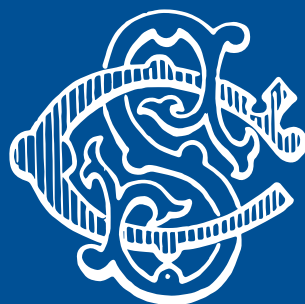


# OTTER SWIMMING CLUB

FOUNDED 1869



ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2013



# OTTER SWIMMING CLUB

FOUNDED 1869




---

## CONTENT

PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD	3
CLUB ADMINISTRATION	4
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT BALANCE SHEET	6
BLASTS FROM THE PAST	7
CLUB PERFORMANCE: WATER POLO – LADIES	8 - 12
CLUB PERFORMANCE: WATER POLO – MENS	13 -14
CLUB PERFORMANCE: SWIMMING	14 - 20
CLUB PERFORMANCE: OTHER EVENTS	21 - 24
OTTERS AWAY FROM THE WATER	25
LIST OF MEMBERS 2013	26 - 27
TROPHY WINNERS	28 - 29
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	30



## PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

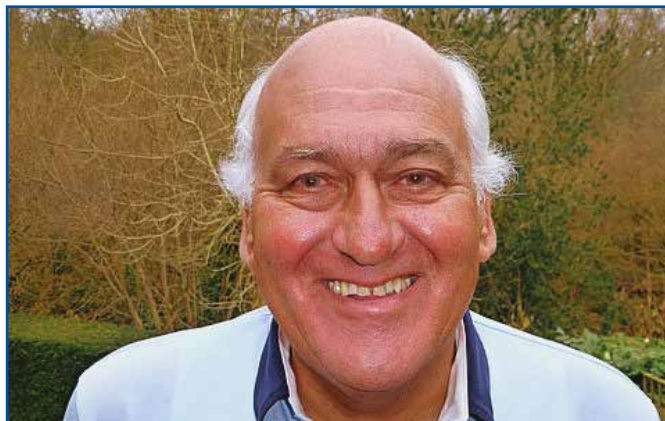
*James Stewart, President*

*2013 has been another successful year for the Club. This excellent report, as compiled by our new editor Gina Hobson, highlights key events in our season; not only the successes achieved by our swimmers and water polo team members, but also social events, which are an integral part of the Club's calendar.*

This will be my last report to the Club as I will be stepping down in 2014. I feel privileged to have been elected as President. I also have the perspective of serving as an officer of the Club alongside ten of the 16 individuals who preceded me in the role. Over this period, I have observed the Club's ability to adapt to changing circumstances. In 1976, we shook off our Victorian antecedents and admitted lady members for the first time. In the 1970's, we also recognised that we did not have the facilities to compete as a fully integrated club at all levels so, on the swimming side, we became one of the most dominant Masters swimming clubs in the UK. Our water polo men continue to compete at high levels in three competitive teams, with our first team winning promotion to Division 3 of the National League, while our recently formed ladies water polo section has produced results over the last season which demonstrably make them the best ladies team in England. Seven members have been selected for GB honours at various age levels, while the second team, Otter Lutra, also had outstanding results which have qualified them to join the first team in Division 1 in the coming year. We now benefit from excellent coaching: Steve Bratt and his team, for the swimmers, player/coach Brian Whitlock for the water polo men, and Nick Buller, for the ladies water polo, are demonstrating how high quality coaching really improves the competitiveness of the Club. Another change this year has been the loss of our 50 year access to the Shell Centre pool, but other facilities have been found in substitution.

Scattered through this report are some other notable achievements. In August, Susie Rodgers represented Great Britain at the International Paralympic Committee World Championships in Montreal coming away with a relay gold medal. Numerous members have taken part variously in a cross Channel relay, open water events around the UK, triathlons and international Ironman competitions. These include the fantastic achievement by Rachel Joyce in October of coming 2nd in the Ironman World Championships in Kona.

In my four years as President, I have enjoyed superlative support from those who have comprised the Club's administration. In three of those years, the highly efficient, Hannah Brown, has served as Honorary Secretary, with a gap in the Olympic year when she acted as Venue Transport Manager for the Olympic Park; a year when the equally effective Monika Kruesmann took over. Our long-serving Honorary Treasurer, Martin Flash, stepped down last year after 24 years in the role and Chris Eden has stepped effortlessly into the position. The Club Captain when I was elected was the impressive Gina Hobson, now editing this report. Gina, who has remained one of our top lady swimmers, was succeeded first by Ben Thomas and



then in another departure from history, the Club Captaincy was split between a Men's and a Ladies Captain, handled with great competence respectively by Ben Thomas and Cat Hasnain, who also managed to maintain their competitive swimming standards. On the water polo side, Leon Estrella has served as Men's Captain for the whole of my term, while the Ladies have passed the role around without any apparent loss of efficiency. Several water polo players have shown themselves to be highly competitive swimmers, not least Lex Higlett, our 2013 Ladies Captain who won the open water handicap events, coming second in the overall averages, and swam with great distinction in our sprint relay teams at the national Masters (short course).

The Honorary Handicapper is a key role in running our internal handicap events. Cat Hasnain (nee Dobson) handled this role with aplomb in my first two years to be succeeded by Dave Warren, who has served with quiet efficiency while remaining our top male swimmer, re-writing the record book in British and European Masters events. Outside the Committee, Michelle Senecal has organized the Club swimming championships and pool bookings, while Deirdre Ward continues in the essential role of coordinating the Club's ASA registrations. My final accolade goes to Lesley Davies, who so often volunteers when no-one else will. Latterly, she coordinated the Annual Dinner for 25 years; she monitors pool attendances and helps coordinate the Club's swimming coaches, stepping in herself when there is a gap; and she uses her professional expertise to act as our health & safety adviser. We are very grateful to her for these services.

I would like to conclude with a call to all older members. In five years time, we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Club. With 145 of those years already passed, we are starting to coordinate material. Any contributions from older members giving insights on the Club as it was in their early days would be very helpful and should be routed through the current Hon Secretary, who will pass it on.



## CLUB COMMITTEE

<b>President:</b>	James Stewart
<b>Honorary Secretary:</b>	Hannah Brown
<b>Honorary Treasurer:</b>	Chris Eden
<b>Vice Presidents:</b>	Lesley Davies, Martin Flash, Paul Hindle, Gina Hobson, Tony Ray, Roger Sharpley
<b>Captain of Swimming (Men):</b>	Ben Thomas
<b>Captain of Swimming (Women):</b>	Cat Hasnain

<b>Captain of Water Polo (Men):</b>	Leon Estrella
<b>Captain of Water Polo (Women):</b>	Lex Higlett
<b>Honorary Secretary, Water Polo:</b>	Ivor Sokolic
<b>Honorary Handicapper:</b>	Dave Warren
<b>Committee Members:</b>	Filippo Bari, Ed Buckley, Marie Mulligan, Damian Nogaledo Tous, Roger Phillips, Tommy Sheldrick, Emma Shkurka, Tory Thorpe



## CLUB ADMINISTRATION

### *Club finances, Chris Eden*

#### OVERVIEW

*2013 was somewhat of an exceptional year in financial terms where a number of factors conspired to enhance the balance sheet and contribute to the strengthening of the Club's finances.*

Total income for the year was largely unchanged, with the only real change being the reduction in the "External income" arising from Shell, which had generously given time to us free of charge for many years and which finally closed in August 2013 (the notional pool hire charge has always been recognised in the Expenses section and an equal and opposite notional income has been recognised in Income to offset this). We replaced Shell with time at the City of London Girls School, which explains why the pool hire expense hasn't gone down similarly.

The major variances that affected both the Income & Expenditure account and the Balance Sheet arose regarding the Club expenses. We received large credits against GLL pool costs due to some historical overbilling that had taken time to unravel, and coaching costs were lower than expected not least due to the much discounted costs associated with Nick Buller's time and efforts. Nick has, from a practical and financial point of view, helped to build a ladies' polo division that continues to attract new members to the Club yet costs us precious little. Various savings and other efficiencies across some of the lesser

expense categories also played their part.

It's not just ladies' polo that is attractive to new and quality members. The other sections have thrived during the year and, as you'll read, the results produced by all sections have never been better.

Currently, the Club offers seven swimming and six polo sessions per week which totals around 600 coached swimming hours per year and 400 coached polo hours per year. To underpin future and continued success, your committee is always on the look-out for additional or substitute quality pool time, and we budget for full coaching support at every session. We have the financial base with which to do this and, as such, the future of Otter has never looked rosier.

The generosity of members, either in paying over and above their regular subscriptions or in making separate designated donations, has contributed to the surplus recorded in the year and these donations continue to help manage the Club's annual costs as well as strengthen the Club's capital base.



## PRIZES & GENERAL FUND AND MEMORIAL FUND DONORS – OUR THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING:

Chris Adams, Robert Alderton, Michael Amos, Filippo Bari, Kerry Black, Matthew Burgham, Alexander Capon, Phoebe Chan, Katherine Chater, Mark Chopra, Gregory Comiskey, Martha Dean, Martin Flash, Lucas Florez Atehortua, John Fox, Kate Frazer, Wilton Fry, Valeria Gissi, Peter Grace, Felicity Hannon, Lisa Hansen, Victor Hardy, Catherine Hasnain, Alexis Higlett, Simon Holliday, John Iliffe, Xavier Imbs, Kevin Kan, Tim Kendall, Peter Kirk, Roger Lloyd-Mostyn, Andrew Louw, Fiona Marshall, Alexander Mason, Elizabeth McMenemy, Daniel Mikulskis, David Miller, Andrew Morton, Fabio Mozzicarella, Claire Nixon, Mhairi Nurthen, James Palmer, Hannah Patchett, Doug Payne, Katie Robertson, James Scanlan, Michelle Senecal, Elizabeth Shaw, Paolo Sirianni, Ana Paula Sousa, James Stewart, Cliff Stossel, Hrvoje Subat, Robert Thomas, John Towers, Hugh Turner, Athanasia Tympanari, Martin Vandersteen, David Warren, Thibault Williams, Sharon Wright.

### Club members 2012 and 2013

	2013	2012
Active swimmers	126	149
Country swimmers	15	22
Non-active swimmers	66	48
Life member swimmers	34	34
Junior swimmers	5	7
<b>TOTAL SWIMMERS</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>260</b>
Active polo	62	75
Country polo	13	4
Non-active polo	19	20
Life member polo	8	8
Junior polo	6	8
<b>TOTAL POLO</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>375</b>

## MEMBERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

During the year, Otter welcomed 54 new members (compared with 79 in 2012), 22 of whom are water polo players (2012 – 33). All new members are included in the list of current members at the end of this report.

The Club had a churn rate (the monetary effect of people joining and leaving, when comparing expected income for an annual subscription to what was actually received) of 22% (2012 – 28%), and possibly the best churn rate in previous years. This is thanks to the considerable efforts of the following, for signing up new members, policing memberships and more: Cat Hasnain, Ben Thomas and Deirdre Ward for swimmers; Lex Higlett, Emma Shkurka and Peggy Etiebet for ladies' polo; Leon Estrella, Ivor Sokolic and Paul Hindle for men's polo.

Thanks also to Deirdre Ward for handling the Club's ASA registrations; Tony Ray for running the shop and managing swimming relay entries; and Michelle Senecal, Hannah Brown, Bronwen Bew and Paul Hindle for managing the pool bookings.

2014 is set to see the introduction of the brand new Club website which has been managed by John Talbott. Having seen a sneak peek, it looks great and we owe John a massive thank you for his efforts. No fewer thanks are owed to Andy Hudson for maintaining the current site which is the current platform for much of the Club's communication and management.

Finally, I'd like to thank Tom Burkinshaw for stepping into the Auditor's shoes this year. Auditing a club's finances where a statutory framework isn't particularly applicable and especially where the accounting systems verge on the more curious that may be encountered is a testing activity for anyone "classically trained", and so it requires a certain amount of skill in being able to satisfy one's self that the financial statements are a true and fair reflection of the Club's financial results and position.




**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - £**

Year ended 31 Dec 2013	2013	2012
<b>Members income</b>	<b>105,820</b>	<b>103,293</b>
Subscriptions income	98,468	96,153
Special sessions	964	924
Match fees	4,120	4,477
Prizes and general fund	2,268	1,739
<b>Other income</b>	<b>5,278</b>	<b>10,760</b>
External income	2,813	8,936
Capital income	1,436	1,428
Miscellaneous income	1,029	396
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>111,098</b>	<b>114,053</b>
<b>Pools &amp; equipment</b>	<b>(59,779)</b>	<b>(61,133)</b>
Pool hire costs	(58,880)	(59,295)
Equipment costs	(899)	(1,838)
<b>Coaching</b>	<b>(20,512)</b>	<b>(25,116)</b>
Coaching costs	(20,512)	(25,116)
<b>Activity costs</b>	<b>(13,406)</b>	<b>(16,460)</b>
Water polo expenses	(6,133)	(8,892)
Swimming expenses	(1,604)	(1,491)
Affiliation costs	(5,181)	(5,328)
Prizes and trophies	(488)	(749)
<b>Club activities</b>	<b>(713)</b>	<b>(934)</b>
Dinner	(201)	(115)
Open water races	(507)	(753)
Shop sales	(5)	(66)
<b>Administration</b>	<b>(10,104)</b>	<b>(6,948)</b>
Insurance	(2,000)	(2,000)
Post and printing	(2,891)	(3,894)
Tax	-	-
Bad debts	(4,652)	-
IT costs	(83)	-
Miscellaneous costs	(478)	(1,054)
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>(104,514)</b>	<b>(110,591)</b>
<b>PROFIT/(LOSS)</b>	<b>6,584</b>	<b>3,462</b>

'I have examined the books and vouchers of Otter Swimming Club and have obtained all necessary explanations for me to confirm that these accounts show a reasonable view of the Club's activities for the year and its financial position as at the 31st December 2013.' Hon Auditor. Tom Burkinshaw


**BALANCE SHEET - £**

Year ended 31 Dec 2013	2013	2012
<b>Trophies</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>
Tangible fixed assets	35,000	35,000
Investments at cost	30,142	30,142
Self insurance investment	19,904	19,738
Investments	50,046	49,880
<b>Fixed assets</b>	<b>85,046</b>	<b>84,880</b>
<b>Stock</b>	<b>3,207</b>	<b>3,295</b>
Debtors	1,649	4,983
Cash at bank and in hand	32,443	18,435
Current assets	37,299	26,713
Creditors falling due within one year	(4,166)	(13,039)
<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>33,133</b>	<b>13,674</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>118,179</b>	<b>98,554</b>
Computer fund	3,880	3,880
Spoon fund	7,038	7,038
Sinking funds	10,918	10,918
<b>Provisions</b>	<b>10,918</b>	<b>10,918</b>
Life membership fund	21,295	21,295
Memorial fund	31,145	28,876
Trophy insurance fund		
<i>Capital funds</i>	<i>71,423</i>	<i>67,154</i>
Balance brought forward	20,482	14,868
Capital income and reserves	8,772	2,152
Result for year	6,584	3,462
<i>Reserve funds</i>	<i>35,838</i>	<i>20,482</i>
<b>Reserves</b>	<b>107,261</b>	<b>87,636</b>
<b>RESERVES AND PROVISIONS</b>	<b>118,179</b>	<b>98,554</b>

Investments #; Brunner Investment Trust 2517, Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust 7465, Flemming Claverhouse Investment Trust 1530, Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust 2854.

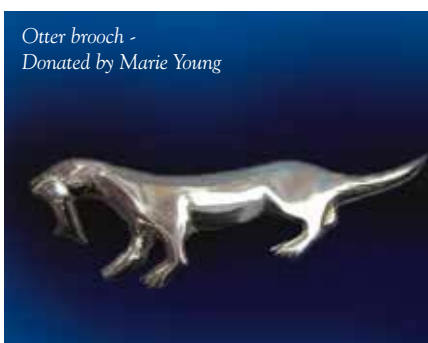


## BLASTS FROM THE PAST

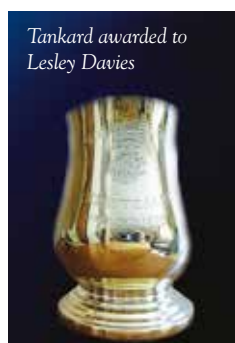
### James Stewart

Reminders of our history emerged on three occasions in 2013. The first was a silver plated pint beer tankard awarded to PK Metcalfe in 1900 for winning the Ladies Challenge Cup, which is one of the oldest cups in the Club's history, then competed for over six lengths. PK Metcalfe's name also appears on the Otter Mile Trophy (Dudley CC) in the years 1905 and 1907-09. He was elected Club Captain in the years 1905-1908 and he was awarded his 1st team swimming colours in 1907-1910. When an antiques dealer contacted the President, offering this trophy for sale, it seemed a pity not to recover it. It was gifted to Lesley Davies to commemorate her 25 years of running the Otter Dinner. Lesley was the first lady ever to be elected Club Captain in 1992-1995 and there seemed to be a synergy in her receiving a trophy won by one of her predecessors over a century ago.

The second reminder came in an email from a former Otter, Bill Young, now resident in Australia. Bill is the son of Dr Carmichael Young who was Club President in 1964-67 and who was the author of our 1969 Centenary Club History. Bill wrote to advise us of the death of his mother, Marie, on 3rd April 2013. At a pre-Christmas gathering of more mature Otters, Marie was remembered with great affection as a gently elegant presence, so often at Car's side on many Otter occasions. Among the few pieces of Otter memorabilia dispatched to us by Bill, was a pretty sterling silver Otter brooch generously donated back to Otter by Bill's wife. It was apparently one of two, custom made to Car's order in London, the other being given to Marie. The brooch now donated by Bill's wife, will be held with the Club trophies and awarded at some suitable future occasion.



Otter brooch -  
Donated by Marie Young



Tankard awarded to  
Lesley Davies

The third reminder came in an email from Kim Lindsay also in Australia, where he is researching the life of Morgan Dockrell Jr. Morgan Dockrell Jr was Club Captain in 1903-04 and his name appears on the Mile Trophy (Dudley CC) for those years. After leaving Otter, he enjoyed a distinguished career in the Indian Army with a retired rank of Lt-Colonel. He died aged 68 in 1952 in a fall out of the window of his London flat, not treated as suspicious. The fruits of Kim Lindsay's research will probably be published in 'Durbar' the journal of the Indian

Military Research Society and he has kindly offered to send us more details in due course in case we wish to use them in our own 150th anniversary Club history, in a few years time. In swimming terms, Dr Benjamin Morgan Dockrell (Sr) is better known, as he was the donor of the National Men's 220 yards Breaststroke Trophy; still presumably awarded by the ASA at the National Championships.

## CLOSURE OF THE SHELL CENTRE

### James Stewart



Last night at the Shell Centre

On 19th August 2013, a 50 year relationship with Shell Oil Company came to an end. It started in 1963, when Shell first constructed Shell Centre. At that time an Otter member, then Sir Desmond Plummer but latterly Baron Plummer of St Marylebone, who was Leader of the Greater London Council, became aware that Shell was seeking responsible outside users for their sports facilities and he introduced us. This pool then became our headquarters for twice weekly training sessions and also a venue where we hosted swimming and water polo competitions, squads representing South Africa (twice), New Zealand and Australia, plus many inter-club matches. However, in recent years, as Shell's own business model changed in the UK, we have been under notice that our tenure may cease. This finally happened in 2013 and we were given notice that Monday 19th August would be our last night of training there.

Perhaps slightly to the surprise of many, a wave of nostalgia swept through the club and our final night was marked by a very full turnout of members, including every living Past President of the club. The photo, recorded in the slow lane of course, shows from left to right Bob Burn\*, John Iliffe\*, Denis Warnford-Davis, James Stewart\*, Mark Grundy, Charles Doxat\*, Roger Sharpley\*, and John Goodbody (\*denotes President/Past-Presidents). The club owes a huge debt of gratitude to Shell for their benevolence in allowing our half century of tenure and this has been formally recorded in a letter of appreciation sent to them.



## MARTIN FLASH, HONORARY TREASURER 1990-2013

*James Stewart*

At the 2013 AGM, Martin Flash stood down as Hon Treasurer, a role that he had filled in two spells over a period of 24 years: 1974-75 and 1990-2013. This length of service is only exceeded in the Club's history by AE Baldon who from 1906 to 1934 held the combined roles of Hon Secretary and Hon Treasurer. However, it is fair to observe that the finances of the Club have become significantly more complicated than in those earlier years. During Martin's tenure, the numbers of members have increased by 60%, the annual expenditure and commensurate income have increased ten-fold, while under Martin's guardianship the net worth of the Club has also increased ten-fold.

Martin joined Otter in 1962, when he went to Imperial College London, which he represented at water polo. He then went on to win a half blue for water polo at Cambridge University in 1966. After three years in South Africa, he reappeared in 1969 to represent the Club both at schools matches and in what became an all-conquering 3rd team water polo in the London leagues in 1973-75.

In the course of Martin's tenure, the role of Hon Treasurer changed considerably, notably taking over the membership functions of the Hon Secretary. On Martin's initiative, the Club's finances and membership data management were automated, enabling the Committee to become well briefed on the key elements of the Club's cash flow and membership status and thereby to make informed decisions on issues such as adding new pool time and coaches. This work led towards integrating accounting and membership data and managing the Club through its websites.

In recent years, Martin has had major responsibilities at a French business school with a consequent dilution of the time he has been able to devote to the Club. Nevertheless, he has guided us through some difficult financial periods, when unexpected expenditures were needed while membership income unexpectedly dipped – an Hon Treasurer's perfect storm. The Club owes Martin a huge debt of gratitude for his efforts on behalf of us all.

## CLUB PERFORMANCE:

### WATER POLO – Ladies

It's been a huge, huge year for London Otter Ladies water polo.

- The first team won the Super 5's.
- The second team won championship 1.
- Seven Otters represented GB.
- We are the best club in London.
- We are the best ladies club in England.
- 2013 was immense.

## FIRST TEAM

*Lex Higlett*

### Division 1

Way back in September 2013, the ladies 1st team kicked off the 2013/14 British Water Polo League campaign with decisive victories against newly promoted Caledonia 16-9 and our old London rivals, West London Penguins 23-5, before losing the third game of the weekend against defending champions Manchester (14-6). Despite the loss we were looking good; we were confident that once we had our full team, a few more weeks training, along with a couple more games under our belt, we'd be in good shape.

The second weekend was played in Wasall. Despite some seriously sharp outside shooting from GB junior, Brooke Tafazolli, and the always impressive but rarely seen goalie skills of Vivi Castagna, Otter fell just short in their first match of the weekend; a tightly contested 11-9 match against rivals Liverpool. But, undeterred, Otter recovered quickly smashing the other Liverpool team, the Liverpool Liverbirds, 16-8 in the evening fixture.

Strengthened by the return of goal keeper Sammy Owen and the addition of new recruit, Tracey Allen, to the line up, Otter came out firing on the 3rd weekend, beating the Manchester 2nd team 14-2 before taking on surprise league leaders Coventry. With one minute left on the clock, it looked like the game was heading for a draw, until ex-GB captain, Fran Leighton, outclassed her defender, won a penalty, and handed Otter the win 5-4.





Vic Bowen (white) backhand



Otter ladies national champions

After three weekends, Division 1 was over; Otter had qualified for the Super 5s for the third year running; Lex Higlett was the top goal scorer in Division 1 with 32 goals in seven games, and Michelle Krejci was 8th with 16.

### Super 5s

And then came Super 5s. Everyone was back to 0 points, and the title was up for grabs. The first game was against 2nd ranked Liverpool. It was fast, it was furious. The goals kept piling up for both teams, it was so close. But at the end of the final quarter Liverpool had scored 19 goals and our 17 just weren't enough.

After letting in 19 goals on Saturday, Sunday was all about defence. Sarah (Yedden) Tollefson, Viviana (the little chestnut) Castagna and Vic (Bowen) Bowen led the way giving away nothing. Sammy Owen and Tracey Allen were brick walls in goal. And it worked; the tough as nails Otter defence secured a 6-4 win to keep us in the title race.

Two weekends later Otter was back in action and playing reigning champions Manchester once more. We quickly jumped three goals ahead, Sarah (Bugsy) Bennett fired in her trademark cross cage rocket, Michelle Krejci was all stealth and power at centre forward, and Vivi Castanga was making blocks all over the pool. Otter looked poised to beat Manchester for the first time in Otter history, until Manchester rallied, clawing three back in the last quarter before netting the equalizer three minutes from time. The 10 all draw secured a valuable point for Otter. It, along with the two points we got beating Caledonia (21-6), meant we were in second place, just two points off the pace.

With nothing between the top four teams, and Otter lying in 2nd place, we lined up against Liverpool once more. We

went into the game knowing we needed to win by more than two goals to ensure that, if it came to it, we'd have the better goal difference at the end of the season. We got the win (10-7), the goal difference, and we went top of the table.

But it didn't last long. The next morning we were 3-1 down at half time against Coventry and then 6-3 down part way through the 3rd quarter. Goals either side of the final break from Lex Higlett and some seriously impenetrable defence got Otter back to within one. We held strong and then a last minute strike from Fran Leighton sealed the game at six all. The draw vs Coventry meant Otter went into the final weekend in second place, a point behind top of the table Manchester. Otter would have to win both games on the final weekend to win the league.

After almost two months break over Christmas, the final weekend started well.

Nine Otters scored as we cruised past Caledonia 16-8. The win setting up a title showdown in the final game of the final weekend against reigning champions Manchester.

We really wanted to win.

We'd never beaten Manchester before.

We'd never won Super 5s before.

We wanted to be the best team in the country.

We wanted to be the best club in the country.

We came out firing, and we didn't stop. We led 5-4 at the first quarter, then 10-6 at half time. Manchester fought back to 12-11 in the third, but we didn't roll over. Every time Manchester scored, Otter had the answer and going into the final quarter Otter were up by two.



Manchester pulled out all the punches, but Otter held strong, we kept firing in goals, the amazing Otter crowd kept cheering, and then it was all over. Otter had won our first ever British Super 5's title defeating reigning champions City of Manchester 16-14. It was brilliant.

And like the first half of the season, Otter had two players named on the Super 5 hot shot list, Lizi Dunn in 6th with 16 goals, and Lex 2nd with 31.

### LEN – Euro league

This year saw the European Women's competition take on a new format. The new 'Euro League' replaced the former two competitions known as Champions Cup and the LEN Trophy. With all the teams mixed in together for the first time, and only the top two teams from each group advancing into the quarterfinals, the competition was fierce. No group was going to be easy, and group B, consisting of Het Ravin (NED), Kinef Kirishi (RUS), Ugra Khanty Mansyisk (RUS), and London Otter was no exception.

Otter travelled to Nijveral in the Netherlands ready to take on three of the best professional teams Europe has to offer. We swam, we scored goals, we ate chips with mayo, we rode amazing pushbikes to and from the pool. Goalies Sammy and Tracey were the heroes of the tournament, blocking a staggering number of ridiculously good shots. Brooke decided to show the Italian and Dutch teams just how good a shot she is from the 2 position, drilling in a team high six goals over the tournament.

It was tough, but it was fun. We learnt an amazing amount about what we can do as a team and most importantly came back to England stronger for the extra games against some of the best players in the world.

Huge thank you to Buggy for organising the whole trip, despite not speaking a word of Dutch, and to Paul Tollefson for stepping in as team manager. And thanks to Tilda, whose selection for the LEN team meant she had to miss the second team's final.

### British Gas Water Polo Championships

Over 22nd and 23rd February, Otter Ladies Water Polo competed in the British Gas Water Polo Championships. The ladies won their semi-final game against Coventry and secured a spot in Sunday's final, with a winning goal just one second from time.

An uncharacteristically slow start in the 1st quarter of the final saw Liverpool take the lead 2-0. Good build up play, solid defence, three cracking goals from Turny Dunn and another from Vivi Castagna saw Otter win the 2nd quarter 4-3, and cut Liverpool's lead down to three at half time. Otter came out fighting in the second half and matched Liverpool goal for goal in the third and fourth quarters, but Liverpool's first quarter lead proved too great to overcome, and the match finished 15-12. While it was disappointing not to come away with the win, especially after having the better of the game for the final three quarters, silver is very impressive. It means Otter have qualified for LEN again in 2014 for the fourth year in a row.

Congratulations again to everyone for a brilliant, brilliant season. And massive thanks to Nick Buller for all his hard work.



Brooke Tafazolli



Tracey Allen in goal



Lutra team, which will be playing in Division 1 in 2014



Lex Higlett decisive goal

## OTTER LUTRA TEAM REPORT

*Lindsey Williams*

After last year's success, finishing at the top of Championship 2, Otter Lutra (the ladies second team) were under pressure to qualify for Championship 1 when Division 2 split at the halfway point in this year's season.

The first weekend got us off to a very promising start, with a 13-11 win against Tyldesley and we continued to show how strong we were against Liverpool Water Beatles winning 19-4.

The next weekend in Sheffield saw us face London rivals Polytechnic, where we stamped our authority on the match early and earned the impressive 16-3 victory, with Hannah Patchett scoring 6 of the goals. The game against Mid-Sussex Marlins wasn't quite as simple. We made the mistake of breaking Jen Darnborough our goal-keeper's thumb in the warm up with a powerful shot. The match was also being overseen by an unusually strict pair of referees and, before we knew it, we had an injured goal-keeper and two players majored-out leaving us with no substitutes. This unfortunately meant that the opposition got a few goals past us in the last minutes of the match, leaving the score 13-10 to Mid-Sussex Marlins.

On the final weekend of the first half of the league we faced three of the top teams in the division and we needed at least one win to make sure of a spot in the top five, qualifying us to play in Championship 1. First we faced the Welsh Wanderers in an extremely close match than ended in an 8 all draw. Still needing the win we were up against Leeds Sharks, another extraordinarily tight match, which we managed to win 11-10. With our confidence boosted by the win against Leeds, who were regarded by many as the top team in Division 2 we went on to beat Sheffield Sharks 14-11. These results gained us a spot in Championship 1, a first in Otter history, and gave us a chance to play against the bottom three teams from Division 1 to see how we measured up against them.

Championship 1 started with a weekend in Lancaster, both Otter teams were playing in the same venue, so we had the benefit of even more supporters than usual, this definitely helped as we faced tough opposition. The extra support paid off and we played our best water polo yet to beat the Welsh Wanderers by one goal and Penguin by 8 goals to 3.

The next weekend we re-played Sheffield, beating them 9-5. We also faced Liverpool Liver Birds, who had been playing in Division 1 for the first half of the season, but we outclassed them with a 13-5 win.

So the final weekend of the season saw us with a chance of qualifying to play in the first division along with the Otter first team in 2014. The statisticians on the team had worked out that as long as we won one of our three matches that we would make it into the top three teams and earn promotion to Division 1. Our first match wasn't an easy one though, up against Manchester Comets who were fighting to maintain their place in Division 1. After a nail-biting match we won 7-4 and had made Otter Lutra history by qualifying to play in Division 1 next year.

It wasn't enough though, now we had the trophy in our sights, so we prepared for a tough match against Leeds Sharks. Again, we won the match, this time 9-6. We were the winners of Championship 1 and would be playing in Division 1 next year, what more could we possibly want? A win against Mid Sussex Marlins, the only team to defeat us in the season so far....

We didn't make it easy for ourselves and with 40 seconds of the match left to play we were a goal down. After Rebecca Mulcahy capitalized on a badly-called time-out from Mid-Sussex Marlins to level the score, in the final 30 seconds we somehow managed to score another goal to win. What a finish to the season, undefeated champions of Championship 1.

This means next year Otter will be the only club to have two teams in the top division of the British Water Polo league, so we can officially say we are the best club in the country.



## INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCES

*Lex Higlett*



Emily Grant, Hannah Patchett & Tilda Williams representing the GB under 17s

Otters once again had a strong year on the international stage with seven players selected to represent GB in 2013/2014. Peggy Etiebet was selected to represent GB at the 2103 World Championships in Barcelona, the 2014 European Championship Qualifiers and World League matches against Spain and Russia. Peggy is currently playing professionally in Hungary for Szentes.

Brooke Tafazolli was selected for the Great Britain under 20s team who finished 8th at the 2013 World Junior Championships in Greece.

Emily Grant, Hannah Patchett, Tilda Williams all represented GB under 17s, with Hannah selected to play at the 2013 European Junior Water Polo Championships in Istanbul, Turkey. And both Isabelle (Izzy) Dean and Mhairi Nurthern were selected in the GB under 15s squad.

## MY ROAD TO RIO?

*Peggy Etiebet*

It was just under a year ago when Nick Buller came to me with the news that the GB coach had been wondering why there were no Otter players up in Manchester training at the High Performance Centre and asked specifically after me. Having had no idea that, as a 36 year old with less than seven years club training with Otter under my belt, would even be considered as a possibility to represent Great Britain, I was incredulous.

But with a little positive encouragement from Nick, I took holiday from my job as a barrister and went up for a month trial. Unfortunately, while I had very positive feedback from the GB coach he then parted ways with GB Water Polo, and I returned for another trial with the interim coach. That was a nerve wracking (I had just killed myself to impress one

coach; could I do it again?) and expensive (another month long 'holiday' from work) time.

Amazingly I was selected for the World Championships in Barcelona in July. It was a fantastic experience - playing against people I had previously watched on TV, getting access to the athletes' area to watch Tom Daley dive, signing autographs for the kids (not that they had any idea who I was but it was still fun to be a celebrity for two seconds!).



Peggy Etiebet in GB line up v Russia

After the Worlds our full time coach started. Oh no, I thought, I'll have to impress all over again. By this time I had resigned from my job and so the stakes were high. Fortunately, not three sessions in the new coach said 'well, when I first heard about you I thought no she is not for us but having seen you...' - phew! Since then I've played in World League matches against Spain and Russia and in the European Championships Qualifiers, all of which have been huge learning experiences. I got my first international goals in the matches against Israel and Ukraine.

I am spending the season (Sep - May) playing professionally in Szentes, Hungary. Water polo is Hungary's main sport and the top club teams (we are second in the league) act as mini high performance centres - ten water and five gym sessions a week. The standard of play is very high so I am getting a significant amount of training and game play and improving all the time (including my Hungarian).

It's been an unbelievable 12 months - a huge change from a career at the Bar to being a professional athlete, but I am loving it. My only regret is that I wasn't playing with Otter when we won the League for the first time this year!



Peggy Etiebet



## CLUB PERFORMANCE:

### WATER POLO – Mens

#### FIRST TEAM

*Chris Eden*

After several years of promise and not much end product, 2013 was a strong year for the men's first team. The season started positively with some solid performances throughout the London Premier League and concluded with promotion to Division 3 in the National League.

As ever, London League was a great training tool, most games played in National League conditions (double-deep pools, two referees, two games in an afternoon) and home-and-away matches against opposition, most of whom play at least two divisions above us in the National League.

Highlights of London League included two wins in Hillingdon, first against Penguin and then against a strong Polytechnic side. The Poly win was particularly gratifying as we came back from two goals down to win, holding off the Poly attack in a 3-0 final quarter. Player-coach, Brian Whitlock, a consistent goal scorer throughout the season, scored 11 in the two games, including six against Poly. Mention must also be made of the second Beckenham win, where Tom Gaunt led the attack in Whitlock's absence with seven goals. Otter finished fifth out of seven teams.

National League is always the first team's focus and phase one commenced in September. After a 20-15 loss to Watford, the team followed up with comfortable wins against Birmingham Seconds 16-10, Grantham 12-7 and Ealing 18-9. At least one more win in the final weekend would ensure Otter were in the top five and, therefore, would have a chance to play off in phase two with the bottom three from the division above to earn promotion. Whitlock was unavailable for the third weekend but still managed to bag himself 29 goals in these five games.

A top five spot was achieved easily in the end against Bedford, the final score 13-9, and sealed against Bridgefield (14-13). Nikos Roussos' second goal of the game ought to have sealed a win but a dubious penalty, awarded (and scored) 14 seconds from the end, looked like it would take the win away. However, Chris George stepped up with a five-metre foul shot with one second remaining to grab the win for Otter. The loss to Solihull didn't dampen the team's spirits.

Phase two kicked off in Liverpool: three winnable matches but all against dogged and experienced opposition. Grantham made us work hard for it but a second win was forthcoming,



12-9. We won 17-12 against South Derbyshire. Only once were we behind against Cambridge, but they never let up throughout. Nuno Cerqueira took us two goals clear with two minutes remaining only for Cambridge to equalise 30 seconds later. Strong defence kept them out and meant we were three wins towards a long overdue promotion. Special mention for Orion Ganase, usually a powerful shooter for us (and who also happens to be an ex-goalkeeper), who stepped into the breach in the absence of usual keeper Ivor Sokolic and played a blinder, pulling off some fantastic saves as well as giving out a substantial amount of chat.

Performance of the season came in Walsall against Solihull. Since re-entering the National League in 2012, with a team mostly made up of youngsters involved in the GB junior set-up, they had hitherto established a 23-game unbeaten streak. This came crashing down as Otter pulled away to a 5-3 lead at the end of the first quarter and never looked back. Every Solihull goal was called and raised and the 14-10 final score was a strong statement, not just for promotion but even for winning the division. This took a serious dent in the next match, where University of Bristol were able to match our physical play and took a 13-9 win. All of which meant that we were tied on points with Bristol and Solihull, but Solihull in first place because of goals scored.

The championship would play out in Marlborough. Assuming no shock results, one win would secure us promotion and two would give us a good chance of overhauling Solihull. We were again without Whitlock, having sadly departed home to the US the week before. But we'd beaten Bridgefield with a weakened team before. That should be a formality, right? Wrong. They were more organised and executed their strategies whereas our shooting was off and defence was slack. A 17-8 loss was deserved.



## CLUB PERFORMANCE: SWIMMING CLUB COMPETITIONS

Our last game of the season was also the last game of the weekend. By this point, due to other results, we knew that we were promoted but there was some pride at stake. Physical defence and clinical shooting took us to a 12-5 win. Roussos led with five to take his tally from the second phase up to 24 goals. Whitlock scored 27 from five games.

Thanks must go to several people. It's not easy being an Otter men's coach but Brian Whitlock helped us get that bit better organised, that bit fitter and that bit tougher in defence that turns promising teams into teams that win most games. It also helps scoring a bundle of goals to lead the attack. Second, to team captain Leon Estrella: it is a tough position, requiring the patience of a saint, in organising the squad but he has done it manfully. Third, to Paul Hindle for overseeing the polo men's management. Finally, Ivor Sokolic, who, aside from being an ever improving keeper and pulling off strings of outstanding saves to keep us in games, has possibly the most important job of making sure everyone is registered with the relevant leagues.

### SECOND AND THIRD TEAMS

*Paul Hindle*

The Otter 2nd and 3rd teams had a strong season. We played a total of 29 games with a 20/1/8 win/draw/lose record. Over 30 members represented Otter 2 and Otter 3 in 2013. In most games, including many of the most distant fixtures, we were able to field a full team of 13. We competed in a number of leagues and competitions during the year.

In the London Water Polo League (Division 3) Otter 2 finished in 3rd position for the second year in succession. A very strong Sutton & Cheam second team, that included the 2012 Olympics GB water polo team goalkeeper, Matt Holland, were the only side able to beat us both home and away. In the Middlesex Water Polo League (Division 2) Otter 3 finished the Middlesex League season with a clean sweep 100% winning record. A great effort by everyone who played.

In the Thameside Water Polo Association (League Division One) Otter 2 finished in second position and in the Thameside Water Polo Association handicap knock-out competition Otter 2 lost in the first round against Poly Purples. The competition was eventually won by Eastern Otter BDAC.

### HANDICAP COMPETITION

*Dave Warren*

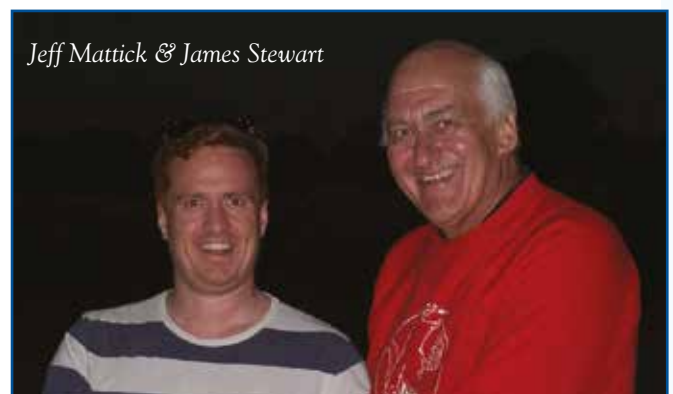
The annual handicap trophy is awarded to the cumulative points winner across 11 handicap events combining pool and open water swims throughout the year. There is a long tradition of handicap events within Otter and most individual events have their own individual trophies, one of which dates back to 1874.

Handicap events are generally swum as part of a normal Otter swim session to allow as many swimmers as possible to participate. The handicap events are for everyone, any stroke can be swum (with the exception of the 400 IM handicap), and offer a great chance for those who don't normally compete to swim and beat the competitive swimmers as each swimmer is given a pre-determined handicap time with the intention of all swimmers finishing together. Those that show the greatest improvement from their handicap time will win the event.

As with previous years, the overall result was very close – one point separating the top three places, with it all coming down to the final event – the 400IM. The final top five was as follows:

1. Jeff Mattick, 29 points
2. Lex Higlett, 28
2. Olivia Reynolds, 28
4. Pip Bennett, 25
5. Deidre Ward, 24

Well done to everyone, particularly these five swimmers. Overall, 84 Otters swam in the handicap events this year, but the overall champion, and deserved winner is Jeff Mattick.



*Jeff Mattick & James Stewart*



### Club championships

In the annual club championships a total of ten races are run across the year, which are open to all club members and have a variety of trophies up for grabs. This year, Dave Warren and Gina Hobson retained the men's and ladies' trophies, respectively. The individual trophy winners are detailed at the end of this report.



*Club champions:  
Gina & Dave*

## OPEN WATER

### Dave Warren

#### Mile

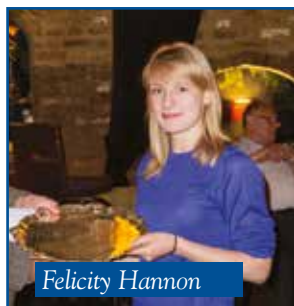
**Dudley Cup (men's scratch):** Dave Warren

**C G Forsberg (women's scratch):** Lex Higlett

**Cunningham Plate (handicap):** Felicity Hannon



*Dave Warren*



*Felicity Hannon*

The 2013 annual Otter Mile took place on the evening of Friday 28 June at Windsor. The standard protocol is for all swimmers to take a boat trip one mile up river from Windsor Sports Centre, with the 22 swimmers starting the race in the water together.

Unlike the previous year there was no fast tide to push the swimmers to the finish, and therefore the times were slower. The winner, for the third consecutive year, was Dave Warren, in a time of 18 minutes 29 seconds. The race for second was a close call between Pip Bennett, an experienced open water competitor, and Dave Roberts, competing in his first Otter mile. It was a well-timed sprint finish by Pip Bennett which gave him second place, finishing in a time of 19:30, Dave Roberts, finished just three seconds behind in 19:33.

The top three ladies finished close together. First woman was Lex Higlett, in a time of 20:28. Just behind Lex were Gina Hobson in second (20:32) and Michelle Senecal, third (20:37). The winner of the handicap Cunningham Plate was Felicity Hannon.

#### Half Mile

**J W Rope Memorial Trophy:** Jeff Mattick

The annual Half Mile race took place on Friday 19 July at Henley, and was again hosted by Henley Sailing Club, who provide boat transportation and excellent hospitality after the event.

The Half Mile is a handicapped start event with the start times for each competitor staggered by the handicapper from slowest to fastest with the expectation of everyone crossing the finish line at the same time.

We saw 26 swimmers starting within a range of three minutes between the first and last swimmers. Because of the nature of the staggered start the finish is always particularly difficult for the timekeepers and assistants to identify swimmers in the order they finish, and this year was no exception, with half the swimmers finishing within 30 seconds of the winner.

First across the line, was Jeff Mattick, six seconds behind for second place was Lex Higlett. Just two seconds further behind and in third place was Pip Bennett.

#### Quarter Mile

**2nd Tom Batt Challenge Cup:** Tim Kendall

On 10 August, Otter held the final club open water race of the year: the quarter mile. The event was well-attended, with nearly 20 Otters taking part. The event is handicapped and, once the race had been run, Tim Kendall was the eventual winner of the trophy.



*Half Mile swimmers awaiting the start*



## LA SANTA TRAINING CAMP, LANZAROTE

*Ben Thomas and Cat Hasnain*



The annual Otter training camp took place in mid-September. A romp of 32 eager Otters travelled to La Santa, Lanzarote for some warm weather training. Our intrepid group hoped to improve their fitness, hone their swimming skills, top-up the suntan and have a great week away with their team-mates. It is safe to say that the trip was a success on all fronts.

The team needed little ‘motivation’ to take part in the plethora of additional sports and sample the abundance of facilities that La Santa has to offer. Wherever you looked there was an Otter windsurfing, biking, body pumping, playing beach volleyball, tennis, taking part in aquathlons and triathlons, or undertaking a group snorkelling/scuba-diving lesson. You name it, Otters were rampaging! And all of this on top of the two 2-hour swimming sessions a day, already on offer.

Despite all this, there was still plenty of time to relax and lie in the sunshine where the hot (around 29 degrees) topic of conversation was always food-themed (which flavour of ice cream to eat, whose dish was best at the pasta party, how many variations of chicken will La Santa offer, does 29 minutes of swimming in one day justify an “iron-man” pizza). The older Otters even learnt from the younger about something called Twitter and even stranger innovations named ‘hashtags’ (#chillin’bythepoolbar or #Motivatedatbodyattack, for example).

If we needed further ‘motivation’ the Otter team showed that we could still ‘work hard play hard’ with the now infamous night out in Puerto del Chav. The lads certainly dressed for an active week away; who knew you could buy Lycra in so many colours, especially now we have left the halcyon days of 90’s breakfast TV far behind us!



Ollie Caldwell organised a great week away for the team with everyone coming back to the UK feeling a lot fitter, swimming a lot faster, sporting a great suntan and having made new friends. A big thank you to Ollie! Now the countdown is on to the 2014 Otter training camp. It’s a great week away so make sure you sign up this year.







**Open competitions**

Otter compete in numerous local, national and international Masters swimming meets over the course of the year. It would be impossible to mention them all here, so here is a selection of the highlights:

**MIDDLESEX MASTERS MEET, ENFIELD**  
*Cat Hasnain*



The annual Middlesex meet held at the beginning of June saw 40 Otters turn out to defend the club's county titles. There were club debut swims for Heather Shannon, Annette Coomer, Lex Higlett, Michaela Krejci, Giulia Campisi, Viviana Castagna, Mel Evans, Nima Vazari, Olivia Reynolds, Joana Sandrin Gauer, Craig Gillespi, and Chris Grey.

The team produced excellent performances all round with Sarah Westwood, Dave Warren, Helen Prentice and Gina Hobson putting in particularly strong pre-Nationals swims.

The confusion that is the relays (think an exercise in matching up as many swimmers with as many teams as possible ending up at the right end of the pool for the next heat) went off with only the merest hint of a hiccup. Field Marshalls Thomas, Hasnain and Hobson were on hand to execute the relay master plan with aplomb, resulting in near domination across the age groups.

Otter took the ladies', men's and overall titles, taking the latter with 1079 points to second-placed Barnet's 489; to say Coach Steve was pleased is only a small understatement!

Special mention goes to:

- Jess Trelvellick for actively encouraging her team mates to attend. This takes place every year, chat to those that attended, the buzz was that it was a lot of fun and not at all pressured.



- Lex Higlett for encouraging the polo girls to come along - we'd love to have even more of you at meets in the future.
- Jane McMenemy for donning a racing suit, scoring a lot of points and helping us achieve a greater spread of relays.
- Dave Roberts for turning out on the day despite having a bad foot injury and in his own words 'barely having the ability to push off the wall'.

Dave (Roberts), Lex and Jeff Mattick took the trophies home for the year in recognition of the extra effort they put in over the course of the day.





## GB MASTERS LONG COURSE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, PLYMOUTH

*Ben Thomas and Cat Hasnain*



Over 14-16 June, a romp of 22 Otters made the long journey down to the seaside, to the new Plymouth Life Centre facility. The team took on the 'Best of British' at the annual GB Masters Long Course National Championships. Although the Otter contingent may have been a bit smaller than previous years, what they lacked in numbers, they certainly made up for in the quality of their achievements.

On the first day Otter made its mark with record breaking success in the Men's 200+ 4x200m f/s relay and the team didn't look back. In the short space of two hours the team of Pete Kirk, Peter Rae, Dan Bullock and Dave Warren not only broke the British record in the 4x200m relay, they also broke the British record in the 200+ 4x100m f/s relay. It has to be said the boys did make it somewhat nail biting on the 4x100 relay, taking the record by a mere 0.03 seconds.

Not to be outdone by the men, the ladies team of Cat Hasnain, Sarah Westwood, Michelle Senecal and Gina Hobson stepped up when it mattered and broke the British record in the Ladies' 120+ 4x50m Medley relay, celebrating Michelle's first relay record since becoming a Brit. There was also further record breaking success for Otter in the mixed 120+ 4x50m F/C relay. The team of Dave Warren, Ian Bond, Gina Hobson and Sarah Westwood coming home comfortably inside the previous British mark.

The Otter relays were then wrapped up in emphatic style on the Sunday morning when the team of Ben Thomas, Dave Warren, Sarah Westwood and powered home by Gina Hobson broke the existing British record in the Mixed 120+ 4x50m Medley relay.

Further to all of the relay success there were numerous stand-out individual swims from the Otter contingent that quite rightly deserve recognition. These included:

- In her first year as a 'proper' Masters swimmer, Sarah Westwood dominated the ladies sprint events, winning the 50m back, 50m and 100m fly and breaking the 25-29 years 50m fly British record.
- Club President, James Stewart, took gold in the 70-74 years 400m Individual Medley.
- Tommy Sheldrick (25-29 years) recorded a Masters PB in the 200m fly and came out on top in his ongoing friendly rivalry with Dave Warren.
- However, the stand-out performer of the weekend was the aforementioned Dave Warren, showing his class and dominance in winning a total of eight individual national titles and breaking a further three individual British records in the process.



## EUROPEAN MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS, EINDHOVEN

*Helen Prentice*

In September, Helen Prentice and Matt Davis made their way to Eindhoven in the Netherlands to compete in the European Masters. Nose-to-tail warm-up swimming with no speed segregation between lanes and no-time-to-spare, over-the-top starts (including for backstroke), made the entire experience a bit hectic but our Otters took it all in their stride. Following a bout of last minute training, Helen won a bronze in the 200m backstroke, whilst Matt Davis just rolled up in time to nonchalantly nail a top ten placing in the uber-competitive men's 100m freestyle. In addition to this, he also clocked top ten times in the 50m free and 50m fly.



## ASA MASTERS SHORT COURSE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, SHEFFIELD

*Ben Thomas and Cat Hasnain*

When the rest of the UK was in lock down preparing for the impending hurricane an intrepid group of 35 Otters travelled to Sheffield (25-27 October) for the ASA Masters Short Course Nationals, where the fearless folk from Otter put their swimming skills to the test against the very best Masters swimmers from around the UK. There was success across the board for Otter, with team members old and new all posting some impressively fast times, winning medals and national titles to boot.

It was great to see some new faces competing for Otter to join some well-established ranks this year. We had first competitive appearances for Otter at national level from Felicity Hannon, Lex Higlett, Olivia Reynolds and Will Wall.

There were some fantastic results over the weekend and it's been a difficult task selecting the highlights from such a strong set of results. In no particular order:

- The 'Otter Old Boys' (Derek Parr, James Stewart, Mike Wake, Roger Lloyd-Mostyn, Roger Philips and Tony Ray) demonstrated they are a class act by winning multiple national relay titles in the 280+ age group.
- Nico Barber (25-29 years) not only completing the 50m, 100m, 200m, 400m and 800m f/s programme but also becoming national champion in his age group in 400m and 800m f/s.
- Gina Hobson (35-39) winning five national titles and comfortably breaking 60 seconds for the 100m f/s.
- Ted Evans (75-79) winning the 100m breast and leaving Sheffield as a multiple national medallist.
- Mike Wake and Roger Lloyd Mostyn (75-79) winning the 200m breast and 100m fly, respectively.
- James Stewart (70-74) winning the 200m back, 200m IM and 400m IM.
- Derek Parr (65-69) winning the 50m, 100m and 200m fly.
- Olivia Reynolds (25-29) for digging out her old suit and confounding her own expectations by setting Masters PBs and being close to her all-time best swims in all the sprint freestyle events.



- Sprint specialist, Matt Davis (30-34), stepping up when it mattered with some exceedingly fast 50m swims both in the relays and individuals, in particular winning the 50m back national title.
- Middle distance queens Katie Kerr (30-34) and Michelle Senecal (35-39) winning national titles in the 200m back and 200m fly, respectively.
- Dave Roberts (30-34) once again showed class in both the 100m and 200m f/s winning national titles with some extremely fast swims throughout the weekend. He also won the 200IM and 400m f/s.
- The Otter women dominated the freestyle relays with the 120+ 4x100m f/s team of Lex Higlett, Helen Prentice, Jess Trelvelick and Jane McMenemy and the 120+ 4x50m f/c team of Gina Hobson, Lex Higlett, Olivia Reynolds and Cat Hasnain posting some impressively quick split times and winning by a clear margin in both events.
- Topping off a very successful weekend for Otter, Dave Warren (40-44) again showed his dominance in the pool by breaking the 200m f/s British record and dipping under the one minute barrier for the 100m IM lowering his own GB record in the process. He also won three other national titles.

As was the case at the long course nationals, Tony Ray again stepped up to the challenge of 'herding cats' also known as making sure that every Otter relay team got to the blocks on time, in the right lane, in the correct heat and with four swimmers ready to go! Not an easy task. Thanks also to Coach Steve Bratt for his great work getting us all in tip top shape for Sheffield and his help and guidance on poolside throughout the weekend.

The Short Course Nationals are a highlight of the Masters season so it was great to see that all of the hard work in the pool during 2013 paid off with some very fast swimming.



## DECATHLON COMPETITION

*Gina Hobson*

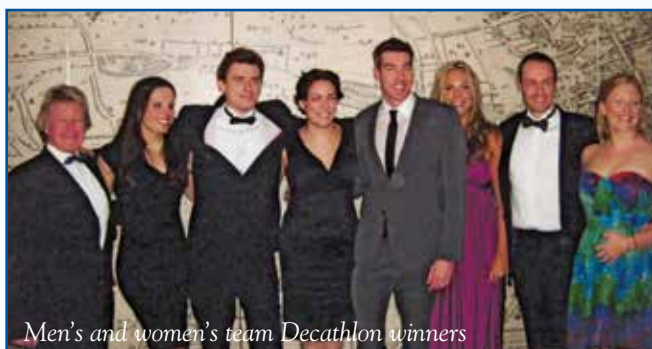
The Decathlon is an annual national competition in which Masters swimmers accumulate points for swims in up to ten (of 18) different events in six categories (all four strokes, distance freestyle and individual medley). The Decathlon aims to encourage participation, competition across age groups and promote Masters meets. Points are awarded for individual swims on an age-adjusted basis, allowing competition between all Masters swimmers whatever their age.

Otter has proven to be the dominant club since the Decathlon competition was launched. In recent years, the ladies team has won the title in 2010 and 2012, with the men winning in 2010, 2011, and 2012. In 2013 we again proved too strong for the challenging teams and retained our men's and ladies' titles. As Verity Dobbie reported in the Swimming Times: "you can appreciate the quality and quantity of Otter's team."

This year's teams were made up of Gina Hobson (9th overall, 5386 points), Laure Kearns (16th, 5118), Michelle Senecal (23rd, 4958), and Helen Prentice (29th, 4820). And for the men: Dave Warren, who returned to the top spot in the individual competition (1st, 6462), Dave Roberts (11th, 5263), Derek Parr (19th, 4847), and Ben Thomas (51st, 4331).



*Men's Decathlon team winners*



*Men's and women's team Decathlon winners*

## IPC SWIMMING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, MONTREAL

*Susie Rodgers*

I have to admit after the hype and excitement of 2012, 2013 would have to be a big year to be able to compete. After the parties, the holidays and the rest, I did think, what now? I knew I didn't want to retire. So, reluctantly I returned to the pool and began the grind once again. We found out quite late that the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) intended to host a World Championships in August 2013 in Montreal. Having never been to Canada I set my sights on once again trying to qualify for the GB team.

I scraped in by the skin of my teeth and by targeting one event – the 100m freestyle and headed out to Montreal a week before my 30th birthday. The World Champs were vastly different from the Olympics. No 17,000 booming crowd screaming our names, about a handful of GB supporters in the audience however they were very loud! The team performed brilliantly and won ten medals between us every day for the first three days. After day five, we surpassed our 40 medal target. I faced old rivals again, and although I wasn't overly happy with my times, my performances were good and I managed four individual silvers. I also won gold with the girls in the 4x100m 34 point freestyle relay team and finally achieved my dream of becoming a World Champion.

I left for a holiday in Canada to celebrate my 30th belatedly which was a bonus! For all those going to the Masters Worlds in Montreal next year – it was great, you will love it if you haven't been!

Thanks again to Steve for supporting me from afar this time, he was regularly in touch and keeping me focussed. Thanks also to those in Otter who sent me messages of support and encouragement. Thank you also to you all for my lovely mini "Otter" plaque that was given to me at the Otter dinner in 2013! It sits on my display shelf in my lounge for all to see!



*Susie Rodgers IPC World Championship medals*



## CLUB PERFORMANCE:

### OTHER EVENTS

## OPEN WATER

### *Pip Bennett*

Over the last few years open water swimming has greatly increased in popularity with the largest swims in 2009 attracting around 200 swimmers but in 2013 this is closer to the 1000 mark. It is very much a mass participation sport in the same vein as a 10km run or a marathon. At the top end of each competition, the racing is fierce and many Otters have made their mark at both the national and international levels.

The season started with the first H2Open National Ranking race held over 5km in Bedford. Dave Warren won overall and Pip Bennett came in 2nd in the (chilly) non-wetsuit category. This series of races is contested throughout the season with Dave gaining the maximum number of points by also winning at Bray, Henley (where Lesley Cook won the 55+ event) and Vachery. Going in to the final race at Bristol, Pip had a 2nd place and two wins so needed to beat the competitor from Derby who had won the first race of the season. It was a 5 lap race with different swimmers leading each lap; Pip came home first to jointly take the magazine-sponsored non-wetsuit title. He and Dave were the lucky recipients of a smart DryRobe which will make competing next year a warmer affair.



*Will Wall & Pip Bennett, national champions*



*Lesley Cook, Pip Bennett & Michelle Senecal at the Europeans*



*Isle of Wight: Michelle Senecal & Dave Warren*

Although not designed as a series in the same way, Human Race organise a great number of events in which Otters reached the podium. These are wetsuit races over distances ranging from 750m to 10km and are generally open, that is to say that top juniors and university swimmers also compete. A cold sea swim in Poole saw Laure Kearns win the 1.5km with Will Wall coming home 3rd. At Eton, Ben Thomas and Michelle Senecal came 3rd and 2nd in the 3km. Cat Hasnain came second in the 5km

while Dave Warren and Laure came 3rd and 2nd in the 10km. At Windsor, Dave came 2nd which he bettered at Hampton Court where Michelle also won. The duo did the same at the Isle of Wight swim and at Marlow where they were joined by Gina Hobson who won the 750m.

Other notable performances came from Dan Bullock who came 3rd at a 5km in Nottingham and Dave Roberts who finished in the same place in Eton in a 1.25km charity swim. The Henley Classic has an Elite section in which international swimmers compete against top masters swimmer; Dave Warren has been invited to compete in this in the 2014 edition. Pip Bennett won the non-wetsuit race adding to wins and podium finishes at the Shepperton race series despite racing without a wetsuit.

Many athletes use the local races to prepare for the major competitions at both the national and international levels. This are raced without wetsuits and under FINA rules. At the British Gas ASA National Masters Championships, Will Wall and Pip Bennett became National Champions in the 25-29 and 30-34 categories, respectively. This is a race that Otter could take home many national titles at in the future. Pip went over to Belgium with Mike Reyes to swim in the Damme-Bruges 5km which has been contested for almost 100 years. Both swimmers came second in the 25-34 and 34-39 categories respectively. The major race of many athletes' seasons is the European Masters Swimming Championships, this year held in Eindhoven. Lesley Cook came home 3rd in the 55-59 category while Michelle Senecal (35-39) and Pip Bennett (30-34) finished in 5th and 7th; a great way to finish the season.

It is hoped that Otters can continue to dominate throughout the open water season in 2014, so if any pool swimmers are keen for a new challenge then please get in touch for advice about wetsuit and non-wetsuit competitions.

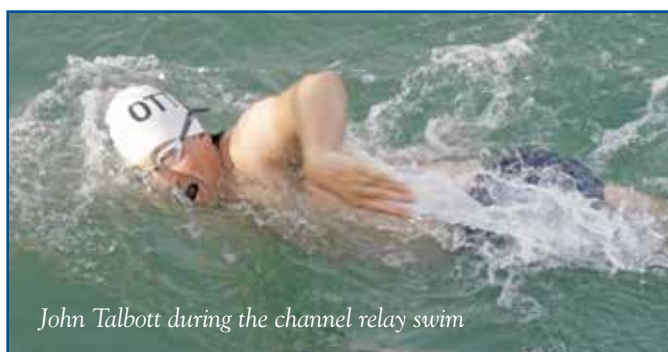


## TEAM CHANNEL CROSSING

*Katie Kerr*

On 6 August 2013, an Otter relay team comprising John Talbott, Daniel Worsley and Katie Kerr successfully swam the 21 miles separating Dover from Cap Gris Nez, France.

Open water training started in the spring and the unseasonably cold weather meant that the lidos, rivers and lakes of London were a chilly 10 degrees. Over the summer the team made many weekend and evening trips to Dover and Brighton beaches, in addition to regular Otter pool sessions.



*John Talbott during the channel relay swim*

After an anxious wait for a slot the trio set off in search of France early on a calm, sunny morning. John got the team off to a cracking start, and was followed by Dan, who seemed more intent on swimming away from the boat towards Belgium. Lastly Katie took her turn to dodge the jelly fish and oil tankers. The team were supported by a brilliant support crew, including Pilot Paul Foreman, who kept the tea flowing and spirits high. Finally, 11 hours 47 minutes after setting off from Dover, the team scrambled up the French coast to meet a very bemused French man and his dog. A fantastic day was had by all and almost £4,000 raised for Cancer Research, the RNLI and St. Elizabeth Hospice.

## LAKE CONISTON END TO END SWIM

*Deirdre Ward*

In early September, Tory Thorpe and Deirdre Ward made their way up to the Lake District for the inaugural Chillswim Coniston End to End Swim.

Arriving the night before, I attended the crew briefing with Mike who had volunteered to help out. It was insightful to see the meticulous planning that had gone into the event and I was left in no doubt that all swimmers would be well looked after on the day.

The day dawned and the weather was beautiful. The water was going to be a bit colder than expected due to a recent temperature dip but at least we would have the sun on our backs. There were three waves of swimmers and we were all taken by bus to the start. Waiting in the sun with the other swimmers was a good way to catch up with old friends and make some new ones. There was a great atmosphere as we got ready to head out.



*Lake Coniston*

The start was as you would expect but it settled as everyone found their rhythm. The scenery on both sides was beautiful and it was a rare treat to swim in such a beautiful location with such perfect weather. We had been given orange tow floats to wear around our waist. They offer no swimming aid but make the swimmers a lot more visible. It was comforting to look up and see the line of orange buoys stretching into the distance.

The swim had both wetsuited and non-wetsuited swimmers in different categories. I finished 3rd in the female non-suit category in a time of 2:37:50 with Tory coming in 4th. It was one of the best organised open water events I have done and I would highly recommend it.

## TRIATHLON - IRONMAN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, KONA

*Rachel Joyce*

On 12 October, Rachel Joyce competed in the Ironman World Championships in Kona. She finished in 2nd overall (in the women's professional category) in a time of 8:57:28, reaching the podium of the World Championships for the first time – a fantastic result. This is her story:

I've put off writing my race report as I didn't really know where to start. Of course there's the race day itself, but there's also the days and months leading up to that moment when you're treading water in the warm Pacific waters, waiting for the gun to go. Coming 2nd in Kona was very much a team effort and a big thank you goes out to my support crew.



In contrast to the spectacle of the age group start, I feel like the Kona start for the women's field is one of the calmer swim starts of the year. For the second year, we had a separate start from the pro men. I got off well and when I took my first few breaths I saw that I was out at front and in clear water. I was pretty sure I wouldn't stay out front but by getting out fast I knew I would be in the first pack. The rest of the swim was uneventful. I felt comfortable, in control and happy that the race was finally underway!

There was a big pack heading out on to the bike course. I was content to sit at the back through the town section to avoid getting into trouble. I felt calm, relaxed and well within my comfort zone. I realised we had a pack of riders who could all ride strong and we had a tail wind; it was going to be difficult to break away early on. I moved up close to the front so I could cover any moves and took some turns at the front. I think there was a subtle increase in pace and after the Kawaihae turn I picked the pace up again. This time there was a definite splinter in the group: Meredith Kessler, Jodie Swallow and I had a gap. There was a headwind back into town but I felt strong. I think for the first time in an Ironman I actually wanted the bike to continue. A new feeling!

I was first off the bike with Meredith hot on my heels. Meredith was out of T2 before me and started out at a roaring pace. I let her go. I knew I was running a solid pace and wanted to let my legs come around rather than forcing it too early. Sure enough after about 2 or 3 miles I closed the gap to Meredith and passed her.

As the miles ticked by my lead over Mirinda (Rinny) Carfrae was quickly being cut down. Between mile 14 and 15 I felt the media gather around me and knew that Rinny was right behind me, then next to me and then in front of me. I recognized that I couldn't stick with her so I just kept going as fast as I could. With three miles to go I knew I was secure in 2nd and once I hit town I soaked up and enjoyed the cheers and the finishing chute. Finally, on the podium and getting closer to that top spot!

In addition to Rachel's exploit's, Otter's Tom Burkinshaw also qualified and competed in the age group event in Kona finishing in a time of 10hrs 4mins.

## IRONMAN 70.3 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, LAS VEGAS

*Anne Jones*

As I pulled aside the curtains at 3am on race morning of the Ironman 70.3 World Championships in Las Vegas, it was clear it'd been raining heavily all night. This was not what I had

travelled to the desert for. The journey here really had been better than the destination.

It all began with supporting a friend at the same race two years earlier, thinking how I wanted to do that too. It was no doubt this idea that got me through the seemingly endless months of painful rehabilitation I faced after my shoulder reconstruction. But once I had the doctors' all-clear, it was thanks to fellow Otters, Rachel Joyce and Becky Phillips, that I found a great coach. Help came from all sides when another Otter, Susie Rodgers, let me share her lane at Crystal Palace to get those quality hours in the pool under my belt over the winter.



*Anne Jones on bike*

After missing qualification in June at my first race, the Ironman 70.3 UK in Wimbleball, my second race in Racine, Wisconsin brought everything together nicely. I felt sharp, the course suited my strengths and the weather was perfect: I was able to punch my ticket for Worlds.

By the time Vegas came around in September, burn-out had started to set in and I was struggling with the colder than expected weather. But it didn't matter: instead of racing, I soaked up the atmosphere and thanked all the volunteers and supporters as I went along, finishing 99th in 6:08:10. My fiancé Chris, however, got the best thank-you of all for being there every step of the way: big, tearful, sweaty hugs at the finish line. In the end, the new global ranking system meant my season's performance placed me third female athlete in the UK in my age group, so it wasn't a bad first season.



## ITU WORLD TRIATHLON SERIES GRAND FINAL, LONDON

*Chris Owens*

As the Editor has turned down my short version of events (I swam, I cycled, I ran, I conquered) here is the War and Peace edit. The ITU World Triathlon Series Grand Final in London offered several unique experiences, roughly in this order:

- Taking your race bike to transition on South West Trains, much to the bewilderment of the commuters - bike picture omitted as it would only confuse Otters!
- Driving up to Knightsbridge from Richmond in 20mins at 5am.
- Watching the sun come up over the Serpentine while the first waves set off.
- Trying to understand why the swim distance had been halved due to low air temperature, and rethinking tactics an hour before your number one race of the year.
- Trying to see the next swim buoy while swimming directly due east. The sun was just up, and the low air temperature had been delivered by a cloudless sky.
- Riding through Parliament Square, along the Embankment up the Mall to Hyde Park, then doing it again.
- The huge support for Team GB lifting you along, especially on the transitions and the run - just an incredible feeling - both from friends and the general public.
- Doing the whole event without much idea where your competitors are - after a two lap bike and a three lap run you think everyone is in front of you.
- Finishing with a vague feeling of having had 'a good day at the office' and getting no information about placing in spite of carrying a chip.
- Finally seeing a printout with the age group result and realising all the effort and focus had paid off - I was World Champion in the 60-64 age group in a time of 2:09.34.
- Being able to thank all the people who had physioed or massaged me, lifeguarded the lake at Shepperton or just put up with a rather odd old geezer who wanted to do triathlon - as well as the people in Otter bored by my slow swimming - thank you.



## OTTER GOLF

*Andy Craig*

The golf, as per usual, was a fraught and close run thing. The eventual victor being Matt Staines - a man who first wielded a golf club, not too long ago. How, you may ask, did this occur? That a mere newbie managed to fend off the combined might of many years' experience that were brought to the hallowed links by various other members of the Lutra species.

Well, I would say that a generous handicap helped - and a show of ineptitude from the other competitors that belied this vast array of golfing knowledge and practice. I myself had a pathetic collapse from a promising outward nine, and could only clap as Mr Staines kept his nerve to hole out on the 18th (and to my chagrin gain one more point than me.) Third was David Gawler a point adrift. As for the rest of the competitors - I would recommend hitting the driving range before 2014's competition.

A splendid lunch, as ever, accompanied the occasion at Royal Wimbledon and some of the more venerable members of the club attended that too.



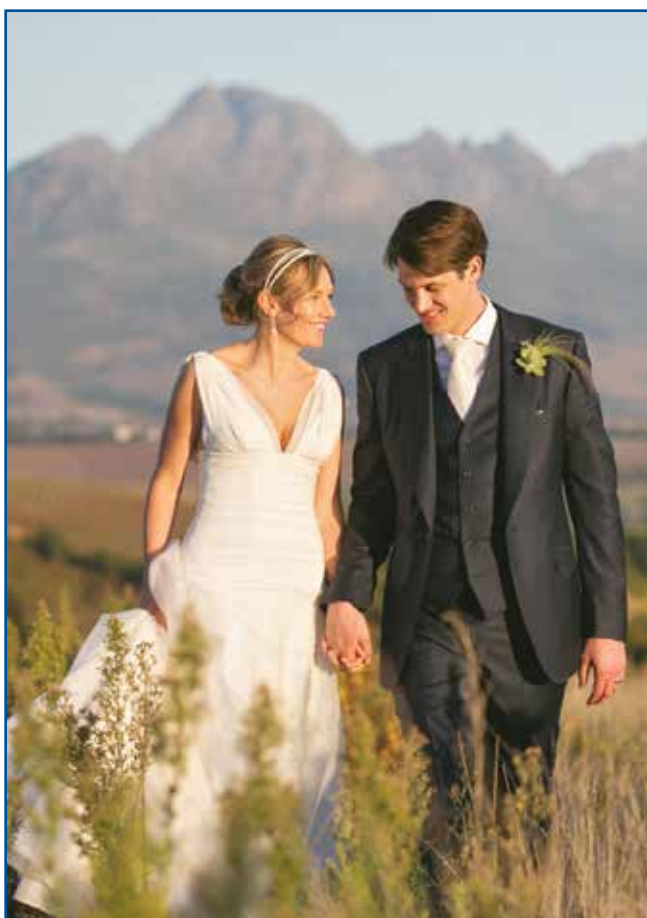


## OTTERS AWAY FROM THE WATER

---

It was a busy year for weddings in 2013, with the following Otters tying the knot:

- Jane Leighton and Dave Roberts married in April near Stratford-upon-Avon
- Andrew Louw and Nicola Davies married in May in Stellenbosch, South Africa
- Jane McMenemy and Al Moffatt married in August in Cambridge



*Andrew & Nicola, Stellenbosch*



*Jane & Dave, Stratford-upon-Avon*



## LIST OF MEMBERS 2013

### Honorary Active Life Members

1966 Iliffe, Mr J.K. (2003)

### Life Members

1946 Warnford-Davis, Mr D.M.  
 1949 Millner, Mr J.R. (1972)  
 1950 Cooper, Mr G.G. (1972)  
 1951 Milton, Mr H.P. (2004)  
 1952 Raw, Mr E. (1972)  
 1953 Gill, Mr A.G. (1982)  
 1953 Penny, Dr P.T. (1977)  
 1953 Thorogood, Mr P. (2009)  
 1953 Vandersteen, Mr M.H. (1999)  
 1954 Burn, Mr R.G. (2001)  
 1954 Dussek OBE, Mr I.J. (1973)  
 1956 Doxat, Mr C. (1999)  
 1959 Grundy, Mr M.D. (1997)  
 1960 Downs, Mr M.C. (2003)  
 1960 Goldberg, Mr M.D. (1980)  
 1960 McLachlan, Mr M.L. (1980)  
 1965 Thornton, Mr B. (1993)  
 1966 Gawler, Mr D. (2008)  
 1966 Thomas, Mr R. (1988)  
 1967 Pointon, Mr G.H. (1978)  
 1967 Wigginton, Mr A.B. (1991)  
 1967 Woodman, Dr M.J. (1980)  
 1971 Craig, Mr A.R. (2010)  
 1971 Goodbody, Mr J.B. (2005)  
 1971 Jones, Mr R.H. (2007)  
 1976 Mackenzie, Mr J. (2001)  
 1976 Miller, Mr D.R. (1999)  
 1979 Marshall, Mr F. (1998)  
 1980 Redpath, Mrs E.M. (2004)  
 1981 Courtney, Mr M. (1995)  
 1981 Plumley, Mr J. (2000)  
 1983 Woodward CMG.OBE, Ms B.  
 1984 Goudie, Mr P.A. (2001)  
 1985 Grace, Mr P.M. (1997)  
 1990 Williamson, Mr P.K. (2010)  
 1992 Hopkins, Mr R. (2006)  
 1993 Levitz, Mr M.D. (2010)  
 1997 Phillips, Mr R. (2012)  
 1997 Wake, Mr M. (2009)  
 1998 Gallagher, Mr N.R. (2010)  
 1998 Vider, Mr P.A. (2007)

### Active, Non-active, Country

Members 1946 Payne, Mr D.B.

1946 Ricketts, Mr J.L.  
 1954 Morton, Mr A.J.  
 1955 Chaney, Mr A.J.  
 1955 Stossel, Mr C.A.  
 1956 Harford, Mr R.S.  
 1959 Kennedy, Dr W.J.  
 1959 Towers, Mr J.F.  
 1959 Williamson, Mr R.J.  
 1960 Lloyd-Mostyn, Dr R.H.  
 1960 Parr, Mr D.R.  
 1960 Skidmore OBE, Dr F.D.  
 1962 Flash, Mr M.H.  
 1962 Stewart, Mr C.J.  
 1964 Fox, Dr J.S.  
 1964 Gordon, Mr J.S.  
 1966 Nalson, Mr J.K.  
 1968 Palmer, Dr R.J.  
 1972 Foxon, Dr M.  
 1973 Musgrove, Mr N.  
 1974 Sharpley, Mr R.F.  
 1975 Bedford, Mr J.  
 1975 Turner, Mr H.  
 1976 Hindle, Mr P.E.  
 1979 Flash, Mr G.M.  
 1979 Kirk, Mr P.G.  
 1983 Musgrove, Mr I.  
 1984 Flash, Mr A.M.  
 1984 Fraser, Mr T.M.  
 1985 Stewart, Mrs M.J.  
 1986 Alderton, Mr R.  
 1986 Musgrove, Mr G.  
 1987 Davies, Miss L.  
 1987 Evans, Mr P.  
 1988 Wain, Mrs A.L.  
 1988 Willetts, Mr G.  
 1990 Musgrove, Miss H.  
 1991 Kendall, Mr T.H.  
 1991 Owens, Mr C.  
 1993 McMenemy, Ms E.J.  
 1994 Amos, Dr M.J.  
 1994 Bancroft, Dr D.  
 1994 Rae, Mr P.J.  
 1994 Ray, Mr A.A.

1995 Deacon, Miss G.L.  
 1995 Deacon, Mr L.L.  
 1995 Fraser, Mr A.  
 1995 Fraser, Mr T.  
 1995 Gallagher, Mr M.  
 1997 Bree, Dr S.  
 1997 Evans, Mr B.E.  
 1997 Fry, Mr W.G.  
 1997 Hardy, Mr V.  
 1997 Powdrill, Mr G.  
 1997 Ray, Mr A.J.  
 1997 Stanton, Mr T.C.  
 1999 Buckley, Mr E.J.  
 2000 Hindle, Mr J.E.  
 2000 Marks, Mr S.  
 2001 Cerri, Mr P.  
 2001 Marshall, Ms F.C.  
 2001 Shaw, Miss E.A.  
 2001 Freeloove, Dr A.  
 2001 Parrish, Mr J.  
 2001 Lynn, Mr G.  
 2002 Dean, Ms M.E.  
 2002 Palmer, Mr J.  
 2002 Monk, Mr G.P.  
 2002 Slater, Ms S.  
 2003 Joyce, Miss R.  
 2003 Hobson, Dr G.  
 2003 Eden, Mr C.G.  
 2003 Ward, Ms D.  
 2003 Juxon, Mr R.  
 2003 Paynter, Miss D.  
 2004 Corcut, Mrs K.  
 2004 Toutet, Ms C.  
 2004 Boldon, Mr E.M.  
 2004 Starling, Dr A.  
 2004 Bew, Miss B.  
 2004 Mikulskis, Mr D.P.  
 2004 Williams, Mrs L.J.  
 2004 Hudson, Mr A.M.  
 2004 Salvatore, Mr T.  
 2005 Russell, Mr A.  
 2005 Miller, Mr R.G.  
 2005 Hemsworth, Miss S.  
 2005 Etiebet, Miss P.E.  
 2005 Buller, Mr N.  
 2005 Lievesley, Miss A.

2005 Thomas, Mr B.  
 2005 Comiskey, Mr G.M.  
 2006 Senecal, Miss M.L.  
 2006 Estrella, Mr L.  
 2006 Adams, Mr C.J.  
 2006 Benavides, Mr J.  
 2006 Sazama, Miss M.  
 2006 Holcombe, Miss S.  
 2006 Cotton, Mr D.  
 2006 Harrison, Mr S.T.  
 2006 Aldana, Mr J.F.  
 2006 Williams, Mr R.L.  
 2007 Bullock, Mr D.  
 2007 Stafford, Mr R.  
 2007 Bratt, Mr S.  
 2007 Capon, Mr A.  
 2007 Ochocinska, Ms A.  
 2007 Hahn, Mr E.  
 2007 Brown, Miss H.  
 2007 Dobson, Dr C.A.  
 2007 Chaney, Dr A.J.  
 2007 Cook, Mr L.  
 2007 Mulligan, Miss M.A.  
 2007 Nogaledo, Mr D.  
 2007 Chopra, Dr M.  
 2008 Carter, Mr S.J.  
 2008 Mozzicarelli, Mr F.  
 2008 Mulcahy, Miss R.  
 2008 Roberts, Mr D.  
 2008 Rumbos, Miss A.  
 2008 Wall, Mr W.A.  
 2008 McInroy, Mr R.B.  
 2008 Williams, Mr T.  
 2008 Sokolic, Mr I.  
 2008 Sutton, Mr C.  
 2008 Worsley, Mr D.  
 2008 Braden, Mr F.  
 2008 Shkurka, Miss E.  
 2008 Tufarelli, Mr T.  
 2008 Wright, Mrs F.J.  
 2008 Greenberg, Mr S.M.  
 2009 Rodgers, Miss S.  
 2009 Talbott, Mr J.R.  
 2009 Burgham, Mr M.R.  
 2009 Williams, Mr J.C.  
 2009 Gourlay, Miss A.J.



- |                           |                          |                              |                                 |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2009 Copley, Mr N.J.      | 2011 Deschatres, Mr F.   | 2012 Evans, Miss M.          | 2013 Campbell, Mr K.            |
| 2009 Jones, Ms A.M.       | 2011 Gaunt, Mr T.        | 2012 Sousa, Ms A.P.          | 2013 Collivadino, Miss G.       |
| 2009 Caldwell, Mr O.J.    | 2011 Sharples, Mr J.     | 2012 Amardeilh, Mr C.        | 2013 Darnborough, Miss J.       |
| 2009 Ganase, Mr O.        | 2011 Longman, Miss A.    | 2012 Roussos, Mr N.          | 2013 Dean, Miss I.              |
| 2009 Sirianni, Mr P.      | 2011 Orosz, Mr G.        | 2012 Von Herberstein, Mr E.  | 2013 Downey, Miss E.            |
| 2009 Kelleher, Mr L.      | 2011 Scanlan, Mr J.      | 2012 Downey, Miss E.         | 2013 Freeman, Miss C.           |
| 2009 Bennett, Miss S.E.   | 2011 Grainge, Mr M.R.    | 2012 Florez Atehortua, Mr L. | 2013 Tollefson, Mr P.           |
| 2009 Prentice, Dr H.      | 2011 Harris, Miss L.J.   | 2012 Hansen, Miss L.A.       | 2013 Abeling, Mr T.             |
| 2009 Ryan, Mr E.          | 2011 Kelly, Miss J.M.    | 2012 Nyaka, Mr M.J.          | 2013 Alburquerque Garcia, Mr L. |
| 2009 Kruesmann, Ms M.     | 2011 Sheldrick, Mr T.    | 2012 Robertson, Mrs K.A.     | 2013 Bressi, Mr F.              |
| 2009 Tympanari, Miss A.   | 2011 Westwood, Miss S.E. | 2012 Cosani, Mr O.           | 2013 George, Mr C.              |
| 2009 Warren, Mr D.        | 2011 Parra, Ms M.        | 2012 Campisi, Miss G.        | 2013 Khetan, Mr V.              |
| 2010 Holliday, Mr S.G.    | 2011 Coomer, Miss A.     | 2012 Barone, Mr B.           | 2013 Martinez, Mr C.            |
| 2010 Burkinshaw, Mr T.    | 2011 Csizsinszky, Mr D.  | 2012 Parker, Mr W.           | 2013 Oliviero, Mr G.            |
| 2010 Moulson, Mr D.       | 2011 Marra, Mr A.W.      | 2013 Banerjea, Miss M.       | 2013 Popovic, Mr T.             |
| 2010 Kerr, Miss K.        | 2011 Salvemini, Miss E.  | 2013 Barros, Miss A.         | 2013 Radunovic, Mr V.           |
| 2010 Bari, Mr F.          | 2011 Cook, Mr C.T.       | 2013 Brunn, Miss A.          | 2013 Webb, Mr R.                |
| 2010 Harrison, Mr P.      | 2011 Davis, Mr M.        | 2013 Chan, Miss P.           |                                 |
| 2010 Tafazolli, Miss B.M. | 2011 Thorpe, Miss V.     | 2013 Goad, Miss E.           | <b>Junior Members</b>           |
| 2010 Phillips, Mrs R.J.   | 2012 Wilson, Mr O.M.     | 2013 Gunner, Miss V.         | 2005 Miller, Miss K.A.          |
| 2010 Dunn, Miss E.J.      | 2012 Cerqueira, Mr N.    | 2013 Haycocks, Miss E.       | 2005 Miller, Miss A.T.          |
| 2010 Castagna, Miss V.    | 2012 Eather, Mr B.C.     | 2013 Macdonald, Miss A.      | 2005 Miller, Mr L.A.            |
| 2010 Black, Mr K.         | 2012 Gissi, Miss V.M.    | 2013 Piermattei, Miss S.     | 2005 Miller, Mr B.Q.            |
| 2010 Hargreaves, Miss R.  | 2012 Canepa, Dr A.       | 2013 Reynolds, Miss O.       | 2012 Wain, Mr E.V.              |
| 2010 Elsaadany, Mr R.     | 2012 Grey, Mr C.         | 2013 Voeltzel, Miss D.       | 2012 Nurthen, Ms M.L.           |
| 2010 Kearns, Miss L.      | 2012 Barber, Mr N.       | 2013 Belato, Mr L.           | 2012 Grant, Miss E.L.           |
| 2010 Mason, Mr A.J.       | 2012 Imbs, Mr X.N.       | 2013 Bennett, Mr P.S.        | 2012 Edey, Miss J.              |
| 2010 Wyss, Mr T.          | 2012 Reys, Mr M.         | 2013 Croisier, Mr S.         | 2012 Patchett, Miss H.N.        |
| 2010 Hannon, Miss F.A.    | 2012 Clarke, Mr M.       | 2013 Espinosa, Mr D.         | 2012 Williams, Miss M.S.        |
| 2010 Shahbazi, Mr R.      | 2012 Gillespie, Mr C.    | 2013 Feron, Mr R.            | 2013 Dean, Miss I.              |
| 2010 Bassey, Mr A.        | 2012 Whitlock, Mr B.P.   | 2013 Gebhardt, Mr W.         |                                 |
| 2011 Bond, Mr I.          | 2012 Eckert, Mr J.       | 2013 Giuliana, Mr A.         |                                 |
| 2011 Dearsley, Miss E.    | 2012 Brownsey, Mr E.     | 2013 Harris, Mr T.           |                                 |
| 2011 Louw, Dr A.R.        | 2012 Begg, Mr A.J.       | 2013 Hutton, Mr R.           |                                 |
| 2011 Trevellick, Miss J.  | 2012 Pratley, Miss D.H.  | 2013 Johnson, Mr F.          |                                 |
| 2011 Wright, Miss S.E.    | 2012 Yousif, Mr S.       | 2013 Kan, Mr K.              |                                 |
| 2011 Edmonds, Dr P.       | 2012 Vaziri, Mr N.       | 2013 Mackenzie, Mr H.        |                                 |
| 2011 Romozzi, Mr L.       | 2012 Gauer, Miss J.S.    | 2013 Mattick, Mr J.          |                                 |
| 2011 Costello, Mr K.      | 2012 Webb, Mr R.M.       | 2013 Parker, Mr W.           |                                 |
| 2011 Schuring, Mr B.      | 2012 Whitnall, Mr B.     | 2013 Pozzi, Mr R.            |                                 |
| 2011 Glennie, Miss G.     | 2012 Finlay, Mr T.       | 2013 Rocchi, Mr A.           |                                 |
| 2011 Cockill, Mr M.       | 2012 Campbell, Miss H.   | 2013 Sousa Mendes, Mr V.     |                                 |
| 2011 Higlett, Miss A.     | 2012 Thompson, Mrs S.S.  | 2013 Staton, Mr D.           |                                 |
| 2011 Shannon, Miss H.     | 2012 Leighton, Miss F.   | 2013 Takagi Mr H.            |                                 |
| 2011 Wain, Miss Z.F.      | 2012 Subat, Mr H.        | 2013 Woolley, Mr R.          |                                 |
| 2011 Williams, Mr E.      | 2012 Bowen, Miss V.      | 2013 Allen, Miss T.          |                                 |



## TROPHY WINNERS

2013 CHAMPIONSHIP RACES [MEN]	YEAR DONATED	EVENT	WINNER
(No trophy)		50m Freestyle	D. Roberts, D. Warren (shared)
5th Humphrey's C.C.	1911	100m Freestyle	D. Warren
Major Collis Browne	1899	400m Freestyle	D. Warren
Brown C.C.	1889	100m Backstroke	D. Warren
2nd Annison C.C. (shared)	1914	100m Breaststroke	D. Warren
(No trophy)		50m Butterfly	D. Warren
Peters Tankard	1966	100m Butterfly	D. Warren
Ronald Edgar Salver (shared)	1952	100m Medley	D. Warren
Arthur Batt Trophy (shared)	1996	200m Medley	D. Warren
Dudley C.C.	1898	Mile Open Water	D. Warren
Buller C.C.	1905	Points Total	D. Warren

2013 CHAMPIONSHIP RACES [WOMEN]	YEAR DONATED	EVENT	WINNER
(No trophy)		50m Freestyle	G. Hobson
J.R.G. Millner C.C.	1977	100m Freestyle	L. Higlett
Club Trophy	2001	400m Freestyle	G. Hobson
Club Trophy	2001	100m Backstroke	K. Kerr
2nd Annison C.C. (shared)	1914	100m Breaststroke	G. Hobson
(No trophy)		50m Butterfly	G. Hobson
Club Trophy	2001	100m Butterfly	G. Hobson
Ronald Edgar Salver (shared)	1952	100m Medley	G. Hobson
Arthur Batt Trophy (shared)	1996	200m Medley	G. Hobson
C.G. Forsberg Memorial	2001	Mile Open Water	L. Higlett
Jackson Trophy	1993	Points Total	G. Hobson



2013 HANDICAP EVENTS	YEAR DONATED	EVENT	WINNER
Hodge C.C.	1970	10 Widths Handicap	C. Gillespie
Macdonald C.C.	1893	50m Handicap	P. Bennett
Pyers Mostyn C.C.	1955	100m Handicap	E. Salvemini
David Craig Salver	2004	100m Sealed Handicap	A. Rocchi
Ladies' C.C.	1874	125m Handicap	D. Ward
Baldon C.C.	1934	150m Handicap	D. Ward
Alfred Jonas C.C.	1935	200m Handicap	D. Ward
Alex Ferguson Trophy	2008	400m IM Handicap	O. Reynolds
Synge-Hutchinson C.C.	1931	Veterans' 50m Handicap	S. Bratt
2nd Tom Batt C.C.	1948	Open Water Quarter Mile	T. Kendall
J.W. Rope Memorial	1921	Open Water Half Mile	J. Mattick
Cunningham Plate	1951	Open Water Mile	F. Hannon
Frank Sachs C.C.	1923	Open Water Points total	L. Higlett
George Rope Averages	1911	Handicap Points Total	J. Mattick

2013 WATER POLO	YEAR DONATED	EVENT	WINNER
J.H.R. Haswell Trophy	1998	Men's Player of the Year	Brian Whitlock
Water Polo Cup	2003	Women's Player of the Year	Lex Higlett

2013 OTTER GOLF	YEAR DONATED	EVENT	WINNER
G.H. Rope C.C.	1923	Otter Golf	Matt Staines



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



**Honorary Annual Report Editor:**

Gina Hobson

**Designed & Printed by:**

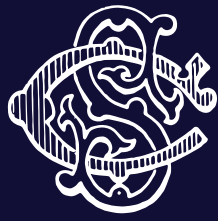
ppi Marketing Communications

**In addition to all report contributors, we're grateful to the following who supplied photos:**

Joana Sandrin Gauer, Lex Higlett, Andrew Louw, Jeff Mattick, Daryl Nurthen,  
Michelle Senecal, James Stewart and Dave Warren.

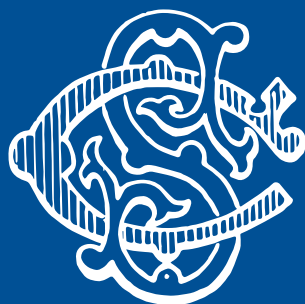
# OTTER SWIMMING CLUB

FOUNDED 1869



# OTTER SWIMMING CLUB

FOUNDED 1869



[www.otterswimming.com](http://www.otterswimming.com)

[www.otterwaterpolo.com](http://www.otterwaterpolo.com)