

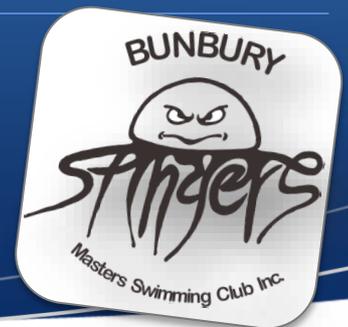
The STINGERS NEWS

Bunbury Masters Swimming Club Inc Newsletter

Fitness, friendship, fun!

In this issue we have photos and the awards presented at the Christmas wind up, and results of the Koombana swim, and other goodies.

Read on for the latest STINGERS news...



Hello Everyone

2021 has nearly finished and what a year it's been.

With our second year of Covid and continuing WA's successful isolation we have had a excellent year in the pool with some great swims by our club members.

Our Christmas Sundowner and Awards night was held on last Sunday 19th with the announcements of a new life member and other awards. Read on to see the winners and lots of photos of attendees.

We also had an intrepid group of open water swimmers take to the water for the summer solstice swim in the nicky. More on that further down.

Bunbury also hosts the Koombana Bay Open water swim in November with a number of our own club members achieving great results.

Read On
Ben

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next meeting	12 th January 11:15am Bunbury Swimming Club Rooms SWSC
AGM	Tentative date of Monday 14 th February
Perth City Just 100s	3rd January
SWA OWS #7	15 th January Coogee
SWA OWS #8	22 nd January Sorrento
MSWA WOW #4	23 rd January Swim Thru Perth



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2021 Awards presented at Christmas function



Vorgee Endurance Award Female
Julie O'Connor



Vorgee Endurance Award Male
Barry Bastow



Coaches' Award - AM Crew
Andy Males



Coaches' Award - PM Crew
Mick Saunders



Champion Male Swimmer of the Year
Steve Povee



Champion Female Swimmer of the Year
Julie O'Connor



Club Overall Champion
Julie O'Connor



**President's Award for Outstanding
Contribution to the Club**
Allan Taylor

Bunbury Stingers announces a new Life Member

The Bunbury Stingers committee have announced that Richard Morris is a new life member for the Club.

Richard has been a club member for many years and has a great involvement in the running of the club. Below are some of Richard's achievements.

- Club Recorder
- Produced club newsletters in the past
- Postal Swim coordinator
- Assisted the Treasurer with electronic banking
- Club Secretary for many many years
- Developed and maintains the club web page.
- Started the "Chin Strap Penguins" What's App group
- Won club person of the year in 2015
- Competes in a lot of open water and pool events



A message from Richard

I'd like to pass on my thanks to everyone in the club after I was honoured with a life membership at the presentations on Sunday evening. To say I was surprised is an understatement. In fact, I was shocked speechless, which is pretty unusual for me. So instead of the stammered thank you I managed after getting my jaw off the floor, this is what I should have said.

I've been involved off and on with the club since its inception back in 1989, and it has always been an unusually friendly and welcoming group. Perhaps it is something about the solitary nature of swimming that means even as members have come and gone, the club has remained very supportive and basically a great group to be around. And as the many others who make the club happen behind the scenes know, because of that, getting things done is no big deal because you are doing it for your friends. I do feel a bit daunted given the years of service provided to the club by the previous life members, Marie, Margaret, Brian, Thelma and Pam, but I guess it is something to live up to.

So a big thank you to all of those who were part of this. Slightly less thanks to the just about everyone else who seem to have known about it in advance and kept it secret from me. Apparently I'm not very observant. And belatedly I understand why Wendy seemed so interested in making sure I looked slightly less scruffy than usual on Sunday.

See you in the water.

Richard Morris

Our current Life Members



Brian Hall, Thelma Sharp, Richard Morris, and Pam Hall.

Marie Harris is one of our founding members and is also a life member. Marie currently lives in Perth.

Margaret Moylett was unable to attend.

2021 Summer Solstice Swim

The Sunday before the Solstice again saw a small band of hardy Stingers brave the waters of Koombana Bay without the protection of their bathers. Gathering at 5.45am, there was much muttering about the 8^o temperature and the fact they were not still in bed.

Regardless, at the appointed hour towels were shed and all dashed the few meters into the water. The water was a balmy 22^o and the mile swim down to the Dolphin Centre and back was completed at a leisurely pace. Upon return however, disaster! Two people were waiting on the end of the jetty and another lady was wandering around the foreshore. Fortunately, after a few tense moments treading water the jetty couple were picked up by a boat and sailed away. The inquisitive woman was then rapidly shoo'ed off to find coffee by our trusty shore patrol and we were free to reclaim our towels and modesty.



Koombana Bay Swim November 2021

Saturday 27th November was the Koombana Bay Open Water Swim. Bunbury Stingers was well represented on the day with the following results.

- 500m Alicia & Lachlan Stifle, Chris Gibbs 1st
- 1.25km Tanya Davey 1st, Brooke McKittrick 3rd, Martin Gadd 2nd, Jan Rigden 3rd, Ron Edwards 4th, Karen Clarke 6th, Nola Rogers 9th
- 2.5km Greg Clarke 7th, Keia Hadden 6th, Mark Panizza 9th, Jeff Berndt 12th, Brendon Bunning 13th, Iain Hensby 18th, Mark Ritchie 20th, Les Fabre 23rd, Ciaran Kelly 3rd
- 5km Jackie Panizza 1st, Andrew Taylor 4th, Natsuno Sasaki 5th, Megan MacDonald 8th
- 10km Courtney Lee 4th, Julie O'Connor 6th, Allan Taylor 9th

Congratulations to everyone.



Christmas Get Together

Sunday 19th December as our Christmas Sun Downer and Awards presentation night.

A great BIG thank you to

- Paul and Alice Stubber for letting us use the Val Anne Community Space
- Alice and Tanya for procuring all the food
- Alice, Tanya and Jill for setting up the venue beforehand
- The Coaches and Office Bearers that put in such a lot of their free time to make this such a great swimming club.

Below are some photos of the night.







Fun on the last day of the year

Just like a bunch of school kids on the last day of the year, the crew enjoyed some fun events and relays in the main pool, and then hit the water slide for lots of slippery slides.



The night crew also joined in to have a fun evening in the pool.



Bunbury Stingers Club

The great news is that we are currently in a very healthy position as a club, with 124 financial members! The not so good news is that we are currently still almost 100% reliant on Pam and Julie for our pool programs and coaching, and we still tend to rely on the same small group of members to join the committee each year and help run the club.

Healthy, vibrant clubs always encourage renewal, so please consider stepping up in 2022.

2022 COMMITTEE

We are definitely looking for some new faces on the committee for 2022...

- **President and Vice-President:** We probably have one or both of these covered for next year, but if you are willing to step up to a leadership role in the club, now or in the near future, please let us know.
- **Secretary:** I do not wish to continue as Secretary next year. Having a Secretary is a legal requirement... the club cannot exist without one! For the past several years, our Secretary has been extremely IT-literate and covered some other IT functions as well. However, we may change the role in 2022 to that of a more traditional Secretary if we can find someone with at least good basic IT skills. If you feel that you could take good meeting minutes and manage our email account, please come and talk to us.
- **Treasurer & New Member Liaison:** Brian Hall has been club treasurer for the past 17 years (and new member liaison for most of that time also), and has decided that he has earned a rest! If you have at least basic finance and IT skills, let us know if you are interested.
- **Other Committee Roles:** All committee positions are declared vacant at the AGM held in February each year. Although several members of the current committee are willing to continue on the committee in 2022, please consider stepping up to ensure the future success of our wonderful club. Please talk to us if you are interested in joining the committee in 2022.

WE NEED MORE COACHES!

Prior to me taking over half the deck-coaching and all the program coordination from Pam, Pam wrote and coached all the programs for the club for 10 years straight.

My current coaching load is:

- I write the majority of the programs (with thanks to Alicia and Danielle for assisting with the multi-stroke programs, and to Chris for helping revamp the Freestyle drills)
- I format and laminate all of the programs
- I coach on deck for almost all the AM sessions
- I only get to swim with the squad when I have the energy to coach in the morning, and then swim in the evening! Most of the time, Brendon and I have to swim on our own, rather than enjoying the camaraderie of swimming with the squad.

It doesn't have to be this way!

Julie



Relying on too few coaches is not a good place to be for lots of reasons. Apart from the risk if either Pam or myself had to step down with little or no notice, it is better to have more input to keep the programs varied and interesting.

At this stage, Pam is happy to continue being on deck for most of the PM sessions (phew!). However, Pam is not interested in writing any more programs. I am happy to at least help with providing Endurance Freestyle programs through to the end of the current Open Water season, but will not be providing or coaching any of the multi-stroke Sprint programs for April-September next year, and hope to be away for substantial periods next Winter.

We have just been awarded a grant to enable us to train more coaches, and we need several members to step up here. We would like to train up to **6 new coaches** as soon as practical (some from each of the AM and PM squads). Training as a coach doesn't mean that you instantly have to take over from myself or Pam. The usual path to becoming a deck coach is to complete the Masters Club Coach course (online), act as a lane captain for a period, then assist with writing some programs, and finally perhaps spend some time on deck coaching multiple lanes. If we can train enough new coaches, the load on each coach will be vastly reduced from the current load on me. Also, if we have lane captains in every lane, we could cope better without a coach on deck at times... although, when there is no deck coach available, we would need someone to get the programs from the locker, help new members, ensure the attendance sheet is complete, and sign the lane hire sheet with SWSC (all of which can be done prior to training starting)... and to collect the programs at the end of the session.

We currently have plenty of members who are more than capable of taking on some of this load... please consider and let us know if you are interested. You don't have to be a top swimmer to be a top coach... you just need to be observant and to want to help others to enjoy swimming.

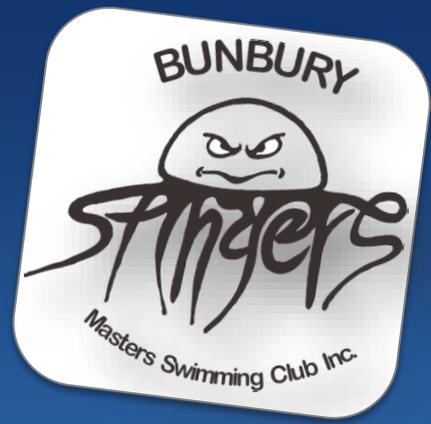
Julie O'Connor

Club Contacts

President	Sally Murphy
Vice President	Allan Taylor
Secretary	Julie O'Connor secretary@bunburymasters.asn.au
Treasurer	Brian Hall 9721 6496
Coaching Coordinator	vacant
Coaching Committee	Julie O'Connor, Pam Hall, Danielle Pesci
Club Captain - Open Water	Allan Taylor
Club Captain - Pool	Alicia Stiffle
Endurance	Liz Common
Public Relations	Tanya Price
Safety	Steve Povee
Newsletter	Ben van de Ruit editor@bunburymasters.asn.au
Social	Tanya Price
General Committee Members	Darren Spouse Mark Ritchie Fiona Florance



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Thanks to all contributors

As always, many thanks to all contributors to
our newsletter. 😊

Til next time
See you in the water!
Ben – the Ed.