





WHALES TALES

Saturday the 4th of October 2025

 **Whale Joke of the Week**



Q: Why did the whale cross the road?

A: To get to the other tide!  

Season 2025/2026 Begins!!


Today is the start of the 2025/2026 summer races season. Welcome back to all of our members and a special welcome to our new members joining us for the first time. A reminder that races start at **7:00am**, so please be arrive at the pool by 6.45am to help set up and be ready for your races. All the help is always appreciated.





The **Metro Southwest Championships** will be held on the **25th and 26th of October**, and all swimmers in the **Development Squad and above** are expected to attend. **Entries close on the 15th of October**, so be sure to get yours in on time, and if you have any questions about which events to enter, please speak with your coach.  

Message from our Registrar

The 2024/2025 season has ended, and members need to purchase their 2025/2026 memberships - refer to the how to join/renew link on the club website for more information.

We are again providing [Free Membership](#) for swimmers 8yrs & Under, who regularly swim in our club races. See the club website for more info. 

Breakfast BBQ – This Saturday!

After our Club races today, we'll be firing up the BBQ to celebrate the official start of the 2025/2026 season. Come hungry, leave whale-y full!  

Training Messages

Reminder there is no training on Monday 6th October for the Labour Day Public Holiday. Training is on as normal for all other days in the holidays. If you are away, please lodge your absences in the Parent Portal.

Making a splash at the Cumberland Inter-Club Cup!

It's our turn to host the Cumberland Inter-Club Cup, happening on Saturday 15th November at Merrylands Swimming Centre. This is no small fish — it's one of the highlights of the season, and we're ready to whale-come everyone for an afternoon of fantastic racing.



Our Social Committee has been working like busy barnacles to final whale all the details and make sure the day goes swimmingly.

We'll also be rolling out our set of touch pads for the meet, so here's your early reminder: this event is a **WHOLE POD** effort. We'll need all fins on deck, helping on the day. It will be truly appreciated!



Walk to Defeat MND – 2 Nov 2025

You can still register to join the Walk to Defeat MND on 2 November 2025. Want to donate? Just swim on over to this link:

<https://www.walktodefeatmnd.org.au/fundraisers/MakeasplashforMND>



Lucky Draws – Fat Jak's Vouchers

Last week's Lucky Swimmers were Max and Ruth – congrats on snagging \$20 Fat Jak's vouchers! That was the final swimmer draw.



This week, we're turning the tide, 2 x \$20 vouchers will go to our Lucky Volunteers!


How to be in the running? Easy – help with setup, grab a stopwatch, flip some sausages at the BBQ, or stick around to pack up. (These are things all parents/volunteers should be pitching in with anyway – don't be a little shellfish 🐞).

From now on, Fat Jak's vouchers will go to **monthly** graded point score winners, Swim for Your School winners, and more throughout the season.



If you haven't picked up your 10% off Fat Jak's VIP card, find Sylvia poolside. (The card can't be used on combo deals or with other offers).

Learn to Swim – Making Waves This Season!


 Program Start Date:

Our Learn to Swim program kicks off on Saturday, 18 October 2025. Full details, terms, and the process are available on our website:

merrylandsasc.asn.au/learntoswim/

Before you can enrol, all new swimmers must complete an evaluation session. Evaluation Day: Saturday, 18 October, at 9:15am Bookings Close: Friday, 16 October (or earlier if spaces fill up – and they whale-y do fast!) 🐳

So don't drift – get your spot locked in before the tide goes out.

 Enrolments close Friday, 16 October, unless we reach capacity sooner. Remember, spaces are limited – so book early to secure your place in the pod! 🐳

 Questions?

See or contact Kylee Murray if you have any questions – she's your go-to guide for smooth sailing.

Donations

Our partnership with the Australian Sports Foundation allows supporters to make tax-deductible donations to the club. Funds raised help us upgrade and maintain our equipment and systems, providing better facilities for you, our members.

We appreciate the great support our members have provided since the partnership commenced. Donations can be made [here](#).

 **Whale Joke of Day:**

Q: What do whales like to eat for lunch?

A: Fish & ships! 🐳🤔

Committee for 2025/2026

The AGM of the club was held in May. The Executive and Committee elected for 2025/2026 are:

Executive Members

President	Graham Edwards
Vice President	Tricia Johnston
Secretary	Leanne Tovkach
Treasurer	Ian Johnston
Race Secretary	Alison Johnston
Social Secretary	Denise Assi

Committee Members

Peter Johnston	Margaret Edwards
Matthew Vicic	Kylee Murray
Varant Jambazian	Sylvia Chan

The Registrar for the club this season is Sylvia Chan. Any questions about membership should be directed to Sylvia.

Congratulations and welcome to everyone elected to positions on the club Committee.

We also have a couple of club sub-committees and these are comprised of the following Committee members:

Competition Committee

Alison Johnston (Race Secretary & Chair)

Peter Johnston

Tricia Johnston

Social Committee

Denise Assi (Social Secretary)

Sylvia Chan

Kylee Murray

Learn to Swim Committee

Kylee Murray (LTS Co-ordinator)

Leanne Tovkach

Varant Jambazian

Upcoming Meet Calendar

Check the [website](#) for the full list of upcoming meets, closing dates, programs and qualifying times.

MEET NAME	MEET DATE	ENTRY CLOSING
Metro Southwest Area LC Championships	Saturday 25 th & Sunday 26 th October	Wednesday 15 th October
Cumberland inter-Club Cup	Saturday 15 th November	Wednesday 12 th November





Pool to Pavement for Peter



SYDNEY



Join or Donate to our 'Make a splash for MND' team now!

9am **SUNDAY 2nd
NOVEMBER 2025**

**BLAXLAND RIVERSIDE
PARK, SYDNEY
OLYMPIC PARK**

**5KM CHARITY WALK TO SUPPORT
PEOPLE LIVING WITH MOTOR
NEURONE DISEASE**

ALL AGES AND ABILITIES!



walktodefeatmnd.org.au/fundraisers/makeasplashformnd

Some of the Holiday Fun!



FITNESS CLINIC FOR KIDS

TUESDAY 7TH OCTOBER 2025

HILLTOP RD PUBLIC SCHOOL

BRING A HAT & WATER BOTTLE

FREE 5 - 8 years: 10am - 12pm
9 - 12 years: 1pm - 3pm

Get involved!

The MiniFit Clinics are a great way to encourage health, fitness, and wellbeing amongst your kids. Being active has many benefits for children and sets them up for healthy habits for the rest of their lives. Our clinics are interactive, fun, and a fun way for kids to get involved.

Let by Anthony Minichieles himself, MiniFit provides fun-filled activities for children aged 5-12, and is for boys and girls.

Register now at: minifit.com.au

minifit
 @minifitnow
 MiniFit

KIDS BOWLS

Tuesday 7 October

SESSION TIMES:
9:30AM - AGES 5-12 | 10:30AM - AGES 13+

BOOK Now at www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au/
Limited places available

