



# WHALES TALES

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

## Thank you

Whilst I have been away, we have had a number of people fill gaps and I want to express my thanks for that. In particular, Peter Johnston, who prepared and published Whales Tales every week, on top of all the other jobs he performs weekly.

Glyn Stockley (Ripples St Marys) and Leo Repeti (McCredie Park) kindly attended to Referee Championship mornings. Ian Wilson, Ian Johnston & Peter Johnston provided Starter & Referee coverage on other mornings and Matthew Vicic has commenced some work learning the Starter role.

## Merrylands SwimFest

Our big event of the swimming season is the Merrylands SwimFest, which we held last Saturday afternoon.

We were blessed with weather that did not impact the meet and had great help across the board from our club members and parents.

Our swimmers, all 33 of them, had an outstanding meet, achieving:

- 39 PB's;
- 28 individual medals (8 Gold, 8 Silver & 12 Bronze);
- 4 relay medals (1 Gold, 1 Silver & 2 Bronze);
- 2<sup>nd</sup> on the overall point score results.

Congratulations to everyone who swam, you should be very proud of your achievements (I know your Coaches and Parents are) 🏆🏆🏆

Thank you to everyone who assisted with the planning, set up, running and wrap-up of the meet. We also had Aquablitz Toongabbie kindly assist in timekeeping some lanes as well.

A big thankyou also to our visiting officials, Shawn Simpson (Revesby Workers), Brad Fahey (Aquablitz Toongabbie), Lyndon Heslop (Ripples St Marys), Leo Repeti & Dennis Browning (McCredie Park).

The meet takes substantial planning & preparation and the work Peter & Alison do behind the scenes to prepare for it is outstanding and deserves our special thanks.

Ian Wilson took on the role of Meet Director and I want to especially thank Ian for undertaking the role of organising coverage for all the roles required and organisation of the meet. It is not an easy role as it requires ensuring help is placed across a range of roles and reacting on the day as changes are required to keep the meet running.

Thank you to everyone who helped on the day, some learning new roles on the run 🍌.

A great BBQ was running to feed everyone. The coffee cart provided by the Abdelraheem family was a hit. A big thank you also to the Abdelraheem family for donating the lolly jar guessing competition prize.



If you have photos to share from the meet you can upload them via the link in the Whales Tales email.

Finally thank you to our sponsors (Club Merrylands, Starr Partners & Alpha Security Group), who provide financial support for our club and in particular the SwimFest. We are grateful for your ongoing support.

The countdown is now on the 2025 SwimFest!



## Swimming NSW Senior Metrops

This weekend we have four swimmers who have qualified for the Senior Metrops Championships being held at SOPAC.

Congratulations to Joseph Assi, Daniel Vicic, Matthew Vicic and Leo Zhu for qualifying. May the Whale be with you all 🐳.

## MSW 5 – 8 Years Development Meet

The Metro South West 5 – 8 Year Meet will be held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March at the Gordon Fetterplace Aquatic Centre, The Parkway, Bradbury.

The meet commences at 2.00pm (with warm-up from 1.00pm) and is a great meet for our younger swimmers to experience a swimming meet, so we encourage all of our swimmers who are in the age range to enter the meet. Entries close on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February.

## Anzac Day 2024

We plan to participate in the Cumberland Anzac Day Dawn Service this year. The service will be held from 5.30am at Charles Mance Reserve, Newman Street, Merrylands and commences with a march from the Merrylands RSL Club in Miller Street, Merrylands at 5.15am.

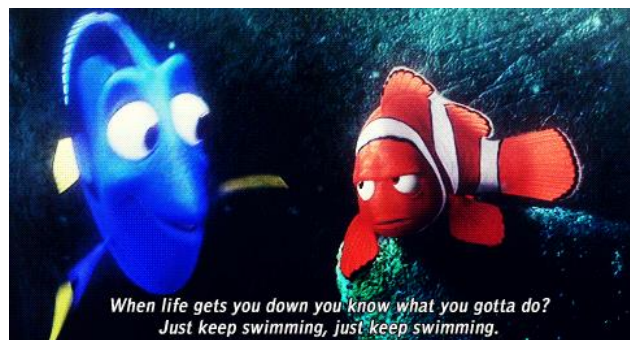
We will provide further information about the Dawn Service in the coming weeks and encourage you to set aside the morning to attend the Dawn Service.

## P-Plate Award

Have you seen something this season that deserves a nomination for the P-Plate award? I am sure we have some early contenders already but are always looking for more nominations. To nominate the person, click [here](#).

## Lions Club Award

With all of the great work by various club members for the SwimFest we encourage you to recognise the contribution of your fellow members by nominating them for the Lions Club Award. Nominations can be made online [here](#).



## 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                      |
|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| NSW Senior Metropolitan Championships | Saturday 24th February & Sunday 25th February | Closed                             |
| Metro South West 5-8 Years Meet       | Saturday 9th March                            | Wednesday, 28th February           |
| NSW State Open Championships          | Friday 15th March to Sunday 17th March        | TBA                                |
| NSW Junior State Age Championships    | Saturday 23rd March to Sunday 24th March      | Tuesday 12th March                 |
| NSW State Masters Championships       | Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th April             | Friday, 5th April                  |
| Swimwest Winter Short Course          | Sunday 21st April                             | Saturday, 6th April* (Entry Limit) |