

Dr Richard Harris SC OAM

Australian of the Year 2019, Thai Cave Rescue Diver, Anesthetist and Keynote Speaker

An advocate for sensible risk taking in young people, encouraging youth to get off their screens and outside to build independence, resilience, and improved mental health.

Dr Richard “Harry” Harris has worked in anaesthesia, diving, and aeromedical medicine around the world.

His passion for cave diving goes back to the 1980’s and has taken him to the corners of the globe in search of new adventures.

Harry has a professional and voluntary interest in search and rescue operations, establishing the first cave diving rescue capability in Australasia. The 2018 Thailand cave rescue was an opportunity to put this training to work.

Harry received the Star of Courage, and the Medal of the Order of Australia for this role. He was the joint 2019 Australian of the Year with his dive partner Craig Challen and is now primarily working as a speaker, author, and film maker.

He is currently serving as the Lieutenant Governor of South Australia.



Richard Harris Talks About:

- Team building
- Resilience
- Leadership
- Adventure
- Decision making under pressure
- Exploration

Testimonials

“ Dr Richard Harris was a sheer delight to work with. He went over and above to customise his presentation to our audience which certainly did not go unnoticed. The feedback for his session was amazing with phrases such as “humble hero” and “true Australian legend” and being used freely. There was not a dry eye in the house.

- *eBusiness Media*

“ Our conference delegation was riveted by Dr. Harris’ presentation. The story of the Thai cave rescue and decision-making in the face of adversity was incredibly inspirational. His talk was one of the highlights of our conference. I could not recommend him enough.

- *Crowe Global*

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