



MEDIA RELEASE

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Orange hero swims to raise money for St John

Local Orange resident Andrew Kennedy has raised over \$1,000 for the St John (NSW) Central West Training Area after participating in the 2km Cole Classic swimming event held in Manly on Sunday 3 February.

The Cole Classic is an annual community ocean swimming event for everyone from 7 to over 70 years old. Swimmers can choose between the 1km, 2km or 10km swim. This year, being the 25th anniversary of the event, swimmers could elect to raise money for a charity of their choosing.

Andrew chose St John (NSW) Central West as his nominated charity as a way of saying thank you to the staff of the Bathurst St John Branch for their enthusiastic support of volunteer trainers.

"We all know of the wonderful volunteer work St John does around the Central West. There is a constant need to upgrade their equipment, including emergency oxygen units. As a volunteer trainer I'm all too aware of how quickly things need updating.

"I would like to thank everyone who donated to this cause. Every little bit certainly helped!"

"The swim itself was rather interesting. Wild beach conditions meant a different course; thunder and rain added to the drama, but everyone who did it seemed to enjoy themselves!"

The money raised by Andrew will go towards purchasing two emergency oxygen units for St John Central West Training Area.

Bernadette Brilley, Regional Development Manager, Western St John Region, comments:

"We greatly appreciate the effort Andrew is making for St John and the emergency oxygen units will be greatly beneficial.

"The units are becoming very popular in workplaces due to its size, weight and features. They would be used in our Advanced Resuscitation, Advanced Life Support and Occupational First Aid Courses when training students in the Central West Area.

"This donation is a big bonus for our training personnel who are now able to ensure more hands-on time for students learning to use this life saving equipment."

To find out more about first aid training with St John visit www.stjohnnsw.com.au

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