



Irish Water Safety

Sábháilteacht Uisce na hÉireann

Irish Water Safety is the statutory and voluntary body established to promote water safety in Ireland.
Tá Sábháilteacht Uisce na hÉireann ina bhord deonach reachtúil a bunaíodh le sábháilteacht uisce a chothú in Éireann.



Annual Report 2009



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**Mary McAleese, President of Ireland
(Patron of Irish Water Safety)**





Chairman's Statement

It is my pleasure as Chairman to present the Annual Report for the year 2009, a year of memorable moments, challenges and achievements in equal measure.

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 Staff who make a determined effort to reduce drowning accidents in Ireland through the many ongoing programmes nationwide. It contains a comprehensive review of the activities of Irish Water Safety throughout the year. You will note the exceptional voluntary commitment of our Members who assist Council in meeting the challenges in the present financial climate and notwithstanding this fact, have continued to progress water safety nationwide. This commitment is the same commitment that has sustained all our efforts in teaching swimming and lifesaving and saving persons from drowning in Ireland since 1945.

As Chairman, I take this opportunity to welcome the many new volunteers who have joined Irish Water Safety and I thank them in anticipation of a life long commitment for the future well being of the Organisation. Irish Water Safety operates, as is expected of an organisation with volunteers, to the highest standard with regard to the various codes that are in place, to mention but a few, the "National Code of Ethics & Good Practice for Children involved in Water Safety activities", the "National Volunteer Policies for Members", and "Rules of Management for Water Safety Area Committees". As with all codes they are constantly being updated and reviewed to meet the challenges of a modern organisation. These codes are available for all members (at their choice) to seek redress on matters where they feel aggrieved relevant to issues within Irish Water Safety and during 2009 these codes were operational and used as required.

That so much is achieved by a small Organisation on a relatively small budget and with a small permanent staff of five and one contract "Educational Officer", is a mark of the effectiveness of the work of the Council and it's seven Commissions which include the following: Finance, Education, Lifesaving, Swimming, Sport, Lifeguarding, Promotion and Rescue in achieving the goals set out within the five-year Strategic Development Plan, which is constantly under review.

We have an excellent relationship with the national and local media who support and carry our concerns within the many press releases that issue from time to time from head office. This includes television, radio, newspapers and periodicals that are available within the State and who have given us coverage "free of charge" to publicise the Water Safety Awareness message nationwide. It would not be possible to have an informed public without the help and support of the media and we extend to them sincere thanks as we seek their continued cooperation in these difficult times.

Each year, we sadly lose some of our volunteer members and 2009 is no exception. Such a loss of friends certainly leaves a void for us within water safety, especially at local level where they operated on a voluntary basis with colleagues. We extend to their families our sincere and deepest sympathy.

At our annual awards ceremony we honour members who have given exceptional voluntary commitment to the public. We also honour "as a Council" certain members of the community with "Life Governorship", individuals who in their own right have given distinguished service to the cause of water safety and rescue at home or abroad. We have had one such person this year Dr Che To Yeung (Hong Kong Lifesaving Organisation). The SEIKO "Just in Time" Awards continue to be a focal point and the Council is pleased to be associated with the sponsors "Seiko Ireland" in honoring those persons who go to the rescue of persons in danger of drowning, and this year there were a number of worthy recipients.

Irish Water Safety continues to play a significant role at European and World level within International Life Saving, the International Federation of Swimming Teachers and the International Maritime Rescue Federation. It is pleasing to report that we hold many positions of



High Office within these International Life Saving Organisations worldwide. As an island nation it is neither possible nor desirable to live in isolation and this is particularly true in relation to water safety and lifesaving. We must as an Organisation offer to the Irish public, the best methodologies and skills in lifesaving, rescue, resuscitation, swimming, and lifesaving sport, and if we are to do so, it is essential that we are involved with and exchange ideas with kindred organisations within the three International Bodies we are associated with.

The one great measure of success for an organisation such as Irish Water Safety is the number of persons who receive our instruction annually and it is pleasing to report that this number continues to grow yearly according to our certificate database, which is highlighted within the annual report. Another factor that is very pertinent to our overall success is the reduction in the number of water-based accidents that occur annually, making a positive contribution to reducing the number of persons likely to be drowned in Irish waters.

As an organisation dealing with Lifesaving we are concerned at the continued high number of persons who get into trouble in the water when on holidays abroad. It is unacceptably high and we continue to seek ways of addressing the matter of safety for people going abroad on holidays.

Despite the very positive response by the public with regard to wearing lifejackets as part of normal safety apparel when going afloat, we still have those who defy the rule and regretfully as a result end up as casualties. There has to be stronger enforcement of the law on this matter. Furthermore, lifejackets must be worn; it is no good having them thrown on the floor of the boat. Finally they must be serviced regularly.

We thank the Chief Executive Officer, the Office & Finance Manager, the Marketing Executive and the other members of Staff for their dedication and loyalty throughout the year. They have worked extremely hard supporting the efforts of the voluntary members within a constantly growing organisation. Again, our staffing needs are tied to the Government embargo and as a State Body we are obliged to abide by the guidelines as outlined with regard to staffing levels. However, it would be remiss of me not to mention that in a growing Organisation, the effect of staff shortages is felt daily, especially during peak times of activity during the summer months or periods of illness etc.

We wish to thank our Medical Advisor, Dr. Tony Handley for the expert medical advice he has given us throughout the year. We are pleased to note that Doctor Handley who during the year was unwell himself has made an excellent recovery and is again giving us full advice when called upon.

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 2009. However, it was with regret, that due to a change in managerial structures within the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, we lost an ardent Council Member, Mr. Laurence Kelly who was replaced by Mr. Dave Corcoran from the Department.

I take this opportunity to thank our Minister, John Gormley T.D. (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government) and Minister Michael Finneran T.D. Minister of State at the Department (who has responsibility for Irish Water Safety as part of his portfolio) - for their kind support of Irish Water Safety during 2009. I also thank the Secretary Generals of the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government, Ms. Geraldine Tallon "Secretary General" and Mr. Des Dowling "Assistant Secretary" and their Staff Members within the Department who have been most supportive of our efforts over the years and never fail to assist us at all times.

A detailed financial statement forms part of this report giving the income and expenditure over the year 2009, which has been examined and certified by the Comptroller & Auditor General as meeting the requirements of the Department of Finance and the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. The Council is most diligent in ensuring that



Corporate Governance and Accountability are to the fore in exercising their statutory responsibilities at each bi-monthly meeting. On a day to day basis, the Chief Executive Officer and Finance Officer (within the permanent headquarters staff) do likewise carry responsibilities, which are clearly defined with regard to corporate governance and control of finances for the “good management” of the organisation. In addition to the above and in further compliance with regulation, the financial management is also overseen and reported on by the Finance Commission (who report directly to the Council), and also by an independent Internal Examiner, Mr. Seán Murphy and annually by the firm of accountants, R.J. Kidney & Co Ltd, Dublin. These facts have been reported to Minister Michael Finneran T.D. and to the Department.

Irish Water Safety is financially supported from several sources - Central Government through the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and through the generous grants from Local Authorities throughout the country, and also by direct fundraising by our members. We also have several individual firms that give us exceptional financial support and sponsorship in-kind for the many water safety projects that are running throughout the year, in the education field, sponsorship of posters, leaflets and periodicals, and rescue awards etc. It is worthy of note that this generous sponsorship in these difficult financial times, comes to the organisation through its charitable profile, which continues to be seen as a very deserving cause. It would be very difficult for us to meet many of the challenges that face us financially as we progress water safety throughout the country without support from these companies.

As with all State Bodies our annual income was reduced in line with Government expenditure and budgetary constraints for the year in question. The Council met the financial challenges that faced them due to the significant drop in income and made the necessary adjustments to the budget with regard to expenditure, but kept in place a very positive working programme, thus enabling Irish Water Safety to continue functioning and developing. Council also recognised that additional funds were required to meet the income short fall, and agreed in principal that over the remaining term of office of the present Council, it would put in place a programme of commercialisation, which would introduce charges for courses, certification and other services, which would be introduced on an incremental bases. In doing so, Council were well aware that this would cause some disquiet among our Volunteers, but this was necessary and in line with Lifesaving Organisations worldwide who make these charges in order to be less dependent upon grant aid from other sources.

I feel that we can reflect on 2009 with certain satisfaction that Irish Water Safety has played a lead role in saving life in Ireland and will continue to do so in the years that follow. The statistics prove that we have reduced drownings, but with issues still to be addressed, such as the high number of deaths annually that are considered “undetermined”!

In conclusion, our expertise and our professional approach are admired by many lifesaving organisations worldwide. We trust that those who will have taken time to read this report as presented by a small Voluntary/State Body will feel that their efforts have made a positive contribution towards water safety and the saving of life in Ireland.

Frank J. Nolan.
G.Kt.Odr.L.S.

Chairman
Irish Water Safety



Irish Water Safety Council 2009



Frank Nolan Chairman

Frank Nolan has been involved in Water Safety and Sea Rescue on a voluntary basis for over 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 President of Waterford Water Safety Area Committee.



Kathryn Byrne

Appointed to the Council in 2000, Kathryn Byrne is Managing Director of Limelight Communications, a public relations consultancy based in Dublin. Kathryn brings her background in PR to the Promotion Commission of which she is Chairperson.

Kathryn is a Council member of the Public Relations Institute of Ireland; a former Council Member of Gaisce - The President's Award and a former Board member of An Bord Altranais.



Breda Collins

Breda Collins 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. Breda is currently serving as Chairperson of the Lifesaving Commission.



Michael Cuddihy

Michael "Buddy" 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 Chairperson of the Lifeguard Commission and Vice Chairman of the Sports Commission of the European region (ILSE). He is also an executive member of the European College of Referees. 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. He is currently Treasurer of Waterford Water Safety Area Committee.



Jim Lawlor

Jim Lawlor, Ministerial appointment and company director. Jim is a former President of the Irish Basketball Association, and he was President of Sligo Chamber of Commerce and Industry on two occasions. He is a former member of the national board of the Chambers of Commerce of Ireland and a current member of Sligo Mental Health Association. He represents IWS on the board of the International Federation of Swimming Teachers Associations, is an Honorary Life Vice President of STA UK and is currently serving as Chairperson of the Sports Commission.



Brendan McGrath

Brendan is currently Chairman of the Swimming Commission of IWS but has also chaired a number of other Commissions tasked with a number of National developments. He began his involvement in life saving with the Red Cross and is an active instructor, examiner and risk assessor. He is also very involved in coaching within the sports of life saving and swimming with much international experience in both areas. He represents IWS on the board of the International Federation of Swimming Teacher Associations (IFSTA) and is a senior Risk Assessment Tutor with ILS(E). Brendan is self employed, working in the field of training and development.



Michael Murphy M.Ed.

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 Chairperson of the Education Commission. He led the development of a Code of Ethics for the organisation.

He is principal of a large primary school in Dublin and has been running very successful aquatics inservice courses for teachers for over 20 years.

He also works with the Teacher Training Colleges in the area of P.E. and Health Promotion. He devised the PAWS programme for primary schools, is a member of the Council of IWS and is, also, a member of the Education Commission of ILSE. He is on the board of Stewarts Hospital and a long serving committee member of the Dublin West Education Centre.



Martin O'Sullivan

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 Chairperson 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, Chairman of the Rescue Committee of ILS (International Life Saving) and is also a Senior Risk Tutor of ILS Europe.



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 Galway County Council. She previously held the post of County Manager with Louth County Council, following a number of years as 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.



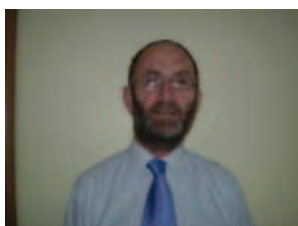
Anne Ryan

A Wexford Native, Anne is an Instructor and Volunteer with Irish Water Safety since 1995. Among her many credentials within the volunteering ethos of Irish Water Safety, Anne is also the Local Area Secretary, a Swim Teacher and Examiner and the Wexford Water Safety Area Committee Secretary. In addition to these activities, Anne finds the time to organise Cahore Outdoor Water Safety Week, with which she has played an active part since 1996. In addition to working on FETAC updates, Anne works on all matters assigned to the Lifeguard Commission of which she is a member.



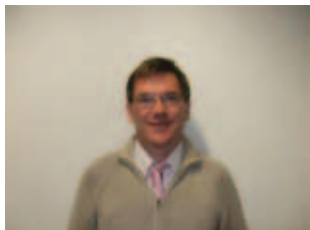
John Considine

John Considine, Local Authority Employee (Environment Department) has been Water Safety Development Officer in County Limerick for over twenty-five years, and has served as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-chairman and Child Liaison Officer of the Limerick County Area Committee at various times. He was a former member of the Council of the Irish Water Safety Association. He is currently Secretary of the Irish Water Safety Development Officer's Association. He established and currently manages the lifeguard service on the Shannon Estuary. He is also involved in competitive sailing and boating.



Laurence Kelly

Laurence Kelly, Principal Officer-Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, has responsibility for Local Finance and Local Services sections where one of his responsibilities is Water Safety. Based in Wexford, he has worked in many areas of the Local Government Division in the Department.



Mr. Dave Corcoran

Assistant Principal, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, serves in the Local services section of that Department which liaises with and provides funding towards Irish Water Safety. He has served in a number of Government Departments, including Social and Family Affairs and Education and Science.

• **Council Meetings 2009 Attendance Record**

7	Frank Nolan
7	Anne Ryan
7	John Considine
7	Martin O'Sullivan
7	Jim Lawlor
6	Michael Cuddihy
6	Breda Collins
5	Brendan McGrath
5	Brian Farrell
3	Martina Moloney
3	Kathryn Byrne (excused on personal grounds)
3	Michael Murphy
3	Dave Corcoran
1	Laurence Kelly

Note: Dave Corcoran replaced Laurence Kelly on the Council during 2009.

• **Water Safety Area Committees**

The organisation has thirty Area Committees, arranged almost on a county basis plus the Defence Forces and the Garda Síochána Water Safety Area Committees. Much recognition must be afforded to these Water Safety Area Committees who devise a programme of events and courses to cover their areas for the year. In addition to delivering water safety promotional programmes and demonstrations at schools, colleges, businesses, exhibitions and community events, each Committee delivers an extensive programme of pool water safety sessions in the winter and beach, lake and river water safety sessions in the summer.

The official membership structure is of a voluntary nature with over one thousand five hundred members nationwide. It operates on a number of different levels: Life Governors, Examiners, Trainee Examiners, Tutors, Instructors, Trainee Instructors and Non-Technical Volunteer Organisers. Each Local Authority has a Water Safety Development Officer who is a member of Irish Water Safety.

Thanks to all their efforts to promote water safety we have seen a significant increase in the development of water safety awareness in local communities.



- **Staff**

- Lt. Cdr. John F.M. Leech, CEO
- Roger Sweeney, Marketing Executive & Deputy CEO
- Joan Harte, Office Manager
- Jocelyn Cunningham, Clerical Administrator
- Alison Elstone, Clerical Administrator
- Lisa Anderson, Education Development Officer

- **Auditors**

Comptroller & Auditor General
4-5 Harcourt Road
Dublin 2

- **Bankers**

Bank Of Ireland
Mainguard St.
Galway

- **Solicitors**

Lewis C Doyle & Co.
Augustine Court
Augustine Street
Galway

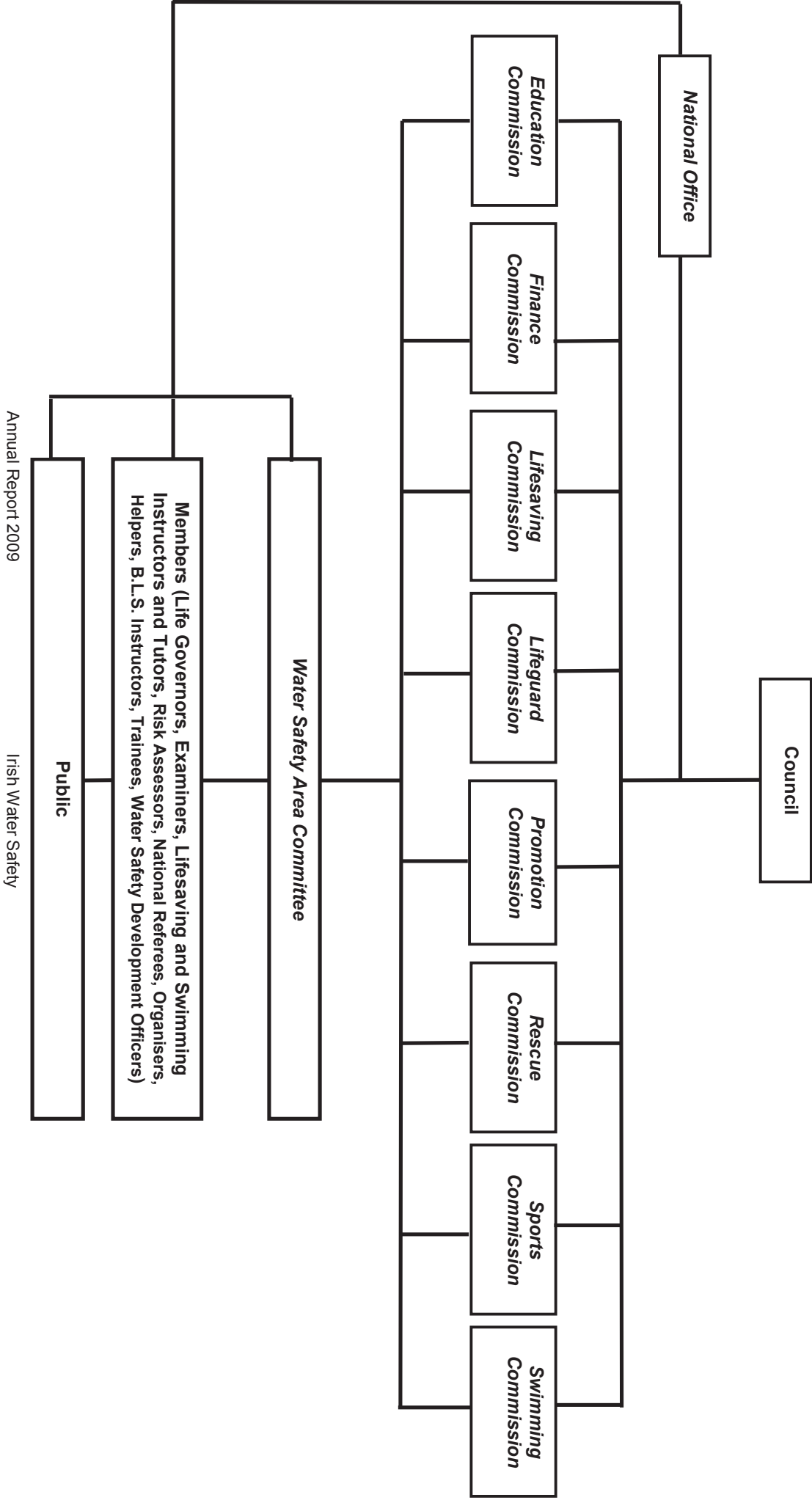
- **National Office**

Irish Water Safety
The Long Walk
Galway

- **Accountants**

Robert J Kidney & Co
11 Adelaide Road
Dublin 2

• Organisation Structure of Irish Water Safety





• Finance Commission 2009

Commission Members:

- Frank Nolan, Chairperson
- Laurence Kelly, Vice-Chairperson
- Joan Harte, Secretary
- David Corcoran
- Martina Moloney
- Sean Murphy
- John Leech

Duties Assigned:

- All Financial Matters
- Staff and HR
- Administration, including travel, National and International
- Membership all ranks
- National Ceremonies and Conferences (with the Promotion Commission)
- Internal Audit Committee & Risk Management

Frank Nolan, Chairman and John Leech, CEO are both Exofficio Members of all Commissions.

• Rescue Commission 2009

Commission Members:

- Martin O'Sullivan, Chairperson
- Ronnie Horan, Secretary
- Captain Liam Kirwan
- Colm Dempsey
- David Kenneally

Duties Assigned:

- Blue Flag
- Risk Assessments
- VAT Inspections
- Rescues Inland Waterways
- Rescue award and Just In Time award criteria
- Community Inshore Rescue Station Training
- Rescue Equipment
- Signs / ISO (the International Organisation for Standardisation)
- ILSE (International LifeSaving Europe)

• Sports Commission 2009

Commission Members:

- Jim Lawlor, Chairperson
- Paul Devins, Secretary
- Oisín McGrath
- Claire McGrath

Duties Assigned:

- Organise training courses.
- Liaison with the Sports Council.
- Liaison with the Federation of Sport.
- International and Home Sports Competitions.
- Role of Life Saving Clubs.
- Appoint Coaches, Referees and Officials.
- Drug Control in association with ILS.
- Sport Equipment.
- International Life Saving Sport & Competitions.



• Lifesaving Commission 2009

Commission Members:

- Breda Collins, Chairperson
- Pat Cummins, Vice-Chairperson
- Sharon McKeon, Secretary
- Eileen Kelly

Duties Assigned:

- Provision of instruction in water safety, rescue, resuscitation and recovery skills
- All matters dealing with Lifesaving
- Review syllabus for Lifesaving
- Resuscitation
- Hypothermia
- Irish Heart Foundation
- Matters dealing with WS Examiners including Conference
- White Water Rescue & Flooding

• Lifeguard Commission 2009

Commission Members:

- Michael Cuddihy, Chairperson
- John Considine, Vice-Chairperson
- Paul Murphy - Secretary
- Anne Ryan

Duties Assigned:

- Promotion of efficiency and standardisation of the Lifeguard Service
- The establishment of national standards for Lifeguards
- All matters dealing with Lifeguards (Pool, Beach, River)
- Develop standards for Lifeguard accommodation
- Develop national standards for all equipment
- Investigate and research rescue craft
- Train Lifeguards in rescue boating
- Health and Safety document appertaining to Lifeguards on beaches
- Beach Lifeguards as a declared facility
- Water Safety Officers Conference
- Development Aid to Poor Federations

• Education Commission 2009

Commission Members:

- Michael Murphy, Chairperson
- Val O'Kelly, Vice-Chairperson
- Anna Byrne, Secretary
- Fiona Lynch

Duties Assigned:

- Promotion of measures, including the advancement of education, related to the prevention of accidents
- All matters dealing with water safety awareness within the Irish education system
- Teacher's courses
- Maintain current Standards of Child Protection
- Arrange seminar for Designated Liaison Persons
- Ensure that standards in relation to ethical matters are maintained
- Liaison with the Department of Education
- National Liaison Officer
- Address suicides and undetermined drowning issues



- **Swimming Commission 2009**

Commission Members:

- Brendan McGrath, Chairperson
- James McLoughlin, Vice-Chairperson
- Seamus O'Neill, Secretary
- Margaret McKay

Duties Assigned:

- The provision of instruction in Swimming
- Promotion of Swimming under Irish Water Safety
- Examine swimming syllabus and awards
- Agree Pool Safety Guidelines with ILAM in preparation for printing
- All matters dealing with Swimming Instructors and Tutors
- Matters dealing with Area Water Safety Committees
- Have the rule changes accepted by Council implemented
- Improving, membership, communication and profiles
- Organise Chairpersons meeting
- Represent IWS matter within IFSTA
- Liaison with Swim Ireland as necessary
- White Flag Jury
- Swimming Pool Standards excluding Lifeguards

- **Promotion Commission 2009**

Commission Members:

- Kathryn Byrne, Chairperson
- Roger Sweeney, Secretary
- Michael Gavin
- Eddie Hoyne
- Donal O'Sullivan

Duties Assigned:

- Marketing and Promotional Matter as outlined within the Statutory Instrument
- Seeking Sponsorship (Commercial and other)
- Marketing the Organisation
- Standardisation of merchandise
- Standardisation and issuing of books, manuals, leaflets and posters from technical sources
- Monitor press releases
- Exhibitions
- Marketing issues;
- Liaison with ROSPA and the Marine Safety Working Group
- Promotion of a public awareness of water safety
- National Ceremonies & Conferences (with the Finance Commission)



• Media Partnerships 2009

We are very grateful to the provincial and national media in helping us to target at-risk groups. In addition to 101 media interviews conducted on television and radio, Irish Water Safety issued 39 press releases throughout the year, which resulted in 534 articles appearing in the national and local press and specialist periodicals.

• PRESS RELEASES

39 Issued:

- Ice Safety Alert
- Commercial Fishermen Safety Alert
- Boat Show, RDS, Dublin
- Irish Skipper Show
- Easter Bank Holiday Weekend
- Volvo Ocean Race
- May Bank Holiday
- Emerald Star & IWS
- Public Safety during Volvo Ocean Race
- Irish Surfing Safety
- National Water Safety Awareness Week (launch of www.aquaattack.ie)
- Bank of Scotland Nipper Boards
- Drowning prevention tips for open swimming
- Holidaying abroad and fishing from rocks
- Summer rain adds to danger
- Central Fisheries Board & IWS
- Surf Instructor Beach Safety Award
- Annual report and World record presentation by Minister Finneran
- European Junior Championships
- National Pool Lifesaving Championships (9)
- National Surf Championships, Donegal
- Weils Disease Awareness Day
- National Launch of www.ringbuoys.ie
- October Bank Holiday Weekend
- National Awards Ceremony, Dublin Castle
- Flood Safety Alert
- German Cup 2009
- Waterford Surf Instructors
- Ice Safety Alert
- Christmas Safety Alert

• PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGNS

BSKYB TV Campaign

- A thirty second commercial promoting water safety best practices is broadcast on four SKY TV Channels
- The current campaign features popular pop music group Westlife

TG4 TV Campaign

- Water Safety messages by Actor Pádraic Breathnach

Irish Water Safety Wall Calendar

- Financial support received from sponsors



Irish Water Safety

Safe Boating & Allianz

- Sponsors of Safe Boating posters and leaflets.

National Water Safety Awareness Week

- Launch of new website, www.aquaattack.ie
- Website features games, exercises and safety tips for children
- KIA Motors Ireland sponsored Safe Swimming leaflets

Irish Angling Show, Cloghran, Co Dublin

- Water Safety information distributed by IWS volunteers

Water Angels, Marbella, Spain

- Sponsorship from the Spanish Charity “Water Angels” has funded an Education Development Officer who promotes Primary Aquatics Water Safety to primary schools, swimming pools and leisure centres nationwide.

Weils Disease Leaflet

- Sponsored by Friendly Systems, the leaflet highlights the dangers of Weils Disease, especially to the farming community.

Promotional Trailer

- The trailer provides a highly visible presence for IWS at various exhibitions and events nationwide.

National Ploughing Championships, Athy, Co Kildare

- A partnership with FBD (Water Safety On The Farm Leaflet) and Friendly Systems (Weils Disease advice for farmers) enabled IWS target those at-risk of drowning and other aquatic related injuries on farms.

Websites

- www.iws.ie: Constantly updated with water safety advice, press releases and schedules of courses, conferences and seminars.
- www.ringbuoys.ie: a resource where the public can notify Local Authorities of missing, stolen or damaged ringbuoys.
- www.aquaattack.ie: a fun and informative website, primarily aimed at primary school children. The website contains games, exercises, quizzes and safety tips about water safety and is a popular resource for school teachers teaching Irish Water Safety's PAWS (Primary Aquatics Water Safety) programme, a component of the physical education strand of the primary school curriculum.

KIA Motors & IWS

- A partnership that includes a KIA vehicle for the IWS Education Development Officer and the distribution to Lifeguarded waterways nationwide of KIA sponsored Safe Swimming Leaflets.

SEIKO

- Sponsorship of the Just in Time Awards presented to those who come to the assistance of someone in difficulty in water. This is SEIKO's ninth year supporting these rescue awards.



Bank of Scotland

- Sponsored lifesaving equipment for Irish Water Safety's Nipper Lifesaving Training Programme

Holiday World

- A newly designed holiday leaflet proved very popular at the Holiday World Show, RDS Dublin at which volunteers on the IWS stand distributed 4,000 copies.

Angling Ireland Show

- IWS had a stand at Cloghran, Swords, Co Dublin and volunteers distributed safe angling information.

Boat Show

- IWS Volunteers distributed safe boating information at the RDS, Dublin Show.

Irish Skipper Show

- Galway Bay Hotel (27th & 28th Feb 2009)
- IWS volunteers distributed information about lifejackets, cold shock and hypothermia from the iws stand at the Galway event.

Volvo Ocean Race

- Irish Water Safety trained Lifeguards patrolled the busy shoreline and highlighted to the large numbers of people gathered along Galway's historic waterway, the steps to take to reduce the risk of drowning or aquatic related injuries during the Volvo Ocean race stopover.

• Certification

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.

Water Safety Area Committees processed 34,496 Swimming and Lifesaving certificates in 2009. In addition, a further 32,260 Primary School Aquatics Water Safety (PAWS) certificates were processed and a further 2,385 of a new range of Seal, Marlin and Orca certificates were issued, giving a total certification by Irish Water Safety of 69,141.

Certificates processed through the National Office in 2009:

AED Instructor	2	Rescue 1	1462
AED Operator	409	Rescue 2	1098
Aquatics organiser	1017	Rescue 3	884
Aquatics Pool Assistant	45	Rescue 4	418
Assistant Swimming Teacher	332	Safety 1	2699
Basic Life Support 1	2952	Safety 2	2728
Basic Life Support 2	1943	Safety 3	2198
Basic Life Support 3	1233	Safety 4	2125
Basic Life Support 4	14	Splash	505



Beach Lifeguard	413	SURF 1	103
Challenge 1	781	SURF 2	42
Challenge 2	439	SURF 3	27
Endurance 1	515	Surf Award Tutor	1
		Surf Instructor Beach	
Endurance 2	808	Safety	48
Examiner	2	Survival 1	98
Instructor	114	Survival 2	400
Inland Open Water (IOW)			
Lifeguard	10	Survival 3	2
IOW Lifeguard Course Provider	3	Swim 1	1484
Pool Lifeguard	1118	Swim 2	1612
Pool Lifeguard Revalidation	539	Swim 3	1413
Junior Aquatics Water Safety 2	4	Swim 4	1208
Pool Lifeguard Course Provider	22	Swim 5	922
Pool Lifeguard	239	Swimming Teacher	62
		Swimming Teacher Tutor	3

Primary Aquatics Water Safety (PAWS) is Irish Water Safety's program of certification for primary school children. Now a component of the physical education strand of the primary school curriculum, PAWS is being implemented by teachers nationwide. A total of 32,260 PAWS Certificates were issued in 2009.

Land PAWS 1	6311	PAWS 3	4099
Land PAWS 2	2194	PAWS 4	4830
Land PAWS 3	1963	PAWS 5	3225
PAWS 1	2733	PAWS 6	2187
PAWS 2	2791	PAWS 7	1248
		PAWS 8	679

A new range of certificates were rolled out in 2009. The SEAL, MARLIN and ORCA range of certificates are tailored to the commercial sector and are available to leisure centres nationwide. Swimming Teachers use these colourful new awards to accredit their pupils as their competencies in water progress. In 2009, a total of 2,385 of these certificates were issued.

- Summer Water Safety Weeks

The thirty Water Safety Area Committees nationwide 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. Many counties experienced an exceptional interest in classes following a series of successful radio, press and TV campaigns.

- Representation at National Level

Frank Nolan	Irish Marine Search & Rescue Committee.
John Leech	(Users Group), Commissioner's Irish Lights
Roger Sweeney	Marine Safety Working Group.
David Kenneally	Community Inshore Rescue Advisory Group
Breda Collins	Irish Heart Foundation



Brendan McGrath -----ILAM
 Martin O'Sullivan -----Blue Flag
 Margaret McKay -----White Flag
 Jim Lawlor-----Irish Sports Federation & Irish Olympic Committee
 Anna Byrne -----FETAC - Further Education and Training Awards Council
 John Leech/ Frank Nolan/ Breda Collins Charles Thomson Award Jury with RLSS (Royal Life Saving
 -----Society)

• Representation at International Level

Frank Nolan-----World Board, International Life Saving (ILS)
 -----& European Board ILS
 Frank Nolan-----Finance Commission ILS
 Sean Murphy -----Auditor ILS
 Sean Murphy -----Auditor ILS(E)
 Martin O'Sullivan -----European Board ILS
 Martin O'Sullivan -----Rescue Commission Europe & World ILS.
 Martin O'Sullivan -----ISO Working Group
 Michael Cuddihy-----ILS(E) Sport Commission
 Michael Murphy-----ILS(E) Education Commission
 John Leech-----ILS(E) Administration Commission.
 Brendan McGrath & Jim Lawlor-----International Federation of Swimming Teachers
 Kathryn Byrne -----ROSPA (Royal Life Saving Society)
 -----And other Marketing Conferences.
 Michael Cuddihy-----College of Referees Panel ILS(E)
 Brian Farrell -----International Maritime Rescue Federation (IMRF)

• Conferences:

- **Designated Liaison Person (DLP) Child Protection Conference**
28th, 29th November, Athlone
- **National Awards Ceremony**
17th November, Dublin Castle
- **Water Safety Area Committee Officer's Conference**
10th May, Athlone
- **Water Safety Development Officer's Conference**
22nd – 24th April, Drogheda

• National Courses:

- **Beach Lifeguard Providers Course**
2nd & 3rd May, Waterford
- **IWS and Further Education and Training Award Council (FETAC) assimilation for all Providers of Pool Lifeguard Courses**
23rd May, Tullamore
- **CFR Instructor Trainer (Tutor)**
7th June 2009, Nenagh
- **Trainee Examiner Course**
21st & 22nd November, Waterford
- **Aquatics & Water Safety & Basic Life Support In-Service Courses**
Dublin, Meath, Limerick, Monaghan, Sligo, Wexford, Tipperary



- **Cardiac First Response (CFR), Pre Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC) Course**
1st November, Tullamore
- **Trainee Examiner's Course, Trainee Examiners' Course**
21st & 22nd November, Waterford
- **Designated Liaison Person (DLP) Child Protection Course**
28th & 29th November, Athlone
- **Risk Assessment Accreditation Course**
November 6th & 7th, Spanish Point, Co. Clare

• **Risk Assessments 2009**

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 these waterways safer, recommendations typically include the erection of public rescue equipment, signage and other necessary facilities.

We also complete public rescue equipment checks and advise Local Authorities, state agencies and private enterprises on matters relating to water safety.

In 2009, a total of 22 Risk Assessments were carried out.

Cork - Blue Flag	Barleycove
Cork - Blue Flag	Garryvoe
Cork - Blue Flag	Garrylucas
Cork	Garretstown
Cork	Youghal - Redbarn
Fingal	Portmarnock Beach
Sligo	Ballisodare Bridge
Tipp North	Clare Glens - South End
Tipp North	Dromineer - South End
Tipp North	Youghal Quay - South End
Tipp North	Garry Kennedy - South End
Tipp North	Castletlough - South End
Tipp North	Ballina - South End
Tipp North	Terryglass Quay - North End
Tipp North	Kilgarvan - North End
Tipp North	Mota Quay - North End
Tipp North	Glenbower - North End
Tipp North	Luska - North End
Westmeath	Portnashangan, Lough Owel
Westmeath	The Cut, Lough Lene
Westmeath	Coosan Point, Lough Rea
Wexford	Ballymoney Beach

• **VAT Inspections**

Irish Water Safety trains and examines rescue boat crews for Community Rescue Boats Ireland and the Coast Guard.

Craft, equipment, and buildings used in relation to rescue or assistance at sea or the training of persons in connection therewith are examined by Irish Water Safety and successful applicants receive a certificate in connection with a VAT refund for Sea Rescue Craft, Equipment and Storage Buildings under the VAT Recoupment scheme

In 2009, two VAT Inspections were carried out, one in Ballinskelligs, Co Kerry and the other in Derrynane, Co Kerry.



● Competitions

In 1948 it was decided that Ireland would follow a European initiative and create the sport of surf lifesaving based on the skills and equipment used in lifeguarding. Currently 168 countries are affiliated to International Life Saving which controls the sport worldwide.

In 1950 the President of Ireland, Sean T. O'Ceallaigh decided to present a silver trophy to Irish Water Safety for competition between the counties of Ireland. This award is still the premier award associated with our National Lifesaving Championships.

National championships are now divided into pool and surf competitions and include nippers, juniors, seniors and masters competitors.

2009 was a year of continued expansion, innovation and steady improvement in many spheres of lifesaving sport. Irish Water Safety started the year with the National Still Water Championships in the University of Limerick Pool in February where Norma Cahill set another Masters World Record.

In March the first National Nipper Still water championships was held in Ballyshannon. The National Junior team competed in the European Junior Championships in Holland and they won four bronze medals. In light of the reported increase in Nippers training nationwide, it was decided to hold three provincial surf Championships in Leinster, Munster and Connaught/Ulster.

The National Surf Lifesaving Championships were held on Rosstown Beach in September in fabulous weather. 478 competitors took part, the biggest championships ever held in Ireland in Lifesaving Sport. November saw a team travel to the German Cup in Warendorf and they won two gold medals.

During the year each Water Safety Area Committee were supplied with a single Nipper Board and a Rescue Tube sponsored by Bank Of Scotland, Ireland to encourage the introduction of Lifesaving Sports skills to Nippers. During 2009, the Sports Commission appealed the decision to refuse recognition of Irish Water Safety as a national governing body for the sport of lifesaving in Ireland.

■ National Surf Lifesaving Championships

12th, 13th September. Rosstown, Co. Donegal

The open water events presented a magnificent spectacle of surf swimming races, ski races, surfboard races and events designed to test the lifesaving skills, fitness and endurance of the participants.

Overall results:

The most coveted trophy in the sport, the President's Trophy was presented by President Sean T O'Ceallaigh in 1950 and has been competed for ever since then. The winning County is based on cumulative points from all events in both the National Surf and the National Pool Lifesaving Championships.

- President's Trophy: Clare; 2nd: Donegal; 3rd: Wicklow.

Team results:

- Junior Boys: 1st: Clare A; 2nd Donegal A; 3rd: Clare B
- Junior Girls: 1st: Donegal A; 2nd Clare A; 3rd: Wicklow A
- Senior Women: 1st: Donegal A; 2nd Clare A; 3rd: Wicklow A
- Senior Men: 1st: Wicklow A; 2nd: Donegal A; 3rd: Clare A
- Ski Results, women: 1st: Norma Cahill, Clare; 2nd: Trish Brennan, Mayo; 3rd: Triona McMenamin, Donegal
- Ski results, men: 1st: Scott Morton, Wicklow; 2nd: David Pringle, Sligo; 3rd: Billy Horgan, Cork

■ European Junior Championships, Holland

4th – 6th September



The efforts of Ireland's fittest junior Lifeguards (Under 19) ensured a place in the top ten Internationally for Team Ireland, winning six bronze medals and coming eighth overall in a competition that saw 140 competitors from fourteen countries compete in Europe's premier Junior Lifesaving event.

Team Ireland - Girls

Lynne Duffy - Wicklow

Melissa Power - Clare

Siobhan McGrath - Clare

Lisa Scully - Galway

Aimee Walsh - Galway

Team Manager: Sara English, Mayo

Coach: Oisin McGrath, Clare

Team Ireland - Boys

Padraic Rocliffe - Mayo

James Sweeney - Mayo

Cormac O Sullivan - Clare

Bernard Cahill - Clare

Dylan Barrett - Clare

Team Ireland Results:

NAME	COUNTY	EVENT	PLACE
Bernard Cahill	Clare	Board Rescue*	Bronze
Dylan Barrett	Clare	Board Rescue*	Bronze
Padraic Rocliffe	Mayo	Rescue Tube**	Bronze
James Sweeney	Mayo	Rescue Tube**	Bronze
Cormac O'Sullivan	Clare	Rescue Tube**	Bronze
Bernard Cahill	Clare	Rescue Tube**	Bronze
Lynne Duffy	Wicklow	Run-Swim-Run***	Fourth
Lynne Duffy	Wicklow	Board Rescue*	Fifth
Siobhán McGrath	Clare	Board Rescue*	Fifth
Dylan Barrett	Clare	Run-Swim-Run***	Fifth
Team Ireland – Girls (names above)	Galway and Clare	Rescue Tube A-Final	Fifth

Other results

3 Irish representative records in relays;

6 personal bests;

14 A Finals;

12 top ten places in pool and beach;

14 countries competing;

140 competitors;

Team Ireland: Eighth overall, equalling 2008 result but scoring higher points (169) this year than last year (120).

▪ Nipper Provincial Lifesaving Championships

29th, 30th August. Leinster, Munster and Connaught/Ulster finals.

▪ National Nipper Lifesaving Championships

15th March. Ballyshannon Leisure Centre, Co Donegal

▪ National Irish Pool Lifesaving Championships

Sat 21st Feb 2009. The National University of Limerick's 50-metre Arena Pool, Castletroy.



Teams from counties around Ireland competed in a rigorous series of races, which simulate conditions that lifesavers often encounter in real life rescues and are designed to test the lifesaving skills of the participants.

RESULTS:

Women's Team Pool Lifesaving Final: 1st Clare; 2nd Mayo; 3rd Wicklow
Men's Team Pool Lifesaving Final: 1st Clare; 2nd Mayo; 3rd Dublin
Girl's Junior Team Pool Lifesaving Final (under 16): 1st Galway; 2nd Clare; 3rd Wicklow
Boy's Junior Team Pool Lifesaving Final (under 16): 1st Clare A; 2nd Clare B; 3rd Cork
Master's Pool Lifesaving Final (30+): 1st Meath; 2nd Clare

NEW WORLD RECORD:

The athlete: Norma Cahill, Ennis, Co Clare

The event: Women's 100 Meter manikin tow + fins.

A discipline where a trained lifeguard / lifesaver with fins and rescue tube swims 50 meters freestyle, fixes the rescue tube around a floating manikin ("the casualty") and tows it the remaining distance. Norma finished in 1min 7.7 seconds, breaking the World Record by 5.8seconds.

- **National Awards Ceremony**

17th November, Dublin Castle

Rescuers from twelve dramatic near-death incidents received recognition at Irish Water Safety's National Awards Ceremony at Dublin Castle on Tuesday 17th November 2009. Mr Michael Finneran TD, Minister of State at the Dept of Environment, Heritage and Local Government presented the "SEIKO Just In Time Rescue Award" to rescuers in appreciation for saving a total of seventeen lives.

Service Awards were also presented, recognising 1,330 years of personal service of sixty-eight Irish Water Safety volunteers from around the country for teaching swimming, lifesaving, and water survival and rescue skills. Other recipients included Irish open water record-breaking swimmer Lisa Cummins, who accomplished the "Swimming Everest" by swimming across the English Channel and back on Sept 20th 2009.

- **Community & Social Responsibility Award**

In recognition of the support given to Irish Water Safety's community work, charitable activities and commitment to drowning prevention initiatives and the reduction of aquatic related injuries.

- **Allianz**

Allianz sponsors the hugely popular "14 Steps to Safe Boating" posters and leaflets which are distributed to exhibitions, conferences and orders through Head office.

Allianz also sponsor the Irish Water Safety children's publication "AquaAttack" for children and have added to this sponsorship by funding the design, development and launch this year of www.aquaattack.ie, a website resource for children. The website is used by schoolteachers, parents and children and is packed with water safety advice and games that promote water safety awareness in a fun and enjoyable manner. Primary schools are particularly complimentary of the website which continues to grow in popularity nationwide as it is highly regarded by teachers and parents as an excellent means of teaching children how to stay safe around water.

- **Sky Media Ireland**

For broadcasting water safety awareness commercials on four Sky television channels. The commercials deliver key water safety messages to viewers so that they stay safe in, on and around water.

- **Marine Institute / IBM / SmartBay**

The Marine Institute and IBM set up SmartBay, a national research infrastructure project. It comprises of a network of buoys, seafloor cables and other infrastructure, supporting a range of sensors and information systems to monitor wave conditions, marine life and pollution levels in and around Galway Bay. Irish Water Safety was invited into the project so that Lifeguarded waterways



could be added to the information available to the public and thus provide real-time updates on the conditions of Lifeguarded waterways and the safety of the aquatic environment around Galway Bay.

- **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) / www.bathingwater.ie**

A new website launched by the EPA focusing on water quality includes information from IWS detailing Lifeguard coverage so that the general public know where to swim safely and supervised.

- **Bank of Scotland – Ireland**

Children aged eight to fourteen will use new specialized rescue equipment to learn water rescue skills that prepare them to become Lifeguards of the future. Bank of Scotland – Ireland sponsored 30 Nipper Training Boards and Rescue Tubes that will prepare young boys and girls to learn the skills that will equip them to save lives in emergencies.

- **Irish Marine Federation Boat Show, RDS, Dublin**

Irish Water Safety volunteers delivered talks and offered advice and publication to hundreds of visitors to this very popular show.

- **The Holiday World Show, RDS, Dublin**

A new “Stay Safe On Your Holidays” leaflet was printed and proved very popular at the Holiday World Show, RDS Dublin, where volunteers at the Irish Water Safety stand distributed copies.

- **Foróige / Bundoran Neighbourhood Youth Project / Permanent TSB**

This programme aims to assist young people to develop the values and skills of good citizenship. Club members study their local area and take action to improve the community. Water Safety information was distributed to the entire community by Bundoran Youth Project members.

- **Kia Motors Ireland**

For sponsoring 350,000 leaflets that focus on the key steps to staying safe when swimming. This compliments their existing sponsorship of a KIA “Sportage” vehicle used by Irish Water Safety’s Education Development Officer, to introduce water safety classes to schools and pools nationwide.

- **Friendly Systems**

For sponsoring awareness campaigns focusing on the dangers of Weils Disease. The campaign included publications and a stand at the National Ploughing Championships.

- **Graphic Design**

For their generous support in designing, building and maintaining a new Irish Water Safety website, www.ringbuoys.ie which allows the public to report missing, damaged or located ringbuoys around the country. The website has been welcomed by local authorities nationwide and by the media at national and local level. Water Safety bookmarkers and other material was also kindly sponsored for the launch of the website. Sponsorship extended to include branding the Irish Water Safety promotional trailer which is used to promote water safety at events nationwide.

- **Polish Embassy**

For helping to target the Polish population in Ireland by translating water safety information into Polish for those at risk of drowning. The Embassy not only translates information on an ongoing basis but also makes that information available through the Embassy and prepares translated press releases to target specific at-risk groups. People travelling from Poland to Ireland are undoubtedly safer and more aware of the dangers specific to Ireland, thanks to their efforts.

- **Holiday World, RDS, Dublin**

A new “Stay Safe On Your Holidays” leaflet was printed and proved very popular at the Holiday World Show, RDS Dublin, where volunteers at the Irish Water Safety stand distributed copies.

- **Ireland Angling & Irish Skipper Show, Swords, Co Dublin**

This show allowed Irish Water Safety to target a specific at-risk group – the angling enthusiast. Volunteers were on hand to offer advice and distribute information about water safety best practices when angling.



- **Central Fisheries Board**

The CFB partnered with IWS, issuing water safety advice to anglers.

- **Media Appreciation Award**

In recognition of the media coverage given to water safety issues nationwide.

- **Provincial Radio Award: Near FM**

Near FM receives the provincial radio station Media Appreciation Award for promoting water safety issues throughout the year. Their coverage of water safety topics of interest to their local audience ensured that their listeners in Northeast Dublin were kept informed throughout the year.

- **National TV & Radio Award: RTE**

This award is issued to National TV and National Radio stations for promoting topical water safety issues as they arise throughout the year. RTE receive Irish Water Safety's Media Appreciation Award for their National coverage of water safety issues on both television and radio.

- **National Press Award: The Irish Daily Star**

This award is issued to the National Press for promoting topical water safety issues as they arise throughout the year. The Irish Daily Star receives Irish Water Safety's Media Appreciation Award for their National coverage of water safety issues that help us to raise awareness of water safety best practices and so help to reduce drownings.

- **Provincial Press Award: The Kerryman**

The Kerryman Newspaper wins the Provincial Press Media Appreciation Award for their coverage of water safety issues, both of National and local interest. Many lifesaving classes are heavily subscribed in the Kerry region thanks to their coverage.

- **Long Service Awards**

This service represents a voluntary commitment to promoting a public awareness of water safety and rescues based on the humanitarian goal of saving life.

- **Certificate of Service**

Ms	Sheila
Ms	Darina
Mr	Chris
Mr	Kevin
Mr	Simon
Ms	Dympna
Ms	Carrie
Mr	Leonard
Ms	Philomena
Ms	Bridget
Ms	Siobhan
Ms	Sinead
Mr	John
Mr	Corwun
Ms	Noelle
Ms	Ann
Ms	Evelyn
Ms	Josephine

- **10-Year Service**

Brady	Cavan
Byrne	Dublin
Donohoe	Longford
Downey	Waterford
Ellis	Dublin
Geaney	Cork
Holland	Cork
Kearns	Wexford
Lynch	Cavan
Martin	Longford
McCaffery	Cavan
Miller	Dublin
Murphy	Cavan
O'Brien	Waterford
O'Leary	Cork
O'Reilly	Longford
O'Reilly	Cavan
O'Rourke	Cavan



Ms	Pauline	O Sullivan	Cork
Ms	Catherine	Ryan	Cork
Mr	Kevin	Wilmot	Waterford

▪ **The Service Medal of Honour (SMH) 15-Year Service**

Ms	Ciara	Barry	Dublin
Mr	John	Egan	Dublin
Ms	Aoife	Flynn	Waterford
Ms	Kathy	Griffin	Cavan
Ms	Elise	Hickey	Waterford
Mr	Thomas	Johnston	Dublin
Mr	Ben	Kennedy	Dublin
Ms	Julie	Murphy	Cork
Ms	Carol	Murphy	Cork
Ms	Sinead	Murphy	Dublin
Ms	Helen	O Connor	Galway
Mr	John	O Reilly	Cavan
Ms	Jackie	Roche	Dublin
Ms	Aileen	Rush	Dublin
Ms	JulieAnn	Somers	Dublin
Ms	Aine	Stafford	Wexford

▪ **Bronze Bar to the SMH 20-Year Service**

Mr	Jim	Banks	Dublin
Ms	Bernadette	Beirne	Longford
Ms	Marie	Farrell	Wicklow
Mr	Jim	Fennell	Dublin
Mr	John	Martin	Longford
Ms	Sharon	McKeon	Cork
Ms	Derville	McMoreland	Sligo
Mr	Peadar	Mohan	Cavan
Mr	Michael	Murphy	Dublin
Ms	Liz	O Grady	Wicklow
Ms	Frances	O Regan	Louth

▪ **Silver Bar to the SMH 30-Year Service**

Mr	John	Cullen	Roscommon
Ms	Gabrielle	Early	Leitrim
Ms	Teresa	Finnegan	Cavan
Ms	Winne	Foran	Waterford
Mr	Ignatius	Gaynor	Roscommon
Mr	Gary Andrew	Mason	Dublin
Ms	Terri	Mason	Dublin
Mr	Martin	Meehan	Dublin
Ms	Eileen	O Sullivan	Cork
Mrs	Ann	O Sullivan	Cork
Ms	Catherine	Sheridan	Longford
Mr	Gary	Smyth	Mayo
Ms	Brid	Vereker	Waterford
Ms	Betty	Walsh	Waterford

▪ **Gold Bar to the SMH 40-Year Service**

Mr	Sonny	Condon	Waterford
Mr	Michael	Cuddihy	Waterford
Mr	Richard	McLoughlin	Cork
Ms	Kathleen	O Hanlon	Monaghan
Ms	Dolores	O Sullivan	Waterford
Ms	Angela	Wynne	Wicklow



● **Charles Thomson Award Recipients**

Presented annually to the Local Authority that contributes most towards the promotion of water safety in Ireland.

1st Place	Cookstown
2nd Place	Carlow
3rd Place	Longford

● **Volunteer of the Year**

Irish Water Safety relies on the efforts and hard work of its committed volunteers, those who again and again willingly contribute their time and skills so that others learn the skills of swimming, lifesaving, rescue, risk assessment and lifesaving sport.

The IWS Volunteer of the Year Award recognises the great work that is completed by these committed volunteers who selflessly give up of their time to complete the vision and mission as laid down in our Strategic Development Plan

- **2008 Volunteer of the Year:** Mrs Kathleen Richey, Cavan.

Kathleen Richey was the founder member along with her husband Canon Robin Richie (R.I.P) of Cavan Irish Water Safety. Kathleen was appointed the representative for Belcool, Blacklion area in 1971. Blacklion commenced their Annual Swimming Gala in 1974 and it has been running successfully ever since. Another Annual Event instigated by Kathleen for the first time in 1976 was the presentation of certificates – held at Easter- to advertise the summer classes. Kathleen will celebrate 40 years of Irish Water Safety as Local Organiser in 2010.

Kathleen is a competent manager and leader who for the past 38 years has organised Swimming, Safety, Rescue and Instructor classes each Winter and Summer in Blacklion. During the Summer classes Kathleen can be seen on the lake shore with “whistle” and “loud hailer” organising swimmers and instructors alike, ensuring the smooth and safe running of the daily class. Her work day spans from 11am to 10pm. She works tirelessly motivating her pupils with enthusiasm and endless energy. Her meticulous record keeping, good sense of judgement and relationship with children and adults ensure the smooth running of all classes. She leaves no stone unturned promoting, working and seeking information benefiting water safety and its members.

Kathleen can be relied upon in any situation within Irish Water Safety. Thousands of children and adults have been trained in various levels of Water Safety under the supervision of Kathleen Richey. Since its inception 124 Instructors have qualified leaving Blacklion self sufficient and providing assistance to other Cavan areas, neighbouring counties, Donegal, Leitrim and Sligo and also to Limerick and Dublin.

Kathleen is a member of Killinagh (Blacklion) Community Council has close contact with Cavan County Council who have extended the boat quay and developed the surrounding area making Lough Mac Nean a suitable location for Water Safety Classes each year.

Kathleen embraces all that is Irish Water Safety. She has continuously kept herself informed of all changes within the organisation. She is committed dependable and extremely fair, instilling her attitude of learning and achieving in the many thousands of students. She has dealt with over the years. Her contribution to Cavan Area Water Safety is outstanding and truly valued by all involved in Water Safety.

We all wish her well and continued good health for many more years. May she continue to inspire and motivate the young and old in water safety promotion and awareness.



● SEIKO Just In Time Awards

Sponsored by SEIKO for coming to the assistance of a person or persons in distress in water.

▪ **Garda Maurice Barry** **May 2009, Kilountain, Bandon, West Cork**

Garda Maurice Barry saved the life of a male who got into difficulty in the river near Bandon, Co Cork. After rescuing the man from the river, Maurice proceeded to perform Basic Life Support and the man regained consciousness. If it were not for the swift reaction of Garda Maurice Barry a tragedy would have occurred.

▪ **Mr Jim Dempsey** **Jan 2003, Avoca River, Wicklow**

A person got into difficulty after falling into the water and was swept downriver by the swift current. Mr Jim Dempsey was out walking by the river, heard a cry for help and he observed a body floating in the river. Without any hesitation, Jim Dempsey entered the water and rescued the person from drowning.

▪ **Mr Colm Quish** **June 2009, Lahinch beach, Co Clare**

Colm Quish, aged 15, was surfing with friends and was quite a distance from shore. A young swimmer in distress at being caught in a rip current drifted within sight of the surfers. Colm immediately went to the man's assistance and swam with him a considerable distance back to shore. He continued to carry the man up from the water to the shore, placed him in the recovery position, kept him warm with towels and stayed with him until emergency services arrived.

▪ **Mr Mark Flynn**

▪ **Mr Norman Cleary** **July 2009, Spanish Point, Co. Clare**

Four swimmers were caught in a rip current and carried out from shore and beyond their depth. Mark Flynn borrowed a surfboard and entered the water to effect a rescue. He took two casualties to shore. With the help of a passing surfer, the third person was encouraged back to shore safely. Both Norman Cleary and Mark Flynn entered the water and continued to search for the fourth person. Mark felt him under the water and with Norman's help they placed him onto a surfboard and took him back to shore where he regained consciousness.

▪ **Mr Thomas Thompson**

▪ **Mr Peter Bradbury**

▪ **Ms Emily Luff**

Sept 2008, Spanish Point, Co. Clare

Ten-year-old Emily Luff (who received a SEIKO Certificate of Courage) and her sister were out bathing at knee depth when they got caught in a RIP current which pulled them out to sea beyond the surf break. Thomas Thompson and Peter Bradbury (who received a Rescue Appreciation Award) heard calls for help from the beach. They ran onto the beach to assist the two girls. Peter Bradbury assessed the situation and called the Coast Guard while Thomas Thompson paddled out to reach them on his surfboard. Meanwhile Peter stayed with the mother of the children. Due to poor light, Thomas could not see the children however he heard their shouts for help and went to their assistance. Upon reaching them he reassured them and with the use of his surfboard he brought them safely back to shore.

▪ **Mr Alimzhan Nabiulin**

▪ **Mr Daniel Iver**

July 2009, Swellan Lake, Co. Cavan

Two males, one a non-swimmer got into difficulty after falling from a raft. Daniel observed the two boys in difficulty and without hesitation went to the boy's assistance. Daniel managed to locate one of the boys under the water and brought him to safety. He stayed with the boy until emergency services arrived. Meanwhile Alimzhan Nabiulin observed the other boy in difficulty in the water and quickly swam to his assistance and brought him to shore averting a tragedy.

▪ **Garda Noel Purcell**

▪ **Garda Paul Buckley**

Jan 2008, Courtown, Wexford

On the bitter cold night at Courtown Harbour, both Garda Noel Purcell and Garda Paul Buckley observed a man in difficulty in the water. Without hesitation Garda Noel Purcell jumped into the water to assist the man. Garda Paul Buckley threw a ringbuoy and pulled him towards the rocks. The man was in great distress. Garda Purcell then also jumped into the water and with the help of Garda Buckley, brought the man to safety.



- **Ms Nadine Sheridan**

- **Ms Jo Kingston**

Sept 2008, Courtown North Beach, Wexford

Nadine Sheridan and Jo Kingston observed a swimmer lying face down in the water. Without hesitation, Nadine entered the water to rescue the woman. Jo Kingston who was six months pregnant at the time ran to get a ringbuoy before entering the water. She then reached both the woman and Nadine and helped to take her to shore. Jo performed Basic Life Support on the woman. The woman was then taken to hospital where she made a full recovery. If it were not for the swift reaction of both Jo and Nadine a tragedy would most likely have occurred.

- **Mr Martin Scallan**

- **Mr Adrian Martin**

Jan 2009, Wexford Quay

On a bitter cold day at Wexford Quay both Martin Scallan and Adrian Martin were in a boat when they heard a splash in the water. They reacted with haste and approached the area where a woman had entered the water. Martin Scallan entered the water waste deep from quay steps and held onto the lady with the help of Adrian Martin until Garda Declan Dennehy arrived. All three helped to lift the woman back up onto the quay where she was transferred to hospital by ambulance. Garda Dennehy was a previous recipient of the SEIKO Just in Time Award. Without the intervention of Mr Scallan and Mr Martin, the lady would have undoubtedly perished.

- **Ms Sharon McNern**

July 2009, Big Beach, Glencolumbkille, Co Donegal

Sharon McNern, aged 13 was enjoying a beach trip while attending a Gaeltacht Summer Camp. While playing in the water near the shore, a friend in the group fell into a deep hole and out of his depth. Sharon held the boy and calmed him while avoiding being pulled under by the distressed and panicked casualty and managed to convince him to lie on his back as she assisted him swim out of the hole. Waves began to push both people towards rocks. An adult waded to assist but could not swim and ended up out of his depth and face down in the water. Sharon turned the adult over, held his head above water while simultaneously encouraging the young boy to kick his legs. A nearby walker spotted the scenario and swam to the adult casualty's assistance. Sharon brought the young boy to shore, having treaded water for fifteen minutes. The adult was hospitalised for six days while the young boy and Sharon were released that same evening. If it was not for the swift and brave actions of Sharon McNern at least one if not two tragedies would most likely have occurred.

- **Mr Agris Jankovics**

June 2009, Wellington Quay, Drogheda

Mr Agris Jankovics heard the screams of a lady and two children calling for help as a man had fallen into the water at Wellington Quay, Drogheda. Without any hesitation Agris entered the water and went to the assistance of the man and brought him to safety. If it were not for the quick actions of Mr Agris Jankovics a tragedy would undoubtedly have occurred.

- **Rescue Appreciation Award**

- **Mr Simon O'Toole, Monaghan**

On 4th November 2006, eighteen-year-old Simon noticed that his father was unwell. Simon learned all of his Basic Life Support skills at his local water safety classes, therefore he recognised the symptoms of the onset of a heart attack. Remaining calm and without hesitation, Simon acted appropriately, took his father to hospital where his father received the necessary lifesaving treatment. Thanks to Simon's rapid response to the situation, his father is alive and well today.

- **Special Achievement Award**

- **Lisa Cummins**

- The first Irish person to swim the English channel both ways

Start time: 10:35am on 19th September 2009

Finish time: 9:35pm on 20th September 2009

Total for England / France / England - 35 hours



Comptroller & Auditor General,
Office of the Comptroller & Auditor General,
Dublin Castle,
Dublin 2.

• Irish Water Safety Association

We confirm to the best of our knowledge and belief, and having made the appropriate enquiries of other Council Members and Officials of the Association, the following representations given to you in connection with your audit of the Association's financial statements of the Council for the year ended 31 December 2009.

1. We acknowledge as Council Members our statutory responsibility for the financial statements. All of the accounting records have been made available to you for the purpose of your audit and all the transactions undertaken by the Association have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records. All other records and related information, including minutes of all Council meetings, have been made available to you.
2. There are no financial commitments of a revenue or capital nature other than those as disclosed in the financial statements.
3. Annual lease commitments at 31 December 2009 amounted to €41,722 in respect of leased offices occupied by the Association at The Long Walk, Galway.
4. Full disclosure and provision has been made for all liabilities at the Balance Sheet date. Contingencies have been appropriately disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.
5. There are no legal actions, which were instigated against the Council.
6. The Association has satisfactory title to all assets and there are no liens or encumbrances on the Association's assets, except as disclosed in the financial statements.
7. At the Balance Sheet date cash on hand and at bank amounted to €148,046.
8. The Council Members are of the opinion that the Association will have sufficient working capital to meet its foreseeable requirements for at least the next twelve months.
9. No transactions were entered into shortly before the accounting date with the intention that they should be reversed shortly after that date, so as not to present a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Association.
10. There were no third party guarantees or letters of comfort issued by the Association.
11. No irregularities or frauds have occurred or are being investigated as at 31 December 2009.
12. The Association has not exceeded the borrowing limits approved by the Department of Environment and Local Government.
13. No circumstances have arisen or events occurred between the Balance Sheet date and the date of this letter, which would require adjustment or disclosure in the financial statements.



14. Payments and transactions in respect of any grants, loans and investments made during the year conformed with legislation and with Government and Department directives and were authorised, approved and processed in accordance with the Association's internal procedures and controls.
15. The Council Members do not have an interest in any grant or other contract entered into by the Association during the year other than as disclosed in the financial statements.
16. All transactions with subsidiary and related parties have been properly recorded and adequately disclosed in the financial statements.
17. The Association complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance. There have been no communications concerning non-compliance with requirements of regulatory or tax authorities with respect to any matter.
18. The Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies has been adopted and is being complied with, and in particular:
 - All appropriate procedures for financial reporting, internal audit, procurement and assets disposals are being carried out;
 - Codes of Business Conduct for Council Members and Employees have been put in place and adhered to;
 - Government policy on the pay of the Chief Executive and all employees is being complied with;
 - The Guidelines for the Appraisal and Management of Capital Expenditure Proposals are being complied with.
19. The Statement on the System of Internal Financial Control reflects our compliance with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies.
20. We have no subsidiaries, joint ventures or shareholdings acquired other than those disclosed in the financial statements.

For and on behalf of the Council.

CHAIRMAN

Chief Executive

Date: 4th November 2010



Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

I have audited the financial statements of Irish Water Safety for the year ended 31 December 2009 under the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993.

The financial statements, which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein, comprise the Statement of Accounting Policies, the Income and Expenditure Account, the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Respective Responsibilities of the Council and the Comptroller and Auditor General

Irish Water Safety is responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the Irish Water Safety (Establishment) Order 2006, and for ensuring the regularity of transactions. Irish Water Safety prepares the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland. The accounting responsibilities of the Members of the Council are set out in the Statement of the Responsibilities of the Council.

My responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

I report my opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland. I also report whether in my opinion proper books of account have been kept. In addition, I state whether the financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

I report any material instance where moneys have not been applied for the purposes intended or where the transactions do not conform to the authorities governing them.

I also report if I have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of my audit.

I review whether the Statement on Internal Financial Control reflects the body's compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies and report any material instance where it does not do so, or if the statement is misleading or inconsistent with other information of which I am aware from my audit of the financial statements. I am not required to consider whether the Statement on Internal Financial Control covers all financial risks and controls, or to form an opinion on the effectiveness of the risk and control procedures.

I read other information contained in the Annual Report, and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. I consider the implications for my report if I become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements.

Basis of Audit Opinion

In the exercise of my function as Comptroller and Auditor General, I conducted my audit of the financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board and by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures and regularity of the financial transactions included in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the body's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations that I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming my opinion I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, of the state of Irish Water Safety's affairs at 31 December 2009 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended.



In my opinion, proper books of account have been kept by Irish Water Safety. The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

Andrew Harkness
for and on behalf of the
Comptroller and Auditor General

9th November 2010

Irish Water Safety
Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2009

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Accountants	Robert J. Kidney & Co. Chartered Accountants 11 Adelaide Road Dublin 2
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Business Address	The Long Walk Galway
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Auditor	The Comptroller and Auditor General
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Statement of Responsibilities of the Council of Irish Water Safety

Irish Water Safety was established on 24 July 2006 by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government under the Irish Water Safety Establishment Order 2006 (S.I. 389 of 2006). The order re-established the former Irish Water Safety Association as a corporate body under its new title "Irish Water Safety" and expanded the services to be provided by the body.

Irish Water Safety is required to prepare financial statements, in the form approved by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, with the consent of the Minister for Finance, which give a true and fair view of its state of affairs and income and expenditure for the period. In preparing the financial statements, Irish Water Safety is required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
2. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
3. State whether any applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
4. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that Irish Water Safety will continue in operation.

The Council is responsible for keeping proper books of account, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of Irish Water Safety and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Irish Water Safety Establishment Order 2006. The Council is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of Irish Water Safety, and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Chairman

Chief Executive



- **Statement on Internal Financial Control**

Responsibility for the system of Internal Financial Control

On behalf of the Council of Irish Water Safety, I acknowledge our responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated.

The system can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely period.

Key Control Procedures

The Council has taken steps to ensure an appropriate control environment by;

- Clearly defining management responsibilities;
- Establishing formal procedures for reporting significant control failures and ensuring appropriate corrective action.

The Council established a Finance Commission consisting of three non-executive and two executive members and that Commission reviews internal control matters and issues raised by the Comptroller and Auditor General. At present Irish Water Safety does not have an internal audit function.

The Council has a formal process to identify and evaluate business risk by;

- Identifying the nature, extent and financial implication of risks facing the body including the extent and categories which it regards as acceptable;
- Assessing the likelihood of identified risks occurring;
- Assessing the body's ability to manage and mitigate the risks that do occur;
- Assessing the costs of operating particular controls relative to the benefit obtained.

In 2009 the Finance Commission carried out this exercise and reported to the Council.

The system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular management information, administrative procedures including segregation of duties, and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular it includes:

- A budgeting system with an annual budget which is reviewed and agreed by the Council;
- Regular reviews by the Council of periodic and annual financial reports which indicate financial performance against forecast;
- Setting targets to measure financial and other performance.

The Council's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control is based on the work of the Financial Officer and CEO who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of an appropriate financial control framework. The Council also takes into account reports and comments made by the Finance Commission and the Comptroller and Auditor General in his management letter or other reports.



- **Statement on Internal Financial Control (Continued)**

Annual Review of Controls

The Council and Finance Commission headed by me as Chairman, with the full cooperation of the Chief Executive Officer and the Financial Officer, both of whom have been designated by the Council to ensure that the necessary controls are in place, review these controls on a continual basis in line with any directions received. One of the non-executive members of the Finance Commission has been appointed as an independent reviewer/examiner of Internal Financial Controls. His function is to report back to the Finance Commission and the Council on the appropriateness and correctness of the standards of internal financial control to date in place.

We confirm that in the year ended 31 December 2009 the Council has conducted a review of the effectiveness of the systems of internal financial control.

Signed on behalf of the Council of Irish Water Safety.

Frank Nolan
Chairman

John Leech
Chief Executive
Date: 4th November 2010

- **Statement of Accounting Policies**

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, under the accruals method of accounting except as stated below and in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice. The statements are in a form approved by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, with the consent of the Minister for Finance, under the Irish Water Safety Establishment Order 2006 (S.I. 389 of 2006).

Period of Accounts

The financial statements cover the 12 month period to 31 December 2009.

Income

Oireachtas Grants represent the actual cash receipts in the year.

Deferred income is taken to account in line with related expenditure.



Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Fixed Assets are shown at cost. Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis as follows:

Leasehold Improvements	21 years
Office Equipment	5 years
Computer Equipment	3 years
Promotional Equipment	10 years

Artworks donated to Irish Water Safety over a number of years were valued by an independent valuer during 2006 and are included in the financial statement at this valuation. Artworks are not depreciated, as the Council believes that they are unlikely to suffer a loss in value.

Capital Account

The capital account represents the unamortised value of income used for capital purposes.

Pensions

Under the Irish Water Safety Establishment Order 2006, schemes and regulations made under the Local Government (Superannuation) Act 1980 (No. 8 of 1980) apply to Irish Water Safety as if it were a Local Authority.

Irish Water Safety operates a defined benefits scheme which is funded annually on a pay as you go basis from monies available to it, including monies provided by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and from contributions deducted from staff salaries.

Pension Scheme liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method.

Pension costs reflect pension benefits earned by employees in the period and are shown net of staff pension contributions which are retained by Irish Water Safety. An amount corresponding to the pension charge is recognised as income to the extent that it is recoverable and offset by grants received in the year to discharge pension payments.

Actuarial gains or losses arising on scheme liabilities are reflected in the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses and a corresponding adjustment is recognised in the amount recoverable from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Pension liabilities represent the present value of future pension payments earned by staff to date. Deferred pension funding represents the corresponding asset to be recovered in future periods from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Water Safety Committees

Committees, which are responsible for the organisation of water safety activities at local level, undertake local fundraising activities. Fundraising income is retained by the Water Safety Committees to finance local activities. Financial transactions of these Committees are not incorporated into these accounts.



**Income & Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2009**

	Note	2009 €	2008 €
Income:			
Oireachtas Grants		556,000	652,000
Net Deferred Funding for Pensions	10c	<u>80,000</u>	<u>77,000</u>
		636,000	729,000
Contributions from Local Authorities		168,813	180,409
Miscellaneous	1	<u>203,170</u>	<u>197,386</u>
		1,007,983	1,106,795
Transfer from Capital Account	9	<u>10,140</u>	<u>18,986</u>
		<u>1,018,123</u>	<u>1,125,781</u>
Expenditure:			
Administration Expenses	2	604,549	621,422
Travel and Subsistence Expenses	3	112,622	161,476
Promotions, Publicity and Training	4	161,482	257,289
Grants to Water Safety Committees		78,530	76,950
Special Projects	5	16,922	35,239
Total Operating Costs		<u>974,105</u>	<u>1,152,376</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		44,018	(26,595)
Accumulated Surplus 1 January		82,441	109,036
Accumulated Surplus 31 December		<u>126,459</u>	<u>82,441</u>

The statement of Accounting Policies and notes 1 to 14 form part of these Financial Statements.

Frank J. Maher

Chairman
Date: 4th November 2010

John J. Keetch

Chief Executive



Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses

for the year ended 31 December 2009

	Note	2009 €	2008 €
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Financial Year		44,018	(26,595)
Experience (Losses)/Gains on Pension Scheme Liabilities		(56,000)	17,000
Changes in Assumptions Underlying the Present Value of Pension			
Scheme Liabilities		(34,000)	-
Actuarial Gain/(Loss) on Pension Liabilities		(90,000)	17,000
Adjustment to Deferred Pension Funding		90,000	(17,000)
Total Recognised Gains and Losses for the Financial Year		44,018	(26,595)

The statement of Accounting Policies and notes 1 to 14 form part of these Financial Statements.

Chairman

Chief Executive

Date: 4th November 2010



Balance Sheet

	Note	2009 €	2008 €
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Assets	6	<u>243,331</u>	<u>253,471</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	29,247	62,042
Cash at Bank and in Hand		<u>148,046</u>	<u>125,554</u>
		177,293	187,596
CREDITORS - Amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors and Accruals	8	<u>(50,834)</u>	<u>(105,155)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>126,459</u>	<u>82,441</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		369,790	335,912
DEBTORS/(CREDITORS) - Amounts falling due after one year			
Deferred Pension Funding	10d	540,000	370,000
Pension Liabilities	10e	<u>(540,000)</u>	<u>(370,000)</u>
		369,790	335,912
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Capital Account	9	243,331	253,471
Income & Expenditure Account		<u>126,459</u>	<u>82,441</u>
		369,790	335,912

- As at 31 December 2009**

The statement of accounting policies and notes 1 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

Chairman

Chief Executive

Date: 4th November 2010



• **Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2009**

Note 1. Miscellaneous Income	2009 €	2008 €
Sales	80,121	47,742
Membership	21,475	7,310
Ring Buoy Contribution	27,000	27,000
Sponsorship	74,574	114,548
RI Royalties	-	786
	203,170	197,386

Note 2. Administration Expenses		€	€
Salaries and Temporary Staff	2(a)	353,453	364,454
Pension Costs	10(a)	64,526	61,886
Staff Training		900	2,016
Rent, Rates, Light and Heat		53,316	47,154
Insurance		19,836	22,208
Stationery		8,910	14,312
Postage and Telephone		29,751	34,127
Maintenance and Cleaning		23,798	28,527
Audit Fee		8,648	9,200
Accountancy		3,090	3,700
Legal & Other Professional Fees		2,910	-
Bank Charges		1,080	1,087
Miscellaneous Administration Expenses		7,372	7,794
Depreciation		26,959	24,957
		604,549	621,422

Note 2a. Salaries & Temporary Staff

The salaries and temporary staff costs for 2009 include the following amounts:

• **Council Members Emoluments**

The Chairman of the Council received a stipend of €8,500 in 2009 after a voluntary reduction of €2,000.

• **Chief Executive Remuneration**

The Chief Executive's remuneration for 2009 was made up of an annual basic salary of €92,765. His pension entitlements do not extend beyond the standard entitlements in the public sector defined benefit superannuation scheme.



- **Pension Levy Deductions**

Pension related deductions of €18,632 were made from staff salaries and paid over to the Department for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Note 3. Travel and Subsistence Expenses		2009	2008
		€	€
Council	3(a)	33,111	43,521
Committees and Commissions		23,607	35,413
Office	3(a)	14,824	30,317
Ring Buoy Inspectors		22,403	24,932
International Travel		10,918	15,896
Other Travel		7,759	11,397
		<u>112,622</u>	<u>161,476</u>

Note

3a. Travel and Subsistence Expenses

The travel and subsistence expenses in 2009 include €16,470 received by the Chairman and €9,102 received by the Chief Executive. All amounts are calculated in accordance with relevant Department of Finance Travel & Subsistence Circulars.

Note 4. Promotion, Publicity and Printing Expenses		€	€
Advertising and Press Cuttings		33,672	46,543
Education Development Officer - Expenses		5,114	27,004
Seminars and Training Courses		20,722	69,248
Non Saleable Books and Manuals		64,127	78,186
Purchase of Saleable Items		35,567	31,501
Memberships		2,280	4,807
		<u>161,482</u>	<u>257,289</u>

Note 5. Special Projects

		€	€
Senior Surf and Pool Competition		4,216	2,956
Junior Surf and Pool Competition		4,018	3,474
Life Saving Competitions Abroad		9,173	27,683
Other Competitions		(485)	1,126
		<u>16,922</u>	<u>35,239</u>



• **Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2009**

Note 6. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Leasehold Interest €	Computer Equipment €	Other Office Equipment €	Promotional Equipment €	Art & Paintings €
Cost or Valuation					
Opening Balance 1 Jan 2009	260,458	44,364	51,186	36,828	64,150
Additions	-	11,308	5,511	-	-
Disposals	-	(4,962)	(2,299)	-	-
Closing Balance 31 Dec 2009	<u>260,458</u>	<u>50,710</u>	<u>54,398</u>	<u>36,828</u>	<u>64,150</u>
Depreciation					
Opening Balance 1 Jan 2009	111,586	39,563	45,000	7,366	-
Disposals	-	(4,962)	(2,299)	-	-
Charge For Year	<u>12,397</u>	<u>6,578</u>	<u>4,301</u>	<u>3,683</u>	<u>-</u>
Closing Balance 31 Dec 2009	<u>123,983</u>	<u>41,179</u>	<u>47,002</u>	<u>11,049</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Book Values					
At 31 December 2009	<u>136,475</u>	<u>9,531</u>	<u>7,396</u>	<u>25,779</u>	<u>64,150</u>
At 31 December 2008	<u>148,872</u>	<u>4,801</u>	<u>6,186</u>	<u>29,462</u>	<u>64,150</u>

Leasehold improvements pertain to fit out costs in the premises occupied by Irish Water Safety.

*Artworks donated to Irish Water Safety over a number of years are included above at valuation following an independent valuation carried out in May 2006.

Note		2009	2008
7. Debtors		€	€
Trade Debtors		19,065	6,604
Other Debtors		10,182	55,438
		<u>29,247</u>	<u>62,042</u>
Note 8. Creditors and Accruals		2009	2008
		€	€



Trade Creditors	6,354	9,135
Deferred Income	11,077	68,473
Accrued Expenses	33,403	27,547
	<u>50,834</u>	<u>105,155</u>

Note

9. Capital Account

	2009	2008
	€	€
Balance as at 1 January	253,471	272,457
Income Allocated for Capital Purposes	16,819	5,971
Funds Released on Disposal of Assets	-	-
Amortisation in Line with Depreciation	(26,959)	(24,957)
Transfer to Income & Expenditure Account	(10,140)	(18,986)
Balance as at 31 December	<u>243,331</u>	<u>253,471</u>

Note 10. Pension Costs

a. Analysis of Total Pension Costs Charged to Expenditure

	2009	2008
	€	€
Current Service Cost	60,000	60,000
Interest on Pension Scheme Liabilities	20,000	17,000
Employee Contributions	(15,474)	(15,114)
	<u>64,526</u>	<u>61,886</u>

b. Movement in Net Pension Liability During the Financial Year

	2009	2008
	€	€
Net Pension Liability at 1st January	370,000	310,000
Current Service Cost	60,000	60,000
Interest Cost	20,000	17,000
Actuarial Loss/(Gain)	90,000	(17,000)
Pensions Paid in Year	-	-
Net Pension Liability at 31st December	<u>540,000</u>	<u>370,000</u>



Note

10. Pension Costs (Continued)

c. Deferred Funding for Pensions

Irish Water Safety recognises these amounts as an asset corresponding to the unfunded deferred liability for pensions on the basis of the set of assumptions described above and a number of past events. These events include the statutory basis for the establishment of the superannuation scheme, and the policy and practice currently in place in relation to funding public service pensions including contributions by employees and the annual estimates process. Irish Water Safety has no evidence that this funding policy will not continue to meet such sums in accordance with current practice.

The Net Deferred Funding for Pensions recognised in Income and Expenditure Account was as follows:

	2009 €	2008 €
Funding Recoverable in Respect of Current Year Pension Costs	80,000	77,000
State Grant Applied to Pay Pensioners	-	-
	<u>80,000</u>	<u>77,000</u>

The deferred funding asset for pensions as at 31 December 2009 amounted to €540,000 (2008: €370,000).

d. History of defined benefit obligations

	2009 €	2008 €	2007 €	2006 €
Defined benefit obligations	540,000	370,000	310,000	260,000
Experience losses/(gains) on scheme liabilities amount	56,000	(17,000)	(12,000)	(7,000)
Percentage of the present value of the scheme liabilities	(10.4%)	(4.6%)	(3.9%)	(2.7%)

The cumulative actuarial loss recognised in the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses amounts to €85,000.

e. General description of the scheme

The pension scheme is a defined benefit final salary pension arrangement with benefits and contributions defined by reference to current "model" public sector scheme regulations. The scheme provides a pension (eightieths per year of service), a gratuity or lump sum (three eightieths per year of service) and spouse's and children's pensions. Normal Retirement Age is a member's 65th birthday, and pre 2004 members have an entitlement to retire without



actuarial reduction from age 60. Pensions in payment (and deferment) normally increase in line with general public sector salary inflation.

Note

10. Pension Costs (Continued)

The valuation used for FRS17 (Revised) disclosures has been based on a full actuarial valuation during February 2010 by a qualified independent actuary taking account of the requirements of the FRS in order to assess the scheme liabilities at 31 December 2009.

The principal actuarial assumptions were as follows

	2009	2008
Rate of increase in salaries	4.0%	4.0%
Rate of increase in pensions in payment	4.0%	4.0%
Discount rate	5.5%	5.5%
Inflation	2.0%	2.0%

Details of the mortality assumptions have not been given but it is intended to give them next year.

f. Average life expectancy used to determine liabilities

The average future life expectancy according to the mortality tables used to determine the pension liabilities were as follows:

	2009	2008
Male – aged 65	22	18
Female – aged 65	25	22

Note

11. Lease Commitments

As at 31 December 2008, Irish Water Safety has annual commitments in respect of an operating lease for the premises it occupies at Long Walk, Galway, under a lease for 21 years, which commenced in July 2000. The current rental is €41,722 per annum. The lease has break options after ten and fifteen years.

Note

12. Council Members Interests

The Council adopted procedures in accordance with guidelines issued by the Department of Finance in relation to the disclosure of Interests by Board Members and those procedures have been adhered to in the year. There are no transactions in the year in relation to Irish Water Safety's activities in which Council members had any beneficial interest.

Note

13. EU Late Payments Regulations



The regulation imposes a legal requirement on bodies to make interest payments in respect of invoices that are paid in excess of 30 days after receipt. Irish Water Safety has a system in place to identify overdue invoices and to calculate and pay the interest due as part of the invoice payments. No interest payments were made under the terms of the regulations in 2009 or 2008.

Note

14. Approval of Financial Statements

The financial statements were approved by the Council on 4th November 2010.

**Irish Water Safety is committed to providing a Quality Customer Service to the public
and to ensuring that both internal efficiencies are achieved
and customer's expectations are assessed and needs are met.**



LIFE GOVERNORS OF IRISH WATER SAFETY

No.	Year	Name
1.	1995	Mr Brendan Howlin T.D., Minister of the Environment
2.	1995	Mr Joseph Ainsworth, Chairman- National Safety Council
3.	1997	Mr Blaise Treacy, County Manager - Co. Wicklow.
4.	1997	Mr Noel Dillon, County Manager - Co. Cork
5.	1998	Mr Kevin Weldon, Founding President ILS
6.	1999	Mr Robert Molloy T.D., Founding Member IWS 1971
7.	1999	Mr Donal Connolly, County Manager - Co. Waterford
8.	2000	Dr Klaus Wilkens, President - ILS Europe & DLRG
9.	2000	Mr. Cartan Finegan, Chairman – National Safety Council
10.	2000	Mr Des Howett, Water Safety Supervisor – NSC
11.	2000	Ms Maureen Kenny, Loyal & Dedicated Supporter – IWS
12.	2000	Mr John Parker, Loyal & Dedicated Supporter – IWS
13.	2001	Mr Noel O'Beara, 50 Years Voluntary Service – IWS
14.	2001	Mr Paddy Phipps, 50 Years Voluntary Service – IWS
15.	2001	Mr Michael Somers, 50 Years Voluntary Service – IWS
16.	2001	Mr Nicholas Corish, Loyal & Dedicated Supporter – IWS
17.	2002	Mr Donal O'Sullivan, Loyal & Dedicated Supporter – IWS
18.	2002	Mr Noel Dempsey, T.D. Minister of the Environment
19.	2003	Mr John Cowman, Loyal & Dedicated Supporter, IWS
20.	2003	Mr Sean Hennessy, 50 Years Voluntary Service – IWS
21.	2003	Mr Pat Alyward, Loyal & Dedicated Supporter, IWS
22.	2003	Mr Eamon Doherty, Garda Commissioner Retired
23.	2004	Mr Michael Dalton, Loyal & Dedicated Supporter, IWS
24.	2004	Mr Pat Costello CEO, National Safety Council
25.	2004	Ms Eileen Maloney, Founding Member Irish Red Cross
26.	2004	Dr Nenad Javornik, Chief Executive -Croatia Red Cross
27.	2004	Mr Clayton Love Jnr, Deputy Chairman RNLI
28.	2004	Mr James McGoldrick, 50 Years Voluntary Service - IWS
29.	2004	Mr Seamus Finnan, 50 Years Voluntary Service – IWS
30.	2004	Mr Dave Kenneally, 50 Years Voluntary Service – IWS
31.	2005	Mr Martin Cullen T.D., Minister of the Environment
32.	2005	Mr Frank Nolan, Chairman- Irish Water Safety
33.	2005	Captain Liam Kirwan, Director - Irish Coast Guard
34.	2005	Dr Anthony Handley, Hon. Medical Officer – IWS
35.	2005	Mr Philip O'Neill, Loyal & Dedicated Supporter, IWS
36.	2005	Ms Valentine Kelly, Loyal & Dedicated Supporter, IWS
37.	2006	Mr Dermot Walsh, Loyal & Dedicated Supporter, IWS
38.	2007	Mr Michael Vlasto, Director Operations - RNLI
39.	2007	Mr Roger Millward, Chief Executive - STA, UK
40.	2007	Mr Ron Rankin, President - Surf Life Saving Australia
41.	2007	Mr Jack Mason, 50 Years Voluntary Service - IWS
42.	2007	Mr Dick Roche T.D., Minister of the Environment
43.	2007	Mr Aidan Byrne, 50 Years Voluntary Service – IWS
44.	2008	Mr Tony Killeen T.D., Minister of State at Environment
45.	2008	Commodore Frank Lynch, Flag Officer - Irish Naval Service
46.	2008	Mr Jack Barry, 50 Years Voluntary Service – IWS
48.	2009	Dr Che To Yeung (Patrick), Hong Kong Lifesaving



Drowning Statistics

Irish Water Safety conducts an analysis of drowning statistics to provide it's Council with data on which to base drowning prevention efforts.

Tragically, in 2009, there were 145 drownings in Ireland. *
(*Preliminary and subject to revision).

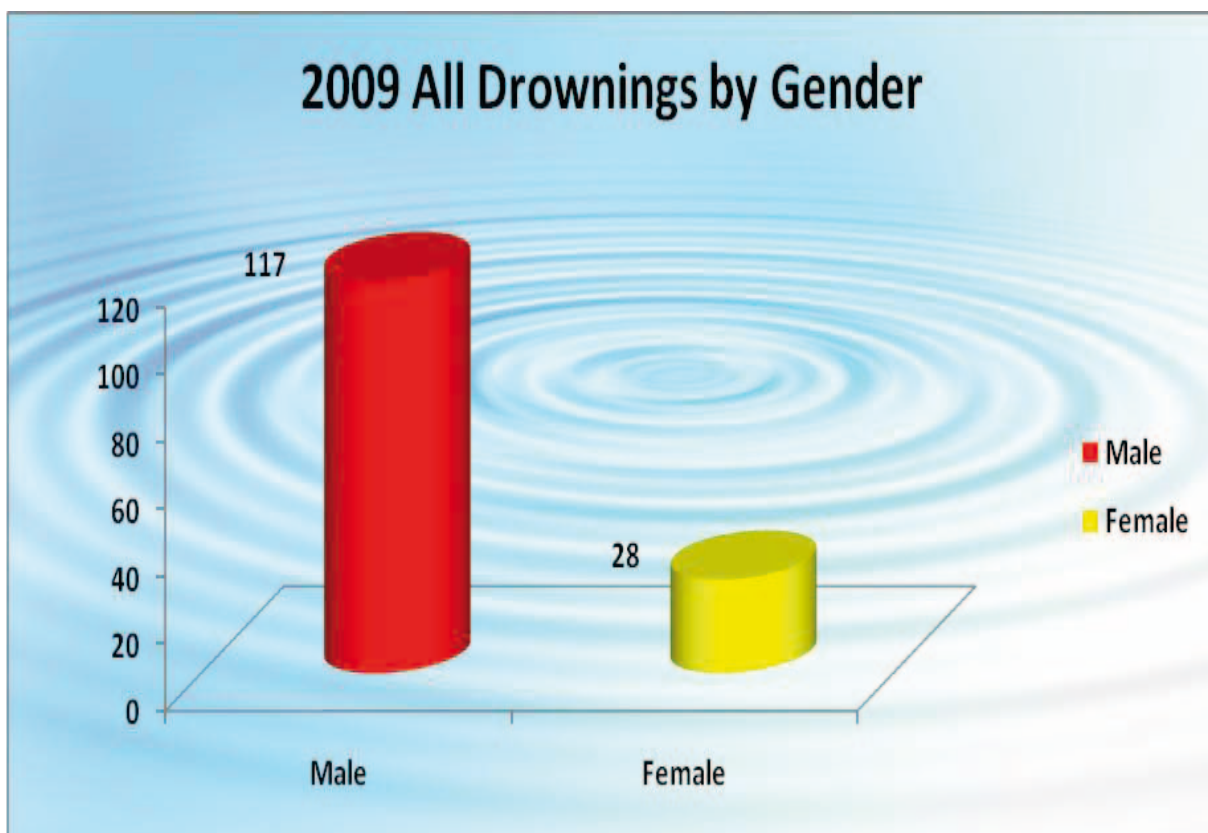
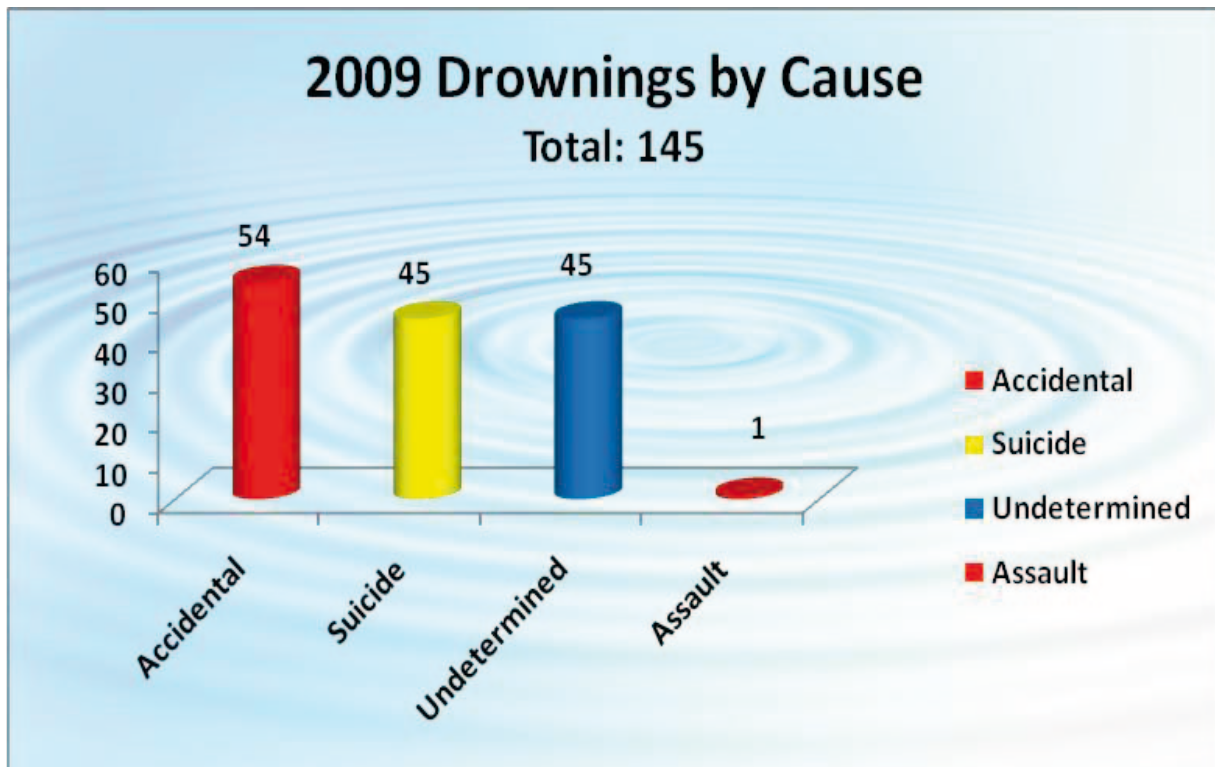
A synopsis of some general contributory factors over the years

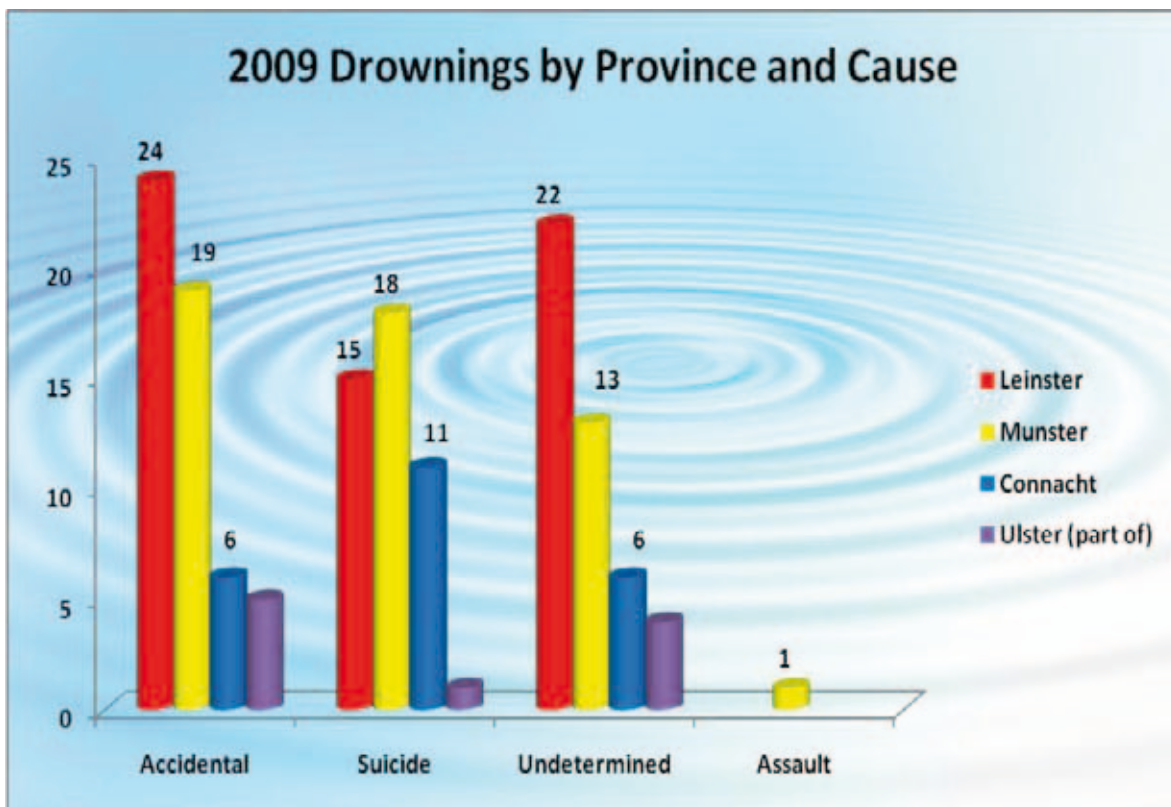
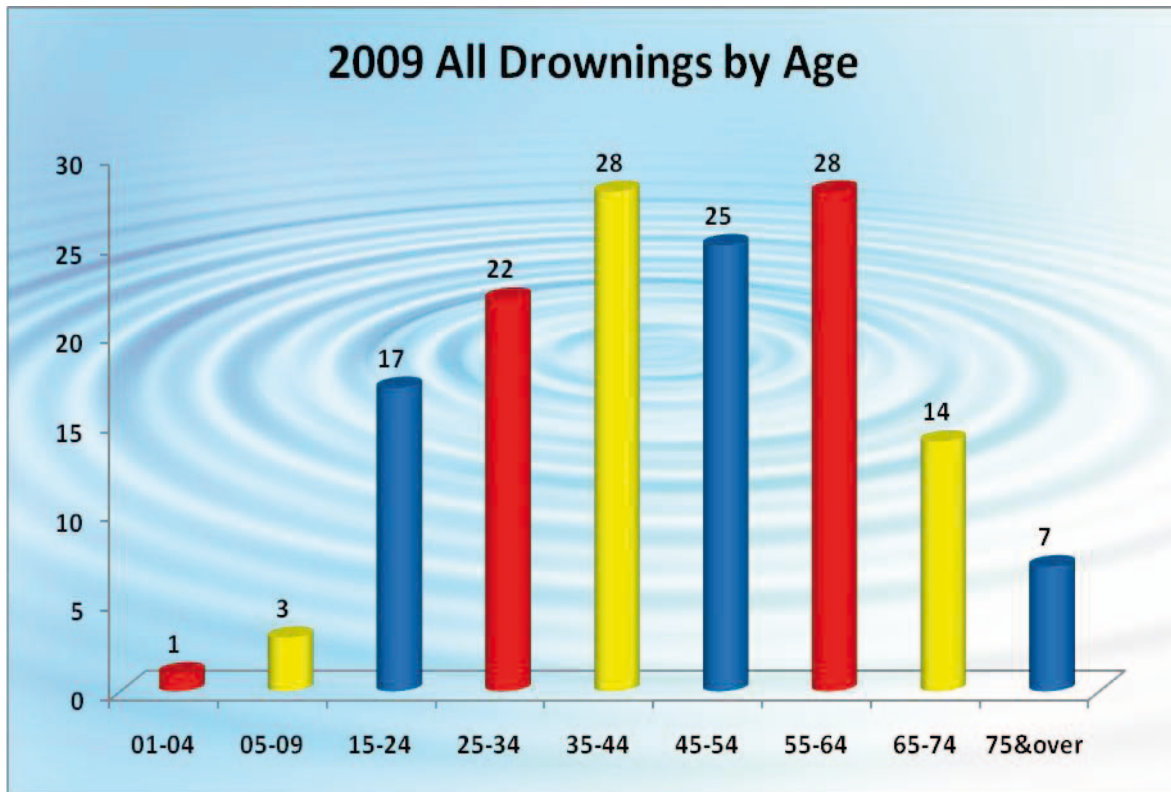
1. Poor or inadequate equipment (e.g. boats or lifejackets);
2. Alcohol consumption;
3. Falling unexpectedly into water ;
4. Improper use of boats and equipment;
5. Overestimation of skills;
6. Lack of local knowledge when travelling in Ireland and abroad;
7. Not being able to swim;
8. Easy unauthorized access to waterways;
9. Cold;
10. Current (including rip currents, river currents, and tidal currents);
11. Offshore winds (including flotation devices);
12. Pre-existing diseases (e.g. heart attacks);
13. Underwater entanglement;
14. Bottom surface gradient and stability;
15. Waves (coastal, boat);
16. Water transparency;
17. Impeded visibility (including coastal configuration, structures and overcrowding);
18. Lack of parental supervision (infants and children);
19. Change in weather conditions;
20. Excessive 'horseplay' or over exuberant behavior (including "tombstoning" from cliffs);
21. Swimming outside the depth of the user.

A synopsis of some general preventive and management actions

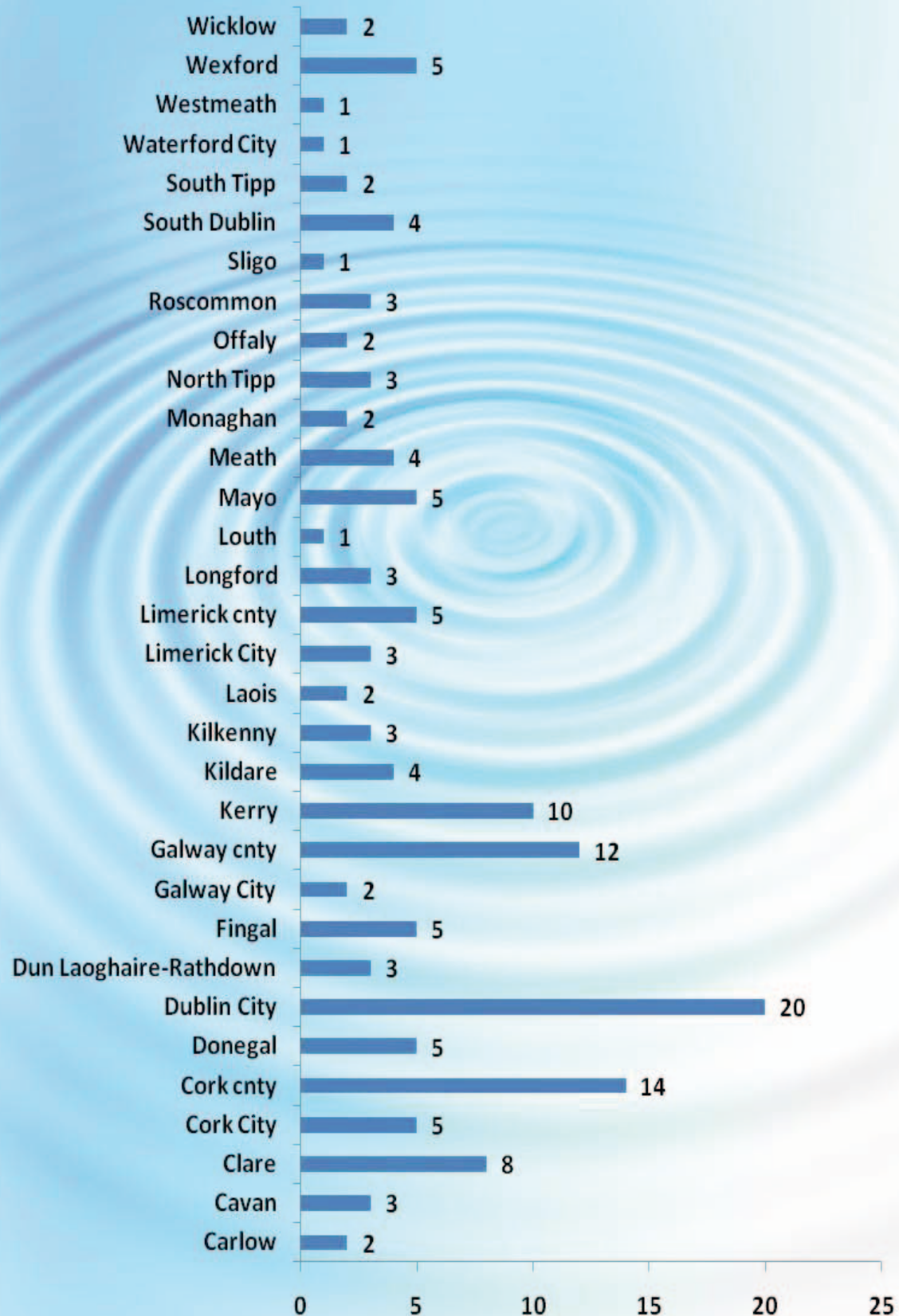
1. Public education by Irish Water Safety regarding hazards and safe behaviours;
2. Teaching children to stay away from water when unsupervised through the IWS PAWS (Primary Aquatics Water Safety) programme;
3. Continual adult supervision of children;
4. IWS media campaigns that drowning can happen quickly and quietly;
5. Promote in IWS press announcements, the restriction of alcohol provision before or during aquatic activities;
6. Provision by Irish Water Safety of properly trained and equipped lifeguards;
7. Provision of rescue services;
8. Irish Water Safety Risk Assessments that include assessments of local hazard warning notices, access to emergency response and availability of resuscitation skills/facilities and other factors;
9. Development by Irish Water Safety of rescue and resuscitation skills among general public and user groups;
10. Coordination by Irish Water Safety with user group associations concerning hazard awareness and safe behaviours;
11. Wearing of adequate lifejackets and Personal Flotation Devices when boating;
12. Fencing and doors to isolate outdoor pools and other water features.

Total Drownings 2009: 145
Total Drownings 2008: 158
Total Drownings 2007: 156

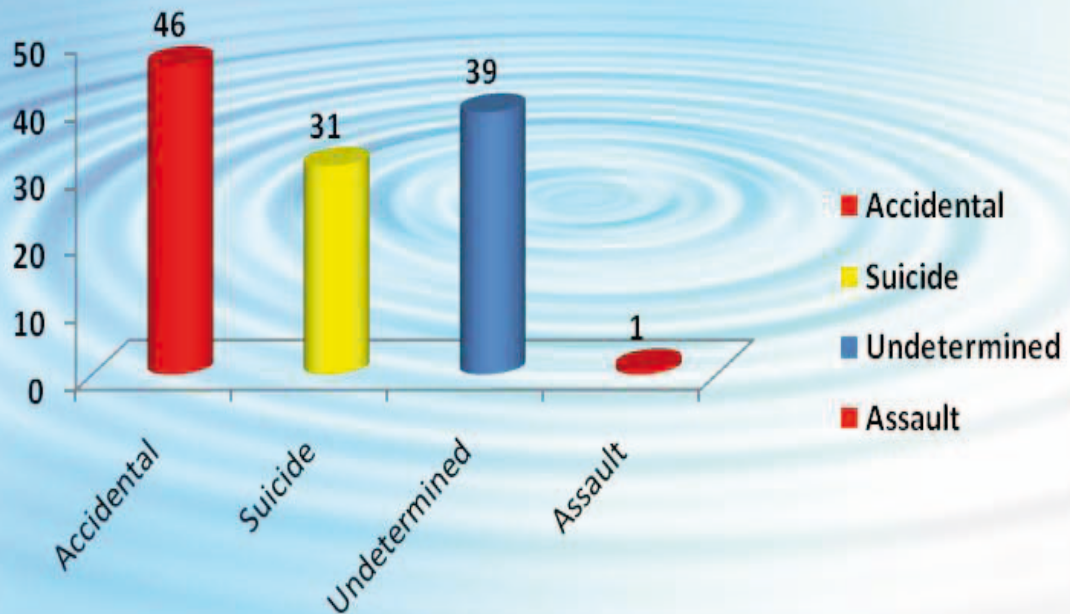




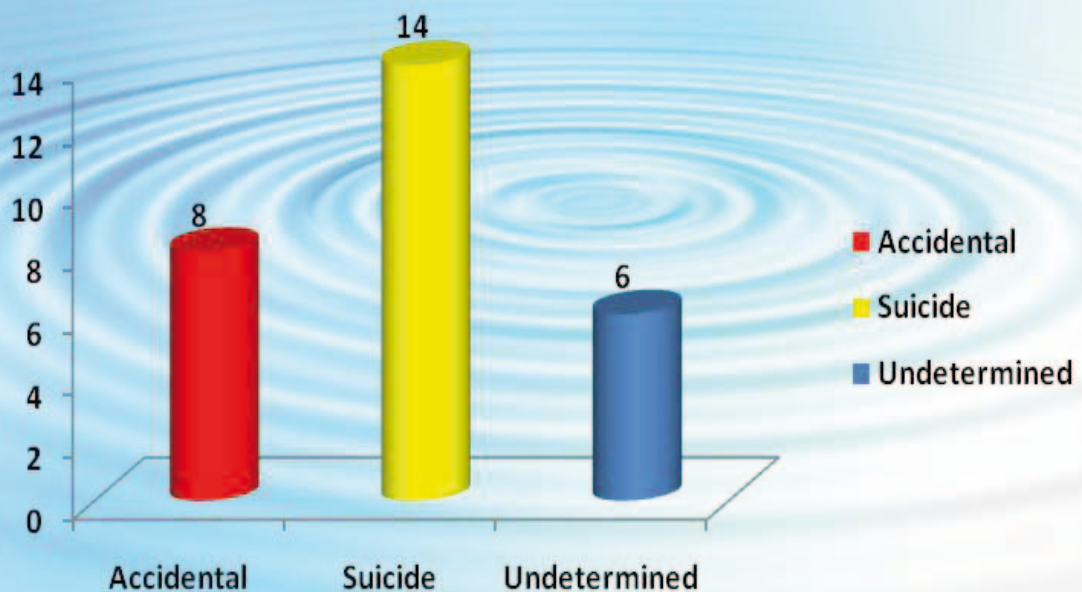
2009 All Drownings by County



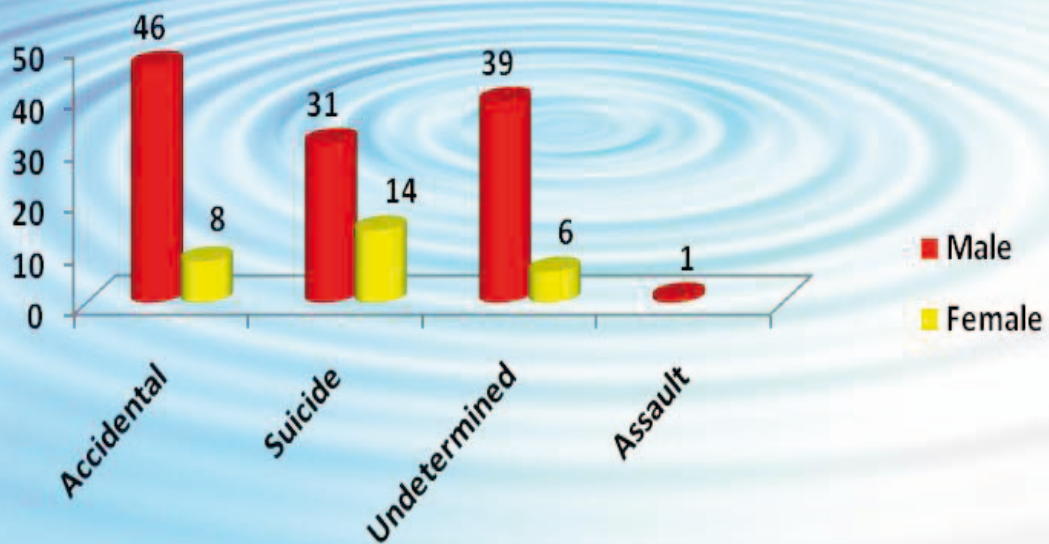
2009 Male Drownings by Cause



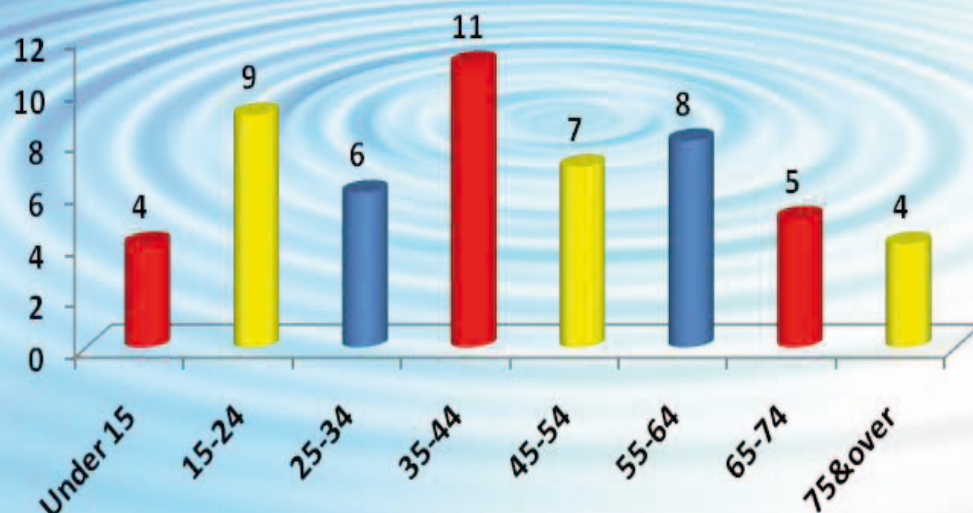
2009 Female Drownings by Cause



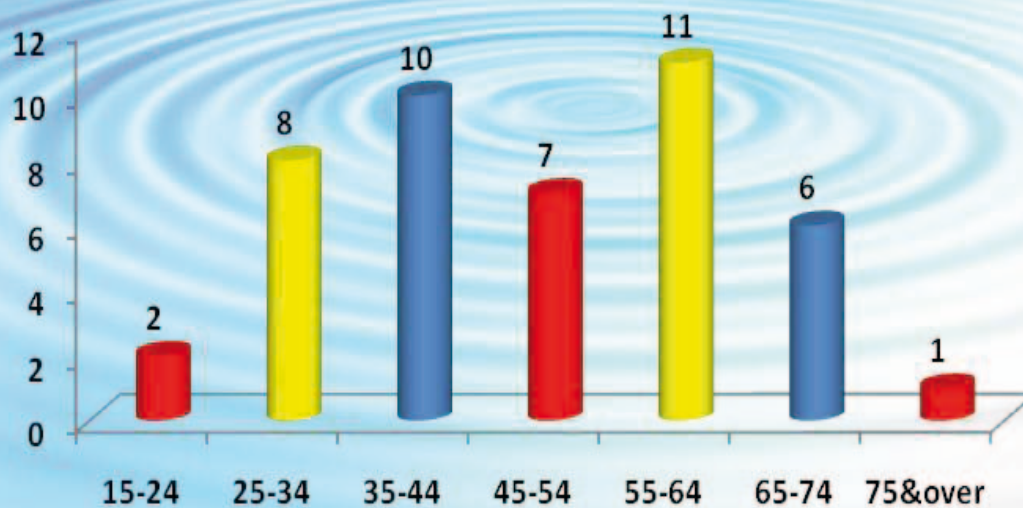
2009 Drownings by Gender and Cause



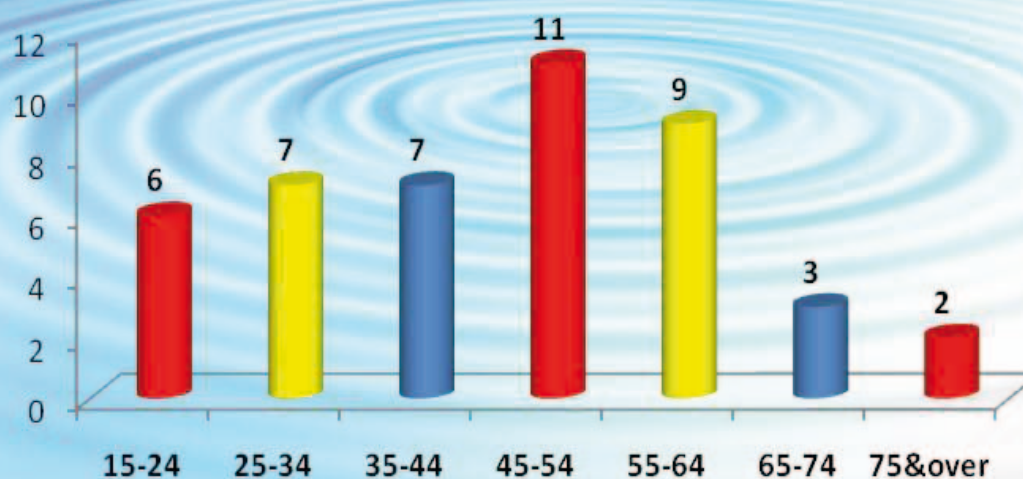
2009 Accidental Drownings by Age Total: 54



2009 Suicide Drownings by Age Total: 45

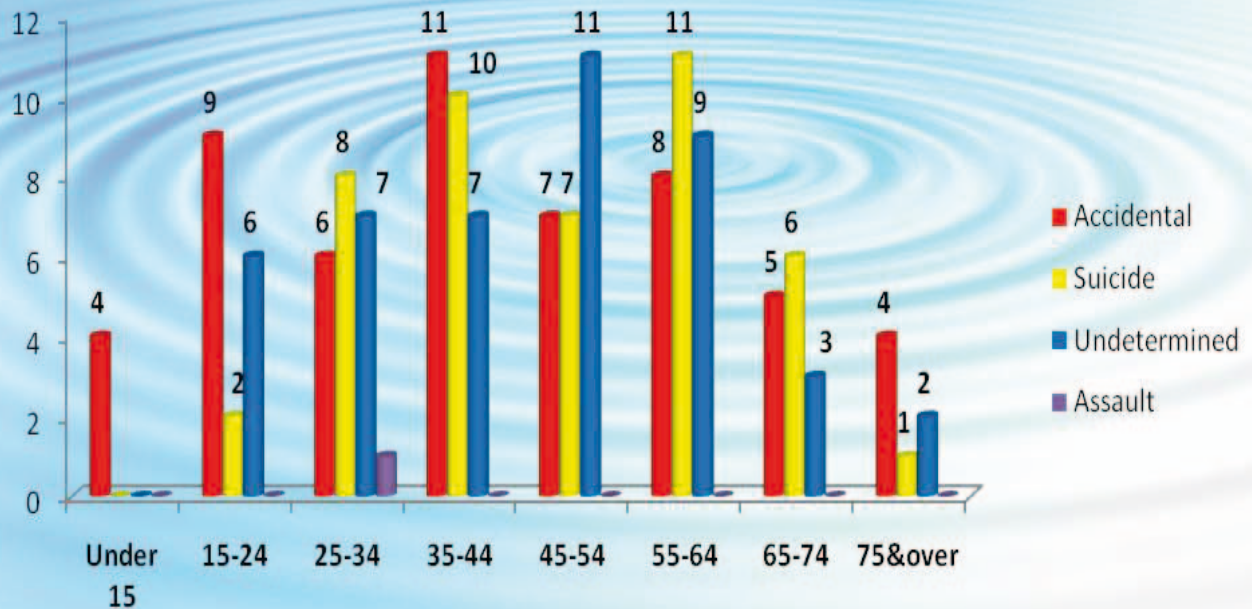


2009 Undetermined Drownings by Age (Total: 45)



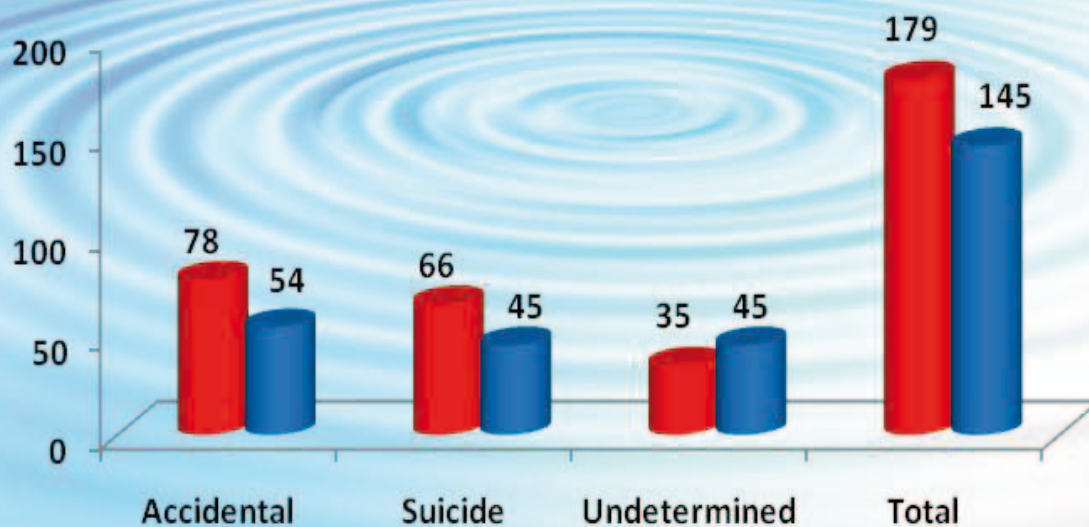
2009 Drownings by Age and Cause

Total: 145

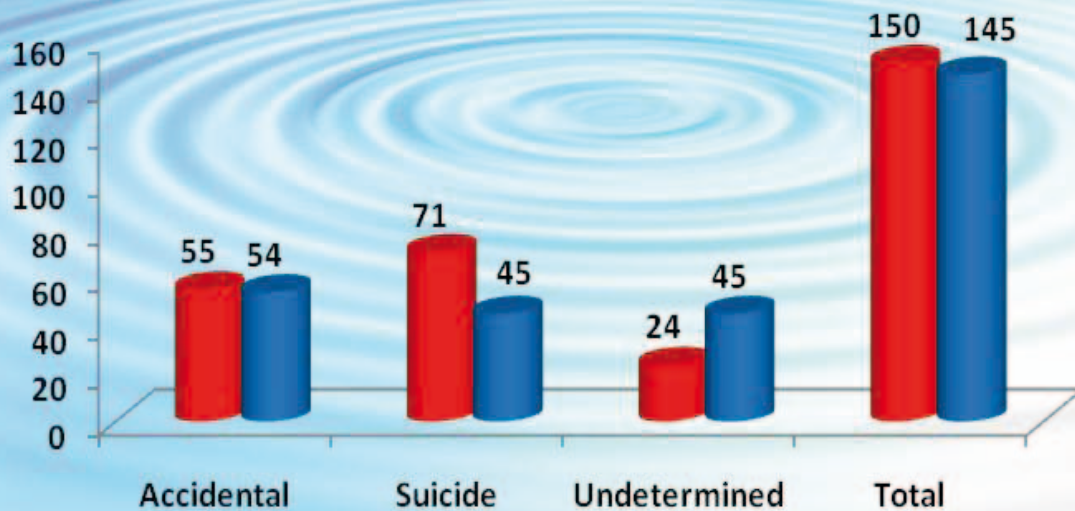


Average Drownings Per Annum

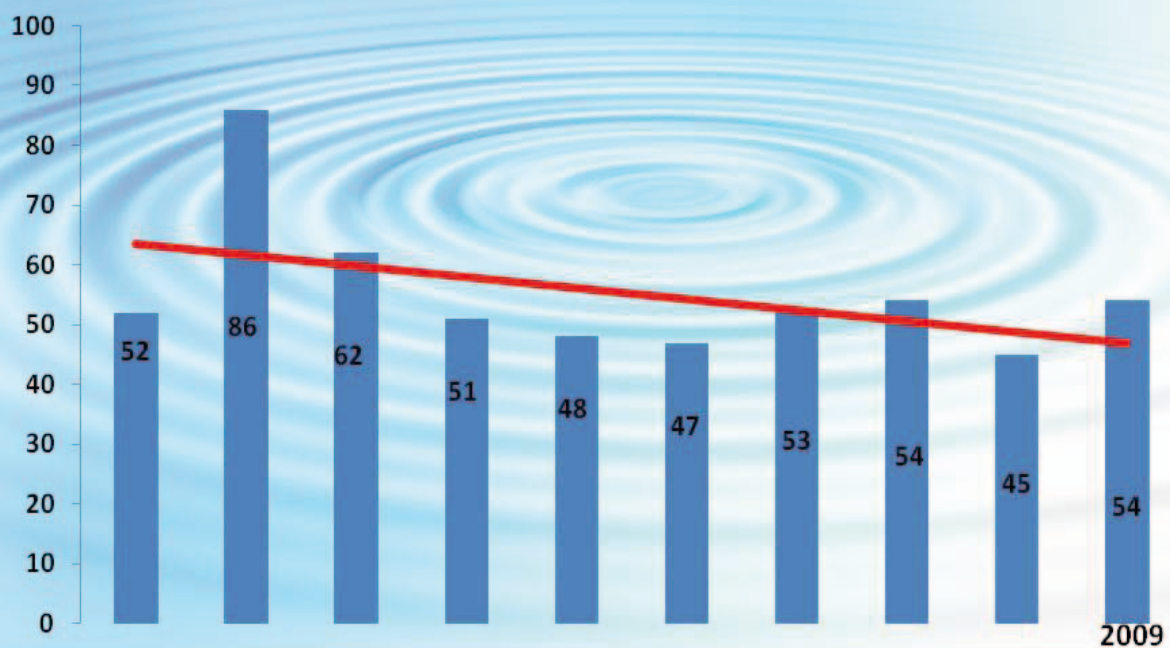
1968 - 2009 vs 2009

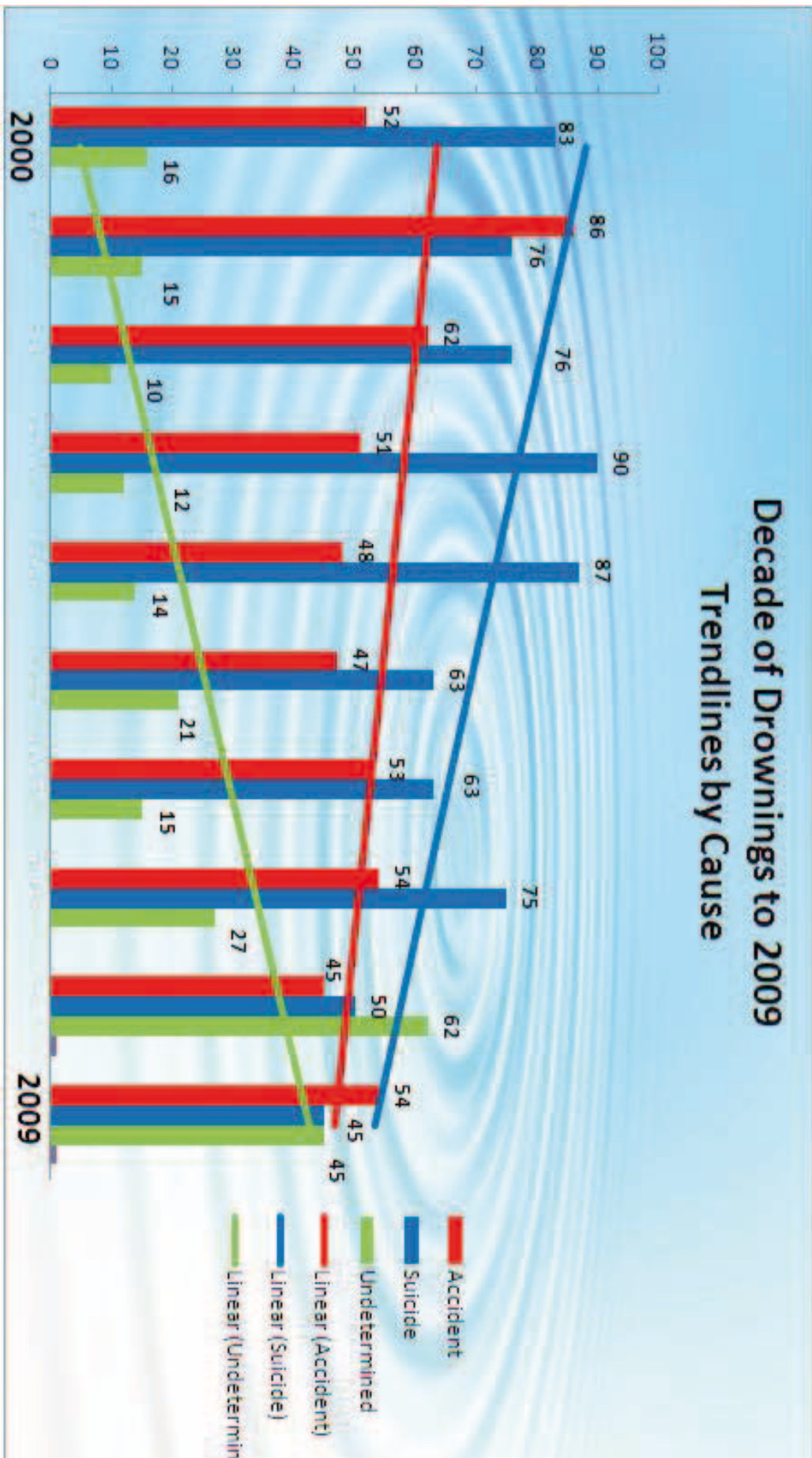


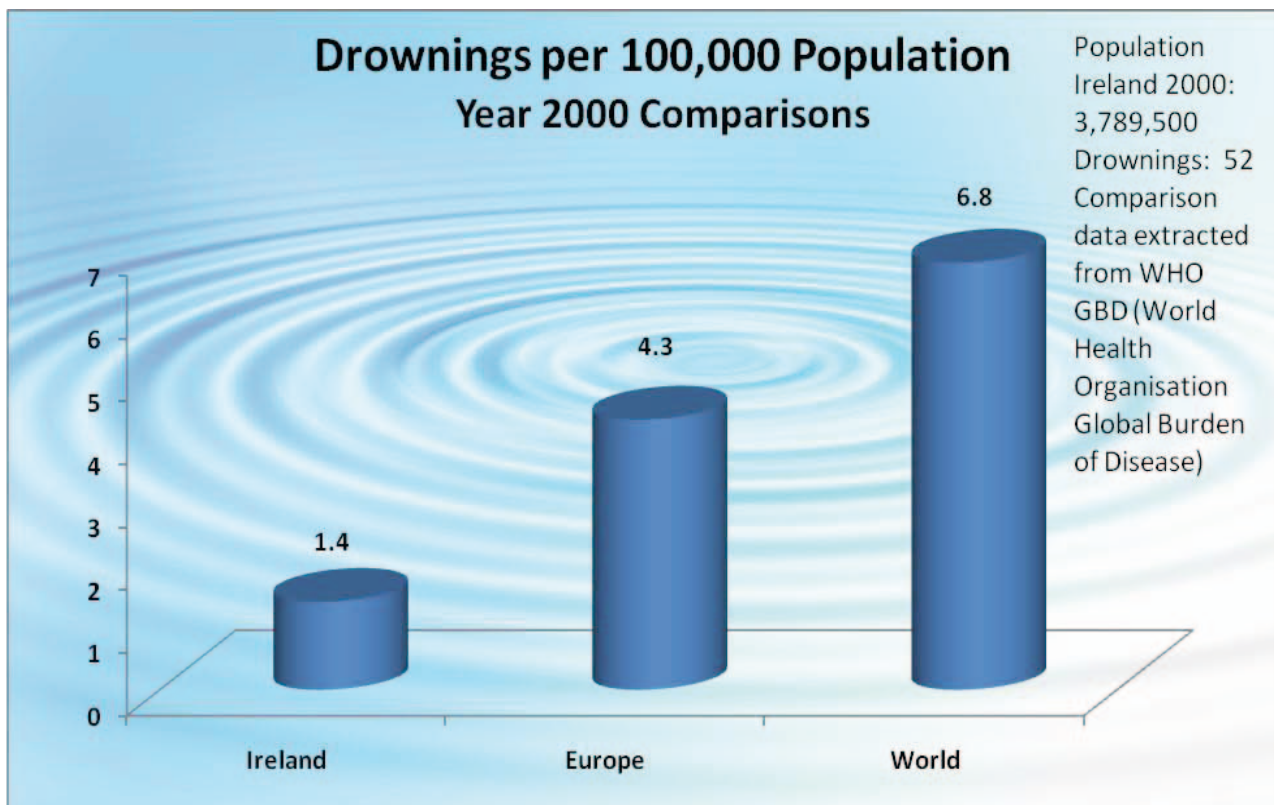
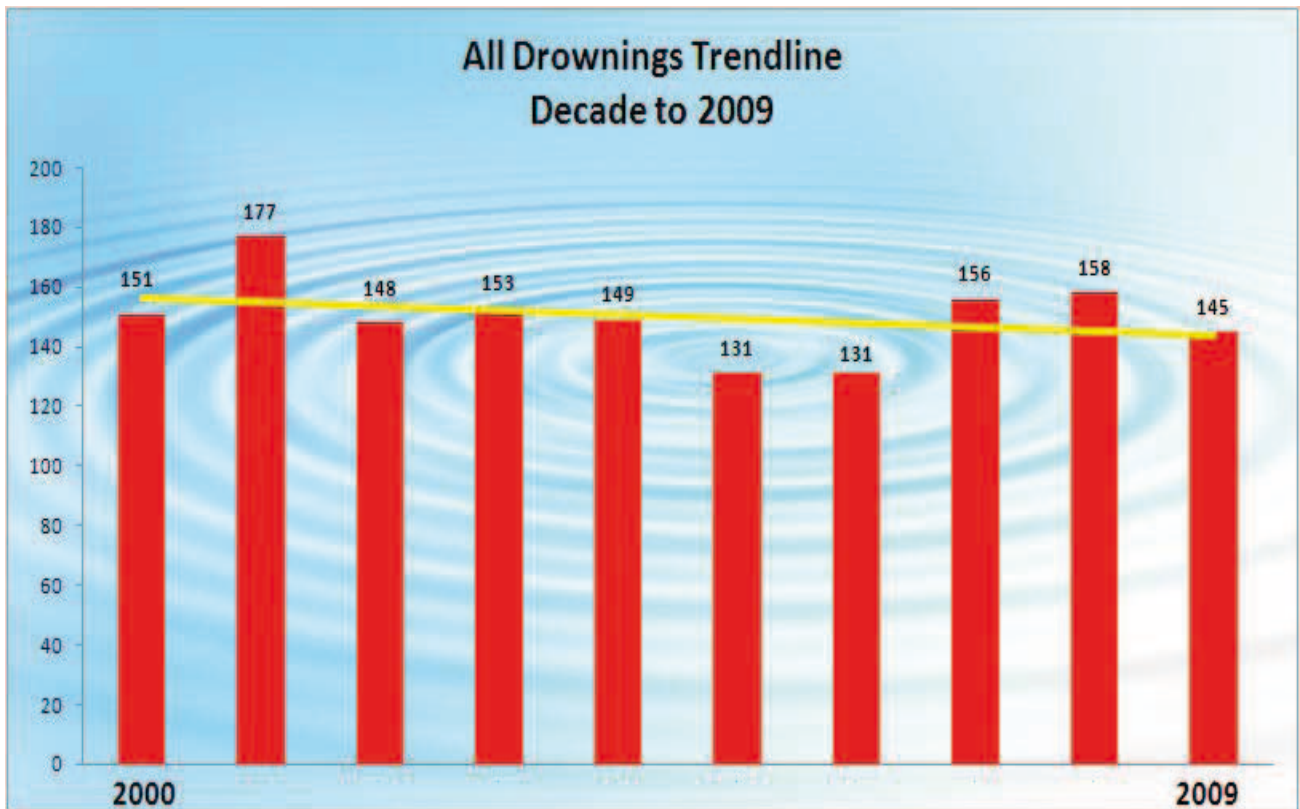
Average Drownings Per Annum Decade vs 2009

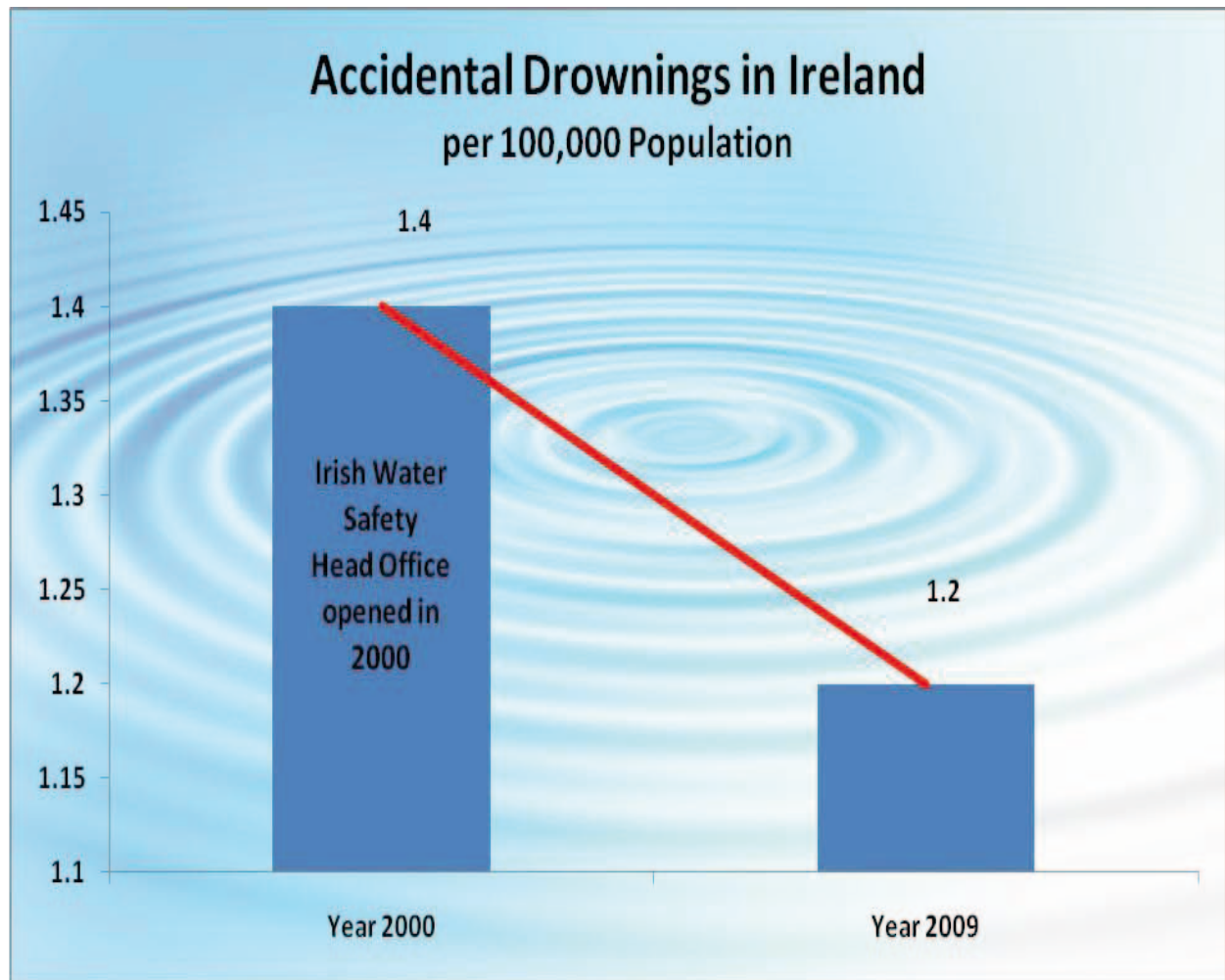


Drowning Accidents Trendline Decade to 2009









WHEN CONSIDERING THE ABOVE GRAPHICAL ANALYSIS, IT IS IMPORTANT TO TAKE NOTE OF THE DRAMATIC INCREASE IN RECENT YEARS OF THE NUMBER OF DROWNINGS IN WHICH THE CAUSE (ACCIDENT / SUICIDE / ASSAULT) REMAINS UNDETERMINED.



A pictorial reflection on 2009...



People and vehicles compete for space at a packed National Lifesaving Championships, Rossnowlagh Beach, Donegal.



Surf Instructor Beach Safety Award recipient Gerard Byrne being congratulated by Mr. Michael Finneran TD and accompanied by Brian MacCartaigh, Chairman, Irish Surfing Association and Frank Nolan, Chairman IWS.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD makes a presentation to Sonny Condon to mark his 40 Years as an IWS Volunteer in Waterford.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD makes a presentation to Aine Stafford to mark her 15 Years as an IWS Volunteer in Wexford.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD congratulates Clare based IWS trained Lifesaver Norma Cahill on setting new world records in competitive Lifesaving. Also pictured are Council members Jim Lawlor and Martina Moloney.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD presents an IWS Community Award to the members of Bundoran Neighbourhood Youth Project for promoting water safety.



Ready for the starting whistle at the National Lifesaving Championships, Rossnowlagh Beach, Donegal.



Competitors jostle for a good start at the National Lifesaving Championships, Rossnowlagh Beach, Donegal.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD makes a presentation to Richard McLoughlin to mark his 40 Years as an IWS Volunteer in Cork.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD makes a presentation to Angela Wynne to mark her 40 Years as an IWS Volunteer in Wicklow.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD acknowledges IWS Chairman Frank Nolan's concern that vandalised ringbuoys could have tragic consequences. "A stolen ringbuoy – a stolen life".



Mr. Michael Finneran TD is joined by His Excellency Ambassador of Latvia to Ireland Mr. Peteris Elferts to present Mr. Daniel Ivers and Mr. Alimzhan Nabiulim with a SEIKO Just In Time Rescue Award at an IWS Ceremony in Dublin Castle.



Marking the launch of the IWS Annual Report following an IWS Council meeting were L-R Council Members Dave Corcoran, John Considine; Michael "Buddy" Cuddihy; Breda Collins; Michael Murphy; Martin O'Sullivan; Anne Ryan; Frank Nolan (Chairman); Mr. Michael Finneran TD; Brian Farrell; Jim Lawlor.



Thousands of children learn vital water survival skills every year.



Children from Kildare water safety classes join local dignitaries and Mr. Finneran TD in acknowledging the work of Kildare Water Safety Volunteer Tom McGuinness, designer of www.ringbuoys.ie.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD (2nd Left) presented the IWS Annual Charles Thomson to Cookstown Co Council, as the Local Authority that contributed most towards the promotion of water safety in Ireland. Receiving the Award on behalf of Cookstown Council were Sean Cavlin, Mayor Tony Quinn, Liam Glavin, Caroline Crooks and Ray Hall.



IWS joined the Irish Surfing Association to train Instructor to rescue and carry out first aid on our beaches.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD presents Alice Wenmeare of the EPA for promoting safe Lifeguarded beaches.



The four storey building housing the IWS Head Office at the Spanish Arch where the river Corrib meets Galway Bay.



Irish Water Safety Lifeguards of the future. The IWS primary school program PAWS encourages children to develop lifesaving skills.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD presents Carlow County Council's Dan McDonnell as County runners up in the Charles Thomson Award.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD with IWS Chairman Mr. Frank Nolan to launch the CD version of the IWS Annual Report.



Children aged 8 to 14 will use equipment sponsored by Bank of Scotland, to learn rescue skills to become Lifeguards and equip them with the skills to save lives. Derek Treacy (Bank of Scotland), Frank Nolan Chairman IWS, Rhona O'Connor (Bank of Scotland), and Jim Lawlor Chairman Sports Commission IWS.



His Excellency Ambassador of Latvia to Ireland Peteris Elferts and Minister of State at The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government Mr. Michael Finneran TD present Thomas Thompson and Peter Bradbury from Galway with a Seiko 'Just In Time' Rescue Award at the IWS Awards Ceremony in Dublin Castle.



Emily Luff with her sister Isabelle. Emily received a Seiko 'Just in Time' Certificate of Courage at Irish Water Safety's Awards Ceremony, for rescuing Isabelle when they got caught in a rip current which pulled them both out to sea at Spanish Point Co Clare.



His Excellency Ambassador of Latvia to Ireland Peteris Elferts and Minister of State at The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government Mr. Michael Finneran TD present Mark Flynn and Norman Cleary with a Seiko 'Just In Time' Rescue Award at the IWS Awards Ceremony in Dublin Castle.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD presented Mrs Kathleen Richey from Cavan WSAC with the Irish Water Safety Award for Volunteer of the Year 2009.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD congratulates Kildare Water Safety's Paul McGuinness for designing www.ringbuoys.ie. Joined on left by IWS CEO John Leech and Leo Mahon Kildare WSAC.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD makes a presentation to Kathleen O'Halon to mark her 40 Years as an IWS Volunteer in Monaghan.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD makes a presentation to Marie Farrell to mark her 20 Years as an IWS Volunteer in Wicklow.



All smiles at the presentation of the Surf Instructor Beach Safety Award, a new partnership between Irish Water Safety and the Irish Surfing Association.



Minister Finneran makes presentations to Johnny and Dolores O'Sullivan, marking their involvement and contribution to water safety in Waterford.



Minister Michael Finneran joins IWS Chairman Frank Nolan (centre left) with supporters and recipients of the newly launched Surf instructor Beach Safety Award.



At the ready. Lifeguards (L-R) Cassandra Wright, Maur Cawley and Laura Tighe patrol Enniscrone Beach, Co Sligo.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD makes a presentation to John Martin to mark his 20 Years as an IWS Volunteer in Longford.



Mr. Michael Finneran TD presents Colm Quish from Limerick with the SEIKO Just In Time Rescue Award accompanied, left, by His Excellency Ambassador of Latvia to Ireland Peteris Elferts.




Notes:



Notes:



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