



WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SPECIAL EDITION NEWSLETTER



WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS REFLECTIONS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



Hello Members,

Welcome to this special edition of our monthly newsletter.

This month, we recognise all of our wonderful swimmers who went to the recent World Championships in Singapore.

We all swim for many different reasons and, similarly, we all compete (or not) for different reasons. It was absolutely amazing to see so many of our swimmers make the trip to Singapore to compete at the World Championships. Who could ask for a better group of people to represent NSW at such a great event.

We saw our swimmers receive medals, reach Top 10 status, and break NSW and Australian Records. Congratulations to all of these swimmers - you are truly inspirational. But, what we may not have seen was the swimmers who swam, broke their PB times, supported their friends or enjoyed the competition as a bucket list achievement. You are the swimmers I am proud (and a little envious) of. Just to reach the qualifying time and grab the opportunity to take part in such a great event is wonderful. The feedback from swimmers who attended and the photo's on social media were fabulous to see - thank you all who shared your experience.

Most importantly - WELL DONE to you all.

I must make particular mention of our social media team, lead by Bel Meek - the posts on Instagram and Facebook were so professional and well put together. You made us the envy of MSA and the other states.

Once again - congratulations to you all

Kerryn Blanch,
President, Masters Swimming NSW



WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS REFLECTIONS FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



It was such an honour to be part of the Aussie's in Singapore. 408 of us entered (there were a few missing), but still a very large team to try and keep up with during the events in the pool.

The OWS was held earlier in the month - many of our swimmers had returned to Australia before we arrived - congratulations to all those who swam in the very warm water off Sentosa.

Masters Swimming NSW was very well represented by many clubs in NSW. If I mention the clubs who competed I will miss one, so just to say it was wonderful to see representatives from most of our NSW clubs - country and city and it was as though we were all from the same club as we cheered each NSW swimmer in the water.

There were 2 competition pools - the one you saw on the television (we called it the O pool) - which had a warm up pool (indoors). It was not air conditioned, but did have fans on the roof which kept you "cool" if you were watching. If you were a spectator (not a competitor) you had to sit on the opposite side of the pool in the spectator area - and your bags were searched before entering the pool area and you could not take drinks or snacks into the pool area- not a warm welcome for our families. This pool was right next to an enormous shopping mall with many eating places (too many to choose from).

If you walked through the mall it was a quick way to get to the other competition pool (we called it the W pool) which was a temporary pool (we liked it better). It was air conditioned, had much more seating, and your bags were not searched if you were a spectator. It also had a warm up pool which was actually an outdoor pool with a roof - it was the better warm up pool of the two. This pool also had a wonderful shopping mall next door with heaps of restaurants and cafes- you couldn't possibly go hungry in Singapore.

You alternated between pools each day - women in one and men in the other, then you swapped. Although the pools were only about 15 minutes walk apart, it was not easy to go from one to the other if you wanted to watch your teammate swim (if you were also swimming), as the change rooms were not close and they were always crowded (and you know how long it takes to get in and out of those suits!!) Most people did their best to watch their teammates swim where they could.

The results were amazing for our swimmers - and a huge thank you to Lauren and Bel for the wonderful job they did keeping everyone updated. There was no live streaming of these championships, but the results were instantaneous on the world championships app, and our girls often saw the results from the other pool before we did in Singapore - they were just amazing and a massive thank you from all of us who were in Singapore - so many wonderful comments from all Australian competitors on the NSW social media coverage.

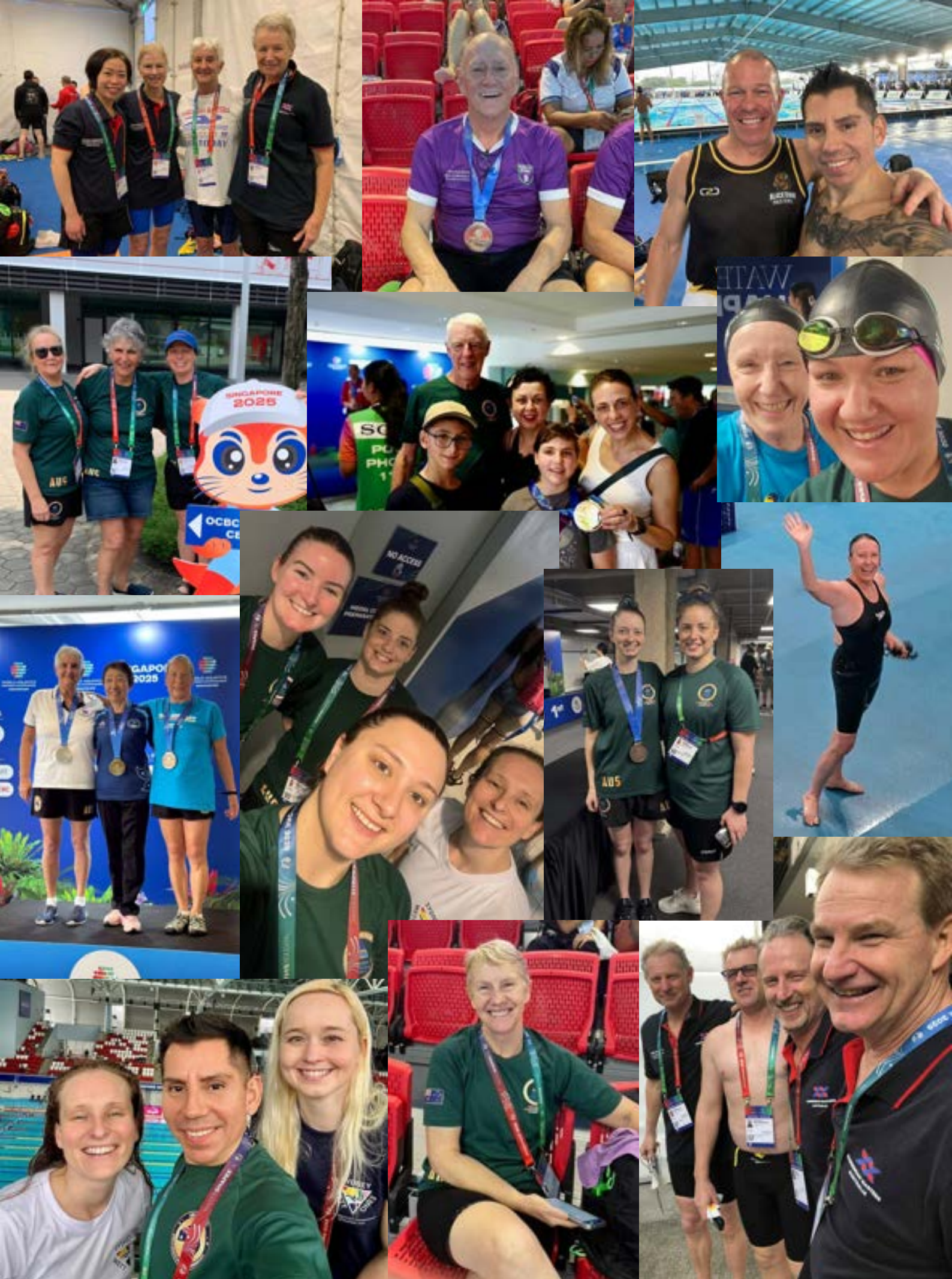
The results have been well advertised so I will not repeat, just to say congratulations to everyone who competed. There were many medals, many top 10's, many top 20's, many PB's but the real winner was all our swimmers getting to know each other better, spending time talking to each other around the pool while we watched our club mates, or NSW mates, or Aussie mates swim. Taking photos for each other and posting them, or sending them to people we hardly knew before we went to Singapore - this is what Masters swimming is all about - friendships far and wide!

Thank you to everyone involved - those who swam, friends and families who watched, coaches who prepared our swimmers, club mates who encouraged us, the team back in Aus who followed us - it was a huge group effort and one which we can be very proud.

Next stop Budapest - hope you will join us.

Jane Noake
President, Masters Swimming Australia





NSW RESULTS



Across seven action-packed days in the pool and two challenging open water showdowns, our NSW swimmers put on a world-class show, with 62 podium finishes and a whopping 40 State, National & Championship records provisionally broken.

With an additional 109 Top 10 finishes across a wide range of events and age groups, our swimmers consistently mixed it with the best from around the globe and showcased our depth of talent!

While the medals and records are incredible, we've got to give a big shoutout to the 264 personal bests. Every early morning, every tough set and every sore muscle really paid off!

A huge congratulations to our entire team! We are so proud to have watched you represent NSW. Whether it was standing on the podium, smashing a personal best, braving the open water, or cheering poolside, you all contributed to this outstanding team performance.

WORLD AQUATICS MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS NSW MEDAL TALLY	
	20
	18
	24
	109
	40
	264
SINGAPORE 2025	

OPEN WATER



A massive congratulations to our incredible MSNSW women who absolutely smashed it in the 3km Open Water race on July 26!

From podium finishes to exceptional age group results, you've done us all proud.

The men followed on July 27 with equally impressive performances, powering through the heat to represent MSNSW with pride.

With a scorching air temperature of 34°C and water sitting at a warm 30.4°C, conditions were tough — but our swimmers rose to the challenge.

Well done to all our athletes, both women and men, for an outstanding effort in open water!

WOMEN

GOLD	W60-64	JEANETTE BRITS	MANLY
GOLD	W55-59	SHARON CRISAFI	PENRITH
SILVER	W45-49	BELINDA BULLIVANT	COOGEE-RANDWICK
BRONZE	W35-39	TESSA GARSIDE	TATTERSALLS
5TH	W45-49	BROOKE ALLEN	MINGARA
5TH	W50-54	JACQUI RUSSELL	SEASIDE PIRATES
15TH	W55-59	JEAN EDGE	SEASIDE PIRATES

OPEN WATER



MEN

GOLD	M50-54	MALCOLM ALLEN	MINGARA
GOLD	M60-64	JOHN DE MESTRE	TATTERSALLS
SILVER	M50-54	CHRIS FYDLER	TATTERSALLS
SILVER	M55-59	DARREN TURNER	PENRITH
BRONZE	M55-59	JUSTIN HANBY	TATTERSALLS
BRONZE	M60-64	STEPHEN FORD	WARRINGAH
4TH	M50-54	PETER THIEL	TATTERSALLS
7TH	M45-49	JAMES HICKMAN	TATTERSALLS
7TH	M60-64	TIMOTHY COLLINS	LANE COVE
9TH	M45-49	ADO VAN RENSBURG	NORTH SHORE
10TH	M60-64	LAWRENCE STUBBS	COOGEE-RANDWICK
11TH	M60-64	RODNEY HULLS	MINGARA
16TH	M25-29	WERNER DOENSEN	TATTERSALLS
16TH	M50-54	PETE ORCHARD	PENRITH
28TH	M60-64	TIM BATT	SEASIDE PIRATES

POOL EVENTS

GOLD MEDAL WINNERS



TONY GOODWIN
85-89

50m Breaststroke
100m Breaststroke
200m Breaststroke
50m Butterfly
200m Individual Medley

KAY BURTON
85-89

100m Breaststroke
100m Butterfly
200m Individual Medley
400m Individual Medley

STEPHEN LAMY
75-79

100m Backstroke
200m Backstroke

ROBERT BUTCHER
70-74

100m Freestyle

GUY FARROW
60-64

100m Freestyle

MARILYN EARP
75-79

50m Butterfly

STUART ELLICOTT
70-74

50m Breaststroke

WARRINGAH MEN
280-319

4 x 50 Medley Relay

POOL EVENTS

SILVER MEDAL WINNERS



MARGARET JOPLING
90-94

800m Freestyle
50m Freestyle
50m Breaststroke

MARILYN EARP
75-79

100m Butterfly
100m Backstroke
50m Backstroke

ROBERT BUTCHER
70-74

800m Freestyle
200m Freestyle

STUART ELICOTT
70-74

100m Breaststroke
200m Breaststroke

TONY WOZNIAK
70-74

200m Backstroke

ANITA SAVIANE
80-84

400m Individual Medley

KELLY BOWDEN
30-34

400m Individual Medley

ELIZABETH MERENDA
45-49

200m Individual Medley

WARRINGAH MEN
280-319

4 x 50 Freestyle Relay

POOL EVENTS

BRONZE MEDAL WINNERS



BEC SHEPPHERD
45-49

200m Backstroke
100m Backstroke

MARGARET JOPLING
90-94

100m Backstroke
50m Backstroke

JIM GROOM
70-74

200m Backstroke
100m Backstroke

CAROL RUSSELL
70-74

400m Individual Medley
200m Breaststroke

BRADLEY HALICEK
50-54

200m Backstroke

MARILYN EARP
75-79

200m Backstroke

GAIL FLETCHER
70-74

100m Breaststroke

RYAN HANSON
35-39

200m Freestyle

ELIZABETH MERENDA
45-49

50m Freestyle

ROBERT BUTCHER
70-74

50m Freestyle

KELLY BOWDEN
30-34

200m Individual Medley

LUKE BIBBY
30-34

200m Individual Medley

JORIAN CATZEL
75-79

100m Butterfly

CRAIG MAGNUSSON
60-64

200m Breaststroke

AARON CLELAND
50-54

200m Breaststroke

STEPHEN LAMY
75-79

50m Backstroke

ANITA SAVIANE
80-84

200m Butterfly

POOL EVENTS

RECORD BREAKERS



Kelly Bowden - Campbelltown

W30-34 200m Backstroke NSW State Record
W30-34 100m Freestyle NSW State Record
W30-34 400m Medley NSW State Record
W30-34 200m Medley NSW State Record AND Australian National Record
W30-34 100m Backstroke NSW State Record AND Australian National Record
W30-34 50m Freestyle NSW State Record - Relay lead-off

Robert Butcher - Manly

M70-74 800m Freestyle NSW State AND Australian National Record
M70-74 100m Freestyle NSW State Record, Australian National Record AND World Championships Record
M70-74 200m Freestyle NSW State Record AND Australian National Record
M70-74 50m Butterfly NSW State Record AND Australian National Record

Elizabeth Merenda - Tuggeranong

W45-49 100m Freestyle NSW State Record
W45-49 50m Freestyle NSW State Record
W45-49 200m Medley NSW State Record AND Australian National Record

Luke Bibby - Manly

M30-34 200m Freestyle NSW State Record
M30-34 200m Medley NSW State Record AND Australian National Record
M30-34 100m Backstroke NSW State Record

POOL EVENTS RECORD BREAKERS



Tony Goodwin - Manly

**M85-89 50m Butterfly NSW State Record AND
Australian National Record**

**M85-89 200m Medley NSW State Record AND
World Championships Record**

Kay Burton - Blue Mountains

**W85-89 200m Medley NSW State Record
W85-89 100m Butterfly NSW State Record**

Jon Hawton - North Shore

**M60-64 800m Freestyle NSW
State Record**

Stephen Lamy - Manly

**M75-79 100m Backstroke
NSW State Record AND
Australian National Record**

Guy Farrow - Tattersalls

**M60-64 100m Freestyle NSW State
Record & Australian National Record**

Warringah - Men

**M280-319 4x50m Medley Relay
NSW State Record & Australian National
record**

Ryan Hanson - Wett Ones

**M35-39 200m Freestyle NSW
State Record**

North Shore - Men

**M240-279 4x50m Medley Relay
NSW State Record**

POOL EVENTS

TOP 10 FINISHES



109 Top 10 finishes were achieved by 47 individuals and relay teams.

Individuals:

Aaron Cleland (Blacktown)
Andrew Howlett (Blacktown)
Anita Saviane (Sutherland Sandbern)
Anne Smyth (Tuggeranong)
Annie Cooke (Campbelltown)
Bec Shepherd (Hornsby)
Brad Halicek (Blacktown)
Carol Russell (Coogee-Randwick)
Craig Magnusson (North Shore)
Dan Jones (North Shore)
Elizabeth Merenda (Tuggeranong)
Ernie Hirneth (Maitland)
Fiona Reed (North Sydney)
Gail Fletcher (Ryde)
Gordon Whyte (Warringah)
Guy Farrow (Tattersalls Club)
Harry Henderson (North Shore)
Heidi Roche (Seaside Pirates)
Helen White (Warringah)
Jacqui Russell (Seaside Pirates)
Jim Groom (Manly)

John De Vries (Warringah)
Jon Hawton (North Shore)
Jorian Catzel (Warringah)
Kat Asterova (Wett Ones)
Kelly Bowden (Campbelltown)
Luke Bibby (Manly)
Marina De La Torre Guil (Wett Ones)
Mark Cooper (Ryde)
Michel Le Vieux (Warringah)
Patricia Reid (Tattersalls Club)
Paul Wyatt (Coogee-Randwick)
Peter Stebbing (Maitland)
Robert Butcher (Manly)
Rowan Jacob (Warringah)
Ryan Hanson (Wett Ones)
Sandra Rogers (Seaside Pirates)
Stephen Lamy (Manly)
Stuart Ellicot (North Shore)
Tony Wozniak (Warringah)
Wai Sze Vinnci Wu (Warringah)

Relays:

Maitland – Men 280+ 4x50m Freestyle
Maitland – Men 280+ 4x50m Medley
North Shore – Men 240+ 4x50m Freestyle
North Shore – Men 240+ 4x50m Medley
Warringah – Mixed 280+ 4x50m Freestyle
Warringah – Mixed 280+ 4x50m Medley





BEHIND THE GOGGLES

Get to know our swimmers



JACQUI



TONY



KELLY



SOCRATES

JACQUI RUSSELL

SEASIDE PIRATES



AGE GROUP: W50-54

EVENTS:

3KM OPEN WATER, 800 FREE,
200 FLY



HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SWIMMING AND HOW DID YOU GET STARTED?

I started swimming when I was 10 years old. My parents insisted that my sisters and I learn to swim and then I kept going because I loved it

WHAT MADE YOU JOIN MASTERS SWIMMING?

I started Masters Swimming in my early 30s after a 5 year break from swimming. I always loved swimming but I couldn't continue at an elite level so I was very happy to train and race, but with the emphasis on having fun

WAS THIS YOUR FIRST WORLD AQUATICS MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS OR HAVE YOU COMPETED BEFORE?

I competed in Perth in 2008 and Riccione in 2012

HOW DID YOU PREPARE FOR THE COMPETITION? ANY CHALLENGES YOU HAD TO OVERCOME?

I have been swimming with a squad 3 mornings a week and then trying to fit in at least one other session per week by myself. I am a Nurse Practitioner and it has been challenging fitting sessions in with a busy job

WHAT WAS YOUR GOAL COMING INTO THE COMPETITION?

To swim my fastest times in the last 2 years and to enjoy the experience. I managed to achieve both of those goals

ANY PERSONAL BESTS OR MILESTONES THIS WEEK?

I was very happy to finish in the top 10 in all three of my events, and top 5 for two of them



WHAT KEEPS YOU MOTIVATED TO TRAIN AND COMPETE?

I really enjoy the process. I use swimming as a stress coping mechanism and I value the friendships that I have made. I always love to race to see what I can achieve

DO YOU HAVE ANY PRE-RACE RITUALS?

I like to stay as calm as possible and I like to look over and see my husband before I get up on the blocks, or get set for the open water start.

DO YOU HAVE A SWIM HERO OR SOMEONE WHO INSPIRES YOU?

My husband William only started swimming 2 years ago and is a multiple state medalist in the 50m freestyle. He has worked so hard learning everything about swimming and racing from scratch and I think he is amazing. I am so inspired by all masters swimmers as I know that everyone has work, family and life challenges but they still manage to get to the pool and swim

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE POST-RACE MEAL?

Pasta

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE NON-SWIMMING MOMENT IN SINGAPORE?

Catching up with friends from all over Australia and the world. Watching the Australian men's and women's 4x100m freestyle relay teams win was awesome

ANY ADVICE FOR SOMEONE CONSIDERING GOING TO WORLDS FOR THE FIRST TIME?

Be prepared to be in the call room a lot earlier than you would go behind the blocks for a race here in NSW. Just remember that it's just another swimming race, and most importantly have fun!



TONY GOODWIN

MANLY



AGE GROUP: M85-89

EVENTS:

50 BRS, 100 BRS, 200 BRS,
50 FLY, 200 IM



HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SWIMMING AND HOW DID YOU GET STARTED?

Masters since 1993. A friend swam briefly with Manly and suggested it.

WHAT MADE YOU JOIN MASTERS SWIMMING?

As above. I enjoyed winning a few races and my competitive nature took over.

WAS THIS YOUR FIRST WORLD AQUATICS MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS OR HAVE YOU COMPETED BEFORE?

I have competed at the World Championships in Christchurch, Stanford, Perth, Riccione, Montreal, Kazan, Budapest, Gwangju, Fukuoka, Doha and Singapore.

HOW DID YOU PREPARE FOR THE COMPETITION? ANY CHALLENGES YOU HAD TO OVERCOME?

I train by myself but this time, a friend named Cam Reynolds, who coaches at Warringah prepared a 13 week program doing twice as much work as previously. I have polymyalgia in my hips which impacts my movement. I added a three times weekly gym schedule as well.

WHAT WAS YOUR GOAL COMING INTO THE COMPETITION?

5 gold medals for sure and 3 world records as second goal.



ANY PERSONAL BESTS OR MILESTONES THIS WEEK?

PB's are out of the question but milestones are not to be too far from performances of last World Championships. My times were all better than Doha.

WHAT KEEPS YOU MOTIVATED TO TRAIN AND COMPETE?

Goal setting, winning, meeting old friends and providing inspiration to others - particularly to Amelia Moore. She is a young lady I met at

the NSW Sports Awards in 2023. I inspire her to compete as an S19 swimmer and her performances inspire me so that we feed off each other.

DO YOU HAVE A SWIM HERO OR SOMEONE WHO INSPIRES YOU?

Amelia Moore. Our own club's Jeanette Brits in particular. She is an incredible talent.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE POST-RACE MEAL?

Beer

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE NON-SWIMMING MOMENT IN SINGAPORE?

Having a number of my family there as my cheer squad. I really came to race but the coffee was great and the Gardens at the Bay were wonderful.

ANY ADVICE FOR SOMEONE CONSIDERING GOING TO WORLDS FOR THE FIRST TIME?

It's just another meet really. Don't let it overwhelm you. Just treat it as part of your swimming life.

KELLY BOWDEN

CAMPBELLTOWN



AGE GROUP: W30-34

EVENTS:

100 FREE, 100 BACK, 200
BACK, 200 IM, 400 IM



HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SWIMMING AND HOW DID YOU GET STARTED?

I've been swimming for 25 years. I started learn to swim at Campbelltown and did my first race at club night at 2 years old

WHAT MADE YOU JOIN MASTERS SWIMMING?

After getting sick, my doctor suggested that getting back in the water would be the best way for me to keep moving. My sister found the Campbelltown masters team and convinced me to join

WAS THIS YOUR FIRST WORLD AQUATICS MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS OR HAVE YOU COMPETED BEFORE?

This was my first world championships

HOW DID YOU PREPARE FOR THE COMPETITION? ANY CHALLENGES YOU HAD TO OVERCOME?

I joined a Harlee Elite squad in February and started training to build my endurance, the hardest part was eating enough to keep up with the training

WHAT WAS YOUR GOAL COMING INTO THE COMPETITION?

To get a top 10 and have fun



ANY PERSONAL BESTS OR MILESTONES THIS WEEK?

Getting a silver and bronze at my first world champs, along with 6 PBs, 6 State and 2 National records

WHAT KEEPS YOU MOTIVATED TO TRAIN AND COMPETE?

To keep my mind and body in the best shape it can be

DO YOU HAVE ANY PRE-RACE RITUALS?

I always kneel down and splash myself before a race

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE POST-RACE MEAL?

Maccas

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE NON-SWIMMING MOMENT IN SINGAPORE?

Exploring Sentosa Island

ANY ADVICE FOR SOMEONE CONSIDERING GOING TO WORLDS FOR THE FIRST TIME?

If you have the chance, then do it!



SOCRATES SANCHEZ-HURTADO

WETT ONES



AGE GROUP: M45-49

EVENTS:

100 FREE, 50 FREE, 100 BRS,
50 BRS, 50 FLY



HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SWIMMING AND HOW DID YOU GET STARTED?

After having a big break for 15 years I started swimming again in 2022, it has been 3 years now as a Masters Swimmer. I used to play (swim) in a big lagoon and at the beach when I was a child with my siblings in secret while my parents were working but I am not a natural swimmer, I do not have the technique foundation as I started to properly swim a little bit late at the age of 16 when I joined a local club in my home country and after learning all 4 strokes I started competing with them across my home country representing my school and later at University games. However, after my graduation I tried to continue the same swimming life style but it was hard and eventually I stopped it to fully dedicate my time to my professional career.

WHAT MADE YOU JOIN MASTERS SWIMMING?

The passion and the adrenaline that I feel during my swimming training and races and the idea to be a member of a Masters swimming community where everybody feels the same.

WAS THIS YOUR FIRST WORLD AQUATICS MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS OR HAVE YOU COMPETED BEFORE?

I have competed in the last 3 World Aquatics Masters Champions: Fukuoka 2023, Doha 2024 and Singapore 2025.



HOW DID YOU PREPARE FOR THE COMPETITION? ANY CHALLENGES YOU HAD TO OVERCOME?

I trained for the last 12 months since I was back from Doha 2024. My training consisted of a combination with Gym and Swimming: something that I really enjoy is an intense training, those sessions that makes me feel I give it my all and at the end I feel like I cannot do it anymore.

No pain no gain otherwise I prefer to do nothing. There were many times when I felt tired, demotivated and frustrated but I followed my discipline and my swimming program regardless of the external noise.

WHAT WAS YOUR GOAL COMING INTO THE COMPETITION?

Improve my times, getting Personal Best, meeting new swimmers from around the world who enjoy and feel the same passion for swimming and to enjoy the experience as a whole.

ANY PERSONAL BESTS OR MILESTONES THIS WEEK?

I swam 5 events and I got 2 personal bests and 2 equal personal bests too. I am very happy with that. It is always satisfying to see that you are improving and your personal milestones are possible. I am not swimming like 25 years ago and I don't think I will get those times again but I enjoy the process of training really hard, compete and see the results of your hard work.

WHAT KEEPS YOU MOTIVATED TO TRAIN AND COMPETE?

The discipline and passion that I feel for swimming, the harder it gets the better for me.

DO YOU HAVE ANY PRE-RACE RITUALS?

I don't but I am a very nervous person, I am always shaking in the call room talking to myself in silent to keep me concentrated and telling myself something like " come on, it is just another race, you have been training hard, trust on your training and enjoy the adventure"

DO YOU HAVE A SWIM HERO OR SOMEONE WHO INSPIRES YOU?

Since I was a child I admired Alexander Popov (Swimming) and Svetlana Khorkina (Gymnastic), they kind of inspired me because of their hard training, determination and olympics achievements. later on, the Australian swimming team started to inspire me again.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE POST-RACE MEAL?

Anything with seafood!

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE NON-SWIMMING MOMENT IN SINGAPORE?

I always like to explore the city everytime that I participate in an international competition. so Sightseeing is on top of the list apart from the swimming experience.

ANY ADVICE FOR SOMEONE CONSIDERING GOING TO WORLDS FOR THE FIRST TIME?

I would like you to feel the same I felt at my first worlds: good nervous, high adrenaline, the experience to race at the most important swimming master level and live the experience. Don't think too much, just do it. Your money, time and training effort will be worth it.





MOMENTS TO BE PROUD OF



“I was so happy to tie for 5th place in 800 Freestyle with Donna Gadsby from Victoria. we have known each other for 30 years and are great friends. We were delighted with the result!”

- Anne Smyth, Tuggeranong



“Just getting here! Never thought I’d be at a World Competition”

- Jan Corrigan, Maitland

“My 50 fly - equaling my PB after being injured for 4 months. 5 weeks ago I couldn’t kick or sprint at all. Being brave enough to give it a shot and being consistent and determined enough to pull it together in five weeks”

- Lauren Stadler, Manly



“What I am most proud of is the camaraderie of the Wett Ones team. We ran between the two pools across the different events to make sure everyone in the team had a cheer squad while they raced”

- Barbara Wise, Wett Ones



“The worlds was motivation to get me to travel overseas for the first time on my own since my husband died. Gaining 3 top 20 finishes was the icing on the cake”

- Leanne Da Costa, Coffs Harbour



“Getting a PB in my 200m and 800m Freestyle”

- Kylee Murray, Merrylands





“Best times in all my events and a medal in the 200m freestyle (and the state record too!)”

- Ryan Hanson, Wett Ones

“Completing the Open Water course in 31 degrees water after vomiting three times with 500m to go. That was the hardest race I have ever done and I was proud to finish and come 5th”

- Jacqui Russell, Seaside Pirates



“Making the podium twice!”

- Bec Sheppherd, Hornsby

“Tackling my nerves and swimming my races to the best of my ability”

- Amy Dickinson, Leichhardt



“Winning a bronze medal in the 200m Breaststroke”

- Aaron Cleland, Blacktown



“Competing at this Masters World Championships was my proudest achievement and a true test of resilience. Four years ago, I was in so much pain I couldn’t walk and had to stop swimming. Since then, I’ve faced ongoing health challenges and undergone four surgeries – three of them major. Despite it all, I managed to hit the qualifying times. Standing on the world stage after everything felt surreal. I’m still working back toward my best, but just being there and executing my races well was a huge victory”

- Barbara Capellini, Blacktown



“5 races, 5 PB’s and winning two of my heats!”

- Libby Waters, Lake Macquarie



“Second place in the Men’s 3km open water - M55-59!”

- Darren Turner, Penrith

“Still managing to swim the 100 BK & 400 FR despite getting sick with an upper respiratory tract infection and laryngitis - my own personal 'challenge' in lane 9 on both just surviving the swim!”

- Caz Makin, Tuggeranong





“My open water gold medal“

- Jeanette Brits, Manly



“Completing the open water in extreme heat and coming 11th”

- Rodney Hulls, Mingara Pelicans

“Achieving a PB in all my events”

- Bronte Wilkinson, Campbelltown



“Getting 3rd in the 200m Backstroke”

- Brad Halicek, Blacktown





WHO INSPIRED YOU MOST DURING THE MEET?



“Margaret Jopling from Port Macquarie - we love her!”

- Jan Corrigan, Maitland



“I loved Elizabeth Merenda’s gutsy medal swims”

- Anne Smyth, Tuggeranong



“Rob Butcher - huge races, fantastic times and so many medals”

- Lauren Stadler, Manly



“Mal Allen - he is an awesome swimmer and inspiring to me”

- Rodney Hulls, Mingara Pelicans



“Kelly Bowden from Campbelltown. Watching her smash her 400IM with a 16 second PB to win Silver was electrifying. The Aussies went wild in the stands and to see the thrill on her face when she saw her time was so special and uplifting.”

- Leanne Da Costa, Coffs Harbour



“My husband William for doing his first international race in the 50m freestyle after only taking up swimming 2 years ago”

- Jacqui Russell, Seaside Pirates



“Watching the old guys swim. The 85+ categories are legends”

- Brad Halicek, Blacktown



“My coach Alison Sakurovs. Alison was was a fantastic support providing encouragement and belief in the lead up to and during the meet. Alison swam extremely well herself in what has been a particularly tough year”

- Kylee Murray, Merrylands



“Kay Burton swimming the 400 Medley, 100 Fly and 200 Medley at 86 years old”

- Jane Noake, Seaside Pirates



“Suzie Haddad is always my favorite person to have poolside before a race, she reminds me that we all do this for fun, and to not get too stressed and enjoy the moment. She always keeps things in perspective for me.”

- Amy Dickinson, Leichhardt

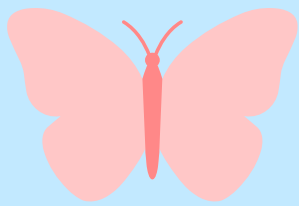


MSNSW “UNOFFICIAL” WORLDS AWARDS



**THE MOTIVATOR: THE PERSON WHO GAVE THE BEST PEP
TALKS OR ENCOURAGEMENT PRE-RACE**

Alison Sakurovs
Merrylands



**THE SOCIAL BUTTERFLY: THE PERSON WHO MADE FRIENDS
WITH THE MOST PEOPLE FROM OTHER TEAMS/COUNTRIES**

Stuart Ellicott
North Shore



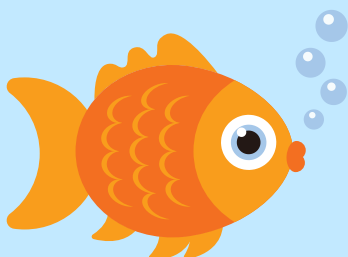
**THE HUMAN COMPASS: THE PERSON WHO WAS BEST AT
FINDING THEIR WAY AROUND SINGAPORE**

Josh Parker
Wett Ones



**THE SUNSHINE: THE PERSON WHO WAS ALWAYS SMILING,
NO MATTER WHAT**

Kerry-Ann Michels
Blacktown



**THE GOLDFISH: THE PERSON WHO FORGOT THE MOST
THINGS AT THE HOTEL/POOL**

Nick Westaway
Wett Ones



**THE GLUE: THE PERSON WHO KEPT EVERYONE ORGANISED
AND TOGETHER**

Megan Blamires
Blacktown



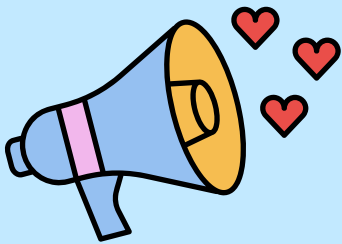
**THE SEA OTTER: THE PERSON WHO WAS MOST OFTEN FOUND
FLOATING AND CHATTING IN THE WARM-DOWN POOL**

Bec Sheppherd
Hornsby



**THE LANE 1 LEGEND: THE PERSON WHO HAD THE BEST
PERFORMANCE FROM AN OUTSIDE LANE**

Kelly Bowden
Campbelltown



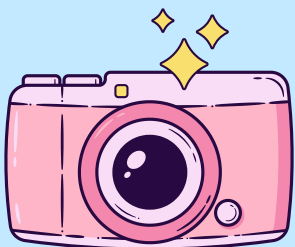
**THE CHEERMASTER: THE PERSON WHOSE CHEERING
COULD BE HEARD FROM ANYWHERE IN THE VENUE**

David Monti
Wett Ones



**THE FASHION FORWARD: THE TEAM WITH THE BEST
WORLD'S UNIFORMS**

Ryde



**THE FLASH FAVOURITE: THE PERSON WHO WAS
ALWAYS READY FOR A TEAM PHOTO**

Tim Batt
Seaside Pirates



YOU ARE INVITED!!!



Dear members,

You are invited to our 50th Birthday Dinner.

This is the biggest social event we have ever had, but it won't be special without you!! Get your team mates together and make a table (of 8 to 10 people) or just come along and work it out on the night. There will be prizes, fine food, and best of all great company!! Everyone who attends also gets a birthday present!!!

Why not decorate your table with something festive to celebrate our 50th for a chance to win a prize. Have some fun taking photos in the photobooth with all of your friends and team mates!

At only \$50 the night will be amazing, so book your tickets now. You only have a week before the final RSVP.

(Please note - this event is subsidised by MSNSW. Please support the Branch and join us at this wonderful event)

MSNSW

50TH BIRTHDAY DINNER

SATURDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2025
6:00PM
(HELD AFTER OUR LEICHHARDT BPS MEET)

BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB
8 GREENFIELD PDE, BANKSTOWN

\$50PP (3 COURSE MEAL)
240 TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLY
RSVP: 5TH SEPTEMBER

<https://mastersswimmingnsw.org.au/payment/>