

**AUSSI  
MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA  
INC.**



**FOUNDED 1975**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**1998**

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

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**Office Bearers - 1998**

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**PRESIDENT**

Glenys McDonald

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Ivan Wingate

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

John O'Dowd

**DIRECTOR OF COACHING**

Kay Cox

**BOARD MEMBERS**

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

S.A. Darryl Hawkes - Director of Recording

QLD. David Speechley - Director of Marketing

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

W.A. David Cummins - Director of Programmes

VIC. Jodi-Ann Beard - Director of Communications

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

As each New Year's Eve approaches I know it is time for the AUSSI Annual Report. It is actually a good time to write a report at this traditional time of reflection and resolutions. For me the reflection aspect is paramount this year because this is my final report as your President and it gives me an opportunity to look back on, not just 1998, but my history in AUSSI and what I feel we have achieved. I hope you do not mind indulging my reminiscences.

There are always key incidents in all our lives where we feel we have experienced a catalyst for a change of direction, or there has been someone who says something which sets us on a whole new path of experience. For me it was three little words - "Can you type?" It was April/May 1977 and I was part of a small group of foundation members of AUSSI WA and we were forming the steering committee of our first WA club - AUSSI Carine. When I answered yes to the above question I was elected Secretary of this fledgling club. None of us knew much about Masters Swimming, or even what we were meant to be doing (a position I am sure all new club secretaries experience), so we had to get out there and find out. I did not realise that night just how dramatically acceptance of that position was to change the direction of my life for the next twenty one years.

I went on to serve as club secretary for a number of years, and became the first Branch Secretary for WA when other clubs joined and necessitated the formation of the Branch. We then tackled the Government for funding to assist the employment of a part time Administrator. Initially we were refused, but I had learnt



*Glenys McDonald - National President*

a few tricks of the trade by 1985 and finally we were successful. I served a total of ten years as either WA Branch Secretary or Administrator and saw the Branch grow to be the largest in AUSSI. It was a wonderful experience in being part of the development of a Branch of AUSSI and I encourage all of our members to get in and 'have a go'. Sometimes it extends you, sometimes it is a tiring hassle, sometimes it brings out new skills in managing people, but ultimately it gives such a sense of achievement.

Whilst we worked hard in those early days developing the WA Branch, setting up our office, our secretariat, policies on coaching the older adult and new innovations like the Aerobic Trophy, we were unsure of our place in the National structure. The New South Wales Branch began our wonderful organisation in Australia and for many years the National Executive members were, for the most part, the same people who ran the NSW Branch. We had no Board or Council meetings to make decisions on rules or fees or structure, and most decisions

were taken by the NSW dominated National Executive or at the National Swim, which was always in the Eastern States. In 1978 and 1979 WA had two swimmers attend the Nationals and they represented us at meetings which were very informal and held in someone's hotel room.

The growth of our organisation Australia wide meant that we were ready for change and I found myself lobbying for things to be fairer. In 1980 I attended my first National Swim in Adelaide (what an experience, but we won't go into that). I was just so nervous meeting the 'guru's' of AUSSI - Peter Jackson, Gary Stutsel and our wonderful Des McCormick. We had our meeting sitting on the lawns beside the pool. We started at 1pm in the hot sun and finished at 5pm in freezing cold. I guess that was where I got my reputation for having a lot to say, it was also where I learnt that you can carry many arguments if you are prepared and have done your homework. I also learnt that the 'guru's' were not so scary - just people like us wanting to do what was best for AUSSI and our membership.

We decided to have two Council meetings a year but National did not subsidise the delegates cost to these until the midyear meeting of 1981. We had two delegates per Branch in those days and a larger National Executive. I served as WA Branch delegate from 1980 to my election as National Secretary in 1985.

In 1981 I dubbed WA in to do a complete review of AUSSI. We formed several committees and the "1982 Where are we at? Where are we going?" was born. It proved a great help, and I suppose was, before it's time, the forerunner of the four and five year plans which now all sports

are required to do.

I encourage you all to lobby for change (through the correct channels of course), if you feel that there are better, more efficient ways of achieving our aims. I felt strongly that we needed a Board or Council to have input in National and lobbied for it. My next lobbying was to convince the Branches that our constitution allowed for people from States other than NSW to be elected to our National Executive. I circulated a discussion paper detailing how I believed this could work with teleconference meetings. In 1985 teleconferencing was not widely used, so it was a new initiative.

The result of the 1985 elections was that a President was elected from South Australia, a Secretary from WA and a Treasurer, Director of Coaching and Publicity Officer from NSW, then later in the year, the Director of Coaching was a Victorian. I lobbied for a rotation of the National Swim so all Branches could have a turn rather than WA people having the expense of travel each year.

We began our practise of locking people away for a working weekend when we rewrote our constitution - me and five men - no wonder I like AUSSI. We decided the National Executive and Council was too big, too unwieldy and too expensive so we formed a Task Force which came up with the structure we have today. We became more and more involved in international affairs with our involvement with Masters Swimming International, FINA and the hosting of the 2nd World Masters Swimming Championships in Brisbane in 1988. We fought long and hard to gain accreditation for Masters coaching courses because the 'ignorant' could not see that there were any differences in coaching an eight year old

and an eighty year old. We developed many innovations, the National Aerobic Trophy, and formed a National Computer Committee when computerisation was just raising its head. We gained a National and International reputation as a well run and innovative National Sports Association.

I felt I had learnt a lot in assisting the development of a Branch of AUSSI and gaining a representative structure for National, I was to learn that my major learning curves were still ahead of me.

As National Secretary I learnt what work was. Four years of about 25 hours commitment a week serving over 5,000 members for an honorarium to cover electricity etc of \$1,500 per year. But I loved every minute of it, or most minutes. I learnt not to respond quickly to letters which appeared like a personal attack (I sat on them for at least 3 days, and on occasions still sent them, but mostly they were amended in the cool light of day); I learnt the great satisfaction and sense of achievement in developing the Club Guide and the National Swim Guide. I loved being editor of our National Newsletter, and the traumas and the wonders of the exceptionally successful hosting of the World Masters Championships in Brisbane. But in essence I learnt what work was. Now we have rectified this problem by having a contracted National Secretariat, but we should not be complacent. The contract fee is not large enough for the workload, and the Director of Coaching position is still in the dark ages of voluntary commitment above and beyond what we should be expecting from our members. My involvement in International Masters Swimming possibly taught me more about myself than any other aspect of life. I

learnt that just because a person does not speak English and has difficulties expressing their thoughts in our language, they still have a valuable contribution to make. A lesson some of our international friends should learn. I learnt about the power politics at international level and how the game is played. I learnt that, although tempted, I was not willing to forego my principles and the commitment to AUSSI to gain a position on a FINA committee. I learnt painfully that sometimes you need to challenge the actions of friends if those friends are not being as accountable as our Association expects. I learnt that some of our members do not see or appreciate the job you do and merely see everything as a junket. What valuable lessons in life I would have missed if I had not had the opportunity to be involved in MSI or be Australia's delegate at over 8 Congresses or Forums on behalf of AUSSI. My five years as Editor of MSI news bought me a wealth of friendships and respect amongst my colleagues which I value and which made the experiences well worth while.

Being your National President for the past six years has also required the brushing up of new skills. It was easy to be a Branch delegate and push for what I believed our Branch wanted, whilst keeping an eye on the overall umbrella needs of the Association. It was relatively easy to adopt the different role as National Secretary to keep everyone fully up to day and informed. To chair a two day Board meeting twice a year, represent the Association and to steer the ship on a correct course was a different challenge and one I was not very confident about taking on.

To me, the past six years have really



been about managing personalities to get the most potential out of them and to ensure that AUSSI is heading in the direction that the members want. I am proud to say that we have always managed to complete our agendas, we have dealt with each and every individual who has come and gone on the Board in that time with respect and decency, but we have not flinched if a person has overstepped the mark and required bringing into line.

I know I will probably have a bit of a culture shock when I come home from work after May 1999 and find that there is no pile of faxes from the AUSSI office on the machine, and no pile of mail in the letter box to wade through as I have that first sip of wine of an evening.

Our management team and the Board of Directors have been responsible for a direction and innovation of which all our members can be proud. Our courses are accredited and held up as examples to other Associations. We have contributed to the adult 'learn to swim' and the Masters sports phenomenon in this country and indeed, the world. We have shown we can host World Swimming Championships and International Championships for large numbers of competitors with efficiency in 1981, 1983, 1988 and 1994. The 1999 Pan Pacifics will be no different.

We have programmes to keep people swimming and active for the rest of their lives, and we have done it all mainly from members funds. For that we should all hold our heads high. We have brought together our officials and coaches for a weekend workshop, an initiative all National sports should consider doing, given the success of that weekend.

There is always room for improvement

and no room for complacency. We are well prepared however for the new millennium, with a new image, a new logo and a web site. But times change, pressure from different directions and Government initiatives mean that we have to know our core business well and be confident that we are the best people to deliver it. I do not wish to state what I see for the future of AUSSI, I feel that is the role of your new President. I welcome that person warmly and hope that he/she gains as much as I have through the commitment they are undertaking.

I would just like to say that AUSSI has earned its independence as the Association administering Masters Swimming in this country. ASI value us for the role we play in the big picture of Australian Swimming. That autonomy must be preserved, but perhaps not at all costs. There may come one day when it is advantageous to us to be equal partners, and then perhaps we can run all of Australian Swimming with the efficiency and dedication that our administrators currently just devote to the Masters section. In the interim, I feel that we and Australian Swimming are much better off if we co-exist in harmony and devote our time and energies to the category we have the most expertise in.

Finally I would like to thank the AUSSI members and my fellow Board colleagues for giving me the chance to find out exactly what I am made of. I would like to thank my husband and family for giving me the space and the freedom to devote my energies to the task. You have all given me the opportunities to test out my capabilities in an atmosphere of friendship and camaraderie, where failures are supported, and achievements acknowledged. I do have this fear though, that when that day comes and we are

about to meet our Maker and our life flashes before our eyes, all I will see is a succession of AUSSI Board members! Terrible thought.

GLENYS MCDONALD  
PRESIDENT

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

My own swimming administration year commenced on 6 January by attending two FINA Congresses as an observer, officiating at two Open Water World Championships and attending a few sessions of the pool World Championships in Perth. As in 1991 it was a great opportunity to network with people from all around the World and it was quite pleasing to note the much greater awareness and appreciation of Masters compared with the previous time.

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Whilst in Perth, we held a face to face meeting of the Management Committee, with the exception of our Finance Director who joined in by phone from Hong Kong for a short time. The most significant item of business was to choose the successful bidder to host the Pan Pacific Masters Swimming Championships in Australia in 1999. The Meeting reconvened later that month in Townsville for a site inspection there at which the Finance Director was present. After considerable deliberations, the Pan Pacs were awarded to the WA Branch for them to be held in Perth in October 1999.

The other major matter attended to at the Townsville meeting was to pull together numerous specific items and create mission statements for each portfolio in



*Ivan Wingate - Executive Director*

preparation for a five year strategic plan. Our President subsequently set it out in a presentable lay-out for the October Board Meeting where it was adopted. It is now to be printed for circulation to Clubs and other interested parties.

Because of an overseas appointment, our Finance Director, Clyde McMillan, had to resign and the March Board Meeting appointed John O'Dowd to fill the position for the remainder of his term. Clyde's resignation was a significant loss to AUSSI and we express our gratitude to him for his professional skills and wisdom he was able to contribute in his three years on the Management Committee.

### BOARD MEETINGS

Two meetings were held, the first in the two days immediately following the National Swim in Hobart and the second in Adelaide in October. Jodi-Ann Beard joined the Board as delegate from Victoria and as Director of Communications for the remainder of Doug Tantau's term. Doug had to step down through pressure of work and we sincerely thank him for his contribution to the Board.



## **NATIONAL SWIM**

The "Nationals" were held in Hobart for the first time, at the new Tattersall's Hobart Aquatic Centre. 435 swimmers entered which was more than forecast, but still comfortably managed over the 3 day programme and from all reports, it was a very satisfactory meet.

## **WORLD SWIM**

The major event of the year for me and for 63 other AUSSI's was participating in the 7th FINA World Masters Swimming Championships in Casablanca, Morocco. Only 1954 swimmers (from 49 countries) took part, which was less than half of those who entered each of the past two World Swims. Much has been written elsewhere about the event as it was not without its problems. I had the honour of being Chief Referee for the pool swims and whilst stressful at times, I quite enjoyed the challenge.

## **FINA MEETINGS**

As a member of the FINA Masters Committee, I attended two days of meetings prior to and during the World Swim. Also, on the day before the Swim, the third FINA masters Technical Congress was held. Australia was represented by AUSSI's President, Glenys McDonald and Aniella Plowman from Australian Diving. Glenys addressed the Congress on several occasions when the proposed Rule changes were being considered. Speaking at such a formal international forum is quite challenging and fulfilling. I managed to say a few words too.

## **MASTERS GAMES**

In the off year to the Australian Masters Games the major focus usually, is the Honda Masters Games in Alice Springs.

This year our attention and considerable administrative work was also given to the World Masters Games in Portland, Oregon, USA, and the Asia Pacific Masters Games on the Gold Coast in Queensland.

The World Masters Games attracted far fewer participants than they had budgeted for, which must be of concern to the organisers for the next one scheduled for Melbourne in 2002. Only a handful of AUSSI's attended the Portland Games. The Gold Coast Games, held in the week following Alice Springs, were very successful yet the "Honda" still attracted its usual numbers. I refereed again at Alice Springs and was able to meet with AUSSI swimmers from all Branches across Australia which I find most important for someone in my position.

## **REGISTRATIONS**

It was pleasing to see an increase in Membership again - albeit a relatively small, 3.9%. Some Branches have been quite active in promoting the benefits of joining AUSSI, which has been reflected in their figures.

## **OUR NAME**

I reported in these pages last year that a proposal was foreshadowed to drop 'AUSSI' from our name. The proposal did not proceed but the Board did agree to register the name "Masters Swimming Australia" in order to protect it from being adopted by others.

We will however, be projecting a new image in the form of a new logo which will be adopted uniformly across Australia to replace the ten different ones we have now. For each Branch, it will show the Branch identity and be in their State/Territory colours.

## **NATIONAL OFFICE**

We are still located, rent free, at the Adelaide Aquatic Centre, for which we again express our gratitude.

We have installed a new computer, an additional phone line, e-mail and in the new year, AUSSI will have a web page. More effective and better presented communications is an essential area of growth, which has been achieved throughout the year.

My visits to Perth, Hobart, Morocco, Alice Springs, Canberra and Melbourne, meant that I was out of the Office many times throughout the year. My thanks again to Sue Harris who ably managed the business in my absence.

## **CONCLUSION**

I conclude my Report by thanking John O'Dowd for capably stepping in mid-term to manage our finances. I congratulate Kay Cox for the excellent, professional work she did in coordinating (and doing most of the work herself) the rewrite of our Levels 1M and 2M Coaching Accreditation courses in keeping with the new demanding requirements of the Australian Coaching Council. And, I sincerely thank your soon to retire President and my colleague of many years, Glenys McDonald, for the very significant contribution she has made to the development of AUSSI. Much of the professional standing your organisation has today in the sporting community is due to Glenys' foresight and initiative. She was appropriately awarded Life Membership to AUSSI in 1989 and has contributed so much since, that she would have earned it again - but two times Life is "Life" - isn't it?

**IVAN WINGATE**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

## **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT ON THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1998**

The 1998 year ended with a deficit of \$1,264, similar to the 1997 year. This was achieved despite a significant amount of "write-offs" plus a refund to the NSW Branch for the 1997 Nationals.

Total income for the year was similar to 1997 year, with an increase in receipts for Registrations and Branch Affiliations, a decrease in interest and swim meet income, and a loss on sales.

Total expenses also were similar to 1997. The major expense items, NED fees, AUSSI Conferences and Insurance, were less than 1997, but still accounted for 66% of the total expenses. Printing and stationery costs were up by over 40%, as well as postage by 25%. A significant increase but a necessary one I am sure as the organisation is a strong believer in communication.

Over the last few years the Board has significantly increased the service provided to Members through Coaching courses, Technical workshops plus Promotion and Marketing of AUSSI. These have had a significant financial impact on AUSSI. If AUSSI is to continue to provide a better service to Members, by providing for example better software, a Level 2M coaching course, Web site and email facilities, the cost at some point has to be met.

My thanks to all Board Members for their help over the past year.

**JOHN O'DOWD**  
**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE.**

# **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1998**

## **SCOPE**

I have audited the financial statements of AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Incorporated for the financial year ended 31st December, 1998 as set out on pages 12 to 14.

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 the account.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. My procedures included examinations, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Australian accounting concepts and standards and statutory requirements so as to present a view of the Aussi Masters Swimming in Australia Incorporated which is consistent with my understanding of the financial position and the results of their operations.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

## **AUDIT OPINION**

In my opinion, the financial statements of AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Incorporated are properly drawn up:

(a) so as to give a true and fair view of:

- (i) the state of affairs as at 31st December, 1998 and the loss of the entity for the year ended on that date; and
- (ii) the other matters required to be dealt with in the financial statements;  
and are in accordance with Statements of Accounting Concepts and applicable Accounting Standards & the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985 (As Amended).

Dated this 18th day of March, 1999.

**SELWYN O. SEDGER - CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT**  
357 Clarendon Street  
South Melbourne 3205

**AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA (INC.)**  
**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31 DECEMBER 1998**

	<b>INCOME</b>	
<b>1997</b>		<b>1998</b>
\$ 1,200	Branch Affiliations	\$ 1,450.00
118,862	Members' Registrations	125,974.25
8,923	Interest Received	6,396.35
10,556	Swim Meets	6,962.85
950	Coaching Accreditation Fees	640.00
(918)	Profit on Stock Sales (Loss)	(2,451.10)
<u>\$139,573</u>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u>\$138,972.35</u>

	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
\$ 750	Audit Fees	\$ 830.00
53,982	National Executive Director's Fees	53,978.50
7,430	Printing and Stationery	10,491.58
3,997	Postage	4,987.57
5,048	Telephone	5,454.08
19,763	AUSSI Conferences and Meetings	18,431.86
2,936	Other Conferences and Meetings	9,105.20
13,537	Coaching and Technical Expenses	4,134.55
166	Planning and Development Expenses	1,004.16
3,262	Promotion & Marketing Expenses	-
3,657	Recording and Programmes Expenses	2,586.36
-	Computer Software	864.00
833	Affiliations and Subscriptions	1,307.40
20,665	Insurances	20,429.35
322	Bank Charges and Interest	417.77
737	Sundry Repairs & Administration Expenses	1,231.79
2,635	Depreciation & Write-Offs	3,336.63
-	Refund NSW Branch Re National Swim	1,646.00
<u>\$139,720</u>		<u>\$140,236.80</u>
(147)	<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<u>(1,264.45)</u>

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Audit Report of S.O. SEDGER

# AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA (INC.)

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1998

### ASSETS

1997 \$		NOTE	1998 \$
	<b>CURRENT</b>		
5,100	Cash Floats	1	1,600.00
2,119	Cash at Bank	2	29,984.79
152,451	1988 World Swim Investments	3	126,987.00
168	Sundry Debtors		-
20,522	Stock on Hand	4	13,124.05
10	Shares - Esso Employees Credit Union		10.00
-	Advance - WA Branch Re Pan Pacs		5,000.00
-	Advance - NT Branch - 1999 National Swim Meet		2,000.00
<u>180,370</u>			<u>178,705.84</u>
	<b>FIXED</b>		
1,034	Trophies and Cases		1,034.00
9,185	Plant and Equipment		9,585.00
<u>10,219</u>			<u>10,619.00</u>
<u>190,589</u>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>189,324.84</u>

### MEMBERS ACCUMULATIONS

190,736	Balance 1/1/1998	190,589.29
(147)	Add: Surplus/(Deficit)	(1,264.45)
<u>190,589</u>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>189,324.84</u>

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Audit Report of S.O. SEDGER

# AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA (INC.)

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1998

#### NOTE 1: CASH FLOATS

	\$	\$
Executive Director	1,000.00	
National Recorder	100.00	
National President	<u>500.00</u>	<u>1,600.00</u>

#### NOTE 2: CASH AT BANK

Commonwealth Bank Cheque Account	<u>29,984.79</u>
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#### NOTE 3: 1988 WORLD SWIM INVESTMENTS

ESSO Employees Credit Union Ltd. - S1 Access Account	1,888.19	
ESSO Employees Credit Union Ltd. - II Fixed Term	1,531.69	
Commonwealth Bank Term Deposit	<u>123,567.12</u>	<u>126,987.00</u>

#### NOTE 4: STOCK ON HAND - 31.12.98

9023 Brochures @ .10c	902.30	
233 Posters @ \$1.00	233.00	
15 Handbook Covers @ \$3.25	48.75	
706 Mastering Swimming @ \$15.90	11,225.40	
9 FINA Handbooks @ \$25.00	225.00	
108 AUSSI Promo Hats @ \$3.20	345.60	
60 AUSSI Promo Caps @ \$2.40	<u>144.00</u>	
<b>VALUE OF STOCK 31.12.98</b>		<u><b>13,124.05</b></u>



*Katrina Clarke (Launceston) receiving 'gold' from Sir Guy Green, Governor of Tasmania, at the Hobart National Swim*





*Your Board in action*



*Time to relax*

## COACHING

The focus this year in coaching has been on the reviewing of both our Level 1M and 2M coaching accreditation courses. Other highlights include the masters Stream at the Australian Swimming Coaches and Teachers Association (ASCTA) Annual Conference in Melbourne, the 'Coach of the Year' and the revamping of the Australian Masters Swimming Coaches Newsletter (AMSCN).

### COACHING ACCREDITATION

After 13 years we have trained 348 AUSSI coaches and the number currently accredited in December 1998 was 228 (215 Level 1M, 13 Level 2M). The growth rate of accredited coaches from 1997 was only 4% compared with a 15% increase from 1997. As we had the same number of course conducted this year as 1997, that is 6 courses (4 level 1M and 2 level 2M) it would appear that the reduced growth rate maybe due to coaches not re-accrediting. The other factor to consider is that coaches may take 1 year for Level 1M to finalize accreditation and 2 years for Level 2M so we may not see the benefits of these courses for a few more months. However, it is clear that our growth rate over the past 4 years has slowed down as seen in Table 1.

Year	Number of Coaches	% Change
1995	161	
1996	191	23
1997	220	15
1998	228	4

**Table 1. The number of trained coaches for the last 4-year period and the % change in training.**

The most evident explanation for this is the failure of coaches to update their accreditation. This issue will be discussed



*Kay Cox - National Director of Coaching*

later in this report.

Congratulations to NSW, Victoria, Qld North and Qld south for conducting a Level 1M course this year and WA and Qld South for conducting a Level 2M.

The review and rewriting of the level 1M and level 2M this year has taken up much of the coaching time budget this year. Both courses were due this year for the Australian Coaching Council's Quadrennial review. Courses now have to be written in the competency based training format and as a consequence the Level 1M had to be largely rewritten. Even the Level 2M which was originally written in this format required some major rethinking and extra resourcing. The Level 1M was reaccruited from 22nd May 1998 and the Level 2M was submitted for consideration on 28th November 1998. This will go out to two independent reviewers for approval and we will be notified early in 1999 of the result and the status of the course.

My sincere thanks to all those who helped with the revisions. It was a major task which we started at the 1997 Coaching Directors workshop. Thanks to the Coaching Panel, Peter Reaburn, Peter

Jackson, Tel Tullberg and Branch Coaching Directors, Di Coxon-Ellis, Rod Porteous, David Poulton, Megan Stronach, Jacinta Stirrat and Les Worthington for their contributions to the project. These efforts were much appreciated by myself as they reduced my workload. My thanks also to Carrol Wannell for her valuable assistance with the typing and in putting the material into a workable format.

At part of the re-accreditation approval conditions I have a commitment to submit a report on the courses conducted throughout Australia. This means my appeals for more details in the course approval forms will be enforced as we must ensure that not only does quality control continue but we have some measure of monitoring this. A starting point is the course approval form I would like to see Branches target a course every year and to consider alternating Level 1M and 2M on a yearly basis. This system has been conducted in WA for some years now and it works well. All Branches that have not conducted a Level 2M course yet should aim to conduct one in 1999. Smaller Branches might elect to run a coaching course every second year.

The Level O coaching course was launched at the October Board meeting. This is an 'Orientation' course to give members some idea and 'feel' for coaching as well as the confidence to consider doing a Level 1M accreditation course. We are still waiting for a Branch to pilot the Level O course.

## RE-ACCREDITATION

Earlier in this report I have indicated that our 'dropout rate' of accredited coaches is currently 34% which is 3% higher than

last year. Keeping coaches updated and coaching is one of our biggest challenges. Branches need to make sure that updating opportunities are planned for coaches and that these are well advertised. In some Branches one successful idea has been the opening up of coaching course lectures to all members and coaches can use this as updating opportunities. As coaches are busy people they often forget to record their activities. Coaching Directors need to ensure that the processes of recording etc. are easy to follow and implement.

Table 2 shows the comparison in numbers of accredited coaches in 1997 and 1998 in the Branches.

	1997	1998	% Change
ACT	3	3	0
NSW	46	60	30
VIC	43	36	-17
TAS	9	8	-11
SA	14	13	-7
WA	62	62	0
NT	2	0	-100
QLD	41	45	12
TOTAL	220	228	4%

**Table 2.** Number of coaches accredited in 1997 (Dec 1997) compared with those currently accredited (Dec 1998).

From Table 2 it can be seen that ACT, SA, WA, Tasmania and Qld have remained constant in total numbers, ie training numbers equal 'dropouts' whilst NSW has had a large growth influx and Vic has experienced a large 'dropout rate'. All Branches will need to address this issue next year.

The updating requirements have been added to and some of the administration has been made easier for coaches to be able to update.

## COACH OF THE YEAR

The 'Coach of the Year Award' honours a coach of exceptional standing in AUSSI

in any one year. Coaches are nominated by their club or Branch. This year the National Coaching Panel consisting of Peter Reaburn, Ted Tullberg, Peter Jackson and Kay Cox had the task of selecting the winner. The honours for this year went to Rod Porteous from Gladstone. Rod has not only had an outstanding year of coaching but has contributed at a Branch and National level for several years. Rod was presented with this award at the National Dinner in Hobart and presented with an award from the Australian Swim Coaches and Teachers Association at their Conference Dinner in Melbourne in May. Rod was able to attend the Dinner and I was able to present him with his award.

## **CONFERENCES**

### **ASCTA**

With the assistance of the Victorian Branch I put a Masters programme together for the Conference which was held in Melbourne in May. We had high quality speakers, Steve and Kathy Selig from Victoria presented papers on health issues and Judy Bonning from NSW presented material on work-outs. The main programme during the week also included some Masters topics which Judy Bonning presented. This session was very popular and was a good advertisement for our sessions on the Saturday. Jodi-Ann Beard and I presented short discussion papers on AUSSI specific activities in fitness and competition as the introduction to the forum. The attendance at the talks and forum was better than the past 20-25 members however, we need to look at improving this further. One way is to get the programme advertised sooner and another is to review the time scheduling. We participated in two other activities:

1. The 'Coach of the Year Award' was presented to Rod Porteous at the presentation dinner.
2. The Victorian Branch set up an information booth/display as part of the Trade Exhibition which appeared to be very active.

## **NATIONAL COACHING DIRECTORS WORKSHOP AND SPORTSCOACH 98**

I was fortunate enough to be awarded a WA Coaching Foundation Scholarship to attend the Australian Coaching Council's Sportscoach 98 Conference in November 1998. The ACC conducted a National Coaching Directors Workshop on the day prior to the Conference, thus I was able to attend both events. The Workshop discussed some very valuable issues such as Coach Accreditation, training and accreditation of course assessors, implementation of Code of Ethics and the future services of the ACC. All of these issues need to be addressed by AUSSI in the next 6 months.

The Conference itself was very well run with a great variety of coaching topics and many practical sessions included. There were several sessions on aquatics and water-based training and I attended several of these. The training had relevance for AUSSI as an alternative activity for recovery training and rehabilitation. It also provides another area of development of coaches and an opportunity to work with people in other sports. The science and information sessions were enlightening and many new resources were on display or presented during the Conference. This is a great personal development and practical skills opportunity for AUSSI coaches.

I was able to attend the Coach Award Presentation Dinner and the Official Award Dinner. My attendance at the latter meant I was able to support our National Executive Director when he received his well deserved Official of the Year Award.

During the Conference I was able to meet with the Coaching Course Co-ordinator from Australian Swimming Inc. Brad Paterson. We have commenced discussions on how our courses complement each other and how we can work together in the training of coaches.

### **AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SWIMMING COACHES NEWSLETTER (AMSCN)**

This year also has seen a review of the AUSSI Masters Swimming Coaches Newsletter. You will now be familiar with the new format and more and more coaches are contributing to writing the articles. The responses I have received from readers has been very positive and encouraging. The membership list is slowly increasing and financially at present the Newsletter is viable. Our sincere thanks to Claire and Peter Reaburn who took on the tasks as editors for this year and who have done a great job in producing the Newsletter. They are to be congratulated on the professional standard of production and approach to the task.

### **CHANGES IN BRANCH COACHING DIRECTORS**

The main changes to Coaching Directors have occurred in Vic and Qld (South). Victoria had a disruptive year but thanks to Jodi-Ann Beard for stepping in to assist. Graham Mason has taken over as Coaching Director of Qld South. Many thanks to all Coaching Directors as they have had a very busy year.

### **CONCLUSION**

This year has been a challenging one

with the major review of our coaching courses. This is only the start as we still need to produce the final product and to develop the next stage including resources for coaches. My thanks again to all those who have assisted me during the year. I would especially like to thank Ivan Wingate for his assistance in administering and implementing the various coaching programmes and the Management Committee and Board for their continued support. I look forward to the new challenges of 1999 and hope it is as productive as 1998.

KAY COX  
DIRECTOR OF COACHING

## **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

The AUSSI Club Development Manual was distributed to each of the 184 Clubs in March 1998 after a long and laboured preparation.

Presented as an A5 booklet it is intended to be easily found and to be frequently used hence the bright orange cover. Inside is a written index of the contents plus notes on the development of the Manual. Adopted from the VIP (Volunteer Involvement Program) Manual, it has been extensively AUSSified and was presented on a 3.5 computer disk so clubs could print out and use those areas of immediate interest. To date I have been told that both Queensland and South Australian clubs have used it but is this all? If you have any comments about the Manual please send them to our National Office.

Feedback has also been a problem with the regional Club President's meetings with Queensland and NSW advising of their progress but no word from the other



branches. This lack of response raises the questions about what needs to be done to find out what is really wanted and if it is provided, will it then be used.

The area currently under review is the information and actions used to assist in the development of new clubs. This falls into two areas, a) possible new clubs and b) those in the process of actually forming. Again the Queensland branch leads the way in this area and having looked at the material made available to me I suggest that the other branches would be best served by reviewing the Queensland procedures and modifying them to suit their local requirements.

At the Mid Year Conference the SA delegate suggested there could be a need for a Risk Management portfolio. The NSW branch has since examined this suggestion closely and found that the possible parameters include many areas which are of current concern to the branch. Furthermore a number of members with a keen interest and or expertise in these areas have been identified and are prepared to become more involved.



*Gary Stutsel -  
Director of Membership Development*

As NSW delegate and Director of Membership Development I would see NSW as making a greater contribution to the development of our organisation if this new portfolio is introduced and awarded to the NSW Branch. As defined some years ago the Membership Development role is marketing to our existing members and so may be included in the Marketing portfolio if the Board agrees.

Meantime each branch needs to review the following membership statistics and see how its trends fit with its ongoing development plan.

Gender Distribution for 1998:

Branch	Male	Female	Total	Clubs
QLD	902	1107	2009	57
NSW	836	718	1554	42
WA	655	764	1419	32
VIC	692	668	1360	39
SA	343	321	664	10
TAS	171	167	338	9
NT	61	97	158	3
ACT	68	71	139	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3728</b>	<b>3913</b>	<b>7641</b>	<b>195</b>

Registrations for the past five years are as follows:-

Branch	1994	1995	1996*	1997	1998
QLD	1931	1932	2141	1873	2009
NSW	1486	1600	1685	1627	1554
WA	1367	1377	1418	1290	1419
VIC	1326	1400	1437	1371	1360
SA	665	656	616	611	664
TAS	331	365	368	343	338
NT	144	115	142	114	158
ACT	86	89	97	122	139
<b>Totals</b>	<b>7336</b>	<b>7534</b>	<b>7904</b>	<b>7351</b>	<b>7641</b>

\*1996 was a 15 month "year".

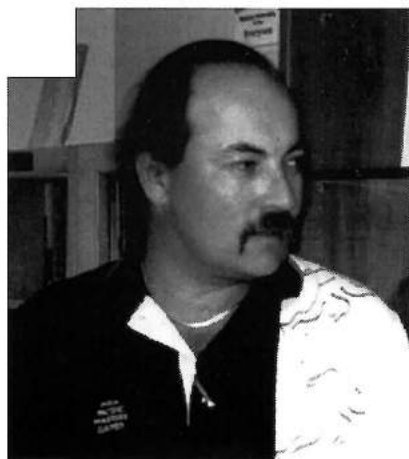
**GARY STUTSEL**  
**DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP**  
**DEVELOPMENT**



## MARKETING

Resulting from the 1997 initiative of sponsorship guidelines for branches and clubs, a number of opportunities arose during 1998 with results yet to be finalised. Potential sponsorship of the aerobics program, sponsorship opportunities from Never to Late, and Centenary of Federation, as well as clubs and branches utilising the aforementioned guidelines for their own ends has been satisfying.

The sponsorship guidelines were released as an inclusion with the club development disk (NSW Branch portfolio) and based on feed back, have been successful.



*David Speechley  
Director of Marketing*

The unification of AUSSI as a single entity for promotion and public image progressed with the agreement of a single logo for used by National and Branches. With the logo nearing the final draft, the next agreed step currently in progress is the production of a range of apparel and merchandise badged with the new logo. Also being planned is the marketing

strategy to go with the release of these items. It is envisaged that a mail order system will be implemented so that all members regardless of locality will be able to purchase from a mail order catalogue or via the AUSSI web site.

The introduction of the new AUSSI website, a common logo, and the increasing professionalism of AUSSI in 1999 will also present further opportunities yet to be investigated for the marketing portfolio.

DAVID SPEECHLEY  
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING

## PROGRAMMES

Another year of Aerobic Recording has passed us by. Congratulations to the winners for 1997.

### AEROBIC TROPHY AWARD

1st Ettalong NSW  
2nd Sunshine Coast Qld  
3rd Somerset WA

### TASSIE AWARD

1st Campbelltown NSW  
2nd Mackay Qld  
3rd Bayswater WA

1995 1996 1997

### Competing Clubs:

ACT	1	1	2
QLD	17	17	21
VIC	9	11	13
SA	3	2	4
NT	3	2	1
TAS	4	4	3
NSW	16	21	20
WA	22	21	21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>85</b>

1995 1996 1997

**Max Point Scorers:**

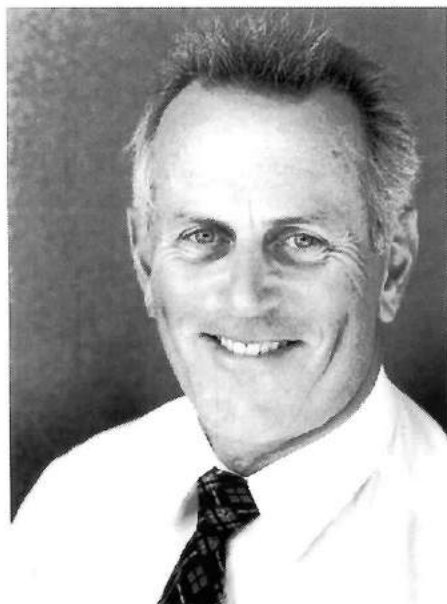
Men	18	18	24
Women	29	23	28

**Completed all swims**

(Not gaining max points)

Men	11	12	18
Women	14	14	14

It can be seen from the above statistics that this event continues to gain popularity.



*David Cummins -  
Director of Programmes*

**POSTAL EVENTS**

Continue to be popular with members. Clubs are planning in advance and seek guidance and assistance in the introduction of new events. It is good to see liaison coming back through the National Executive Director.

**DAVID CUMMINS  
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMES**

**RECORDING**

The existing National records continue to tumble at a rapid rate due to the efforts of our very talented members. New records continue to be set as the membership ages and participates in older and older age groups. To date approximately 339 records have been approved and certificates issued to recipients.

Once again I have pleasure in submitting the names of AUSSI Masters who have achieved FINA Masters World records during 1998.

Penny Bond, 35-39 years of Townsville Masters, QLD (1)

Jenny Whitely, 40-44 years of Ryde AUSSI, NSW (5)

Jen Thommason, 55-59 years of Brisbane Southside, QLD (5)

Ettalong AUSSI, 280-319 Mixed Relay, NSW (1)

As participation in masters swimming increases throughout the world it is more and more difficult to achieve world records and world top ten times. Therefore those who achieved the 407 times in the FINA



*Darryl Hawkes - Director of Recording*

Masters Top Ten 1997 listing should be applauded for their wonderful achievement. Congratulations to you all. Our National Top Ten results continue to grow in size, there were many outstanding results by individuals and clubs establishing many "best ever" times. It would be remiss not to mention the considerable time and effort by the branch recorders who enter the huge number of swim times, approximately 40,000 being submitted for this competition. Members when viewing the results should be appreciative of their efforts.

DARRYL HAWKES  
DIRECTOR OF RECORDING

## NATIONAL SWIM MEET POLICY

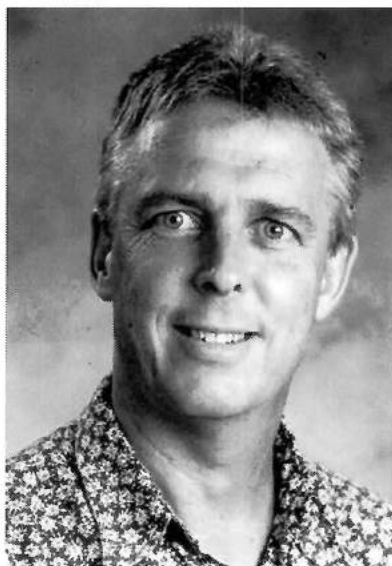
1998 was a year of consolidation for this portfolio. The new Swim Meet Guide was printed and distributed and the National Safety Policy was upgraded. The AUSSI Medical Advisory Panel continued its responsive role, and AUSSI National Swims continued to be successful.

The 1998 National Swim was held in Hobart and by all measures was a great success. Like the Northern Territory, Tasmania has a small but enthusiastic band of workers who pulled off a major coup in venue, entertainment, swim meet conduct and finances. Their liaison with this portfolio was excellent.

The 1999 National Swim, to be held in Darwin, has been well-coordinated by the Convenor, Mr John Pollock, and promises to be at least as popular and successful as the previous Darwin National Swim in 1993.

As we look forward to the new millennium, and the Year 2000 National swim in

Gladstone, Queensland, which already is shaping up to be a very special swim meet, backed by the energy and considerable resources of the Queensland branch.



*Ted Giblin -  
Director for Swim Meet Policy*

The new Swim Meet Guide, rewritten in 1998, is now distributed to all Branches and is available for the running of swim meets at all levels for clubs throughout Australia. It is to be revised regularly, as suggestions are received. Our Pool Specifications Guide continues to have a rather long gestation, but will surface during 1999.

The National Safety Policy has been revised and distributed to all Branches. This important document is a necessary part of the organisation of swimming, from club training to international competition level.

The AUSSI Medical Advisory Panel met in 1998 at the annual National Conference of Science and Medicine in Sport, in

Adelaide in October and a report on that meeting has gone to all branches.

TED GIBLIN  
DIRECTOR FOR SWIM MEET POLICY

## TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

The year has progressed smoothly with more accreditations and there are now 33 AUSSI referees with the greatest number being in Queensland.

Branches have continued to conduct courses for all officials and there are now over 600 accredited officials throughout Australia. This year distinctive black and white badges were issued to all qualified Referees and as others qualify they too receive ID badges.

The Technical Committee made a number of recommendations regarding changes to the rules of swimming and these are to be published in the latest edition of the rules. The rules are also available for all to read on the AUSSI website. This website will also make communication regarding the rules more accessible to the wider AUSSI community.

As you are aware, the Officials Courses of AUSSI Masters Swimming were recognised and accredited with NOAS in 1995 and each year an official is chosen as Official of the Year. Our congratulations go to Ivan Wingate who with two very notable jobs in 1998 as Chief Referee for both the 23rd National Swim in Hobart and World Masters Swim in Casablanca was chosen as the 1998 Official of the Year for AUSSI Masters Swimming. On recommendation, Dr Kay Cox and Gary Hoff (both from WA) were selected as FINA Masters Officials for a further three years.

Our organisation has come a long way



*Pauline Samson -  
Director of Technical Development*

since 1994 in becoming independent in conducting swim meets with our own officials and people in the Branches are to be congratulated for their participation and their willingness to undertake courses and to be more involved on the pool deck.

PAULINE SAMSON  
DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL  
DEVELOPMENT



*NED, Ivan Wingate and Pauline  
Samson Hobart National Swim  
Convenor, in "duet" at the  
Presentation Dinner*

## COMMUNICATIONS

The National Newsletter seems to be developing well. I have received lots of positive comments from Board Members, Branches, Clubs and swimmers. I hope for your continued support and feedback as we take the newsletter into the new millennium.

I perceive the newsletter as an opportunity for AUSSI members, at any level, to exchange ideas and ask questions rather than having each Branch/Club/swimmer reinventing (or using the same faulty) wheel. Therefore I value very much the letters to the Editor and hope to receive more of them in 1999.

My goals for 1999 include being as up-to-date as possible with Branch news. I would strongly encourage all Branch Secretaries/Administrators and Newsletter Editors to make sure I am receiving their information. I will also focus on helping Clubs to develop or improve their Club Newsletter. Hopefully the National Recording Folio will be up and running in the New Year so we will soon see how effective this method of communication is.

Thanks, as always, to Ivan and Sue for their unwavering support and stimulation. They always make me feel that I'm handing over 'the baby' to someone who really cares.

JODI-ANN BEARD  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS



*Meet Director, John Pugh  
(standing on pool edge) giving a  
"signal" to start the next heat at the  
Hobart National Swim*

## PLANNING

Strategic planning proved a more difficult task than originally expected for AUSSI in the 1996-1998 planning period, largely because planning is easy in some portfolios whereas others are more concerned with the maintenance of the existing infrastructure. In spite of these problems much was achieved over the three year period.

In 1999 AUSSI enters a new five year planning period and a strategic plan to cover this has been developed by the National President. The plan covers the portfolio responsibilities of the National Board and will be printed and distributed to all AUSSI clubs throughout Australia.

To make the plan a reality, specific strategies to achieve needs to be prepared by each portfolio. It is in the implementation of these strategies that the real advances for AUSSI will be achieved. As at 31 December 1998 only a few portfolio directors had responded to the request made at the mid year Board Meeting in October that these strategies be made available.



*Jean Heath - Director of Planning*

## **COMPUTER COMMITTEE**

Computer applications have been developed within AUSSI in response to perceived demands. It has long been recognised that there is a range of issues that need to be resolved. A meeting of the Computer Committee will be held prior to the next meeting of the National Board to discuss computing issues.

JEAN HEATH  
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

## **QUEENSLAND BRANCH**

Queensland Branch has continued to expand at a rapid rate with a nett increase of 7 clubs to a total of sixty affiliated clubs. Membership, for a second time topped the 2,000 mark with the first time being in 1995/6, with a 15 month financial year. Hopes are high that in 1999 the 2,200 mark will be reached, especially as another five clubs are in the process of affiliating.

Regional forum meetings with the National Delegate and the Branch President were held in Cairns, Townsville,

Gladstone and Brisbane. Financially supported by AUSSI Nationally, these meetings have now become a vital strategy in maintaining open communication lines between National, Branch, Clubs and members.

In a Branch the size of Queensland where our most southern club is 2,200 kilometres away from our most northern club, it was rare to even meet a lot of our distant members. The Branch Management Committee, with representation from across the Branch is also faced with tyranny of distance. To overcome this, face to face meetings are held twice each year over two days, with another eight, three to four hour teleconferences conducted throughout the year.

The Annual General Meeting saw President Jackie Walkington step down after a three year term during which the Branch employed its' first administrator, membership grew at a rapid rate and a permanent office base was established.

Major highlights this year were the best ever attended State Swim hosted by Sunshine Coast Masters in May, followed by a dedicated band of Branch volunteers organising the Konica Swim Meet at the ASPAC Masters Games with 552 competitors.

As a result of our involvement with Konica, a major sponsorship agreement was negotiated resulting in a \$24,000 upgrade in office equipment. We are grateful to Konica for the plain paper fax and the high speed digital collating print/copier/scanner which will enable Queensland to produce all its own print jobs in house resulting in a fast reliable turn around of all our newsletters, records, certificates etc.



The close of 1998 saw the Branch renew the services of it's Branch Administrator, and National Delegate, David Speechley. Resulting from this, the branch will shortly have a vehicle on the road badged with the AUSSI logo as an additional means of promoting branch activities around Queensland.

DAVID SPEECHLEY  
BRANCH ADMINISTRATOR

BOB EVANS  
BRANCH PRESIDENT



*Kay Cox with 1997 National Coach of the year, Rod Porteous of Gladstone, Qld.*

## NSW BRANCH

### 1. MEMBERSHIP

Membership for the 12 months of 1998 totalled 1554 consisting of 1192 reregistrations, 20 short of 1211 in 1997. But with regard to new members we were well short of the 1997 total of 415 with 362 new members. We attribute this to the fact that the Nationals held in 1997 brought a record number of new members. The year ended with 44 affiliated clubs and a further five in the first stage of forming to start up officially on Jan 1 1999. They are Hornsby, Jindabyne, Northern Beaches, Seaside Pirates and Wagga Crows. Our large clubs have continued to thrive with numbers reaching 135 in Warringah, which has split into smaller clubs and will probably not reach such high figures for a while. Four other clubs number over 100 members being Ettalong, Manly, North Sydney and Werrington. Smaller clubs, especially in areas distant from Sydney, have very few members. In terms of demographics, the vast areas of Western and SW Sydney stand out as under-represented in our membership plus the North and the South West regions of NSW.

Gary Stutsel, the National Director of Membership Development, is developing a regional structure in NSW along the same lines as the Department of Sport and Recreation with the view to forming Developmental committees and boost the memberships in these under represented areas. This is to be done by sharing of ideas from the successful areas. For example the Hunter region, particularly Coalfields club, have a high growth figure and Gary travelled to the Hunter region to hold a Forum for country

members.

## 2. MAJOR CARNIVALS

In 1998 the situations with the State Championships were reversed and the State Long Course Championships were held at a country venue - Mingara Leisure Centre on the Central Coast in April and the Short Course in Sydney City at University of NSW in October.

The NSW Open Water Swim was held at Manly Dam on February 15 for a 1km or 3km swim. The Long Course Championships, with 393 entries, was won by Manly, followed by Warringah and Ettalong.

The winning club of the Short Course at Uni NSW was also Manly and again second Warringah Masters with North Sydney third this time. Ettalong Pelicans Inc. won the top Scoring Country Club at



*Di Coxon-Ellis -  
Secretary/Administrator*

both. The meet attracted an entry of 341. Records broken at the Short Course include 1 World, National and State.

Col Lynch was the Meet Director for both meets and led a team of qualified Masters officials.

## 3. OTHER MEETS

Casablanca saw swimmers enjoying the joys and difficulties of overseas competition and benefiting greatly from the experience. NSW's nine medal winners brought back a swag of 29 medals.

A contingent of 116 travelled to the Hobart Nationals in March.

In NSW, there were 19 interclub carnivals plus 3 long distance meets. Our members also competed in two ACT carnivals. The Pelican Pointscore, our interclub competition, was divided into three divisions this year. Division winners were Div 1 - Warringah; Div 2 - Coalfields and Div 3 - Novocastrian.

Our thanks to Dr David Pullen the State Medical officer and his team, Dr Kurt Singer and Dr Russell Spinks for their expert care at all meets.

Masters Swimming NSW Charity Swimathon at SIAS on September 26 raised money for ConnecteD - the children with Connective Tissue disorders. Bandaged Bear made an appearance plus Richard Wilkins called the relay including John Konrads and Peter Gilmour & Jenny Whiteley - Masters World Record Holders.

## 4. RECORDING

- Computer recording

Brett Larkin has attended most carnivals and produced the Top Ten listings on disk for the National Recorder.

- Records

Harry Schofield has been kept very busy with records by NSW swimmers, especially Jenny Whiteley from Ryde who broke an astounding 51 World, National and State Records.

- **Aerobics**

Helen Rubin has continued her hard work in this area. At the conclusion of 1998 Helen has again issued the aerobic recording software to interested clubs to facilitate in the production of results.

## **5. COACHING AND TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT**

One Level 1M Coaching Accreditation theory course was conducted in July at Sydney University Aquatic Centre coordinated by Opal Eddy and Jamie Cole. The Course attracted 8 candidates plus another 2 undertaking the Supplementary course. The Practical segment and Stroke Clinic was conducted at Nowra in early August, coordinated by Kathy Johnson.

The NSW video Camera has been utilised for taping Course lectures, and a few coaches have availed themselves of the opportunity to use it for their squads.

Marilyn Earp took on the task of CPR Registrar and conducts regular courses to keep coaches, official and all interested AUSSI members up to date.

NSW Technical Committee headed by Jack McMahon, and consisting of Gary Stutsel, Opal Eddy, John Kulhan meets regularly to discuss rules and suggest changes.

Branch Safety Officer, Dianne Lewis, has been appointed in late 1998 and a Warm up Safety procedure and signs have been developed and put in place for all carnivals.

Timekeeper's courses were held at Trinity club in January, Wett Ones Club in February, Blacktown in May, Port Macquarie in July and Western Suburbs in December. Marshals Course Port Macquarie in June.

## **6. NEWSLETTER**

Jane Noake edited the NSW "Splash" magazine and is constantly seeking Photo opportunities and looking for ways to improve the newsletter. Jane produced four excellent editions of SPLASH during 1998.

## **7. ADMINISTRATION**

The final item of this report will reflect the major change in Masters Swimming NSW. In June the application for accommodation at Sports House with the NSW Department of Sport & Recreation was granted. The Branch has been administered from an office at Cronulla for over ten years. The Secretary, Beryl Stenhouse, took the opportunity to retire and the position was advertised. Having been chosen for the position, I was fortunate to have the considerable assistance from Beryl in handing over the reins and still call on her font of knowledge of all matters AUSSI.

Beryl was granted Life Membership of AUSSI NSW and won the Sports Administrators Quarterly Awards with Australian Society of Sports Administrators (ASSA).

The current accommodation is rent-free, free Internet access and many other advantages including the proximity to major sporting groups and the resultant networking that can take place.

Our Management Committee meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at Sports House.

## **9. GRANTS**

In 1998 Masters Swimming NSW was invited to apply separately for the Sports Development Grant - not simply as an affiliate of NSW Swimming Inc. This involved considerable time in finalising a Business Plan and more in developing

policies in Anti Discrimination, Gender Equity, and Drugs in Sport etc. Progress Reports must be submitted and administrative hours have increased considerably.

Our Vice President and Director of Marketing was successful in gaining a "Never Too Late" Grant from the Department of Veteran Affairs and the Sports Commission. This is to develop a Pilot scheme for a daytime programme for Veteran using the concept that it is "Never Too Late" to Master Swimming. The pilot scheme is progressing well after a setback due to the early election.

In conclusion, Beryl and I would like to thank the hard working members of the NSW Management Committee for their contribution and untiring efforts in 1998. With President, Steve Lamy at the helm for one more year the Committee were continually looking forward. Treasurer, Don Reid, has been on a learning curve after taking over from Melita Sutton this year. Don is fortunately willing to continue in this role. 1999 will see the appointment of an Ordinary Member to replace Beryl and a revision of our Constitution to align with contemporary issues.

**BERYL STENHOUSE**  
SECRETARY to August 1998

**DI COXON-ELLIS**  
SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR  
from September 1998

## **VICTORIAN BRANCH**

### **STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The Victorian Branch has conducted two very successful State Championship meets in 1998. Numbers were a little down on last year but this has been the case at all Interclub Meets this year. We

are investigating the reasons why this has occurred.

### **COACHING**

Melbourne hosted the National ASCTA Conference in May and so we were able to assist Dr Kay Cox to develop a dynamic Masters component. Kay visited us once again in November to attend the National Coaching Directors workshop which Grant Watson attended on behalf of AUSSI Victoria. We successfully delivered a Level 1M course (16 candidates) and a full-day Stroke Clinic for 18 swimmers despite the absence of our Director of Coaching.

### **OFFICIALS**

Both the Long Course and Short Course State Championships were run almost entirely with AUSSI officials. This is a credit to our Technical Officer, Alan Davis. Alan has been tirelessly running accreditation workshops at both metropolitan and country venues for many years and the benefit of his work is now evident. We have nominated Alan as AUSSI Technical Official of the Year. Alan has been ably supported by Kate Greenway (Branch Recorder) and John Turley (Branch Registrar) in the Recording Room, another pair who work tirelessly for the benefit of the Branch.

### **GOAL SETTING**

The Branch Committee is hoping to come together early in the New Year for a goal setting seminar. Our five year plan is due to be renewed in 2000 so we are now in a position to assess our achievements and identify new goals for the future.

**JODI-ANN BEARD**  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

# **WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BRANCH**

## **NUMBERS**

A ten per cent increase in membership over our 1997 figures has provided Western Australia with its highest ever membership of 1419 members - exceeding even the 1996 figures which covered a 15 month period.

This has been achieved by the highest ever number of Clubs affiliated with AUSSI (WA) - 8 country clubs and 24 metropolitan clubs making a total of 32. We welcomed 3 new country clubs at Margaret River, Wickham and Broome this year, but sadly lost our Exmouth Club.

## **ACTIVITIES**

The World Swimming Championships saw many AUSSI members providing expert volunteer support for this event.

This year saw the implementation of a new calendar of events for AUSSI which has been well supported:

- the State Open Water Swim was hosted by the Melville Club at Leighton Beach on Monday 2 March, a Public Holiday.

- the State Swim was conducted at Challenge Stadium on 28/29 March

- A State Relays Swim was hosted by the Claremont Club at Challenge Stadium on 18 October

- arrangements for inter club meets have been formalised with a more coordinated approach, with Clubs invited to nominate dates on which they wish to host events and then provided with the opportunity to nominate from the calendar those events in which they wish to compete. Ten events were conducted leading to the club Challenge Finals on 7/8 November with Clubs competing in one of 4 Finals,

determined by their points scored during the Club Challenge meets in which they competed.

- country clubs were able to participate in club Challenge meets on a postal basis with the Bunbury Club taking advantage of this opportunity.

- 400/800/1500 metre swims were decentralised at an inter club level.

Branch State Swim Meet Director Julian Keys has been responsible for the management of these events.

A number of Clubs celebrated 20th 'birthdays' during the year and have enjoyed events such as dinners and picnics to mark the occasion.

AUSSI (WA) have joined with the Western Australian Swimming Association to conduct the Jardines 1998/99 Open Water Swim Challenge based on events in the AUSSI Open Water Swim Calendar.

Representatives from Clubs joined with members of the Branch Executive Committee to meet with National President Glenys McDonald for an informative chat on 16 April.

The 1999 Pan Pacific Masters Swimming Championships organisation structure was established and the Organising Committee meet regularly to ensure that this event is successfully conducted. Promotional brochures were distributed at the World Masters Swimming Championships in Casablanca and also at the Honda Masters Games in Alice Springs, attracting expressions of interest from around the world and throughout Australia.

## **COACHING/TECHNICAL**

Marking of papers and monitoring of practical coaching requirements for the Level 1M Coaching Course conducted in 1997 continued into 1998 for Fitness and



Education Director Kay Cox, who also conducted a Level 2M Coaching Accreditation Course from 23 September to 11 November this year. Kay received a Coaching Foundation of Western Australia scholarship which enabled her to attend the National Coaches Conference in Melbourne during November.

Branch Technical Officer Peter Maloney was only appointed in June but has been busy identifying relevant issues for the portfolio and organising the conduct of courses for Timekeepers, Starters and Referees.

State Coach Sue Pow has visited several Clubs and Branch Recorder Maxine Fitzpatrick, who was appointed in April, has been very busy managing Records, Top Ten and Aerobics with the establishment of new Short course Records an additional task. A new notebook computer was purchased by the Branch to assist Maxine in managing these records, and the assistance of Geoff Upton and National Recorder Darryl Hawkes has been invaluable.

## **PROMOTION**

Branch Publicity Officer Janet Sutherland also joined the Executive Committee in April and brought with her special publishing skills as well as her public relations and marketing expertise. The Branch Newsletter – 'Different Strokes' has been rejuvenated and the AUSSI Open Water Swim Calendar was the most professional publication to date. Janet has been involved in providing assistance to Clubs which are being adversely affected by changes to Swimming Pool managements and cost structures, as well as contributing as a member of the 1999 Pan Pacific Masters Swimming Championships Organising

Committee.

The AUSSI Open Water Swim Calendar and the AUSSI Swim Meet Calendar for 1999 have each attracted sponsorship from different swim wear manufacturers.

## **PLANNING**

As 1998 was the final year of the AUSSI 3 year Development Plan a process was designed to develop a Business Plan for AUSSI (WA) early in 1999. This has involved consultation with Club representatives at several meetings, preparation of various papers outlining issues and reporting back to Clubs, and a lot of discussion at regular and special Branch Executive Committee meetings. President Bob Dunstan has managed this process in consultation with Julian Keys who has experience and expertise in this area.

Several Clubs received grants from the Ministry for Sport and Recreation through the Sports Club Development Scheme and the Branch received a grant to support the employment of the Administrative Officer and other projects.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

The Administrative Officer has operated throughout 1998 from the Multi Sports Office which accommodates the Multi Sports Secretariat which AUSSI (WA) has applied to join. As the indications are that this application will not be accepted on a basis suitable to AUSSI (WA), a committee is being established to consider all options for the location of the AUSSI (WA) office. We have maintained a storeroom at Challenge Stadium and Executive Committee meetings are conducted in the Meeting Room at Challenge Stadium. Council of Clubs Meetings have been held in the Executive Suite at Challenge Stadium and also at



the Meeting Room, Royal Life Saving Society, along with several other meetings.

The beginning of 1998 was very busy arranging for Top Ten and Aerobic recording as this had not been arranged by the person responsible. A special effort from former Branch Recorder Noelle James with helpers, and Lynn and David Cummins saw us over the crisis. Clubs have received 24 mail outs from the Branch during this year and the rare complaint of 'too much information' has been expressed by some Clubs.

Filling the 3 positions left vacant after the Annual General Meeting was an important step as there is a huge amount of work to be done by each Executive Committee member without being called on to cover responsibilities of positions left vacant.

### **APPRECIATION**

It has been a busy, but successful, year for AUSSI (WA) and we look forward to the continued support of Clubs, members and the many external organisations whose support is essential for the continued development of AUSSI. Thanks again to our National Executive Director Ivan Wingate and his assistant Sue in the National Office who have provided valuable advice and support in addition to the normal services provided by them.

**BOB DUNSTAN**  
**PRESIDENT**



*WA Branch Executive Committee  
Members 1998*

*Front Row: L to R Peter Maloney,  
Kay Cox, Bob Dunstan, Penny Green,  
Sue Pow*

*Back Row: L to R Malcolm Stokes, Bill  
Mortimer, Janet Sutherland,  
David Cummins*

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BRANCH**

How time flies when you are having fun. I have been in the job seven months now and I must admit I am really enjoying the position of Branch Secretary and of course I am still learning something new about AUSSI every day. My brief attendance at the Mid-Year Board Meeting was of great benefit to me, giving insight into the size and professionalism of the Organisation.

We are a relatively new Branch Committee this year and it is pleasing to see a group of people united in commitment and also relating to each other so well. The Committee is headed by our very affable President, Andy Wills who comes to the Council with a wealth of knowledge after being instrumental in establishing the Henley & Grange AUSSI Club. Andy is supported by Jenny Bradley a great personality who has worked hard for AUSSI for many years.

We are also very fortunate and appreciative of Darryl Hawkes, our National Recorder and Delegate to the

Board. He has kept us on track with matters of importance and is happy to share his knowledge and expertise with those of us new to the Organisation.

The Branch finances are in very good shape thanks to Sue Hearnden who has taken over as Treasurer.

The Branch was once again successful in gaining financial support from Living Health (Office for Recreation and Sport). We appreciate their continued support and endeavour to fulfil our responsibilities towards this sponsorship.

John Double our Public Relations Officer is still doing a wonderful job and he is excelling with his Newsletter. We thank him for all his hard work with these and many promotional displays and his general 'public relating', that he does so well.

Dieter Loeliger, our Coaching Director initiated some very good coaching workshops, with expert coaches, for our Members this year. All were a success and very well attended. He has also been named Male Swimmer of the Year for his excellent swimming prowess.

It is always a difficulty to encourage people to help in an official capacity and time constraints make it difficult for some to commit themselves to undertake the Officials Courses. Jenny Mulqueen, our Volunteer Co-ordinator, is always on the lookout for new recruits. During this year she has organised information sessions for prospective officials, having one person fully qualified and others nearing completion.

Our Safety Officer, Vicki Hodgson has managed to have all Coaches and many others trained in Asthma First Aid Management this year, making sure Asthma Kits are at all AUSSI sites during training.

The Branch social functions were successful and very well attended, thanks to the enthusiasm, organisation and general good humour of David McPherson.

Our appreciation goes to Bill Edwards for his recording of the Top Ten results and especially Tim Calver for his great minute taking skills.

The open water swims were enjoyed by both swimmers and the many spectators. The beginning of the Summer season started off really well, with more swims being added to the annual OWS programme. This year seven South Australian Members, encouraged by our OWS Director Craig Jones, took part in the Rottnest Island Challenge. All said it was an experience not to be missed.

The Interclub Meets were very exciting this year. There was quite a turn around in support for these events, with the number of participants dramatically increased. I believe this was mainly due to the friendly competition between Atlantis and Adelaide Masters Clubs. After reigning as Top Club for so long, Adelaide Masters were in danger of losing their place to Atlantis, so they staged a magnificent turnaround and 'fight back' campaign. This enabled Adelaide Masters to win by a narrow margin.

The smooth and efficient running of the pool functions is attributed to the efforts of Phil Beames the Swim Meet Director and Leanne Beames our Recorder. They are a great husband and wife team.

The Aerobic Swim Trophy 1997 was won by Atlantis AUSSI but a great effort was displayed by Aquadome Otters, coming fourth with only twenty three members in the Club.

One of the biggest challenges we face is

to increase and maintain club membership. I believe promotion of "Fun, Fitness and Friendship" is our best method of achieving this. Membership numbers are very encouraging this year at 664 compared to 611 last year and we have increased from eight to ten registered AUSSI Clubs. Within the last few months we have seen the affiliation of two new AUSSI Clubs, Payneham Swimming Club and Le Fevre Portside ASC. This has boosted our membership numbers and kept our Registrar, Sue Harris busy.

There was very good participation in Overseas and Interstate swim meets this year. South Australian Members swam in the AUSSI National Swim, Hobart, Tasmania and the Asia Pacific Masters Games Swimming held on the Gold Coast, Queensland.

We had South Australian AUSSI Members take part in the FINA World Masters Swimming Championships in Casablanca and medals brought home by Pauline Wingate and Margaret Armstrong. One of our Members, Mary Folland, travelled to the World Masters Games Swimming in Portland, Oregon, USA.

There was also a large contingent of South Australians at the Honda Masters Games, The 'Friendly Games' in Alice Springs. All had fun and brought home numerous medals.

We are all very pleased and proud of our own Ivan Wingate, who was selected as the AUSSI Official of the Year. His hard work over the years, and his obvious love of and dedication to AUSSI makes him a worthy recipient. I also thank Ivan and Sue for their continuous support and encouragement throughout the year from the National Office.

This has been a great year for AUSSI SA and we are all full of enthusiasm for 1999. One of the highlights for the South Australian Branch will be to host the swimming section of the Australian Masters Games in 1999. We are looking forward to seeing many interstate AUSSI Members participate in this prestigious event.

Thanks go to our Members, and especially the many supporters, partners and families of AUSSI Members, who all contribute to make the South Australian Branch so successful.

ANITA MACDONALD  
SECRETARY

## **TASMANIAN BRANCH**

In my report last year I concluded that our Association was meeting the purpose and goals of Masters Swimming in its widest sense. I am pleased to report that we have continued to do so again this past year, albeit to a relatively small body of adult swimmers. However, I also reported on some ongoing challenges which we face. These were to increase our membership, ensure the progress of 8 coaches through their Level 2 accreditation, market masters swimming in the state and elsewhere through the Web site and host the National Championships in Hobart. I will comment on how we have addressed each of these challenges amongst other matters.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

At the beginning of the year we had two new clubs developing in Hobart and a magnificent new facility in the Hobart Aquatic Centre and we expected that these would contribute to membership numbers, at least in the south of the



*John Pugh - President*

state. This increase did not materialise and, at 338, total registrations actually decreased by 5 compared with the previous year.

An analysis of the registrations by geographical area and by clubs is interesting. It shows that the proportion of members from the North of the state increased slightly at the expense of the South. It also shows that more than 75% of total registrations are still with the 4 old established clubs, two in the north and two in the South. So the expectation that a new world class pool and new clubs would bring forth new members did not materialise.

What the statistics do not show is another limiting factor which emerged during the year. This is the difficulty the newer and smaller clubs have in finding people to administer and manage their activities. Given that a club of any size needs a minimum of about six committee members to run it effectively, the 9 Tasmanian clubs require 54 unpaid volunteers to take on committee jobs. This is 16% of total state membership and 30% of the membership of the 5

small clubs. This is not simply a Tasmanian problem as the National President identified this factor as a 'threat' in the SWOT analysis to achieving national goals in her annual report at the National AGM in Hobart.

In case this analysis seems gloomy, we must always consider the possibility that we are catering very well for a niche market and should, perhaps, devote energy to doing this even better.

## **COACHING**

Coaching activity has been fairly quiet this year. The good news is that 2 coaches have nearly finished their Level 2 accreditation and that the other 6 are still progressing, slowly. The not so good news is that all the coaches involved, except one, are from the 4 established clubs.

While there were no new coaching courses put on, our Coaching and Education officer has kept busy. She has worked to complete her own Level 2 accreditation, has kept a watchful eye on her colleagues progress and also attended the annual ASCTA conference. An outcome of the latter was the organisation of a set of coaching clinics by Judy bonning from the Forbes Carlisle Swim School. Judy's experience and excellent technical and inter-personal skills were greatly appreciated by all participants.

## **INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS**

The usual three meets were held, one in Hobart and two in Launceston. The long distance summer championships were hosted by the Hobart Masters club at the end of January. The meet was the first to be held in the new aquatic centre and it was treated as a dress rehearsal for the National meet in March. The short course

long distance meet and the winter short course championships were both held in Launceston in May and August respectively.

The organisation by the host clubs was efficient and effective and the swimming and social activities were well supported. The recorder has reported that 215 new state records were broken and/or established and 24 national records achieved. Seven swimmers were also ranked in the FINA World Top Ten for 1997 in their respective age groups.

### **NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Our preoccupation for the first ten weeks of the year was preparing for the National meet in the new aquatic centre in Hobart. We planned for 350 competitors and 435 actually entered. We coped easily with the extra numbers and local and visiting officials made sure that the meet proceeded smoothly. It was opened by the Governor Sir Guy Green and received good publicity in the local press.

The pool was adjudged 'fast' by competitors and some excellent times were achieved. The social events were also well attended. Our Branch and National were pleased with the financial outcome.

### **WORLD MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS IN CASABLANCA**

Five swimmers, four from Launceston AUSSI and one from Hobart AUSSI, travelled to Morocco in June for the world meet. Although there were some organisational problems behind the scenes these were not apparent at the poolside and the events kept to time.

The open water swim in the Atlantic ocean was different and generally a lonely experience. Small red marker buoys are not easily seen by elderly swimmers

without their spectacles and through misted goggles in a light swell! Fortunately, all the starters go back eventually.

The Tassie contingent performed well and returned with one gold, two silver and a swag of bronze medals.

### **OTHER MATTERS**

The branch held five management meetings as well as its Annual General Meeting. All the portfolio holders carried out their jobs with efficiency and goodwill which has become a feature of the administration of masters swimming at this level.

Clubs were kept informed of matters affecting them and their regular reports to the management committee showed that activities at club level were on course. There is still a perceived 'problem' of distance which inhibits some clubs delegates from attending branch meetings but these are being addressed. Our own Web site will soon be completed and will strengthen links with the wider community of adult swimmers.

Our first meeting of club presidents was held in the latter half of the year. Only 3 or the 9 club presidents turned up but there was a useful discussion about common problems and issues and the different strategies these clubs were taking to address them. We will make this meeting a permanent feature of the meetings calendar.

### **NEW CONSTITUTION**

The branch adopted a new and more appropriate constitution at its AGM in January. One of its stipulation's is that the president and secretary should not hold office for more than 4 years consecutively. This means that I have effectively voted myself out of office.



However, on reflection it is an appropriate time to step down.

Over the past five years we have twice been through a strategic planning process. We have clear goals, good administrative procedures, a sound budgeting process and clearly defined specialist portfolios held by experienced people. We are also in a very strong financial position. As well, we have shown that we can manage a national championship.

There are still ongoing challenges but we are in a good position to tackle them. I thank all of my fellow committee members for their support and trust that they will give my successor the same loyalty and help.

JOHN PUGH  
PRESIDENT

## **ACT BRANCH**

The last year has seen a number of changes for AUSSI Masters, not so much the Branch administration itself, but more so the activities of the clubs. Canberra North moved all training nights to Civic Olympic Pool and the establishment of a new club - Kippax. These changes have seen membership and participation grow for various reasons, undoubtedly the Australian Masters Games event in the previous year was one of them.

Of course the yearly events were held such as the ACT Championships, ACT Long Distance Carnival and Interclubs with a few extras including Active Australia Games and an Interclub relay event courtesy of Tuggeranong Vikings. These meets were very successful...particularly the ones in which David Mortlock handed out a bottle of wine to the lucky swimmer

of each event.

Over the last year there has been much discussion in Branch Meetings and certainly even within the clubs themselves about how ACT AUSSI Masters can provide a better service to its members. Some very good ideas and initiatives have come about from these discussions which has resulted in the Branch providing funding to the clubs to enable them to run their various activities. Some of the activities involved applying for grants, purchasing new equipment, plans for future workshops, etc. For the next year we hope to be more accessible by members (current and potentially new ones) via the internet - electronic email and an ACT AUSSI Web page.

It is well realised that the above sort of initiatives become possible when all members can participate in the decision making process and not just the committee. It is no secret that we do find it difficult to fill positions at the Branch level. Particularly when the Branch is as small as that of the ACT. I, myself, am resigning from the Secretary's position but will still participate at the Branch level administration in some way by taking on the responsibility of "Web Master"

This year Canberra North has lost one of their finest coaches, Robyn Russell, who is moving to Townsville and the Branch has spent most of the year without a newsletter editor. David Mortlock has graciously taken on the role of TIDAL Editor for the Branch. A 2nd coach for Canberra North is yet to be filled. So to all those AUSSI swimmers out there the Branch and indeed the clubs, seek your continuing support and contribution.

With this thought in mind I would like to express special thanks to David and Jill





*Miri Robinson - Branch Secretary*

Mortlock, and Jean Heath who, again, have expended enormous amount of their time and effort towards the operations of ACT AUSSI Masters.

MIRI ROBINSON  
ACT BRANCH SECRETARY

## **NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH**

1998 has been a stable year, with the NT increasing its membership numbers and maintaining its commitment to the aerobic programme, and with many swimmers travelling to compete interstate and overseas.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Branch membership now stands at 158, an increase on 1997's figure of 122. The job for NT Branch is to raise membership numbers, particularly leading into the 1999 AUSSI National Swim in Darwin in May. The possibility of starting new clubs has always been there, but is yet to come to fruition. Enquiries have come

from Palmerston, Groote Eylandt, Katherine, Humpty Doo and Jabiru.

Within the Branch, club membership stands at 64 (Darwin Stingers), 58 (Alice AUSSI) and 36 (Arnhem Salties).

### **RESULTS**

Despite our size, the NT Branch has been active and successful in achieving results in the competitive arena. In the national aerobic trophy, Darwin achieved 11th overall, and 9th in the TASSIE Award with an average of 64 points per member.

At the 1998 AUSSI National Swim in Hobart at the new indoor aquatic centre, Darwin Stingers had a team of 15 swimmers, both to compete and to promote next year's swim, and the club came 8th of 77 clubs represented. Some excellent swimming resulted in 31 individual medals and 5 relay medals. There were 32 NT Branch records set and 2 AUSSI national records (Gerda Williams), in individual events, and 6 relay NT records.

Our Branch figures quite well in the National Top Ten for 1997, with several swimmers being placed in the best ten times swum for the year in several events.

At the World Masters Swim at Casablanca, Morocco, 3 Territorians represented us, and achieved creditable results: in particular Bobbie Lea deserves recognition for her gold medal swim in the 4 km Open-Water Swim, and 3 silver medals in other events.

The NT was again represented at the World Masters Games in Portland, Oregon, USA, recently, with 3 swimmers competing.

Bill Trigg won 3 gold medals, finishing just .23 seconds off a Masters world record in one event. Joan Curtain won bronze in the 200m freestyle, and Sally Thomas won gold in the 200m butterfly.

Gerda Williams travelled to Cairns to contest the Short Course Carnival, won swimmer-of-the-meet, and won 6 events, setting 4 AUSSI short course records in the process.

The HONDA Masters Games, is notable for it's friendliness and relaxed atmosphere.

Arnhem Salties club is enjoying a resurgence this year, with increased numbers, a visiting coach from Scotland, and a great idea for recording distance swum in training which when aggregated goes towards a swim around the world. Social nights have the theme of whatever country they have reached.

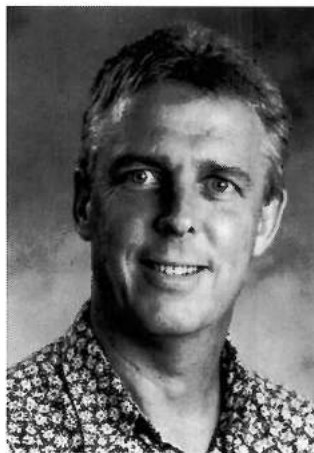
In the future, we have several meets to consider: The most important of these is the AUSSI National Swim in Darwin on 11-15 May 1999, and planning is well under way. The Asia - Pacific Games occurred in October/November, and some members travelled to the Gold Coast for these.

## PORTFOLIO

Our Branch is responsible at national level for the safe conduct of Masters swimming events throughout Australia, and to this end we have re-written the National Swim Meet guide, a Pool Specifications guide, and helped to develop the National Safety Policy. We also convene a Medical Advisory Panel for Masters Swimming Australia. In addition we help coordinate the order of National Swims, and keep progress reports on those swims as they go through their planning stages. Our branch delegate to the National Board also votes on national policy and rule changes twice yearly.

## LOGO

A new AUSSI logo has been



*Ted Giblin - President*

commissioned and is being developed. It is probable that these will appear on medals and certificates for the "99 Nationals.

This year we have seen the addition of several new qualified Level 1 club coaches, but no new level 1/M coaches. We have had many newly-qualified technical officials including timekeepers, starters, marshals and announcers. We have had a satisfying increase in qualified safety personnel, including bronze medallions, CPR and pool lifeguards.

Finally, I thank the hard-working 1998 executive committee for their hard slog under sometimes daunting circumstances. Secretary Joan Curtain, Treasurer Marion Shaw, Registrar and Recorder Geoff Byfield, Fitness and Coaching Director Jacinta Stirrat, and club delegates John Pollock and Ron Hosking. I salute you.

Let's not forget the AUSSI motto is "Fitness, Fun and Friendship", and that only a small percentage of our membership enjoy competing - so let's keep fit, have fun, and enjoy friendship.

**TED GIBLIN**  
**PRESIDENT**

## **NATIONAL TROPHY WINNERS**

<b>FOUNDER'S TROPHY:</b>	<b>HOBART</b>
<b>RUNNERS UP TROPHY:</b>	<b>NORTH LODGE</b>
<b>VISITORS TROPHY:</b>	<b>NORTH LODGE</b>
<b>NATIONAL HEART FOUNDATION AWARD:</b>	<b>JOHN PUGH - LAUNCESTON</b>
<b>SWIMMER OF THE MEET:</b>	
<b>FEMALE:</b>	<b>JEN THOMASSON - BRISBANE SOUTHSIDE</b>
<b>MALE:</b>	<b>DIETER LOELIGER - ADELAIDE MASTERS</b>
<b>RELAY TROPHIES:</b>	
80+	<b>LAUNCESTON</b>
120+	<b>CRONULLA - SUTHERLAND</b>
160+	<b>RYDE</b>
200+	<b>WARRINGAH</b>
240+	<b>DONCASTER</b>
280+	<b>ADELAIDE</b>
<b>AEROBIC TROPHY:</b>	<b>ETTALONG</b>
<b>TASSIE TROPHY:</b>	<b>CAMPBELLTOWN</b>
<b>COACH OF THE YEAR: 1997</b>	<b>ROD PORTEOUS - GLADSTONE</b>
<b>OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR - 1998:</b>	<b>IVAN WINGATE - ATLANTIS</b>

# 7TH FINA WORLD MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS 19-30 JUNE 1998 - CASABLANCA, MOROCCO



*"Our NED (Ivan), arm outstretched signals to the starter  
(Ken Liddy of Queensland) to start the first race"*



*The AUSSI contingent VII World Masters Swimming Championships  
Casablanca, Morocco*



*"Memories of Morocco - the Sahara"*



*Hassan II Mosque and the old Medina - Casablanca*



*Corinne Roberts - our tour guide with  
the "water sellers" - Casablanca*



*National President - Glenys McDonald  
negotiating a deal,  
in Casablanca - Morocco*