

RESCUE OF THE MONTH.

SURF LIFE SAVING
NEW SOUTH WALES



MAY 2024

Club: Elouera SLSC

Lifesavers and Lifeguards involved: Stephen Bryen

At around 3pm on Monday 6 May, Elouera SLSC member, Stephen Bryen was on board a flight from Honolulu to Sydney when a medical emergency began to take place.

Stephen observed flight attendants and crew converging near the exit row further up the plane, and as both a qualified medical professional and a volunteer lifesaver, engaged with the staff to see if he could provide any assistance.

A male passenger had deteriorated rapidly on the flight and Stephen checked his vital signs to find he had a weak pulse and was not breathing. He immediately commenced CPR and requested a defibrillator and a first aid kit.

With assistance from an American ED nurse and an Australian psychiatric nurse, Stephen maintained a regular rhythm for CPR and delivered oxygen therapy before attaching the defibrillator pads and delivering a shock.

A canula was also later fitted by the American ED nurse with a total of eight intravenous adrenaline injections administered – twice by Stephen.

Between the three of them, CPR was administered for more than 60 minutes before the flight – diverted at this stage to the nearest airport at Noumea – landed and emergency services boarded the plane to take over.

CPR continued for another 20 minutes and when the patient was removed from the aircraft he had a stronger pulse.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads 'Joel Wiseman'.

Joel Wiseman
Director of Lifesaving
Surf Life Saving NSW

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads 'Peter Agnew'.

Peter Agnew
President
Surf Life Saving NSW