

PETITION

# Make waves over child safety

## PUSH FOR AQUATIC EDUCATION

YOU can join the campaign to make swimming lessons mandatory in primary schools.

A 25 per cent jump in drowning deaths among Australians aged 15-24 in the year to June has alarmed the Royal Life Saving Society, prompting a national petition demanding swimming lessons be compulsory for primary students.

The society aims to mobilise at least 10,000 people to sign the petition to present to politicians to make swimming and water safety the right of every child.

Macedon Ranges Council runs aquatic programs in Kyneton and Gisborne, while Sunbury has a RLSS-registered course supported by Hume Council.

Kyneton Sports and Aquatic Centre manager Jon Ground said education, skill development and supervision were the keys to ensuring children were safe around water.

"Water safety and aquatic education is an integral life skill for children, especially when taking into account the rural environment we

JOIN THE CAMPAIGN



live in, which has numerous unprotected creeks, dams and waterways," Mr Ground said.

Research by the RLSS warns of a "ticking time bomb" in the community, with at least 600,000 young people aged 15-24 years having missed out on water safety education.

Royal Life Saving Society chief executive Rob Bradley said far too many children were leaving primary school with practically no water safety skills.

Thousands of families could not afford swimming lessons, he said.

Pledge support at [swimandsurvive.com.au](http://swimandsurvive.com.au)



Royal Life Saving Society head Rob Bradley promotes the swim lesson campaign with young swimmers.

GISBORNE

# Get the good oil at its source

THE Macedon Ranges will gain its latest foodie experience with the opening of the Villa Pileggi tasting room on the outskirts of Gisborne on Sunday.

Villa Pileggi is the extra virgin olive oil company established by John Pileggi.

Mr Pileggi's certified organic oils are a regular sight at farmers' markets in Sunbury and the Macedon Ranges, but he has long hoped to get customers to his door.

His new retail space will allow foodies to taste a variety of oils, table olives, vinaigrettes and tapenades, while being shown the production processes which help transfer the fruits from 1200 trees to oil.

Mr Pileggi said he had always had a passion for olives. His father, who still helps him now, was an olive farmer in Italy.

The Gisborne climate beat the Mediterranean for olive quality, he said.

Villa Pileggi is at 65 Leslie Rd, Gisborne, open from 10am-4pm Sunday. Details: [villapileggi.com.au](http://villapileggi.com.au)

# Smarter home energy solutions.

Introducing AGL Smarter Living – for all your heating, cooling and hot water needs.

Our trusted plumbing and electrical tradespeople will provide expert service and advice for any home energy need. So for installations, service, repairs or home energy assessments, call 131 766 or find your local store at [aglsmarterliving.com.au](http://aglsmarterliving.com.au)

Call 131 766  
[aglsmarterliving.com.au](http://aglsmarterliving.com.au)

