

# RESCUE OF THE MONTH

January 2011

South Curl Curl SLSC



**Lifesaver Involved:** Scott Taylor

On the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2011 at 6.15pm, a body boarder was observed in trouble 50 metres south of the South Curl Curl rock pool. There was a 5-6 foot swell coming from the north-east breaking across a shallow sand bank which resulted in a very strong southerly current making swimming back to the beach impossible.

Upon noticing the person in distress, Scott Taylor seized a rescue board and made his way out through the heavy surf. The body boarder was having difficulty making it out through the break and there was a strong possibility that the body boarder would be washed up on the rocks. Scott was able to reach the body boarder as he made it clear of the break. Scott directed the body boarder to paddle 250 metres north so that they could safely make their way back to shore.

Scott decided that there was a significant risk of the body boarder being swept back around the cliff face if he didn't help him back to shore. Scott instructed the body boarder to lie on the front of the rescue board so that he could paddle them both back to shore while attempting to negotiate the break zone between sets.

As Scott and the body boarder negotiated the break a large 6 foot wave broke across Scott's back and submerged the board. Scott was able to keep both the board straight and secure the patient and a short time later reach the shore safely.

Scott's brave actions on this day helped prevent a likely tragedy from occurring

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Gordon Lang  
President

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Steve Faddy  
Director of Lifesaving