

# MAKING WAVES

## Swimming pools responsible for 70% of drowning deaths in under-fives

The Royal Life Saving National Drowning Report 2014 shows a "moderate but promising" 10% improvement on the 2013 report. Between 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2014, 266 people drowned in Australian waterways - the lowest number of drowning deaths recorded in the past 12 years.

Of the 266 incidents of drowning in 2013/14, 39% of these occurred in inland waterways. However, swimming pools still continue to pose the biggest risk for children under five, accounting for 70% of all drowning deaths in this age group in 2013/14.

Despite a spike in 2012/13, there has been a reduction in the number of drowning deaths among children under five, the report shows. Twenty children under the age of five died from drowning in 2013/14 - the lowest number on record since 1995.

While inland waterways claimed the most lives in 2013/14, swimming pools overtook beaches as the location with the second-highest number of drowning deaths. In 2013/14, 39 people drowned in swimming pools, while 34 drowned at Australian beaches. Swimming pools were involved in 15% of all drowning deaths.

Interestingly, Sunday was identified as the day most likely for a drowning incident to occur. A quarter of all drowning deaths took place on a Sunday - 67 deaths in total.

To download the full Royal Life Saving National Drowning Report 2014, click [here](#).



## Executive of the Year finalist



Blue Haven Pools Managing Director Remonda Martinez has been named as a finalist in the 2014 CEO Magazine Executive of the Year Awards. Martinez is the only female finalist in the Construction Executive of the Year category.

Martinez is the daughter of industry stalwart Ray Awadallah, who started the Blue Haven Pools business in the 1970s.

"Swimming pools are definitely in my blood - I started working for my dad at Blue Haven Pools when I was 14 and learned the ropes at a very young age," Martinez said.

In 2011, Martinez took over Blue Haven Pools as managing director. Aiming to return Blue Haven Pools to its origins as a family owned and operated business, Martinez bought out all Blue Haven Pools franchises.

The winners of the Executive of the Year Awards will be announced on 27 November 2014.

## Pool Ranger and Waterco to distribute MineralChlor

Pool Ranger and Waterco have announced a distribution agreement that will see both companies distribute the MineralChlor chlorinator from Australian Innovative Systems (AIS).

According to Pool Ranger Managing Director Michael Griffin, the deal is a "great fit" as Pool Ranger and Waterco together will give MineralChlor great market coverage.

"We are excited to distribute a groundbreaking product such as MineralChlor," said Waterco Managing Director Bryan Goh. "We were impressed by its ability to generate chlorine with a TDS of just 2500."

Mineral pools are gaining popularity as demand increases for an alternative to traditional saltwater chlorination - and, in particular, chlorinators that run on lower total dissolved solids (TDS). MineralChlor works effectively with magnesium, potassium and/or calcium chlorides as well as being compatible with traditional sodium chloride pools.

The system can also reportedly save up to 25% in electrical consumption when compared with similar systems, as well as decreasing wear and tear on pool filters, pumps and the pool surround as a whole.

To enquire about MineralChlor through Waterco, call 02 9898 8686 or email [administration@waterco.com](mailto:administration@waterco.com). To enquire about MineralChlor through Pool Ranger, call 02 9979 3490 or email [poolranger@bigpond.com](mailto:poolranger@bigpond.com).



Pool Ranger's Michael Griffin (left) with Waterco's Bryan Goh.