# Audrey’s Million Metres - The Impossible Dream

In September 2006 a large, nervous, frumpy Audrey in a very 1950s conservative swim costume entered the pool at Challenge Stadium, as a guest of Pat.

Every 25m she would stop, hang onto the side in the slow lane and have a rest. After a few weeks she managed to get to the end of the 50m lane and would rest with a long chat before setting off for the return lap.

She well remembered saying to Pat, ‘Will I ever be able to turn and make it back to the other end without stopping?’

Pat’s reply, ‘Instead of stopping at the end, turn, take few strokes, then stop for your rest!’

It worked. But any notion of recording metres swum for that miracle million would have been considered a joke.

Then along came coaches and the persistent Elizabeth, always encouraging, advising and helping. They persuaded Audrey to dream about swimming in the World Masters Championships at Challenge Stadium in 2008. Count the metres and record them on the way to a Million Metres!

Snappers’ Recorder, Pamela, presented Star Awards to those who swam every distance in one stroke and Audrey aimed high, achieving a Two Star Award each year.

Twelve months ago Elizabeth, who had been conscientiously recording Audrey’s monthly metres, year after year, said to the astonished Audrey, ‘You have swum 900 000 metres and you are well on the way to a million metres!’

Audrey felt anxious and asked Elizabeth not to mention this again until she was past the finish line, just in case she sank before the end!

Now the dream has come true, thanks to the encouraging coaches and to recorder Elizabeth. Special thanks to Vorgee!

