



## **Richard Hartley**

1926 -

Years Active: 1977 – 2010

Richard Hartley joined Melville AUSSI in 1977 and then transferred to Carine.

He used his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration to break the then world record for the 800 freestyle LCM by 27 seconds. He would later break the 400 freestyle LCM in a time which was faster than when he swam as a 24 year old in 1950.

Richard never received any coaching and didn't train much either, and spent most of his time on the beach. He started as a junior with the Cottesloe Surf Club.

He achieved his Surf Lifesaving Bronze in 1943 and joined the RAAF in 1944.

Richard's wins in swimming despite his marked lack of coaching and training included silver medals in state championships in the 220, 440 and 880 yards from 1950-1953. He was the fastest and first in the Swim Thru Rockingham in 1950, the Swim Thru Guilford in 1951 and then in 1953 broke the record for the Swim Thu Perth.

Richard played A Grade water polo and won 3 surf titles, including being 3<sup>rd</sup> in the International Olympic Surf Carnival in 1956.

After a break of 14 years and when AUSSI started in WA, he joined masters and was the first swimmer in WA to achieve 1 million metres.

MSWA Records: 31

National Records: 19

World Records: 5