



MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Presented to

Clifford Trevor Ireland

On his retirement as Operations Support Committee representative for KwaZulu-Natal (KZN), the Committee's Chairman and NSRI Governance Board Director on 31st May 2026.

Clifford Ireland has been a member of The National Sea Rescue Institute (NSRI) for some 34 years now. From the day Clifford started in NSRI on the 3rd November 1992, he showed a remarkable dedication and loyalty to the organisation he came to love and cherish, which he continues to serve.

Having served as a Crewman, Cox'n and Station Commander at NSRI Station 5 Durban, Clifford also took on the role of Regional Representative for KZN on the Operations Support Committee (OSC), a Governance Board Committee on the 8th June 2018. This is an elected role by the Station Commanders in the Region and the OSC serves in an oversight and governance role on all operational and volunteer human resource matters in NSRI, reporting to the Governance Board directly.

In 2021, he was elected Chairman of the OSC, a position which he held until 31st May 2026, 5 years of dedicated, focused and professional leadership which has produced numerous improvements in NSRI both at a personnel and technical level which have been to the benefit of NSRI and its Stations in terms of policy, volunteer Crew, training, equipment and operational capability.

Amongst Clifford's personal achievements in NSRI, includes a CEO Letter of Thanks in 2018 for contributing to the rebuilding of NSRI Station 5 Base after a disastrous storm, the Marmion Marsh Trophy in 2019 where he significantly contributed to the new ORC 140 Rescue Craft building project, a Directors Letter of Thanks in 2020 on his retirement from the NSRI Awards Committee and a Gallantry Silver Award in 2022 for his leadership and contribution during the catastrophic KZN floods.

Whilst Chairman of the OSC, Clifford displayed an inclusive, participative, fair and visionary management style, ensuring that the OSC concentrated on the operational activities of NSRI so that its Stations always benefitted from the best attention to Maritime Search and Rescue techniques, Crew wellness, personal equipment and training, latest Rescue Craft design, sustainable Bases and supporting resources to develop the Crew and Stations to be an effective, capable Maritime Rescue Service in South Africa.

In recognition of his exemplary and unwavering support of NSRI in this vital role we are delighted to present Clifford Trevor Ireland with this Meritorious Service Award. We would be hard pressed to think of a more deserving candidate for this award.

Michael Vonk
Chief Executive Officer



Date