

THE LIFESAVING FOUNDATION CLG
Registered in Ireland: CRO 368309, CHY 15102



THE IRELAND MEDAL

2016 Medal Presentation Ceremony

Council Chamber, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Hall

Wednesday, 12th July, 2017



AWARDED to an Irish person or organisation or to a person of Irish descent in recognition of an exceptional contribution to saving lives from drowning.

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The Ireland Medal Ceremony

Council Chamber, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Council
County Hall, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin



Wednesday, 12th July, 2017

Presentation of 2016 Individual Ireland Medal to Brendan Donohoe



10.15 a.m. - Refreshments

11.00 a.m. - Welcome & Introductions

Safety Messages

Brendan Donohoe

Chairperson, The Lifesaving Foundation

Welcome to the Ireland Medal Ceremony

Introduction of Guests

John Connolly

sThe Lifesaving Foundation & Ireland Medal

Secretary, The Lifesaving Foundation

Presentation of Ireland Medal & Parchment

Messages from previous recipients

John Long, (United Kingdom)

2015 Ireland Medal recipient

Address by Councillor Tom Murphy, Cathaoirleach, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Council

Reading of Ireland Medal citation

Dr. Patrick Buck (Ireland)

Director, The Lifesaving Foundation

Presentation of the 2016 Ireland Medal

Cathaoirleach Tom Murphy

Presentation of the Ireland Medal Parchment

John Long & Patrick Buck

**Address by Brendan Donohoe,
Chairperson Lifesaving Foundation, President of RLSS Ireland Branch**

Photo Call



THE LIFESAVING FOUNDATION

The 2016 Individual Ireland Medal Recipient is

Mr. Brendan Donohoe



The Lifesaving Foundation wishes to announce the awarding of the 2016 Individual Ireland Medal to Brendan Donohoe in recognition of 50 years of continuous exceptional service to saving lives from drowning as a lifeguard, a lifesaving teacher, a lifeguard trainer/assessor and as a lifesaving administrator.

As Brendan tells it 50 years ago Liam Hogan, a neighbour, knocked on the front door of his home and asked his mother if 14 year old Brendan would be interested in learning to life save. He was interested and soon became hooked on



Brendan, as a teenager in the early 1970s, (second from right in front row) with members of St. Joseph's Lifeguard Club

swimming and lifesaving. Unusual for the time, and still now, his school (St. Joseph's Boys School) had its own lifeguard club - St. Josephs Voluntary Lifeguard Club – affiliated to The Royal Life Saving Society. The club provided a week-end voluntary lifeguard service at Portmarnock Beach. Starting as a Nipper, before the name was used in Europe, Brendan progressed through the RLSS award scheme until he held all awards available to him up to and including the Lifeguard Distinction Award. In addition to being a lifesaving teacher Liam Hogan was also a member of



the Royal Life Saving Society Ireland (RLSS IRELAND) Branch Executive and later its Branch Secretary and Ireland Region representative on the RLSS UK National Executive Board. Liam encouraged Brendan to take an active part in lifesaving administration as a young adult member of the RLSS IRELAND Branch Executive. In what became a 25 year sentence Brendan served on the Branch executive as Branch Membership Secretary, Branch Technical Officer, Branch Chief Examiner and finally two terms as Branch President. Having served his terms as Branch President he



would follow his mentor and be elected to the RLSS UK National Executive Board representing the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland Branches as Ireland Region member. In what can be viewed as a circular journey

after a long period away from branch administration in 2016 Brendan once again serves as Branch President of RLSS IRELAND.



On 20th June 2016 RLSS Monkstown

Lifesaving Club celebrated its 40th birthday with a party at a Dublin venue. In spite of many time demands on him Brendan can usually be found on Thursday nights in the Blue Pool Monkstown teaching lifesaving or training lifeguards first as a teacher and for over 10 years as club organiser. In addition to being part of a most successful class pupils have sometimes found themselves involved in Brendan-initiated research projects such as Simulated Emergency Rescue Competitions for Beginners presented on at the world conference in Vietnam in 2011 and Swimming in Clothing for the world conference in Germany in 2013. In recognition of his service to the Royal Life Saving Society Brendan has been awarded Honorary Life Membership of RLSS UK for his work in Ireland and also Honorary Life Membership of the RLSS Commonwealth for his work in developing countries.

Brendan was a founding member of the Irish Lifesaving Foundation and from 2010 has been Chairperson of the restructured Lifesaving Foundation. In this role he has supported the provision of financial and technical aid to lifesaving groups in developing countries visiting Africa twice. He has also promoted the undertaking of drowning prevention research by community rescue groups and also the dissemination of new research through the filming of presentations at the Lifesaving Foundation's International Drowning Prevention and Research Conferences.



Teaching lifesaving in Lesotho



Four Ireland Medal recipients: Prof. John Pearn (2005), John Connolly (2012), Prof. Linda Quan (2011), Brendan Donohoe (2016)



2016 IRELAND MEDAL RECIPIENTS



Mr. Brendan Donohoe



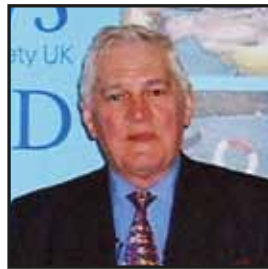
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2003



An Garda Síochána

2004



Surgeon Admiral Frank Golden, OBE.

2005



Professor John Pearn, AO

2006



Garda Commissioner Eamonn Doherty

2007



Foyle Search & Rescue

2008



Chief Justice Terence Higgins, AO.

2009



Dublin Fire Brigade

2010



Mrs. Patricia Wilcox

2011



Professor Linda Quan, MD

2012



Mr. John Connolly

2013



Professor Stephen Langendorfer, PhD

2014



Doctor Kevin Moran, PhD.

2015



Mr. John Long