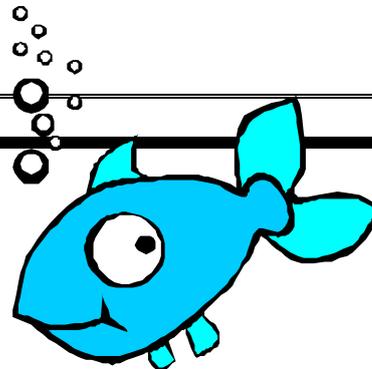


SNAPPETS



Stadium Snappers Masters Swimming Club Inc www.stadiumsnappers.net.au

July 2014

PRESIDENT'S JOTTINGS

Well we now have a new name for the Stadium and I guess it will take us a while to get used to calling it HBF Stadium instead of Challenge. Anyone who is an HBF member can get a reduction on their entry fee. You need to fill in a small form on which you put your HBF member number. Until the end of September everyone is entitled to a \$3.00 entry fee.

By now all members will have received an email or been given a hard copy about changing our Club name. The Committee wants to hear from any member who has thoughts on this matter.

Our financial situation is satisfactory at present. Therefore club subscriptions will stay the same for 2015.

Geraldine Klug

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DIARY ENTRIES FOR JULY AND BEYOND

Date	Event	Time	Venue
Monday 21 July	Committee meeting	7:00 pm	Regent Park
Sunday 27 July	Leisurepark Distance SC 400/800	10:00 am	Leisurepark Balga
Sunday 3 August	Somerset Distance LC 1500	9:00 am	Aqualife East Vic Park
Saturday 16 August	2014 Groper State SC Relay Champs	afternoon	HBF Stadium
Monday 18 August	Committee meeting	7:00 pm	Regent Park
Sunday 31 August	Riverton Distance LC 400/800	TBA	Riverton Leisureplex
Sunday 14 September	Snappers LiveLighter LC Club Challenge	morning	HBF Stadium

BIRTHDAYS

July

Leon Musca 16th
Meryllyn Burbidge 22nd

August

Marg Watson 4th
Mark Barlow 14th

Happy winter Birthday all!



Colin Beaton (one of the oldest members) and Mike Curtis (still the youngest) brought cake for afternoon tea to celebrate their birthdays in June.

WELCOME

Welcome to Mathew Lovelock who was a coach with Superfins and has recently transferred his membership to Snappers. Our Captains will be delighted to have another male swimmer to select for relays! Happy times with Snappers, Mathew.

SUPERSNAPPERS

The Supersnapper for April is Beng Hooi Chua for his excellent swims at the Melville LiveLighter Club Challenge, which included PBs in 100 Fly, 50 Breast and 50 Free, and for embracing the Endurance 1000 series in 2014.

And for May the Supersnapper award goes to Pamela Walter for achieving equal first in the 60-64 Female Age Group in the LiveLighter Masters State Championships.

Congratulations to these two!



CLUB CLOTHING

Pat Byrne handed on her Club clothing in excellent condition, practically brand new:

- 2 x aqua S/S polo shirts - Medium, Large
- 1 x white cotton L/S polo shirt (artwork on back) – Small
- 1 x navy sleeveless fleece vest – Small
- 1 x navy tracksuit top – Small
- 1 x navy/aqua tracksuit top (original design) – Small

And I still have some previously advertised items:

- 2 x navy L/S fleece jackets - 1 Medium, 1 Large
- 3 x aqua S/S polo shirts - 1 Large, 1 Medium, 1 Small

All available for a small donation to the club.

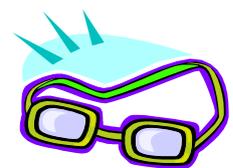
Marg Watson (9387 5463; dmawatson@inet.net.au)



No man is an island – it just looks that way.

GOGGLE SAW

- The smile on Pat Sugars' face when she received a Get Well card from Snappers – a first for her. She wasn't smiling when she cracked her knee cap, which was the reason for the card!
- Audrey and Colin walking barefoot around the pool in search of their shoes. Somehow Colin's shoes had made their way into the women's changeroom and Audrey's into the men's but the story had a happy ending.
- Geoff Barnard replacing the rubber tubing in the Club's hand paddles. Thanks, Geoff.



POOL SWIM RESULTS from Sue Shilling

Swan Hills SC LiveLighter Club Challenge Sunday 6 July

Stadium Snappers took a small team of 10 to Swan Hills. Due to the large number of events (swimmers could enter for any stroke over 25, 50, 100 and 200 metres) swimmers were often the only one in their age group so top points were gained by nearly every Snapper in every event!

Maida Vale won the carnival and Snappers finished third, only one point behind Armadale. We had three male swimmers in attendance so could enter only two relay teams. However the teams performed very well with a first placing in the 280+ Mixed Medley relay (Vic, Geraldine, Pamela and Stuart) and a second in the 240+ Mixed Freestyle relay (Anne, Kim, Bill and Stuart).

In the 4 x 100 Mixed Medley relay, not for points, Snappers (Sue, Bill, Vic and Eleanor) set a state record in the 240+ age group.

PROFILE

Perhaps you are a newish member of Snappers who would be willing to share your story with other members and are just waiting to be asked! So far this year we've been privileged to read contributions from Mike Curtis, Mary and Stuart Gray, Lisa Dwyer and Mark Etherton-Ber. We'd love to hear from you, too, so please don't be shy. Just send me half to three quarters of a page plus a photo.

Merilyn Burbidge amburbidge@westnet.com.au

THE BEGINNING OF MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA

(summarised from an article supplied by Masters Swimming Australia)

Masters swimming was started in Australia nearly forty years ago by a group of adult swimmers who wanted to organise competitive swimming events for men and women. The founding members were mainly members of the AIF, Winter Swimming Associations and the NSW Leagues Swim Clubs, and they were predominantly male only organisations.

Australian Masters was modelled on the US Masters but was modified to suit local conditions and the easy-going attitude of Australian people. It was based on a foundation of swimming clubs and involved interclub competitions at local, state and national levels. These events provided the opportunity for group training and travel, competition and camaraderie.

Organising and participating in meets was the driving force in establishing the original Branches and Clubs. The common incentive for clubs was to motivate swimmers to be active all year round. But it was not all about exercise, as another reason for becoming a member has always been to access coaching and swim with like-minded people who are interested in socialising.

Forty years later, the majority of Masters Swimming Australia members don't compete. They still enjoy the Fitness through swimming, Friendship and Fun that their club provides for them. Lots of them are summer open water swimming enthusiasts. About one third of the membership still uses the incentive of competing to keep them motivated, active and enjoying the group camaraderie of travelling to meets.

Masters Swimming Australia is approaching its fortieth anniversary and there will be recognition and a few celebrations across 2015.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND DEADLINE

Thanks to Geraldine Klug, Marg Watson, Robyn Wilson, Sue Shilling and Elizabeth Edmondson for contributing to this issue of *Snappets*. I value your input, too, so please send items for the next issue to me at amburbidge@westnet.com.au by **Friday 15th August**.

Merilyn Burbidge



ALASKAN BLOG from Robyn Wilson

Robyn and Alan recently sailed from Seattle, Washington, to Juneau, Alaska. This is a summary of Robyn's delightful blog describing their mind-blowing adventures.

12 May North to Alaska.

Boat accommodation very basic but fine. Fellow passengers Australian, Canadian and US. Couple of Poms, Scots and Irish.

13 May Cruised to San Juan Island, Friday Harbour

Quaint little fishing village; stayed a couple of hours. Hundreds of islands. Larger ones well catered for with huge boat ferries.

14 May

Hard to believe on a boat, so calm. Sunny and cold. First sighting of black bear on water's edge. Animals starting to awaken from hibernation. Stacks of dolphins swimming alongside. A wow moment. Tallest totem pole (175m) sighted in small fishing town. Beautiful scenery; snow-capped mountains on either side. Talks through the day from crew. Went in hot tub - 40 degrees.

15 May

Another lovely sunny, brisk day. Just called into a derelict salmon processing plant. Caretaker living there on his own with dog. Dropped him off some food and beer. Lots of waterfalls because of 200 inches of rain but very little snow in the winter just past. First humpback whale spotted. Very exciting. It surfaced three times, each time closer to boat. Huge! I spotted another about an hour later! Beautiful weather, quite temperate. Unable to disembark for three days because boat is not registered to land in Canada. Reach Alaska 4:30am tomorrow. Clocks go back an hour tonight. Light at 4:30am, dark at 9:30pm.

16 May Misty Fiords National Monument

Exceptional weather. Beautiful sunny day, cold breeze. Yoga each day at 7:30am on the top deck. Quite spectacular looking up at snow-capped mountains on either side. Our first day to do activities. Hoop ra! Went into Punchbowl Cove. Stunning with 3600 ft high cliffs down to water. Rubber ducky trip, kayaking and stand up paddle boarding. I didn't fall in. Gail (who taught me) would've been so proud of me! Out for about 20 mins. Water temp 7 degrees. Then did a polar plunge from the 2nd deck. Cold took breath away; swam around to back of boat. Awesome scenery. Just seen mountain goats, black and brown bears. Tour guide working with Uncruise Adventures for 3 years had never seen Misty Fiords in full sun light. Usually foggy and misty and rainy. Think it's all the Aussies on board. We bring the sun wherever we go.



17 May Ketchikan

Rainy, misty and chilly but then all disappeared and turned into a nice mild day. Little fishing village which now will have 2 huge ships visiting every day for the next 3 months. 20 more people coming on board. Pity because 30 was a good number.

18 May

Day on the water and a visit to El Capitan cave. Skiff ride to the cave through Dry Passage. Lots of marine life seen, including dozens of otters! They lie on their backs and kick. Babies sit on

their tummies; very funny! Went kayaking hoping to see one up close - no luck. Very skittish. Duck underwater and surface elsewhere. Too cold and windy to paddle.

19 May Klawak native village

Walking tour to totem park and clan house. Rainy, misty and cold but nice to walk on ground. Kayaking and skiffing this afternoon. Out to look for wildlife. Received SMS to say that Sarah (daughter-in-law) is in labour. Now out of range so don't know when we'll find out! Sea otters in abundance; and bald eagles. Humpback whale just outside our window, getting closer. Got up, in pyjamas, to go outside to watch it pass in front of boat. Really cool. Very cold, windy and rainy.

20 May Patterson Bay

Lovely little cove surrounded by snow-topped mountains. Spruce over 150 ft high. Bit rainy but went out for a skiff tour and a guided paddle. Sea otter and harbour seal sighted. Very cold. Wearing at least six layers of clothing. Should mention food: excellent and plenty of it. The desserts are 5 star rating. Menu has not been repeated yet.



21 May Bay of Pillars, Kuiu Island

Still out of range so unsure if baby has arrived. Must have done by now! Snorkelling today. Fitted out with wetsuits. So tight, can't breathe. Well, wotta day. Kutlaku Creek Hike - forest waking walk this morning through forest, creek beds and bogs. Walked the tracks of the bears and moose - kept calling out to keep them away, which was a pity. It would've been nice to see up close and personal (and then mauled!). Weather clear and sunny which made it perfect for SUPing. Stayed out about an hour on the board chasing river otters. After lunch snorkelling. Bit of trepidation because I'd never worn a wet suit and very thick, then boots, gloves, hood, mask and snorkel and fins longer than me. Very claustrophobic. Had visions of a panic attack and not being able to breathe. Water temp not far off freezing - 4 degrees. I thought about not doing it but already on skiff. Into the water to acclimatise. Not bad so far. Breathing OK; not hyperventilating yet. Time to go under. I was one with the water.....phew. Stayed in about an hour swimming through forests of giant kelp. Face eventually went numb but water in wetsuit heated from body temp. Never thought I'd go snorkelling in Alaskan waters. Only 3 women did it; pretty sure I was the oldest. Beautiful scenery after dinner. Snow topped mountains with mist and sun shining through. Mother and baby humpback out the window.

22 May Brothers Island

Beautiful sunny day. So very lucky. Skiff tour to see sea lions. Hundreds of them lying on rocks and swimming around skiff. Boat anchored in sheltered spot so able to do another hour of paddling. Thanks again, Gail. Sea lions followed me for a bit, then lost interest. Heads emerge from water next to board then dive down. Steamboat Bay for beach walk. This afternoon we went whale hunting and boy did we see them! The sea was glass, the sun was shining and could see to the horizon. Whales everywhere. Didn't know where to look. They were feeding, breaching, diving. An amazing sight. Doll dolphins swam beside boat. Seals as well. That night we had a fire on the beach and watched the sun set - about 9:30!

Wonderful news - got word that little Eddy Wilson has been born. No details! Probably won't find out until arrival in Juneau.

23 May Endicott Arm; Dawes Glacier

Sailing through mini icebergs! Memories of Antarctic. Skiffed up to the face of glacier. Height of 40 storey building. Saw 3 calvings while there. A loud thunderous noise, followed by puffs of snow and then a section of ice face breaks off and slides into water, creating a big swell. Fantastic. Stayed there about an hour. Very cold and windy. Took glacier ice back to boat and had in our drinks that night. So lucky to see a mother with three cubs on beach. Most appropriate way to finish our Alaskan Adventure. Juneau tomorrow.