

RESCUE OF THE MONTH.

SURF LIFE SAVING
NEW SOUTH WALES



JULY 2024

Club/Service: ALS Town Beach Port Macquarie

Lifesavers and Lifeguards involved: Nicholas Rickwood, Mitchel Atherton, James Turnham

Just before 5pm on Tuesday 2 July, Nicholas Rickwood and Mitchel Atherton of the Australian Lifeguard Service were packing down the flags at Town Beach in Port Macquarie when a teenage girl in distress approached the pair and alerted them to an unfolding situation to the northern end of the beach.

Taking an ATV to the headland, the pair split up with Mitchel paddling out into the water and Nicholas finding higher ground to get a visual sight of the incident. Upon arrival, it was clear that four people, separated into two groups of two, were struggling to stay afloat in the water.

From his position on the headland, Nicholas tasked a surfer in the area to swim out to one of the pairs while Mitchel paddled to the second pair, assisting them back to shore. One of the swimmers, a teenage girl, was in a semi-conscious state and Mitchel stayed to treat her with first aid while Nicholas took the rescue board back out to the remaining swimmers.

With the assistance of the surfer, Nicholas brought the pair back to shore where paramedics took over the care of both the teenage girl and a teenage boy from the second group, who had also fallen into a semi-conscious state.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joel Wiseman'.

Joel Wiseman
Director of Lifesaving
Surf Life Saving NSW

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Agnew'.

Peter Agnew
President
Surf Life Saving NSW