

Veteran hits 10 Million

In August 2015 MSV found member, Barb Brooks, from the North Lodge Neptunes was rewarded by MSA and Vorgee for completing 10 Million Metres.

Barb began swimming when she was 18 years old and fell in love with the sport. Prior to this, she would only be seen in the water a couple of times per year at the beach to paddle around. In 1976, Barb was a founding member of AUSSI Masters Swimming in Victoria and was so enthusiastic about anything to do with swimming and took up every challenge made available.

Before the Vorgee Million Metres program came into play, MSV sponsor of the time, City Mutual Insurance, offered awards for various distances eg.

- Merit certificate 800 metres in 4 weeks
- Bronze award 5,000 metres in 15 weeks
- Silver award 25,000 metres in 25 weeks
- Gold award 50,000 metres in 12 months
- Platinum award 100,000 in 2 years
- Diamond award 500,000 metres in 5 years
- Supreme award 1,000,000 in 10 years

This challenge was right up Barb's alley and she dived straight into it. Barb began her first million metres with 1000 on 2nd September 1979 and with regular training under a coach she completed one million metres in 20 months, on 25th May 1981. Barb was the first Victorian to gain the "Supreme" one million metre award.

Barb has always kept a log of her training distances and finally completed 10 million metres, 28 years later on 12th September, 2007. Unfortunately due to tragic circumstances at home, Barb took some time to complete her forms and send in her 10 million metre application.

Barb has now almost completed 12 million metres and continues to log her training and competition swims. She says, "it is very exciting to see the total mileage grow knowing that swimming is such a good exercise for your health and wellbeing."

Congratulations Barb!

