Co Clare

## **IWS Examiners Conference 2003**

8th & 9th November 2003, Ennistymon, Co Clare

## **Competitions**

### **National Junior Lifesaving Championships 2003**

#### **Donegal**

22nd August 2003: Ballyshannon Swimming Pool

23rd August 2003 : Rossnowlagh/Mullaghmore

Junior Teams from around Ireland participated in the premier pool and open water lifesaving championships in Ireland that took place in Donegal on 22nd and 23rd August 2003. The teams competed against other counties in some exciting team and individual events. Many came to watch the spectacle of the best junior lifesavers in Ireland competing in pool and sea to rescue potential “casualties” in swim races, rescue board races and relay events. Many of the events simulated conditions that pool and beach lifesavers might have to tackle. Many of these Junior Lifesavers go on to become Lifeguards at pools and beaches nationwide and abroad.



***Minister Cullen and IWS Life Governor Waterford  
Mr Sean Hennessy  
at the Awards Ceremony***



***Minister Cullen and  
IWS Life Governor Dublin  
Mr John Cowman at the  
National Awards Ceremony***



**Mickey Harte**



**Pool action at the National Lifesaving Championships in Waterford**

## RESULTS:

OVERALL	BOYS	1st	2nd	3rd
	GIRLS	WATERFORD DONEGAL A	WEXFORD KILKENNY	DUBLIN GALWAY

## National Lifesaving Championships 2003

President's Trophy	Clare Men	(Highest overall points)
Pool Champions	Men Mayo	
Pool Champions	Ladies Mayo	
Surf (Open water)	Men Clare	
Surf (Open water)	Women Donegal	
Best inland county	Kilkenny	
Best novice county	Kildare A	

## 27 Risk Assessments

IWS volunteers carry out Risk Assessments on bathing areas nationwide and waterways that may pose a particular risk to the public, in order to make them safer by the erection of lifesaving appliances, signage and other necessary action. We also advise and assist Local Authorities and Councils on matters relating to water safety.

Irish Water Safety volunteers conducted a total of fifteen Risk Assessments in 2003.

<b>Bord Na Mona</b>	Boora Lake and Wetlands
<b>Bord Na Mona</b>	Blackwater Wetlands
<b>Bord Na Mona</b>	Turraun Lake and Wetlands
<b>Bord Na Mona</b>	Cloghan Lake and Wetlands

**Carlow**  
**Co. Clare**  
**Dun Laoghaire, Rathdown**  
**ESB**  
**ESB**

Carlow Town Park  
 Ennis River System  
 Seapoint, Sandycove, Kiliney  
 Castleconnell Fishery  
 Erne System –four areas

**ESB**  
**ESB**  
**ESB**  
**Fingal**  
**Hayes Higgins**  
**Louth**

Clady System  
 Leixlip  
 Pollaphuca Reservoir  
 Hynestown Reservoir  
 Storm Water Attenuation pond  
 Giles Quay



***Minister Cullen and  
 IWS Life Governor  
 Barney O'Reilly Galway  
 at the Awards Ceremony***



***Children enjoying summer water safety  
 classes***



***Donegal Junior Pool Champions take the AIB  
 Silver Salver pictured with Michael Cuddihy***

## National Awards Ceremony 2003

### Award recipients:

#### 10 Year Service Award

FirstName	LastName	County
Cait	Bonar	Kildare
Michael	Byrne	Kildare
David	Byrne	Dublin
Julian	Caffrey	Kildare
Ray	Carroll	Offaly
Anne	Cassidy	Dublin
Cindy	Collins	Dublin
May	Coyle	Meath
Kevin	Coyle	Dublin
Maureen	Creagh	Waterford
Carmel	Crean	Wexford
Cathleen	Cross	Kildare
Brid	Donnelly	Kildare
Rose	Doolin	Offaly
Mary	Duffy	Cavan
Victor	Fagg	Westmeath
Tina	Fagg	Westmeath
David	Farrell	Dublin
Teresa	Finnegan	Cavan
Rose	Foley	Limerick City
Michael	Gavin	Mayo
Margaret	Giles	Dublin
Emer	Hayes	Tipperary
South		
Rita	Healy	Dublin
Bernie	Kirwan	Kilkenny
Des	Leeson	Dublin
William	Lonergan	Tipperary
South		
John	McGrory	Dublin
Eoin	McNamara	Dublin
Joe	Molloy	Wicklow
Deirdre	Moran	Kildare
Joan	Morton	Wicklow
Niall	Ó Lamhna	Monaghan
Michael	O'Brien	Kildare
Eileen	O'Connell	Dublin
Josephine	O'Keeffe	Wicklow
Mary	O'Leary	Wexford
Jim	O'Neill	Mayo
Ciara	O'Sullivan	Limerick City
Sandra	O'Toole	Monaghan
Maeve	Parnell	Dublin
Aileen	Rush	Dublin
Doreen	Ryan	Louth
Doreen	Sheridan	Dublin
Stephaine	Shiel	Roscommon
Elizabeth	Tivnan	Kildare
Feargal	Wickham	Dublin
Cormack	Wickham	Dublin
Garvan	Wickham	Dublin

#### 15 Year Service Award

FirstName	LastName	County
Joan	Bird	Louth
Paul	Burke	Cork
Breda	Collins	Kilkenny
Denis Kevin	Desmond	Wicklow
Conor	Dodd	Dublin
Alice	Doorley	Dublin
Patricia	Fitzpatrick	Dublin
Catherine	Fleming	Dublin
James	Gorwan	Offaly
Ger	Gowen	Kilkenny
Ray	Hackett	Kilkenny
Bobby	Hanna	Dublin
Marie	Jackson	Dublin
Claire	Kelly	Dublin
Syl	Knox	Kilkenny
Des	Leeson	Dublin
Tom	Mackey	Limerick City
Anne	McAdam	Dublin
Dominic	McNabb	Dublin
William	Mimnagh	Cavan
Peadar	Mohan	Cavan
Michael	Murphy	Dublin
Frances	O'Regan	Louth
Phil	O'Rourke	Wicklow
Steven	O'Toole	Laois
Ita	Richardson	Limerick City
Margaret	Taffee	Louth
Marie	Tiernan	Cavan
Eileen	Whyte	Louth
Lucy	Wilson	Dublin



## 20 Year Bronze Bar

FirstName	LastName	County	FirstName	LastName	County
John	Bolger	Kilkenny	Kathleen	O'Hanlon	Monaghan
Anne	Boyle	Louth	Fergus	O'Neill	Limerick City
Maeve	Brady	Dublin	Tony	Patterson	Kilkenny
Liam	Costigan	Kilkenny	John	Redmond	Kildare
Aisling	Cushen	Dublin	Jimmy	Reilly	Dublin
Peter	Dardis	Westmeath	Shay	Rooney	Dublin
Colm	Dempsey	Wicklow	Peter	Scully	Laois
Paul	Devins	Dublin	Michael	Shine	Kilkenny
Gerard	Devlin	Wicklow	Gary	Smyth	Mayo
Tom	Doyle	Wexford	Julie	Thornberry	Dublin
John	Doyle	Wexford	Brid	Vereker	Waterford
Arthur	Drennan	Laois	Betty	Walsh	Waterford
Timmy	Dunlea	Tipperary	Kieran	Whelan	Westmeath
		South	Brendan	Whyte	Westmeath
Joe	Earls	Limerick City			
Mary	Fagg	Westmeath			
Brian Tynan	Fagg	Westmeath			
Breda	Flynn	Tipperary			
		South			
Margaret	Flynn	Cavan			
Seamus	Gallen	Dublin			
Norman John	Griffin	Monaghan			
Verlaine	Harrison	Cavan			
Helen	Hatchett	Westmeath			
Sandra	Hecker	Dublin			
Ronnie	Horan	Dublin			
Eddie	Hoyne	Kilkenny			
Frank	Kavanagh	Dublin			
Martin	Kavanagh	Dublin			
Philip	Keleghan	Kildare			
Kathleen	Long	Tipperary			
		South			
Breda	Lynch	Tipperary			
		South WSC			
Andrew	Mason	Dublin			
Terri	Mason	Dublin			
Sharon	Mason-Allen	Dublin			
James	Mc Loughlin	Mayo			
Ursual	McCarroll	Dublin			
Joan	McCarthy	Laois			
Noel	McCarthy	Laois			
Anne	McClellan	Dublin			
Christopher	McCormack	Westmeath			
Shay	McDonnell	Dublin			
Evelyn	McFadden	Kildare			
Philip	McKay	Kildare			
Margaret	McKay	Kildare			
Martin	Meehan	Dublin			
Terence	Molloy	Wicklow			
Ian	Morrissey	Kilkenny			
Liam	Murphy	Wexford			
Paul	Murphy	Dublin			
Sean	Murphy	Dublin			
Michael	O'Connell	Dublin			
Dan	O'Connell	Kildare			
Pat	O'Donnell	Louth			

## 30 Year Silver Bar

FirstName	LastName	County
Tom	Brennan	Kilkenny
Billy	Brett	Kilkenny
Anna	Byrne	Kildare
Molly	Cahill	Westmeath
Sonny	Condon	Waterford
Michael	Cuddihy	Waterford
Gene	Cullivan	Cavan
Jim	Cushen	Dublin
David	Daly	Cork
Ned	Daly	Waterford
David	Devine	Dublin
Monica	Doyle	Clare
Michael	Fitzgerald	County
		Waterford
Gerry	Flannery	Westmeath
Michael	Giles	Dublin
Paul	Hamlett	Louth
John	Harmon	Louth
Freddie	Hassey	Dublin
Peter	McCarthy	Tipperary
		South
Hugh	McNally	Dublin
Sally	Mooney	Waterford
Maurice	Mullen	Dublin
Brendan	O'Connor	Kerry
James	O'Leary	Wexford
Martin	O'Sullivan	Cork
Dolores	O'Sullivan	Waterford
Michael	Power	Kilkenny
Noel	Power	Kerry
Tony	Rennick	Sligo
Robin	Richey	Cavan
Kathleen	Richey	Cavan
Rita	Sharpe	Dublin

## 40 Year Gold Bar

FirstName	LastName	County
Pat	Aylward	Tipperary
		South
Aidan	Byrne	Dublin
Seamus	Finnan	Monaghan
David	Kenneally	Waterford
Jack	Mason	Dublin
Dave	Moloney	Dublin
Frank	Nolan	Waterford
Ray	Wickham	Dublin
Kay	Wickham	Dublin
Angela	Wynne	Wicklow

## 50 Year Life Governor

FirstName	LastName	County
Nicholas	Corish	Dublin
John	Cowman	Dublin
Eamon	Doherty	Dublin
Sean	Hennessy	Waterford
Noel	O'Beara	Dublin
Barney	O'Reilly	Galway
Donal	O'Sullivan	Dublin
Paddy	Phipps	Dublin
Michael	Somers	Carlow

## Cert of Appreciation

FirstName	LastName	Print Name	County
TG4		TG4	Dublin
Morgan	Cummins	Post TV	Dublin
Dave	Fanning	Mr. Dave Fanning	Dublin
Sarah	Keating	Ms. Sarah Keating	Co Galway
Martina	Larkin	RTE	Dublin
Julie	Lynch	RTE	Dublin
Catherine	McDonnell	Sky Television	Dublin
Emmet	McLaughlin	Viacom	
Raymond	Thomas	Raymond and Violet Thomas	Cavan
Noel	Wall	Mr. Noel Wall	Dublin

## Rescue Appreciation

FirstName	LastName	County
Michael	Haran	Clare
Steven	Hodgins	Louth
Martin	Maloney	Clare
Alan	McGovern	Louth
Frank	Smyth	Louth
Paul	White	Clare

## SEIKO JIT

Title	FirstName	LastName	County
Mr	Tony	Youlton	Mayo
Ms	Laura	Horan	Limerick
Garda	Michael	Wynne	Laois
Mr	James	Collins	Dublin
Mr	Philip	McCormack	Waterford
Mr	Paul	Byrne	Dublin
Mr	Ian	Fallon	Dublin
Mr	Daniel	McLean	Galway
Garda	Colm	Finnerty	Dublin
Garda	James	O'Donoghue	Cork
Mr.	John	O'Connor	Wicklow
Mr	Patrick	Gormley	Sligo
Mr.	Chaim	Factor	Wicklow

## STA Tutors Certificate

FirstName	LastName	County
Paul	Burke	Cork
Anna	Byrne	Kildare
Breda	Collins	Kilkenny
Tom	Doyle	Wexford
Joe	Earls	Limerick City
Maura	Fenlon	Carlow
Ronnie	Horan	Dublin
Jack	Mason	Dublin
Andrew	Mason	Dublin
Evelyn	McFadden	Kildare
Paul	Murphy	Dublin
Martin	O'Sullivan	Cork
Ray	Wickham	Dublin
Kay	Wickham	Dublin



***Members attending Commission meetings in Tenerife with his worship the Mayor of Puerta de la Cruz; the first two Mayors were Irish***



***Right Cartan Finnegan Life Governor with Left Eddie Shaw Chairman National Safety Council with Centre Frank Nolan Chairman IWSPicture***



***The Irish National Lifesaving Team compete at the Nivea Cup in Germany***



***Lifesavers battle the surf at the National Championships 2003***



***Water rescue techniques in action***



***Water rescue techniques in action***