

**AUSSI  
MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA  
INC.**



**FOUNDED 1975**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**1995**

**AUSSI**  
**MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA (INC)**  
**FOUNDED IN 1975**

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**Office Bearers - 1995**

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**PRESIDENT**

Glenys McDonald

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Ivan Wingate

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

Clyde McMillan

**DIRECTOR OF COACHING**

Kay Cox

**BOARD MEMBERS**

A.C.T. Jean Heath - Director of Planning

S.A. Russell Clarke - Director of Recording

QLD. Geoff Robinson - Director of Marketing

N.T. Ted Giblin - Director of Swim Meet Policy

VIC. Doug Tantau - Director of Communications

W.A. David Cummins - Director of Programmes

TAS. Pauline Samson - Director of Technical Development

N.S.W. Gary Stutsel - Director of Membership Development

**AUDITOR**

Selwyn Sedger

**LIFE MEMBERS**

Gary Stutsel

Glenys McDonald

Peter Gillett

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It seems to me that each New Year's Eve is likely to find me preparing my report by the deadline of 31 December. Perhaps this is indicative of all our volunteer workers in AUSSI. Occasionally we forget that we all have work, home and family commitments as well as our commitment to the position we take on in AUSSI. However, once we take on a role in any organisation, we should be committed workers at all levels of our wonderful organisation, and I salute your efforts this year.

I was exceedingly busy in the first few months of 1995 finalising our AUSSI bid to host the World Masters Swimming Championships in 1998. A grant of \$400,000 had been negotiated from the Western Australian Government to assist with a budget of \$1.2 million. Eventscorp WA assisted me with the presentation of this bid in Bangkok in March. The bid did not cost our membership anything, as Eventscorp covered the cost, including the many phone calls and faxes I sent putting this bid together. My sincere thanks to Eventscorp and the WA Government for their faith in us. Unfortunately, our bid was not successful, as Africa was obviously a target for the establishment of Masters.

The experience for me personally was excellent, even though the workload was horrendous at times. Our bid presentation was met with rousing applause by the FINA Bureau, and we certainly did Australia proud. The experience may hold us in good stead for any future bid by AUSSI for 2000 or 2002.

I just put forward three words of warning: Any AUSSI Branch who takes on the planning and presentation of the FINA



*Glenys McDonald - National President*

World Championships, are taking on a commitment to 3 years hard work, therefore support for these people is essential, i.e. a budget item for salaried staff members to take the pressure off some of the volunteers. The second word of concern is not to be pushed into taking on such a project by eager Events or Tourist Departments within your State. They can see the dollar value from bringing 3,000 + adult swimmers to their 'patch'. AUSSI, should negotiate some fair return for the amount of effort which would be expended by our organisation for this event. The third point is to establish and maintain control. Masters Swimming in Australia is run by AUSSI Masters, and even in an event of this magnitude, especially with an event of this magnitude, we have the knowledge and the expertise to do the job well.

April saw the staging of another successful National Swim and Club Championships by the Western Australian Branch. This was the first time the Meet was held over Easter, and this resulted in some benefits and some problems. It is disappointing to see that

our 'Swimmers forum' conducted at each National Swim, has such a low attendance. But I am sure if there really was any contentious matter, we would soon have large numbers trying to get in. I guess it is the same as local Government Meetings, hardly anyone attends if things are going well. I hope that is what the low attendance in this regard indicates. This meet was preceded by our Annual General Board meeting, where many items were hotly debated over two full days.

June saw AUSSI hosting a fine two day workshop in Adelaide to review the Level 1 Coaching course and to adopt the Level 2 course. It was an excellent two days, attended by Branch Coaching Directors, the Coaching panel and your Executive Director and myself. We were able to host such an event with funding applied for from the Australian Sports Commission Masters division. Whilst this type of funding is not the amount and level I feel our organisation deserves, it, at least is a start, and we thank the Australia Sports Commission, and Ron Burns in particular, for their assistance.

In June also I was able with assistance of Gullivers Sports Travel and Cathay Pacific, to inspect the site of the 1996 World Masters Swimming championships and accommodation in Sheffield. A full report on that visit was circulated to Branches and was advantageous for those planning on swimming at this event.

One expensive exercise for the year was the Medals Survey, which sought the opinions of all AUSSI members. Whilst some members welcomed the opportunity to have a direct input, some felt it was a cop-out by National and we should just get on and make decisions. The reason the opinion was sought from all members

was that there was a virtual 50/50 split amongst Branches whenever this issue was decided over a great many years. When the last rule change concerning medals eventuated in the president having to exercise a casting vote, the idea of a referendum was mooted and supported by a 'Swimmers Forum'. Unfortunately, after considerable expense and time, the results still indicate a similar split amongst all members.

International responsibilities took up a considerable percentage of my time in 1995. The cancellation of the MSI Swim planned for Hawaii, MSI financial woes, and the recent resignation of the MSI President have left MSI in a precarious position. Meetings amongst the national presidents of Australia, US, NZ, Canada and Japan have been held by a postal forum to determine the best way forward. In addition, I have included in my discussions representatives of South Africa and Germany. I take this opportunity on behalf of you all to thank our AUSSI Life Member Gary Stutsel for his 13 years of dedicated service to Masters Swimming International. He was elected President because all the member countries thought he was the best person for the job. He stayed in that position because all the member countries thought he was doing a good job. When the going got tough due to a number of issues, some of which were outside his control, he remained in the position to clear it all up.

A very successful Mid Year Board meeting was held in Melbourne 1-2 October. My problem as President is in trying to give due attention to each item on the Agenda, given that our agendas are huge and we have only two days to accomplish the task. No one would expect us to be locked away for more than two days, so we must



try to get through our business in a much better prepared way. Branches must give proper consideration and research to items they intend to place on the agenda at these meetings, to prevent much confusion, duplication and time wasting. We have come a long way, but there is always room for improvement.

At the completion of our Board meeting I was lucky enough to be invited to attend the 'Masters Forum' held prior to the commencement of the Australian Masters Games hosted by Victoria. I was also asked to present a paper at the forum titled "Masters Sport, Who is Responsible"? I did not enjoy the Masters Forum held two years before because AUSSI seemed to be the lone voice raising an assortment of concerns about Masters sport and Masters Games in their various formats.

Masters Games continue to be of concern to me and to a great many AUSSI members. We are up against individual entrepreneurs, and tourist orientated local and State Governments, who can see a dollar or two in Masters Sport. We are in danger of being taken over, just as certainly as the big name Rugby players are. There is now massive confusion about our AUSSI National swimming records and even FINA World records, which have become confused with Australian Masters Games swimming records and World Masters Games swimming records. If we wish to maintain control of our sport and a say in our destiny we need to find some solutions. We are attempting to address this issue. We have a Masters Games sub committee headed by Mary Sweeney, the Co-ordinator of the Brisbane World Masters Games swimming section, and we have Marketing and Membership

portfolios on our National Board striving to meet the needs of our membership. AUSSI will be taking our concerns to the Confederation of Australian Sport.

Each of our Branches who have had to conduct a Masters Games state that it is different to hosting our own National Swim. They all refer to the experience as "being asked to do a job with one hand tied behind your back." The other point of relevance is what recompense the Masters Sport gets for this additional workload, and who benefits. It appears the Tourist Departments are the big winners and the sports gains are much harder to quantify. My congratulations to the Victorian Branch of AUSSI who held a successful Masters Games Swim Meet.

What I am saying by all the above, is that we have achieved much, but we still have a long way to go. To each and every AUSSI member who has given so much of their time during 1995 so that their fellow members can swim in safety, and achieve their goals, I say a great big warm thank you. To our National Board who have survived being locked away with me for a minimum of four days without resigning, I say well done, and to Ivan Wingate and his able assistant Sue, who are on the receiving end of all your concerns and queries, I say thank you both for a stirring effort.

GLENYS MCDONALD  
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Life at the National Office through 1995 seemed more manageable than the preceding years. There were only three interstate commitments I had to make which made it easier to keep up with the

paper work, but of course, it reduced the face to face time I could spend with the Membership.

## **BOARD MEETINGS**

The Board Meeting in Perth was just a couple of days before Easter and the one in Melbourne, timed to coincide with the Australian Masters Games and associated functions, began the day after the AFL Grand Final. The timing was chosen to enable the Board Members to stay on and participate in other events, but it made travel and accommodation difficult to obtain at good rates. It's a matter that will require careful consideration for future meetings.

Perth's Board Meeting was the last of twelve for David Forsyth as Director of Finance. On behalf of everyone in AUSSI, I express our deep appreciation for the sincerity and dedication David gave to this Organisation in managing our finances over this period. In May, David handed the books over to Clyde McMillan in Melbourne. Clyde comes to us with a wealth of managerial experience and quickly took a keen interest in all aspects of "running the business".

At the Melbourne meeting, we also welcomed Ted Giblin to represent the Northern Territory, and Gary Stutsel as delegate of New South Wales. It's great to see Gary, AUSSI's first National Secretary and our first Life Member, back in a managerial position for AUSSI. After 13 years as president of MSI (Masters Swimming International) Gary stepped down from that position in November of this year.

The Board has seen a number of changes in recent years in that only David Cummins and myself remain from the Board of 1992.



*Ivan Wingate - Executive Director*

## **NATIONAL SWIM**

The National Swim in Perth was held for the first time for AUSSI, over Easter. The significant reason for choosing this time, was to make it more attractive for local swimmers in that they did not have to take leave from work to enter a Swim Meet in their home State. The decision was vindicated in that 631 swimmers participated, over 2/3 from WA. The next two National Swims in Canberra and Sydney have also been set for Easter.

As reports elsewhere will show, the Perth National Swim "ran like clockwork" with a full complement of Officials at all times - and all were participating AUSSI members.

## **MASTERS GAMES**

The 5th Australian Masters Games was held in Melbourne in October. Whilst we, all the Sports and the Games administration can still improve, the empathy and cooperation at these Games from my observations, far exceeded that shown at previous Games.

AUSSI Victoria did a superb job of running the Swim Meet for which it is hoped that the large number of non-members

participating is good news for some agencies, but because many of these were former AUSSI Members, it is of concern to our Organisation. The competition oriented swimmer is now able to get their kicks from racing in events run by AUSSI without having to join. The matter is being addressed by our newly formed Masters Games Committee. The Committee chaired by Mary Sweeney, had a number of recommendations adopted at the last Board Meeting, which should see AUSSI gain better rewards for its effort in future Games.

I attended the last meeting of the Masters Games Working Party, commissioned by the Australian Sports Commission, in Melbourne in March. The Working party completed its document: "Guidelines for the conduct of Masters Games" and it was subsequently endorsed by SCORS (the Standing Committee on Recreation and Sport). Sadly, some Games organisers appear to have chosen to ignore the forty nine principles contained in the Guidelines, but we are confident of a smooth working relationship with the 6th Australian Masters Games administration, which we understand will take all the principles into consideration.

### **COACHING AND OFFICIATING**

Two major achievements in 1995 are reported in detail elsewhere in this Report. They are: the release of the Level 2M Coaching Accreditation Course and the induction of the Officiating suite of Technical Accreditation Courses into NOAS (the National Officiating Accreditation Scheme). Both are a credit to AUSSI and in particular, Kay Cox and Pauline Samson. We sincerely thank them for their professionalism and seemingly tireless efforts.

Pauline Samson, AUSSI's Official of the year, was presented with an award at the NOP (National Officiating Program) Awards Dinner in Melbourne in December.

### **CAS**

AUSSI maintained its interest and support of the Confederation of Australian Sport and was represented at the AGM in Canberra in September by Judy Ford and myself. I am a member of the CAS Masters Sport sub-committee which had a very fruitful meeting in Melbourne in October.

At the CAS luncheon in Adelaide in August an Award of Distinction was presented for Peter Gillett, an AUSSI Life Member.

### **ASI**

Australian Swimming Inc. continued to be friend and helper to AUSSI when needed. I attended ASI's AGM in Adelaide in August and was made to feel part of the Meeting. A report on AUSSI activities for the year appeared in the ASI Annual Report and we maintained good communication channels on everything to do with Masters Swimming.

### **MASTERS FORUM**

A number of AUSSIs attended and participated in the Masters Sport Forum in Melbourne in October. Glenys McDonald and Peter Reaburn both presented papers and other AUSSI Members: Mary Sweeney, Gary Stutsel, Seamus Flynn and myself formed part of the audience. It seemed to be a much more enlightened gathering than at "Playing on" in Brisbane two years earlier, and a number of positive recommendations were established which augers well for the future of Masters Sport.



## NATIONAL OFFICE

Again, we had a productive year in the Office, much of the early part taken up with processing the Medals Referendum. My sincere thanks goes to Sue Harris for managing the project and doing much of the data processing, but I also express my deep gratitude to Bill Stevens and Marcia Ragless from the SA Branch for handling the major part of compiling the results.

We again thank the Adelaide Aquatic Centre for continuing the supply of the Office on a peppercorn rent basis. My thanks also to the Management Committee: Glenys, Kay and Clyde, who are all very busy people in their own occupations yet give freely of the professionalism and time for the furtherance of Masters Swimming in Australia. I trust that all Members appreciate such dedication.

IVAN WINGATE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



*Lynne Malone "Meet Director" 1995 National Swim*

# **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT ON THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1995**

## **FEATURES OF THE REPORT**

As the Membership registration year will conclude each 31 December as of next year, the 1996 registration "year" will be a 15 month term. Accordingly, a once off system of accrual accounting has been applied to the registration and affiliations paid in the last quarter of 1995 for the 1996 year. \$60,497.00 of the receipts has been carried over to 1996. The operating deficit of \$38,006.00, is only due to the change in accounting procedures.

\$48,738.00 was paid in 1994 for 1995, hence there would be a surplus of \$10,372.00 if a similar accounting basis was used as last year. We are therefore in a sound financial position.

The Auditor has made a number of recommendations regarding controls, valuing assets and investment of funds. These are to be reviewed by the Management Committee for recommendations to the Board.

**CLYDE MCMILLAN**  
**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**



*Clyde McMillan - Director of Finance*

**AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA (INC.)**  
**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31 DECEMBER 1995**

**INCOME**

1994		1995
\$ 1,200	Branch Affiliations	\$ 1,290
120,038	Members' Registrations	68,992
7,120	Interest Received	9,516
4,295	Swim Meets	10,078
800	Computer Software	0
200	Coaching Accreditation Fees	1,271
1,705	Profit on Stock Sales	2,625
NIL	Foreign Exchange Gain	224
NIL	Sundry Other	105
<u>\$135,358</u>		<u>\$94,101</u>

**EXPENDITURE**

\$ 390	Audit Fees	\$ 415
49,389	National Executive Director's Fees	50,560
4,998	Printing and Stationery	15,883
3,845	Postage	7,929
4,027	Telephone	6,923
22,658	AUSSI Conferences and Meetings	18,928
9,131	FINA/MSI Conferences and Meetings	1,040
5,440	Coaching and Technical Expenses	1,781
2,195	Planning and Development Expenses	540
3,798	Recording and Programmes Expenses	1,278
112	Computer Committee Expenses	410
1,903	Affiliations and Subscriptions	2,167
14,809	Insurances	16,820
156	Bank Charges	310
2,200	Sundry Repairs & Administration Expenses	3,537
1,574	Depreciation & Write Offs	3,586
<u>126,625</u>		<u>132,107</u>
8,733	Surplus/(Deficit)	(38,006)
<u>\$135,358</u>		<u>\$94,101</u>

This statement should be read in conjunction with the attached Auditor's Report of S.O. SEDGER

# AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA (INC.)

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1995

### ASSETS

1994		1995
	<b>CURRENT</b>	
\$ 2,600	Cash Floats	\$ 2,600
47,682	Bank Credit	64,812
137,451	1988 World Swim Investments	147,966
1,940	Prepayments	50
3,253	Deposit World Masters Swim Bid	0
2,161	Sundry Debtors	1,650
7,749	Stock on Hand	7,001
<u>\$202,836</u>		<u>\$224,079</u>
	<b>FIXED</b>	
\$ 1,034	Trophies and Cases	\$ 1,034
6,290	Plant and Equipment	7,088
<u>7,324</u>		<u>8,122</u>
<u>\$210,160</u>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>\$232,201</u>

### LIABILITIES

\$ 450	Affiliations & registrations paid in advance	\$ 60,497
<u>\$ 450</u>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<u>\$ 60,497</u>

### MEMBERS ACCUMULATIONS

\$200,977	Balance 1/1/1995	\$209,710
8,733	Less deficit at 31/12/1995	(38,006)
<u>209,710</u>		<u>171,704</u>
<u>\$210,160</u>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>\$232,201</u>

This statement should be read in conjunction with the attached Auditor's Report of S.O. SEDGER

# AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

I have audited the attached Financial Statements in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. It was not practicable for me to establish control over memberships and sales prior to their entry in the accounting records, nor was it practicable for me to circularise members to confirm that all subscriptions have been received and recorded. My audit relating to these transactions was therefore limited to the amounts recorded in the books of account.

Subject to the above, in my opinion the financial statements present fairly the financial position of the AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Incorporated at 31st December, 1995 and the results of its operations for the year then ended, and are in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985 (As Amended).

Yours faithfully,

SELWYN O. SEDGER - CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

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## COACHING

This year has been mainly one for review and consolidation of our Coaching programmes. The highlight of the year was the National Coaching meeting with coaching panel and the Branch Coaching Directors. In 1995 all sports in Australia commenced their accreditation updating scheme for existing coaches. This has added a new dimension and challenge to the education of coaches. Another valuable educational activity for both members and coaches, the Coaching Newsletter which is edited and produced by Anita Killmier has continued in 1995. Overall this has been a year of consolidation but with several new aspects of coaching developed and implemented.

### COACHING ACCREDITATION

The Australian Coaching Council's (ACC) latest figures in November 1995 indicated that since 1985 AUSSI has trained 220 Level 1M and 8 Level 2M coaches. In 1995, 5 Level 1M (& 1MS) courses were conducted (NSW, Vic, WA, Tas, Qld)



*Kay Cox - National Director of Coaching*

bringing the total to 31 over the past 10 years. We have also had 2 Level 2M courses in the past 3 years. Even though we have trained 228 coaches the number of current accredited coaches is 161 only 2 above the 1994 total. The reason for this is that 67 coaches were taken off the list as they did not complete the re-accreditation requirements due in 1994. This will be discussed further in re-accreditation.



The Level 2M course outline has been distributed to all Branches this year and was formally presented and discussed at the AUSSI National Coaching Seminar. This is now available for Branches to run these when the demand is present. It is not intended to conduct Level 2M courses each year in each Branch but only when the demand for courses is present. When a course is first offered it is possible to conduct with smaller numbers however once established courses should become cost effective. This means forward planning and promotion at Branch level and the ability to cancel courses if there are not sufficient applicants. It may be necessary in some circumstances for one or more Branches to combine together to get sufficient numbers.

At the Seminar we discussed at length the review of the Level 1M course. The outline was drawn up and each Coaching Director was allocated a section to review and submit for further discussion. Thanks to Peter Reaburn (Coaching panel), John Ornsby (Vic) and Chris Parsons and Rod Porteous (Qld) for their prompt return of the material. This review will be followed up in 1996 and the content brought into line with the format of the Level 2M course.

Since we have been able to submit our coaching accreditation applications directly to the ACC, this process now only take a few weeks instead of several months.

### **RE-ACCREDITATION**

Our re-accreditation policy in line with ACC policy requires all coaches to update their qualifications every 4 years. The first groups of coaches were due to submit their updating applications in 1995. Branch Coaching Directors were reminded of this and were sent the

relevant information to notify individuals. Branch Coaching Directors were also requested to conduct activities that would allow coaches to gain points for updating. Although only approximately 12 coaches (15% of those due for re-accreditation) submitted their requirements and were re-accredited to the same level this was better than reports from the ACC where the average over all sports in Australia was 8.5%. However, in the past 12 months 67 AUSSI Masters coaches have been taken off the list and a further 16 are due for updating in 1996. It is very important that we make every attempt to retain trained coaches. Coaches drop out of coaching for various reasons and it is important that we determine the reasons why. The Coaches Survey should give some indication of some of these factors. We must also be sure that our updating policy is workable. A review of our updating policy will need to be done over the next 2 years as the first groups have put the system to the test.

### **NATIONAL COACHING DIRECTORS WORKSHOP**

I attended the National Coaching Directors (NCD) Workshop conducted by the Australian Coaching Council (ACC) from June 14-16th in Canberra. This workshop provided an update on the format and procedures on designing and planning both coaching and officiating courses. This year the National Officiating Workshop was held in conjunction with the Coaching workshop. Unfortunately we did not have a Technical representative present this year and I recommend that we have someone at the next meeting. Some sports were inducted into the National Officiating Programme (NOP) and had their Officials courses recognized by the

ACC. It was apparent that our officials courses meet most of these requirements and that AUSSI should be looking to be inducted into the programme. I passed these recommendations on to the Technical Director and NED and we have now been inducted into the NOP.

The workshop gave priority to outlining the National Training Programme being developed by the Federal and State Governments and how the ACC and Sports Education programmes fitted into the scheme. In summary all training for sports courses, coaching, administration and officials will be in the National Scheme. The ACC and sporting bodies need to decide if we will participate in this scheme allowing our course to be the officially recognized training courses throughout Australia and us as the training bodies. The agency that will control such training is RITAB, Recreation Industry Training Advisory Board. This means that all our courses will have to meet these standards but will be recognized as part of Diploma or Degree courses in the future. This will mean we need to continue to maintain a high standard of education and review in AUSSI.

Other issues discussed were work conditions, workplace agreements and performance assessment in sport. Coaching and officials ethics also occupied several sessions and sports generally agreed on the need to formulate a code of ethics for coaches and officials. Servicing of country areas and assisting women into coaching roles was also discussed. In AUSSI we are fortunate that ratio of trained male and female coaches is about the same and we do not seem to have any inequalities in opportunities. The Coaching survey will

give a better indication of this. At present at the Branch level only 2 Branches have males as Directors of Coaching!

This was a very important meeting for me to attend as it gave me the opportunity to find out the latest information, which I could then pass onto the AUSSI coaching Workshop as well as make contact with officers from the ACC and other sports. I recommend that the national Coaching Director attend this conference at least every second year and even on a yearly basis if possible.

### **AUSSI BRANCH COACHING DIRECTORS WORKSHOP**

We conducted a workshop for Branch Coaching Directors and members of the Coaching Panel from June 17-18th 1995 in Adelaide. A Sports Commission Grant enabled us to fund this event. All Branches were represented except for ACT and all members of the coaching panel except Anita Killmier who unfortunately was unable to attend. The National President and Executive Director were also in attendance to contribute on the issues of management and future Coaching plans. The President also acted as minute secretary and NED was invaluable in setting up the workshop and all the administration that went with making this event a success.

I reported to the group on the updates from the NCD workshop and future directions AUSSI needed to review in coaching and officials areas. The Level 2M syllabus was presented and discussed in detail with suggestions for future amendments made. The Level 1M syllabus administration, design and content was discussed in detail in a workshop and all participants were allotted a section to work on and return to

the NCD. This is a very valuable way to do this as all Branches have input, we get different perspectives and the work doesn't rest with one person. It was evident from the workshop that we have a lot of development still to do on courses and the resources to support these. I outlined the status of coaching at present and how much progress we have made in reaching our training targets. Once again we have a long way to go before we reach capacity.

The updating requirements and importance of having coaches update qualifications were also discussed along with ways to get coaches to do this. Future directions and planning were discussed.

I wish to thank Ivan Wingate for his work in helping to secure funds to conduct the workshop and for his administration, also the management committee and National Board for their support. In particular I thank all participants for an excellent weekend's work; their contribution greatly surpassed what I had hoped for and it will help me immensely in tackling the considerable tasks in this portfolio. I look forward to their continued contribution.

### **COACHING PANEL**

The National Coaching Panel in 1995 included Anita Killmier (VIC), Trish Beveridge (Tas), Peter Reaburn (QLD) and myself. This subcommittee deals with coaching issues of National concern, in particular, the review of content and conditions of the coaching courses and the judging of the 'Coach of the Year Award'. I would like to thank all members for their support and contributions throughout the year. It certainly makes my role easier to know I have access to such a wealth of knowledge and

experience in AUSSI Masters swimming to draw upon.

### **COACH OF THE YEAR**

The 'Coach of the Year Award' honours a coach of exceptional standing in AUSSI in any one year. This year there were 7 nominations, an excellent response and I would like to thank all those who submitted nominations. In reading the nominations it reinforces the fact that coaches in AUSSI are making an enormous contribution in time effort and expertise. We must not overlook this selfless contribution that I suspect for the most part goes unnoticed. This year's winner from a very close field was Elly Fleig from SA. Congratulations Elly for a magnificent contribution to coaching at both the club and Branch level over the past 12 months. Elly has also been a long-term contributor and has assisted from time to time on National matters. This is not to say that only those coaches who have long standing participation or at different levels are eligible for this award. The award has been won in the past for coaching efforts at the club level only. I look forward to this level of response in future years.

### **NATIONAL SWIM EDUCATION PROGRAMME**

As the National Swim was held in Perth this year it gave me the opportunity to conduct some educational activities for swimmers. The programme was put on in conjunction with the W.A. Branch and included a Nutrition Seminar (Glenn Cardwell), practical stroke sessions with AUSSI level 2M coaches and a Lifestyle Workshop (Kay Cox and Edith Cowan University students). All sessions were well patronized however the Lifestyle Workshop proved very popular.

Swimmers had the opportunity to have their risk factors for heart disease such as blood pressure, alcohol consumption and body weight assessed. Details were recorded for those that participated and it is planned to analyse this data to provide information for educational programmes and future research areas. The success of this workshop reinforces the view that we have a responsibility to educate members with respect to their health and the promotion of a healthy and active lifestyle.

## **PLANNING**

Our 5 year Coaching plan outline was presented at the Coaching Director Workshop and further work is continuing. This should be finalized in 1996. One recommendation is to conduct a Branch Coaching Directors Workshop on a two yearly basis with the next due in 1997.

## **NEWSLETTER AND RESOURCES**

As mentioned earlier the Coaching Newsletter is still being edited and produced by Anita Killmier. This is a very valuable resource to both coaches and swimmers. It is not always an easy task and takes time and effort to bring together. Thanks to Anita for continuing to do such a professional job on our behalf. This can also only exist on subscriptions, and Branches, clubs and swimmers are encouraged to promote and subscribe to the newsletter. At the present time the National Resource Centre is still with Anita Killmier, however it is planned to move this to the AUSSI National Office in 1996.

## **NATIONAL COACHING SURVEY**

In 1995 a survey was conducted of all AUSSI clubs in Australia to evaluate the number of qualified coaches and coaching practices being followed on a National basis. Letters and questionnaires were

sent out to approximately 180 clubs in August and were due back in October. Sixty eight clubs returned the questionnaire (38%) and a detailed analysis will be done on the returns. Very preliminary results indicate that only one club that responded had no coach. The total number of coaches was 222. Thirty coaches in AUSSI clubs had no formal coaching qualifications (13.5%) however, it was reassuring to see that 96 (43%) had AUSSI Masters accreditation. Approximately 30% (66) had swimming coaching qualifications from Australian Swimming (ASI) and 16 (7.2%) had both AUSSI and ASI qualifications. A further 13 (6%) had other swimming qualifications but not necessarily coaching or from Australia. The number of returns although not as good as they could have been will give some valuable information for planning and the future directions of coach education.

## **CONCLUSION**

This year has seen much consolidation done and the introduction of some new initiatives that will continue in 1996. I would like to thank all Coaching Directors and Course Coordinators who I have worked with this year and especially thank them for their dedication and contribution to the National Workshop. Thanks also to all coaches in the Branches who work to deliver quality coaching to our members. My thanks to the Coaching panel for their assistance and contribution, the Management Committee for their ongoing support and to Ivan for all his administrative assistance.

KAY COX

NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF COACHING

## MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Responsibility for the Membership Development portfolio passed to me in August 1995 when Beryl Stenhouse announced her resignation from the Board to focus all her energies on her twin roles as NSW Branch Secretary and Branch Administrator.

The October Board Meeting determined that the seemingly overlapping portfolios of Marketing and Membership Development would be delineated by Marketing focusing externally to recruit new members and sponsors, and that Membership Development would concentrate on enhancing and promoting the benefits of membership of AUSSI.

My first task was to determine what are "the benefits of belonging to AUSSI". I believe that they can be divided into seven areas and that they will be of differing importance to each of you, depending on your interests. The areas which I have recognised are as follows (Please advise me if you are a member of an AUSSI club for any other reasons).

*Support* - Most of us cannot continue swimming alone; AUSSI offers the programmes and groups of fellow swimmers to encourage us to keep swimming regularly and thus to improve our fitness.

*Skills* - Stroke technique is the easiest route to improvement - AUSSI coaches and other skilled members will help you. AUSSI also offers Nationally recognised programmes to help you to become:

- \*a qualified Masters coach
- \*a qualified Technical Official
- \*a better administrator
- \*an experienced promoter

*Recognition* - AUSSI competitions give recognition through records, Top 10 and Aerobics at local, Branch, National and World Levels. AUSSI also supports the VIP principles of recognising volunteer work.



*Gary Stutsel -*

*Director of Membership Development*

*Travel* - AUSSI enables its members (at their own expense) to travel to swims in over 200 locations in Australia and many more right around the world.

*Socialisation* - AUSSI enables you to make friends with people who are also interested in swimming but come from many different walks of life.

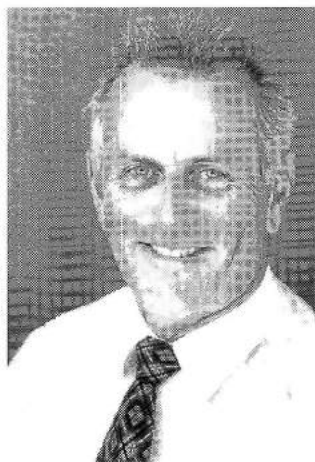
*Equality* - Since its formation in 1975, AUSSI has treated all members equally regardless of sex, race or age.

*Protection* - While engaged in AUSSI activities you are covered by the AUSSI insurance policy.

It has been determined that the Membership Development Portfolio is responsible for making all members



considerable but due to its presentation (individual loose leaf sheets on heavy stock), future updates will be able to be carried out at the minimum of expense. It is a quality product and I urge all to optimise it to the fullest and at the same time protect it thus ensuring its long life. Special thanks to my wife Lynn for the hours of assistance she gave me in completing this document. I would also like to record my thanks to the NSW Branch for allowing me to use excerpts from their Aerobic Manual written for NSW Recorders. Thanks also to Pauline Samson and Hec Beveridge (Tasmania) and Richard Johnson (W.A.) for their assistance in ensuring my being able to complete this project successfully.



*David Cummins -  
Director of Programmes*

To complete these tasks has been a challenge, as, during 1995 I also chaired the organising committee who conducted the National Swim in April. This was a huge success and the written reports that followed and which were distributed to all Branches should assist many National Organising Committees in the

years ahead.

DAVID CUMMINS  
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMES

## RECORDING

South Australia has been responsible for the Recording portfolio for several years and has been most fortunate to have two such dedicated National Recorders in firstly Peter Gillett and currently Darryl Hawkes. Each has devoted an enormous number of hours towards maintaining the National Records and in the yearly preparation of the National Top Ten listings.

In this computer age, these tasks should now be much less time consuming, the assumption being that all Branches run compatible software and make submissions to the National Recorder on floppy disc. Whilst we have some way to go before reaching this desirable state of affairs, many Branches run compatible software both for National Top Ten listings and for their Branch requirements. Hopefully, 1996 will be the year that all Top Ten inputs to the National Recorder will be in formats recognisable by the National software.

Tasks undertaken under the Recording portfolio in 1995 include the routine compilation of National Records (the most recent being issued in December 1995) and National Top Ten Listings, and the submission of applications for World records and modified Top Ten listings to FINA (FINA accepts only those Top Ten times swum at sanctioned competitions). Additional tasks of a developmental nature include:

(a) the modification of Top Ten software to process Australian submissions for the FINA Top Ten. This software excludes



*Russell Clarke - National Recorder*

National Top Ten entries that are not FINA - compliant (whilst retaining them for National Top Ten purposes);

(b) the production of programs to record and transfer Australian Masters Games swimming records. These were made available to the Victorian Branch for the 1995 Masters Games recently held in Melbourne;

(c) copies of the Records program have been forwarded to three Branches for their use in compiling Branch records;

(d) historical National Record data going back to the inception of AUSSI has been entered in a computer database. All short-course date entry has been completed and long-course entry is underway.

Finally, I thank Darryl Hawkes for his efforts and initiatives in 1995 and trust that you, the AUSSI community, continue to barnstorm him with new record applications in 1996.

RUSSELL CLARKE  
NATIONAL RECORDER

## NATIONAL SWIM MEET POLICY

Our one-line mission statement is "To guide adult swimmers to attain efficient and safe Swim Meets at all levels throughout Australia".

Areas of responsibility are:

1. National Swim Meet liaison.
2. National Swim Meet Programme.
3. National Swim Meet Guide.
4. AUSSI Safety Policy.
5. Swim Meet medical procedures
6. Medical sub-committee.

1. Liaison with Canberra for the 1996 National Swim has been minimal, as ACT Branch are organising themselves well with a small active group, with strong support from the National Executive. Liaison with Gary Stutsel in Sydney for the 1997 Swim has already begun. A protocol for routine regular liaison each year is being developed for future years.



*Ted Giblin -  
Director for Swim Meet Policy*

2. The Swim Meet programme is usually set by consensus at the National level with input from Branches. At present we have ACT for 1996, NSW (at Sydney International Aquatic Centre at Homebush, the Olympic 2000 venue) for 1997, Tasmania for 1998, Northern Territory for 1999, Queensland for 2000, Victoria 2001 and Western Australia 2002.

3. The National Swim Meet Guide update is proceeding well, and will be available to all Branches later in 1996. Format will be similar to the new National Aerobic Trophy book, so that future upgrades can be made simply and quickly. Particular attention is being paid to the timetable for preparing a National Swim, the "Critical Path chart". (A fully detailed brochure should be available to promote your Swim at the nationals a year before, and at any other Masters Swim event in the year leading up to your Swim Meet). Input from other Branches is being collated and included for the first Draft (with gratitude!), particularly in relation to the inclusion of guide-lines for the conduct of swim meets other than the AUSSI

National Swim, such as Branch and Club championships, Interclub swims, and Open Water Swims.

4. Much of the work on the AUSSI Safety Policy has been, and is being, done by the Safety Sub-committee, under the leadership of Bill Stewart in Tasmania. Eventually a manual outlining safety policy and medical procedures will be produced. Included will be recommendations regarding Branch Safety Policy Co-ordinator's responsibilities, Club Safety Officers' role, desired level of CPR, Life-saving, Pool Lifeguard qualified personnel in each Branch and Club, Safety procedures to be implemented for Swim Meets and Open Water Swims, minimal safety equipment needed at swim meets and club training, including resuscitation and medical equipment, involvement of St Johns Ambulance and volunteers at swim meets, involvement of Sports Trainers, physiotherapists and masseurs, and desirability of Sports Medicine coverage.

5. Inclusion of Swim Meet medical procedures in the Safety Manual is essential, for the guidance not only of organisers, and swimmers, but also for ambulance officers and attending medical practitioners. Medical procedures will also need to be made known to venue administration, for proper co-ordination.

6. The medical sub-committee of sports medicine practitioners will act in an advisory capacity to the portfolio, and at the National level. It will be able to advise on board policy, and also to answer immediately any urgent queries that come up during the year. The sub-committee must be small and accessible, and earn the respect of AUSSI swimmers and administrators. A short-list of interested doctors is being considered at present,



*"Territorians re-unite"  
Rick with the twins: Jannie and Gerda*

and we hope to be able to submit the Committee membership for consideration at the next Board meeting.

My thanks to our small group of dedicated workers in the NT who have been, and will be, willing participants in the development of our portfolio.

TED GIBLIN

DIRECTOR FOR SWIM MEET POLICY

## TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

Since the technical workshop in 1994, this portfolio has been very productive, challenging and very rewarding. The courses have been through the trial period with most Branches offering members and friends the opportunity to become more confident and proficient with the technical officials positions. Timekeeping which requires the greatest number on the pool deck has seen many courses conducted and a large number complete the required hours for accreditation. Our sport will benefit from having all positions on the pool deck occupied by AUSSI people who have been trained through our courses.

In August a final set of technical papers were submitted to the National Officiating Program and in November, all our courses were inducted in the National Officiating Accreditation Scheme (NOAS). These courses will remain as they are until a review is needed sometime at the end of 1996.

AUSSI was asked to nominate the Official of the year and I represented AUSSI Masters Swimming at the Inaugural Presentations to Official of the Year in Melbourne in December. AUSSI Masters Swimming was one of 12 sports represented at this awards night which is

to be an annual event and expected to be much larger in 1996. I took great pleasure in accepting the award of Official of the Year on behalf of AUSSI Masters Swimming.

AUSSI Masters has 13 accredited Referees and early in 1995, FINA accepted applications from AUSSI Referees and accredited 4 Referees as FINA Referees. The people selected are all highly qualified and experienced referees.



*Pauline Samson -  
Director of Technical Development*

The MD register is continually being updated for all Branches, and it is interesting to note that there are less than 100 members on this list, a small number considering the size of our organisation. Hopefully a register of technical officials will be available later on this year.

The Technical Committee has kept in touch over the year and considered rule changes where necessary and always in the best interest of our swimmers. Although a high standard at swim meets

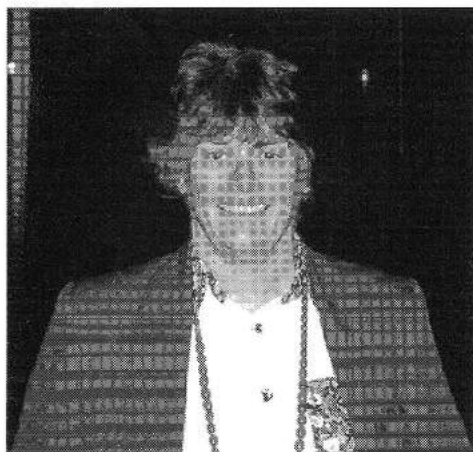
is always strived for it is important for AUSSI to focus on the swimmers and help retain the enjoyment that participation at any level brings.

PAULINE SAMSON  
DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL  
DEVELOPMENT

## PLANNING

The existing Strategic Plan for AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia is now expired and work is underway on the new plan which will cover the period 1996-1998. Strategies under the new plan will be reviewed annually.

The existing plan covers strategies for the development of the operational and support portfolios for AUSSI National and the new plan for 1996-98 will also cover these areas.



*Jean Heath - Director of Planning*

Details of proposed plans have been requested from all portfolio Directors. In addition Branches have been asked to prepare developmental plans for the next three years which should cover, at a

minimum, local membership development and training needs as well as other local goals and activities.

JEAN HEATH  
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

## QUEENSLAND BRANCH

### MEMBERSHIP

Queensland Branch has remained quite stable over the past 12 months with membership reaching 1932 at the end of 1995 registration year on September 30. The 48 clubs which make up the Branch is up by 2 on the previous year (3 new, one disbanded). It is of interest that while many members reregister, there is a considerable percentage of the membership which is made up of new members. This, I believe, indicates that we offer an organisation for a wide variety of the population - many stay on; other move on. The lives of adults revolve about work and family. Many good intentions to swim and keep fit are difficult to maintain under such conditions.

*(Thank you Mary Sweeney - Registrar  
Judith Clarke - VP North  
Russell Ogden - VP Central  
Charles Guesdon - VP South)*

### ADMINISTRATOR

The demise of the position of Secretary in favour of an Administrator employed by the executive committee was by far the most notable change to the Branch this year. As with many organisations of our size, it became apparent that the role of honorary secretary was beyond the bounds of volunteer status. A sub committee did an excellent job of preparing job descriptions, lists of duties etc to ensure a smooth transition. We welcome David Speechley as the part-



time administrator for the next three years.

With the change we say farewell and a monumental thank you to Peter Emery who has been a stalwart in the secretary's position for some years. Peter is remaining a strong and competitive member of AUSSI, but now pursues his new business venture as the lessee of the Buderim Swimming Pool on the Sunshine Coast.



*Jackie Walkington -  
Queensland Branch President*

## **CARNIVALS**

All areas of Queensland continue to be well catered for in the competition department. 1995 saw the initial Queensland Masters Games in Townsville. However, as Masters Games become a larger part of the Masters sport agenda, we can't but wonder at the impact they will have on individual sport calendars.

Hervey Bay Club hosted this year's State Titles. This was a particularly notable event as Hervey Bay have only a small membership. They established some very strong ties with their community in the preparation and conduct of a well run

carnival. They are to be generously congratulated.

The Branch committee, in its effort to promote participation, is encouraging clubs to offer competitions and events that will cater for as broad a range of swimmers as possible. We look forward to some innovative ideas from the clubs in the coming year.

*(Thanks Nancy Richards - Recorder)*

## **MARKETING**

The National Marketing portfolio is proving to be a real challenge. This new portfolio has led to many long discussions as to what it encompasses. During the year a list of objectives and a strategic plan was constructed. The task which was felt to be of initial importance was that of raising the image of AUSSI both in the media and in the sponsorship arenas. This is no mean task! While progressing slowly at present, we look forward to some results from our efforts in 1996.

*(Thanks to Geoff Robinson - Branch Delegate)*

## **AEROBICS**

Members of this Branch have again participated strongly in the aerobics competition. Toowoomba (my own club incidentally!) took off the National trophy for the third year in a row. The Branch is actively attempting to encourage more participation by offering a new trophy for Queensland Branch clubs which is based on the "Tassie" model and allows clubs of all sizes to be competitive. We have secured the Heritage Building Society as a perpetual sponsor for this award.

*(Thanks Peter Forster - Aerobic Officer)*

## **DEVELOPMENT**

There has been a continued program of

coaching and technical development workshops throughout the year. Servicing the breadth of the State is always a challenge, but the results of these sessions makes them worth the effort.

*(Thanks Robin Sweeney - Technical Officer*

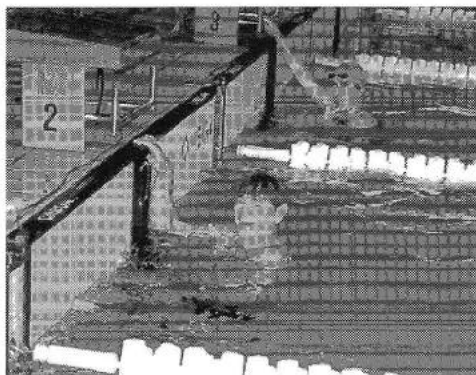
*Rod Porteous and Chris Parsons - Coaching Directors, and David Ryan - Computer Liaison Officer)*

## COMMUNICATION

We continue to hold Branch meetings each month, with alternate ones held via Conferlink to allow full Branch participation. In such a large State, it is important that all members have the opportunity to be represented in the decision making processes. The Branch newsletter fulfils the function of keeping our members informed on most aspects of fun, fitness and friendship aspects.

*(Thanks Jennie Mack - Publicity  
David Haley - Minutes  
John Garde - Treasurer)*

**JACKIE WALKINGTON**  
**PRESIDENT**



*Retiring Finance Director  
David Forsyth - "glad it's all over"*

## NSW BRANCH

The NSW Branch has enjoyed another successful year in 1995. Our President, Roger Johnston, was replaced by Stephen Lamy, while Ian McCallum became Vice President. Gary Stutsel returned to the Committee and also became National Director of Membership Development. The new Committee has met monthly and developed many new initiatives.

### 1. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of this Branch, in the 1994-95 season, has reached an all time high of 1600, this total being 112 higher than last year's. In this total are 525 new members, and we have again retained over 1000 of the previous year's members.

New clubs are the major source of new members, so every effort is made to encourage their formation. During 1995, the new clubs formed were B-Squad Masters, Caringbah AUSSI, Inverell Masters, Liverpool AUSSI, Novocastrian AUSSI and Swansea AUSSI, while Greenhills and University of NSW disbanded.

### 2. MAJOR CARNIVALS

The 1995 State Championships were held at the new Sydney International Aquatic Centre and attracted a record 614 entries. There were mixed feelings about holding an AUSSI Championship at such a large venue - many thought that the atmosphere was lacking, with the empty stand opposite and such a large separation between "spectators" and competitors. However, we have decided to persevere with the venue, although many people who had previously competed at Blacktown preferred that

venue.

The Short Course Championships were held at Kiama in the Illawarra, and attracted over 300 entries. The great majority of these attended the AUSSI NSW Twentieth Anniversary dinner dance on the Saturday night, at which Des Renford was the guest speaker. Our policy of holding the Short Course Championships at a country centre within easy reach of Sydney means that members look forward to a weekend away and we can promote AUSSI in a region which may not have an active club.

The Open Water Championships were held at Manly Dam, but attracted only a small field of 30 swimmers - this type of swimming holds little interest for most of our members.



*Beryl Stenhouse - Secretary*

### **3. OTHER CARNIVALS**

There were 18 Interclub Carnivals, including two Long Distance ones, during the year, with two meets having been held in most months. The participation rate has continued to rise at carnivals in popular venues, with the biggest meet

being North Sydney's, attracting over 600 entries. They deserted their usual North Sydney Olympic Pool venue in favour of the Sydney International Aquatic Centre and had quite a few interstate swimmers.

### **4. BRANCH RECORDS AND TOP TEN**

Our Computer Recorder, Brett Larkin, has continued to upgrade the Computer Programme as required and it is now also being used by ACT, Tasmania and Victoria.

All carnivals are recorded by the Branch Computer, making the provision of a disk of Top Ten carnival results for the World Top Ten a straightforward process. Results from club time trials and aerobic swims are then entered and merged with the carnival swims and from this the NSW Top Ten is produced; the disk is also sent to the National Recorder for use in the National Top Ten.

New services now available from our computer recorder at a small cost include:-

A single page containing all records - Branch, National and World, male or female, for an age group - of interest to potential record breakers.

One or two pages showing a swimmer's best short and long course times and the dates they were swum, for every event swum during the previous season.

Harry Schofield is still looking after the State Records and has been kept very busy.

### **5. ACCREDITATION OF COACHES AND OFFICIALS**

Our Coaching Director, Di Coxon, ran a Level 1M Coaching Accreditation Course in April and most of the participants are well on the way to receiving accreditation.

Courses for the accreditation of Timekeepers, Starters and Marshals have been held during the year by Sue Johnstone and Jack McMahon.

## 6. PROMOTION AND SPONSORSHIP

Our Vice President, Ian McCallum, has been very active in promoting AUSSI in country areas, with Pool Managers in many country towns having been contacted. The theme is "Bring in the Bush", with incentives for country clubs to attend the 1996 State Championships. Meanwhile, the city clubs have been asked to find sponsorship for this effort.

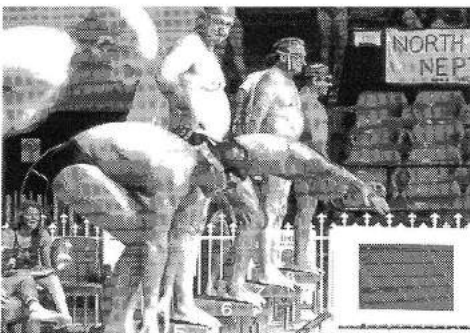
The NSW Government has again given us a grant of \$4,000, still not indexed and unchanged for over 10 years.

## 7. NEWSLETTER

Three issues were produced during 1995 by our editor, "Charlie's Wife", whose identity is still a mystery to many of our members.

In closing, I would like to thank all members of the NSW Management committee for their support during 1995, and also Ivan Wingate.

**BERYL STENHOUSE**  
SECRETARY



*"He hasn't said - Take your mark!"*

## VICTORIAN BRANCH

This past year has been one of the busiest for a long time. In addition to our normal base load of work we established our office in Hartwell, we commenced a programme of courses to train officials under the guidance of Alan Davis and we ran the swimming component of the VicHealth 5th Australian Masters Games. This latter activity was a heavy load on our people, but at the end of the day AUSSI came through creditably.

Again this year we have experienced a steady increase in members - about 5.5% or 75 over last year - taking us to 1399, just one short of the 1400 mark. I believe that 2000 members is not an unrealistic goal because, whilst we are 'losing' about 400 people every year, we are replacing them with a slightly larger number of new registrations. The most populous age group is the 35-39 group with 273 members. We welcomed three new clubs during the year - Eaglehawk, Nunawading and Heidelberg. Regrettably 1995 saw the closure of the Yarra Valley club. Since 1989 we have increased from 21 to 37 clubs.

In 1995 we ran two successful Branch meets - the Long Course and the Short Course State Championships. The Long Course was run at Doncaster, a move away from the State Swimming Centre and to a one-day format. Based on the feedback received, this was a success. Next year it will be back at the State Swim Centre in the two-day format. The Short Course, run in August, had over 500 entries and was also a successful meet. Both events attracted large numbers of entries, approaching 50% of our membership, indicating that the competition component of AUSSI is

thriving. With increasing numbers of entries for both meets, it is only a matter of time before the format for these meets will require review. As well, the two-day format for the Long Course is not always convenient for everyone.

We continue to have a very active interclub programme. We tried something new this year - a meeting of all clubs to set the programme for 1996. By doing this we developed a programme for all clubs. The Branch has agreed to financially assist in the conduct of long distance interclub meets to facilitate the swimming of 400m, 800m and 1500m events. We have made this decision so that the event can be run at say the State Swim Centre, to allow people to do the longer events. It will also mean that a particular club does not have to financially underwrite the event.

Another important development for 1995 was the establishment of a Technical Committee headed by Alan Davis. Our Branch goal is to develop self sufficiency with regard to officials by the year 2000. A beneficial outcome of striving for this goal will be that we will be able to run meets even more efficiently. With the increasing numbers of entries this will be essential. The training of officials within the Branch is part of the National initiative. Alan is part of the National Technical Committee and the courses being run here are the same as for all other State Branches. Alan has conducted 43 workshops in 1995 resulting in about 250 members being trained. This very important aspect of swimming has been attacked vigorously by Alan with outstanding results. The quality of officiating, particularly timekeeping, had noticeably picked up by the Short Course meet in August.

The Branch conducted the VicHealth 5th Australian Masters Games (AMG) during October. Whilst this was a financial success for us, it highlighted some procedural and process difficulties and differences between AUSSI and the emerging AMG movement. I am very pleased to see that we have a National sub-committee looking at the question of how AUSSI conducts AMG's in the future.

Statistically, the AMG in Melbourne was good for AUSSI. There were about 67% AUSSI participants and about 33% non-AUSSI over a total of 669 people. About 15% of entrants did not eventually compete. The event was run to FINA Masters rules which caused a deal of confusion and consternation over the three days. Perhaps the Technical Committee could take up this issue via its various officials courses. Overall though, the event went smoothly and we received much more positive than negative feedback.

Victoria is set well for a successful 1996.

## **WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH**

Our membership improved by 10 to total 1377 for 1994/95, and with a marketing and membership sub-committee being put together to formulate a proper plan for the future, things are looking up. During the year we had a new country club form at York. Most of our long established clubs have a steady membership base and are going from strength to strength. The dedication of members to their various positions at Club level, is most gratifying.

Our State Swimming Championships were combined with the BE ACTIVE 20th



AUSSI Masters National Swim at Perth's Superdrome from 13th - 17th April. It was wonderful to see so many swimmers travel from the Eastern States to participate. Thanks must go to all the many WA members who helped to make the Nationals such a success. The winning club was Claremont, from Osborne Park then Somerset. The Male and Female Swimmers of the Meet were Vic Paul and Judith Drake-Brockman. The winner of the Club Handicap Trophy was Melville AUSSI.

In October, Jude Crawford very successfully ran her first Meet; the 11th State Winter Swimming Championships. The winning club was again Claremont, from Somerset and Albany. Albany won the Club Handicap Trophy.

Alison Hollingworth did another excellent job, chairing meetings, etc, in her third and final term as President. We all wish her well and look forward to seeing (and hearing) her around the pool when State Championships are on.

Vice president & Liaison Officer, Fred Van Andel visited many clubs over the past 12 months to listen to any problems, but more importantly show that the Executive is interested in each Club's progress.

Our quarterly newsletter "Different Strokes" was very ably edited by Pat Nicholl with guidance from Fred and Leonie. Pat does not have the time to take on the PR role for the Branch, but Leonie tried to get as many results printed, plus pictures and stories in local papers, as possible.

Barbara van der Leest completed her final term as Treasurer, and she has very capably handled the financial book work over the past four years.

John Levy, our State Secretary kept his

finger on the trophy engraving pulse, as well as supervising the production of a most professional looking sign, used at State Swims to direct members to their all important "Results". John also took on the role of OIC catering to the officials at the National and State Swim. Timekeepers love to see John coming with the most sophisticated drinks tray in existence!!!



*Leonie Gaston - Administrator*

Kay Cox, Director of Fitness & Education conducted a Level 1 Coaching Course with 32 participants. This was the largest number attending a course since the Level 1 has been established. John Burns from Westcoast Masters won the Coach of the Year Award. Kay organized for Lifestyle assessment workshops to run during the Nationals, and these proved very popular with swimmers.

Gordon Medcalf, whilst not officially a member of the Executive, helped out with Coaching visits to many metropolitan and country clubs throughout the year.

In her second year as Recorder, Noelle James worked hard to compile the necessary Top Ten and Aerobic results

within allotted time frames. Noelle chaired a meeting of Captains to finalize the Interclub timetable for a period of 15 months. She also chaired a meeting of Recorders to advise how to present results into the Branch at the appropriate time. Noelle's direct approach to Clubs has seen a decline in the errors made in meet entry cards, which is most gratifying.

Technical Officer Keith Bower held Timekeepers and Starters accreditation courses during the year, and many members have since completed their hours to become officially accredited. Keith also helped out at interclub carnivals, upon request, and was always available for advice if needed.

Our National Delegate, David Cummins, took on the new portfolio of "Programmes" and produced the Aerobic Trophy Results booklet for 1994.

Leonie had another busy year as Administrator of the Branch. She was able to hand over to the Yearbook History Sub-committee, 44 pages of draft information collected from records within the office, so that recommendations can be made on the best way it can be presented to our membership, and National for their 21st celebrations.

All members of the Executive attended special meetings to consolidate a new Three Year Plan for years 1996 to 1998, for submission to the Ministry of Sport & Recreation. Our grant depends upon their acceptance of our development plans over the next few years.

Leonie used a lap top computer to produce a draft of the Minutes of the National Board Meeting held in Perth just prior to Easter, and this was a most interesting experience.

It was a credit to Alan Green, Geoff

Upton and Richard Johnson that the results of the National Swim were so professionally done and available so quickly. This was a fantastic effort, and Canon also deserve thanks for donating a computer which was fit for the task. Their sponsorship was vital.

We had a large supply of revamped, new and improved version, swim meet cards printed courtesy of another sponsor, Perth's Superdrome.

Our swimmers achieved much in the past year in the way of State, National and World Records. It is also pleasing that our "stars" are spread amongst many different clubs; even country clubs.

It is wonderful that so many AUSSI swimmers participate in the many Ocean Swim Thru events every summer, with distances varying from 1600m to 20km. The popularity of these events is very gratifying from both the Ministry's and each organizer's point of view. The calendar of events we produce is one of the best PR tools we have.

LEONIE GASTON  
ADMINISTRATOR

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BRANCH**

What South Australian Branch did during 1995 was done well, and for all Members that is a good reason to be appreciative of the efforts of those who made this possible. But like most organisations, the Branch had its share of difficulties. Two of a serious nature were the shortage of convenient winter training facilities, and the limited Club and member support for Branch activities.

Not much could be done about the first. The second was tackled, but at times it

seemed that the general membership had little understanding or care about the important role of the Branch. Late in the year the Volunteer Involvement Program was adopted and there is confidence that latent talent will be tapped.

During the past few years South Australia maintained a membership of six to seven hundred, (ten Clubs with 656 Members at 30 September 1995), with an average of a little over 200 new Members each year, and with about the same number who did not renew their memberships. Probably this condition is common to all of the Branches, but one could well wonder why that is so. In this State even more attention may have to be given to making competitions and other organised activities more attractive, especially to the presently non-participating majority. This may induce some Members to re-register, and if only for one extra year, it could convert the slight downward trend the Branch has experienced during recent years into an upwards trend.

Our pool and open water competitions were quite successful. The meets went well, many new Branch and National records were set, and many PBs. Those Members who attended enjoyed themselves, although it was a disappointment that the numbers were down on expectations. A question - do the non-competitors know what they are missing?

During June, 44 years old Andrew Martin, achieved a feat requiring great courage and stamina to become the first person to swim the 15 kilometres from the mainland to Kangaroo Island - time 4 hours 31 minutes. One newspaper reported that "Mr. Martin braved chilly conditions and choppy seas in the stretch of water which is notorious for its sharks".



*Bill Stevens - Secretary*

There was a great amount of concern about Directors and Officers Liability Insurance. It is doubtful that an unbiased and reliable opinion can be obtained on this subject, and eventually the Branch decided that this type of insurance is not necessary.

It was pleasing that National and Branch Life Member Peter Gillett was granted a 1995 Award of Distinction by the Confederation of Australian Sport in recognition of his long and valued service to Masters Swimming. It was pleasing too that Elly Fleig, Adelaide Masters' Coach, was awarded the honour of AUSSI's Coach of the Year for 1994.

Russell Clarke, President and Board Member, and Daryl Hawkes, National and Branch Recorder, communicated very well on matters of importance or interest on the National scene. Thus Branch Officers were able to keep up with current affairs and pass information to the Clubs and Members. The Branch continued to enjoy excellent communications and relations with the National Office - the support of Ivan and Sue was much appreciated.

The Branch finished the year in a sound financial position. Foundation SA sponsorship was a valued recognition of the worthiness of the AUSSI contribution to the health and fitness of the State's adult community. It is intended to justify that recognition over the long term.

The Carnival Committee led by Swim Meet Director, Minna Hotstone, and Russell Wood's Open Water Swim Committee worked hard and successfully to ensure that a comprehensive and varied programme was presented to competing Members.

Darryl Hawkes maintained the excellent condition of the National Records, and is particularly dedicated to this part of AUSSI activities.

Over the years the Branch has had difficulty in producing a satisfactory and regular newsletter, but Tim Calver in his first year as Editor made a strong and sustained effort that put that publication in good shape.

Accreditation courses for Starter, Timekeeper, Marshal and Check-Starter were held, but to the end of 1995 only one Member qualified fully - Leigh Ragless as Starter. Members who have been timekeeping and marshalling for many years are reluctant to submit to formal training, and to the theory and practical examinations.

A review and update of the Branch Constitution and By-Laws is in progress. It is quite a few years since it was given consideration on a broad scale, and there are some aspects that must be altered because of AUSSI Rules or legal (incorporation) changes and some in which changes should be beneficial to Branch management.

The year 1996 could be an important one

for South Australian AUSSI's, and there is confidence that with a co-ordinated effort by the membership as a whole the quality of the services available to Members will be further improved.

**BILL STEVENS**  
**SECRETARY**

## **TASMANIAN BRANCH**

As our President John Pugh has been on study leave in England since July 1995 and will not be returning until late February 1996, I have prepared the Branch 1995 Annual Report on his behalf.

During the year, the Branch held an Annual General Meeting plus five well attended, purposeful, and productive Committee meetings.

Significant outcomes have been:

- \* successful interclub and championship meets, highlighted by enjoyable fellowship and an increased number of participants.

- \* targets and priorities identified in the strategic plan developed in 1994, have been achieved and implemented.

- \* effective budgeting arising from strategic planning has enabled us to avoid using our capital in financing day to day running. Consequently we have been able to increase our administrative resources, in purchasing a photocopier, swim meet software, laptop and printer.

- \* it also allowed us to subsidise our Coaching Seminar/Courses.

Such outcomes have clearly vindicated establishing a Strategic Plan.

**Coaching:** A major objective to increase the number of accredited AUSSI Masters Coaches has been realised.

A second, "follow on" coaching course,

plus supplementary coaching workshops have raised the total number of accredited Level 1M coaches in the Branch to 10 with 4 to complete their accreditation hours which will give the Branch a ratio of 1:25 members. A very healthy result and potential to elevate the standards of swimming, a feature which has been strongly reflected in the year's programme of activities and events.

**1995 Programme:** It included, Long Course (Summer) and Short Course (Winter) Championships, Interclub meets which included the innovation of combining a programme of relays and short distance events, that was well patronised.

A highlight of these meets has been the use of an efficient Swim Meet Software. This has streamlined the conduct, simplified the organisation and hence markedly relieved the pressure on officials and competitors. There were two (2) Open Water Swims: a 4 km at Trevallyn Dam, and a 1.5 km and 2.5 km at Carlton (Dodges Ferry Beach).

**Interstate Meets:** Tasmanian Swimmers participated in the Perth National Swim and a large contingent also competed in the Australian Masters Games, Melbourne. They returned with a 'swag' of medals and 8 had achieved Australian Masters Games Records. Interestingly a number also took part in the life-saving and long distance pool events which replaced the proposed open water swim on Port Phillip Bay. Most swimmers were pleased with their performances and our swimmers successes are a clear indication that the Branch's policy of providing accreditation courses and encouraging every club to have qualified Masters Swimming Coaches is paying

handsome results.

**Safety Policy:** All Clubs are responsibly implementing the Safety Policy and promote safety awareness among their members. Safety Officers in each Club actively motivate Club members to gain currency in resuscitation and life-saving courses, plus implementing Safety policy guidelines at Club activities and major swim meets, including guidelines specific to Open Water Swims.

**Tasmanian Sports Federation:** The Branch has become a member of the Tasmanian Sporting Federation (Tas Sport), joining seven other AUSSI Masters Swimming State/Territory Branches which have become members of their respective State Sports Federation.

**Newsletter:** Continued sponsorship has allowed the continuation of the Tasmanian Newsletter, 'Platypus Press'. Three editions of this excellent, comprehensive publication have been published this year and distributed to all Club members.

**'Official of the Year':** Pauline Samson, Talays AUSSI Masters Swimming Club. We were delighted and proud that the excellent work done by our National Delegate, Pauline Samson in her role as National Director of Technical Development has been endorsed by her being chosen as AUSSI Masters Swimming Official of the Year 1995.

1996 is looming as another promising year of development, keen competition and fellowship. We are currently organising the Long Course Championships in February, 3 Open Water Swims in February and March, Masters Games in April with an interesting innovation, incorporating short distance



swims on day 1 and 2 long distance swims (800m and 1500m) on day 2.

Finally I express my deep appreciation for the co-operation and support given to me by all the members of the Branch committee.

It has been a pleasure to work with such a cohesive and enthusiastic team. Tasks undertaken have been diligently completed and is reflected in the fellowship and keen spirit in all clubs activities and meets conducted throughout the year.

**BILL STEWART**  
ACTING PRESIDENT

## **NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH**

The Branch administration changed location from Nhulunbuy to Darwin late in 1995. The new Executive is keen to encourage vigorous growth and smooth administration during the coming year. Areas earmarked for special attention include the creation of a new position of Safety Officer, the reinstating of the regular Branch newsletter, and improved communication across what must be the most widely separated and sparsely populated set of swim Clubs in the country.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Branch membership for 1995 was stable at 115 members in 3 clubs (Darwin, Gove and Alice Springs). A possible further two clubs may be started in 1996 (Palmerston and Katherine).

During 1995 we farewelled a good friend and staunch ally in Rick Barnes, who was unanimously voted a Life Member of the NT Branch at our AGM in November

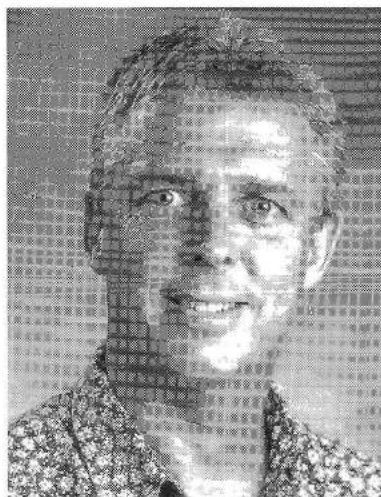
1995.

### **SWIM MEETS**

We have had good attendance at swim meets during 1995. Fifteen swimmers travelled to Perth for the Nationals, and Darwin Stingers came 10th of the 78 clubs competing. This year we look forward to Canberra for the National Swim, and to Alice Springs for the Honda Masters Games in October. The NT Championships were held in Gove in 1995, and two "20 and Over" Carnivals were held in Darwin. In addition, members competed at the World Masters Games in Brisbane (1994) and USA (1995), and the VicHealth 5th Australian Masters Games in Melbourne, where one member won 9 medals.

Members also competed in Interclub, NT Championships, Arafura Games, and others, in the "25 and over" age groups, in amateur competition, to hone their killer instinct.

The National Aerobic Trophy continues to be a focus for our year-round swimmers, and a fierce battle continues for total pointscore between male and female



*Ted Giblin - President*



members. Darwin Stingers club came 10th overall nationally in the pointscore. Branch Records have all been updated this year, collated by Rick Barnes, and consistently kept up to the minute in our computer database by Branch Recorder, Geoff Byfield. Clubs are now encouraged to keep their own Club Records to add to the database.

Steady progress has been made with our Branch portfolio, National Swim Meet Policy. The update of the National Swim Meet Guide will be available later this year, in similar format to the National Aerobic Trophy book.

Coordination and production of an AUSSI Safety Policy is slow but encouraging.

A medical subcommittee is being formed, which will consult on Swim Meet medical procedures.

Technical Development and Coaching are areas we need to encourage vigorously, as they have been neglected in recent years. We are also intending to develop Safety Officers and procedures, and to this end have already increased numbers of qualified Pool Lifeguards, Bronze medallions, and CPR trained members.

## START UP KITS

We are intending to provide, at the beginning of each year, to every member who re-registers, and to new members a start-up kit, comprising a membership renewal form, weekly aerobic swims programme, personal record sheet of aerobic swim times, individual carnival and sprints record sheets, record of personal best times, National aerobic trophy pointscore for age, National top 10 times for age, 1 million metres record card, NT amateur swimming calendar,

National and World swimming calendar, Log book, and various selected information sheets.

New members kits will continue to provide information of a more general nature.

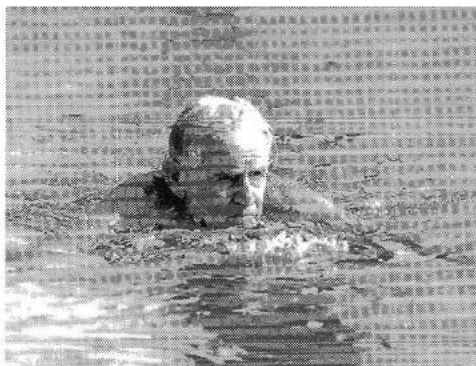
## STRATEGIC PLAN

During 1996 the Branch will hold a forum to workshop a strategic plan for the coming 5 years. We hope to address issues of promotion and sponsorship at both Government and corporate levels, publicity, safety and medical aspects, new clubs and increased membership, and our hosting of the 1999 National Swim.

In the spirit of Fitness Friendship and Fun, our social events were both numerous and hilarious, and well attended.

My thanks to the Executive in Gove who looked after the Branch during most of 1995. We look forward to the coming year.

TED GIBLIN  
PRESIDENT



*"80 year old Norm Pugh in the swim leg of the triathlon (600m swim, 20 km ride, 5 km run). He won his age group."*

# ACT BRANCH

## 1. CLUBS

Membership increased from 86 in July 1994 to 89 in July 1995.

Membership Structure:

	F	M	TOTAL
Canberra North	23	23	46
Tuggeranong	25	18	43
	48	41	89

## 2. BRANCH DEVELOPMENT

### 2.1 Sponsorship

The ACT Division of the National Heart Foundation continues to support us by publicising our aims and objectives and providing its board room for Branch meetings.

### 2.2 ACT Sports house

ACT AUSSI continues its membership of this organisation which, through its ACTSPORT arm, supports and represents all affiliated ACT sporting organisations on matters affecting sport development, sporting policies, facilities, funding from the ACT Government.

### 2.3 Branch Newsletter

TIDAL continued to be produced during the year to be enjoyed by members, ex-members and many others. The year commenced with Judy Ford assisted by Jack Cairns, Geoff Llewellyn, Bev Purnell, Les Worthington and others in copying and distributing TIDAL. A big thanks to Judy and the team. Newcomers Peter McCann and Marje Prior took over as editors of TIDAL for the middle of the year and produced a great publication.

### 2.4 Branch Meetings

Meetings were held every 6 to 8 weeks during 1995. Some of these were also attended by non-executive members whose contribution and interest is appreciated.

## 2.5 Publicity

Branch promotional activities during the year included:

- use of AUSSI National posters and flyers
- entry in the white and yellow pages
- promotion during Senior's Week

## 2.6 Swim for Heart

The National Heart Foundation conducted its annual 'Swim for Heart' fund-raising event in August. AUSSI swimmers coordinated teams at ADFA and Tuggeranong pools, with some others participating in corporate and social teams.

## 3. NATIONAL

The Branch is responsible for the Planning Portfolio with Jean Heath as Delegate. She participated in the national mid-year Board Meeting in Melbourne in October. Tanya Colyer attended the National AGM held in Perth in April, due to Jean's inability to attend.

## 4. SWIM MEETS AND EVENTS

### 4.1 Open Water Swim

ACT AUSSI assisted Telopea ASC with the conduct of an open water swim in Lake Burley Griffin in March. The swim was conducted over distances from 1.5 km to 9 km, attracting swimmers from ACT and NSW.

### 4.2 ACT Branch Championships

This event was held at the AIS pool on 6 and 7 May 1995. Swimmers entered from ACT, NSW and Victoria.

### 4.3 ACT Long Distance Meet

The annual long distance meet was held on 30 September and 1 October 1995. This year was the first time we used electronic timing for a long distance meet which worked well. Swimmers competed from NSW and ACT.

#### 4.4 ACT Interclubs

One interclub was held in June, hosted by Canberra North, at Civic pool.

#### 4.5 Interstate Meets

ACT swimmers participated in the National Swim in Perth, the NSW Short Course and State Championships, other NSW meets, postal events and open water swims in NSW and WA. A small number of swimmers also competed in the Australian Masters Games in Melbourne. Stu Fitch achieved a number of Games Records.

### 5. OFFICIALS TRAINING

**5.1** Two accreditation courses were held in July, timekeepers and marshal. Many ACT members completed one or both of the courses. ACT now has 8 qualified timekeepers who have been busy getting their hours up during the year.

**5.2** There are currently 6 level 1M coaches resident within the ACT on the Australian Coaching Council list. To maintain their listing all coaches must participate in accreditation updating within a four year span.

### 6. SOCIAL EVENTS

Social events, ranging from dinners to weekends in the Snowy Mountains continued to be organised by clubs, some on a monthly basis.

I wish to thank everyone, members, friends and family who have helped in any way large or small.

**TANYA COLYER**  
**SECRETARY**



*Tanya Colyer - ACT Branch Secretary*



*The National Swim Organising Committee*



*"Power Points" - winners of the Male Zedar Challenge Relay - with Sue Elsdon, M.D. of Zedar*

## NATIONAL TROPHY WINNERS

FOUNDER'S TROPHY:	CLAREMONT
RUNNER'S UP TROPHY:	OSBORNE PARK
VISITOR'S TROPHY:	ADELAIDE MASTERS
NATIONAL HEART FOUNDATION AWARD:	RON COOPER - SOMERSET
SWIMMER OF THE MEET:	
FEMALE:	JUDITH DRAKE-BROCKMAN - CLAREMONT
MALE:	VIC PAUL - CARINE
RELAY TROPHIES:	
80+	ADELAIDE MASTERS
120+	CLAREMONT
160+	CLAREMONT
200+	CLAREMONT
240+	OSBORNE PARK
280+	CLAREMONT
320+	INGLEWOOD
ZEDAR RELAYS:	
FEMALE:	CLAREMONT
MALE:	POWER POINTS
AEROBIC TROPHY:	TOOWOOMBA MASTERS
TASSIE AWARD:	BATHURST
COACH OF THE YEAR:	ELLY FLEIG - ADELAIDE MASTERS



*Di and John "It's been great meeting up with you again"*