



**broadcast clip**

<b>Station :</b>	6PR	<b>Program :</b>	The Nightshift
<b>Location :</b>	Perth	<b>Producer :</b>	Mr Tod Johnston
<b>Aired On :</b>	15/11/2021 8:21:21 PM	<b>Duration :</b>	5 mins 48 secs
<b>Compere :</b>	Tod Johnston	<b>Summary ID :</b>	R00090427830
<b>Demographics :</b>	Male 16+      1000	Female 16+      3000	

**Interview**

At Harvey Norman and to midnight. This is the night shift with Todd Johnston. You are listening to 826 PR. And it's a very important time right here, right now. Y is summers coming? Well, actually, it's almost swimming weather. Now, when you think about the weekend that we just had, it's almost swimming with a now what does it mean for you? Well, if you can swim, thumbs up. But on the board is the budgie Smugglers, or the one piece or the bikinis and get out there and get wet. But what about the tackers? What about Little kids? The kids that can't swim properly? All of a sudden you. Know, got to be so careful, because they can reach a final answer, which is death. And that's not what we want. And you want to say it like that, it grabs your attention. Bill Kirby not only does Bill Kirby want to talk to us on added, see 6pr. I want to talk to Bill Kirby, 2000, in the year 2000, Olympic gold medalist. I'm pretty excited to talk to Bill Kirby. He's sitting back on his lounge chair right now with his shoes off, talking to us on 826 PR get a bill g'day mate. How are you going? IL? Look, I'm pretty good indeed my shoes is still on. But it is, it's swim safer week, 15th of November through until the 19th of November. And, you know, it is a really important time to bring up the topic of young kids around pools, around the beach, around the pond, around water, and the fact that can kill them. It only takes, I don't know about 3040 cm, and we can lose them, can't we? Yes, mate. And we do, unfortunately, each year. And I think the real sad part about that is that it's our job as parents and caregivers to really keep our kids safe. And it is silent, you know, when they're in that situation. They usually cannot make any noise. And it could be happening just around the corner. If you haven't closed your, you know, your pool fence, it can be happen, happening while you just, you know, looking at your Fine, Yeah. So it's a really important, port important message. It's funny you should say that. As a parent, I know exactly what you mean. When the kids are making noise, whether they're screaming at one another, you know exactly where they are they can be in tears. They could be running amok, it's okay. You can hear them it's when they go quiet That's when you think, where are they? What are they doing? And in and around a pool, so dangerous. And I made this is a really important Point. New research reveals fifty-four percent of children are not currently learning to swim. Why? Yeah, that's and for me, it's amazing. And I think guys of our Generation, back when life was simpler, life live life busy. Now we're bombarded with lots of commitments. But I do recall a day when in summer, kids had probably two things to choose from, cricket and swimming Yeah. And in Winter, it was going to be football or soccer, or something like that. And now it's really busy lives. And I think that a big bunch of a out of our local community probably forget how important swimming is, not the sport site, but just for a. Life skill, so that if they're in trouble around the water, they can help themselves, or if one of their friends is in trouble, they can go to the aid of one their friends. I mean, when you think about it realistically, 54% I can't get over that are not currently learning to swim. Which means that in years to come, if we don't give them a bit of a speed track towards learning to swim, we will have other statistics that will be going in the wrong direction as well, like the young kids drowning in Backyard Pools. That that's devastating and I guess the also the covid scenario to with the lockdown, that would have stopped. A lot of kids getting into the pools, wouldn't it? Yeah, for sure. And you know, the stats have shown that since the covid, or the first covid lockdown, but he's drowning, stats are up 20% so we do know. And certainly running a swing programme itself, when we did have our lockdown.

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 But the young kids on talk about the kids under five, they had months out of the water when they came back. All the skills which they'd master just before our lockdown had to be relearned. So it's a critical age group, that under 5 age group, because they're only just learning those skills and I do need to practise them. And if parents are choosing, or perhaps not out of choice