

**PORIRUA CITY AQUATICS 2012/2013**  
**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**  
***Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013***

I have pleasure in presenting the club's 42nd Annual Report.

In July past and present members came together to celebrate the club's 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion. Those attending reminisced over dinner at the Petone Working Mens club, and then relived their swimming days at a fun carnival at Cannons Creek on the Sunday. While numbers attending were lower than expected, there was a good representation of the club's 40 years as it has evolved from the Cannons Creek Swimming club, to Mana Swimco and now Porirua City Aquatics. Our special thanks goes to the sub-committee for organising the occasion.

Again this has been a year where Porirua City Aquatics has been successful at many levels.

Learn to Swim: Courses of seven lessons were held attracting approximately 100 participants each term. Learn to Swim is two fold, and provides a steady stream of graduates ready to enter the club programme, as well as a valuable income stream. Most instructors attended a SNZ Asta training course in February and are working towards this qualification. The success of learn to swim can be directly attributed to the passionate volunteers who give up their time freely to instruct the swimmers and administer the programme. Deserving a special mention are the number of recent past swimmers who continue to help out even though their pool swimming days are over.

On the competitive side there have been a number of highlights during the year. Many have centred on Ben Walsh and his successes. Ben's talents were recognised when he was named as Porirua's Under 19 Sportsman of the Year and the Greater Secondary School's Male Swimmer of the Year. Amongst the numerous National Age Group and Regional Medals he won, he also won two National Open Bronze Medals at the NZ Short Course Champs – these are the first National open medals the club has won in 15 years. Ben has rewritten the club record book as well as breaking many Wellington records, both Age Group and Open. The club was pleased to support Ben when he was selected to represent NZ at the TriSeries in Australia in July and at the Australian Youth Olympics held in Sydney in January.

PCA's other highlights included

- Two National Gold Medals, two Silvers and 2 Bronze medals for Jack Plummer and a relay Bronze medal for Sophie Wilkinson at Junior Nationals
- A number of Wellington records broken by Jack Plummer and Sophie Wilkinson
- A club trip to Masteron
- Swimmers selected to represent Wellington in the Fairbrother Cup and Six Centre Meet teams.
- Monica Saili representing Samoa and Chris Kidd-Andrews swimming for the Cook Islands at the World Short Course Champs in Turkey in December. Matt Meehan officiating at this meet.
- PCA's 4<sup>th</sup> placing on the club points table at the Wellington Winter Champs.
- PCA's Black team winning Swim Wellington's 2012 Inter-club league competition with our Turquoise team finishing a very credible 6<sup>th</sup>

Coaching: Nevill Sutton has continued to coach our Senior Squad at the Te Rauparaha Arena Pool. Clearly the success of this squad can be attributed to Nevill's efforts and passion for coaching. Nevill was a very worthy recipient of a SNZ Honours Award for Service in 2012.

During the year Alex Bennett has coached the Orcas, Swordfish and Penguins at Cannons Creek. Alex has also been working towards his Bronze Accreditation coaching qualification with the club supporting Nevill to provide the required mentoring. Alex had his own successes in the pool with a 6<sup>th</sup> placing at the 14<sup>th</sup> Fina World Masters Championships held in Italy in June.

While many swimmers have been encouraged to move to Professional Coaching the bulk of our membership continue to be coached on Monday and Friday nights, and Sunday mornings by our volunteer coaches, who freely give hours of their time to the club. Thanks to Eileen and Peter.

Thanks to the efforts of Terry Laws, PCA's pool of officials has continued to grow. Terry Laws and Brent Harris both qualified as referees during the year, while others started IOT training. The club has continued to enjoy the support of our senior officials, Rhonda and Bryan Graham, Gillian Kalafatelis, Graham Seagull and Matt Meehan on Race nights, at our Club champs and club run carnivals.

The Club organised two successful carnivals during the year - Division III at Naenae in March 2013 and earlier, in May 2012 over 100 swimmers participated in our Novice Carnival at the Cannons Creek Pool. Both meets were well supported and ran smoothly.

In house the club ran our annual 100m handicapped trophy meet, two race nights, official Club Championships, In House League and our Christmas Family Fun night. All of these events proved to be as popular as ever.

The Council's renovations to the Cannons Creek Pool have been well received and the club is grateful for the support of the pool staff during the year. Hiring enough pool space for our Junior Squads at suitable times is proving to be a challenge as the Dash Swim School continues to grow. Dash's efforts to encroach into our traditional exclusive use time have been another challenge faced this year. Unfortunately It seems these challenges will be on going.

In closing I would like to thank

- Our retirees - Andy Wilkinson (Race Secretary) Julie Saunders (Treasurer) and Tania Donaldson (SNZ Database Administrator) for the huge contribution they have each made in their respective roles.
- Dennis Smith, Todd Morton and Danny Selbe for providing coaching cover for our professional coaches.
- Sarah Tait for her continued support in assisting and covering for our Race Secretary.
- Brent Harris for the many hours he has put into developing our website into the useful and informative tool it has become, not only for PCA but for other clubs who I am told find it a good source of information..
- Our parents and supporters who have managed teams both poolside and away. We do appreciate this often comes at a personal cost when people take time off work and/or use up annual leave.
- All those who have officiated at meets and especially to those who have taken up the challenge to step up the official's pathway.
- To those who have covered our duties, organised the officials for meets, and done the hundred and one jobs that need to be done so that our swimmers can enjoy their chosen sport.
- The committee for their help and support during the year.

Viv Morton, President