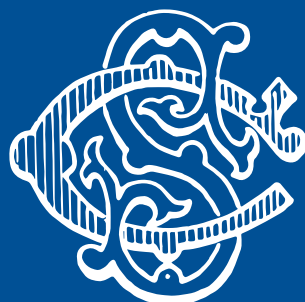


OTTER SWIMMING CLUB

FOUNDED 1869



ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2014



OTTER SWIMMING CLUB

FOUNDED 1869



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PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

Paul Hindle

In April, I was privileged to be elected as the 18th President in the long history of Otter Swimming Club. I feel somewhat overawed by the prospect and the responsibilities that come with the role, but nevertheless determined to make sure we are able keep the club at the top of the tree. After joining in 1976, I quickly came to cherish the unique mix of heritage, competition and culture that makes Otter special. In a constantly changing and increasingly complex world, where time has become that most precious of commodities, I am keen to ensure that Otter remains relevant and able to change and adapt to allow it to thrive and grow. I am sure that with the continued support of my fellow Committee members, which I have enjoyed in my first year, we can do that.



2014 - Another successful year

The most pleasurable Otter occasion for me was being invited to the 50th anniversary reunion of the imperious 1964 Otter Men's water polo team. In that year they won the ASA National Water Polo Championship, and were runners up in the National Water Polo League. For the non polo cognoscenti of you this is water polo's equivalent of winning the FA Cup and coming second in the Premier League, in the same season. Most of the original squad were able to attend, several flying in for the occasion. I was able to meet for the first time a number of club legends. Thanks to John Towers and Tony Milton for organising.

Exactly 50 years later Otter Ladies' water polo completed an almost identical feat. In January they finished the 2013/14 British Water Polo League (BWPL) season as winners. BWPL is the successor to the National Water Polo League. Then in February they lost to Liverpool in the final of the British Gas Water Polo Championships - the current name for the ASA National Water Polo Championships. Congratulations to all for an astounding success. A combined 10th and 60th anniversary reunion for the 1964 Men's team and the 2013/14 Ladies' team looks like it should be in order?

Ladies' Water Polo

2014 was another successful year for the Otter Ladies water polo teams, as they continue to move from strength the strength. They remain the leading ladies team in the South and South East. In the 2014 British Water Polo League season Otter 1 finished in the top tier, whilst Otter Lutra won the Championship division. In 2015 they plan to enter a third team.

Several Otter ladies represented their country during the year. My congratulations go to:

- Peggy Etiebet played in the GB team at the LEN Waterpolo Championships
- Holly Campbell played for Scotland at the Commonwealth Championships
- Brooke Tafazolli, Tilda Williams, Hannah Patchett and Kathy Rogers played for GB U/19s at the 2014 European Championships
- Izzy Dean, Mhairi Nurthen and Anna Szyszko played for GB U/17s at a 4 Nations Tournament in Germany.

Thanks to Coach Nick Buller who continues to inspire the ladies, to Captain Lex Higlett for her exceptional leadership and to all others who support the team and together help make it happen.

Men's Water Polo

2014 was another successful year for Otter Men's water polo. Otter 1 retained their position in Division 3 of the British Water Polo League, with Nikolaos Roussos the leading goal scorer in the division. A praiseworthy feat after a slow start. Otter 2 (with yours truly as captain no less!), won the London League Referees Cup; a competition last won by Otter in 1974.

Swimming

2014 was another successful year for the swimming section.

Five swimmers took part in the World Masters Swimming Championships in Montreal. Gina Hobson won a bronze medal in the 200 backstroke. Gina also achieved top five finishes in her remaining four events. Matt Davis secured top ten placings in the 50 and 100 backstroke. Please all note that the 2016 European Masters Championships will be held in the London Aquatics Centre, Stratford. I hope we can look forward to a significant Otter participation.

24 swimmers took part in the long course British Gas Masters Championships, winning 34 gold, 28 silver and 10 bronze medals; with one GB and European Record in the ladies 120+ age group 4x100 free relay from Lex Higlett, Olivia Reynolds, Laure Kearns and Gina Hobson along the way.

36 swimmers took part in the short course ASA National Championships, winning 16 gold, 31 silver and 16 bronze medals; with one GB and European Record being achieved in the ladies 120+ age group 4x100 free relay team (Celia Marcadal, Lex Higlett, Olivia Reynolds and Gina Hobson).

Congratulations also to the ladies' team of Gina Hobson, Laure Kearns, Helen Prentice and Michelle Senecal, who defended their team Decathlon trophy. Winning this national title signifies the strength and quality of swimming at the club. Dave Warren won the individual men's title for a record fifth time. Great performances, well done.

The number of Otters competing in open water events grows each year and 2014 was no exception. A particular highlight was Dave Warren being invited to join the EC6 Total Immersion



team’s attempt to break the world record for a relay crossing the English Channel. This over 40s team completed the crossing in just 7 hours and 3 minutes; the fastest relay crossing of the year and the second fastest ever, only 11 minutes outside the all comers world record of 6 hours and 52 minutes.

A remarkable series of successes, for which Head Coach Steve Bratt and the coaches working under his guidance must be warmly thanked.

Club Affairs

I would like to thank my fellow Otter Club Officers and Committee members for their sterling work throughout the

year in making sure that Otter continues to run smoothly, and especially to Chris Eden, our Honorary Treasurer, for keeping us on the financial straight and narrow. We all lead busy lives and finding the extra time for Otter is a genuine commitment.

I would also like to thank all other Otter members and supporters who have helped in any small way in making sure that all the events that the club organises and participates in happen. Our success could not come about without you.

And finally, a big thank you to Gina Hobson for compiling, writing and editing this excellent report.



CLUB COMMITTEE

President:	Paul Hindle
Honorary Secretary:	Hannah Brown
Honorary Treasurer:	Chris Eden
Vice Presidents:	Lesley Davies, Martin Flash, Gina Hobson, Tony Ray, Roger Sharpley, James Stewart
Captain of Swimming (Men):	Dave Roberts
Captain of Swimming (Women):	Cat Hasnain
Captain of Water Polo (Men):	Leon Estrella
Captain of Water Polo (Women):	Lex Higlett
Honorary Secretary, Water Polo:	Ivor Sokolic
Committee Members:	Victoria Thorpe, Lizi Dunn, Viviana Castagna, Jeff Mattick, Pip Bennett, Ed Buckley, Brian Barone
Honorary Handicapper:	Dave Warren



CLUB ADMINISTRATION

Chris Eden

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OVERVIEW

On first glance, 2014 looks like a weaker year as far as the Income & Expenditure (I&E) account is concerned. However, bear in mind that 2013 was an exceptional year with a surplus way above the budget expectations, where we generally aim to break even. Furthermore, the Balance Sheet actually improved slightly which is a reflection of the fact that £2,000 of the Expenditure is for insurance (which is a transfer between the Income & Expenditure account and the club’s Trophy Insurance reserve) and also that some of the generous donations income during the year are given to the Memorial Fund, which goes straight to reserves, rather than via the Prizes & General Fund, which is an Income & Expenditure account item. Adjusting for those two factors, the club actually made a slight surplus.

The largest factor in the I&E deficit was due to membership income. While we saw a large number of new joiners during the year (see below under Membership and Administration), we also had a larger than usual exodus as well – such is the nature of a central London-based club – and this has affected the overall membership income when compared to 2013 and to budget. This is supported by the churn rate (the monetary effect of people joining and leaving, when comparing expected income for an annual subscription to what was actually received) which was 33% (2013 – 22%).

Other Income reduced for two reasons – 2013 saw the tail-end of the notional ‘Income’ from the free Shell pool time (which had an equal and matching cost in the Pool hire costs) and we have not yet received Decathlon prize money for the 2013 competition.



We took on an extra Tuesday session at the new St Pancras Leisure Centre from September, as well as using a few lanes at the Olympic Pool, which offset the Shell cost in 2013. The Committee continues to search for new/improved pool facilities and we have to invest upfront in pool time in the expectation that this will provide a greater choice for current members, as well as hopefully attracting new members, the obvious impact being it may cost you in the short-term.

Coaching costs reduced largely due to lower coaching costs in water polo, which observed drops compared to 2013 and budget.

With City of London Girls School returning in January 2015, the Club's pool time offering will grow to nine swimming sessions and six polo sessions per week, totalling over 650 coached swimming hours and over 400 coached polo hours per year.



PRIZES & GENERAL FUND AND MEMORIAL FUND DONORS

The generosity of members, either in paying over and above their regular subscriptions or in making separate designated donations, continues to help manage the Club's annual costs, as well as strengthen the Club's capital base. Our thanks to the following:

Tracey Allen, Michael Amos, Torben Anderson, Sarah Benett, Kerry Black, Giuseppe Bonavota, Matthew Burgham, Tom Burkinshaw, Alexander Capon, Nuno Cerqueira, Gregory Comiskey, Hannah Cooper, Oliver Damhone, Matthew Davis, Martha Dean, Charles Doxat, Peter Grace, Martin Flash, John Fox, Victor Hardy, Catherine Hasnain, Alexis Higlett, Gina Hobson, John Iliffe, Xavier Imbs, Roger Lloyd-Mostyn, Andrew Louw, Fiona Marshall, Jane McMenemy, Andrew Morton, Mhairi Nurthen, Samantha Owen, James Palmer, Doug Payne, Roger Phillips, Amie Prichard, Susie Rodgers, James Scanlan, Elizabeth Shaw, Paolo Sirianni, Peter Skarratt, Edward Steel, James Stewart, Cliff Stossel, Anna Szyszko, Robert Thomas, Jasper Van Laanan, David Warren, Thibault Williams, Barbara Woodward CMG OBE, Sharon Wright.

MEMBERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

During the year, Otter welcomed 77 new members (compared with 48 in 2013), 29 of whom are water polo players (2013 – 17). All new members are included in the list of current members attached at the end of this report.

Thanks to the considerable efforts of the following, for signing up new members, policing memberships and more: Cat Hasnain, Dave Roberts, Ben Thomas and Deirdre Ward for swimmers; Lex Higlett 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, Tony Ray, Hannah Brown and Paul Hindle for managing the pool bookings.

2014 saw the introduction of the brand new Club website which has been managed/designed by John Talbott, and it continues to evolve. The quality of the website is defined by the content on it (reports, photos, etc.) so please get in touch throughout the year if you have any contributions.

Finally, a big thank you to Tom Burkinshaw for continuing as Hon. Auditor – it's an undervalued role yet crucial to ensure that the financial statements are accurate.

Club members 2014 and 2013	2014	2013
Active swimmers	102	126
Country swimmers	16	15
Non-active swimmers	63	66
Life member swimmers	34	34
Junior swimmers	7	5
TOTAL SWIMMERS	222	246
Active polo	49	62
Country polo	11	13
Non-active polo	16	19
Life member polo	8	8
Junior polo	9	6
TOTAL POLO	93	108
TOTAL MEMBERS	315	354


INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - £

Year ended 31 Dec 2014	2014	2013
Members income	96,117	105,820
Subscriptions income	89,150	98,468
Special sessions	1,010	964
Match fees	3,690	4,120
Prizes and general fund	2,267	2,268
Other income	2,754	5,278
External income	-	2,813
Capital income	1,425	1,436
Miscellaneous income	1,329	1,029
TOTAL INCOME	98,871	111,098
Pools & equipment	(59,279)	(59,779)
Pool hire costs	(59,155)	(58,880)
Equipment costs	(84)	(899)
Coaching	(16,966)	(20,512)
Coaching costs	(16,966)	(20,512)
Activity costs	(18,150)	(13,406)
Water polo expenses	(10,662)	(6,133)
Swimming expenses	(1,296)	(1,604)
Affiliation costs	(5,920)	(5,181)
Prizes and trophies	(272)	(488)
Club activities	(55)	(713)
Dinner	52	(201)
Open water races	(442)	(507)
Shop sales	335	(5)
Administration	(8,193)	(10,104)
Insurance	(2,000)	(2,000)
Post and printing	(2,266)	(2,891)
Tax	-	-
Bad debts	(2,433)	(4,652)
IT costs	(852)	(83)
Miscellaneous costs	(642)	(478)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	(102,643)	(104,514)
PROFIT/(LOSS)	(3,772)	6,584

'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 2014.' Hon. Auditor. Tom Burkinshaw


BALANCE SHEET - £

Year ended 31 Dec 2014	2014	2013
Trophies	35,000	35,000
Tangible fixed assets	35,000	35,000
Investments at cost	30,142	30,142
Self insurance investment	22,044	19,904
Investments	52,186	50,046
Fixed assets	87,186	85,046
Stock	3,939	3,207
Debtors	5,530	1,649
Cash at bank and in hand	28,721	32,443
Current assets	39,007	37,299
Creditors falling due within one year	(6,702)	(4,166)
Net current assets	31,488	33,133
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	118,674	118,179
Computer fund	3,880	3,880
Spoon fund	7,038	7,038
Sinking funds	10,918	10,918
Provisions	10,918	10,918
Life membership fund	21,295	21,295
Memorial fund	33,412	31,145
Trophy insurance fund	20,983	18,983
<i>Capital funds</i>	<i>75,690</i>	<i>71,423</i>
Balance brought forward	35,838	20,482
Capital income and reserves	-	8,772
Result for year	(3,772)	6,584
<i>Reserve funds</i>	<i>32,866</i>	<i>35,838</i>
Reserves	108,576	107,261
RESERVES AND PROVISIONS	118,674	118,179

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



OTTER NEWS

REUNION OF 1964 NATIONAL WATER POLO CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

James Stewart

On 10th October 2014, through the initiative of John Towers and Tony Milton, a 50th anniversary reunion was convened at The Lord Tredegar in Bow in London of the Otter team that won the 1964 National Club Water Polo championship.

The below photo shows those who were able to attend: **Back Row L-R.** Norman Griffin, Murray McLachlan, John Towers, George Hill. **Seated L-R.** Bob Burn, Duncan Kemp, Tony Milton.



Several of the above gained either swimming or water polo international honours. Murray (Tich) McLachlan (now resident in California) represented South Africa at the 1960 Rome Olympics coming 6th in the 400m and 1500m free. He came to Otter after winning a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University. John Towers was a GB international goalkeeper. Duncan Kemp (now resident in Portugal) was a GB international from 1959-64 and former GB WP Captain. Tony Milton represented GB at the 1960 Rome Olympics in the 4 x200m free relay, where the team placed 4th.

Among the other members of that 1964 team, we have lost touch with Len Elsom and Bob Hunt (GB under 21). Neil Paine, now resident in South Africa, sent his apologies for non-attendance. Our then Coach and non-playing Captain, Eric Kimber, died a number of years ago, and sadly Peter Stevens passed away in 2012.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BARBARA

James Stewart



Barbara Woodward
CMG OBE

On 6th August 2014, the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) announced that Ms Barbara Janet Woodward CMG OBE would in early 2015 be taking up her appointment as Her Majesty’s Ambassador to the People’s Republic of China. Having been a member of Otter since 1983 and subsequently Hon. Sec. from 1999 to 2002, a Vice President in 2003, and Editor of our Annual Report from 2009 to 2011, it is safe to say that she is one of those members who needs no second name. Now, however, we are losing her for several years to one of the most important and demanding positions in the British diplomatic service. Many members may want to join in wishing her great success in this role.

Barbara joined Otter from St Andrew’s University, having obtained a degree in History, while also representing the university in swimming, trampolining and squash. She was a member of an Otter squad that spearheaded the Club’s early pre-eminence in British Masters swimming. In the late 1980s she spent several years in the city of Wuhan in Central China, honing her language skills and then after joining the FCO was assigned to Moscow from 1994-98, finishing as First Secretary (Commercial/Political). In this role she successfully helped free two British hostages, held by Chechen separatists – a slightly risky assignment that contributed to her award of the OBE. From 2003-09 she was assigned to the Beijing Embassy where she finished as Deputy Head of Mission. In the run-up



to and during the 2008 Olympics, Barbara was active behind the scenes in advising the British Olympic Teams on securing appropriate training facilities. Her award of the CMG (Companion of St Michael & St George), which is the sixth highest order within the British Honours system, was made in 2011.

On 5th December, a small dinner party was convened to mark Barbara's pending departure from UK. This was convened by David Skidmore OBE and those attending were accommodated in one of the small libraries at The Atheneum Club in Pall Mall. Since this could only seat 12 comfortably, numbers were limited and so priority was given to older club members who had known Barbara for many years. With some notable absences due to unavailability, those who attended to wish Barbara well were John Goodbody, Mark and Dru Grundy, Tony and Susie Ray, Elizabeth and Niel Redpath, Roger Sharpley, David and Diana Skidmore, and Meg and James Stewart.

OTTER IN PRINT

James Stewart

Otter's Committee is occasionally approached and asked to share material relating to the Club, its history and performances. English Heritage, in 2014, published a 360 page tome with the title of 'Played in London – Charting the heritage of a city at play'. It focuses on sporting venues for the full range of the multiplicity of sports practiced in London as well as giving details of the emergence of competitive clubs and associations that formed around them. While some reference is made to early sporting development, the major focus is on the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. The focus on swimming appears in two chapters on Outdoor and Indoor swimming pools, and features Otter SC, complete with a photograph of one of our blazer badges. James Stewart represented the club at the book launch at the Honourable Artillery Company on 1st September, having liaised with the author, Simon Inglis, to provide information on Otter. Also present that evening was John Goodbody, whose encyclopedic sporting knowledge would have made a wider contribution.

In addition, in early 2015 Caitlin Davies is expecting to publish 'Downstream: a history and celebration of swimming in the River Thames'. It is likely to include some details of Otter's history of open water events in the Thames, following a meeting and correspondence between Caitlin and James Stewart in 2013.

OTTER GOLF

Andrew Craig

The 2014 edition of the Otter golf tournament was one of the closest and most memorable events of many a year. It had a classy field, packed with experience and nous (some of it even golf-related). In a tense event, the humble organiser, a certain Mr A. Craig managed to get around with minimal 3 putting. A couple of fluky holes, including a 3 at the (par 5) 7th hole, ensured an unassailable total of 28 points.

Peter Rae was the worthy runner-up and el Presidente, Mr Hindle, a distant third. Certain other esteemed members of the swimming fraternity didn't really trouble the scorers, but we will leave them to stew in anonymity - this time around!

Once again, the post-golf lunch was a well-attended affair and a delicious spread was laid on by the Royal Wimbledon Golf Club (RWGC). Many thanks are owed, in particular to those who managed to navigate their way around one of London's most picturesque (and occasionally tricky) courses and the RWGC for allowing a bunch of less than reputable aquatic mammals to roam freely on its hallowed greens.

OTHER NEWS

The more 'mature' members of the Club may be interested to know that an assortment of ex-presidents, club captains, national champions, and mere mortals now meet on the first Wednesday of each month at QMSC for a gentle lane 6 swim and, more importantly, social gathering at the nearby Jugged Hare pub. Please contact Charles Doxat for more information.



L-R. Charles Doxat, James Stewart, John Iliffe & Roger Sharpley enjoying the 2014 Otter dinner

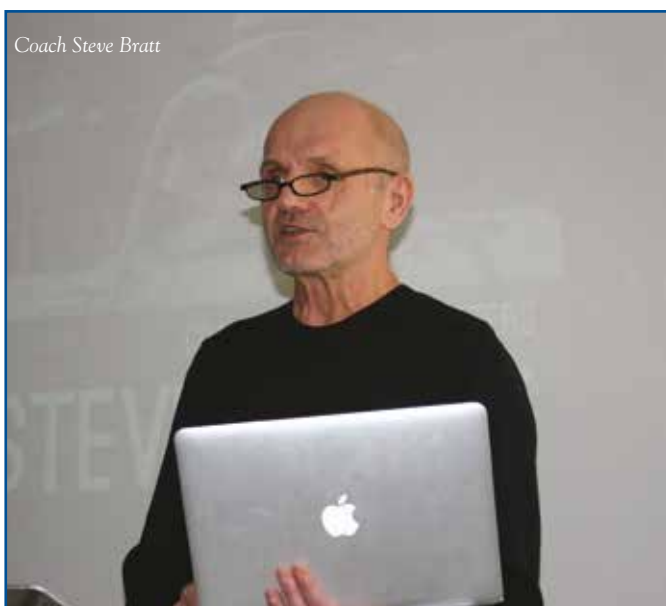


In March the Bath and Otter Cup competition was hosted at the London Aquatics Centre, with representatives from Independent Schools across the UK taking advantage of being among some of the first to race in the Olympic pool since it reopened, and some of Otter's members volunteering to support by officiating. In 2014, Whitgift lifted the Bath Cup and Otter Medley, with Guildford High School wining the girls' events. Otter's men's team would normally compete in the pre-Bath Cup, held the day before, but due to a scheduling mix up stood down in 2014. Hopefully, we will be back competing in 2015 in this prestigious and historic event.



London Aquatics Centre

In November, in recognition of the strength of the Otter swimming set up, Coach Steve Bratt was invited to speak at the inaugural ASA Masters conference in Loughborough.



Coach Steve Bratt

In March 2014 Club Treasurer, Chris Eden, and Anne Jones got married. Avile Rumbos and Will Gray also wed (in August). And in December, Pip Bennett and Danni Brind tied the knot. Finally, in May, Andrew and Nicola Louw welcomed their son Jac to the world. Our congratulations to all.



Anne Jones & Chris Eden celebrate their marriage with other Otters



Avile Rumbos & Chris Gray



CLUB PERFORMANCE:

CLUB RACING & ACTIVITIES

HANDICAP EVENTS

Dave Warren

The annual handicap trophy is awarded to the person with the most points gained across 11 handicap events, combining pool and open water swims throughout the year. The Otter tradition of these events is almost as old as the club itself and this is evident in the age of the trophies awarded, one of which dates back to 1874.

With the closure of the Shell pool in 2013, where the 10 widths is normally held, there was no suitable venue to hold this event so was removed from the this year's programme, leaving ten events to contribute to the overall championship.

Handicap events are generally swum as part of a normal Otter swim session to allow as many swimmers as possible to participate, and spread out through the year with the three open water events contributing to the overall handicap swum in the warmer summer months. The handicap events are really for everyone, any stroke can be swum (with the exception of the 400 IM handicap), and so offer a great chance for those who don't normally compete to swim and beat the more experienced competitive swimmers because 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 win the event.

The previous years' overall competitions have been very close: in 2012 the top four were spread by one point and in 2013 the top three were also spread by just one point although in each year there was an outright winner (Avile Rumbos in 2012 and Jeff Mattick in 2013). The 2014 championship was just as close and led to an unprecedented result...

The first handicap events to be held were the three open water events, for which a separate trophy is awarded to the overall handicap winner of the these events. The first open water event was the Otter Mile, held in The Thames at Windsor. This is a flat start where all swimmers start together and the handicap positions calculated based upon improvement from expected finishing order and resulted in

a handicap win for Tory Thorpe. In the open competition Dave Warren and Lex Higlett won the men's and women's trophies, respectively.



The next event, the Half Mile, is held in The Thames at Wargrave, hosted by Henley Sailing Club, and is always one of the highlights of the year. It is pre-seeded and has a staggered start, the first swimmer back to the club house winning the event, which this year was Tim Kendall. This year featured a reunion of the successful 1994 channel relay teams, with Tim Fraser, Barbara Woodward, Tim Kendall, Margaret Askew Walinda, Garry Willetts, and Frances Hirst gathering (with John Prowting, Peter Grace and Mark Gunning unable to attend). In addition, a new Dabchick book was presented to the Club by Barbara Woodward and David Miller, where we will record swimmers taking part in the Club's open water events.





The final open water event, the quarter-mile, was swum like a pool event in Parliament Hill Lido with swimmers starting with pre-seeded handicap start times, this year's winner was Daniel Shunn.

The overall winner of the Frank Sachs Challenge Cup for the Open Water Handicap events was Tim Kendall, the win in the half-mile and high placing in the quarter-mile giving him the edge over Dave Roberts and Daniel Shunn, the top five places as follows:

- 1. Tim Kendall, 12 points
- 2. Dave Roberts, 10
- 3. Daniel Shunn, 9
- =4. Pip Bennett, 8
- =4. Tory Thorpe, 8

The pool handicap events started in August and were spread through the remainder of the year with the final two events held on the same evening the week before Christmas. These last events are the shortest (50m) and longest (400m IM) within the pool handicap programme, and again the positions in these events decided the overall handicap championship winners.

The winners of each of these events were as follows:

- 150m Freestyle: Felicity Hannon
- 100m Freestyle: Nico Barber
- 200m Freestyle: Madeline Parra
- Sealed 100m Freestyle: Alex Capon
- 125m Freestyle: Alex Capon



- 50m Freestyle: Felicity Hannon
- 400m Individual Medley: Monika Kruesmann

For the first time in this handicapper's history we have joint winners of the overall title! The George H. Rope Averages Trophy will be shared between the two champions: Felicity Hannon and Pip Bennett, the top five results as follows:

- = 1. Felicity Hannon, 30 points
- = 1. Pip Bennett, 30
- 3. Ed Von Herberstein, 25
- 4. Monika Kruesmann, 21
- 5. Alex Capon, 17

In addition to the above events there is a handicap event for the Veterans (over 45s). The Vet's 50m Freestyle had been won for the previous two years by our head coach, Steve Bratt, but he was unable to defend his title in 2014. This left just two veterans in the event: long time club stalwart Tony Ray and relative newcomer Simon Williams. It was Simon who overhauled a seven second deficit to overtake Tony and win the event, so the Synge-Hutchinson Challenge Cup goes to Simon Williams.

Well done to all event winners and special congratulations to the overall handicap champions.

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 won the men's title for a fifth time, with Ed Von Herberstein taking second and Pip Bennett in third. In a closer run affair, Gina Hobson picked up the ladies' trophy for a seventh time, with Katie Kerr in second and Lex Higlett third. The individual trophy winners are detailed at the end of this report.

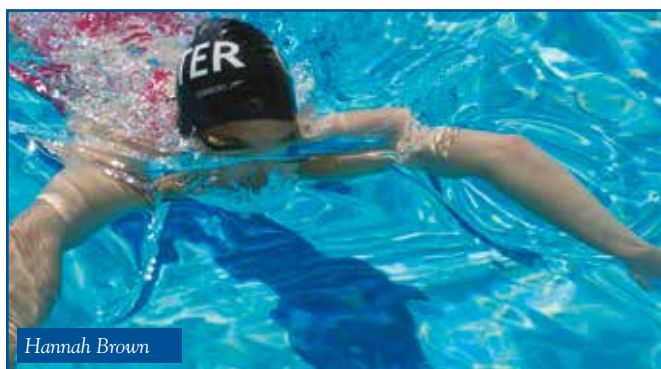
TRAINING CAMP, LA SANTA

Greg Comiskey

Otter returned to La Santa in September 2014 for the annual training camp. 25 club members made the trek to sunny Lanzarote for a week's worth of training and sunbathing in the work hard/play hard Otter tradition.

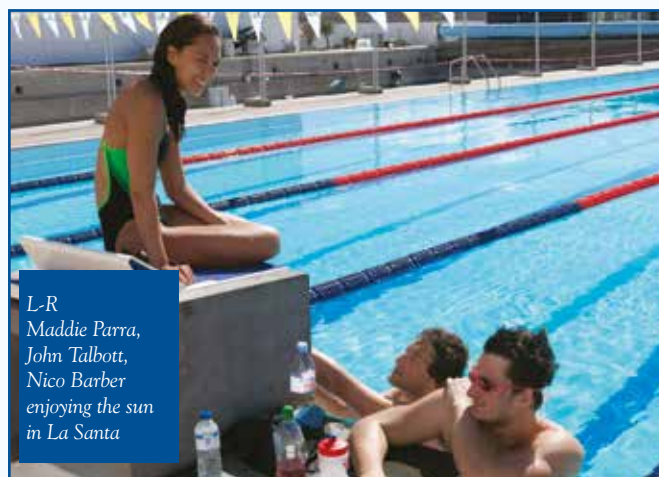
As always, plenty of other sports were on offer, with Otters excelling in pretty much everything they took up, especially on the tennis courts. La Santa also opened a new 50m pool on the other side of the resort, which Otter made use of most afternoons. With most days having a morning and afternoon session at two hours a piece, many also spent their free time sunning themselves on deck, enjoying one of La Santa's many restaurants, or cooling off in their flat.

All were pleased that Coach Steve made the trip again and provided everyone with challenging sets and plenty of useful, welcome advice.



Hannah Brown

The Otter ladies happily rose to challenge 2013's Mr Motivator costumes and showed up for an afternoon session dressed as 1950s bathing beauties, complete with flowered caps. Not to be outdone, the guys came prepared for the annual Wednesday night out in Puerto del Carmen dressed in Baywatch outfits, only to discover that the ladies had the exact same idea. The locals and tourists in Puerto del Carmen were treated to more than two dozen Otters donning the red and yellow better known to the beaches of Southern California, ensuring that anyone's hopes for a



L-R
Maddie Parra,
John Talbott,
Nico Barber
enjoying the sun
in La Santa

quiet candlelit dinner and nightcap were duly shattered. The night included a stop at a karaoke bar to sing the Baywatch theme song and hear the vocal skills of the bravest Otters who chose to sing solo or duet.

Many Otters competing at Nationals later in the year took advantage of the week at La Santa to peak before a well-deserved taper, with others carrying on with the normal training schedule on their return to the UK. Felicity Hannon and Greg Comiskey took on the planning for La Santa 2014 and have handed over to Chris Sutton for 2015. Please speak to Chris to join this year's La Santa trip, scheduled from 12-19 September 2015.



Otter's Team Baywatch in La Santa

OPEN COMPETITIONS

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



Filippo Bari

MIDDLESEX COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Cat Hasnain

Once again Otter put together a large team for the Middlesex County Championships, this year held at Barnet Copthall Leisure Centre on 1 June. Despite other clubs aiming to topple us from our position as county champions, a strong team effort saw Otter dominate throughout and come home with the men's, ladies' and overall team titles.

Everybody who swam scored points and contributed to the victory. There were notable competitive debuts from Emma Cartwright, Harry MacKenzie, Russell Woolley, Thibaut Danho, Alessandro Rocchi and Chris Grey.

In addition to strength in the individual events, it was the relay races where we surged ahead from our nearest rivals. A frantic few minutes of white water in the morning and afternoon sessions saw swimmers test not only their sprint-stamina, but also their ability to be in the right race and right lane at the right time! Credit must go not only to the swimmers but also organiser extraordinaire Tony Ray for ensuring that it all went smoothly.

Thanks to everyone who swam and helped to keep the trophies with Otter for another year. We are hoping for more of the same in 2015 so keep a look out for announcements to sign up for this year's championship.

BRITISH LONG COURSE NATIONALS, SWANSEA

Cat Hasnain

The highlight of the long course domestic calendar is the GB Nationals. June 2013 saw a romp of 24 Otters travel to Swansea to pit their swimming skill against the best of British. Despite some perplexing issues caused



Laure Kearns

by new relay rules, which resulted in myriad consternation throughout the weekend, the meet was a roaring success. There were several excellent Otter performances throughout the course of the Championships and, as ever, a number of national champions. The Otter team took a whopping 34 golds, 28 silvers and 10 bronze medals. However, a special mention must go to our very own Queen of Freestyle/Water Polo, Lex Higlett, who became national champion in the 50, 100, 200 and 400m events. Lex was later joined by team mates Olivia Reynolds, Laure Kearns and Gina Hobson, who put in tremendous legs to take the European record (and gold medal) in the 4 x 100m free relay (120+ age group).



L-R Gina Hobson, Lex Higlett, Olivia Reynolds, Laure Kearns

Other stand-out performances came from the following:

Pip Bennett successfully transferred his skills from open water to the pool by winning the 1500m freestyle despite the 'unacceptable' number of turns, and put in a strong show in the 400free and 400IM.

Dave Warren once again showed his dominance by winning all nine of the races he entered in the 40-44 age group and set a new British record in the 200 IM.

Not to be shown up by the 'young lad', Derek Parr also claimed victory in his six events, a gruelling programme which included 200 fly, 400 free, 800 free and 400IM.

Golds also went to Cat Hasnain (50bk), James Stewart (200bk), Gina Hobson (200bk, 100bk), Laure Kearns



(200IM), Mike Wake (200 free), Paul Goudie (200bk and 800free), Roger Lloyd-Mostyn (100bk, 50bk), the 120+ ladies', 120+ and 240+ men's 4x50 free, and 240+ 4x100 free relay teams.

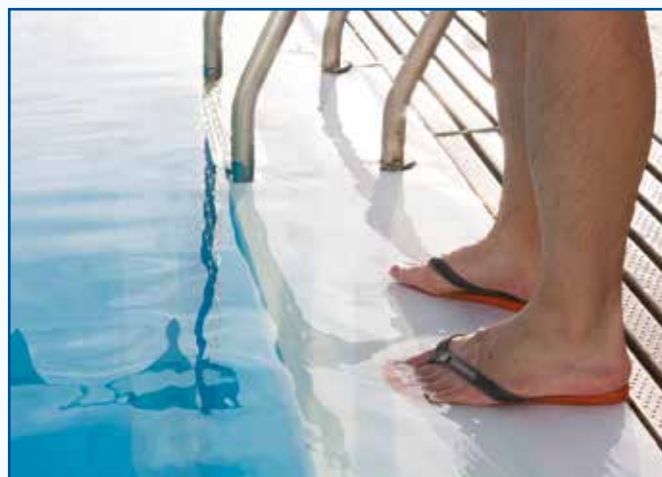
As ever, our thanks go to Steve for his enthusiasm and coaching throughout the weekend, the coaching team for preparing us so well for the meet, Tony Ray for his invaluable contribution to the relays (henceforth dubbed the 'third captain'), our lane mates who didn't compete for their understanding during taper, and the attending team for their unbridled passion and enthusiasm throughout the weekend.

WORLD MASTERS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS, MONTREAL

Pip Bennett

In August, Gina Hobson, Michelle Senecal, Liz Shaw, Matt Davis and Pip Bennett travelled to Montreal to compete in the 15th World Masters Swimming Championships. The event has seen increasing numbers of competitors and there were around 10,000 entered in swimming, diving, water polo and synchro events in Canada. These numbers were felt in the warm-up sessions where onlookers commented that each pool looked like a vat of swimmer-soup.

The weather was generally fantastic and athletes were able to enjoy using the two outdoor racing pools. Each weekend of the competition music festivals took place in the neighbouring venue (by the Villeneuve Formula One



racing track) and although the music was not necessarily to everyone's taste it provided a pleasant accompaniment to the racing.

This year saw an open water swimmer in the pool but not a pool swimmer out in the lake; perhaps next time! Gina had an amazing competition with five top 5 results and a bronze in the 200 backstroke. Matt too placed highly in particularly competitive events, including fifth in the 50 backstroke and eighth in the 100 back. The other Otters had pleasing results, all of which can be seen below.

Finally, there was the 3km open water event held in the rowing lake. Little wind and a great deal of sun meant that racing conditions were straightforward. However, each group of athletes did have to contend with vying for space at the start, while holding on to a rapidly submerging pontoon. After battling around the u-shaped course both Michelle and Pip came 12th in their respective competitions.

In 2015 there is a scheduling alteration and the Worlds will be held after the main open event. It is expected to take place in Kazan, Russia and it would be great to have as many Otters there as possible.



Montreal Otters

Gina	50free 4th	100free 5th	50fly 5th	100bk 4th	200bk 3rd	
Matt	50free 19th=	100free 11th	50bk 6th	100bk 8th	50fly 12th	
Liz	50fc 61st	50br 37th	100br 32nd	200br 22nd	200fr 36th	
Michele	3km OW 12th	200free 18th	50fly 25th	100fly 16th		
Pip	3km OW 12th	100free 78th	800free 16th	200free 26th	200IM 28th	400IM 21st



ASA SHORT COURSE NATIONALS, SHEFFIELD

Dave Roberts

We saw some fantastic Otter performances at the main event of the Masters swimming calendar, the National Masters Short Course Championships in Sheffield. Although there were far too many fine performances to list here, some of the highlights are set out below.

Notably, Dave Warren swam a superb 200 fly to set a new European record in that event (40-44), and also set new British marks in the 200 and 400 free.

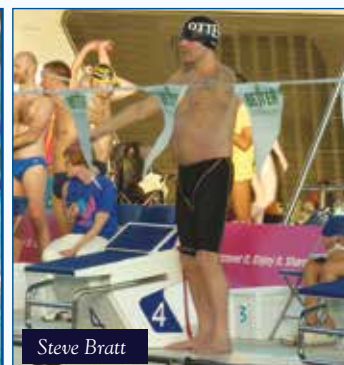
Paul Goudie, competing in the 55-59 age group, picked up a gold, two silvers and three bronzes, whilst Roger Lloyd-Mostyn (70-74) also showed great versatility by picking up a gold and three silvers. Bob Palmer (70-74), particularly enjoyed holding off his brother in-law to take the 200 back title! Also in the 200 back, Lizzie Redpath (70-74), picked up a fantastic silver. Roger Phillips (70-74), showed impressive endurance levels to win gold in the 800 free and silver in the 400 free. Gina Hobson swam a broad range of events, most notably picking up golds in the 50 and 100 back events in the 35-39 category, with Matt Davis also medalling in the same events in the men's 30-34 age group. Lex Higlett showed real strength in the freestyle events, medalling in the 100, 200 and 400 distances. Oli Wilson and Neal Thomson flew the flag for Otter in the very tough 18-25 age group, with Oli picking up medals in both the 50 and 100 free events in very rapid times.

The weekend also saw a number of swimmers making their first Nationals appearances for Otter. Craig Gillespie (25-29) made a fine debut with medals in both the 100 and 200 breast events. Celia Marcadal (25-29) picked up a bronze in the 50 back, as well as putting in some fine relay swims. David Jones (30-34) was also an integral part of a number of medal winning relays, in addition to strong individual performances in the sprint free and fly events. Adam Brown (25-29) also put in a couple of very nippy swims in the 50 free and 50 fly events. We hope you all enjoyed your first major event for Otter!

As ever, Otter showed strength in depth in the relay events. The pick of the bunch was the women's 120+ team breaking the European record in the 4x100 free. Well done Celia Marcadal, Lex Higlett, Olivia Reynolds and Gina Hobson! There were also gold medals for the 4x100 medley team (Hannah Brown,



Ben Thomas



Steve Bratt

Craig Gillespie, Felicity Hannon and Nico Barber) in the 100+ age group; whilst in the 120+ age group the team of Cat Hasnain, Kat Hedley, Gina Hobson and Lex Higlett won the 4x50 medley relay, and in the same age group Gina Hobson, Dave Warren, Dave Roberts and Lex Higlett won the 4x100 medley team event. In the 280+ age group the team of Roger Lloyd-Mostyn, Bob Palmer, Tony Ray and Roger Phillips won the 4x50 free relay. Thanks to everyone for representing the club in the relays, in particular Ben Thomas, Cat Hasnain and Gina Hobson who barely had time to catch their breath after their 200 back events to jump in the water again to lead off their respective medley relays.

On behalf of the entire team we would also like to thank head coach Steve Bratt for getting everyone in shape for the meet, and for helping everyone on poolside pre and post-race (ably assisted by Aeron on the Friday). Thanks also to Tony Ray for shepherding everyone in to their relay teams, and Lesley Davies for organising the accommodation and the team meal on the Saturday night which was enjoyed by everyone.

If anyone is interested in competing for the club in future, but is not sure how to go about it, then please do ask Coach Steve, your Captains, or any of your co-swimmers who will be more than happy to point you in the right direction.



Michelle Senecal



Decathlon

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 free and IM). 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, 2012 and 2013, with the men winning in 2010-2013. In 2014 the Otter ladies' again proved too strong for the challenging teams and retained the title – picking up a cheque for £400 which was donated to the Club. Sadly, the men's team were beaten to the title by the City of Oxford team – the male Otters have resolved to be back again, stronger and keener in 2015! This year's winning ladies' team was made up of Gina Hobson (6th overall, 5485 points), Laure Kearns (20th, 5101), Helen Prentice (28th, 4875) and Michelle Senecal (31st, 4795).

In the individual competition, Dave Warren fought off a strong challenge from Steve Mavin (March) to win the men's title by just 30 points. Dave's now won the title five times since 2009 and continues to demonstrate he's the UK's most versatile male Masters swimmer.



Dave Warren on way to GB 400IM record (40-44yrs)

PARA SWIMMING EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, EINDHOVEN

Susie Rodgers

There have been quite a few changes in the British Swimming set up since London 2012 and I felt very lucky to make the Europeans para-swimming team again this year in Eindhoven. The expectations on us are definitely increasing as we move ever closer toward qualification for Rio in 2016. I saw this opportunity as a stepping stone, very much as I did on my debut for the team in 2011 in Berlin. I remember Coach Steve Bratt coming out to Berlin to support me during that time and it was a great event where I set European records and won five golds and a silver. My aim this year was to equal that and to defend my titles. Thankfully I did so and achieved my five golds and one silver again, losing my 100m back crown to my great friend and rival Kirsten Bruhn, but gaining a new European title and surprising myself in the process by setting a new British Record in the 50m free. It gets tougher and tougher to PB, as every swimmer knows, so I was thankful for two sprint PBs this year! I move forward into 2015 by facing my toughest trial yet, as I attempt to make the Worlds team. I know it will be a tall ask to qualify, but my aim was to carry on to Rio and put into practice everything I learned from London. Fingers crossed I get there and move closer to that dream.





CLUB PERFORMANCE:

WATER POLO – Ladies

2014 was another big year for Otter Ladies water polo. Nine Otters were selected to represent their country internationally.

Otter Lutra backed up last year's championship 1 winning undefeated season, with a second undefeated season to successfully retain the British Water Polo League (BWPL) Championship 1 title.

The first team was once again the best team in London and one of the best teams in the country, finishing in the top 5 in the top division of the BWPL for the fifth consecutive year.

OTTER FIRST TEAM

Lex Higlett

2014/2015 wasn't an easy season. But it was a season we can be proud of.

Otter cruised through Phase 1 of BWPL Division 1, qualifying for the BWPL Super 5s for the fourth year in a row with wins against Otter Lutra (12-7), Caledonia (17-2), Leeds Sharks (11-7) and Sheffield (12-7). A draw against Manchester (6-6), & two losses to Coventry (8-12), Liverpool (15-1). The newest Otter Aussie import Emma-Louise Hamilton-Foster was the team's top goal scorer in Phase 1 with 18 goals.

Gutsy performances all around in Super 5s kept the team in the top four and saw Otter qualify for the 2015 British Championships for the fifth consecutive year. Sammy was smashing in goals. Rox, Yedden and Brooke were deadly on the right. Emma HF and Turncoat got their guns out on the left. Holly and Lex countered their little hearts out while Peggy, Anna and Tilda took turns dominating the oppositions' centre forwards and terrorizing the other teams' centre backs.

It was a season full of results that don't quite tell the whole story. Of the 3 amazing quarters that were let down by the 1 less amazing quarter. Or the rogue refs. Or how we were unlucky to go down vs Coventry (8-6) and (13-8). Put up solid performances against 2015 winners Liverpool (6-15) and (6-13). Calmly defeated Sheffield (11-4) before losing the return fixture in the last minute (13-14). But rebounded back against a controversy filled loss against Manchester (4-15) to take it to them (12-8) in the final game of the season.

Peggy Etiebet, making her Otter come back after a year



L to R: Emma Hamilton-Foster, Rox Hargraeves, Holly Campbell, Lex Higlett, Liz Dunn, Brooke Tafazolli, Sarah Tollefson, Peggy Etiebet, Sammy Owen, Anna Persch

'off' playing professionally in Hungary was the team's top goal scorer for Phase 2 with 15 goals.

Ladies first team 2014/2015: Sammy Owen, Anna Persch, Rox Hargraeves, Sarah (Yedden) Tollefson, Tilda Williams, Holly Campbell, Brooke Tafazolli, Emma-Louise Hamilton-Foster, Peggy Etiebet, Liz (Turny) Dunn and Lex Higlett (c).
Coach: Nick Buller



Emma Hamilton-Foster v Padova, LEN

LEN Women's Euro League

This year saw a young Otter team travel to Imperia in Italy to take on 4 of the best professional teams Europe has to offer in the Women's Euro League, the top club competition in Europe.

With 4 games in 3 days vs Mediterranea Imperia (ITA), Plebiscito Padova (ITA), Utrecht ZSC (NED) & ZVK Mladost Zareb (CRO) and 7 Otter players making their European debut for Otter this year, it was tough. But it was fun.

We swam, we defended, we scored goals. We ate mountains of pasta, the Otter pups (Kathy, Izzy and Mhairi) performed a cheerleading dance and tried to convince the older girls that scrunchies were cool (again). We kept the Italian champions, Imperia, goalless for the first 4 ½ minutes – an awesome defensive effort from the whole team. Took on not



one but two 6'7" teenagers from Croatia. Peggy and Kathy had periods where they dominated some of the best centre forwards in the world. Sammy was unflappable in goal and, encouragingly, more Otters got on the scorecard than in any previous LEN tournament, with 8 different Otters scoring (led by Emma and Lex with 5 goals each).

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.

Thanks to Peggy and Vivi for organising the trip. A huge thank you to Paul Hindle, Chris Eden and the club for their ongoing support. Playing in the LEN Euro League is an amazing opportunity that no other club in England currently offers its players. So we are incredibly grateful for the opportunity and for the Club's help making it happen.



Otter LEN Team from L to R:

Back row: Peggy Etietbet, Anna Persch, Holly Campbell, Kathy Rogers, Rebecca (Gari) Mulcahy, Sammy Owen and Nick Buller (Coach).

Front Row: Mhairi Nurthen, Emily Grant, Izzy Dean, Lex Higlett (c), Brooke Tafazolli, Emma-Louise Hamilton-Foster.



Lex Higlett v Padova, LEN

OTTER LUTRA Lindsey Williams

Ladies Second Team (Otter Lutra)
 Undeafated Champions of Championship 1
 Coach: Nick Buller
 Assistant Coach: Lindsey Williams
 Captain: Viviana Castagna

This was a historic year for Otter Lutra as they made their debut performance in the Division 1 of the British Water Polo League (BWPL). The team comprised many of the players who had shared in last year's success that led to promotion and was bolstered by recruits from the 2013-14 Otter first team in the form of Emma Shkurka, goalie Tracey Allen and centreback/goalie, Viviana Castagna. 'It may have been a brand new division, but the opposition were familiar faces as Lutra faced the Otter first team in the first match. The Lutra team put in a great performance to push the Otter first team to prove their superiority and even took the lead on a few occasions with the final score of 12-7 being a very respectable start to the season. In the second match they faced Coventry, a strong team who initially took Lutra by surprise with their heavy marking but Lutra rose to the challenge and made a significant come-back in the final 2 quarters to bring the score line to 15-9. The final match of the weekend was a frustrating battle with Leeds Sharks, also newly promoted to the division. Lutra led throughout in a very close game before Leeds scored to level the match 6-6 in the dying seconds.

On the second weekend in Liverpool Lutra faced tough opposition in the form of Super-5s veterans Liverpool Lizards and City of Manchester. The first match against



Back row (L-R): L Williams, S Tinkler-Davies, I Dean, H Patchett, R Mulcahy. Front row (L-R): K Rogers, K Friefeld, M Nurthen, H Phillips, A Szyzsko, E Shkurka



Caledonia allowed Lutra to show how well they could play, with the score-line of 12-10 not representing the control of play during the match. Lutra did incredibly well against the two big names later on in the weekend with several players rising to the challenge and getting their names onto the score-sheets.

The final weekend of Division 1 took place in Grantham and comprised only one match against Sheffield Sharks, who were out to defend their fifth position in the table, which would guarantee them a place in the Super 5s. Lutra didn't make it easy for them pushing the game to the wire with Sheffield winning narrowly by two goals in the end, the score 6-8.

Lutra finished the first half of the competition in 6th place. A brilliant performance for a first season in Division 1, finishing ahead of Leeds Sharks and Caledonia who had competed in the Super 5s last season.

With the experience of playing in Division 1 behind them, Lutra approached the second half of the season playing in Championship 1 with confidence and were keen to prove that they deserved a place in Division 1 again next year. The campaign started well with another victory against Caledonia, a more representative score line this time at 7-4. Lutra did well not to be distracted by the refereeing scandals of the weekend and 7-4 was also the score line against old rivals Mid-Sussex Marlin's. An emphatic start to Championship 1; making Lutra the team to beat.

The following weekend in Leeds saw more victories roll in against Liverpool Liverbirds and London rivals, Penguin Emperors, and it was fast becoming clear that finishing the season undefeated was a realistic prospect.

So, Lutra entered the final weekend with a point to prove. Illness had struck down captain and goal-keeper Viviana Castagna, so Karen Friefield stepped up to defend the Lutra goal. The opposition proved fierce and Tyldesley put up a strong fight in the first match with a game that felt closer than the final score of 15-10 reflected. The second match was against Leeds Sharks, who were eager to prove themselves superior after the draw in the first half of the season. It was another incredibly close match, with Otter maintaining a steady 3 goal draw over the first 3 quarters, but in the extremely tense final quarter Leeds made a push to bring the score to 9-8 and then would have managed to level things had it not been for a great Lutra defense of a man-down in the final seconds of the match. Despite two exhausting games Lutra then put in another brilliant performance on the Sunday to win 14-9 against Welsh Wanderers to win Championship 1 undefeated for the second year in a row.

JUNIORS

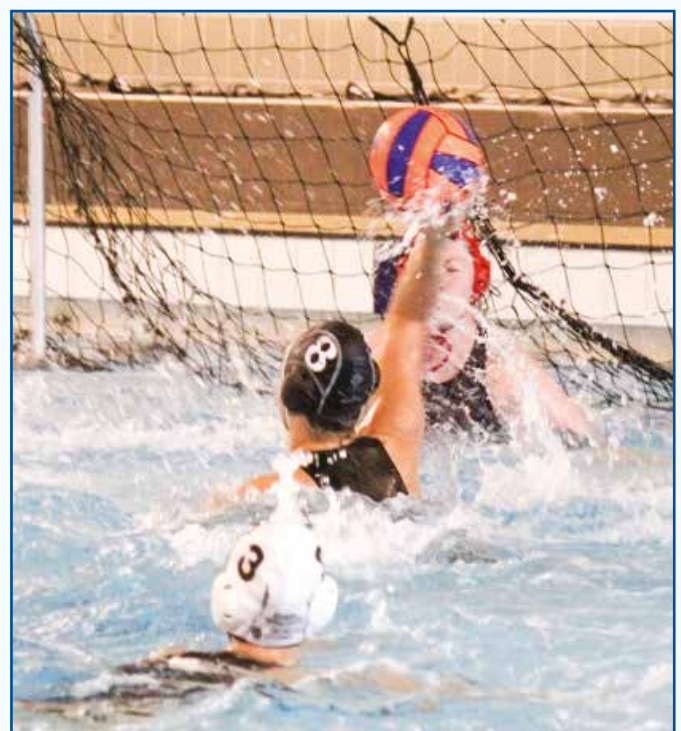
Lex Higlett

2014 was a successful year for our youngest Otters, who performed brilliantly at the National Age Group Championships. The Otter U/17s team were the National Age Group Youth Champions after beating Liverpool in the final 10-7. While the Otter U/19s were the National Group Junior Bronze medalists beating Crawley 15-10. Otter Lutra player, Izzy Dean, who played in both the U/17s & U/19 teams, was also named Most Valuable Player for the weekend.

A massive congratulations to both teams and Coach, Nick Buller.



U17 National Age Groups team





INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION

Lex Higlett

Otters once again had a strong year on the international stage, with nine players selected to represent their country in 2014.

Peggy Etiebet represented GB at the LEN European championship qualifying tournament in the Netherlands and the LEN European Waterpolo Championship finals in Budapest, where the team finished 8th. Peggy also won the London Swimming Water Polo Athlete of the Year 2014 award, which recognised Peggy's significant achievements, including (in 2013/14) her full International debut for GB and being the only British player to be part of a team to win the Hungarian Water Polo Championship. In addition to playing at the highest level, Peggy coaches with England Talent and the Crystal Palace Beacon Programme, acting as a team manager for the GB U17 girls' team and helping with club organisation.

Holly Campbell represented Scotland at the Commonwealth Championships where the Scottish team finished 4th beating Wales (10-9). Holly also played a key role for Scotland at the EU 5 nations tournament in Switzerland, where the team finished with a bronze medal after a convincing win (15-6) over Denmark.

Brooke Tafazolli, Tilda Williams, Hannah Patchett and Kathy Rogers competed for GB U/19s at the 2014 European Champs in Ostia, finishing in 7th place. The team finished second in Group B after comfortable wins



Peggy in Hungary

against Portugal (14-6) and Slovakia (10-7), lost against Italy (1-16) and Russia (4-23), before beating Ukraine in the seventh place playoff match.

Izzy Dean, Mhairi Nurthen, Anna Szyszko and Kathy Rogers represented GB U/17s in 2014. Izzy, Mhairi and Anna were part of the team who finished runners up at the 4 Nations International Tournament in Warendorf, Germany. Izzy, Mhairi and Kathy also attended a GB U/17 training camp in Hungary as part of their preparation for the Baku European Olympics which will take place in 2015.

A further 6 Otter players are currently in GB squads. Lutra players Helena Phillips and Sacha Tinkler-Davies are in the GB U/17 born 98 squad and GB U/16 born 99 squads. Four members of the Otter National Age Group teams have also been selected for GB squads this year. Heather Keith and Isobel Keith are in the GB U/16 '99 Squad. Lydia Toth is in the GB U/15 '00 squad & Drew Gould is in the GB U/14 '01 squad.

Congratulations Peggy, Holly, Brooke, Tilda, Hannah, Kathy, Izzy, Mhairi, Anna, Helena, Sacha, Heather, Isobel, Lydia and Drew.



Peggy & the GB team



GB U19 Team



CLUB PERFORMANCE:

WATER POLO - Men

OTTER FIRST TEAM

Leon Estrella

Otter started the British Water Polo League (BWPL) season in Sheffield against University of Bristol. The teams were tit for tat during the first two quarters but Otter's lack of concentration cost them dearly and went down in the third and final quarter losing the match 15 - 11.

The next match against Exeter was extremely physical and contested. However, Otter kept working and managed to draw the first and third quarter and win the second quarter of the match. This was not enough and Otter went on to lose the match 16 - 14.

Coming into the second weekend in Grantham, two Otter players were serving suspensions from previous matches and half of the team was not available for the weekend fixtures. A further two permanent exclusion during the matches left the team severely weakened. Desperate times need desperate measures so Otter was forced to bring Coach Eden from the bench and striker Nyaka from his flu ridden bedroom in order to fulfil these fixtures. Otter's weekend of agony ended up with two defeats against Worthing and Solihull and a commendable draw against Hucknall.

It wasn't until the third weekend in Marlborough when Otter finally came on top defeating South Derbyshire 14 - 9 led by new American signing, John Rogers, who scored 8 goals.

Otter took on Carlisle on the last match of the first phase of BWPL. It was a very competitive match that ended in a draw: after four gruelling quarters of battling it out the teams drew 12-12. The Greek connection worked wonderfully for Otter, with Roussos scoring 5 goals, whilst Athanasios Mourikis scored 3 on his return to National League activity.

Otter kicked-off the second phase of the BWPL in Gloucester in style, edging Bridgefield 15 - 9. Otter's Greek pair, Roussos and Mourikis, added 4 goals each to the score, whilst Denes Csizsinszky contributed to Otter's victory with 3 goals.

On the same day Otter faced City of York, who proved to be much tougher opponents. The BWPL website described this as 'an outstanding men's Championship 3 match in which the lead changed times seven times during the game'. However, this time Roussos and Mourikis' firepower (4 goals each again) was not enough for Otter to come out on top. A



heart breaking goal three seconds from the end gave City of York the lead and all the points.

Otter was not going to be demoralised after this unfortunate result. The squad regrouped during a very civilised night out in Gloucester and came out swinging the next morning to beat University of Bristol 14 - 6. Mourikis and Roussos led the attack with 4 and 3 goals respectively. Boldon and Shunn contributed 2 goals each, whilst the rest of the goals were scored by Muscato, Tatar and Estrella.

Otter went back to Gloucester to secure a further 4 points in the season. The first target was Watford. Otter demolished Watford's defences, led by strikers Roussos and Shunn (6 and 4 goals, respectively). Otter's collective defence was to be commended in this match. Otter kept Watford's strikers at bay by only conceding one goal per quarter. The final score was Otter 16 Watford 4.

Cheltenham Spartans was a completely different beast. They had a good mixture of experience and youth in the team. Unfortunately for them, Otter was propelled to victory by fine form strikers Muscato (5 goals) and Roussos (4 goals) to settle the score 9 - 7 in Otter's favour.



Otter II - London League Refs



On the final weekend promotion was in sight, however Southampton still stood in the way of Otter securing its ticket back to Division 3. Otter jumped into the water and executed the plan perfectly. Otter beat Southampton 12 - 9, once more led by Greek duo, Roussos and Mourikis (6 and 4 goals, respectively), securing Otter's position in Division 3 in 2015.

With the promotion ticket in hand, Otter went on to beat a resilient South Derbyshire team, led by the striking efforts of Mourikis (4 goals) and American striker Barone who was on fire opening his National League goal tally with 2 goals in this match.

In the end, Otter came joint top of Championship 3. However, the numbers clearly backed Otter as the best team in the League. Otter had the best attack (94 goals scored) and the best defence (62 goals conceded) thanks to fantastic performances by goalkeepers Matteo Marpillero and Ed Buckley.

Overall, it was a good season for Otter. The team consolidated itself and built a solid roster of players to compete at a high level in 2015.



Cup winners

OTTER SECOND TEAM

Paul Hindle

In the **London League Referees Cup Handicap Knock-out competition** Otter II beat Polytechnic I in the first round, with a bye in the second round. We beat Eastern Otter in the third round and Penguin 2 in the semi final. In the final we beat Chelmsford I by 27 to 16 on handicap (6 v 6 on the night), a tremendous win against a team two divisions higher in the league. The last time Otter won the Referees Cup was in 1974.

The Otter II team competed in the London League - Division 3, where it finished third.

		P	W	L	D	F	A	+/-	Points
1	Watford Mens 2s	12	10	0	2	172	70	102	32
2	Enfield Mens 1s	12	10	0	2	172	70	102	32
3	Otter Mens 2s	12	7	0	5	115	98	17	25*
4	Guildford Mens 2s	12	5	0	7	85	129	-44	21*
5	Blue Marlins Mens 1s	12	4	0	8	79	134	-55	19*
6	Central London Orcas Mens 1s	12	3	0	9	56	129	-73	17*
7	West London Penguin Mens 2s	12	3	0	9	69	82	-13	12*

In the **Middlesex Water Polo League** Otter II finished the season in second position.

		P	W	D	L	Points
1	Penguin 2	12	10	0	2	172
8	5	1	2	12	2	172
2	Otter II	8	5	3	0	10
3	Ealing	12	5	0	7	85
8	3	5	0	6	8	79
4	Enfield	8	3	5	0	6
5	Poly Purples	8	2	4	2	6

In the **Thameside Water Polo Association - Division 1**, Otter II finished mid table.

		P	W	L	D	F	A	+/-	Points
1	Avondale Mens	8	5	0	3	73	72	1	18
2	Polytechnic Purples	8	4	1	3	79	66	13	16
3	Otter Mens 2s	8	3	1	4	72	96	-24	15
4	Croydon Amphibians Mens 2s	8	3	0	5	102	93	9	14
5	Citizens Mens 1s	8	4	0	4	59	58	1	14



CLUB PERFORMANCE:

OTHER EVENTS

The range of Otters' activities and achievements outside of the pool continues to grow apace. A selection of these successes follows.

OPEN WATER

An increasing number of Otters are taking part in open water races over the summer months, and 2014 was no different. Some more detailed accounts follow, but other highlights, in brief, include: Dave Warren, Maddie Parra and Pip Bennett winning their categories in the H2Open National Ranking Series; Otters descending on and securing eight of the top ten places at the Adur river swim, Shoreham (something the local organisers particularly appreciate!); Tim Fraser and Peter Rae taking part in the inaugural Scilly Swim Challenge (six swims in one day – a 15km circuit of the Scilly Isles); and Alex Stoyel won his category at the Lake Zurich marathon swim, finishing in a time of 6hr36 (non-wetsuit).

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.

CHANNEL RELAY – RECORD ATTEMPT

Dave Warren

Towards the end of 2013 I was finding it very hard to motivate myself to get to the pool to train. This was normal for me as I always find it hard to stay keen after the high of the Masters Nationals in October. To overcome this I had been looking at other challenges and over the previous years I had been competing in open water races with some success. I really enjoyed these swims with no turns, just a simple swim from A to B (or round a loop from A to A), yet these were still races and I found I also enjoyed the mass participation and strategic element of these swims. Admittedly, these were generally wetsuit events and I certainly liked the warmth and improved body position the suit provides!

Back to 2013 and I was thinking about another swimming challenge. The channel is the obvious one and having met quite a few Otters who have completed this both individually and as a relay I was wondering whether I could do the same.



Tim Fraser having completed the Scilly Swim Challenge



Start of the Scilly Swim Challenge 2014

What typically had put me off is the need to find a boat and support crew, and the channel in particular is a long solo swim without any race element. However, just at this time I was approached by Simon Griffiths, editor of H2Open magazine to ask if I would be interested in taking part in a channel relay record attempt to consist of a team of all over 40 year-olds. I was keen and suggested a few names of UK masters swimmers who I knew were fast and would make the team competitive. One of these, Andrew Chamberlain, who had broken my 400m free and IM British records, had also been approached by Simon and I was very pleased to learn that he was keen.



Dave Warren



The team organiser, Wayne Soutter, is himself a successful channel swimmer. The relay record was set in 1990 by the US National Team in a time of 6 hours 52 minutes, an average of 1 minute 13 seconds per 100m but only if swimming in a straight line, which in reality does not happen. The US team comprised of the men's world 25km champion at the time, plus others from the same squad, so why did we think we could break the record if we were a team of swimmers almost twice their age? The only positive in our favour is the use of Sat-Nav and greater experience of boat captains guiding swimmers and adjusting the route based upon real conditions as they change throughout the swim. So, technology and experience was our plan!

We still needed a team and what made Masters swimmers difficult to recruit was that our proposed dates clashed with the World Masters Championships in Montreal, so while I was still hedging my bets between the channel and the Worlds, I was expecting other Masters swimmers to be going to Canada. Wayne managed to recruit Christof Wandratch from Germany, he is a former world class open water swimmer of the same era as the US team, and former world record holder for the channel, so we now had channel swimming experience in the team. A visit to the UK and a chance post on a Facebook page led Wayne to recruit two world class masters swimmers from the US: Steve West, the current world record holder for the 40-44 age breast events, and his team-mate, Bernie Zeruhn, a former world Masters champion for 100 and 200m fly. The final member was Kirsten Cameron, a Kiwi based in Leeds and world Masters record holder for the women's 40-44 age 800 and 1500m free.

Once we had a team we completed our own training, acclimatised to open water swimming without a wetsuit, and completed the obligatory two-hour qualifying swim in sub-16 degree water. Wayne also obtained sponsorship from Total Immersion and Elivar, and gave our team a name of 'The EC 6 - Total Immersion in the English Channel'.

Wayne had secured the first choice of a slot at the beginning of August, coinciding with a neap tide, which is believed to be the best tide to complete a fast swim. The weather wasn't perfect but the best weather was believed to be on Tuesday 5 August so the team gathered and we made our way to Dover for what turned out to be a glorious morning.

With the tide and good conditions we had at the start Christof made tremendous progress. A GPS watch on board the boat was tracking us at 1:02 per 100m, well under the 1:13 we needed. After the first hour we had travelled almost 5.6 km, at which time Kirsten took over and the watch showed her at

1:05 per 100m, so we were going well. However, as time passed we saw we were going further and further away from a straight line but had to have faith in the boat captain. After Steve on the third leg and Bernie on the fourth leg I started the fifth leg and was now swimming against the tide so without the same assistance that the earlier swimmers were having. The wind had also started to pick up and was blowing the wrong way from the France side so our earlier speed and deviation from the straight line was having more of an impact. I managed to average 1:11 per 100 according to the watch so were still optimistic. A strong sixth leg by Andrew kept our optimism in place and Christof took off for his second leg hoping to get to land in under 52 minutes. He pushed hard but fell short, completing his hour stint and passing to Kirsten who took just 3 minutes to swim the final distance and climb onto the rocks in France.

Our total time of 7 hours 3 minutes is the second fastest ever relay crossing but felt a little disappointing after our earlier speed and optimism. Looking back our course was a like a large arc of a 'D' shape and our total distance of over 37 km was four more than a straight line. Our time of 11 minutes over the record could possibly have been gained by swimming a kilometre less but we weren't to know the wind would pick up so much against us as we came back from the early current and fast pace taking us so far away from the perfect line.

I look back at the event with great enthusiasm and as something I very much enjoyed. I'm not sure I'm ready yet to swim a solo crossing but with someone else organising everything, very good weather (apart from the wind), and a great group of like-minded swimmers I would love to be invited to another record attempt!

The EC6: (Back row l-r) Christof, Andrew, Dave, Steve, Kirsten, Bernie. (Front) Wayne, Paul Greenhalgh





IRONMAN SWEDEN

Jane McMenemy

I recently completed my first, and (surely!) only, Ironman – swim 3.8km, bike 180km and run 42km. If this appeals, then I think that if you can swim (you can, you're an Otter!) and you don't have an injury it's possible for anyone. Indeed, the Ironman slogan is that "anything IS possible".

For me the idea started many years ago when I read a book by Jane Tomlinson – she was inspirational in many ways but she was the first terminally ill person to complete (or even attempt) an Ironman. I was healthy, vaguely fit and could run, swim and cycle. I wanted to do this too. But unfortunately I'm also quite competitive and I had an idea of what my ironman race would be like. I didn't want to crawl over the line; I wanted the best swim time; I wanted to look like a triathlete. All nonsense in the face of my complete lack of talent at endurance events.

So I did the odd triathlon, rode my bike quite a lot but mainly swam. Then I met my now husband. He was an Ironman and could barely swim - I could do this! I even entered a race (Roth, 2010). I went on a training camp. I cycled over 500km in a week. I ran every day. Then I got pregnant. Bit of an extreme way to get out of it.

Three years later I opened my birthday present was an entry to Ironman Sweden. I didn't accept this present very graciously. My only question was: when can I pull out so that you don't lose your money? February came round and we had a family discussion – we had to book the holiday or abandon it. Opinions ranged from 'I can't think of anything more pointless' to 'I would be so proud of you' to 'Mummies don't do races, only Daddies do'. Clearly the last one was red rag to a bull.

It was February 2014, I could barely survive a 30 minute spin class, hadn't run a step for years, even a 2km swim was a bit of an effort. I didn't have a coach or a programme. The next few months ended up being all about me and the chimp. The chimp in our house is the voice in your head that tells you to give up, it implores you to cut training short or not to go at all - you have to practice putting it back in its cage if you're going to succeed (for the finer psychological details see Steve Peters' book 'The Chimp Paradox'). I had regular fights with the chimp. Usually at the 5.30am Sunday alarm. I had to ride early before family life started, it always seemed to be raining, I was always tired, after a while my legs were like blocks of concrete – the chimp loves this! Once I was out my strategy was that every time the chimp appeared and told me to get home I would take a turn away from the direction of the house. I got lost a lot.



*Jane McMenemy,
Ironman Sweden*

If you're still reading I won't bore you with the training regime - I just focused on enjoying getting fit again. I swam once a week (and if possible in a lake at weekends), I rode on Saturday and Sunday morning and occasionally to work. Running training was a disaster. I lurched from stress fracture in the foot to calf issues. The turning point was only about 6 weeks before the race when I developed a run/walk strategy that was faster than my running and started having sports massages. I wouldn't recommend anyone to follow my programme!

As for the race itself:

Swim – horrific. This is the place for you if you fancy being a human lane rope, pulled back, pushed, bashed, complicated course, no rhythm, big waves. Even a 180km bike ride seemed like a good idea. Early appearance of the chimp. Anyway, due to a malfunction that I still don't understand, my watch said 55mins. Marvellous - take that chimp! My official split turned out to be almost exactly an hour (12th woman). If I'd known that at the time the chimp may have won.

Bike - lovely first 60km. Scenic, wind behind. First 2 hours averaging over 32kmph. 90km in about 3 hours. Easy peasy. Oh. Now we have to ride back into that wind?! My husband spent this bit of the course berating himself for putting someone else (me!) through this. At 130km the chimp arrived. I'd missed an aid station and stopped eating. I had an overwhelming desire to get off the bike, throw it into a hedge and lie in the field and have a snooze. Anyway, I somehow got to the next aid station. Stopped, got off my bike, ate two bananas and felt fine within a couple of minutes. 6.45 hours on the bike. 1378 people overtook me! I specifically looked this up. This must be a world record.

Run – I really enjoyed it! I saw the kids loads (and Al when he finished in just over 10 hours), the crowds were amazing, I got to eat crisps and bread, and for the first 21km nothing hurt. Only two hours gone. I was SO within the cut off (16 hours)! Turns out you can't really hide from lack of run training though and at about 25km my legs turned into planks of wood. The run walk strategy went more walk than run but the chimp was long gone and I chatted to the other athletes, high fived hundreds



of kids, taped up my feet. At the start of my last lap my step daughter shouted 'you're going to make it now, we're so proud of you' and that kept me going to the end. Once I realised that my time was going to be somewhere around 13 hours whatever happened I walked a bit slower so that I could run through the town at the end. The finish was amazing. Paul Kaye (Mr Ironman) high fived me, told me I was an IRONMAN and then I got my medal from the winner of the men's pro race Horst Reichel. Awesome, as we Brits apparently now say.

So if you are thinking of doing an Ironman, Kalmar is a great venue and a great first ironman race. And if you REALLY are thinking of doing it I'd be happy to talk you through the lessons I learnt. See you at the pool! Maybe.

IRONMAN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP, KONA

In October, Rachel Joyce (a member of Otter for over ten years) lined up against the rest of the world's top Ironman pro triathletes. She produced her second podium finish at the World Championships, coming third in a time of 9:04:23. Here are her thoughts once the race was done:

Sometimes you cross the finish line and you almost immediately have perspective on your race. My Kona 2014 race has taken a little longer to find that. I went in with the smoothest preparation I have had probably for any race. I felt fit, strong and in a good place to really challenge for the win. Missing that goal is of course disappointing but I've always had the attitude though that you can't be disappointed if you put your best foot forward. So why disappointment? Finding perspective was difficult because I kept wondering 'Could I have done more; physically or mentally to make myself perform better on that day?' I felt like I was in my best running shape going into the race. My bike data doesn't suggest that I rode outside myself. I didn't run out of energy. Yet I didn't run as fast as I know I can. Of course performing to your full potential on the day that matters is a real puzzle. There are so many factors to consider to get it right is not a science but an art.

I've questioned whether I hung tough enough at key points in the race. Did I falter? It's always hard to put yourself back into those moments in the race, to remember exactly what you were thinking when. Pushing past the burning in my legs, forcing myself to see past the current rough patch, ignoring that voice that says slow down: these are all things I practice in training. They are things I think about before the race. In fact overriding those things are exactly what I relish about racing. I've analysed other aspects too: my build, what I did during race week, how well I rested, but I guess the reason I spent more time thinking about those moments in the race is exactly because it is so much harder to assess those moments in the race. The good news is I eventually came round to seeing that questioning myself, and asking myself the tough questions is necessary and helpful: in all aspects of life not just sport. So now: yeah, I'm happy with the race I had In Kona and I am motivated. Next year I will be determined to make sure there's not an ounce of doubt!

Rachel Joyce, 3rd at Kona





OTHER EVENTS

In addition to the above success, many other Otters continued to race in triathlon competitions across the UK and beyond. Anne Eden (nee Jones) competed in sprint, standard and 70.3 distances. Her highlights included achieving 11th woman overall in the Challenge Weymouth Half, which qualified her for the age group Team GB for the Middle Distance European Championships in 2015.



Anne Eden



Otters re-fuelling at the Nationals, Sheffield



Olivia Reynolds, Rob Williams and Mike Reys with one of the trophies won at the GLLAM meet



LIST OF MEMBERS 2014

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.
 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.
 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 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.
 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.
 1999 Buckley, Mr E.J.
 2000 Hindle, Mr J.E.
 2001 Marshall, Ms F.C.
 2001 Shaw, Miss E.A.
 2001 Freeloove, Dr A.
 2001 Parrish, Mr J.
 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 Paynter, Miss D.
 2004 Boldon, Mr E.M.
 2004 Bew, Miss B.
 2004 Mikulskis, Mr D.P.
 2004 Williams, Mrs L.J.
 2004 Hudson, Mr A.M.
 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 Sazama, Miss M.
 2006 Walton, Mrs S.
 2006 Cotton, Mr D.
 2006 Aldana, Mr J.F.
 2006 Williams, Mr R.L.
 2007 Bullock, Mr D.
 2007 Bratt, Mr S.

2007 Capon, Mr A.
 2007 Ochocinska, Ms A.
 2007 Hahn, Mr E.
 2007 Brown, Miss H.
 2007 Hasnain, Dr C.A.
 2007 Cook, Mr L.
 2007 Mulligan, Miss M.A.
 2007 Nogaledo, Mr D.
 2007 Chopra, Dr M.
 2008 Mozzicarelli, Mr F.
 2008 Mulcahy, Miss R.
 2008 Roberts, Mr D.
 2008 Rumbos, Miss A.
 2008 Wall, Mr W.A.
 2008 Williams, Mr T.
 2008 Sokolic, Mr I.
 2008 Sutton, Mr C.
 2008 Worsley, Mr D.
 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 Eden, Ms A.M.
 2009 Caldwell, Mr O.J.
 2009 Ganase, Mr O.
 2009 Sirianni, Mr P.
 2009 Benett, Miss S.E.
 2009 Prentice, Dr H.
 2009 Kruesmann, Ms M.
 2009 Warren, Mr D.
 2010 Burkinshaw, Mr T.
 2010 Moulson, Mr D.
 2010 Kerr, Miss K.
 2010 Bari, Mr F.
 2010 Tafazolli, Miss B.M.
 2010 Phillips, Mrs R.J.
 2010 Dunn, Miss E.J.
 2010 Castagna, Miss V.
 2010 Hargreaves, Miss R.
 2010 Kearns, Miss L.
 2010 Wyss, Mr T.
 2010 Hannon, Miss F.A.



2010 Bassey, Mr A.
 2011 Bond, Mr I.
 2011 Dearsley, Miss E.
 2011 Louw, Dr A.R.
 2011 Trevellick, Miss J.
 2011 Wright, Miss S.E.
 2011 Romozzi, Mr L.
 2011 Schuring, Mr B.
 2011 Glennie, Miss G.
 2011 Cockill, Mr M.
 2011 Higlett, Miss A.
 2011 Shannon, Miss H.
 2011 Deschatres, Mr F.
 2011 Gaunt, Mr T.
 2011 Orosz, Mr G.
 2011 Scanlan, Mr J.
 2011 Grainge, Mr M.R.
 2011 Harris, Miss L.J.
 2011 Kelly, Miss J.M.
 2011 Sheldrick, Mr T.
 2011 Westwood, Miss S.E.
 2011 Parra, Ms M.
 2011 Coomer, Miss A.
 2011 Csizsinszky, Mr D.
 2011 Marra, Mr A.W.
 2011 Cook, Mr C.T.
 2011 Davis, Mr M.
 2011 Thorpe, Miss V.
 2012 Wilson, Mr O.M.
 2012 Cerqueira, Mr N.
 2012 Eather, Mr B.C.
 2012 Canepa, Dr A.
 2012 Grey, Mr C.
 2012 Barber, Mr N.
 2012 Imbs, Mr X.N.
 2012 Reys, Mr M.
 2012 Gillespie, Mr C.
 2012 Eckert, Mr J.
 2012 Begg, Mr A.J.
 2012 Gauer, Miss J.S.
 2012 Finlay, Mr T.
 2012 Campbell, Miss H.
 2012 Leighton, Miss F.
 2012 Amardeilh, Mr C.
 2012 Roussos, Mr N.
 2012 Von Herberstein, Mr E.

2012 Hansen, Miss L.A.
 2012 Grant, Miss E.L.
 2012 Nyaka, Mr M.J.
 2012 Barone, Mr B.
 2012 Parker, Mr W.
 2013 Goad, Miss E.
 2013 Gunner, Miss V.
 2013 Macdonald, Miss A.
 2013 Piermattei, Miss S.
 2013 Reynolds, Miss O.
 2013 Voeltzel, Miss D.
 2013 Belato, Mr L.
 2013 Bennett, Mr P.S.
 2013 Hutton, Mr R.
 2013 Johnson, Mr F.
 2013 Mackenzie, Mr H.
 2013 Mattick, Mr J.
 2013 Rocchi, Mr A.
 2013 Takagi Mr H.
 2013 Woolley, Mr R.
 2013 Allen, Miss T.
 2013 Campbell, Mr K.
 2013 Collivadino, Miss G.
 2013 Freeman, Miss C.
 2013 Tollefson, Mr P.
 2013 George, Mr C.
 2013 Oliviero, Mr G.
 2013 Popovic, Mr T.
 2013 Radunovic, Mr V.
 2014 Bautista-Garcia, Miss I.
 2014 Brayne, Miss S.
 2014 Brooks, Miss D.
 2014 Brown, Miss A.
 2014 Campbell, Miss B,
 2014 Cappellari, Miss O.
 2014 Cartwright, Miss E.
 2014 Cooper, Miss H.
 2014 DiMarco, Miss C.
 2014 Finn, Miss D.
 2014 Hedley, Miss K.
 2014 Macdonald, Miss K.
 2014 Marcadal, Miss C.
 2014 McKenzie, Miss F.
 2014 Naseri, Miss E.
 2014 Palmieri, Miss F.
 2014 Sandrini, Miss F.

2014 Wharton, Miss A.
 2014 Ali Ahmad, Mr S.
 2014 Anderson, Mr T.
 2014 Bermingham, Mr M.
 2014 Biver, Mr M.
 2014 Bonavota, Mr G.
 2014 Danho, Mr T.
 2014 Dammone, Mr O.
 2014 Dennehy, Mr D.
 2014 Fakley, Mr P.
 2014 Fox, Mr J.
 2014 Hall, Mr B.
 2014 Humphreys, Mr G.
 2014 Jones, Mr D.
 2014 Jourdain, Mr M.
 2014 Macara, Mr I.
 2014 Nappa, Mr M.
 2014 Nasadi-Gill, Mr D.
 2014 Sambrook-Smith, Mr J.
 2014 Sbrescia, Mr F.
 2014 Skarratt, Mr P.
 2014 Steel, Mr E.
 2014 Third, Mr J.
 2014 Titus, Mr D.
 2014 Tripolitis, Mr Y.
 2014 Van Laanan, Mr J.
 2014 White, Mr R.
 2014 Williams, Mr S,
 2014 Friefeld, Miss K.
 2014 Hamilton-Foster, Miss E.
 2014 Masri, Miss F.
 2014 Persch, Miss A.
 2014 Prichard, Miss A.
 2014 Bion, Mr A.
 2014 Castaner, Mr S.
 2014 Edelman, Mr N.
 2014 Galvani, Mr G.
 2014 Linn, Mr J.
 2014 Marpillero, Mr M.
 2014 Maxey, Mr T.
 2014 Mourikis, Mr T.
 2014 Muscato, Mr L.
 2014 Nakajima, Mr K.
 2014 Renaud, Mr J-P.
 2014 Rogers, Mr J.
 2014 Shunn, Mr D.

2014 Sippainen, Mr M.
 2014 Tatar, Mr D.
 2014 Yarahmadi, Mr M.
 2014 Zivanovic, Mr M.

Junior Members

2005 Miller, Miss K.A.
 2005 Miller, Miss A.T.
 2005 Miller, Mr L.A.
 2005 Miller, Mr B.Q.
 2011 Wain, Miss Z.F.
 2012 Wain, Mr E.V.
 2012 Nurthen, Ms M.L.
 2012 Patchett, Miss H.N.
 2012 Williams, Miss M.S.
 2013 Dean, Miss I.
 2014 Brown, Mr S.
 2014 Gilabert, Miss A,
 2014 Iovine, Mr M.
 2014 Moore, Miss R.
 2014 Szyzsko, Miss A.
 2014 Tinkler-Davies, Miss S.
 2014 Wain, Miss S.



TROPHY WINNERS

2014 CHAMPIONSHIP RACES [MEN]	YEAR DONATED	EVENT	WINNER
(No trophy)		50m Freestyle	O. Wilson
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

2014 CHAMPIONSHIP RACES [WOMEN]	YEAR DONATED	EVENT	WINNER
(No trophy)		50m Freestyle	A. Higlett
J.R.G. Millner C.C.	1977	100m Freestyle	G. Hobson
Club Trophy	2001	400m Freestyle	G. Hobson
Club Trophy	2001	100m Backstroke	K. Kerr
2nd Annison C.C. (shared)	1914	100m Breaststroke	K. Hedley
(No trophy)		50m Butterfly	A. Higlett
Club Trophy	2001	100m Butterfly	G. Hobson
Ronald Edgar Salver (shared)	1952	100m Medley	G. Hobson
Arthur Batt Trophy (shared)	1996	200m Medley	H. Prentice
C.G. Forsberg Memorial	2001	Mile Open Water	A. Higlett
Jackson Trophy	1993	Points Total	G. Hobson

2014 HANDICAP EVENTS	YEAR DONATED	EVENT	WINNER
Hodge C.C.	1970	10 Widths Handicap	(not swum)
Macdonald C.C.	1893	50m Handicap	F. Hannon
Pyers Mostyn C.C.	1955	100m Handicap	N. Barber
David Craig Salver	2004	100m Sealed Handicap	A. Capon
Ladies' C.C.	1874	125m Handicap	A. Capon
Baldon C.C.	1934	150m Handicap	F. Hannon
Alfred Jonas C.C.	1935	200m Handicap	M. Parra
Alex Ferguson Trophy	2008	400m IM Handicap	M. Kruesmann
Synge-Hutchinson C.C.	1931	Veterans' 50m Handicap	S. Williams
2nd Tom Batt C.C.	1948	Open Water Quarter Mile	D. Shunn
J.W. Rope Memorial	1921	Open Water Half Mile	T. Kendall
Cunningham Plate	1951	Open Water Mile	T. Thorpe
Frank Sachs C.C.	1923	Open Water Points total	T. Kendall
George Rope Averages	1911	Handicap Points Total	F. Hannon, P. Bennett (shared)



2014 WATER POLO	YEAR DONATED	EVENT	WINNER
J.H.R. Haswell Trophy	1998	Men's Player of the Year	N. Roussos
Water Polo Cup	2003	Women's Player of the Year	P. Etiebet
Captain's trophy (ladies)	2014		I. Dean

2014 OTTER GOLF	YEAR DONATED	EVENT	WINNER
G.H. Rope C.C.	1923	Otter Golf	A. Craig

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Gina Hobson

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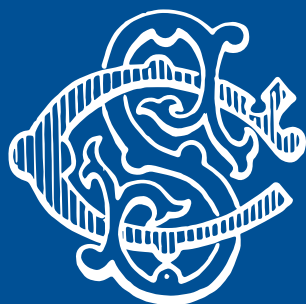
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Please send your contributions for the 2015 Annual Report to
Gina Hobson (ginaju@hotmail.com)
and don't forget that the Club's 150th anniversary is coming around in 2019;
please send contributions for the anniversary publication to
James Stewart (james.meg@hotmail.co.uk).

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