



MASTERS SWIMMING NSW INC.

2021  
ANNUAL REPORT

**LIFE MEMBERS**

Ken Ford (dec.)  
Brian Hird  
Margaret (Peg) Wilson (dec.)  
George McGilvray (dec.)  
Sue Johnstone  
Beryl Stenhouse  
Gary Stutsel  
Helen Rubin  
Jane Noake  
Mark Hepple

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021

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We sometimes get asked ‘what has the board done this year for its members?’ and, as the president, that’s an easy question because you see it all happen. However, unless swimmers are involved, they don’t always see the new initiatives and work that goes on in the background.

Our three-year Strategic Plan outlines several priorities:



In addition to these, and more importantly, we decided that getting our members and clubs back in the water after lockdown was of major importance.

In response to our strategic priorities, we undertook the following during 2021:

- ❖ MSNSW co-sanctioned two events, the first taking the form of a teams challenge at Homebush and the second an age championships hosted by Swimming NSW. The teams challenge was aimed at younger members and invited Swimming NSW members to join us. We had a few SNSW members attend and all attendees enjoyed the different format. Unfortunately, no Masters members attended the age championships—possibly due to the qualifying times.
- ❖ Our administrator was in contact with SNSW throughout the year, with ongoing conversations around co-sanctioning and sharing of resources.
- ❖ The training team and technical committee worked in the background preparing resources to benefit both MSNSW and Masters Swimming Australia. These include the development of online training for technical officials, re-visiting the swimwear policy to keep in line with Swimming Australia’s new policy, training programs accessible to all in their return to the pool, and preparing for a coaching weekend in addition to the already planned coaching clinics.
- ❖ MSNSW ran Resurrection Meets to get swimmers back in the water and racing again, especially when club carnivals could not go ahead in such an unstable environment. The branch ran a total of 12 meets—particular thanks goes to Jane Noake, Jillian Pateman and Mark Hepple for organising and running these events. These events were also subsidised by funding received.

- ❖ Our administrator applied for government funding for the branch and clubs as a part of a return to sport package. This successful application has allowed clubs to apply for help in purchasing equipment and run clinics to get their swimmers back and engaged. This was governed by a team of hard-working volunteers: Jane Noake, David Loader and Aaron Cleland.
- ❖ Our treasurer was successful in maintaining the financial health of the branch, in particular applying for and meeting requirements for the government funding to pay our employee. With less income from carnivals and membership, this funding was important in keeping wages paid.
- ❖ Club presidents were involved in several meetings to provide clubs with support and ideas, as well as building a network for presidents to work with.
- ❖ MSNSW recognised its members for their ongoing support by providing a discount for those who renewed their membership going into 2022, as well as returning members gaining a subsidy.

Many of these initiatives will continue into 2022 and beyond, and I am looking forward to the continued growth of our Masters branch.

Without naming the dozens of people individually who made all of this possible (our Administrator, our board, recovery team, training team, technical team, our Branch Meet Director and our Recorder), I personally thank each and every one of them for going above and beyond to make MSNSW stronger and better in 2021 than we have ever been.

Yours in Fitness, Friendship and Fun.

Kerryn Blanch  
President

## COUNTRY VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021

The year 2021 had just begun and we headed into another year of COVID-19 and all its uncertainties as to 'can we hold any carnivals with the current restrictions' and, if so, 'will we get any swimmers or officials to attend?'

The idea of holding 'Resurrection Meets' to get members back in the water and get the feel of racing again was a swimmingly great idea. These meets were only for a duration of two or three hours but, after not swimming for months, it was a blessing to get back into the water and smell the chlorine.

Saturday 13 February 2021 saw Myall Masters hold a successful meet with over 120 swimmers from far and wide. We hoped that would be the first of many more to come. Ettalong Pelicans held their annual carnival on 22 May at the Woy Woy Leisure Centre. This carnival was called 'Ettalong Resurrection Meet' and brought in a good number of swimmers from local areas and the Sydney metropolitan regions.

A country clubs zoom meeting was arranged for February where clubs were asked 'what would your club do if they were given \$1,000 to boost the club, their activities and their ability to get back to swimming?'

We heard back from a small number of clubs who came up with ideas to promote and try to encourage new members to their club.

Ideas such as: to have lane markers or club banner(s) to promote their club when they have training sessions at the pool, and another club thought they would get a lot of benefit if they could purchase an under-water camera to assist the coach and members with under-water techniques.

A couple of clubs said they would like to hold some coaching sessions to assist current and potential members to get back into the water and help provide a program for preparing for the national championships. Branch Coaching Director Anne Smyth and her coaching team were only too willing to assist country clubs and run coaching workshops for any club that would be interested.

A letter was emailed out to all the country masters clubs during the winter months checking in to see how they were all coping with the current lockdowns and restrictions within NSW.

I heard back from a few clubs who reported that, even with the lockdowns, they were able to get a group of members together and go for a swim at the local beaches, organise trail walks etc.

An ACT club let us know that two of their swimmers, Caz Makin and David Bale, often went swimming in the lake at Canberra, which was only 11 degrees in the middle of winter—that's desperate!!!

2021 also saw the cancellation of several events including the MSNSW Relay Meet at SOPAC, the Forster Escape weekend in August and the Thredbo Swim Camp in October.

These events have been rebooked for 2022 so please keep reading the *Monthly News*, which is sent out to all clubs, for dates.

The *Monthly News* informs members of the current year's event calendar for carnivals and their dates, coaching tips on training sets, when grants become available which may assist your club for improving membership, important links to swim meets, postal swims and any other event that MSNSW thinks you may need.

The branch office also provides, within the *Monthly News*, important links to swim meets, postal swims and any other events that MSNSW is associated with. It takes a lot of work to get all this information out every month, so thank you, Jillian.

I'm hoping to see a large contingent of country swimmers at the national championships in April being held at SOPAC.

Wishing everyone safe and healthy 2022.

Lawrence Powderly  
Country Vice President



## ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT 2021

### GOVERNANCE

Masters Swimming NSW is governed by a board of seven members assisted by position holders in Coaching, Endurance, Recording, Safety, Technical, Training, Social Media and Website. Board members were elected at the Annual General Meeting held on 15 May 2021 both by Zoom and in person, which was attended by twenty-two delegates from Member Clubs and fifteen registered persons, including four Life Members.

In July, Lesley Potter stood down from her board position and Julie Orr from Manly Masters accepted to fill the vacancy.

MSNSW office, located at Sports House in Sydney Olympic Park, remained rent free; we pay for outgoings and remain grateful to the NSW Office of Sport for this generous support. The branch administration remains see-sawing between working from home and the office.

### PROMOTIONS

#### RECOGNITION

At the Annual General Meeting in May 2021 many members were recognised for their work and dedication throughout 2020. These included, but were not limited to, Greg Jacques, Campbelltown Collegians (Administration Award) and Greg Gourley (Coach of the Year).

Congratulations went to MSA President (and MSNSW Swim Meet Director) Jane Noake for being awarded a prestigious Distinguished Long Service Award at Sport NSW 2021 Community Sports Awards, which honours individuals from a wide range of sports who have given exceptional service to their sport over a period of decades.

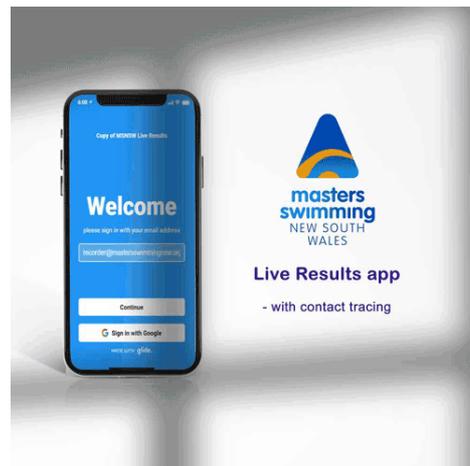
In addition, Jane was elected as President of Masters Swimming Australia which was then ratified at the MSA AGM in April.





Congratulations to Robert Kirkbride from Oak Flats Masters, seen here modelling his well-earned FOUR million metre polo shirt.

Mark Hepple again put in countless hours of voluntary labour at the computer constantly updating our website. We couldn't do it without him. Mark designed and launched our bespoke Live Results app which proved timely once posting the usual paper results became unsavoury.



Members can enter their timekeeping choices through the app's hamburger menu. They book their place by using the TK tab and choose which events they are available for. This is an enormous step forward for MSNSW—we see a future when endless calls and pleas will no longer be made throughout events begging for each swimmer to take their turn in mastering the stopwatch.

### DRYLAND TRAINING

Subsidised **CPR TRAINING** was held often throughout the year as COVID-19 restrictions allowed. At one point it was online with the practical assessment booked for a later date.



Throughout February and March, the membership across the branch was able to log in to online **YOGA** classes twice a week, provided free to members hosted by North Sydney Masters member Christina Echols & subsidized by MSNSW.

### FUN & GAMES

In July, the cold depths of winter, the branch hosted an online **TRIVIA NIGHT** for Masters members with thanks to Pat Birgan, Warringah Masters for being the Quiz Master!

Players joined the Trivia game using their mobile device and selected a team to join. Team members did not need to be physically located near each other so players could play from home or just in different locations while still joining forces on the same team.

Questions were multiple choice, ten questions in each of 5 categories: General Knowledge, Geography, Swimming, History, Science.

Rank	Teams	Average Points
1	Wollongong Wizards	1640
2	Wett Ones	1604
3	Blacktown	1465
4	Wests Auburn	1425
5	Blue Mountains	1411
6	Campbelltown Collegians	1270
7	Randoms	1241

Players got 15 seconds to answer the questions and the faster the answer the more points they got. It proved to be fast and furious and we all got to know our fellow members just a little bit more (some are VERY competitive). In fact, as it was so much fun we repeated the effort!

## PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

We hosted a form of Swim League in March at SOPAC, a co-sanctioned event with Swimming NSW.

**TEAM CHALLENGE** was a fast-paced and exciting competition format that provided the opportunity for swimmers of all ages, abilities and experience to swim together and compete as a team. Swimmers were allocated into teams comprised of individuals of different ages and abilities so that each team was relatively even overall. They then competed together in different individual and relay events.

Team Challenge was not about who came first, second, third, or last in each race. It was about everyone swimming their best, competing together, and contributing towards the overall points tally of their team. All swimmers were required to swim at least 3 individual events and one relay and at the end of the meet the team that had the most points was declared the winner!



## COACHING TEAM

The Coach Project team, led by Anne Smyth, started the year off with plans! Mitch Patterson hosted freestyle clinics at both Glenbrook and Hornsby pools. Numbers were kept low but those that attended were enthusiastic about the knowledge imparted and a booking was confirmed for a swim camp at Thredbo—which did not come to fruition (again). A two-day professional development course on the calendar for our coaches was postponed to 2022.

## ENDURANCE 1000 RECORDER

Jenny Whiteley kept us up to date and MSNSW finished 2021 with 22 members achieving maximum points, while another 18 managed all swims. Campbelltown topped the list again this year and participants came from 29 MSNSW clubs.

## TECHNICAL & TRAINING TEAM

MSNSW continues to have a healthy base of officials on which to call but can never have enough to share the workload. All members are strongly encouraged to get qualified in one or more positions to help on pool deck. Courses and reaccreditations have been running frequently, thanks to Di partridge, to ensure the national championships next year are fully staffed.



## SWIM MEETS



We celebrated the 2021 Myall Masters carnival following two cancellations in 2020 and this time they got lucky! Not with the weather but nobody seemed to notice the rain too much as they were all enjoying having all their swimming friends back together again. Perseverance and passion certainly paid off!

We held the Long-Course Championships at SOPAC in March where we had 285 swimmers enter. Once we were allowed back in the water (after 4 months) we organized some small meets to get back into the swing of competition. We started off with a fun meet at Cabarita in November that included a kick-board race, fin race and dog paddle—fantastic fun, although it was a little chilly that night, but a great way of getting back into the fun of Masters swimming.

The year finished off with small events at a variety of under-utilized venues including Birrong, Glenbrook and Hornsby Aquatic Centres. All in all, we managed 12 swim meets, half of a normal year.

## REGIONAL PROJECTS

Lawrence Powderly, Country Vice President, held regular Zoom meetings with our regional clubs. Ideas abounded, including opportunities for mini-meets, coached training sessions, programs and social events. It was felt that regionally based members may feel uncomfortable travelling to metro areas but were keen and energised to host their own activities.

During this upheaval MSNSW welcomed a new club! Woden Valley Masters is opening its doors in 2022 in the ACT.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The branch office continues to receive the benefit of advice and assistance from Lawrence Powderly, now on a weekly basis as we opened then closed then opened the Olympic Park office. Thank you, Lawrence.

My thanks and gratitude again go to our national General Manager and Administrator for their consistent support throughout 2021. Thank you, Sarah and Kath, for being there, I wouldn't want to do it without you.

Jillian Pateman  
Administrator



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# **Not-For-Profit - Association Report**

The NSW Association of AUSSI Masters Swimming Clubs Inc.

ABN 42 468 116 472

For the year ended 31 December 2021

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# Directors' Report

## The NSW Association of AUSSI Masters Swimming Clubs Inc. For the year ended 31 December 2021

### Directors' Report

Your committee members submit the financial report of The NSW Association of AUSSI Masters Swimming Clubs Inc. for the financial year ended 31 December 2021.

### Committee Members

The names of committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Committee Member	Position
Kerryn Blanch	President
Paul Bailey	Treasurer
David Loader	Vice President
Lawrence Powderly	Country Vice President
Jon Hawton	Committee
Mark McDonald	Committee
Julie Orr	Committee

### Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Association during the financial year were the promotion of sport, in particular, that it is a national organisation founded to encourage all adults regardless of age or ability, to swim regularly in order to promote fitness and improve their general health.

### Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

### Operating Result

The profit of the Association for the financial year after providing for income tax amounted to \$47,517 (2020 profit \$45,781), as per the financial statements.

### Going Concern

This financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business. The ability of the association to continue to operate as a going concern is dependent upon the ability of the association to generate sufficient cashflows from operations to meet its liabilities. The members of the association believe that the going concern assumption is appropriate.

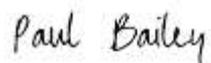
Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee on:



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Kerryn Blanch (President)

Dated: 28 April 2022



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Paul Bailey (Treasurer)

Dated: 28 April 2022

# Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

## The NSW Association of AUSSI Masters Swimming Clubs Inc. For the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
<b>Income</b>		
<b>Grant Operating</b>		
Realisation of Grant Income	20,000	23,333
<b>Total Grant Operating</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>23,333</b>
<b>Event Income</b>		
AGM Function Ticket	225	15
Bushranger Fees Online	260	154
Club Registration Fees	2,601	2,370
Coaching Income	180	220
Meet Sanction Fee	150	300
Member Registrations Online	51,153	45,404
MSNSW Long Course Championships	11,312	-
Branch Carnivals	9,344	5,058
<b>Total Event Income</b>	<b>75,225</b>	<b>53,521</b>
Fundraising	28	58
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>95,252</b>	<b>76,912</b>
<b>Cost of Sales</b>		
Carnival Expenses	14,056	8,128
Coaching Expenses	447	1,894
Officials Training & Courses	-	274
Recorder Expenses	704	1,812
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>	<b>15,208</b>	<b>12,107</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>80,045</b>	<b>64,805</b>
<b>Other Income</b>		
JobKeeper Income	32,904	21,900
Federal Government Stimulus	-	20,000
Interest Income	74	171
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>32,977</b>	<b>42,071</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Depreciation	3,265	2,940
Advertising	-	(400)
AGM Expenses	676	1,360
Audit Fees	2,200	2,200
Board Meeting Expenses	348	411
Cleaning	86	-
Insurance	414	377
Postage, Printing & Stationery	790	670

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

	2021	2020
Repairs and Maintenance	-	150
Subscriptions & Dues	2,055	950
Superannuation	4,791	4,829
Telephone & Internet	376	409
Top Ten Expenses	348	-
Training & Development - Member & Club	580	-
Wages and Salaries	49,173	47,198
Website Development	403	-
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>65,505</b>	<b>61,094</b>
<b>Profit Before Income Tax</b>	<b>47,517</b>	<b>45,781</b>
<b>Profit for the Year</b>	<b>47,517</b>	<b>45,781</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Income for the Year</b>	<b>47,517</b>	<b>45,781</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

# Statement of Financial Position

The NSW Association of AUSSI Masters Swimming Clubs Inc.

As at 31 December 2021

	NOTES	31 DEC 2021	31 DEC 2020
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>			
Cheque Account		152,805	146,402
Online Saver		180,541	180,467
Petty Cash on Hand		120	543
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		<b>333,466</b>	<b>327,412</b>
<b>Inventories</b>			
Medals & Swim Suits		5,015	118
<b>Total Inventories</b>		<b>5,015</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>338,481</b>	<b>327,530</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
<b>Office Equipment</b>			
Office Equipment		17,756	17,756
Office Equipment - Less Accumulated Depreciation		(15,109)	(11,844)
<b>Total Office Equipment Other</b>		<b>2,647</b>	<b>5,912</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Inventory		-	1,478
ATO Activity Statement Account		462	-
<b>Total Other Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>462</b>	<b>1,478</b>
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>3,109</b>	<b>7,390</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>341,590</b>	<b>334,921</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Club Registration Fees - in Advance		2,035	1,785
National Championships Account (for transfer)		(2,021)	96
NSW Office of Sport Grant - 12 mths from 1 April 2021 \$20,000		5,000	5,000
Registrations NSW Online - In Advance		1,390	13,874
<b>Trade and Other Payables</b>			
Audit Fees Accrued 31 December		2,200	2,200
<b>Total Trade and Other Payables</b>		<b>2,200</b>	<b>2,200</b>
<b>Employee Benefits</b>			
Superannuation Payable		716	1,707
Wages Payable - Payroll		294	168
PAYG Withholdings Payable		1,862	1,946
<b>Total Employee Benefits</b>		<b>2,872</b>	<b>3,821</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>11,475</b>	<b>26,776</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

	31 DEC 2021	31 DEC 2020
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>		
Rounding	-	-
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	-	-
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
<b>Other Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
Sport Recovery Grant	61,028	86,574
<b>Total Other Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>61,028</b>	<b>86,574</b>
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>61,028</b>	<b>86,574</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>72,503</b>	<b>113,350</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>269,087</b>	<b>221,570</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
<b>Capital Reserve</b>		
Current Year Earnings	47,517	45,781
Retained Earnings	217,778	171,997
<b>Total Capital Reserve</b>	<b>265,295</b>	<b>217,778</b>
<b>Financial Instruments</b>		
Betty Grant Legacy	1,000	1,000
Corpus	2,792	2,792
<b>Total Financial Instruments</b>	<b>3,792</b>	<b>3,792</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>269,087</b>	<b>221,570</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## The NSW Association of AUSSI Masters Swimming Clubs Inc.

### For the year ended 31 December 2021

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and Associations Incorporation Regulation 2010. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

#### Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

#### Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the committee reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income and expenditure statement.

#### Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

#### Cash on Hand

Cash on hand includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

#### Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

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These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

## Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument. Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established.

Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

## Financial Assets

Investments in financial assets are initially recognised at cost, which includes transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value, which is equivalent to their market bid price at the end of the reporting period. Movements in fair value are recognised through an equity reserve.

## Accounts Payable and Other Payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

	2021	2020
<b>2. Plant and Equipment, Motor Vehicles</b>		
<b>Plant and Equipment</b>		
Plant and Equipment at Cost	17,756	17,756
Accumulated Depreciation of Plant and Equipment	(15,109)	(11,844)
<b>Total Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>2,647</b>	<b>5,912</b>
<b>Total Plant and Equipment, Motor Vehicles</b>	<b>2,647</b>	<b>5,912</b>

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

# Statement of Changes in Equity

The NSW Association of AUSSI Masters Swimming Clubs Inc.

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
<b>Equity</b>		
Opening Balance	221,570	175,789
<b>Increases</b>		
Profit for the Period	47,517	45,781
<b>Total Increases</b>	<b>47,517</b>	<b>45,781</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>269,087</b>	<b>221,570</b>

# Statement of Cash Flows

The NSW Association of AUSSI Masters Swimming Clubs Inc.

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
<b>Operating Activities</b>		
Receipts From Customers	28	58
Payments to Suppliers and Employees	(68,020)	(60,155)
Cash Receipts From Other Operating Activities	128,202	118,925
Cash Payments From Other Operating Activities	(9,428)	(10,106)
<b>Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>50,782</b>	<b>48,721</b>
<b>Investing Activities</b>		
Payment for Property, Plant and Equipment	-	(2,982)
Other Cash Items From Investing Activities	(3,881)	(119)
<b>Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>	<b>(3,881)</b>	<b>(3,101)</b>
<b>Other Activities</b>		
Other Activities	(40,847)	81,857
<b>Net Cash Flows from Other Activities</b>	<b>(40,847)</b>	<b>81,857</b>
<b>Net Cash Flows</b>	<b>6,054</b>	<b>127,477</b>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	327,412	199,935
Net change in cash for period	6,054	127,477
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of period</b>	<b>333,466</b>	<b>327,412</b>

# True and Fair Position

## The NSW Association of AUSSI Masters Swimming Clubs Inc. For the year ended 31 December 2021

### Annual Statements Give True and Fair View of Financial Position and Performance of the Association

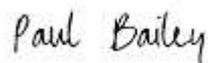
We, Kerryn Blanch, and Paul Bailey being members of the committee of The NSW Association of AUSSI Masters Swimming Clubs Inc., certify that –

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of The NSW Association of AUSSI Masters Swimming Clubs Inc. during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 31 December 2021.



Signed: Kerryn Blanch

Dated: 28 April 2022



Signed: Paul Bailey

Dated: 28 April 2022

# Certificate By Members of the Committee

**The NSW Association of AUSSI Masters Swimming Clubs Inc.**

**For the year ended 31 December 2021**

I, Paul John Bailey of Narrabeen NSW certify that:

1. I am a committee member of the Association, and
2. I am duly authorised by the committee to make this statement
3. The financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 were submitted to the members of the association at its annual general meeting.

*Paul Bailey*

Dated: 28 April 2022

## **INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF THE NSW ASSOCIATION OF AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING CLUBS INC.**

### **Report on Financial Report**

We have reviewed the accompanying special purpose financial report, of The NSW Association of Aussi Masters Swimming Clubs Inc., which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2021, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory information and the certificate by the members of the committee. The financial report has been prepared to fulfil the financial reporting requirements of the committee under the constitution.

### **Committee Members' Responsibility for the Financial Report**

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the requirements of the constitution, and for such internal control as committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Assurance Practitioner's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial report. We conducted our review in accordance with Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2400, Review of a Financial Report Performed by an Assurance Practitioner Who is not the Auditor of the Entity. ASRE 2400 requires us to conclude whether anything has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial report, taken as a whole, are not prepared in all material respects in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework. This Standard also requires us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial report in accordance with ASRE 2400 is a limited assurance engagement. The assurance practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making enquiries of management and others within the association, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less than those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on the financial report.

### **Conclusion**

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that this financial report does not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The NSW Association of Aussi Masters Swimming Clubs Inc., as at 31 December 2021, and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the requirements of the constitution.

### **Basis of Accounting, and Restriction on Distribution and Use**

Without modifying our conclusion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report is prepared to assist the committee to comply with the financial reporting requirements under the constitution. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for members and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than the members.

Cabel Partners  
Chartered Accountants

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ray Khalil". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Ray Khalil - Partner  
Date: 28 April 2022

**Providing certainty**

1 James Place, North Sydney NSW 2060  
T. +61 (2) 8071 0300 [www.cabel.com.au](http://www.cabel.com.au)

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## COACHING DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2021

The MSNSW coaching team (Anne Smyth, Greg Gourley, Di Coxon-Ellis, Peter McGee, John Kulhan, Jane Noake, Paul Bailey, Greg Lewin, Peter Johnston, Leisa Cass, Caroline Makin and Bill Moorcroft) have continued to support coaches in developing their knowledge to provide a quality program for their members. The coaching objective has been to keep our coaches and members engaged and motivated through regular communication via emails and *Monthly News*.

After a positive start to the year with an online Backstroke Forum and a Starts/Turns Workshop, most of the planned coaching events were cancelled. A Coaching Weekend was planned for August and has been rescheduled for 23/24 July 2022. The Thredbo Swim Camp in October was also postponed until 2022.

As in 2020, the MSA Return to Swimming Program (written by Greg Gourley, with input from Di Coxon-Ellis and Anne Smyth) was an excellent resource encouraging swimmers back in the water to regain fitness and motivation with goal setting. Many clubs and individuals followed the program.

The online Club Coach Course commenced and has proved an effective method of delivery. Di Coxon-Ellis, John Kulhan and Anne Smyth are the NSW assessors for the course. To date (Feb), six have completed the course and five are working towards completion. Two have undertaken the course as PD and two are in the process. Seventeen coaches have renewed their qualifications during 2021 and up to February 2022.

Masters Swimming Australia is encouraging all clubs to ensure their coaches on deck have the appropriate training and skills to deliver a safe program to swimmers. The organisation and its insurers have the expectation that all coaches on pool deck are qualified and hold a level of accreditation by January 2024.

Congratulations to Greg Gourley (Tuggeranong) who was named NSW and National Coach of the Year for 2020.

Thanks to Jillian for all her hard work and the NSW board for their support of programs and initiatives.

Anne Smyth  
MSNSW Branch Coaching Director

## MEET DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2021

In 2020 we managed 8 meets and no championships, in 2021 we managed 12 meets and the long course championships at SOPAC at the beginning of the year, 50% better in 2021 than the previous year so we look forward to what we can achieve in 2022.

The long course championships in April was an achievement after so long without a championship and it was great to see everyone competing again, but alas the year turned on us again and we were back to square one.

We were lucky to run all meets up to the Pirates meet in June, but then the lockdown occurred again and we were all confined to walking to keep fit. Such as shame, as the relay meet was about 2 weeks away and teams were getting prepared and excited.

Once we were allowed back in the water (after 4 months) we started to organize some small meets to get back into the swing of competition. We started off with a fun meet at Cabarita on 6 November—kick board race, fin race, dog paddle—fantastic fun, although it was a little chilly that night, but a great way of getting back into the fun of masters swimming.

We were able to organize 5 meets at the end of the year—at different pools and different locations to include as many swimmers as possible. It was fun and great to see everyone again and start the build up to the national championships in April 2022.

It was pleasing to see a number of our members training to be officials over this time and these meets were a great time to get some experience. Thank you to those members who have been working through their courses; I am enjoying working with new officials as it ensures the longevity of our sport. Masters Swimming Australia is working on putting the officials' courses online so they will be easier to access but please keep putting up your hand as we need to continually train new officials and share the workload.

A huge thank you to the officials who have worked so hard during 2021. The end of the year was not easy as many officials were not able to travel out of their region and others were understandably not happy to be out and about, while many others were tied up with working long hours. My thanks to the officials whose presence allowed the meets to go ahead.

During the lockdowns Mark Hepple worked hard on our systems, looking at ways to make our meets COVID safe. Mark developed a Masters Swimming NSW app which allowed us to check into meets. The app also displays the program for each meet you are entered in, then shows your results and the results of other swimmers. All this allows us to go virtually paperless at meets, keeping us safe. I know this is different to what we have been used to in the past, but it's our responsibility to keep our members safe.

We have also ceased marshaling. All meets are now heat seeded and check starters ensure the swimmer is behind the block in the correct heat. But it is the responsibility of each swimmer to be behind the blocks at the right time to swim their heat. This has worked well but does rely on each swimmer watching the meet and making sure they arrive on time.

We are all looking forward to the national championships, which were postponed twice in 2020. There will be many members involved in the running of this meet and we hope many members swimming. We hope that everyone joins us and enjoys the experience—it only happens once every 7 years (or in this case 9 years).

Thanks to all our members involved in running meets, officiating, timekeeping and of course swimming. It is wonderful to be back in the water doing what we love and enjoying the friendship of Masters Swimming.

Jane Noake  
Meet Director

## ENDURANCE RECORDER'S REPORT 2021

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The E1000 program resumed again in 2021 after 2020 was cancelled due to COVID restrictions. Whilst participation in 2021's e1000 program was lower than pre-COVID years due to a decrease in opportunities to swim distance events at carnivals or club meets, congrats to everyone who were able to participate, especially those who completed all swims.

### PARTICIPATION

- ❖ There were 29 NSW clubs with members who swam e1000 swims (13 less than in 2019).
- ❖ The total of all points accrued for these clubs was 58447 (in 2019 it was 78950).
- ❖ Total participants (swimming at least one e1000 swim) = 224 (in 2019 it was 452).
- ❖ Gender distribution of e1000 participants:  
females = 140 (2019 = 251), males = 84 (2019 = 201).
- ❖ Age group with highest number of participants continues to be the 60–64 year age group.

#### CLUBS WITH HIGHEST PROPORTION OF PARTICIPANTS 2021

(Minimum members = 6)

1st	NWS	Wests Auburn (14/15)	93.3
2nd	NCT	Campbelltown (30/34)	88.2
3rd	NOF	Oak Flats (6/9)	66.7
3rd	NMR	Merrylands (4/6)	66.7

### POINTS

- ❖ The results were identical to 2019. Congratulations to **CAMPBELLTOWN** who achieved the most club points, followed by Tuggeranong and Blacktown.
- ❖ Further congratulations to Campbelltown for also achieving the highest average points per member and to Wests Auburn, who had the greatest proportion of members undertaking the e1000 program.

#### CLUBS WITH HIGHEST E1000 POINTS 2021

1st	NCT	Campbelltown	13638
2nd	NTN	Tuggeranong	11405
3rd	NBT	Blacktown	7176

#### CLUBS WITH HIGHEST AVERAGE E1000 POINTS PER REGISTERED MEMBER 2021

(Minimum members = 6)

1st	NCT	Campbelltown	401.1
2nd	NWS	Wests Auburn	368.3
3rd	NCL	Castle Hill	276.4

### SWIMMERS WITH MAXIMUM POINTS (= 1005) 2021

<i>Member</i>	<i>Club</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Age Group</i>
BLAMIRES, MEGAN	NBT	52	50-54
BURGESS, KATRINA	NTN	54	50-54
BURSTON, JAY	NBT	40	40-44
CLINE, KEMTON	NBT	47	45-49
DA COSTA, LEANNE	NCH	61	60-64
HADDAD, SUZIE	NCT	36	35-39
JACQUES, GREGORY	NCT	74	70-74
LANE, KYLIE	NTN	44	40-44
LLEWELLYN, GEOFFREY	NCN	88	85-89
MCDONALD, MARK	NBT	34	30-34
MCLEOD, RUSSELL	NCT	71	70-74
MCMURTRIE, WENDY	NPM	54	50-54
PARKINSON, MICHAEL	NWS	51	50-54
PELOSA, JAMES	NCT	59	55-59
REID, ANN	NTN	59	55-59
ROCHE, HEIDI	NSP	49	45-49
ROUEN, HEATHER	NCT	65	65-69
SHEPPARD, WENDY	NCL	61	60-64
SINDEN, OWEN	NCT	66	65-69
TOMPKINS, SUE	NSP	58	55-59
WHITELEY, JENNY	NRV	63	60-64
WILSON, LYNDALL	NBM	68	65-69

### SWIMMERS WITH MAXIMUM SWIMS (= 62) 2021

<i>Member</i>	<i>Club</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Swims</i>	<i>Points</i>
ANDERSON, CASSIE	NWS	41	40-44	62	492
ARCHER, JOANNE	NCT	40	40-44	62	484
BLANCH, KERRY	NWS	48	45-49	62	751
CAMPBELL, DONNA	NTN	59	55-59	62	958
COLYER, TANYA	NCN	61	60-64	62	479
DUNN, REBECCA (Bex)	NTN	35	35-39	62	699
GENOVESE, KERRI	NCL	60	60-64	62	965
GRIFFITHS, ROBIN	NBM	67	65-69	62	999
HATCHER, SALLY	NBM	65	65-69	62	783
HENSON, KATHRYN	NCL	59	55-59	62	794
KENNEDY, KRISTINE	NTN	56	55-59	62	979
LAWRENCE, LAURA	NCT	42	40-44	62	843
LEARY, CHRISTINE	NTN	67	65-69	62	997
MICHELS, KERRY-ANN	NBT	54	50-54	62	981
PREISS, HANS	NCT	72	70-74	62	975
ROUEN, ALEXANDRA	NCT	31	30-34	62	780
SKULANDER, ANNIKA-LEE	NBT	31	30-34	62	770
WILLIS, JAMES	NCT	68	65-69	62	695

**REMEMBER:** For 30, 45 and 60-minute swims, distances are to the nearest COMPLETED 25 m and other swims SHOULD NOT be rounded down to '.00' (hundredths).

Jenny Whiteley  
e1000 Recorder

## RECORDS RECORDER'S REPORT 2021

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### NATIONAL RECORDS

Eight national records were broken and congratulations go to Jenny Whiteley (3), Paul Wyatt (2), Alan Brown, Brandon Fraser and Margaret Jopling! A truly admirable effort during COVID-19 lockdowns.

### BRANCH RECORDS

2021 saw forty individual branch records made or broken but no relay records achieved.



- ❖ Gender split saw eleven records going to women and twenty-nine to men.
- ❖ Eleven records were attained in long-course pools and twenty-nine in short-course.
- ❖ The spread across the age groups looked like this:

20–24	2	60–64	12
25–29	3	70–74	4
30–34	1	75–79	4
40–44	1	80–84	3
45–49	4	85–89	1
55–59	4	90–94	1

- ❖ The strokes: 7 freestyle, 8 backstroke, 9 breaststroke, 10 butterfly, 6 individual medley.
- ❖ Lastly, a look at what distances were popular with record breakers in 2021:

8 x 25 m    9 x 50 m    6 x 100 m    9 x 200 m    8 x 400 m

Jillian Pateman  
Records Recorder

## TECHNICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2021

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2021 started well with three Resurrection Meets and the Team Challenge before the branch championships. With COVID-safe practices in place (mainly no marshalling and safe distancing), April saw a successful branch championships.

In May and June, four more Resurrection Meets were held and then Delta hit!! It wasn't until the end of November that another Resurrection Meet was able to be held, followed in December by two more to round out the year.

2022 has started on a more positive note with the resumption of BPS meets and preparation once again for staging nationals. A full complement of technical officials are now back on deck at meets. These early carnivals have shown that the long break from competitive swimming has for some resulted in strokes becoming illegal and some basic rules being forgotten. From the few meets that have been held it seems that the false start is still the most common cause of disqualification. Other reasons are stroke infringements and turns in butterfly and breaststroke.

One thing that concerns me is swimmers' lack of understanding of, or compliance with, the whistles. This may seem to be insignificant but is extremely frustrating to officials and has the potential to delay the meet when swimmers fail to be on the blocks **READY** for the start or to get out of the water in a timely manner.

The current FINA rules were valid from 2017 to 2021 but as yet I've heard nothing about any rule changes so these will be the rules we still adhere to this year.

Moving forward, I hope to find a way to ensure all swimmers are up to date on the rules and procedures of the events they plan to enter. In the meantime, all swimmers need to be encouraged to ask coaches or referees to check their strokes or clarify any rules they are unsure of **BEFORE** competing.

Marilyn Earp  
Branch Technical Director

## TRAINING COORDINATOR'S REPORT 2021

COVID-19 is still a large player in MSNSW's world of swimming.

MSNSW has a total of 378 qualified officials, 8 more than in 2020, and 31 reaccreditations. Congratulations to the officials who gained their accreditation and reaccreditation in 2021. I encourage all existing officials who haven't reaccredited to please do so; your services at swim meets are enormously appreciated.

All but two courses were conducted through Zoom. Thank you, Jillian Pateman, for your help and support with these. I will continue with a mix of Zoom and Face-2-Face courses / workshops.

Thank you to all our valued members of the MSNSW board, branch administrator Jillian Pateman and technical director Marilyn Earp for your many hours of work during 2021.

All swimmers should consider becoming an official. Without officials, swim meets would not be conducted in a professional manner, allowing every swimmer the opportunity to swim to the best of their ability. Friends and partners of swimmers make wonderful officials. Remember, the more officials, the lighter the load.

### CURRENT QUALIFIED OFFICIALS 2021

(Please note: some officials are accredited in multiple positions)

	<i>Metro</i>		<i>Country</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	
Referees	7	4	3	4	18
Inspectors of Turns	5	4	7	3	19
Judges of Strokes	0	0	0	1	1
Starters	5	10	1	6	22
Marshals Check Starters / Clerks of Course	9	9	16	3	37
Chief Timekeepers	6	9	3	8	26
Timekeepers	98	61	68	28	255
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>53</b>	
<b>Total Metro / Country</b>	<b>228</b>		<b>151</b>		
<b>Total Officials 2021</b>					<b>378</b>

### REACCREDITATIONS 2021

(Please note: some officials accredited in multiple positions)

Chief Timekeepers	10
Marshals	
Check Starters	9
Clerks of Course	
Starters	10
Inspectors of Turns	2
Judges of Strokes	0
Referees	0

### ACCREDITATIONS 2021

(Please note: some candidates accredited in multiple positions)

Timekeepers	5
Chief Timekeepers	1
Marshals	
Check Starters	0
Clerks of Course	
Starters	2
Inspectors of Turns	0
Judges of Strokes	0
Referees	0

### OFFICIALS' COURSES 2021

	<i>No. of courses</i>	<i>Candidates</i>
Timekeepers	2	14
Chief Timekeepers	2	5
Marshals		
Check Starters	1	1
Clerks of Course		
Starters	2	3
Inspectors of Turns	1	3
Judges of Strokes	0	0
Referees	0	0

#### COURSE COORDINATORS

Heather Rouen

Peter McGee

Neil Keele

Diane Partridge

#### COURSE PRESENTERS

Heather Rouen

Peter McGee

Neil Keele

Diane Partridge

(Please note: individual clubs can conduct Timekeeper courses)

Diane Partridge  
Training Coordinator

## MEETINGS 2021

### **MSNSW Branch at MSA National Meetings**

During 2021 Jon Hawton, as MSNSW Branch delegate, attended Masters Swimming Australia's Annual General Meeting plus both the Spring and Autumn General Meetings, all via Zoom.

Throughout 2021 Jillian Pateman attended many regular National Branch Administrators' meetings via Zoom.

### **MSNSW BOARD**

The board of Masters Swimming NSW met on twelve occasions during 2021, either via Zoom or at Sports House, Sydney Olympic Park, including the Annual General Meeting and a Planning Day. The attendance at these meetings was as follows:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Apologies</i>	<i>Possible</i>
Kerryn Blanch	President	12	0	12
David Loader	Vice President	12	0	12
Lawrence Powderly	Board member / Country Vice President	11	1	12
Paul Bailey	Treasurer	5	3	8
Jon Hawton	Board member	9	3	12
Lesley Potter	Board member until July	4	2	6
Mark McDonald	Board member	12	0	12
Julie Orr	Board member from July	6	0	6
Jillian Pateman	Administrator/ Minute taker	12	0	12

### **Annual General Meeting**

This was held both via Zoom and in person in the Lachlan & Murray rooms at Sports House, Sydney Olympic Park on 15 May 2021 and was attended by the Board, twenty-two delegates from Member Clubs and fifteen registered persons, including four Life Members.

Apologies were received from ten registered persons and three Member clubs.

### **Bonus Meetings**

Again, due to the nature of 2021 many more meetings were conducted through the power of Zoom, and these included club presidents' meetings hosted by President Kerryn Blanch, and country club meetings hosted by Country Vice President Lawrence Powderly.

## CLUB MEMBERSHIP 2021

	2020	2021		2020	2021
Armidale AUSSI Masters Swimming Club	17	12	North Shore Masters Swimming Club	20	17
Bidgee Masters Swimming Club	7	6	North Sydney Masters Swimming Club Inc	80	63
Blacktown City Masters Swimming Inc	32	42	Novocastrian Masters Swimming Inc	22	23
Blue Mountains Phoenix Masters Swimming	16	21	Oak Flats AUSSI Masters Inc	7	9
Bushrangers	22	12	Penrith AUSSI Masters Swimming Inc	8	9
Campbelltown Collegians AUSSI MSC Inc	34	34	Port Macquarie Masters Swimming Club Inc	38	31
Castle Hill RSL Masters Swimming Club	6	10	Raymond Terrace AUSSI Masters Swim Club	7	4
Cessnock Masters Swimming Inc	31	26	Ryde AUSSI Masters Swimmers (RAMS) Inc	65	59
Clarence River Masters Swimming	69	66	Sapphire Coast Stingrays Inc	26	32
Coffs Harbour Masters Swimming Inc	19	11	Seaside Pirates Inc	47	30
Coogee-Randwick Master Swimmers Inc	25	22	Singleton Masters Swimming Club	4	4
Dubbo Redfin AUSSI Masters Swimming Club	5	3	St George Masters Swim Club Inc	25	26
Ettalong Pelicans Swimming Club Inc	21	30	Sutherland Sandbern Masters Swim Club Inc	18	35
Ginninderra Masters Swim Club	8	9	Tattersalls Club Swimming	13	33
Gosford City Seagulls AUSSI Masters	8	9	Trinity AUSSI Masters Swim Club	35	22
Hills Masters Swimming Inc	18	16	Tuggeranong Masters Swimming ACT	78	80
Lake Macquarie Crocs Masters Swimming Inc	14	10	Warringah Masters Swimming Inc	88	88
Lane Cove Masters Inc	15	14	Westes Auburn Masters Swimming Club Inc	13	15
Maitland AUSSI Masters	15	18	Wett Ones Swimming Club Inc	183	162
Manly Masters Swimming Club Inc	72	75	Wollongong Masters Swimming Inc	19	13
Merrylands Swimming Club	11	6	Wyong Wobbygongs Swimming Club	9	7
Molonglo Water Dragons	50	57			
Myall Masters Swimming Club	59	54	<b>TOTAL MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>1379</b>	<b>1339</b>
Narooma Masters	0	14			

Armidale Masters, along with most other clubs, began 2021 with a sense of optimism that the worst of the pandemic was behind them. As the club is more social than competitive, members hoped that as the year progressed their occasional gatherings for after swim brunch would return without the now familiar COVID induced restrictions. Swimming continued at the outdoor Monckton Aquatic Centre until it closed for winter at the beginning of April, and the club began its annual migration to the indoor pool at The Armidale School (TAS). While there remained the requirement for masks and checking in, swimming was again a regular part of life.

As we all know now, in early winter, the COVID situation in Sydney soon declined alarmingly with dire consequences for life in general and particularly onerous restrictions in place for large sections of the city. While far more fortunate in most respects, people in the Armidale area soon discovered the LGA (Local Government Area) based restrictions had some unexpected implications for those who like to stay fit. With a part of the Armidale socio-economic catchment in the Armidale LGA and another large portion in Uralla LGA, movement around the region was suddenly inhibited.

Pools and gyms, as everywhere, soon closed. Members who run continued as usual as long as they remained in their LGA, and carried masks and identification. Armidale road cyclists, who are normally a common sight on the roads of Uralla Shire, however, were soon noticeably absent, having to find new places to train. Equally, mountain bikers from Uralla LGA, who normally use the tracks on the outskirts of Armidale, were prevented from doing so. Conversely, everyone in the region continued to shop and do business in Armidale, regardless of LGA of residence, as it is the region's economic centre. Still, worse things have happened. We watched anxiously as COVID cases spread across Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong, and into the far west of the state, and wondered when cases would appear in our region. Fortunately, when they did, numbers were small and those infected had not moved within the community.

As vaccination rates increased and restrictions eased, Armidale Masters members have gradually returned to the pool. Understandably, as part of an educational institution, the TAS pool has remained closed to outsiders. The pool at the University of New England however, is available to Masters members who are also members of Sport UNE, and has provided the only option until the Monckton Aquatic Centre opened at the beginning of October. To the relief of many members, Monckton's often inconsistent heating system has finally been repaired and a pleasant water temperature is now assured. Due to the wet and often windy weather this spring some members have chosen to swim indoors at the UNE pool. The weather, though, is a minor issue compared to the COVID dominated year that we have all endured.

While the Omicron COVID variant is still of concern, most Armidale Masters members are looking to 2022 with a sense of optimism. We have indoor and outdoor swimming options available to us and the local cafes are once again available for our post swim brunches. For some months now travel to the nearby north coast for some surf time has been allowed, with all that's required is some dry weather. The forecast for the New Year is good so we can only hope the meteorologists have it right. Already some of us have signed up for some ocean swims in 2022, as confident as we can be that the worst of the pandemic is behind us.

Stephen Phelps  
President, Armidale AUSSI Masters Swimming Club



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## BIDGEE MASTERS ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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2021 has been a really quiet year for our Bidgee swimmers. From the start of the year, it has been difficult to assemble more than about 3 swimmers on our regular 1st Monday of the month swims. As a result, we also struggled to have any sort of successful structured training sessions. We have been impacted by illness, injury and some trips away. I'm not even sure if we managed to have a dinner together after one of our swims this year. We will have to try harder next year to come together.

On the brighter side, some of our members have been able to meet for a social coffee and most have continued to swim at their own convenience.

I think it is fair to say that we have all loved swimming in our new outdoor 50 m pool which opened again (after briefly opening in March/April) for the summer season at the start of October, and we enjoy the added fitness that comes with the bigger pool.

Competing has been off our radar unfortunately but with COVID "settling down", some of our group may begin travelling for Masters carnivals again soon.

Merry Christmas to everyone. Have a safe break and enjoy swimming in 2022.

Nancy Cauduro  
President



Supported by the





## BLACKTOWN MASTERS SWIMMING CLUB PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021

2021 was another disrupted year for Blacktown Masters, with COVID lockdowns hitting us hard and throwing our training and competition schedule off-kilter.

However, it was also a year of significant growth and change for the club. At our AGM, we elected a completely new committee, and I would like to take a moment to personally acknowledge all of the time and commitment to the club that the previous committee has demonstrated throughout their tenure.

We have also seen a growth in our membership base, with several new members joining in the post-lockdown period. Many of these members were completely new to swimming and have slowly been building their confidence and endurance in the water under the tutelage of our newly accredited coach, Kerry-Ann Michels.

We have also built our officials tally, with me completing the starters course and training, and Kerry completing inspector of turns training. Kemton Cline also completed his final qualifications to become a referee under the Swimming Australia process, and these qualifications have transferred across to MSNSW. We hope to continue building our accredited officials base in 2022.

Our carnival attendance was steady and swimmers competed as well as possible given the circumstances. Our highlights included some FINA top 10 placements, with Aaron Cleland achieving the 4th fastest time in the world for 2021 in the 45–49 years long-course 200m breaststroke and 8th in the short-course 200m backstroke, a men's 200–239 team comprising Aaron, Kemton, Stephen Brown and Scott Hay achieving 5th in the 4 x 50m medley relay and a mixed 120–159 years team comprising Mark, Aaron, Jay Burstson and Alex Hardy achieving 7th in the 4 x 100m short-course freestyle relay.

We held a successful carnival in March before lockdown which served as a successful springboard into state for many swimmers, and we are looking forward to our 2022 carnival.

A small but faithful group of swimmers also completed the Endurance 1000 program. We had 6 complete the entire program with 4 achieving maximum points, and 17 participants in total. We also had multiple swimmers recording and submitting milestones for the Vorgee Million Metres program.

We see 2022 as an exciting opportunity to continue growing our club and building on the strong progression that the second half of 2021 has brought with it.

Mark McDonald  
President



BLUE MOUNTAINS PHOENIX ADULT SWIMMING CLUB  
PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021

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This was my first year as president after a very long stint as secretary.

We started with 20 members for what became a very weird year.

Even with all the lockdowns, there were eleven carnivals that the club entered this year. Myall and Cabarita were the first two carnivals attended. The next was Blacktown in March. It was the most horrendous day, weather wise. Only nine of our twelve members entered made it to Blacktown. We still fielded two relay teams.

State championships were over two days in April. Six members competed and we had two relays. Kur-ring-gai, Woy Woy and Maroubra followed. Our next entry was Seaside Pirates carnival at Knox Grammar School. Four members entered and we won the 200+ women's medley relay. Then lockdown hit yet again. So no pools open.

I tried to keep in touch with everyone via email. The thought was 'how to keep fit' when we weren't allowed to go anywhere. Two members donned their wet suits and swam in Wentworth Falls Lake. Amazing! A lot of walking eventuated with our other members. I heard of various other undertakings, such as concrete driveways.

Jillian Pateman arranged a Zoom meeting for us on 17 September 2021. Eleven of us logged on. It was so great to be able to see and talk to each other.

Sally Hatcher had a carpal tunnel operation on both hands. She came through with flying colours. Kay Burton moved into her newly renovated house. I cleaned further down my back yard and used a chain saw.

The presidents were invited to log into a Zoom meeting with MSNSW. This meeting between the clubs was mainly concentrated on when we would be able to start training again. I really enjoyed seeing familiar faces.

The general consensus from the head coach was to 'take it easy', please be careful as some venues were beginning to reopen. It was also reported that the aerobics program would not be shortened. We were advised to 'do as much as you can'. This I conveyed to our members who are very keen aerobics swimmers.

When the pools reopened in September, everyone jumped back in the water with a vengeance. Again we were advised by MSNSW to go by the specific guidelines for each venue.

The carnival scheduled for Glenbrook pool on 20 November turned out to be terrific. Although this carnival only attracted a small number of competitors, we were able to enter ten swimmers. This included our very keen male swimmer Murray Garlan, who enjoyed himself immensely. Our club fielded timekeepers with Jillian Pateman and Sue Wiles taking on

official duties. This allowed for the rest of us to swim as the races progressed very quickly. Our two relay teams won both events. We were also first in the point score, fabulous for us. It was so fantastic not to be driving home late.

Birrong scheduled for 5 December turned out to be a cold day. At least it was warm in the water. Seven members attended with a good result of second in the point score. We won our 280+ women's relay, with good practice for starting in the water.

Two members competed at Hornsby, which was last carnival for the year. Unfortunately, we have only two male swimmers, so it is difficult for us from the relay perspective. We are hoping they will be able to attend the same meets together in the coming year.

Our club finished the aerobics year with 5063 points. Ten women and two men took part. Leading our club was Lyndall Wilson with 1005, maximum points. This year we will try for a full number of members swimming the aerobics programme.

Special thanks to Jillian Pateman for her constant knowledge. Thanks to Robin Griffiths for keeping the aerobics program up and running. This is a very important aspect of our club.

This has been a very challenging year. Thanks to all my club friends for 'hanging in there'. When we come together we make Phoenix a very successful club.

Nerida Murray  
President





## CLARENCE RIVER MASTERS PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021

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At this present time, we have 65 members. Our training sessions are going extremely well at both pools and numbers are good and increasing. New members continue to join and have created great competition and fun in all our sessions.

The Branch Point score has not changed much for our club, due to not running a carnival and not travelling to other carnivals. Again, COVID has a lot to do with this.

We are still in Division 3 and are placed 8th from 11 clubs.

All our points come from postal swims, and these include the popular West Auburn Turtle Swim. This event is swum by many members who surprise themselves with distances they may not have tried before. We have again had some great results. Two members competed the 5000 m themselves and both won their age groups.

The club held a workshop for the coaches, and this not only benefits the coach, but the swimmers too. Our coaches are kept up to date with their accreditation, CPR and First Aid. I would encourage any member to think about becoming a coach as the club could do with a few more. Please just ask for details.

Over the year the club has continued with the gym and resistance training, with members saying it is really good and they feel great for it.

Some members continued ocean swimming through the winter period when the pools are closed. Also, some members tried open water swimming in the river through winter and have said they would do it again next winter!

COVID halted some of our social events, but members are now able to enjoy breakfast and dinner after our training sessions. Our annual breakfast has been postponed till early next year.

I would like to thank the coaches and volunteers, who stand on deck, help with covers, look after keys, help with equipment and breakfasts. Without all of you the club would not be where it is today.

As this is my final Presidents Report, I would like to personally thank all members, all my present and past committees and those in Head Office, who are always on hand to answer questions.

Have a wonderful Christmas and look forward to a happy, healthy COVID free 2022!

Jane Lawrence  
President



COFFS HARBOUR MASTERS SWIMMING CLUB INC  
PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021

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It could be said that nothing happened for Coffs Harbour Masters Swimming in 2021. However, the fact that members kept swimming, and in contact via a loose coincidental network, is something positive.

Membership may have dropped off, but given life always impacts and there was little to offer in the way of competition, this fact was not surprising. Over the winter, squad programmes kept coming and had small devoted followers. More capable swimmers trained 'with the kids' at the early morning squads. Where possible, with the COVID restrictions to numbers, groups of individuals ventured to the cooler ocean waters.

The club skeleton administration inched along without formal meetings as, again, there was nothing to discuss, no cohesive membership and no incoming money. It was a lean year indeed.

However, with the coming of 2022, ideas are being tossed about on how to rejuvenate the club. If the weather, holidays, pandemic restrictions, commitment and interest fall into line, I hope there will be more to report next year.

Hilary Young  
President





GOSFORD CITY SEAGULLS AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING CLUB  
PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021

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It is with pleasure that I am able to write this report for 2021.

I would like to thank all current members of the Gosford City AUSSI Masters Swimming club with particular thanks to all members of the executive committee for their dedication and enthusiasm throughout the year.

Our membership numbers have unfortunately declined over the last 12 months but we still remain a strong and enthusiastic swimming club with all members committed to the Masters ethos of *Fun, Friendship and Fitness*.

It was great to get back in the water for training and swimming fitness despite the continued presence of COVID-19. The club adapted well to the Department of Health directive regarding social distancing and the QR tracing program. As per the Gosford Council the Gosford Seagulls AUSSI Masters club developed a COVID-SAFE plan which all members adhered to.

It was great to see that members challenged themselves with attempting and gaining confidence with a variety of strokes and swim distances. Well done.

Special thanks are extended to Hayley Stalgis for instructing members in warm-up and cool-down procedures and techniques. These very informative sessions were very well designed to suit all club members. I would like to mention our club Captain, Paul Stalgis, for devising and encouraging members to participate in a variety of events and activities.

Thanks to all members for a great but challenging 2021 and I wish everyone and safe and healthy 2022.

Michael Stringfellow  
President





## HILLS MASTERS SWIMMING INC ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Hills numbers are still dropping with only 16 members in 2021 (from 17 in 2020 and 20 in 2019). No-one joined after 24 February 2021 when we regained a previous member from 2016. We lost 3 members (careless!) and gained two new members, one from Masters Swimming Vic —sooo ... COVID-19 still impacting numbers in 2021.

Our official club training session time is Tuesday 7 pm. We started the year at our 'home' pool, Galston Aquatic Centre, with GAC coach Debra Francia. We maintained a steady base of swimmers at most sessions under our COVID-19 safety plan. Then the second lockdown hit in June and no swimming until September. Galston AC was then closed for renovations, but actually never reopened after lockdown finished. So Tony Howe negotiated with the management of our other Hornsby Shire Aquatic Centre and we continued our Tuesday night training under very strict COVID restrictions and session times, fortunately back with Deb again. However, our race nights and our endurance programme have been discontinued after the lockdown in June 2021.

Hills representation at swim meets on the MSNSW calendar: no Hills members swam at any of the 10 Resurrection Meets or time trials organised in 2021.

Our online postal swim "Swimming up Hills" [SUH] was not conducted in 2021 and is not to be conducted again in 2022. The future of this initiative is uncertain.

Nor did Hills plan to conduct a BPS meet in 2021. Our small club finds it difficult to comply with the rules of having so many mandatory officials.

Hills had the same team keeping the club together in 2021:

- ❖ President Di Coxon-Ellis, also Fitness Director / Registrar / Safety Officer. Di officiated at only two Resurrection Meets during 2021 (RM1 Tea Gardens and RM10 Hornsby). Di was also our Safety / COVID-19 officer;
- ❖ Tony Howe as Secretary/ Minutes Secretary plus assistant Safety Officer during Di's 5 months grey nomad travel time;
- ❖ Treasurer Kim Chapman and honorary auditor Melita Sutton;
- ❖ Sarnia Rusbridge as Club Recorder;
- ❖ Jim Walker Race Secretary / Social Organiser;
- ❖ The Shearers —Janet Club Captain, Freya & Sam looking after our social media page.

Debra Francia, our coach, has followed the Return to Swimming plan to guide our members safely back from lockdown and followed our progress through dryland efforts to keep fit in lockdown.

## SPONSORS

Due to the lockdown closure of Glenorie RSL Club, we did not apply for 2021 sponsorship. Hills held only three meetings at the Glenorie RSL, usually combined with dinner and COVID-safely, of course. It was the venue for our AGM in February, general meeting in April and December Xmas meeting and party, getting together for the first time after that lockdown period.

Glenorie Woolworths' contributes gift cards for our annual club awards.



Hills members are grateful to Jillian in the MSNSW office, the board of management and all the volunteers who saw us through these trying times. Thanks also to staff and volunteers of Masters Swimming Australia for keeping us informed and mentally healthy in 2021. Hills members are grateful for the early bird membership offered at the end of 2021 to keep us connected in 2022.

Sounds all a bit “COVID-negative” on the competition front and sponsorship but things are looking up for 2022 and we are picking up sponsorship, increasing in numbers already and making plans to increase participation, to resurrect at least the Endurance 1000.

More positives—due to the increased travel for us to attend training and as a further reward for “sticking with us in 2021”, the club is covering the cost of all coaching until June 2022.

Hills members still enjoy the fitness friendship and fun our club offers.

Tony Howe & Di Coxon-Ellis  
Secretary & President





LANE COVE MASTERS SWIMMING CLUB INC  
ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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The Lane Cove Masters Swim Club commenced operations in 1978 and continues to operate from the Lane Cove Aquatic Leisure Centre in Little Street, Lane Cove.

We have 12 financial members and 2 Honorary Life Members, and the club is classified as a member of Division 3.

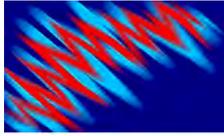
In 2021 the club finished in third place with three swimmers contributing to the club's total of 374 points.

Most of the members are male and of mature years. The younger cohort in the area belong to the Lane Cove Swim Club and have shown little inclination to compete in NSW Masters events.

Training is held on Tuesday evenings under the watchful eye of John de Vries, our coach, with swimmers competing in NSW Masters pool events and ocean swims. A number of members joined the club simply because they enjoy the exercise and the friendships made.

Nigel van Reyk  
Club Captain





MANLY MASTERS SWIMMING CLUB  
PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021

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We had expected COVID to be a memory, but it continued to wreak havoc throughout 2021 from a competition point of view and from a social interaction point of view.

Despite all this, the biggest single loss in 2021 was the passing of one of our most beloved and active members, Dawn Gledhill, to cancer. The feedback from both Manly members and the wider master's community highlighted the wonderful effect she had on all those who interacted with her.

Both Dawn's family and our club would like to honour Dawn's legacy by agreeing that the IM event at the Manly carnival will be dedicated to Dawn each year. The swimmer closest to their nominated time will be the recipient of the Dawn Gledhill medallion, kindly donated annually by Dawn's family. This was one of Dawn's favourite events and will help keep her memory alive in the broader masters community.

We did manage to all get back together socially for the Christmas party at the Wakehurst Golf Club thanks to all the work done by Sonja. Because of the limited amount of swimming in 2021 the committee decided against making any awards for the year.

Our inaugural postal swim called Ocean 2 Pool to encourage all swimmers back in the water was great fun for those who participated but it did not gain traction in the wider master's community.

Our ocean swimmers, the MOGGies (Manly Ocean Group), were very active in COVID and now number 37 members. It proved to be a great way for our members to link up and have a swimming mate, and to build up longer distances. It has helped us maintain our community.

Our honours list prepared by Gloria is necessarily a little thinner this year but congratulations to those who did manage to squeeze in a good swim.

Our coach, Alec Sheerlock, has now had a year to get to know how to work with us and he and Julie Orr have done a great deal of work establishing training plans based around our targeted events. They have also documented training sets that can be shared with members so that they can continue to use them even if not able to get to all squad sessions. The feedback on his Sunday squads has generally been extremely positive.

We have maintained our squad training on a Sunday morning in the 25-metre pool, augmented by one lane in the 50-metre pool to spread numbers and provide different training opportunities. Attendance has generally been solid. Thanks to Ruth for coordinating this on the day.

Club communication has this year been largely via the weekly *Dot Points* which has been emailed and posted to the internal Facebook page. The internal Facebook page has continued to be used by members, curated by Niamh, and we would hope to encourage more sharing of experiences in the new year.

One of the challenges in a pandemic has been training up new officials to assist in carnivals run by other clubs as well as managing our own event. We have commenced that process and as carnivals rebuild the trainees will be encouraged to get the experience necessary for sign off. For the second year running, Manly held no carnival in 2021 but have our 2022 carnival booked for October.

Our vice president, Julie Orr, has coordinated a subcommittee to review our club strategy for the future, as foreshadowed last year. This included a club survey with near to 50% of members responding which was positive. This was presented to our AGM in February 2022 and will guide us so that we have a coherent approach to the future of the club.

Our constitution dating from 2004 has also been updated in a process led by Steve Lamy using the current model constitution for clubs. This was also ratified at our 2022 AGM. Never exciting work but thanks very much to Steve and Julie for their input.

With the downtime this year we have also taken the opportunity to review and revise all committee position descriptions, so that they reflect current practice and needs.

This has been my second year as president and I would like to express my thanks to all on the committee, as well as Ruth, Ted, Abi, and others who assisted with energy and ideas in a difficult time for all such clubs. I would particularly like to thank Eric McNamara's contribution over the year. Eric stepped down from the committee last year due to work and family commitments but stepped in as acting race secretary when we had no candidate. He received very positive feedback from Masters NSW as well for his work. Huge thank you Eric.

Dare I be optimistic for 2022? I think so. Happy swimming everyone.

Greg Jewson  
President





## MOLONGLO WATER DRAGONS MASTERS SWIMMING CLUB PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021

Like 2020, 2021 has been another challenging year for the swimming community, and the broader Australian community in general. The COVID-19 pandemic continued to bring disruption and difficulty to many Australians, and masters swimming did not escape its ravages. Nonetheless, swimmers are resilient people, and the Molonglo Water Dragons especially so, and 2021 has proven, ultimately, another successful year for the club.

The 2021 swimming year started in January in (relative) normality, with training taking place at Queanbeyan and Civic. The Dragons were swimming off those extra Christmas calories and gearing up for a year of uninterrupted swimming fitness and friendship. In March, the Dragons participated in the ACT regional time trials, hosted by our sister club—the Tuggeranong Vikings. On 21 June, the Dragons undertook the fourth annual Winter Solstice swim in Lake Burley Griffin—after which they repaired to Nicole and Pete's beautiful home in Jerrabomberra for après-swim pizza and spa.

Several Dragons distinguished themselves through swimming achievements in the first half of 2021. In April, John Collis competed in the NSW State Championships, coming away with three medals. John followed up this feat in June, with more success at the Great Barrier Reef Masters Games. On 10 June, Geoff Lewellyn, aged 88, completed the last swims required for his 2021 endurance program.

Sadly, the pandemic was raging all around the world, and by August it reached Canberra, causing the city to go into lockdown. The two pools used by the Dragons closed their doors, and masters swimming went into abeyance for nearly three months. The Dragons were forced to find other ways of keeping fit, with walking on Canberra's local hills being one popular option. Carol Croce played an important role in keeping club morale high, by organising well-attended virtual get-togethers on Zoom.

Then, in October we had the joyous experience of pools reopening, and Dragons cautiously re-entered the water and redeployed long-forgotten swimming muscles. The Dragons first swam at the very attractive and clean Queanbeyan Pool, with the occasion being celebrated following the swimming session with a BBQ at Tim and Ros' lovely property at Guy's Cross. That night we learned that Masters Swimming NSW had awarded the 2021 Betty Grant Award to John Collis for his services to the ACT and NSW masters swimming community, including during the darkest days of the pandemic.

We have gotten through this challenging start-stop-start swimming year, through the efforts of excellent services of people on the Molonglo Water Dragons committee, including John (VP and membership), David Specker (secretary), Gary Stutsel (treasurer), Les Worthington, Greg Reynolds (coaching director), Evan Connel (webmaster) and Chris Hayhoe (public officer). Thanks to Chris Loose for supporting us at Queanbeyan. Special thanks are due to our fine

and committed coaches, Greg, Les, John, Mary-Liz and with a guest appearance by Alan. I acknowledge the perseverance and patience of the Molonglo Water Dragon swimmers themselves. I also acknowledge the work of the staff at Queanbeyan and Civic pools who have done so much to keep the Dragons, and all members of the swimming community, as safe as possible from the ravages of COVID-19.

Now, in November 2021, some semblance of normality is once again returning—and hopefully this time it will last. We are back in both of the pools—Queanbeyan and Civic—rebuilding our fitness, rediscovering and improving our strokes. Thanks to Evan’s canny work with the club website, we feature more prominently in search engine results, making us more discoverable to aspiring Dragons and keeping our membership numbers buoyant. A spirit of optimism is in the poolside air, which, unlike a virus, is safe to inhale. I look forward to swimming year 2022 and issue a clarion call to Dragons everywhere in Canberra and Queanbeyan to dust off their trunks, strap on goggles instead of a mask, and boldly leap, once again, into the sparkling waters of our public pools.

David Dedenczuk  
President





## MYALL MASTERS SWIMMING CLUB ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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The year was definitely one with its challenges, however our committee continued to keep things normal as much as possible.

Myall Masters annual swim meet on 13 February was once again successful with support from the major clubs Warringah, Maitland, Campbelltown and Port Macquarie. The top point score winners on the day—Myall Masters—was assisted with an enthusiastic contingent from the club being involved in setting up all the equipment, lane ropes, blocks, etc and then swimming and / or officiating on the day.

A big thanks and praise must always go to the officials on the day as without their selfless support there would not be a swim meet.

Our club stayed in touch with each other with committee meetings being held via Zoom meetings and towards the end of the year we went back to face-to face meetings once again. Our AGM, held on 21 April, returned the previous year's committee, with Leon Bobako elected as president / head coach.

The awards night held in April at Tillermans Restaurant attended by 40 swimmers and partners recognized the efforts of swimmers

**STEPHEN BERGAN** (Encouragement Award), pictured below being presented with the trophy by his wife Julie, who was the previous year's winner, and

**TREV SHORTEN** (Club Member of the Year), the award presented by Vice President Linda Stubbs.

Both recipients were presented with a perpetual trophy and a personal trophy for their pool room. Our club partly subsidized the cost of the function for all members.

A farewell function was held for member Bob Voigt in with a lunch at the Tea Gardens Hotel. Bob has been a member since the club's inception and was moving to Sydney to be close to family due to his health. To be missed. Bob is pictured below with club member Kerry Patterson and with past president Peter Kellaway.

A Christmas function was organized by our social secretary, Kerry Patterson, at the Tea Gardens Hotel with pizza on the menu (with a subsidy of \$10 to all attending) and a gathering to celebrate our past year's efforts where we were totally responsible for the pool whilst we attended with QR codes, etc and passing on the management of the pool to the YMCA.

We were able to have 3 training sessions a week Monday and Friday evenings and Wednesday morning. Midcoast Council allowed us exclusive use of the pool, so you could

say we have been spoilt. This situation attracted new members as the pool was closed to the public at all other times.

The coaching group excelled themselves with some interesting and creative sessions. Coaches showed their preferences in coaching so each session was always a surprise for the swimmers. As head coach I thank Sharon Taylor, Chris Dunning, Chris Lock and Mal Motum for their support during the season. As our treasurer, John Estens, says regularly “Our members truly get value for their membership fee”.

To all our swimmers, social members and supporters we appreciate your involvement.

Thanks especially to our committee.

Leon Bobako  
President





## NORTH SYDNEY MASTERS ANNUAL REPORT 2021

2021 has been another tricky year for North Sydney Masters, as I'm sure it has for most clubs!

After losing access to the wonderful North Sydney Olympic Pool during its redevelopment, the club has settled into a late 7.30–8.30 pm slot at Lane Cove pool on Mondays and Wednesdays, and Manly pool on Sunday mornings at 9 am for an hour and a half. We've also started a more ad-hoc Saturday morning ocean swim down at Manly and other beaches.

None of this could happen without the benevolence of our volunteer coaches, who have been skipping training sessions and often swimming at other times by themselves instead, to coach the rest of the squad. So, many thanks to them!

Our poor pool:



Fortunately, despite our pool problems, we've managed to maintain a membership of between 70 and 80 members.

We regularly have a dozen or so swimmers at the various carnivals across the east coast, and a similar number regularly attending the various ocean swimming events across Sydney.

We're very much looking forward to nationals in Sydney this year and (fingers crossed!) a return of the relay carnival!

Colin Hannah  
President



## NOVOCASTRIAN MASTERS SWIMMING CLUB ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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The 2021 year has been another quiet one for the majority of members attending carnivals due to the COVID-19 pandemic, although the club was represented at 9 carnivals. Special mention to Lachlan and Bill from both ends of the age spectrum who covered most of the meets for us and swam exceptionally well in their respective age group.

Total members for 2021 was 18 and down to our lowest for some years. Our committee is challenged to find new members. Our swimmers train at different pools and squads at times that suit them so it is difficult to stay in touch. A group of up to 10 swim and train at Charlestown pool twice a week so about half the club get to socialize afterwards.

This year our Christmas party was booked at a public venue but was cancelled and held at our president's residence due to COVID restrictions again. Thanks to everyone who helped make this a great gathering.

Our Monday swim coaching sessions have been suspended since August due to low attendance. The attendances started strongly but reduced towards the middle of the year.

Financially the club is secure with help from MSNSW and government assistance. We have waived our club joining fee for the second time to attract membership numbers.

Our carnival had to be cancelled this year due to pool renovations and government restrictions but we look forward to running one in 2022.

Nick Woodcock  
President

*Let's go, Novos*



Supported by the





*Oak Flats Blue Swimmers*  
*Swimming for fitness and fun*

OAK FLATS AUSSI MASTERS INC.  
ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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Another crazy COVID year but, lucky for us, living in a regional area we did not suffer severe lockdowns.

Our pool in Kiama was only closed for about 6 weeks so in that time we could still swim in the Minnamurra River. Some of us bought a wetsuit so we could survive when the water temperature dropped.

We had a coaching session with our local pool coach, which gave us all some great drills and skills. As a club we do not have access to a coach so these sessions are valuable for us.

We all look forward to being able to get to some competitions this year.

Yours in swimming.

Narelle Day  
President



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RYDE AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMERS INC (RAMS)  
ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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### **MEMBERSHIP**

In what has been a most difficult year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Ryde still has a healthy club and with a number of new members. We currently have 43 members—22 females and 21 males. Largely through the efforts of our President Andrew McCrindell and our Safety Officer Ailsa Jeans, the club has maintained its membership throughout the year.

### **CLUB SESSIONS AND VENUES**

Regular training nights are held at Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre on Mondays (7.45–8.45 pm) and Wednesdays (7.30–8.30 pm); a Saturday morning swim (8.00–9.00 am) is also available. Wednesday night includes a social gathering after training for tea / coffee and biscuits, and once-a-month member birthdays are celebrated with cake. These gatherings have been suspended for most of 2021 but will resume as soon as we are able. The club is still fortunate to have Greg Lewin as its head coach, supported by Andrew McCrindell, who together coordinate a stimulating mix of training sessions and drills with ever-changing instructional techniques tailored to our abilities to prepare members for all major meets. This year Greg introduced us to an approach based on Maglischko in order to reach peak performance. Training videos, weekly core strength work, and training mirrors are included in his programs. All club members are encouraged regardless of ability, from high achieving swimmers to those learning from strokes for the first time.

### **INTERCLUB MEETS**

The COVID-19 pandemic once again made for another eventful year. 2021 we came second in Division 1 to Warringah with over 3000 points. Unfortunately, a number of carnivals were once again cancelled and this included our own Ryde carnival. Before the July lockdown, in the BPS stakes Ryde came 2nd at Cabarita, 3rd at Blacktown and Seaside Pirates and a number of swimmers attended the Team Challenge at SOPAC as well as doing well at Woy Woy and Maroubra.

The club would again like to express its appreciation of the MSNSW board on their efforts to keep us focused and moving, by organising virtual meets and realtime despite the lockdown and many disappointing cancellations in 2021.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS OF MEMBERS**

We are very proud of our Jenny Whiteley, who achieved 3 national records and 4 branch records in varying distances and every stroke. Also, of Barbara Capellini and Mark Cooper for coming in the top 5 most active swimmers in individual achievements.

Congratulations to all three.

During the 2021 COVID lockdown, Greg provided us with core exercises and aerobics via Webex in place of swim sessions, keeping us fit and ready once the pools opened. We also organised social nights via Webex where we chatted and participated in games, our favourite being Geogssr.

### **SAFETY**

Our safety officer, Ailsa Jeanes, reported no incidents for the year and has submitted the 2021 Safety Report. Our CPR course for 2021 has been postponed to 2022 and once again Ailsa helped us get back in the pool after the COVID lockdown.

### **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

The club held its annual Christmas party with presentation of club awards for:

**Service:** Greg Lewin

**Participation:** Mark Cooper

**Encouragement:** Annalisa Hope

**Long Service:** Kathy Andrews

Ryde club members participated where possible in branch events and club training in the spirit of

### **FUN, FRIENDSHIP AND FITNESS**

Joanne Pritchard  
Secretary





## SAPPHIRE COAST ADULT SWIMMING CLUB ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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Struth, another year COVID interference with our swimming! It looks like we have to live with it now, so let's just get on with things.

We managed to keep up regular training despite a few lockdowns and lockouts. Our isolation from the larger metropolitan centres is somewhat a blessing and allowed us to keep open for longer so we were not too disadvantaged. Generally speaking, we kept functioning normally and did not lose membership, in fact we gained a little.

### MEMBERSHIP

Our relatively new club continues to grow. The carry-over membership numbers from 2020 was in the low 20s but by years-end we increased by over 30% to the low 30s.



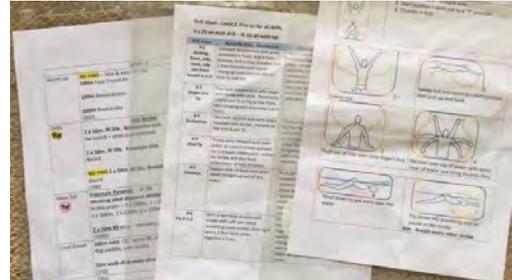
The increase in numbers was due to some minor promotion by the club based around the MSNSW 6-month and 16-month membership options. These are great options because not everyone decides to enrol at the beginning of the year when the membership cost is most financially attractive.

We had a somewhat bigger push for membership towards the end of 2021 when there was a state-wide COVID opening up. The president approached the pool facility to ask for a third club session on Friday afternoons to try to capture the after-work crowd. This was successful in adding another half dozen members.

### STINGRAY TRAINING SESSIONS

The 2021 year ended with three regular Stingray training sessions. This is as good as or better than many Masters clubs state-wide. It does, however, put a considerable task on coaching staff and in particular head coach Sue Keey. New sessions have to be prepared for each week and even tweaked from one session to the next during the week. All sessions are taken from an annual plan that Sue has worked up early in the new year. Many thanks for Sue's hard work.

To assist in coaching, the club purchased an underwater camera which is useful in evaluating stroke technique from above and below the water line. Many members have benefited from this already, with a personal video copy sent to them along with a detailed stroke evaluation.



During the year, to help try and lessen the load on Sue as a coach, Bruce successfully completed the Masters Swimming Club Coach qualification. This gives our club two fully accredited swimming coaches to help spread the workload and ensure all sessions are appropriately supervised. A more detailed insight of coaching and training sessions is in the head coach report to be presented at the AGM.

#### ACTIVITY AS A CLUB

Needless to say COVID got in the way big time. So many interclub meets were cancelled or reduced throughout the year, notably Masters state and national championships as well the smaller ACT interclub meets by the Canberra clubs.



We did manage a team (including family ring-ins) at the local Bega Business House Relay in between shut-downs and our two teams performed well but sadly not making the final. A few of us, however, did do well in the age group sprints.



In addition, some of our members who like the open water stuff did well at the annual Broulee Ocean Swim in March.

### FINANCES

The club's finances remain strong. Our treasurer has provided a detailed report but in summary we obtain our income from:

- ❖ a \$20.00 contribution out of each members joining fee,
- ❖ a monthly sponsorship amount from Maggie & Rosie's Antique Emporium Bega in return for management of their Facebook account per Bruce,
- ❖ various grants either from Masters Swimming NSW and / or NSW State Government.

Outgoings through the year were mainly equipment (camera, tempo trainers, leg bands, etc), CPR course for coaches, Fair Trading, Masters NSW affiliation, subsidy of club attire and some printing supplies for training sessions.

Each year a few individuals stand out in making this club what it is. We wish to thank our hard-working head coach Sue Keey, who continues to watch over swimmers at the expense of her own swimming activity, and Nic Hoynes from Sapphire Aquatic Centre for continually supporting our increasing demands on pool space and time. Maggie & Rosie's Antique Emporium continue as our sponsor and the major contributor to our finances.

Yours swimmingly.

Bruce Williamson  
President





## SEASIDE PIRATES ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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Like all clubs in 2020 and 2021 we were affected by lockdowns. COVID, lack of swimming, lack of meets, but 2022 is another year and we look forward to what is ahead.

We were one of the lucky clubs to be able to run our meet in 2021, in fact it was the last meet before the lockdown and we were happy we were able to host swimmers from other clubs to enjoy the day.

Pirates were placed 9th in the Resurrection series last year. There were actually 12 meets held during the year (only 8 in 2020) which, considering the months in lockdown, is not a bad effort. Hopefully we will see more Pirates competing this year.

Looking at the top 100 swimmers for Australia I see Noemi Hall in 50 backstroke and Jon Hawton in 200 backstroke both swam at the NSW long-course championships at SOPAC in April. Congratulations to both members. Unfortunately, this was the only championship meet during 2021, but one better than 2020. Fingers crossed for 2022 as I can see some great swims coming from our membership.

As I previously mentioned we were able to hold our annual swim meet. We had 119 swimmers which was a large meet for 2021 and everyone enjoyed themselves. Thanks to the members who helped make this meet a success.

A huge congratulations to Sue Tompkins and Heidi Roche who completed all swims in the Endurance program during the year despite having almost 4 months out of the water. Both girls worked so hard at the beginning of the year to get their swims underway and then were thwarted by the 4-month lockdown. But as soon as the pools opened they were underway again, even getting their family to time them when necessary—it was a family effort on both sides but a massive effort for both girls and they should be very proud of their achievement.

At the end of the year the new million metres app was launched by MSA and I can already see 8 Pirates counting their laps. It is made so easy now and we all train during the week. Let's see if we can get more members involved in this program.

As with many clubs our social events were affected by COVID and our Bunnings BBQ was also cancelled. At the end of the year we were able to restart our breakfasts after training at Terrey Hills which will hopefully continue throughout 2022.

My thanks to the various Pirates who have helped out on pool deck during the meets in 2021 and all those who have helped keep the club running. 2022 looks like a great year, let's hope we all get to do the swimming and socializing that we joined the club to do.

Jane Noake



TRINITY AUSSI MASTERS SWIM CLUB  
ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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Not a good year, due to COVID. We have been locked out of the pool since June 2021.

At the time of writing this report we are still locked out and don't look like getting back into the pool until mid year 2022.

We still managed to keep in contact during the year as we are a social bunch and enjoy ourselves whenever we are out and about.

This year we had our Christmas party at Massey Park Golf Club at Concord. We had a great afternoon with 12 members attending, and we need to thank Daphne Kulhan and Johanne Staplfeldt for arranging it and all those that attended.

In conclusion we wish everyone in AUSSI good health and keep up the swimming.

Regards.

John Kulhan





WARRINGAH MASTERS SWIMMING CLUB  
ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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14 FEBRUARY 2022: The last 12 months have certainly been ‘stop and go’ with the dislocation caused by COVID. The Northern Beaches lockdown continued to early January, followed by restrictions of varying degrees across Greater Sydney including tightened restrictions in July through September severely impacting our activities and the competition activities of Masters Swimming generally. Nevertheless we managed to maintain full houses when we were allowed to train and a sizeable cohort of swimmers, and members qualified to officiate, participated in the 11 sanctioned carnivals squeezed into non-lockdown periods.

While COVID led to a significant number of swimmers dropping off our member roll, a large part of which we believe to be due to risk aversion to indoor settings in close proximity with others, member numbers remain relatively strong in the circumstances with 81 continuing and new members at end-2021. At the time of writing the number of members re-joining and new members for 2022 stands at 91, up 10%, which is excellent at this early stage of the year, so far ahead of national and branch championship closings.

#### TRAINING CONTINUES AT STRENGTH

At this point I would like to record the club’s continuing appreciation for the work our co-heads of training, Gordon Whyte and Wilson Gamble, did to maintain participation at the high levels seen last year, regularly hitting capacity. Equally our coaches and coaching including new face on deck: long time member, Kent Smith.

I’m sure the members (and visitors and try-outs) who take advantage of what we have to offer really appreciate it.

The swim booking system including our No Vax / No Swim policy has continued to work well and will be retained for the foreseeable future, irrespective of COVID restrictions: our swimmers seem to be more invested in the training than ever before. Thanks to Patrick and Susan Myers for respectively managing the booking system and admin of our COVID plan, and our Safety Officer Sue-Ellen Norris for her good counsel.

As well, by keeping our doors open to other Masters swimmers and potential new swimmers, we have brought in new members and had swimmers from North Sydney and Seaside Pirates to make up our numbers. The strong attendance has helped mitigate the COVID-driven loss of our major sponsorship of “Lane One” which is largely given over to some of our older swimmers and those in rehab.

Meanwhile Jan Shannon has been overseeing our CPR renewals and helping keep track of coach qualifications, which will become more important in light of the looming MSA/MSNSW requirement that only qualified coaches will be allowed on deck rather than

the current situation where our great team of volunteer coaching assistants help cover the eight lanes on Sundays under the eye of the Duty Coach.

### COMPETITION STILL GOING STRONG!

While there were interruptions, there were sufficient Resurrection Meets (11#) under the MSNSW umbrella to provide meaningful competition. The club provided many of the officials to help these happen.

Our members, captained by Paul Bailey, participated strongly to the extent of topping the points score up to carnival #10 (Glenbrook) with 4501 points ahead of Ryde's 2966 (which is not to detract from Ryde's strong performance being a smaller club than Warringah). Thanks also to Pat Chandler, our race secretary and relay picker *par excellence!*

Several of our swimmers appeared in the top-20 point scorers for the year, while it was being recorded: Christine Geftakis (our top points scorer), John Pagden, Bec Shepherd and Graham Campbell. As well, quite a few branch records were broken on the way: Stuart Meares (4# incl a national); Tom Taylor (2#, both national); Stephen Ford (2#), and with one each, Marilyn Earp, Bec Shepherd and Peter Michaelson.

We are now looking forward to our own carnival in early April, and hopefully a big turnout for nationals at SOPAC in late April.

### SOCIAL RESET

With the lifting of most of the most draconian social distancing requirement, in December it was great to run our Presentation Night once again with a full suite of awards, competition included, and a great member turnout.

Awarded by the coaching team, **Female Swimmer of the Year** was Rebecca Wayne—other nominees were Wendy Cooper, Christine Geftakis and Gwen de Mel; and the president was surprised to be awarded **Male Swimmer**—other well deserved nominees were Eduardo Moura and Bill Yeates, both relatively recent members. Inaugurated by Max van Gelder, the winner of the **Max Award**, for the most branch and national records for 2020/2021, was Stuart Meares. **Club Participation** went to Christine Geftakis, our leading carnival point scorer. The **President's Award** went jointly to Wilson Gamble and Gordon Whyte for the tremendous effort they put in to ensure we maximised every opportunity for pool training with record participation, as mentioned earlier.

As well our Christmas BBQ was able to go ahead and deemed a success including presentation of special club coaches' jackets. Great work from Social Secretary Christine Geftakis organising the presentation night and her BBQ helpers: Wendy Cooper, Bill Yeates and Tony Gallagher.

Thanks also to Stewart Heys for maintaining our social media presence, Violet Wilkinson for coordinating and sourcing our club gear needs; and to Bev Cook who, when she has the chance, COVID restrictions permitting, keeps us fed and watered.

## HEALTH & SAFETY PRIORITY

As mentioned above, once more our thanks to Sue-Ellen Norris for her wise counsel as COVID Safety Officer in addition to being club Safety Officer. We can report there were no incidents related to COVID nor any other reportable incidents during the year.

## OUTLOOK

Our 2022 training year has started well with continuing record attendances. The competition year has also got underway with meets at Maroubra, Campbelltown, SOPAC and Myall completed. Meet Director Julia Atkins has arrangements well in hand for our own carnival on Sunday 3 April. This will be a curtain raiser for short-course nationals at SOPAC, adding 200m events for those wanting a bit of competitive distance action.

Hopefully there will be sufficient public health clarity on the Omicron outbreak to see the rest of the year's interclub and branch / national competitions take place, which would be a semblance of normality, indeed.

The 'health' of our club continues to be strong: training sessions are very popular and we have seen a steady stream of swimmers trying out and joining. Thanks also to our Vice President Gwen de Mel; Secretary Tony Gallagher and Treasurer Helen Campbell AND all our volunteers who participated in the running of the club and events during the year. It couldn't be done without you ...

Looking forward to a much better 2022.

Graham Campbell  
President





## WESTS AUBURN MASTERS SWIMMING CLUB ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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### MEMBERSHIP

We had 15 financial members at the end of 2021. We average about 6 swimmers at most sessions and most members participate in regular endurance swims. We are working closely with Dooleys (Lidcombe Catholic Club) as a major sponsor.

### CLUB SESSIONS AND VENUE

We have been swimming at Ruth Everuss Aquatic Centre on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm and 8:00 pm, Fridays at 7:00 pm, and Sundays at 9:00 am for the first half of the year. Returning from lockdown, no formal training sessions occurred; however, swimmers launched back into endurance swims—taking place mostly at Birrong pool. We have five members with Bronze Medallion qualifications and three with Senior First Aid Training.

### INTERCLUB MEETS

We were represented at most BPS carnivals in NSW this year, as well as all branch carnivals. Club officials were on deck at many carnivals—in particular, Kerryn Blanch and Cassie Anderson. Wests has a wonderful turnout of timekeepers, even when they are not swimming at the carnival. Several members completed the Badagini Animal and Tuggeranong Trifecta postal swims.

### WESTS 5000M POSTAL SWIM

We held our annual 5000m postal swim again this year. We had fewer swimmers this year with 88 participants (11 individual swims and 37 relays). We hope more members will take up the challenge in 2022.

### ENDURANCE 1000

Fourteen of our 15 members participated in the national Endurance 1000 program (93%), giving us a total of 5524 points (which is 199 fewer than 2020). Our average point score was 368. One member (Michael Parkinson) scored maximum points, while Cassie Anderson and Kerryn Blanch competed in all swims.

### CLUB COMPETITIONS

We run two competitions within the club. One is a short distance point scoring competition (200, 100, 50, 25m) where eight swims per month score points. The other is a club record-breaking competition which was very keenly contested this year.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

Most of our swimmers will have their times entered for the Top Ten competition.

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Although small in numbers, we regularly enjoy social events such as Sunday brunch, dinners at Dooleys and Christmas dinner.

Kerryn Blanch  
President



Supported by the





## President’s report – August 2021

On 6 July 2020, Wett Ones members dived back into the water at Sydney University Sport and Fitness, under strict number limits, to resume where we had left off three and a half months earlier and before the (first) COVID19 lockdown. The resumption of squad swimming was a welcome relief for members and hopes remained high for another full year of training and competition. We almost made it, too – sadly, though, COVID19 re-emerged in Sydney and the second COVID19 lockdown saw the lane ropes pulled out of the pool on 25 June.

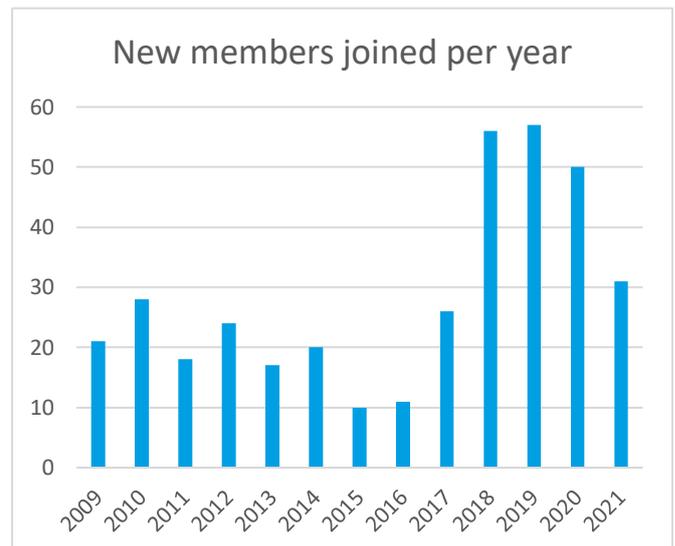
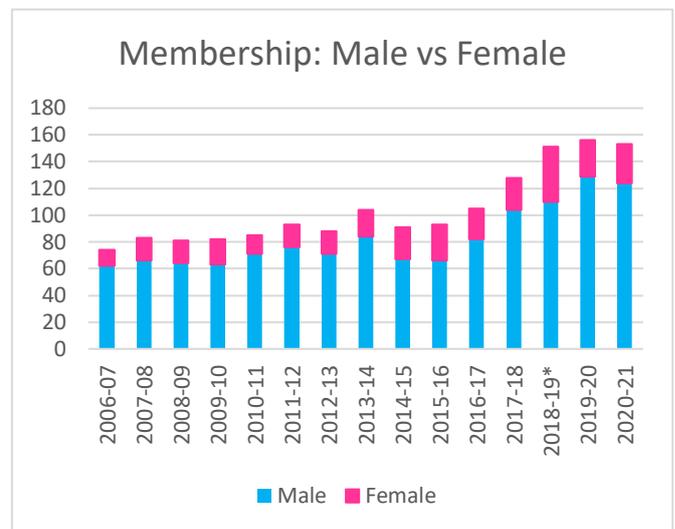
In the 50 weeks between open and shut, however, Wett Ones had yet another successful year in and out of the water. COVID19 forced much change to the way things were done – not just reducing numbers, at least initially, at training sessions, but the competition scene was altered too, with no Branch Points Score trophy awarded and opportunity for championship swims also limited.

### Membership

At the end of November 2020, the Club’s membership stood at 185 members, which included 48 new members through the calendar year. As at 30 June 2021, the membership is 153, which is three below the same time last year. Our new membership tally over the past financial year is 55, which is four more than the previous year. I want to thank **Pete Goodare** who, as our Registrar, has ensured that new members are made welcome to the Club and that their details are kept up to date in the Masters system.

Following the resumption of swimming in July last year, the Committee limited participation in training sessions to members only. This restriction was imposed to ensure that our current members, who had been kept out of the water by COVID19, were given a chance to resume their swimming fitness. Once more training space was available, we again welcomed back prospective members to give us a go, asking them to only attend a (quieter) session on a Friday evening or Sunday afternoon.

A key challenge for Wett Ones is member retention – while the Club is able to recruit new members in place of those that choose not to renew their membership (for a variety of reasons), we would like to see more of our current members renewing each year. In 2020, 41



members did not renew their membership for 2021. Only 48 of our 153 members joined the club before January 2018; 27 of our current members have been Wett Ones members for at least 10 years.

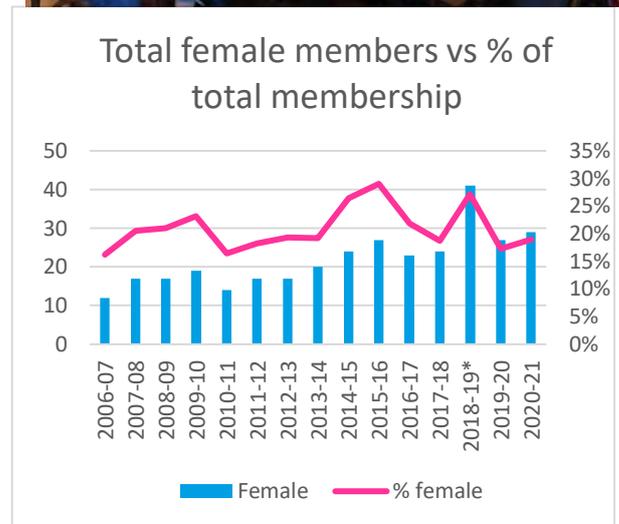
I am obviously encouraged by the number of new faces – now making up more than two thirds of the club membership – and I hope that the new and ‘stalwart’ faces around the Club continue to make the Club the warm, friendly, inclusive and supportive family we have worked so hard to build.

## Female engagement

Bad weather impacted the scheduled Women’s Bootcamp in March this year; despite this, we have seen solid recruitment of new female members, which is up two on last year (to date). Of our current female members, half have joined the club in the past 18 months.

The Club has made a concerted effort to increase female membership – credit is particularly due to **Susie Purcell**, who, as our women’s representative, has coordinated events for our female members, including our Bootcamps. Susie has been given great assistance by **Barbara Wise** and **Janet Bolton**, together with **Megan McLachlan** and **Sam Wolf**, who have been by her side helping at the bootcamps and other social catch ups.

I hope that the Club will continue to do more to encourage more women to come and give Wett Ones a go. Less than one in five of our current members are women – five years ago, this figure was almost one in three. If you have female friends who enjoy swimming, consider bringing them along to a training session – we’re sure they’ll love it!



## Finances

While a separate financial report will be presented, I want to call out the very healthy state of the Club’s finances. Particular credit is due to our Treasurer, **Reg Leones**, for his meticulous reporting of our monthly finances and management of day to day payments.

The Club’s solid balance sheet provides us with flexibility to support member initiatives, but I would be reluctant to see the Club use these accrued savings in short-term pursuits. It would, in my view at least, be folly for the Club to use these savings to offset the ‘fixed’ costs of swimming – such as coaching and lane hire. The Club is fortunate to have some coaches who take no payment for their services – generosity which is greatly appreciated – however this may not always be the case. Our swimming fees are very competitive (often cited as cheap by visitors!) and are carefully calculated to ensure the Club covers costs for lane hire and coaching fees. Importantly, some sessions cross-subsidise other less-busy sessions, providing the Club with sessions that cater to as many members as possible at various times.

## Training sessions

Over the past 12 months, 369 hours of training sessions have been conducted and 6,650 individual sessions booked, including free swims to prospective members. Upon resumption of training last July, our sessions were limited to Sydney University; after lengthy negotiations with Belgravia Leisure, we were able to resume our summer series at Andrew ‘Boy’ Charlton Pool, introduce a Tuesday morning session at Prince Alfred Park Pool, and work with them for additional opportunities at Cook and Phillip Pool.

Another challenge we continued to confront over the past 12 months was availability of pool lane space beyond Sydney University. To ensure we were looking for lanes at the times members wanted to swim, we conducted a member survey; feedback enabled us to push for a new Thursday evening session in addition to those already available. Attendance at this session, held at Cook and Phillip Pool, is encouraging.

As members would have noted from our regular communications, approaches to Belgravia Leisure for space at the new Gunyama Park pool in Green Square were unsuccessful, largely due to the times in which the pool was available relative to the time members were keen to swim. The limited space available at other pools, given existing long-standing bookings, will make the search for additional space a constant challenge for the club.

I would, however, like to particularly acknowledge **Dayle** and **Josh** at Sydney University Sport and Fitness for their willingness to work with us to manage our lane space at that facility. Wett Ones has been swimming at Sydney University for more than 25 years and we look forward to continuing at this facility into the future – the addition of the new 25m booms and platforms provide additional flexibility to squads and coaches, and we are grateful for the four lanes we have access to at three of our four afternoon/evening sessions.

## Swim league and competition

Another innovation for 2020-21 was the Wett Ones Swim League, held at the Cook and Phillip Pool in November 2020. More than 60 club members participated in the inaugural swim league event – for many, it was their first competition event since IGLA in February (and before COVID19). Members were randomly mixed into teams and pitted against each other across a variety of strokes and distances, with points awarded based on finishing position.

The event was a great success; I want to particularly acknowledge **Luca Alessi**, **Nick Westaway**, **David Loader** and **Evan Morris** who were the chief coordinators of the event. I want to also acknowledge the generous support from Masters Swimming NSW, who provided a grant that helped to minimise the participation cost to members. I know there is much excitement and anticipation for the next Swim League!



The number of Wett Ones members swimming at club carnivals has been solid, however it would be great to see a few more women participating! Carnivals held by other clubs are a fantastic way to meet other swimmers, get to know your fellow Wett Ones in a different environment, and benchmark yourself in competition. There is no requirement or compulsion for members to participate, but we will always strongly encourage people to consider having a go.

Sadly, COVID19's return in June 2021 thwarted Wett Ones' planned swim meet, part of Masters Swimming NSW's 'Resurrection' series of events. Once again, **Luca, Nick** and **Evan** were the chief custodians of this event and I know they remain keen to see this event rescheduled as soon as possible (and hopefully before the end of 2021). Thanks to the work of **Mason Womack**, the Club secured a grant from the NSW Government to conduct the swim meet; this allowed the club to significantly reduce the cost to members to participate in the meet.

## Masterclasses

In 2021, a series of dedicated technique masterclasses were held to develop and improve members' swimming technique. Through another grant from Masters Swimming NSW, Wett Ones held nine sessions for members to focus on stroke technique at a 'master' and 'developing' level. The grant funds allowed the club to engage the services of dedicated coaches who were able to drill participants in the various aspects of stroke development and improvement.



These sessions were chiefly driven and coordinated by **Peter McGee** with assistance from **Reg Leones**. I want to thank both of them for their efforts in the success of these events; member feedback suggests that these sessions should be a regular feature of the training program, feedback which the coaches have taken onboard.

## Social events

In addition to the impacts on our swimming life, COVID19 impacted our swimming social life, too. Ongoing restrictions limiting gatherings, dining and other events placed barriers around the extent to which the club's usually burgeoning social calendar could continue. A key casualty was the traditional Wednesday night dinner, and monthly cake night, at The Royal. All credit, however, to the remarkable **Sara Eldridge**, our Social Coordinator, who managed the ups and downs of restrictions to coordinate a number of great events.

The social highlight for the year was the Christmas Party, held at Abattoir Blues at Sydney Olympic Park. It, happily, coincided with a (temporary) relaxation of restrictions enabling people to stand up and drink! All who attended had a great afternoon, with the usually generous hospitality of our host (sponsor and club member) **Andrew Elias** and his family. After such a trying year it was great to be able to give something back to Andrew, who has been a great supporter of the club (and Masters swimming more generally) since joining.

With COVID19 preventing the usual colour of Mardi Gras, Sara arranged for a park-based dance workshop, complete with bubbles, to get everyone feeling the Mardi Gras-mood.



I know that Sara and a small team are busy planning an extravaganza to mark Wett Ones' 30<sup>th</sup> birthday this year – the club will celebrate this milestone on 30 October, and an invitation will be made available shortly to current and former Wetties, families and friends of the club. This promises to be a night full of colour and celebration – let's hope COVID19 keeps a safe distance!

## Other bits and pieces

Thanks to the creative genius of **Mason Womack**, the Club developed a 'new member video', giving prospective members an insight into what to expect from a Wett Ones training session. With voiceovers by **Megan McLachlan** and **James Baber**, and coaching from **Oscar Perez-Concha**, the video was designed to give those curious about squad swimming, and Wett Ones, insight into a usual training session, what to expect and where to go on arrival. I know other Clubs have found this a great resource themselves and I want to acknowledge Mason and the coaches and committee for putting this video together.

Another video created through the year was produced in support of our sister club, Melbourne's Glamourhead Sharks, as Victorians endured an extended lockdown through the winter and spring of 2020. Particular credit for this initiative goes to **Adrian Banks**, who scripted, directed and produced a video that was shared far and wide by the Masters swimming community of Australia. To all who participated, thank you for demonstrating the spirit of Wett Ones and of Masters swimming more generally.



In the second half of 2020 the Club considered, and subsequently adopted, a revised Constitution. Through the work of a small working group, each clause of the Constitution was considered and, where necessary, adjustments made to the text to ensure the document was still fit for purpose. This evolutionary approach saw the changes considered in a two step process – firstly, a general meeting of members was held to analyse each of the changes and consider whether further amendment or adjustment was required. Then, in accordance with the relevant legislation, a Special General Meeting of the Club was held in December (as part of the Christmas party) to adopt in full the proposed changes. Pleasingly, NSW Fair Trading (the regulator) accepted the changes and the new Constitution now stands. I want to thank all members for their participation and engagement in this process – while a dry topic, it is important that our club's rules are up to date and fit for purpose as our club grows.

We are finalising a refresh of the Club's website, using a template developed by Masters Swimming NSW. From a Club perspective, **Janet Bolton** has been leading a project to review, refresh and rebuild our existing website on this new template, which we hope to take live shortly.

## Awards

At our Christmas Party in 2020 we once again recognised the excellence of individuals around the club. In addition to recognising a series of state and national swimming relay records broken at IGLA (and Janet Bolton's two new individual IGLA records), the Club recognised:

Encouragement award: **Jon Lawley**

Most improved: **Marcus Loi**

Training award: **Megan McLachlan**

Male swimmer of the year: **Evan Morris**

Female swimmer of the year: **Di Kennedy**

President's Award: **Brian Osterio**

The President's Award recognises a member of the club – who is not a coach or a member of the committee – who embodies the very best elements of being a Wett One. I was pleased to nominate Brian Osterio for this award given his support for developing swimmers (with his time offered at no cost to participants), for his LGBTIQ+ charity work and his support on the pool deck on busy evenings to check in and welcome swimmers.



## Coaching

In the past year, the Club welcomed **Luca Alessi** as an accredited coach; we were also pleased to see **Haydn Wood** begin his journey to become an accredited coach. Over the summer, we said farewell to **German Ramirez** and thank him for his contribution to the coaching team.

Wett Ones is indeed fortunate to have a group of dedicated, talented and highly-experienced coaches – new members always comment about the quality of the coaching, which is a key reason why we see so many new faces around the pool. My thanks, and that of the committee and all members, goes to **Janet Bolton, Susie Purcell, Luca Alessi, Marko Antic, Peter McGee, Brad Monks, Oscar Perez-Concha, Nick Westaway** and **Haydn Wood**.

I would also like to acknowledge **Brian Osterio** who provides support to our coaches, and to new and developing members of the club.



## Sponsors

We have been fortunate this year to receive grants from the NSW Government and Masters Swimming NSW to support new initiatives at the Club. In addition, we are grateful to our long-standing sponsors **SheCamp, Dentistry at the Cross** and **Abattoir Blues** for their support over many years.

Sponsorship remains an area for further development and consideration. Funds from sponsors enable the club to keep costs low, to support new initiatives and to expand our reach. It can also support members with limited financial means to be more active in swimming events nationally, and internationally. The Club would, I am sure, welcome the opportunity to speak to any prospective sponsor.

## Committee

The past year saw new faces on the Committee, representing renewal and new ideas. As a Committee, we have continued to meet each month, adopting a hybrid of either face to face or virtual meetings. I want to thank the Committee for their efforts on behalf of all club members – we each volunteer our time and I have valued the camaraderie and support of the Committee this past year:

Secretary: **David Prince**

Treasurer: **Reg Leones**

Registrar and Race Secretary: **Pete Goodare**

Safety Officer: **Barbara Wise**

Male swimmers' representative: **Luca Alessi**

Female swimmers' representative: **Susie Purcell**

Coaches' representative: **Peter McGee**

Social coordinator: **Sara Eldridge**

Fundraising and sponsorship coordinator: **Mason Womack**

## And, that's a wrap...

Three years ago, when I began my time as President, the Club set a mission to '*Provide a safe, friendly and supportive swimming environment for the gay and lesbian community, our allies, friends and supporters in Sydney*', underpinned by three objectives:

1. Improve and consolidate the club's membership, financial position and future operations
2. Increase active participation of lesbian members of the club
3. Encourage increased participation in competitions, including at the Gay Games in Hong Kong in 2022

It is my view that, with the exception of participation at 2022 Gay Games, we have achieved each of these objectives. Since my election as President in October 2018, Wett Ones has:

- Designed a new, stylish and colourful club uniform, and subsidised members' access to the uniform
- Increased our club membership, becoming the largest Masters swimming club in Australia
- Introduced additional morning and evening training sessions
- Topped the points table at the 2020 International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics Championships in Melbourne
- Won the 2019 Masters Swimming NSW Branch Points Score trophy (for the first time)
- Won the 2019 Masters Swimming NSW Club of the Year award
- Conducted dedicated women's bootcamps, aimed at increasing female membership of the club
- Raised funds to provide scholarships to enable members to participate at IGLA Melbourne 2020, and support members in financial difficulty to continue training with Wett Ones post COVID19
- Implemented an online booking system for all swimming sessions
- Moved the Club's financial operations to cloud-based software, and stopped cash transactions
- Conducted two club surveys
- Issued a monthly newsletter to members and a database of more than 650 contacts
- Participated in swimming carnivals across NSW and at State Championship events
- Danced our way down Oxford Street in Mardi Gras events that raised the bar ever-higher for the following year
- Raised funds for mental health charities through our swimming
- Premiered the *Light on the Water* film in Australia as a presenting partner at the 2019 Mardi Gras Film Festival
- Held highly successful social events, including a *Drag Yourself Out* party that is STILL spoken about
- Convened special stroke improvement training sessions
- Successfully applied for financial grants from government and businesses

- Refreshed our club Constitution
- Renewed our website

It has been a busy three years as President – three years of which I am immensely proud. Most importantly, none of these things could have been done without the support of the people who have served alongside me on the Committees I have chaired, and the support of all members. That’s not to say it has all been easy – and I’m certain some of it could have been done better or differently. I also have no doubt that, at times, the pace of change combined with my approach has caused angst and frustration – if that has been the case, please accept my apology. At all times, my interest and intention has always been the betterment of the Club.

Wett Ones was in a strong place when I became President and, while this is something ultimately to be judged by others, I consider it to be even stronger today.

An ongoing area of frustration for some members is the size of the club, and our openness to welcoming (and at times, active pursuit of) new members. I have a strong view on this matter, which has guided my approach to the consideration of the issue whenever it has been debated by members, either at Committee level or on the pool deck. As a sporting club, Wett Ones serves a dual purpose – first and foremost, we are a swimming club. Secondly, and as importantly, we are also a family for those in the LGBTIQ+ community who have an interest in swimming – whether that is for fun, fitness or friendship. Our club today is more than 50 per cent larger than it was when I joined – this is something of which to be immensely proud. We are the envy of many swimming clubs.

Across Sydney, and I assume across other big cities around the world, there has been an explosion of participation in LGBTIQ+ sporting clubs, driven (I assume) by a desire to belong, to participate in sport with likeminded people and to make new friends. In my own case, after moving to Sydney and with an interest in swimming, meeting people, getting fit and becoming more active, I joined Wett Ones in search of these things and a place to belong; my story is not unique, and I can count many members of the club who have sought the club out for exactly the same purpose. For those who’ve come across the seas, we’ve ample lane space to share – we’re a family where one is otherwise absent, a safe space for people to be who they are, to make friends and belong.

Whenever the question of ‘closing’ membership has been raised, I offer this observation: before considering whether it would be appropriate to close the Club’s membership, think about who you would turn away if the Club’s membership was closed or capped? Which swimmer, who might have otherwise joined late in the year, would be denied the opportunity participate in and belong to the Club because they didn’t sign up to early enough to one of the places available? Which of your friends might not have had a chance to become part of the Wett Ones family if the door was not open to them when they were looking for a place to belong? Closing membership is a blunt instrument that creates ‘us’ and ‘them’ – we’re much stronger as a community when we include everyone. The only requirement of your membership should be an ability to swim the required minimum distances, not being first in to renew your membership. Exclusivity is not part of who we are.

The challenge for an ever-growing club is to find a way to balance the need for new members to be welcomed and existing members to feel continued belonging – this is a delicate task but, over my tenure, I have sought to strike this balance in the best interests of all. Again, others will judge the success of the approach.

Unfinished business? Yes. I would really like to see the development of a national league to support LGBTIQ+ aquatic-based sports, building on the momentum of the IGLA Championships in Melbourne. With LGBTIQ+ swimming clubs, and other aquatic sports, spread across the country, and LGBTIQ+ members of Masters swimming more generally, I believe there is a place for greater national coordination, competition and camaraderie. We have good relationships with other local clubs – as the oldest LGBTIQ+ aquatic club in Australia, and the largest outside Europe and North America, Wett Ones can take a leadership role in this area.

I also encourage the new Committee to look at our club record database, and to establishing a formal structure for financial support for members, a Wett Ones 'Foundation' of sorts. The club records database is a valuable resource for all members, and it would be good to see an investment of time and resources made to ensuring it is regularly updated and accessible to all members – in my view, this would be a valuable project in which to invest some of the Club's hard-earned savings. Similarly, establishing a formal trust or foundation structure to better enable charitable giving to support financial outreach to members in need, and support their participation in swimming carnivals, would be a good legacy in celebration of the Club's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

I was first elected to the Committee – in the role of Vice President – in October 2017. It is now time for me to take a step back and allow others to take the Club forward. As a Director on the National Board of Management at Masters Swimming Australia, I look forward to continuing involvement with Wett Ones and giving my support to the incoming Committee and leadership.

My thanks again to all members of Wett Ones for your support, encouragement and friendship during my time as President. We have achieved so much together – I hope you are as proud as I am to be a member of Wett Ones.

For the last time, happy swimming,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R Hardie', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

**ROBERT HARDIE** |  
President *August 2021*



WOLLONGONG MASTERS SWIMMING CLUB  
ANNUAL REPORT 2021

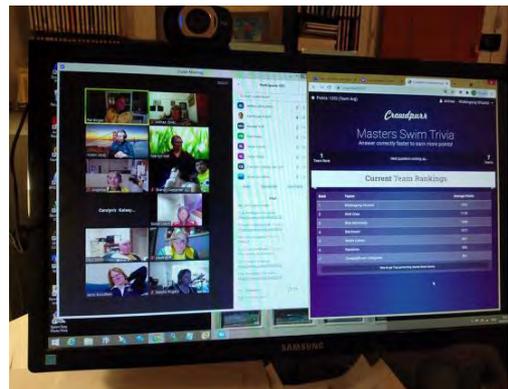
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Unfortunately, this year's report is all too similar to last year's.

It's been another year of non-events. Wollongong Masters had to face extended COVID restrictions in addition to a long closure of Corrimal pool for major maintenance.

We could not swim as regularly as usual, although some intrepid members braved the ocean pools or the surf when the heated ones were closed. There were also very few chances for social activities, due to the restrictions.

However, as the Wollongong Wizards we performed with great distinction during our lockdown in the two Masters Trivia Competitions, coming second in July and third in August—we need to improve our speed on bonus questions but we are world beaters on fast response to multiple choice!



On 3 October, after a 3-month lockdown, and all fully vaccinated, we were extremely pleased to be back swimming at Corrimal pool. We were first in and last out (in picture, left) of our session.

Later in October, were able to have coffee and a chat at a local cafe. No socialisation was permitted at the pool for the later part of 2021.



Still, we managed some things. We were represented at 9 carnivals—the ones that were able to take place—and had a good turnout at branch Long-Course Championships, with 5 attendees.

We also got bright new club shirts, and used the photo of our regulars wearing them to make a poster, hoping that our friendly faces would attract new members.

**SWIM  
WITH  
WOLLONGONG MASTERS**

A club of Masters Swimming NSW  
<https://mastersswimmingnsw.org.au/>



- **Anyone over 18 years of age.**
- **All swimming abilities.**
- **Opportunity to take part in friendly carnivals.**
- **Swim and socialisation at 8 am every Sunday at Corrimal Heated Pool.**

Just turn up any Sunday and say hello!

Or, for more information, email Sue, [sej353@hotmail.com](mailto:sej353@hotmail.com).

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