

# AUSSI Masters branch formed



## Swimming

A BURNIE branch of the AUSSI Masters Swimming Association was formed at a recent meeting, held at the Burnie Aquatic Centre, with 15 members present.

Pauline Samson (Hobart) and Hector Beveridge (Launceston) informed the group on the functions of AUSSI Tasmania with the emphasis on fun, friendship and fitness.

The association caters for swimmers aged over 20 years. Swim meets are organised on a Statewide basis for those with a competitive edge, and club and individual goals are encouraged for all swimmers.

The Burnie Aquatic Centre has agreed to sponsor the Burnie Club in its first year.

The new club welcomes any swimmer of any ability to join at 6 p.m. on Tuesdays at the Burnie Aquatic Centre.

At the meeting, officers elected were: President, Trevor Ismay; vice-president, Doug McPhie; secretary, Joan Coleman; treasurer, Sue King; coach, Lynne Ferguson; publicity officer, Sue King.

## Success for Burnie masters



AT THE weekend, three members of the Burnie AUSSI Masters Swimming Club travelled to Hobart for the Statewide AUSSI Masters Summer Championships.

Doug McPhie swam five events in the 65-69 age group and was the overall age group champion, and had the highest total points in freestyle in his age group.

He also broke the State AUSSI records in the 50 m and 100 m backstroke.

Tom Edwards came third

in the overall points score for men in the 55-59 age group and gained the most points in freestyle events for his age.

Joan Coleman swam in the women's 45-49 year age group and gained the most points in breaststroke events in her age group.

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## Local sporting moments

# Three contest masters titles

THREE members of the Burnie AUSSI Masters Swimming Club travelled to Hobart for the Statewide AUSSI Masters summer championships.

Competitors are allowed to swim five of the 15 events contested for men and women in each five-year age bracket.

Competitors' ages ranged from 20, up to the oldest swimmer 89-year-old Ernie Webster.

Heats are run according to times, therefore events have a mix of gender and ages.

However, the times are then graded according to age with the fastest swimmer receiving 10

points, second fastest nine and so on.

To be eligible for a stroke champion swimmers have to compete in at least three events of the same stroke.

Points for all five events are totalled to award the age group champions.

Doug McPhie swam five events in the 65-69 year age group and won both overall champion, plus the highest total points in freestyle in his age group. He also broke the State AUSSI record in both the 50 m. and 100 m. backstroke events.



**WATER FITNESS:** Burnie Masters swimming club members are (from left), David Greisbach, Lynne Fergusson, Di Boss-Walker, Joan Coleman and Trevor Ismay.

## In the swim of things

FITNESS and fun, the motto of the Aussie Masters Swimming Club, sounds like the perfect motto for summer.

And members of the Burnie Masters seem to agree.

The local group began swimming together last summer, although coach Lynne Fergusson said numbers dropped during the cold winter months.

The group is back and is hoping to become affiliated with the national Aussie Masters club.

Mrs Fergusson said the group, which consists of swimmers over the age of 20, prac-

ticed for an hour every Tuesday night.

To become a part of the national club, the Burnie Masters needs a minimum of 10 members, but Mrs Fergusson said the bigger the group, the more fun it would be.

She said the swimmers had fun swimming against each other and trying to improve their own times.

Although the club is a social event, swimmers can take part in competitions against other masters clubs.

Swimmers get used to swimming in groups, learn different strokes and build up their fitness.

Mrs Fergusson said the members possessed varying abilities in the pool.

The Aussie Masters, which stands for Australian Union of Senior Swimmers International, boasts 150 clubs and eight branches around Australia.

It was formed in Sydney in 1975 and the average member's age is 43, the oldest member is 90.

Anyone interested in becoming involved in the Aussie Masters can attend a meeting and barbecue at the Burnie Aquatic Centre at 7 p.m. on Tuesday night or contact Lynne Fergusson 6431 5338 for details.