

The background of the image is a dark, monochromatic photograph of water with small, repetitive ripples across the entire surface. The text is centered and rendered in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

Inside the Archive:
Histories of Female
Lifeguards in Southern
California and other Pacific
Waters

Introduction





My Story

“You need to be aware that you work in an environment where you’re not wearing a lot of clothing”



Past Present and Future: Her Story

Lifeguard vs Life-saver





What we know:

Women currently lifeguard/ life save in agencies world wide. Especially in places where beach culture exists





Southern California

LA City: Kai Newell, 1973

CA State: Deb Friedman,
Sandy Groos 1978

San Diego: Carol T., 1972

Australia

- Membership Granted in 1980
- Early involvement is debated
- Most amount of records

Pictured above: the Mooloolaba surf life saving troupe Circa 1930.

New Zealand

“They joined clubs as full members, earned proficiency qualifications, performed rescues and competed in surf carnivals.”-Booth

Right: two unidentified New Zealand lifesavers





**NO
LIFEGUARD
ON DUTY**
SWIMMING PROHIBITED

What we don't
know

Absence of acknowledgement of
women in official record keeping

Special Thanks!!!!



Sources

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- Phone Interview with Deb Friedman, December 13 2017.
- <https://www.kpbs.org/news/2018/may/23/new-book-chronicles-beginnings-san-diego-lifeguard/>