

# Melville Marlins Newsletter

May 2013



## **ENDURANCE 1000** – by Pam Walker

Up to 12 August the points scored are **4680**.

The year is really speeding by and August is your last chance to start the 400m/800m swims if you want to finish 5 for the year. If the Sunday or Monday sessions are not suitable you can always do an Endurance swim on Thursday Club Nights. Instant points can be gained by doing one of the longer swims and these pose a greater challenge. Monday sessions are going reasonably well.

Endurance Sessions – Sunday at 8.30am.

Monday at 2pm Sept 9 & 23

Oct 14 & 28

Nov 11 & 25

Dec 2 & 16 (Note change)

Note: To check your Endurance history go to:

[e1000.mastersswimming.org.au](http://e1000.mastersswimming.org.au)

Select 'History' and use either your name or member number



**Congratulations to Marlin of the Month for June: Doug Maclean**

## MEMORIES OF THE MELVILLE AMATEUR SWIMMING

### & LIFE SAVING CLUB

My family moved to Bicton in 1928, I was born the same year. The club was started in 1926.

My earliest memories of the swimming club would be approximately from the year 1934 when I first became a member of the club. The “pool” in those days was in the Swan river with a jetty at one end and a row of steel posts at the other end. I believe the posts were old tram lines, as one of the early members worked for the Fremantle Tramways. The affixing of the turning boards to the posts all had to be done from a dinghy as there was no other means of access at the time. I can still see it now, the parents, including my own, cutting, drilling and tarring timber for the turning boards. In later years, the end of the “pool” was enlarged to a triangle and later still into a rectangle, these were decked out but still only accessible by water. Lane ropes had to be strung across each Sunday morning. Eventually a walkway was constructed out to the west end of the pool. Turning boards became lighter and portable and were dropped into runners so they always floated at the same height above the surface. The old fixed boards could be totally submerged or out of the water depending on the tidal level. The lane ropes and turning boards had to be carried out and taken in

after each meeting. Bicton, along with several other sites along the river had been an Oyster Farm, although no longer operational, an area of approx.: 30x10m just off shore along side the jetty was littered with old shells. There was many a cut foot for the unwary until the shells were eventually removed.

The first clubrooms were built in the middle of the 1930's, on what is now the lower level of the water polo club. The middle section was the swimming club, with an entrance, a counter and change rooms on either side. Public change rooms adjoined the east end and the Melville Sailing Club the west end. They eventually needed to expand so they moved around the corner.

Freestyle and Backstroke were fairly straight forward strokes, you had to touch the wall with your hand before you turned, this caused a bit of conjecture when tumble turning became popular as to whether the hand touched the turning board during the tumble. Breastroke was a different situation. I don't know why anyone swam the stroke, as I remember, you could not break the surface with your hands or feet, you could not turn your head, not even a fraction, as this would cause you to drop a shoulder and your body would no longer be level in the water, as was required. You had to touch with both hands, is this the only condition that still exists? **(continued on next page)**

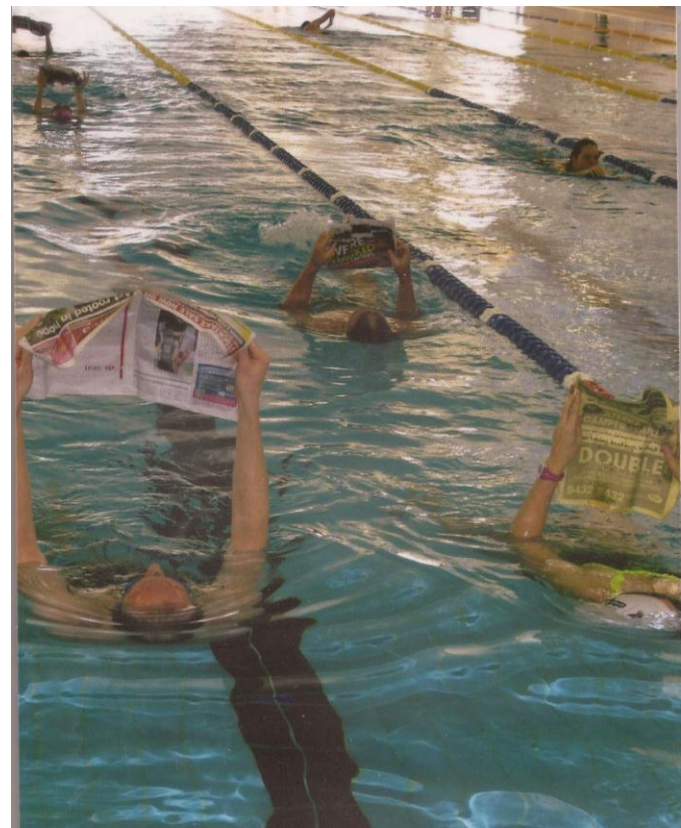
Training in the early days was fairly irregular, if you swam more than 2 or 3 times a week, you were considered pretty keen! Naturally, there was only swimming during the summer months, there were no heated pools at that time. All clubs had to contend with the prevailing conditions on the day, dead flat on odd occasions up to surfing waves if the wind was blowing from the wrong direction. Stingers and jelly fish were regular visitors at Bicton, sometimes, particularly in the mornings the jellyfish would be so thick in the bay it would blanket the whole surface of the pool. On days like that you just turned up then turned around and went home again!

This is as I remember the early days of my swimming with Melville.

### CHARLES RENNER – PAST PRESIDENT



Thanks for that great story Charles! I had no idea the club went that far back!



### Marlins catching up on the news.

The swimmers have to return the newspaper to me - dry. If you haven't tried this, give it ago. Belly button up, elbows straight (see the person on the front left of the photo) & kick (without fins). It is harder than you think :-)

( From Gail)

## From Gail:

I would like to thank **all** those people who keep the club running

- it is difficult - as I don't want to leave anyone out & that is easy to do.

So: (In no particular order):

1. Peter Maloney - coach.
2. Rhonda Maloney - secretary & the person who gets us 'grants'.
3. Ossie for club night on Thursdays. He's ALWAYS there 1<sup>st</sup>, gets out all the boxes, etc. that we need, is the "starter" for the night, and is the "barman" afterwards as well.
4. Peter Clark - looks after the bills & new members
5. Jaki & Eddie - social activities
6. Maree - puts out the newsletter
7. Pam - looks after endurance swims
8. Ray - drinks for Thursday nights

9. Those that pickup and bring a few of the "older" members to Thursday nights e.g. Peter C, Sean O, and Ray M

10. Pam McHugh - vice-captain.

11. Also, Gail – coach, you forgot that one! (from Greg)

12. Eddie/Pam W also help lots Thursday nights, setting out chairs, folders, stopwatches, etc. for the races.

13. Not to forget the Captains and vice-captains who do such a sterling job!

Apologies if I've left anyone out!



**Teamwork!**

## The Golden Groper State Relay Carnival Sunday

18 August 2013

Melville Marlins had two teams participating in this Carnival. In the 72-119 Age Group there were Beck, Aithne, Rowena and Claire. Doug, Eddie, Pam and Peter were in the 280-319 Age Group. This was almost the youngest group to the oldest! It was heartening to see the younger ladies competing although they did not have any competition being the only team in their age group. This was very disappointing, however, they earned more than half of our points. The other team (not to be known as the oldies) had more competition and came away with 1 win and 2 seconds. That was a good effort as we were against a strong team from Mandurah.

The 72-119 team gained 24 points while the 280-319 team achieved 20 points, giving Melville 44 points and 9<sup>th</sup> out of 12 Clubs. Well done to all who competed.

It was a fun event and action-packed with teams marshalling as other teams were swimming so there were a lot of people milling around. As it was a held as a short course event it was a juggling trick to get half the team onto the boom for the 4x25m relays.

The Carnival was very well run and finished earlier than the pizzas were ordered so there was a delay in starting lunch although some swimmers started on the cakes first!

Doug and I interspersed our swimming with officiating and usually managed to get to marshalling just as we were called up to go to our lanes. I was so distracted that I didn't notice that Eddie was swimming with her ankle strapped. Not only did she swim with a pulled muscle but a damaged ankle as well. It was good to see Noela who having come back from her holiday up north gave up her time to officiate. **Pam Walker**



Groper Relay teams extraordinaire!

## Phenomenal 2 LETTER WORD – UP!

This two-letter word in English has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that word is 'UP.' It is listed in the dictionary as an [adv], [prep], [adj], [n] or [v].

It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP?

At a meeting, why does a topic come UP? Why do we speak UP, and why are the officers UP for election (if there is a tie, it is a tossUP) and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report? We call UP our friends, brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver, warmUP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and fix UP the old car.

At other times, this little word has real special meaning. People stirUP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses.

To be dressed is one thing but to be dressed UP is special..

And this UP is confusing: A drain must be opened UP because it is blocked UP.

We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night. We seem to be pretty mixed UP aboutUP!

To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look UP the word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4 of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions.

If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with (UP to) a hundred or more.

When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP. When the sun comes out, we say it is clearing UP. When it rains, it soaks UP the earth. When it does not rain for awhile, things dry UP. One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP, for now . . . My time is UP!

Oh . . . One more thing: What is the first thing you do in the morning and the last thing you do at night?

U

P!

Did that one crack you UP?

Don't screw UP. Send this on to everyone

you look UP in your address book . . . Or not . . .

it's UP



## Cheese and Bickie Roster



### SHOPPING LIST

**Cheese:** 1 kg cut ready for serving

**Biscuits:** 3 packets

Other: (By choice) any savouries

**Milk:** 1 x 600ml full cream and 1 x 600 ml low fat

Please check supplies of Milo, tea, coffee, sugar, serviettes, detergent etc. and restock if necessary

Keep all sales dockets for refund from

Treasurer

**HEARTY MEAL NIGHT (HMN) no cheese and biscuits**

### Duties

**The Urn:** Turn on before 7.30. Setting 3-4

**Clean Up:** Includes taking the used tea towels home for washing and returning them the following week.

Restock drinks esky from cupboard and take home to get cold.

If you are unable to assist on the allocated date please organise a swap with another person.

Date	Volunteers	
August 29	Eddie and Bec	
Sept 5	Eddie and Bec	HMN
Sept 12	Nancy and ?	
Sept 19	Maree	
Sept 26	Ivan and Felicity	
Oct 3	Ivan and Fekicity	HMN
Oct 10	Hayden and Murray	
Oct 17	Hayden and Murray	
Oct 24	Shaun and Charlie	
Oct 31	Shaun and Charlie	
Nov 7	Pam and Pam	HMN
Nov 14	Pam and Pam	
Nov 21	Anne and Greg	
Nov 28	Anne and Greg	
Dec 5		HMN
Dec 12		
Dec 19	Jacqui and Martin	