



PLATYPUS PRESS

- Moving ahead

October 2016

FITNESS, FRIENDSHIP AND FUN

Why Clarence?

(or what happened to the Hobart Aquatic Centre)

So far this year we have held three successful championship events and are now looking forward to our Spring Long Course Long Distance Championships (LCLD).

We have been holding this event at the Hobart Aquatic Centre for many years but this year we have had to move the event to Clarence. Why?

On 22 June, we lodged an application for fee relief with the Hobart Aquatic Centre manager and despite reminders it took more than three months before a reply was received. As we had reached a deadline for a final decision and had received a very good offer from Clarence, the Board decided to cancel Hobart and move the meet to Clarence.

Even had we received the fee relief offer from Hobart by our deadline, it would not have taken it up as even

the reduced charge would have resulted in a substantial loss.

Masters in Tasmania is purely a voluntary, not for profit organisation. The contributions and services we provide to our communities are considerable and we are fully self-supporting.

Councils on the other hand, exist to serve and support their communities and provide a range of programs. We are of course grateful that the Hobart City Council can offer us some fee relief.

Is there a swim Centre in Tasmania that provides a Masters program? We don't think so! And why not?

Because they are either happy that we do, they don't see that as their role, they don't see Masters providing a valuable service or they just don't care. For your consideration.

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Club Development Grants program

The MST board has approved the establishment of a club development grants program.

The Masters Swimming Tasmania Club Developments Grants Program (CDGP) assists clubs and their members by supporting the provision of a professional environment which enhances the ability of clubs to grow and develop their training environments.

The intent of the grants program is to provide financial assistance to clubs, which may not have sufficient financial resources, to implement strategies that develop and grow club membership and, masters specific, administrative and coaching skill levels which are not eligible for funding under any other MST program.

The grant's program covers two specific areas:

- Helping a new club get re-established by assisting with funding for items including such as stop watches, brochures, a notice board or gear cage,
- Outreach activities by established clubs to grow their membership.

The Branch management committee at 21 September meeting approved the provision of a grant to the newly resurrected Devonport Club.

[Full details](#)

August 2017 FINA Worlds in Budapest

It's now less than 12 months to the next FINA Masters World Championship is Budapest. The only official dates at the moment are in the original promotional brochure. There is still plenty of time before airline bookings need to be made.

*Open Water – 2-3 August 2017
Pool – 8-14 August 2017*

Meet the mascots



The mascots for the meet are the Puli – an ancient Hungarian shepherd dog. The promise is that they will take care of everyone coming to Budapest in 2017

Platypus press has a teaser for you – some of the sights of Budapest – Matthias Church, Budapest at night, Buda Castle, the Széchenyi thermal baths and the Millennium Monument are just some of the 360° views in your temptation for Budapest. **It's worth a look.**

[Your Budapest temptation](#)



Thailand Swim Camp

As winter settles in Australia in 2017, join MSA's swim training camp in tropical Phuket. Award winning coach Alan Godfrey will assist you to attain your swimming goals. Whether you want to improve your stroke and swimming efficiency or have a goal to swim the English Channel this camp is for you.

Your home for the week is the world class Thanyapura sports complex in Phuket. Alan will coach 2 training sessions daily in the state of the art 50m pool. During the day you will have time to explore the area, sit by the pool or head to the beach with Alan for Open Water skills and training. Or you might want to sign up for one of the cooking courses on offer.

To secure your place on this trip complete the online booking form – you will then be sent we will then sent an invoice for a \$500 deposit with the balance due April 2017. Cousins Tours & Travel are a fully licensed travel agency and can assist with your airfares, travel insurance and any pre or post travel arrangements.

[The details](#)

Do we remember?

Recently the Hobart Mercury featured a story about a 20-year-old Tasmanian Paralympian.

The story claimed quite incorrectly that the state had "not had a swimmer at the Olympic, or Paralympic level since ... the Atlanta Olympics in 1996".

It is a constant and never ending battle for masters to get newspaper coverage but when it comes to the Olympics and Paralympics you would think that the media would be properly informed before it published. Not so the Mercury newspaper.

What a load of incompetent journalism on behalf of the reporter. What an indictment too on the sub-editors and the editor of the Mercury to let that one through. And it's no excuse to then say but the story was corrected – sure, the online version may have been updated, but the hard copy will forever include that negligent omission.

A quick search by the journalist of the Mercury's own archives would have very quickly thrown up the name – Melissa Carlton.



Melissa Paralympic record is one that we should all be proud of and not forget. An outstanding record of nine Paralympic medals is indeed something to be proud of.

So, for the record, not only did Melissa compete but here is the medal tally.

- 1996 Paralympic Games, Atlanta
 Gold Medal, 400m Freestyle
 Gold Medal, 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay
 Silver Medal, 100m Freestyle
 Silver Medal, 100m Butterfly
 Bronze Medal, 100m Backstroke
- 2000 Paralympic Games, Sydney
 Silver Medal, 400m Freestyle
 Silver Medal, 100m Freestyle Relay, Bronze Medal, 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay, Bronze Medal, 4 x 100m Medley

The link to Masters Swimming? Melissa's parents, Alan and Lorna Carlton competed with Masters and both were record breakers.

Alan has been unwell lately so all of us at MSTas wish Alan a speedy recovery and rehabilitation.



Safety – it's our responsibility

Did you know that Masters Swimming has an extensive and comprehensive set of risk and safety policies?

The aims of the National Safety Policy are to establish and maintain minimum safety standards for any Masters Swimming Australia activity and to ensure that members of affiliated clubs are aware of the safety facilities and procedures at pools where they swim

As masters, we all have an obligation to look after our own safety but also that of our fellow club members.

We should all familiarize ourselves with these policies.

Our National Safety Policies

Safety
 Heat
 Sun Smart
 Risk Management

The Australia Sports Commission has also produced a sporting clubs guide to a safe workplace which can be accessed from the MSA Policy page

[You can familiarize yourself with the policies here](#)



MSA National open water championships

From 2018, MSA will conduct National Open Water Championships

The Board of MSA has approved the staging of an annual MSA National Open Water Championship.

The Branch hosting the National Championships will have the 1st option to organize the open water even in conjunction with the pool meet. If this option is not taken up, all branches will then be able to apply to host the Open Water Championships meet.

The process will be in place to enable the holding of the event in 2018 with a decision on the first meet to be made at the Autumn 2017 National Board meeting. (WA has advised they will not be hosting an OWS in April 2018.)

The open water championship will be conducted under Masters Open Water Swimming Rules.

The draft "criteria" for selecting the event are to be determined by the Board and will be disseminated in December 2016.

What are the implications for Tasmania?

While holding such a meet in March or April is not feasible because of water temperatures there is no reason why such a

Championship meet could not be bid for and staged in Tasmania earlier in the year.

This is an exciting development for Masters Swimming in Australia.

Masters open water rules are already in place for open water events.



Swim into Spring 2016

A national project designed to provide a profile for the organisation nationally. It provides an attractive range of products and programs for existing members, presenting the benefits of being a Masters Swimming member and attracting swimmers to join Masters Swimming.

A toolkit is available for clubs to use. It contains examples of the types of events/activities that could be run to increase engagement with potential members and includes media examples and planning tools.

Also included in this kit are:

- Sample Position Description for a Club Welcoming Officer*
- Sample flyers*
- Event Planning template and*
- a Social Media Promotions Plan template*

You can request a toolkit from:

mastersswimmingtasmania@gmail.com

News in brief

The roles of **National President** and **Treasurer** are to become vacant at the next AGM.

Nominations for these two positions will be called for via Branches towards the end of the year.

MSA swimming rules have been updated to more closely align and be consistent with FINA rules. They are currently scheduled to come into effect on 1 January 2017. The updated version will be published shortly.

A new set of recommended **standardized programs** have been endorsed by the MSA Board and are now included in the National Championships Meet guide. Where 800s are swum 2 per lane, the outside lanes will no longer be used.

Victoria is introducing a trial of including **disability classes** in their meets. Competitors will be required to be MSA members.

Awards – The Board of MSA has considered how to recognise contributions to masters outside the strict criteria for Coach of the Year (criteria currently being reviewed) and Technical Official of the Year (needs to be qualified on the Officials Pathway). The **Volunteer of the Year** award will consider other activities that contribute to the growth and development of masters swimming in Australia. The selection criteria will be established by the Board in conjunction with the General Manager. The first award will be made at Nationals 2017.

Branches are to consider their views on the introduction of a National, **Club of the Year Award** for 2018 and are to report back to the National Autumn 2017 General Meeting.

Closer Liaison with Swimming Australia – Significant work is being undertaken on updating the Member Protection Policy (focus is on ethics codes, working with vulnerable people, codes of ethics and behavior.)

Co sanctioning of meets – MSA are participating in a working party with SAL to determine the protocols for such meets.



Congratulations on our appointments to National Committees

John Pugh
Coaching

and

Don Reynolds
Technical



Don't forget!



You can contact us by email.

mastersswimmingtasmania@gmail.com

MSTas**Long Distance, Long Course Championships****19 November 2016****Clarence Aquatic Centre**

Registrations close on
Saturday,
12 November 2016
at 11.59 am.

You can register [here](#).

Need to know how to get
there? Check out the

[Google maps directions](#)

Registrations are now open for
the Masters Swimming Tasmania
32nd Long Distance, Long Course
Championships.

MST appreciates and
acknowledges the hospitality being
extended to us by the YMCA.

This year we have moved this
event to the Clarence Aquatic
Centre YMCA (See story on pg. 1).



Use this [link](#) to check out who
has already entered.

Flashback to 2013 - Masters in the Pool

Hobart Aquatic Centre.

Irene Brooks, Penny Lucas and Chris Bridges

from the Orcas Masters Swimming Club

(and in the background - Iain Barr, Garth Slade, Les Young (with his back to the camera) and our very own,
Madam Splash, Pauline Samson.



Hobart Aquatic Masters 2016-2017 Open Water Season Opening swim



The Weedy Sea Dragons are an informal group of open water swimmers not aligned with Masters.

Club members regularly swim on Saturday mornings, usually at Kingston Beach, starting at 7.30 am.

Some Hobart Aquatic Masters open water swimmers joined in with the Weedy Sea Dragons and took to the water at Taroona Beach on Hobart Show Day to celebrate the start of the 2016/17 open water swimming season.

Clear skies and clear water greeted our intrepid swimmers. Even the big ray that cruises around the bay made an appearance.

The swim was followed by a hearty breakfast at Ian Johnstone's place – thanks Ian!



Donna and Michele cooking up a storm.



Friday 4 - Sunday 6 November, 2016

3 day programs (one for each day) for the PPMG have now been posted.

Branch participants are Anne Steele (TAC) and Ketrina Clarke (TTL)

Check out the latest information including the program and results on the [MSQ web page](#)

**Back issues of
Platypus Press and
MSA E-News**

If this is your first time reading Platypus press, you can see our [back issues](#) on the MST web site.

Back editions [MSA E-news](#) are also available

Memories of Hilda

Katherine Daft, Hobart Dolphins MSC

HILDA MURFET

13.11.22- 5.9.16



Hilda was a founding member of the Hobart AUSSI Masters Swim Club along with fellow members, Justine Bamford, Doug Job and Tina Smit in about 1982.

My earliest recollection of Hilda is from when I joined in 1990 and was of her swimming alongside her daughter Jenny Breen, who was also a member at that time.

Hilda would compete with Tina, Justine and Margie Clougher and make for a formidable relay team with her double arm backstroke. The ladies would regularly travel

together and compete farther afield in the Alice Springs and Adelaide Masters Games as well as National Masters Events.

Hilda was the first Club Member to earn the ONE Million Metres Award and this achievement was witnessed by Margie and Doug. She also was awarded Best Club Contributor some years ago now before we had a Club Shield to record upon.

Hilda was a much-valued timekeeper throughout her time as Club member and I fondly recall her tutoring my children in the art of timekeeping. Her daughter Jenny continued to involve Hilda in as many Club Activities as she could when she was no longer swimming, as did Margie and the older members of Hobart Dolphins.

It was a memorable time for us all when Hilda attended Mavis Farewell at Peter and Kerry's earlier this year. Always smiling.



IT'S LIVE!
in Queensland



IT'S A DATE!

GREAT BARRIER REEF MASTERS GAMES

Cairns, Tropical North Queensland

25-28 MAY 2017

WIN FREE ACCOMMODATION, REGISTRATION & A TRIP TO THE REEF FOR YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS

Register for the Games before 31 December and go in the draw to win 8 nights accommodation at the luxurious **Mantra Trinity** (2 bedroom apartment), complimentary registration fees* for two, and a trip for 4 to the Great Barrier Reef on **Southern Cross**! Total value over \$1000!

Book at www.gbrmg.com.au today!

GreatBarrierReefMastersGames





Advertising and events

Platypus Press provides an opportunity for clubs to list their events, training sessions and share some gossip.

We are not averse to some paid advertising but are happy to support, in a limited way, the commercial activities of our members.

Next Edition

The deadline for contributions for the next edition of Platypus press in 9 December, 2016

In our next edition, we will celebrate the achievements of some of our members.

PHOTO GALLERY FROM OUR ARCHIVES



*Masters in the Pool, 28 June 2003 – Noodle Race
(L-R) Unknown, Anne Horner*



*Masters in the Pool, 28 June 2003 – Post meet BBQ
(L-R) Suzie Apted, Tracey Dobbie, Val Claydon, David Conley, Les Young, Cliona Kennedy and Jane Conley*



*Winters 2007 Presentation luncheon
(L to R) Unknown, Penny Lucas, Pauline Samson and Mendelt Tillema*



*Masters in the Pool, 26 July 2003,
(L-R) Ian Goudie, Chris Bridges, Bill Brooks*



Acknowledgments

Platypus Press acknowledges the contribution of the Hobart Dolphins and the Hobart Aquatic Center M S Clubs, and Pauline Samson on their contributions to this edition