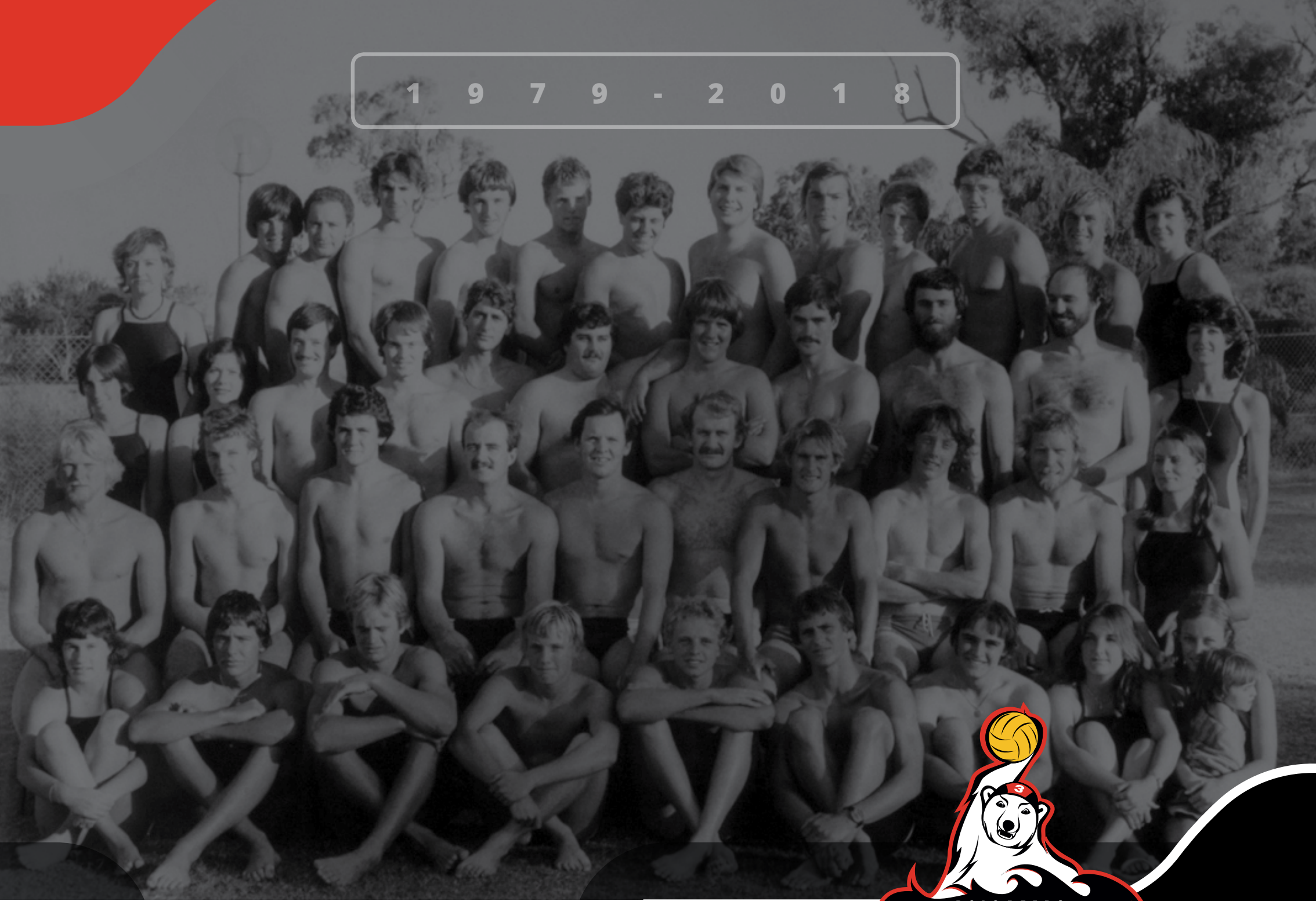


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The history of
City Beach
Water Polo Club

uwawaterpolo.com.au

Preface

In the lead-up to City Beach Water Polo Club's 40th anniversary the committee initiated the production of this 'history book' at a meeting in September, 2016.

In 2018, the Club commenced its transition to affiliation with the University of Western Australia which necessitated a name and identity change; and marked a new chapter in the Club's history.

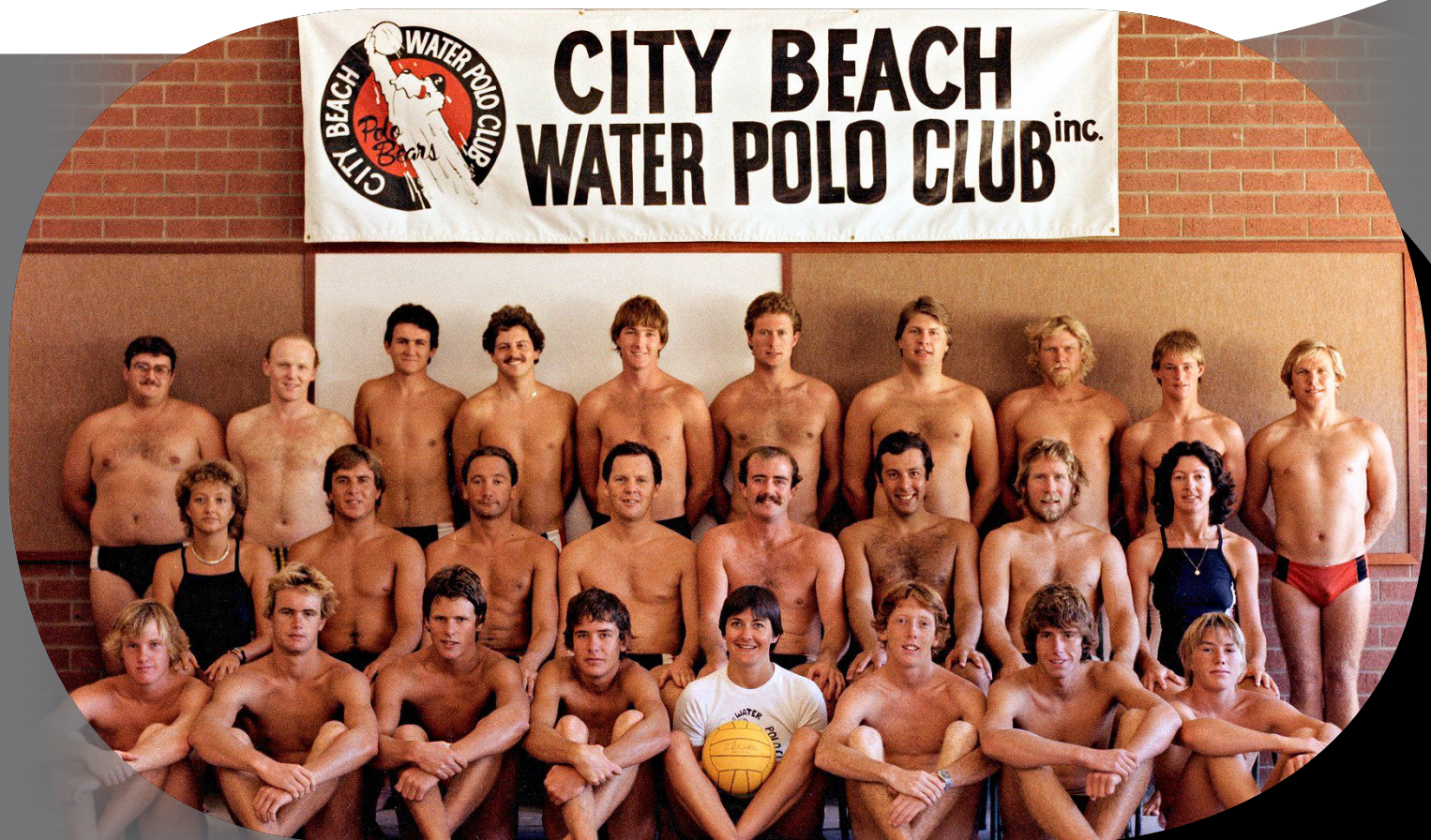
The purpose of this book is to record the history of the City Beach Water Polo Club from its origins to present day, capturing past achievements, and most importantly, the characters that shaped the Club.

A voluntary committee comprising Peter Symons, Jackie Vittino, Cassandra Thompson and Peter Hughes, worked with writer Steve Rogers, to compile, edit and produce this book which records a story about a remarkable Club that has offered so much to thousands of past and present members.

Past and present members were approached to provide their recollections of their time in the Club. All care has been taken to verify the accuracy of the content in this publication. Much of the information has been collected from the recollections of members; and the publishers do not accept responsibility for the validity of the content.

The producers of the book acknowledge the assistance of photographer Geoff Fisher, Leigh Farnell and members of the CBWPC with their interviews and recollections.

Author Steve Rogers is particularly grateful for the cooperation and assistance of Peter Symons, Jackie Vittino, Cassandra Thompson and Peter Hughes.



Contents

Introduction	1	The '80s: The Fast and the Furious	16	Another New Name	37
Flotsam	2	The Pommy Invasion	17	A Remarkable Season	39
Rangers	3	The Superdrome	18	Commonwealth Games Honour	41
Flotsam and Rangers Propose Merging	5	First Men's A Grade Premiership	18	The Best Teams Of The First 40 Years	42
First Meeting - Establishing a Constitution	6	The 1990s	20	How We Have Grown	42
The Early Years	7	The World Aquatic Championships (and a new place to call home)	21	Australian Representatives	43
The Recruiting of Juniors	9	A Grade Women	22	Team Dynasties	43
Leigh Farnell - a Mastermind of Social Activities	10	The 2000s	23	The Winter Competition	44
The Legendary Victoria Ave Cocktail Parties	12	The Rise of Water Polo in the Private Schools	24	Institutions within the Club	45
Formal Disorder	13	Junior Programs Flourish	25	Memorable Moments	47
Our First Premierships	14	Our First Women's A Grade Premiership	27	Club Traditions	48
Establishing Bold Park as Home	14	25 years of CityBeach	27	Social Traditions	49
		The 2010s	31	New Traditions	50
		The Great Kova	31	Club Communications	51
		The Departure of the Senior Women	33	Our Volunteers	51
		New beginnings for the Senior Women	34	Some Players of Influence	53
		Return of the Women I:	35	What Club Members value about City Beach	54
		The Arrival of Damian Kelly	36	The Club	57
		A New Club Affiliation	37	A Final Word	58
				Tables	59

Introduction

Picture this: Members and supporters are gathered around TV screens in Perth; with fingers crossed and praying for a victory as they watch the concluding stages of the 2016 National Water Polo League grand final between UWA Torpedoes and Victorian Seals, held in Melbourne.

“**Now Nic Hughes for the Championship. Goal! The Torpedoes take the title and Nic Hughes is a hero. It's 5 – 3 in penalties, and the final score is 13 – 11,” said the TV commentator.**

The members and supporters watching the game live at MSAC and on TV, erupt in a state of euphoria and with great sense of achievement and pride in their young club. No one had ever imagined that the UWA City Beach Club could become such a dominant force in Australian water polo. It is just unbelievable!



Torpedoes: National Champions, Mar 2016

Front: Pres. Peter Hughes, Capt. Luke Quinlivan, Coach Andrei Kovalenko

*Drinks at Bold Park pool:
Circa early 80s*



Story published in *The West Australian* 15 Oct 2015

A Remarkable Year:

Coach Andrei Kovalenko, Byron Kelly U14 captain, Lachlan Vos U16, Lachlan Pethick U18, Pres. Peter Hughes

The 2016 NWPL Championship completed a quadrella of men's national championships for the Club; achieving the virtually impossible feat of winning all the men's National Water Polo Club Championships; the 14&U, 16&U, 18&U and NWPL in the same season. A feat never before achieved by a club, and unlikely to be achieved again.

Later in 2016, the club produced its first Olympian when George Ford was selected to represent Australia at the Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games.

So how did this now nationally acclaimed Club achieve such greatness?

It all started almost 40 years ago ...

Flotsam

In 1973 rugby team mates and fellow UWA medical students, Mike Davis and David Lilburne, formed a water polo club and called it Flotsam (meaning floating debris).

Mike and David set about recruiting members for their new club; and targeted fellow UWA students Tim Davis, Al Marsh, Glen Koski, Richard Sandover and Rick Wolozny.

The first meeting was held in the garage at Dave Lilburne's parents' residence in The Avenue, Nedlands; in August, 1973. Dr Dolph Zink, a lecturer at UWA and a reluctant playing member, was the first patron of the club.

The club had an early connection with the Swan Brewery through its chairman Lloyd Zampatti, whose son Dave was a member. The association was reflected in the club's orange coloured T-shirt with a big Swan logo on the front.

Rick Wolozny recalls: "The brewery supplied the club with beer; quite a lot as a matter of fact!"

Flotsam was formed as a social club for fun and fitness. Junior teams were not considered; as most members were in their early 20's and not yet in the married with children scene.

Another foundation member was Brian Smith, who was asked to join Flotsam because he could swim. He recalls:

I was finishing an engineering degree and thought there was less chance of getting injured playing water polo than in Aussie Rules Football. Towards the end of my footy career I got cleaned up behind the play, broke a collarbone and sustained various other injuries. I concluded it was a mugs' game. That's when I got involved in water polo.

In its first season Flotsam fielded teams in the men's C and D grade competition, and also had a women's team.

Early training at Flotsam consisted of a Sunday afternoon session at Beatty Park, before attending the Steve's Hotel afternoon 'session'. Most members wanted to just play for fun; as a diversion from other sports like football and rugby.

Flotsam also trained at the Hale School pool, due to the Davis family's connection, and because Tom Hoad was a teacher there. Hoad encouraged students to join the Club. The youngest of the Davis brothers, Nick, was still at school and so he recruited his school mates; including Graham and Peter Silbert, and Neil Sagggers. Hale School has long had a strong influence on water polo in WA, and in particular on the City Beach Club.

In its second year (1974) numbers increased and the Club fielded two D grade and a C grade side. That year Flotsam won the C grade final, and the WA Water Polo Association realised that a new club would help boost the top grade in the state competition. The Association persuaded senior players from other clubs to move and help strengthen Flotsam. Alan Newman, Ron Fuller and Alan Charleston (an Olympian), joined the club. Such was the improvement that Flotsam was elevated to A grade in 1976.

Al Marsh recalls the early days of Flotsam:

Some of the foundation members, like Brian Smith and Rick Wolozny, still play in the same team today. Everyone enjoyed the social side of the game. Flotsam was promoted into A grade fairly soon after formation and recruited some ex-state and Aus-tralian players to get the club to a better playing performance.

Rangers

Peter Hughes and Brett Barns played junior water polo for Dolphins, both joining the club in 1970. Dolphins was an established club, having formed shortly after World War 2. The club had produced many Olympians; such as Alan Charleston, Graham Samuels and Stan Hammond, and had a junior program run by an enthusiastic Frank Sturgeon. In the 1974/75 season, after graduating from Hale School, Hughes felt disillusioned after not being encouraged to play water polo at a higher level ... in the club's A Grade team. Barns motivated Hughes to leave Dolphins and start a new club. There was no resistance

In the late 1970s the club relied heavily on the Davis family, whose father was Hale School's chaplain, the Reverend Davis. There were four children: Mike, a heart specialist, was the eldest; Tim, was also a doctor and a Rhodes Scholar; Nick, the youngest, became the general manager of WA Water Polo for a few years; while Felicity, second youngest, who is now a magistrate, was the mainstay of the women's team for many years.

The Flotsam women's team grew under Felicity Davis's direction. Many of the formation players were sisters and girlfriends of the male players. The Club can claim responsibility for marriages and partnerships in the early years. Having a women's water polo team, in the 1970s, was very much a novelty; with the only organised competition being an annual intervarsity tournament. Flotsam can claim to being instrumental in starting competitive women's water polo in WA.

In 1978/79 Flotsam members were increasingly pursuing their working careers following university, and were less focused on their water polo. When Tim Davis went to Oxford to take up a Rhode Scholarship; and other senior members departed Perth to take up employment opportunities, they left a big hole in the Flotsam leadership group. A solution to ensure the Club's future was needed to keep it alive, so an amalgamation was an obvious solution.

from the coaching staff at Dolphins, so Hughes and Barns formed the Nedlands-Claresmont Water Polo Club.

Hughes and Barns then set about recruiting for the fledgling club. They approached schoolmates from Hale School, others from Christ Church, WAIT (the WA Institute of Technology - now Curtin University) and mates who could swim a bit. Foundation members included John Bond, Colin Mustoe, Leigh Hardy, Chris Edwards and Allan Fraser. Training was held at the Claresmont Pool. The club fielded a C grade team in its first season, and performed moderately well.

At the first AGM, the committee decided that the club's name lacked relevance to the membership, so the name was changed to the more generic Rangers Water Polo Club.

In 1975, Hughes joined the City Beach Surf Club, which proved to be a fertile recruiting ground, and quickly the membership numbers increased to multiple men's teams and a women's team.

Early Rangers players included Hughes, Barns, Joel Sangster (who went on to form the Phantoms Water Polo Club), and Surf Club members such as Bill Ramsay, Robbie Ramsay, Ian Thomson, Greg Mickle, Jamie Kearsley and the Trotter brothers.

In 1976, the Bold Park Swimming Pool was opened; and the Club relocated its training from Claremont to the new pool.

Early member Bill Ramsay recalls how he was introduced to water polo:

After recently joining the City Beach Surf Club, Peter Hughes asked a group of us if we wanted to play water polo for the Rangers. The surf club guys were all good swimmers and so it was a good fun way of extending our aquatic activities. Peter was really the only water polo player for Rangers, in my first year, with the rest of us picking up the skills from him.

The early Rangers days were mostly about having fun, and a 'social' was held every month during the season. Activities included regular backyard BBQs; and car rallies to rural destinations (with overnight stays) were calendar highlights. The City Beach Surf Club was also big on social events and between the two Clubs, most weekends were very well catered for socially. The Ramsay Residence in City Beach had an unoccupied granny flat which proved perfect for parties and other activities. Star entertainers at these socials were Mick Gunn and Pim Hendrix who always found a way to impress members.

Pim Hendrix had come from Darwin to attend The WA Institute of Technology for the academic year of 1976. After a chance meeting with Peter Hughes and Brett Barns at Steve's Hotel, Pim was invited to Bold Park to have a throw with Rangers. Pim had intended playing with Somerset WPC, but enjoyed the company of Rangers members so much he joined the club. Hendrix was to make a significant contribution to the Club's early success.

In 1978/79 Rangers had a stellar season, winning 3 men's premierships: B grade, C grade and D grade. The club had arrived on the playing scene, and the atmosphere was 'pumping'!

** In this history of the Club, founder Peter Hughes is referred to as Peter, Hughesy, Pump or Pumper; these names are interchangeable when members recall the history of the Club.

Pim Hendrix,

I claim coining the nick name 'Pump' for Peter Hughes. He had this weird baulking action when he was shooting; and I called him "Pumping Peter" which was shortened to Pumper, and it stuck.



Flotsam and Rangers Propose Merging

After three seasons in the WA Water Polo Association's lower/social grades, and on the back of the 3 premierships successes, the competitive Rangers players wanted to improve; however, the jump from these grades to A grade was too big for the existing Rangers squad.

Bill Ramsay recalls,

Flotsam had an A grade team that was getting beaten badly every week. The amalgamation of the two clubs was being considered on the basis that a bigger club would ultimately become more competitive and be able to attract junior players.

The amalgamation of Rangers with Flotsam was first raised at a barbeque at the Ramsay's home in City Beach. This caused some concern amongst some of the Rangers members, who feared the Club would lose its identity.

Both clubs were training at Bold Park, competing for the same pool space and drawing from the same demographic in the Western suburbs, so an amalgamation made good sense.

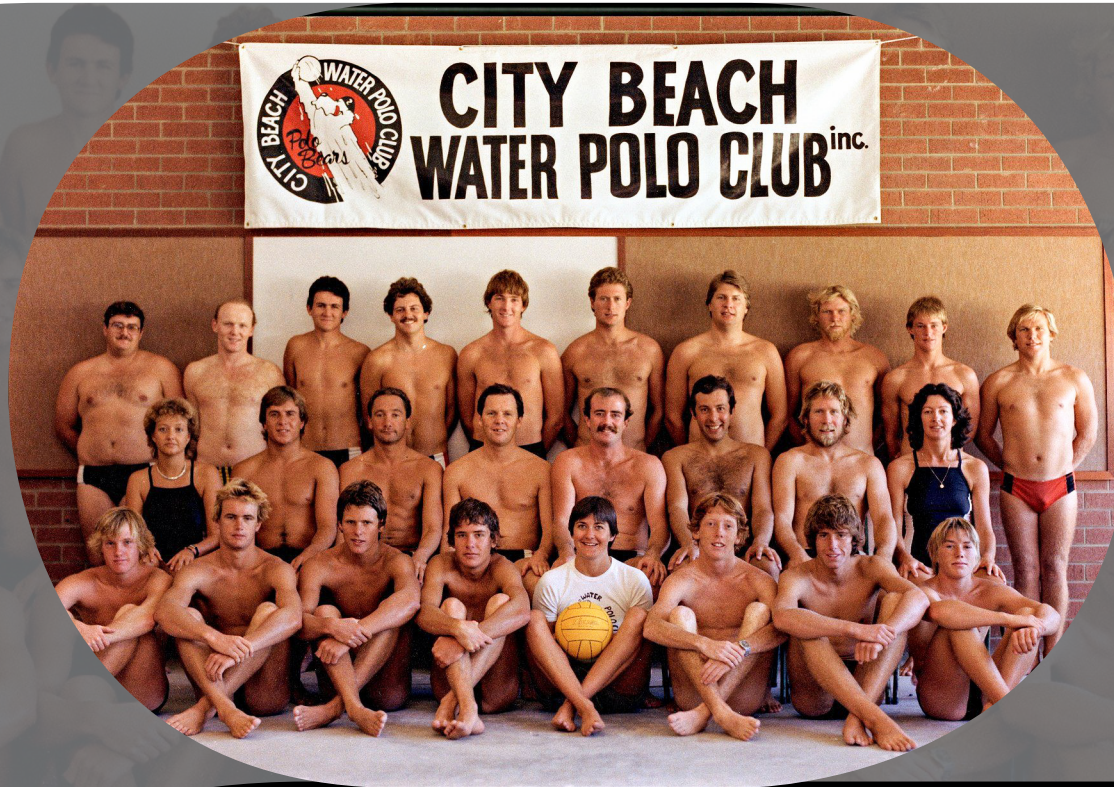
The president of Dolphins, John McKenzie, when asked his opinion about Flotsam and Rangers amalgamating, gave the strongest vote of support that an opposition club administrator could provide.

The WA Water Polo Association also encouraged the amalgamation which would later provide WA with a fourth, strong A Grade club to bolster the local competition.

So after canvassing local water polo identities regarding the amalgamation of Flotsam and Rangers; it was agreed that the proposition proceed. All that remained was to decide on a name and identity for the new club.



CBWPC Founders:
Circa 1980 Bold Park Pool



CBWPC Founders:
1981 Bold Park Clubrooms

First Meeting - Establishing a Constitution

In May 1979, members of Flotsam and Rangers met in a room at Beatty Park to formally discuss and agree to the merging of the two Clubs. A constitution was presented to the meeting, requiring only that the name, colours and committee members be decided upon.

Various names were considered including Floreat Park, City of Perth, City Beach and a University-type name (which is rather ironic, as today it has come the full circle with the change of the Club name to UWA). Finally, the name City Beach was agreed upon because the training venue, Bold Park, was located in that suburb. The club also adopted the red, black and white colours of the City Beach Surf Club; which saved on producing new bathers.

Steve O'Keefe was elected inaugural President, as he had a foot in both camps; he was playing with Flotsam, was a

member of City Beach Surf Club, and knew many of the Rangers members. Other inaugural committee members were Vice President Allan Marsh, Secretary Christopher Edwards, Treasurer Alan Boys, Registrar Rick Wolozny, Club Captain Peter Hughes and Ladies Captain Karen Wolozny.

Brett Barns remembers the early days of the amalgamation:

Flotsam had good players and an A grade team, and Peter Hughes had a vision to form a successful club, so an amalgamation benefitted both teams. Apart from Pim and Pump, the best players that came to make up City Beach were Flotsam players. The good swimmers from the Surf Club struggled at first, but soon learned the game; with juniors Greg Mickle and Jamie Kearsley turning into really good players.

The Early Years

The new club benefited from Pumper's employment with the State Government Valuer General's Office; which meant he had plenty of time to devote to his passion, water polo. He would be at training by 4.00pm on most nights; and would also pick up juniors for training and competitions, and supervise almost all of the Club's competition and training activities.

The fledgling City Beach Club fielded men's teams in all divisions of the state league competition, and one women's team. The men's A grade team comprised the existing player list of the two amalgamated clubs. The entry into A grade proved a daunting experience for players in the new team, as they were pitted against established teams, many of which boasted experienced State players.

The inaugural coach of the men's A Grade team was John Maloney, a former State player from the Maylands WPC. He successfully focused on player fitness, however, against more skilled teams they were often soundly beaten. Key players were Pim Hendrix, Allan Marsh, Stephen O'Keefe and Peter Hughes.

Pim Hendrix recalls:

We weren't that competitive in our first season of A grade; but the following year I was to be the first City Beach player to represent Western Australia in a national Men's State Champion-ships. After I graduated from university, I returned to Darwin for about 4 years and coached my local team and the NT team in the Australian Country Championships. I returned to Perth in 1984 and resumed playing for City Beach.

In a coup the following year, the Club recruited Australian player Jim Gerritzen from Melville WPC. Jim introduced a better structure and professionalism to the A grade team; and with the promotion of promising juniors, the team soon became far more competitive.

Gerritzen stayed for four years and left an indelible mark on the Club's performances. His time with the Club came to an end when a City Beach player hit a referee, which was so against Jim's principles that he resigned as coach and left the club.

Leigh Farnell was an early member who had moved from Victoria to Perth in 1980. This was a few years before his Bendigo compatriot, Peter Sy-mons. Both have gone on to be influential in the structure of the Club.



CB A Gde vs Dolphins Jan 1981

Back: Phil 'The Pom' Hallwood, Al Marsh

Front: Coach Jim Gerritzen, Rob Cullingford, Peter Hughes, Haydn Jackson

Leigh recalls his first impressions of City Beach:

It was quite a culture shock, after playing in the crowded pool and facilities at Melbourne Uni. To get to training I followed Steve Cohen through miles of bush and wilderness around

Reabold Hill, past the former Skyline Drive-In Theatre, through more bush at Bold Park and then up the drive to the Bold Park pool. When I got there my first impression was of a loud bloke at the side of the pool; conducting training in his calm, considered manner - it was Peter 'Pumper' Hughes. He and I became great mates - eventually.

These were spartan times with training in the cold water on Friday nights, competition on Wednesday nights and social activities at various venues around the city. The club had no clubrooms at this stage. Rick Wolozny was goalie in those days; he was nearly 2 metres tall and the pool at Bold Park was only 1.5 metres deep, which made it difficult for him to stay off the bottom. That was certainly one of the drawbacks at Bold Park.

The 1980/81 season saw a very charismatic gentleman turn up in Perth. Warwick Syphers was a highly educated man, with a big personality to match. He was liked by everyone and could play most sports to a high level, including water polo. He could beat Pumper at swimming, golf, tennis, table tennis and most importantly, drinking games. Pumper loved the challenge but would never get the better of him. Warwick was employed as the legal officer at Channel Nine in Perth and as a result of his business activities knew many heavy-hitters in the Perth business scene.

The 1980/81 season required the Club to find additional revenue to meet coaching payments and so Pumper approached the Claremont Football Club to engage City Beach members as security personnel. About 10 members were rostered each week to take on the security services. As many members were Claremont supporters, they would join those rostered as security, in the after match social activities; often a very good buffet dinner and a live band, with Thommo amazing everyone with his dancing prowess. The Claremont gig lasted for three more seasons before the burden of regular volunteering took its toll and numbers dropped away.



Circa 1991:

Geoff Fisher, Phil Patterson, Brian Smith, Mark Ireland, Greg Mainstone, Michael Davis, Jeremy Buttsworth, Charlie Anderson, Russell Garvey

The Recruiting of Juniors

From its first season the Club had juniors playing in the State League competitions. Pumper invited himself to the local Bold Park Swimming Club to recruit young players. Initially, the Club only fielded junior boys' teams.

Andrew Lang recalls:

City Beach is a bit of an extended family. I joined with my best friends Michael Hopkins and Kim Burton and my brother David when Pump came down to the Bold Park Swimming Club and 'recruited' us when we were about 14. Since then the Club has given me many mentors and friends

Notable future stars at that time included Robbie Cullingford, Greg Jones, John Contessi, Haydn Jackson, Jamie Kearsley, Michael and Bradley Hopkins and the Shaw brothers, Jason and Matthew.

Rob Cullingford:

I started at City Beach as an inaugural player after the two clubs; Flotsam, to whom I belonged, and Rangers combined. I was 14 and played 16&U and 18&U and Men's in that year, with players who I now regard as good friends.

By the 1982/83 season the club had organised a school knockout competition, the AMPOL Cup, with 6 local schools participating. Following this, the club created a district school competition for 14&U and 16&U boys. In 1982/83 the District School Competition expanded to include young girls and it was the first we were to see of the Hadley Clan, when Alison and Claire joined the Club's school competition.

Pumper had a XB Ford Falcon. which Kevin 'Hobbsy' Hobbs was quick to name 'The Pump Mobile', which Hughesy drove to pick up all the juniors on Saturday mornings. He would transport them to and from the games at Melville Aquatic Centre.

The path of Michael Hopkins was typical of how juniors were developed in the early years:

I started playing at 14, in the first year of the Club. I played in the juniors (14&U) and seniors (C grade) in the same year. At the time there was a strong senior group who seemed to be mainly doctors; such as Glen Koski, Michael Halliday and Mike Davis. We were picked up by Pumper and driven to games each week. We played at Melville Aquatic Centre (before the Bicton pool was built), Somerset, Beatty Park, Claremont and Bold Park.

Wednesday nights at Bold Park were big occasions although I was quite young and our group didn't drink, but I can recall it was a popular spot. As younger blokes we did go to the annual dinners and Club occasions, but we didn't drink much, if at all. I was playing with guys like Brian Kelly, John Contessi, Kim Burton, Andrew Lang, Dave Malone and Cameron Birch. Because we also played in senior grades we mixed with a few guys that were a bit older than us, like Haydn Jackson and Jamie Kearsley, About half of the players from those early days are still members of the club 40 years later.

In U16s, Pumper, the Club's junior coach, got us to train for the state school boys' team. Pump recognised that I wouldn't make it as a field player so he encouraged me to go into goals. I missed out on that first state team but I did some specialised training with Pump, and he motivated me to play goals the following season; and I made the next state team.

Leigh Farnell - a Mastermind of Social Activities

The ringmaster for the Club's social circus in the second season was Leigh 'Farns' Farnell. He is a bloke who likes to be noticed; and is fatally drawn to any available microphone. 'Clambakes' were his master stroke. Every year, generally at Easter, Leigh would plan and execute a trip out of Perth, for great fun and friendship. The Clambake name was taken from the title of an old Elvis Presley movie.

Clambakes became a Club institution; with groups of 30 or 40 members participating in notable excursions to Margaret River, staying at Thommo's; and Kalbarri where the members dominated the local camping ground. Farns was even able to find some holiday revellers to take on the Clambakers in a relay swimming race in the Murchison Estuary, which of course City Beach won easily!

Leigh had a large tent which became Clambake headquarters. Club members of all persuasions would sleep and eat under the one roof. The first 'expedition' was equipped with yellow Clambake Travel T-shirts.

The participants in those early weekends away remain in contact, wherever they are now living around the world. Photos in the Club scrapbook indicate that dancing, and dressing outrageously, were major components of the early social activities.

Leigh believed that if a club was to run a function it had to be run well. Better behaviour (or more formal bedlam!) was ensured if people dressed up for it; so Leigh introduced black-tie functions to the Club, with great success.

The Wembley Football Club held successful talent nights in the '70s and '80s, and invited Leigh Farnell to do his well-known Norman Gunston impersonation. After his success at Wembley, Leigh returned to the Club convinced that CBWPC should hold their own show, and despite some resistance from bashful members, a Talent Night was organised at the Floreat Surf Club in 1982.

Cover of the eagerly-awaited Foul News incorporating the Clambake Times [from May '85]; the electronic version - CBWPCeNews [Feb, 2011]; our first Polo Bear icon.





Leigh Farnell performs 'Clambake' as Fat Elvis; at Club's 25th anniversary dinner

*Montage from the Talent Night:
Pim 'The Phantom' Hendrix;
Leigh 'Norman Gunston' Farnell*



During '82 Leigh took a year off from water polo. During this sabbatical, Leigh took up acting; and his agent, Amanda from Aloha Casting Agency, had a VHS video camera, which was a rare commodity in those days. For the talent night Amanda was appointed judge and camera operator, and a friend of Leigh's, Channel Seven newsreader Ric Ardon, was also asked to judge. The Club has some wonderful footage of the early acts including the famous, 'I Love to Have a Beer with Pumper' song by Al Marsh and Brett Barns; and the 'Day in the Life of Pumper' skit. The night was a huge success. The Club held two talents nights, the second one was bigger and better and held at the Old Melbourne Hotel. These nights generated good money and a lot of spirit within the Club.

Bill Ramsay recalls the early attitude, to the game, was rather casual:

In the early years we just wandered along, won a few low-grade flags; however the Club took the social side seriously. We ran a little bar at Bold Park and I remember leaving there at 5.30 some mornings, when the pool attendants turned up for work. We also ran river cruises and cocktail parties, so the Club was very strong socially. Quite early on we put together a girls' team, mostly made up of the girlfriends of the blokes who were playing - we were all pre-married in those days.

Rod Davidson:

When I first joined there were river cruises - very funny nights - where Leigh Farnell would dress up as Norman Gunston - hilarious. I was young and had just joined the Club via the Surf Club. There was a very tight mob of blokes, a bit older than me, that generated the early Club spirit - Leigh Farnell, Steve O'Keefe, Pumper, Al Marsh - who welcomed the younger guys in, whether you were a good player or not.

The Legendary Victoria Ave Cocktail Parties

Black-tie cocktail parties in the late 1980s were held in a big old mansion in Victoria Avenue, which was occupied by Surf Club and Water Polo Club members. It was on a big block and faced onto the river; an ideal venue for such functions.

Rod Davidson recalls:

My father was a builder and built a lot of stuff for an Indonesian architect. A rich Indonesian family bought the big, rundown property in Victoria Avenue, Dalkeith. The owner's plan was to build a big mansion there, but in the interim, there was no-one living in it so my brother and I put up our hand as tenants. It was only meant to be for 12 months, but we ended up being there for a decade. We had a lot of people live in that house from the Surf Club and the Water Polo Club - Greg Mickle, Danny Rechichi, Haydn Jackson, Murray Hughes amongst them - the nickname for the venue was Athletes' House. It was a real party destination. Haydn Jackson came up with the idea of holding fundraising parties for the Club.

An Indonesian investment property that housed many club members; hosted glamorous Club Cocktail Parties; and was the scene of some famous and infamous incidents.

The Club sold tickets to the cocktail parties, which made between \$3000 and \$5000 for each party, which for that time was great income for the Club. The word soon got out that the functions were a lot of fun, and many future events were held there, but then disaster almost struck!



**Legendary venue:
Vic Ave, Dalkeith.**

Rod Davidson:

The house had a massive deck that overlooked the river, which was ideal for cocktail parties. We held two such events on the deck, but the second one was attended by about six hundred people ... and the deck started to come away from the house. It was very fortunate that it didn't cause a tragedy. So for the next one, we set up a big marquee in the front garden.

Unfortunately, big parties can upset neighbours who weren't used to crowds of energetic young athletes in their sedate suburb. The Victoria Ave tenants kept a goat to keep the lawn mowed, but it ate everything BUT the grass! One day Rod Davidson was on the phone and the goat was across the road eating a neighbour's prize hibiscus, which caused a bit of panic.

Rod:

They called the Council inspector who knocked on the door asking if we had a goat. We had hidden it down the side of the house, hoping it wouldn't make a noise. We said we knew nothing about a goat.

The many social occasions are well remembered for the feminine charms displayed by the women guests as they fell under the spell of the industrial-strength cocktails prepared by members such as Haydn Jackson.

Rod Davidson recalls another memorable incident:

At one party, a young member got 'over-refreshed' and wandered into the next door neighbour's house. No-one knows why he went in there but the owner of the house, an unusual man, captured him, tied him up to a chair in the kitchen, and called the police. Kevin Hobbs, who probably thought he was still in the Police Force,

was at the party and went in to sort things out ... to smooth it over with the neighbour. Soon, the young captive had returned to the Club cocktail party, accompanied by Hobbs. When asked how he had gone placating the neighbour Hobbsy replied, 'I tied him up to the same chair'. That caused some consternation amongst the Club officials, who were rightly concerned about the legality of tying someone up in their own home. Fortunately the neighbour didn't take it any further, or the Club could have been in serious trouble.

Formal Disorder

Black-tie Dinners were also organised for the Club Awards' Night, to add some decorum to the occasion. These nights were enormously popular. Leigh Farnell drew up an agenda; and invariably acted as MC. Leigh proposed toasts to everyone under the sun; absent friends, distinguished guests, The Queen, the Club and himself.

Guest speakers were organised, and the captains of each grade would make a speech about their season. The assembled members would give their approval or disapproval of the captain's performance with a thumbs-up, or down.

By the Club's 10th anniversary, City Beach WPC was known for the quality of its social functions; whether it was parties in Hensman Road, trips away, Clambakes, cocktail parties, quiz nights, dinners or presentation evenings. The functions all generated funds and established the spirit of the City Beach Water Polo Club.

When Pim Hendrix was the Club coach, he was to pick up a couple of Scottish players from the airport; they were part of the Pommy contingent coming out to strengthen the A grade side.

Pim remembers:

I had asked them on the phone how I'd recognise them. "They said, 'Oh you'll recognise us alright.' and there they were, dressed in their kilts. That night we had a really big start-of-season party and we went virtually straight from the airport

to Vic Ave. They weren't wearing anything under their kilts, and that made it fascinating for the girls. The next day they were raving about how they had got off the plane and 'gone to the best frigging party in the world.' They couldn't believe their luck.

Activities didn't always involve parties. Members would enter various events, including the annual Swim-Thru' Rottnest, Swim-Thru' Perth and various open water swim races; and the Annual City to Surf running race. For one Swim-Thru' Perth - the 4 km handicapped Swan River swim - Pumper had calculated that he could win the event on handicap. He strategically positioned his girlfriend at the time (Janine #1) on the Narrows Bridge, to signal to him if he was on his targeted time. He had the entire race mapped out, but sadly all those calculations came to nothing as Pump blew up early and faded badly. Maybe too much planning?

Off the back of the Clambake adventures, the Club introduced a regular newsletter - 'The Foul News!' This notorious newsletter contained a special section titled 'King Clam', where notable indiscretions were brought to members' attention. 'Bad boys' who were reliably and regularly mentioned included Mick Gunn, Hobbsy, Sypho, Barnsy, Farns and Pumper.

The Club's women members were now showing promise, with Felicity Davis even breaking off her engagement to become a full-time participant in the Club's social scene.

She was ably assisted by Club Captain Anna White and Maureen King.

If functions kicked on, as they often did, it was at the homes of various members.

Party houses attended regularly by members and friends were at O'Keefe's Filburne St, Sypho's Newry St, Farn's Hensman Rd, Barnsy's McCullum St and Pumper's Palace in Egina St.

It wasn't uncommon to retire to one of those houses after the beer had run out at Bold Park. Pump had Haydn Jackson, Billy Ramsay, Andy Halleen living with him; Sypho had Phil Cosgrove and Jimmy Parker - an American - with him; and Greg Mainstone and some of the Poms lived at the Barns' house.

In January 1983, the Club entered a team in the men's Australian Club Championships, held in Canberra. The first of the Pommy Invasion, Phillip 'Phil the Pom' Hallwood, joined players from the Club's A Grade and state 18&U players to compete against the best teams in Australia. The team performed moderately well and put a scare up tournament favourites, Sydney University, by being a couple of goals up at three quarter time, only to eventually lose the game.

Our First Premierships

The Club's first success came from the women. Playing in B Grade, in the 1981/82 season, Felicity Davis, Maureen King, Karen Wolozny, Elizabeth Burns, Margaret Collinson, Pippa Brine, Anna White, Jenny Hawks, Fiona McKay and Diane Rock won the final in convincing fashion; to record the Club's first ever premiership.

On the return flight from Sydney, Jacko sat next to Pumper and talk turned to Jacko's future. He told Pumper about his imminent enlistment in the army.

Pumper said, "What the hell do you want to do that for?" Jacko replied, "If I don't join the army my mother will kick me out of home!" "Well you can stay at my place if you need somewhere to stay," said Pumper.

Jacko was to become Pumper's first adoptee; and moved into the garage at Pumper's Palace staying there for nearly four years.

Rottnest was another favourite playground for the members, in the early seasons. Billy Ramsay had use of his parents' boat, a former pilot boat from Port Hedland, called 'The Hedland'; and Danny Rechichi had the use of his parents' older style wooden launch called 'Storm'.

The Swim-Thru' Rottnest was an annual one mile swim from the Army Jetty to the Natural Jetty and return, which attracted many club members. The afterparty at the 'Quokker Arms' was a great night enjoyed by all. The Australia Day long weekend was another big annual event which saw the City Beach gang partying away on Perth's favourite holiday isle.

The men had to wait until the 1985/86 season to win their first flag. Playing in D grade, Glen Koski, Murray Ferguson, Nick Davis, Rick Wolozny, Geoff Lewis, Michael Halliday, Brian Smith, Greg Mainstone, Michael Davis and Brett Barns got over the line in the grand final to record the historic first men's premiership.

Establishing Bold Park as Home

The first 'home' for the Club was Bold Park. The pool was in bushland, with a huge car park and flood lighting. Pool management eventually gave the Club a key to the gate; and it wasn't unusual for members to be there till very late. It was the role of the 'last one out' to lock the turnstile.

There are many stories of Club functions going on until sunrise, which was not great preparation for playing, work or study the next day. Ian Thomson was the club's first

barman. He is well remembered for keeping the fridge well stocked and boiling up hot dogs to keep the parties going. A far cry from the nutrition recommended today!

The attraction for young people, of having access to their own club rooms and swimming pool, was too much freedom for some, and there are reports of nude swimming; although it is difficult to get anyone to own up to such activities now!



It wasn't long before girls heard about the fun at Bold Park and they'd show up; it wasn't uncommon for 60 people to gather for an impromptu party. This would happen after games or training and often there would be wheelie-bins full of empty cans in the morning.

Soon non-players would hear about the good times members were having; and they'd turn up with their girlfriends.

Brian Smith remembers:

We stretched the standards at Bold Park with noisy parties and so on, even though there were no immediate neighbours. Our celebrations after Wednesday night games must have been impressive because we got complaints from neighbours a fair distance away: so I guess the complainants were pleased to see us eventually relocate to the Superdrome.

The social scene helped cement the solidarity of the Club, and provided a useful recruitment incentive. Summer revolved around party activities, and there was no shortage of people wanting to join, to play and 'play!' It was easier to attract water polo players when they knew there was such a strong social aspect, which bred camaraderie and spirit.

Pim Hendrix recalls the importance of social functions for establishing the strong fabric of City Beach:

We were well known for our social functions; more so than for our water polo in those early days. We would start off some dinners with a formal approach, but I don't think any of them DIDN'T get out of hand. It was always interesting when you've got characters like Leigh Farnell involved; events were never far away from an entertaining show. Whenever I came back to visit the Club, there was always something interesting going on; a performance or poetry recital.

Annual Dinners, right up until the early 1990s, were great events where members would dress up, have a four-course, sit-down meal, listen to speeches, receive trophies and dance the night away. Sadly, today this format is not preferred by members, but early on they were organised events and provided many a great night.

In the early 1980s the Club organised friendly social football matches against any rival that would take on the young bucks at City Beach. The first game was against Pumper's mates at the Valuer General's Office. The VGO were too good; easily winning the match and they made a point of hard-tackling (face-planting) Pumper any time he got possession of the ball. The second match was against Triton and we were to find out that we could finally dominate this club, out of the water, easily winning the match.



City Beach players don the famous red black and white to do battle on a different arena

80's

The '80s: The Fast and the Furious

Warwick 'Sypho' Syphers was an influential import from NSW, in the early '80s. He is now a film/TV director in New York. **Here is his perspective on his time with the Club:**

There have been 7 iterations of Hollywood's iconic 'The Fast and the Furious' movie series; and that's about the best analogy I can think of for my 7 years at CBWPC in the fabulous '80s.

Fired out of the cannon that was life in the fast lane in Sydney water polo, in the '70s, with a cavalcade of characters from the Sydney Uni and Cronulla clubs; I arrived in Perth in 1981 and hit the ground running after Steve O'Keefe introduced me to the Club. As then president, and all-round ambassador, Stevo's polished and professional demeanour somewhat understated the clubs rather 'liberal' culture in its formative years. These were clever recruitment tactics.

But I was soon to meet the clubs engineroom ... in the form of the Pump (Peter Hughes), Jimmy Gerro (Gerritzen), Pim Hendrix, Al Marsh, Lethal Leigh (Farnell), Silly Billy Ramsay, Tommo (Ian Thomson), Jamie (Kearsley), Glen Koski, Jacko (Haydn Jackson), Rick (Wolozny), Barnsy (Brett Barns), Hoppy (Michael Hopkins) and a plethora of like-minded citizens. I was also very impressed that the Club had its own vigilante group, in the form of Hobbsy (Kevin Hobbs) and Trotts, who I figured must have been called to action for unpaid fees, or maybe after a bad loss.

I was quick to realise that this was a club with lofty ambitions and a fierce will-to-succeed, albeit mixed with a sense of 'life-balance', shall we say. Thanks to a clever piece of financial engineering, the club had attracted Jimmy Gerro, a world class player and Olympian; and he took charge at game time and in training the up-and-coming stars like Jamie, Jacko et al. It was a good mix.

Training was hard; but the after training sessions were harder. That would be when the more senior group would meet regularly at the 'Cold'... err ... Bold Park pool clubroom and selflessly sacrifice many hours of precious family and/or professional time to undertake in-depth strategic reviews of the Club's position, usually over 6-10 beers and/or wines. Cleverly, the club had quickly identified the need for gender balance; and in many of these corporate planning sessions we benefited from the wise counsel of leading ladies like Gemma Hounslow and Felicity Davis. Debates were free-flowing and unfettered; to the point where, in true parliamentary style, some disputes were resolved amidst flying crockery from the housebar.

The Club was a very competitive force in A grade during the '80s; but it was the instinct to invest in and grow with youth, that saw the Club develop depth and become competitive across all grades, that was the hallmark of this period. The prime mover behind this philosophy was The Pump, which would go on to serve him very well in his professional career.

Meanwhile, away from the pool the Club was meticulously grooming its social agenda as a means of attracting new members. This was a prescient tactic pre the rise of social media platforms; pity it wasn't patented. The Pump was active here, but this was the domain of the club's ideological hardliners; Thommo ... the muse of City Beach ..., Hobbsy, Billy, Lethal Leigh, Trewey et al; and yes, I attended sometimes. The social occasion of the week was undoubtedly the Sunday session at the Ocean Beach Hotel at Cottesloe, the doyen of social networks of its time. We could have a fierce game, midweek, against a monster like Andy Taylor from Melville, but all was forgotten after the first 6 schooners. Our marketing campaigns proved successful; and some opponents like the unmarkable Danny Rechichi found our environment so engaging they switched camps.



Club members, and enthusiastic participants in the Roaring '80s, Warwick Syphers & Pim Hendrix

On many weekends we would redouble our social efforts as Lethal Leigh would host a party at his fabulous resort, in Subi, where such characters as Hughie Pinnington would add a touch of frivolity and traditional water polo culture, and some bloke called Norman Gunston would make an occasional appearance. And that is not to overlook cameo appearances from travelling international visitors like Phil the Pom et al., who to this day attribute their time at CBWPC as a 'learning experience'.

As in the broader landscape, the '80s was a fabulous time to be at CBWPC and in Perth generally. Many of the building blocks for the success of the Club, as it is today, were put in place during this period; and an ethos of work hard/play hard is its enduring legacy.

Cheers, Sypho

The Pommy Invasion

The Pommy connection with the club had its genesis when two doctors, Chris Fenn and Dave Alston, came to Perth in 1977 and joined Flotsam. When Chris returned to England in 1979 he called Brian Smith to tell him he had two tickets to the Cricket World Cup final and said, '... and one ticket has your name on it, so you'd better be here.' Brian quit his job and went to London.

Brian met many water polo players from the famous London Polytechnic Club; which led to a succession of Poms travelling to Perth to pursue their water polo careers ... and experience the famous laid-back Perth lifestyle. Paradoxically, Chris Fenn, the original Pom, never played for City Beach but it was his connection that led to the Pommy Invasion.

Word soon got around about how much fun could be had playing water polo in Perth. At one time the Club had so many Poms they couldn't all get a game with City Beach A grade, and had to play for other clubs.

The early Poms to play for City Beach were Phil Hallwood in 1983, then in the next seasons, Geoff Hurley and Jeremy Birmingham.

In the 1988/89 season four players, Garry Simmons, Allan Anderson, Giles Gilhooley and Jeremy Sherman came to Perth and were very good players; lifting the standard of the Club's A grade men's team to be the best in the Perth competition.

Al Marsh remembers:

The Pommy Invasion was important for the Club. Phil Hallwood stayed with us for a few weeks after Helen and I were married. He was a doctor and a lovely guy. We had quite a few doctors playing or staying. Dave Alston was another; he didn't play but was a very good social member, Allan Anderson and Chris Fenn were others. A lot of very nice blokes that added to the social fabric of the Club.

I had a very precious drinking vessel, a pewter mug, and I remember playing at Beatty Park one day and I had left it in the back of an MGB sports car owned by one of the Poms. Half way through the game there was an announcement that there was a car on fire in the car park. We didn't think much of it until we went to go home. It had been the MGB, with my pewter mug inside, that had burnt to the ground. I was dismayed - I'd had that mug for ages!

Colin Braund, a Scotsman who subsequently swam for Scotland in the Commonwealth Games, was one of the best of the UK imports. Then there was a smaller influx of South Africans and Zimbabweans, including the notable Colin Gibson. These imports have subsequently been lumped together under one label - The Poms. The imported players were never paid, but the Club would help find them accommodation and employment, and generally help them settle in. The Poms decided to hire a TV and Bill Ramsay agreed to be a guarantor. When the Poms departed Perth, they left a lady in charge of the house and advised her that someone would be around to pick up the TV. Someone duly turned up; and the lady asked the bloke if he was there to collect the TV? 'Yes', the man replied, only it wasn't the man from the TV rental company. Later, when the TV rental company man arrived, the TV had gone and Bill was left holding the baby!

The Superdrome

The Mount Claremont aquatic centre opened in 1986 and was called the Superdrome. Since then the facility has been known as Challenge Stadium and HBF Stadium. The Club moved its training activities here, from Bold Park, in time for the 1986/87 season.

The Superdrome had plenty of heated pool space set up for elite sport, and water polo flourished at the new home of water polo in Western Australia. The Club was able to train A grade, seniors and juniors at the new venue, and the water polo association moved competition games to the venue on Monday and Wednesday nights.

The move to the Superdrome brought immediate success to the Club. In 1987, City Beach won the D grade premiership and then two years later in 1989, had one of its best seasons by winning the Men's A grade, A Reserves, B grade, C grade and Women's C grade premierships.

The Club would generally enjoy a good relationship with venue management with the likes of Graham Moss and Robert Verboon in the early years; and more recently with David Etherton and Chris Andrich. The Club extends a very big thank you to these managers for considering the City Beach Club's training needs.

First Men's A Grade Premiership

In 1987/88, the Club played in most of the state league grand finals and lost them all. The following year, 1988/89, the club played in 6 grand finals and won five! The Poms added strong, versatile players to the men's A grade team which would finally bring success to the Club.

The A grade men's grand final was played on a pleasant Saturday afternoon, 18th March, 1989 at the Bicton Pool, against perennial premiers Triton. Triton was blessed to

have three Australian and Olympic champions in Richard Pengelly, Glen Townshend and Martin Callaghan. It was a tough assignment, but the team of Michael Hopkins, Pim Hendrix, Jamie Kearsley, Danny Rechichi, Allan Anderson, Gary Simmons, Giles Gilhooley, Jeremy Sherman, Greg Jones and Haydn Jackson with Pumper coaching, were up for the challenge and brought home the Club's first A grade men's premiership.

City Beach team had a three goal advantage going into the last quarter; then a combination of controversial refereeing decisions and missed opportunities saw the margin narrowed to just one goal late in the game. A final shot from Triton was ruled after the siren and City Beach were the state A grade champions.

Every City Beach member watching the game was so ecstatic that they stripped to their bathers and jumped in the Bicton pool to embrace their champions. It was a wonderful moment that would be etched into the history of the club forever.

Post-match drinks were had on Billy's boat before going to the party venue at Thommo's, to continue celebrations. Partying hard into the night revelers recounted every moment of the premiership game.

Pumper recalls:

The Club needed an out-of-the-water coach to get the best out of the strong team the club had assembled for the 1988/89 season; so I put my hand up to take the job on. Everyone wanted to play in the A grade team, so it was difficult managing a big squad of players. The day of the Grand Final was very exciting. The Club had never been in this position before, and the anticipation of success was electrifying. The players were just terrific, in particular Jamie Kearsley, who had the job of playing on Richard Pengelly. By the end of the game, Jamie had nullified Pengelly's impact on the game and had slotted in 3 goals. It was a great personal performance which, until recent times, had him often referred to as the club's bestever male player.

Bill Ramsay was Club president in 1989:

That was a wonderful time. It made me feel very proud to have been so involved and to have seen the Club develop from nothing.

Pim Hendrix recalls:

I ended up coaching A grade and taking them to their first ever grand final in 1988, which we unfortunately lost. The following year, 1989, I was captain and Pumper took over as coach; and we won the Club's first ever A grade title.

Michael Hopkins also remembers that first premiership fondly:

When I first made the A grade side we were mostly younger guys, and would get belted around a bit. Melville and Triton were dominant

and played all these mature big-bodied men: many of them were multiple Australia representatives. But then in 1989, when we won the premiership, we had the Pommy imports who added maturity, experience and some big bodies.

Claire Rechichi (nee Hadley):

For those of us who were there for the long journey; undoubtedly making the final and winning the first A Grade premiership was a high point. Just watching Al Marsh and Danny Rechichi shed tears and shout the bar was a reflection of what it meant. Many of the current members will only recall City Beach playing in A grade finals; with little understanding of the time it took to get there, through the difficult years.

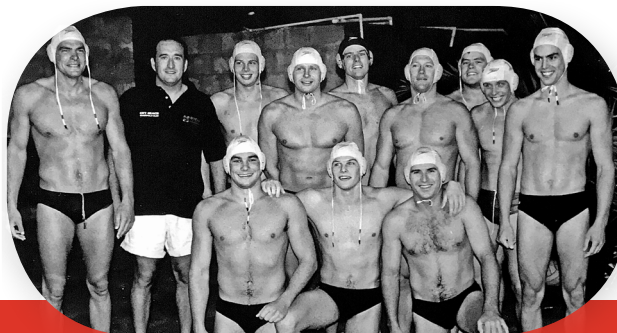
The next day (Sunday) the other grades played their grand finals, also at Bicton. After each grand final win, the still-celebrating A-grade players would do a 'pitch invasion' by jumping in the pool after the game, to celebrate with their Club mates.

Pim Hendrix:

After we won the grand final against Melville, Brett Barns and I performed a song with words written to the tune 'Six Days On The Road (And I'm Going To Make it Home Tonight).'

***'Well we pulled out of Bicton with a truck load of trophies
We won the A grade, the A reserves,
the B's and C's
Well I don't see a Neesham in sight
Boy we sure gave those bald heads a fright
Three days of polo and we're going
to have a party tonight.'***

The song didn't stop there. Verses were sung for all the grades and mentioned all the players. It was a pretty strong performance in the pool ... and a typically strong celebration afterwards.



Al Marsh recalls the early days:

When the Club started we had playing coaches - Jim Gerritzen, Ray Powers, Pim Hendrix and Jamie Kearsley all had a stint - the best and strongest player was usually appointed coach - but it is very difficult to coach and play. In the early years a succession of coaches

from outside the Club were also recruited, including John Moloney, Jim Gerritzen and Alan Charleston. Having outside influences made a great difference to the standard of play, but it was Peter Hughes who was the first successful non-playing coach when we won the first flag in 1989.

The 1990s

Through the early 1990s the Club's playing strength and reputation had been established off the back of that first premiership. The Club would win another A grade premiership in 1994 against Triton (15-5). Jason Shaw was captain and Greg Jones the coach.

Goalkeeper Michael Hopkins recalls the second flag:

"I played on after the 1989 premiership, and we won again in 1994. Jamie Kearsley and I were the only two players in both premiership teams."

When Hale School student Elliot Rowton joined the Club in 1990, he recalls there was quite a good A grade side. Elliot was a bit lost at the time and Pump was able to give him a bit of guidance. Elliot had a big, strong body when he started and he really enjoyed it. He and Matt Shaw, also from Hale, were late starters as 16 year olds.

Elliot remembers:

I didn't get into structured water polo seriously until I started at City Beach. Joining the club became a massive learning curve for me. I played juniors on Monday nights and then we also played seniors on Wednesday night which exposed us to the older, more experienced players. In E grade we played with blokes like Billy Ramsay, Pumper ... great guys to learn from and original Club members. I lived in City Beach near Mike and Brad Hopkins - in fact there were quite a number of young junior players in my neighbourhood that played for City Beach - but I didn't really know them until I joined the Club. We won the E grade grand final my first year.

In 1994 I was playing A Grade and we had a Scottish guy, Colin Braund, and Steve Robinson, a Rhodes Scholar from Zimbabwe. The A grade, with Greg Jones as the coach, won the premiership that year. It was also a really fun year with a great bunch of blokes. Steve Robinson was a good piano player and brought a bit of culture to the club.

The night after that grand final I flew out with the state juniors for the national championships in Sydney. Allan 'Bullfrog' Taylor was the coach and Damian Kelly was the manager. I was in that team with Charlie Liggins and a few other guys from City Beach. We won bronze that year.

Effervescent Elliott 'Heathrow' Rowton: Elliott went from juniors through to A-grade; after travel to the Mother Country he returned to become one of our great Club Captains. The Club awaits another coming ... when his young family shows an inevitable interest in FlippaBall

1990s



In 1995 Club members continued their tradition of visiting Rottnest, in particular the Swim Thru' Rottnest held in the first week of December. At the afterparty the revellers were in fine form, but a dastardly trick was soon to be played out.

Clare Rechichi recalls:

It was decided to get Pumper to stay overnight, even though he had promised his wife Janine that he would return that Saturday evening.

I approached Pumper and said, 'can we use your watch to time a sculling race, as it has the stop-watch function, to record it accurately'.

Pumper fell for it straight away, handing over his watch. Next, I put the time back 1 hour, with the

intention that he would miss the last ferry out of Rottnest, and gave the unsuspecting Pumper his watch back. The party continued for many more hours with a delusional Pumper being told by everyone at the party, 'don't miss that ferry Pumper, are you sure you have the correct time?' The last ferry blew its horn to signify departure with all the revellers roaring a huge cheer as the scam had paid off, with Pumper still at the party. Pumper was then seen, at a phone booth, meekly ringing a very skeptical Janine to say what had caused him to miss the ferry; and he wouldn't be home that night. The next morning when Janine picked him up from the ferry, he was in deep trouble!

The World Aquatic Championships (and a new place to call home)

Perth hosted the 6th World Aquatics Championships in January 1991. This was a major event which would showcase water polo to the Australian sporting public. The venue was the Superdrome; and to upgrade the facility to accommodate the Championships a temporary warm-up water polo pool was constructed, in the same location as the current water polo pool.

At the conclusion of the Championships the Club was offered the chance to operate the temporary water polo pool and meet all costs. The Club was not strong, financially, at the time and was not able to take on the obligation; and so a great opportunity was lost, with the pool being removed and sold to the nearby John XX111 School.

The World Aquatics Championships were again awarded to Perth, and held in January, 1998. This time a more permanent water polo pool was constructed; and remains in place today.

Earlier in 1996, Danny Rechichi, the then CEO of the Western Australian Water Polo Association, contacted Pumper to inform him that the World Championships Organising Committee was seeking a facility to house the

water polo timing equipment, and a lounge where the officials could relax during and after competition games.

Pumper immediately contacted a mate to prepare building plans, and approached former player Greg Mickle, to build a transportable facility that could be used during the Championships. He had a ground lease drawn up, so that after the Championships the Club would have a legally-binding agreement with the State Government to use the building as clubrooms. It was an opportunity that would benefit the Club long after the World Championships finished.

The cost of construction of the clubhouse was around \$50,000, and the committee had no reserve funds so a funding package was devised, comprising sponsorship, a building levy on top of members' annual fees, and a loan, which was provided by Pumper. The club is indebted to the members below, who donated to the clubhouse construction. Without their generous support the clubhouse would never have been built.

MEMBERS CLUBHOUSE DONATIONS

GOLD - \$1,500	SILVER - \$1,000	BRONZE - \$500
● Luke Saraceni	● Tom Esze	● Brett Barns
● Chris Michaels	● Michael Davis	● Rick Wolozny
● Glen Koski	● Stephen O'Keefe	● Brian Smith
● Darren Bracewell	● Phillip Patterson	
● Mark Ireland	● Jeremy Buttsworth	
● Richard Sandover	● Bradley Hancock	
● Builder - Greg Mickle - Mickle Newton Homes		
● Finance / Project Manager - Peter Hughes		

Unfortunately, the years following the construction of the club house, coincided with a period of darker times for the City Beach Club.

Bill Ramsay, President of the club from 1994 -1998 recalls:

In the mid to late 1990s the Club had a bit of trouble getting people interested in being on the committee, as family commitments had taken over. We were down to a committee of three at one stage; and that meant just a few people doing everything, from coaching kids, playing, and organising the club activities.

A Grade Women

In 1996, the women's side of the club became more competitive after the appointment of Mark Mason as the women's coach; some 17 years after the men had appointed their first coach. Mark had played in Melbourne but a work transfer to Perth saw him join City Beach, where he is still a valuable member.

Mark recalls:

Coaching is always a challenge. Coaching a group of girls, mostly under the age of 20, in their 1st year of A Grade meant that success was going to be limited and morale and enjoyment a prime focus to ensure the team stayed together for the future of the Club. As expected, 1996 was a lean year with victories difficult to come by. As the girls grew physically and gained experience they became more competitive. With the speed and skill of the likes of Claire Hadley (to be Rechichi) bolstered by the recruitment of the Australian captain Kylie English; the 1997 season resulted in the girls being a very competitive young team.

From that young team many of the girls went on to make their mark. The goalie Michelle Byers has won 2 gold medals at the FINA World Masters. Gemma Hadley represented Australia, the first City Beach WPC player to do so. And Lisa DeRossi gained a scholarship to play water polo in the USA. The City Beach team, still hosting a number of the same players from the 1996-7 years, went on to win a number of State A & B Grade titles.

The women's team was yet to play an A grade final, but the foundations were laid for this to occur within a few years. Mark coached the women for two years and then Greg Jones took over for another two years. The women were now highly competitive with the return to the club of Claire Rechichi (Hadley) who had left the sport earlier to pursue competitive trampolining. Claire together with her sisters, Allison and Gemma, were now the backbone of the women's team.

2000s

The 2000s

In 2000 Steve O'Keefe, who had been living in Melbourne, returned to Perth; and at the City Beach AGM was elected President, with Jason Shaw as the Club's treasurer. The new president asked the new treasurer for the financial position of the Club and was told, "We have \$1.65 in the bank."

Steve recalls:

At least it was in the black, but I was then told the Club had further unpaid bills of around \$250. At this time the Club had defaulted on Pumper's loan and was incurring legal fees, with Pumper threatening legal action to recover the loan, and fair enough too. The Club was technically insolvent and could have gone under if not for Pumper agreeing to repayment terms.

Pumper agreed to a three year repayment plan, but realised that the only way the Club would be able to repay the loan was to start a district schools junior water polo competition. In September, 2002 he started the current junior program and **recalls:**

In the first season we had about 20 kids from the previous season so we had to go to the local schools to get at least another 20 kids to create a 4 team competition. We scratched around and got the players needed and the rest is now history. Over 60 junior teams are now part of the Club's junior program.

The registration fees paid by the junior players, over the ensuing three year period, were eventually sufficient for the Club to repay Pumper's loan in full.

The social emphasis of the Club changed as the founding members got married and had children; and then the junior strength of the Club was boosted when the kids of core members, including Peter Hughes, Steve O'Keefe, Mike Krzus, and Al Marsh were old enough to start playing.

The Club enjoyed playing during trips to regional centres such as Bunbury, Kalgoorlie and Geraldton. These trips involved travelling by bus, train, private cars or later, as members became more affluent, by plane. These weekends were remembered as great fun. Danny Rechichi excelled at getting teams together for those occasions. The trips to Geraldton, for some reason, would become a bit heated between the two participating clubs.

Michael Hopkins:

Some of the crayfishing boys, playing for Gero, would get a bit fiery and stir us up. Refereeing is difficult and open to interpretation at the best of times, and there was probably some bias in favour of the locals, which didn't sit well with us as visitors.

Greg Jones got thrown out of the pool in the last game of the Geraldton tournament, and Danny Rechichi, who was coaching, questioned the referee; then he, too, was ejected. When someone else was booked for another infraction, Danny blew up and ordered everyone onto the bus. The order was followed ... and the game was abandoned. There had been a history of bad blood between the teams in that tournament, and that 'injustice' had been the last straw.



Moving On: Pres. Steve O'Keefe makes the last repayment on a loan from Peter Hughes ... putting an end to legal action against the Club, 2004

Michael Hopkins:

Then we had trips to Kalgoorlie. We started off going by train to Kal, but on the first trip there was unseasonable weather; and what was meant to be a five hour trip turned into a 12 hour ordeal, which wasn't pleasant. So next year, we travelled by bus. It was a forty-degree day and the bus Jonesy had borrowed from Toyota kept over-heating; so that was another horrible trip, especially coming back with a hang-over on an overheating bus. The following year, we all decided to fly – and we booked early for cheaper fares. The only problem with that was

we would fly Friday afternoon, which meant we had two nights at the pub, instead on one; so we had a hang-over both days. But except for the travel, the trips were a lot of fun. The Kalgoorlie trips were blokes-only, the Geraldton ones were mixed.

During the term of Steve O'Keefe's presidency, the structure of water polo across the nation changed as Water Polo Australia introduced club-based national competitions for 14&U boys. Steve coached our first 14&U boys' team in 2003; it was an amalgamated team from local clubs, City Beach, Triton and Dolphins called West Coast.

The Rise of Water Polo in the Private Schools

A resurgence in the sport began when the private boys' schools accepted it as a first-choice summer sport. The Club is now able to recruit reasonably skilled water polo players from the schools, which has resulted in a strong performance growth across all junior divisions.

Damian Kelly was a major mover in getting water polo accepted in the private schools system.

He had been Head of Sport at Aquinas for twenty-odd years, since 1986; and he had coached part-time at WAIS. The PSA took on water polo after some years of urging, and against resistance from the traditional summer sports of cricket and tennis. Kelly started a small PSA competition, and then weight of demand and of numbers in the late '90s, forced the schools to take water polo seriously.

Trinity, Aquinas, Hale and Wesley all built pools to accommodate the sport. That helped City Beach, because it meant Christ Church, Scotch and Hale played water polo in the City Beach catchment area and were also training in local pools such as Challenge Stadium and Beatty Park.

At the same time, junior sport was taking off in Australia with Auskick, Minkey, Kanga Cricket, and FlippaBall all blossoming. Resources were being provided to encourage kids into all sports, at an early age, and the increase in numbers flowed on to older juniors and then seniors. Councils, who built facilities, realised that by encouraging juniors they could generate income to pay for their pools through weight of numbers. City Beach was quick to pick up on this trend.



There was also increased public interest in swimming, with open-water swim events - 1600 metre events at most beaches, and the huge popularity in the Rottneest Channel Swims - all feeding into the popularity of water polo.

In 2000, the Torpedoes were operating as a separate entity until Steve O'Keefe advocated for it to become affiliated with an established club. Because the Torpedoes lacked funding, management and organisational skills; players didn't have the best training facilities, so the team was in serious danger of disbanding. Additionally, the Torpedoes didn't have an appropriate junior development program. Although there were WAIS, PSA and Club-based national competitions, they were not designed to specifically to feed into the Torpedoes team.

City Beach, as a Club with good critical mass; was able to work towards meeting all those criteria, and took over the running of the Torpedoes in 2000.

Soon after City Beach took over, the financial drain took its toll; the involvement with a national team was soon to be described as accepting a 'poisoned chalice'.

In 2002, the Torpedoes was handed back to the WA Water Polo Association; but this was never going to be viable given that it was now a team funded by the state association competing against the club-funded Melville teams: the Mariners and Marlins.

The association between UWA and City Beach came about when WAIS was given priority-use of the pool at Challenge Stadium, which restricted City Beach access for training. UWA had a suitable pool in Crawley, that the Club could use when WAIS was using 'our' pool. An amalgamation gave City Beach certain privileges from the University Sports Council, and the UWA Club would get the kudos from City Beach's in-pool success.

Junior Programs Flourish

When City Beach was founded it did not have a structured junior development program like it has today. Juniors played in the appropriate underage competition - 14&U, 16&U and 18&U. If juniors were good enough they would be selected to play in senior grades; and that was usually a baptism of fire!



Polo Bear mascot



*FlippaBall:
an important
development in the
growth of City Beach*

In the 2001/02 season, the Club's junior program was organised by a group of the women's A grade players, with about 20 kids playing on Saturday mornings. The following year Pumper offered his assistance, to bolster playing numbers, by approaching schools with posters, brochures and information for their school newsletters. Pumper initially organised the program based on T-ball structure, with teams having generic names such as Squiddys, Barracudas etc. After three years over 120 young boys and girls were playing the game; and by the end of Pumper's six year term of running the FlippaBall program over 200 players were registered with the club.

In the 2007/08 season, Adele Sangster was appointed the FlippaBall co-ordinator and she successfully organised the competition into two categories; a FlippaBall competition and a district school-based competition played on a Saturday morning at HBF Stadium. Following Adele's three year term as the junior co-ordinator, the Club appointed Cassandra Thompson to the program and she commenced the Friday night competition for FlippaBall and continued the Saturday morning District School Competition. Cassandra was to continue her good work for another three seasons, before Damian Kelly took over the junior program in the 2013/14 season; with the invaluable administrative assistance of Jackie Vittino for the past two seasons.

The big increase in junior players had significant financial benefits for the Club. In the past, senior players reluctantly paid the price of pool admission and an annual subscription; and that often wasn't collected until

the end of the season, which left the Club with a struggling cash flow. Parents realised that junior water polo was much more than free babysitting; it offered a structured and organised program, with real value, for which they were prepared to pay.

Considerable resources and funding are needed to run state league teams for 14&U, 16&U, 18&U, and the national league program for both men and women. If everyone is enjoying the game, they want to take the next step, so a pathway must be there for players to progress. The biggest advocates for junior water polo, at our Club, are the mothers talking after training or games, in the car park or coffee shop.

As the junior structures started to solidify, our players introduced their kids to the game, and became much more active in the Club's management; Rob Cullingford, Paul Lilleyman and Mark Mason amongst them. Ironically, the majority of the City Beach founders weren't involved in the junior program. They were still playing, but in most cases their own kids weren't, so they had no incentive to put time, intellect or coaching skills back into the Club. That left a hole during the 1990s that wasn't filled for a long time, and which held the Club back. From about 2015, the senior players with kids at the Club began taking up active roles in the junior program. The loop has been closed.

**National Age Club
Champions:**
*U18, Perth, Apr 2016
Coach Brent Thompson
& team celebrate gold*



17&U Champs (2006)
*Back: Rob Cullingford, Andrew Todd, Jackson Merrey,
Tristan Ashford, Tom Gregory, Justin Skinner, David Cullingford
Front: Gareth Begg, Tom McGhee, Adam Salter,
Charles Sutherland*

Our First Women's A Grade Premiership

City Beach has always had women teams, but it was not until the early 2000s that the Club aspired to be more competitive and field an A grade team.

It has been said, that many of the early coaches of the women's teams volunteered ... so they could find a wife; although this wasn't always the intention. Al Marsh met and married Helen Naughton; Haydn Jackson met and married Linda Gilbert; Danny Rechichi met and married Claire Hadley; and Greg Jones had his moments, which seemed to establish a pattern.

The biggest influence on the women's side of the Club was the arrival of the four Hadley sisters, who joined in 1999. Gemma, Alison, Claire and Zoe all became very good at the game. They grew a strong cohort around them, and instilled in the group the qualities needed to be a top player.

Claire Rechichi:

The milestones that marked the improvement in the standard of the women's side of City Beach, included attendance at numerous National Club Championships, and the establishment of the first National League Women's Team - Perth Challenge Comets.

The Hadleys' were focused and they did a lot of work with the Club's junior girls; however the administration of the Club was very male-dominated, and didn't appear to take the women's program seriously. The senior women were left to their own devices.

Gemma Hadley was to be our first ever Australian senior team player participating in the 2007 World Aquatics Championships. This was a fantastic achievement on her behalf and she is now regarded as the best female to have played at City Beach.

The women's first A grade Premiership came in the 2006/07 season, when the Club beat arch-rivals Melville, in a rout. Janelle Avins scored an amazing 5 goals in the final with the Hadley sisters, Gemma and Claire, chiming in with 2-goal efforts.

During the Hadleys' time at the club, the A grade women went on to win two more premierships, in 2008/09 and 2011/12.



25 years of CityBeach

The Club celebrated a significant milestone in 2004, after playing 25 seasons of water polo. The Quarter Century Ball was a black-tie event held at Perth's most prestigious reception centre: the Parmelia Hilton Hotel.

One hundred and sixty members and their partners attended the occasion, and one of the highlights of the event was once again Leigh Farnell presenting his Norman Gunston/Elvis Presley show to rapturous applause. Newer members were talking about how wonderful Leigh's performances were; as they had not seen anything like it before in a sporting club.

The most prestigious player-award of the night was the naming of the men's and women's Best Team of the Quarter Century. The Life Members selected the following players:

MEN'S TEAM	WOMEN'S TEAM
Jamie Kearsley (MVP)	Gemma Hadley (MVP)
Jason Shaw (Captain)	Claire [nee Hadley] Rechichi (Captain)
Jim Gerritzen	Kylie English
Pim Hendrix	Sandra Morris
Colin Braund	Zoe [Hadley] Stenhouse
Colin Gibson	Anna Wagner
Michael Hopkins	Felicity [Davis] McCann
Charlie Liggins	Joanne Lunt
Bradley Hopkins	Alison [Hadley] Morris
Danny Rechichi	Arrie [Brock] Koteka
Allan Taylor	Alyssa [Garrick] Thom
Greg Jones	Janelle Avins
Rob Cullingford	Linda [Gilbert] Jackson
Peter Hughes (Coach)	Greg Jones (Coach)



Team of the Quarter Century (acc. to Life Members)

Back: Greg Jones, Coach Peter Hughes, Allan Taylor, Michael Hopkins, Bradley Hopkins, Captain Jason Shaw, Charlie Liggins
 Front: Danny Rechichi, MVP Jamie Kearsley, Colin Braund, Rob Cullingford
 Absent: Pim Hendrix, Jim Gerritzen, Colin Gibson



Team of the Quarter Century (acc. to Life Members)

Back: Coach Greg Jones, Captain Claire Rechichi (nee Hadley), Linda Jackson (Gilbert), Arrie Koteka (Brock), Alyssa Thom (Garrick), Alison Morris (Hadley), Felicity McCann (Davis), Sandra Morris
 Front: Janelle Avins, Anna Wagner, Zoe Stenhouse (Hadley), MVP Gemma Hadley
 Absent: Kylie English, Joanne Lunt

Dan Toleman joined the committee in 2008. He recalls his first involvement at City Beach in 2005/06:

The first coach I had was Steve O'Keefe. He coached A grade and training was one session a week. Two of his sons were playing. He was a volunteer, not a paid coach. Another early coach was Haydn Jackson, a teacher at Hale School. He was a very enthusiastic, volatile bloke who was big on fitness. He had a lot of memorable sayings such as, 'If you're not ten minutes early for training, you're ten minutes late'; 'You've just got to do your twenty 50s, you've just got to do your twenty 50s - we've got to be the fittest team.'; and 'A shit shot in A Grade is still a shit shot!' He was super-loud and very enthusiastic. But he had a very short fuse. You'd never talk back to him or he'd spit it.

Another powerful cohort of CB players giving their all for the Club; with long-serving Club Captain Dan Toleman (left) and mentor Luke Quinlivan (front).

The E grade Clams team of 2004-2006 was sponsored by Nick Allen's Blue Mussel Restaurant, with Peter Symons as coach, Leigh Farnell captain and Ian Thomson manager. Many lunches were held at the Blue Mussel to increase team morale, but not necessarily improve fitness. It is believed that Nick was difficult to coach; because he would arrive for games having played a generous role, all day, as mine-host at the Blue Mussel.





The famous E Grade Blue Mussel Clams, at Blue Mussel Restaurant, Subi; pic features 4 Club captains, a president and multiple sponsors & committeemen

*Back: Dan Pearce, Anthony Paini, Mike Stanton, Craig Hutchinson, John Love, Andrew Lang, Matt Stacey, David Lang, Nick Allen
Front: Ric Vittino, Asst Mgr Ian Thomson, Coach Peter Symons, Capt. Leigh Farnell*

Life Member and Past President:

Bill 'Silly Billy' Ramsay, in E Grade Blue Mussel Clams T-shirt; circa 2005



Leigh Farnell recalls:

The lunches at the restaurant became legendary ... until the Blue Mussel closed. After one game the E grade had won at Melville, Nick invited the team back to the restaurant to celebrate. Nick never got back to the restaurant, as he had an unscheduled appointment (at a booze-bus) that took up most of the night.

In 2006 Grant Paterson joined the committee as Vice President, and helped Pumper with the coaching of the 14&U boys. The first-ever, wholly-supported team City Beach sent to a boys' National 14&U Championships, was in 2006. The team was coached by Grant, and the team finished second last. It was a true awakening as to the higher performance players needed, to become competitive in the sport of water polo. The following year Pumper was the coach, and had a better performing team finish 5th; having been the recipient of dubious refereeing when two referees, from the same rival club, were appointed to the game. Finally in 2008, with Pumper again the coach, the 14&U boys made the final only to lose the game in the dying seconds, by a solitary goal. This was to be the start of the dominance, of the National Age Group Championships, enjoyed by City Beach.

Elliot Rowton:

When I returned from overseas in 2007, I spent quite some time on the committee during 'the changes', and I was Club men's captain. Our goal was to get everyone to win a grand final. We did that, with all the teams winning except A grade that year.

In 2009 Mark Enright was approached by incoming president Peter Hughes to join the committee of the Club, as treasurer. Soon after Mark's appointment the committee implemented more efficient online registration and banking transfers processes; which made registration and payment of fees easier.

***The Club's 1st National Age Club
Champions, U14, Perth, 2009***

*Back: Mgr Mark Enright, Brent Jackson,
Jack Gangemi, Tom Stewart, Nic Pearce,
Xander Beecham, Jordan Law, Fraser
Smith, Coach Allan Taylor
Front: Jordan Kremers Taylor, Tom
Enright, Adrian Partridge, Drew Verboon*



Mark Enright also believes a successful club should not only be judged by healthy financial figures:

When I joined I found the Club had a real heart, with its members all 'best friends' with each other. This welcoming of newcomers has been the essence of the Club; to build long life relationships whilst enjoying a game of water polo, and a beer or two after the game. This has remained true throughout my 11 years at the Club. We have very passionate, strong and vibrant members who are not short of an opinion. This can create issues at both player and board level. But boards and sporting clubs need strong members who take hold of the reins and become part of the survival and prosperity of the Club.

From the outset, Pumper's presidency was about structuring the Club as a business. The plan was to create a large base of junior players, in both a FlippaBall program and a district school competition. He advocated using a portion of the registration fees to cover the expensive, coaching resources.

The Club moved away from a volunteer-driven model to a management/organisational model. With improved finances and a realisation that strong juniors result in a strong playing future for the Club, a full time Junior Coach was employed.

Outside sponsors and Club business people were approached to help with the Club's finances. Members generally embraced the approach; and soon the Club had a healthy list of sponsors who were proud to be involved. The Club offered the sponsors exposure on competition caps, a sponsorship board in the Club house and on the City Beach website.

Later, to assist the financing of the Torpedoes, Pumper approached companies within his business contacts to sponsor the huge cost of playing in a national competition, which involves airfares, accommodation and transport.

Today, the Club has significant support from the business community which helps fund the cost of running the Club's program. Without that assistance, the teams competing in national competitions would not be playing.

The Club acknowledges the numerous businesses that have provided their support over the past 40 years.

The 2010s The Great Kova

The biggest change to the playing attitude at the Club came with the appointment of triple Olympian Andrei Kovalenko (aka Kova) as the men's coach. In January 2009. Kova was a great advocate for a structured program. He pushed for more intense, technical training at a younger age than even WAIS was promoting; and was regarded as one of the best technical coaches in Australia.

Kova joined the Club because he liked the initiatives the Club was implementing:

I was working with the WAIS, and there was not much being done for junior development. I liked the City Beach attitude of trying to improve; and I thought they were heading in the right direction. Until then, City Beach had been a very social club. The better players enjoyed playing, but there was no culture to achieve high standards. It was like I was given a clean sheet of paper, and could write my own program. It was not because there was anything wrong with the athletes, they just hadn't been exposed to elite training techniques and the standards expected to achieve national and international success.

Kova became the first full-time club coach in Western Australia in 2010, when he was appointed both the coach of the City Beach A grade team and the Torpedoes. In Kova's first season the Torpedoes finished last, with not a single win for the season.

Kova:

The culture of the Torpedoes, at that time, was mostly based on a 'play hard and party even harder' mentality. I set a standard and said, 'If you are not committed 100%, you're out.' In 2011 the team finished 11th, moving off the bottom from the previous season. The next season the team missed the finals by only 1 point; so we had become competitive with a very young team and some handy American imports.

Under Kova's new regime, the Torpedoes trained up to 14 times a week, with swimming, weights, skills, games and video sessions. Under his regime there was very little opportunity for elite players to take part in any of the Club's social activities.

The Club juniors, under Pumper's direction, had shown considerable success, being placed second in the 2008 National 14&U Club Championships. Kova decided to go with a nucleus of these juniors; with a plan to build them into the Club's future A grade team. They were thrown in the deep end and, naturally, struggled initially. Gradually the young team got to know what was expected of them, with Kova showing a lot of faith and patience with his squad. From those beginnings, the men's A grade won back-to-back State Premier League titles in 2015/16 & 2016/17, for the first time in City Beach's history.



2016 Premiers

*Back L - R: Andrew Ford, Florian Naroska, Tim Putt, Lach Pethick, Tom Rigoll, Christian Kyriakou, Andrei "Kova" Kovalenko
Front L - R: Nic Hughes, Luke Quinlivan, Jed Thompson, Tom Powell*

Kova:

I did not get too involved in the City Beach Club social activities because I was coaching the top teams, but I do see that the Club provides an environment and support for the members - they don't live separate lives from the Club. We get a lot of supporters from the Club, for the Torpedoes. A lot of the people who play on Wednesday nights come and support the teams in the National Competition. That is excellent and that is the future of the Club. It's important because only a few players can make the National League teams, but we need the grades below to maintain the standard and put pressure on the elite players. We now have a

team that are first-generation players; who have been bought up under the new winning culture (players born in 1997). Of the team of 12 that became under 18 national champions in 2015, only one player is no longer playing. We have six with the top team, and the other five are still playing on Wednesday nights. They support the Club and realise the value of high-intensity training. Even if they can't reach the national competition level, they still enjoy playing and training, so the Club benefits from that attitude.

Season 2013 saw the young Torpedoes announce their arrival; by reaching the gold medal game in the National Water Polo League and finishing with the silver.

The West Australian

Water polo triple puts City Beach at the top

Bridget Lacy | The West Australian

Thursday, 15 October 2015 11:06AM

✉ [Bridget Lacy](#)





Nic Hughes, the son of Peter Hughes and current Captain of the Torpedoes:

The influence of Andrei Kovalenko cannot be underplayed. He believes Australian-trained coaches differ in their approach to their Ukrainian and Eastern European counterparts. The latter are more disciplined, and expect more from their players. European teams have a long history of success and their expectations are higher. That attitude took a while to learn, and it was fortunate that these expectations were instilled in the junior squad Kova inherited, and now permeates the entire attitude of the top teams at the Club. The training regime can be demanding. The Torpedoes play on a Saturday night; and train morning and night every day of the week, except match day or special holidays. That means the player's social life is limited.

Rod Davidson:

Nic Hughes is relatively small in stature; and is a fantastic example of someone who works hard on his game. He is a very good player and has worked very hard to get there. If he was bigger, he would definitely be playing for Australia.

The state association established a separate Master Competition in the 2010/11 season, at the UWA pool. This competition was driven by the City Beach club and in particular, Glen Koski, who made it his ambition to separate the older guys from the open competition (young guys) playing on a Wednesday night. Since its establishment, the state Masters competition has been well supported by an ever-ageing playing group, who thoroughly enjoy playing water polo and socialising.

The Departure of the Senior Women

2013 was a great year for the men, who were successful both at state and national level, but the women were struggling to keep up. The women's leaders had a different approach to training and playing style, and the committee was keen to have the women's program adopt the men's program. This caused internal ructions. The two warring

parties could not reach a compromise and so the entire senior list of women's players left the Club to form another club, North Coast Phoenix; or took some time off. This defection left City Beach women with just junior players: 16 year-olds and younger.

Michael Hopkins recalls:

When the senior women left to form North Coast; it left us without any senior women, until we gradually built back up from juniors. The blow-up with the senior girls was a disappointment; it was the result of a collision course between strong personalities. It was a great shame that it turned out the way it did. Between the two camps there was a bucket load of energy and talent, and if they had all been pulling in the same direction the Club could have been anything.

The women's U18s ultimately became the Club's A grade side. In their first senior year they were outclassed; the following year they fared a little better and the next year they won more than they lost. Then, in 2016, they won the women's final. It wasn't an ideal situation at the time the senior women left, but in the long term it has made the women's side of the Club stronger.

The junior girls had generally been coached by Club stalwarts, who freely gave their time. Eventually, better and more professional coaches were targeted to guide the women's program.

In season 2013/14 the Club appointed part-time coaches Martin Callaghan and Ray Mayers as Joint Head Coach of the Women's senior teams. Martin and Ray were to coach for three seasons before the appointment of a full-time woman's coach, Scott Schweickle in 2016/17. The appointment of the head coaches provided a more structured program for the women resulting in better results in both state and national competitions.

New beginnings for the Senior Women

In 2013/14, only one City Beach women's team was entered in the State Senior League competition; and the oldest player in that team was 19 years old. Most players were in their first season of senior water polo having come from the Under 16 Junior Monday night competition. Needless to say it was not a great season; and many of the young players did not return!

The re-energising of the women came in 2014/15 when Lisa Lilleyman and a group of women came together as the 'Sistas' in Division 3, to learn, laugh and have fun. With only four experienced players, the team, aided by junior Lucy Houghton, made the semi-finals, but even more importantly, loved being Sistas.



The Club's 1st Girls' WAWPI Premiership: U14B grade, Mar, 2010
Emily Johnson, Maddie Thompson, Sally Lyons, Perri Thompson, Jemima Harding, Dayna O'Leary, Georgia Symons, Jamie Davidson, Taylah Howard, Alex Hughes; Coach Peter Symons



The A Coach with Skin in the Game:
A maniacal Luke George with passionate manager Margie Gleeson; at U14G Club Nationals, Brisbane, Apr, 2013



Return of the Women:

The Sistas celebrate in the pool, as Div 3 Premiers, 2015/6 - Lisa Lilleyman, Orla McSharry, Tayla Symons, Liane Kelly, Megan Prentice, Maryanne Marshall, Marisa Broderick, Penny Regan, Debra Bow, Lucy Houghton, Lauren Young & Margie O'Connor; and at the Bar - Lisa Lilleyman, Megan Prentice, Nicole Bailey, Marisa Broderick, Maryanne Marshall, Debra Bow, Julia Feutrill, Lara Clarke, Michelle Simson & Kelle Mason

Kelle Mason continued the good work in 2015/16 and two Division 3 teams, spanning in age from 15 to 50, were entered. Notable was the addition of mums of junior players, signing up for the season. A further boost in 2016/17 meant that for the first time in years the Club had a Division 2 team, and two Division 3 teams. This trend continued in 2017/18 under the diligent watch of Michele Simson. 2018 saw the formation of our first ever Women's Masters team, the Vintage Sistas. This was a combination

of Division 2 and 3 players who played in the WA Masters Championships. This team is keen to work towards World Masters Championships in the future!

The senior women have been proactive in creating a pathway for junior girls to continue playing water polo when they move out of the junior development program. This will serve to boost the ranks and numbers for our senior women's teams and female membership for the future.

Return of the Women:

The Sistas celebrate in the pool, as Div 3 Premiers, 2015/6 - Lisa Lilleyman, Orla McSharry, Tayla Symons, Liane Kelly, Megan Prentice, Maryanne Marshall, Marisa Broderick, Penny Regan, Debra Bow, Lucy Houghton, Lauren Young & Margie O'Connor; and at the Bar - Lisa Lilleyman, Megan Prentice, Nicole Bailey, Marisa Broderick, Maryanne Marshall, Debra Bow, Julia Feutrill, Lara Clarke, Michelle Simson & Kelle Mason



Return of the Women:
Three teams

The Arrival of Damian Kelly

In the 2012/13 season Damian Kelly was the general manager of Melville Water Polo Club. After the season, Pumper recruited Damian as the director of the Club's junior program. His appointment was the catalyst needed to teach the basics to talented juniors, and then send them into Kova's highly successful technical coaching program.

Kelly had previously worked with Kova, and so they were teaching from the same philosophical position. The two coaches worked with the national league team - Kova coaching - and Kelly coordinating facilities and liaising with various organisations.

Shortly after Kelly's arrival he changed the Club's junior program, from principally a Saturday schedule, to a Friday night FlippaBall and a Saturday morning district schools competition. Very quickly, the Club's junior program became one of the largest in Australia, with over 500 boys and girls playing each week.

An outstanding aspect of FlippaBall is that kids can play, progress to coaching and then be given other jobs to assist the team management. It is a self-perpetuating system that has created a successful Club in a safe and nurturing environment. Juniors see the group above them having success, and aspire to be like them. That is a wonderful program that has built on the legacy established by the founders and mainstays of the City Beach Water Polo Club.

Al Marsh:

The FlippaBall program is extremely successful. On Saturday mornings there are dozens of teams, hundreds of kids and up to four games going on in the pool at the one time. There became too many teams to play on Saturdays so they have had to schedule games on Friday nights. Friday nights especially, are now 'heaving'.



Damian Kelly, in action, coaching his junior boys at Challenge Stadiumat

Parents come down in their droves to support their children – it's a very social and a relaxed atmosphere. Because the game is over in ½ hour, a family can be home early to avoid a late night for the kids. It's great for the future of the Club. It is a credit to Pumper and Damian Kelly for the way they have structured it all. Everyone is now involved, parents, coaches, volunteers - it's fabulous how it's all been done.

Matt Stacy:

Having been a member since 1984 I was keen for my sons to give water polo a try; and the Flippaball competition is a fantastic entry level format run expertly by our club.

I became aware of the program by the growing number of parents and children gathering poolside on (then) Saturday mornings and in 2012 my wife Alli and I entered a boys' team from year 4 at Holy Spirit Primary School. This team grew to 2 as news spread when the competition switched to Friday nights. A testament to the popularity of the competition is the number of siblings and friends who have participated in FlippaBall and the large representation at the club from the Holy Spirit ranks. It's even better to see a number progress through the Saturday morning DSC and into junior state league competition.

Aside from Damian Kelly's great results with the junior boys at national championships, both he and Kova should be applauded for taking the 16 year old boys to Europe in July each year. This is an outstanding opportunity to train and play against the best juniors in Europe. The boys eagerly anticipate their Europe trip, and the feedback

to Club administrators and parents is that they have an amazing time.

The entire City Beach junior boys program is the envy of Australian water polo; and Damian and Kova can take much of the kudos for getting the Club to this position.

A New Club Affiliation

Late in 2014, Pumper recommended to the committee that the Club should look at aligning itself with the University of Western Australia, to secure the pool space needed to meet increased demand from junior development squads. WAIS had priority use of Challenge Stadium pool bookings; and the Club's junior programs were being threatened by competing water polo programs. To obviate the problem a creative solution was reached.

The committee proposed that the Club become an affiliate of UWA Sport and renamed the Club, UWA City Beach Water Polo Club. The committee then provided members with detail of the benefits, disadvantages, financial outcomes and what the future would look like if they became a club within the UWA Sport program. The process to change the Club name took more than 12 months to complete.

Another New Name

A Special General Meeting of Club members was held on Saturday 17 October 2015, and the proposal was unanimously agreed to. The name change was not an easy decision as the Club had been operating as City Beach for over 35 years. Under that banner, many premierships had been won, traditions established and memories created. Many of the older members opposed giving up all of the club's history; just for the sake of a name change.

Elliot Rowton:

Older Club members got a bit upset with the name change to include UWA; and felt we were losing our identity. But we were being poorly treated by Challenge Stadium and so Pumper said, 'we'll go to UWA and control our own destiny' - it was a genius move. It took a

long time and a special vision to channel our playing resources and Club direction towards the Torpedoes, and there was a lot of animosity within the Club, but the former has proven to be right. The Club has been extremely successful in terms of premierships and numbers of players, from juniors through to Masters. It used to be that people would drift into the Club from all over the place; now there is a structured junior program that feeds players into the Club and towards the elite level

The final change to the Club's name took place in the 2018/19 season when the name City Beach was dropped, to become officially known as The University of Western Australia Water Polo Club.



60+ Masters

*Back: Coach Jozsef Balczer, Mark Ireland, Joe Balczer, Russell Garvey, Steve O'Keefe, Al Marsh, Mike Stanton, Rick Wolozny, Tony Symes, Mike Krzus
Front: Jeremy Buttsworth, Leigh Farnell, Greg Patterson*



World Masters Champs, Riccione, Italy 2012:
City Beach vs WSG Oberhausen [a German team].



Budapest 2016 World Masters; Alfred Hojos Aquatic Complex, Margaret Island
Mgr Keith Robinson & Sally Cullingford with Paul Lilleyman, Kev Roberts, Brad Mellen, Rob Cullingford, John Contessi, Mike Ullrich, Michael Hopkins, Geoff Morris, Steve Robinson, John Love, Mark Mason & Rod Davidson

A Remarkable Season

In season 2015/16 the club achieved a remarkable result. City Beach held every men's national title in Australia; senior men, 14&U, 16&U, and 18&U. This feat had never been done before, and is unlikely to be achieved again.

This amazing result began with boys born in 2001, and coached by Damian Kelly. They won the 14&U national title at the Gold Coast, in Easter 2015. The following week, Kova coached the 'Born 1997' boys to the 18&U national title in Adelaide, and in October the same year, Kova coached the 'Born 1999' boys to the 16&U national title in Hobart.

Then the big one; in March 2016 the senior men's UWA Torpedoes won the National Water Polo League title in a penalty shootout, live on TV. This was one of water polo's most famous achievements, and wrote City Beach into the history books.

The Torpedoes were now the premier team in the National Water Polo League; and the Club was nominated for the 2016 WA Sport Star Awards in the Club of The Year category. They were joined, as one of three finalists, by the Perth Wildcats and the Olympic gold-medal winning Men's Sailing Duo. The recognition was an enormously prestigious moment for the Club.

There were many significant contributors to this National League title, including Luke Quinlivan. Luke was a highly acclaimed goal-keeper, playing many international games for the senior men's national team. Australian senior men's head coach, Elvis Fatovic, expressed an interest in him being part of the Rio Olympic campaign, but work commitments contrived against him.



2015 CHAMPION CITY BEACH U18 BEARS

Back row: Tom Powell, Joe Goldfinch (GK), Carter Fabling, Ben Vittino, Harry Konowalous (GK), Jed Thompson, Andrei Kovalenko, Tom Rigoll, Connor Smith, Michelle Quinsee, Mike Quinsee
 Front row: Nick Lantzke, Tim Putt, Lach Pethick (C), Nathan Quinsee, Tim Ryall
 Coach: Andrew Kovalenko Managers: Mike and Michelle Quinsee Captain: Lach Pethick



Head coach Andrei Kovalenko and coach Damian Kelly



U18 Boys Goalkeeper of the Tournament Joe Goldfinch
 U18 Boys Tournament Most Valuable Player Tim Putt



U16 Boys Goalkeeper of the Tournament Harry Konowalous



MEN'S NATIONAL



2015 CHAMPION CITY BEACH U16 BEARS

Back row: Mitch Atkinson, Daniel Vittino, Blake Fabling, Lachie Vos (C), Harry Konowalous (GK), Christian Kyriakou, Will Lantzke
 Andrei Kovalenko, Damian Kelly
 Front row: Dennis Wilkins, Ollie Davis, Riley Maurich, Josh Powell, Max Garbutt-Wilkins
 Coach: Andrew Kovalenko Manager: Dennis Wilkins Captain: Lachie Vos



2015 CHAMPION CITY BEACH U14 BEARS

Back row: Matthew Murphy, Callum Storey, Joel Hill, Aron Kovacs, Stefanus Edward, Nicholas Murphy, Damian Kelly
 Middle row: Ethan Blume, Riley Maurich, Henry Cook
 Front row: Byron Kelly (C), Ben Marshall, Sam Rowbottom
 Coach: Damian Kelly Manager: Jane Maurich Captain: Byron Kelly

AN AMAZING SEASON!

IN MARCH 2016 THE CITY BEACH WATER POLO CLUB ACHIEVED SOMETHING NEVER DONE BEFORE IN AUSTRALIAN WATER POLO HISTORY. THE UWA TORPEDOES* WON THE NATIONAL WATER POLO LEAGUE (NWPL) COMPETITION RESULTING IN A QUADRELLA ACROSS ALL DIVISIONS OF MALE WATER POLO IN AUSTRALIA. AN OUTSTANDING AND PROUD MOMENT FOR THE CLUB



THE U14 BEARS STARTED THIS UNPRECEDENTED RUN IN THE GOLD COAST IN APRIL 2015 BY WINNING THE U14S BOY'S CHAMPIONSHIP.

THE DOMINANCE STARTED TO BUILD WHEN SHORTLY AFTER AND ALSO IN APRIL 2015, THE U18 BEARS ACHIEVED A COMMANDING CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORY IN ADELAIDE. THIS TEAM EFFORT ALSO PRODUCED TWO INDIVIDUAL AWARDS WITH TIM PUTT WINNING THE TOURNAMENT'S MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD AND JOE GOLDFINCH WINNING THE TOURNAMENT'S BEST GOALKEEPER AWARD.

IN OCTOBER 2015 THE U16 BEARS WON THE NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS IN HOBART COMPLETING THE FIRST EVER TRIFECTA IN JUNIOR BOYS' NATIONAL CLUBS WATER POLO COMPETITION. THE U16 BEARS ACHIEVED VICTORY IN A GROUND-BREAKING FINAL IN HOBART. THE BEARS WERE ABLE TO PREVENT THEIR OPPONENTS FROM SCORING FOR THE ENTIRE FIRST HALF OF THE GAME WITH AN IMPREGNABLE DEFENCE. HARRY KONOWALOUS WAS AWARDED BEST GOALKEEPER OF THE TOURNAMENT.

FINALLY IN MARCH 2016 THE UWA TORPEDOES (TRADING NAME OF THE CITY BEACH NWPL FRANCHISE) WON THE NATIONAL WATER POLO LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP IN A NAIL BITING PENALTY SHOOTOUT FINALLY PREVAILING 13-11. FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE GAME WAS BROADCAST LIVE ON FOX AND MEMBERS BACK HOME WERE ABLE TO WATCH THE YOUNG TEAM PREVAIL AGAINST ALL ODDS. THE TEAM COACHED BY ANDREI KOVALENKO AND CAPTAINED BY LUKE QUINLIVAN WALKED A TIGHT ROPE THROUGHOUT THE FINALS SERIES BY WINNING ALL GAMES BY THE NARROWEST OF MARGINS.

THE CLUB MARKS THIS OCCASION AS THE CULMINATION OF MORE THAN A DECADE OF HARD WORK IN BUILDING ONE OF THE BEST CLUB PROGRAMS IN THE COUNTRY LED BY HEAD COACH ANDREI KOVALENKO, DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT DAMIAN KELLY AND CLUB PRESIDENT PETER HUGHES. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PLAYERS, COACHES, MANAGERS, OFFICIALS AND PARENTS WHO HELPED MAKE THIS AN OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT.



2016 NWPL CHAMPION UWA TORPEDOES

1. Luke Quinlivan, 2. Lach Pethick, 3. Alex Bogunovich, 4. Florian Naroska, 5. George Ford, 6. Nic Hughes, 7. Brett McGhie, 8. Mateo Diaz Brana, 9. Andrew Ford, 10. Milos Vukicevic, 11. Tom Beare, 12. Jed Thompson, 13. Tom Rigoli, 14. Tim Putt, 15. Nathan Quinsee, 17. Lachlan Vos, 18. Josh Zekulich, 19. Christian Kyriakou, 20. Max Garbutt-Wilkins, 21. Tom Powell

Coach: Andrei Kovalenko Assistant Coach: Brent Thompson, Manager: Steven Kyriakou



AL CHAMPIONSHIPS QUADRELLA 2015/16 SEASON

Luke reflects on his time at the top:

We're not paid professionals. I had a mortgage and a work career, and we all have to live within our means. Financial constraints and increasing demands at work meant I couldn't devote the necessary time to the game. It wasn't the way I wanted my playing career to end, but that's all part of the journey of life. Personally – given how tough water polo is as a sport – I have been through some tough training camps, with the likes of Andrei Kovalenko and Erkin Shagaev. These camps tested your mental strength and desire to succeed ... more than anything I've ever done in my life. I have never seen anyone go through the pain and mental grief anywhere near the levels of that imposed by Erkin or Andrei's camps in the early 2000s. I've seen players reduced to tears in the change rooms after sessions; players elect to not want to make the touring national team (asking to be sent home early); players injured or broken because their bodies could not keep up with the demands of the camp etc.

Life member Leigh Farnell has been involved with the Torpedoes since 2013, as the poolside commentator and motivator of the team. He was made an honorary team member and presented with the team's number 22 cap, following the National League Championship in 2016. Leigh is a Physical Education graduate, motivational speaker and team-builder, and in conjunction with Pumper and Kova, has developed leadership and high-performance programs for both the male and female teams.



The Prez carries the Commonwealth Games Baton Feb 2018



Commonwealth Games Honour

President, Peter Hughes, received an unexpected honour, when a Club member nominated him to be a baton-bearer for the Commonwealth Games Baton Relay in February 2018.

Pumper strode through Challenger Parade in City Beach proudly carrying the high-held Baton and with the biggest grin seen on his face for quite some time. A big group of Club members and business associates cheered Pumper on to make the event a memorable occasion for the Club's long-time legend.

The Best Teams Of The First 40 Years

In its 40th season the Club is now a powerhouse of the national water polo community. The milestone was celebrated in October, 2018 with the Ruby Ball, at a venue holding great memories for the foundation members, the Claremont Football Club.

A highlight of the occasion was the naming of the best team of the past 40 years, for both men and women as selected by a group of the Club's longest standing members. The selection criteria for these teams was that a player must have played at least 4 seasons or 60 games to be eligible for nomination; which is proof they have red, black and white running through their veins.

MEN'S TEAM	WOMEN'S TEAM
Michael Hopkins	Claire Durston
Pim Hendrix	Claire [nee Hadley] Rechichi
Charlie Liggins	Zoe [Hadley] Stenhouse
Jamie Kearsley	Gemma Hadley
Mitchal Ainsworth	Dayna O'Leary
Jim Gerritzen	Catherine Ainsworth
Allan Taylor	Janelle Avins
George Ford	Alyssa [Garrick] Thom
Andrew Ford	Felicity [Davis] McCann
Nic Hughes	Anna Wagner
Lach Pethick	Alison [Hadley] Morris
Jason Shaw	Arrie [Brock] Koteka
Tim Putt	Claire Pearce
Andrei Kovalenko (Coach)	Greg Jones (Coach)

How We Have Grown

The foundation season, 1979/80, had a playing membership of 108 broken up as follows:-

- 70 - Senior men
- 17 - Senior women
- 21 - Junior boys

Season Numbers as reported to WAWPI 17/18			
	Female	Male	Total
Seniors	49	128	177
Juniors	68	118	186
Flippa	201	236	437
Affiliate (non-playing committee)	3		3
			803

Foundation Members Still playing in the 40th Season

- Jeremy Buttsworth Stephen O'Keefe
- Brett Barns Al Marsh
- Brian Smith Peter Hughes
- Glen Koski Mark Rigo
- Leigh Smith Rick Wolozny
- Richard Whiting Michael Hopkins
- Robert Cullingford Andrew Lang
- John Contessa



Founding Members Who Still Play:
 Brian Smith, Andrew Lang, Peter Hughes, Al Marsh,
 Michael Hopkins, Rick Wolozny, Glen Koski, John Contessi,
 Rob Cullingford, Leigh Smith, Steve O'Keefe, Brett Barns

Australian Representatives

George Ford:

*Rio de Janeiro
2016 Olympian -
the Club's first
Olympic Games
representative*

George Ford was a 15 year old who came to the Club from Dolphins, to pursue the better coaching opportunities that City Beach provided. He was selected in the Australian men's team to compete in the Tokyo World Championships in 2015 and then, a year later, came the selection all athletes dream of: he was chosen to represent Australia in the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games. George is our first ever Olympian.

Two players, Gemma Hadley and Dayna O'Leary have also gone on to represent Australia as part of the Australian women's team.

Gemma represented City Beach in the Australian Senior women's team – The Stingers - in the 2007 Melbourne World Aquatics Championships. The Stingers finished with the silver medal which was a great achievement for Gemma.

Dayna was also selected in the Stingers for the World League Intercontinental competition in 2017.

For a full list of all Australian Representative players please see page 64.

Tim Putt:

*Member of the
Aussie Sharks, 2017
World Aquatics
Championships,
Budapest, Hungary*



In 2017 George, George's brother, Andrew, and Tim Putt represented Australia in the 2017 World Aquatics Championships held in Budapest, Hungary.

Team Dynasties

The Club has produced many team dynasties, who have won multiple State League premierships. The first was the D grade team of the mid-'80s, who were regular grand finalists, and won three premierships. The mainstays of this dynasty were Glen Koski, Murray Ferguson, Nick Davis, Rick Wolozny, Geoff Lewis, Michael Halliday, Brian Smith, Greg Mainstone, Michael Davis and Brett Barns.

No team has been more successful than the team lead by Michael Hopkins, who from 2010 played in every grand final since then, up to the time of writing; winning 6 premierships. Regular team members include foundation members Michael Hopkins, Rob Cullingford and John Contessi. The most famous of these victories was in the 2010 Division 3 Grand Final. Both Mark Mason and Michael Hopkins had been injured; Mark coming off a knee replacement and Michael playing as a field player due to tendon damage to his thumb, with Ric Vittino filling in as goalie. It was typical gutsy City Beach heroics on display.

Andrew Ford:

*Member of the
Aussie Sharks,
2017 World Aquatics
Championships,
Budapest, Hungary*



THE 'OILS':

The City of Perth Surf Club has a long association with the City Beach Water Polo Club and they have fielded one of the Clubs legendary teams. The Oils' have been a remarkably resilient team having formed in 2008 and are still playing today. They have won numerous premierships in Division 1 and thoroughly enjoy their alternate summer sport, water polo.

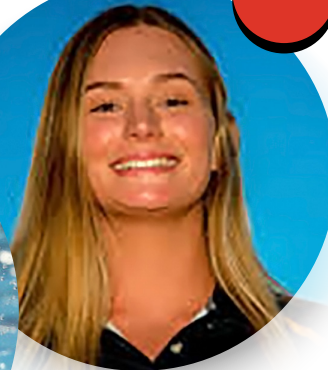
Gemma Hadley:

*Silver medallist at the
2007 World Aquatics
Championships,
Melbourne*



Dayna O'Leary:

*Member of the
Stingers, FINA World
League, 2017*



Michael Hinchley recalls:

"Remember the time ...". These words remind me of Billy Ramsay and Al Marsh; back when I was a young, skinny 20 year-old having a beer with the old boys! They must have been at least 40!

25 years on, and I find myself standing around a few 'larger than life' lads, 40+, on a Wed night recalling, "Remember the time Magic Shaw scored that top-spin lob from 10m out."

"Remember the time Gowy shot that goal in the Grand Final against Thomas ... man, Thomas lost it! Even better was that we won the GF against arch-rivals Melville with Charlie Liggins out on 3 before half time."

The Oils started their time as the Surf Boys, an amalgamation of Surf Club swimmers Greg Tate, Toddy Pearson, James O'Toole and a few has-beens in Matt 'Magic' Shaw, Paul 'Lillo' Lilleyman, Mark 'The Plow' Gow, Grant Trew and myself (Mike 'Skip' Hinchley). Toddy and the Surf Club boys were

handy swimmers; but had a bit to learn when it came to the hoiking the Mikasa about. Throw in a few questionable legends, Greg Mickle and Baz Armstrong, and we had the makings of a polo team. In addition we had inaugural manager, Eddie Gibbs, who has stuck by us to present day. Not winners, in the early days, but solid financial contributors to the club, through the Polo Bear Bar.

As the years passed we gained some talent in Charlie Liggins and Joey Balczar. We also moulded a few young lads who came and went ... couldn't handle the pace.

We became 'The Oils' thanks to ongoing generous sponsorship from Todd Pearson's Statewide Oil. We picked up Ian Hardisty who, while talented, played sporadically ... due to the referees.

Two memorable flags (08/09 & 14/15), some forgettable GF performances and some infamous Oils AGMs have made 'The Oils' a team to remember.

The Winter Competition

Since started by Elliot Rowton in the cold dark winter of 2009, the Wintercomp has become another institution within the Club. It has evolved into a winter-long event run by the likes of Paul Lilleyman, Dan Toleman with a lot of help from Robbie Cullingford. Peter Symons was a regular referee, until he'd had enough of the constant abuse. Nowadays the young kids, straight out of 18&U do the refereeing until they too are worn down by the barrage of bagging - a tradition the older competitors insist is building strong resilient individuals. There are old dogs always ready to teach or to learn a new trick.

This is a purely social competition where teams are made of a mix of grades from the summer competition. By mixing the grades it allows players with varied capabilities and experience levels to play socially and maintain their fitness over winter.

This competition is also used to keep women members engaged in the game in preparation for the summer season.

It's an area of the club that builds relationships and respect across all the age-groups.

The weekly call to arms comes via a weekly email with some dubious humour, originally from the then vice president Paul Lilleyman who has handed over to the ubiquitous King Clam. Some would say this change has improved the quality of humour, although those requesting an unsubscribe would disagree!



The 'Oils':

Institutions within the Club

The Polo Bear Bar/Café and Team Symo

By Peter Symons

The evolution of any organism, whether species or sporting club, is rarely linear.

After relocating to the Superdrome aka Challenge Stadium aka HBF Stadium; and then building clubrooms courtesy of Greg Mickle and club-financiers, some new club spirit and camaraderie was then to be established.

To assist with this important task, the Club resorted to a familiar ploy – ply the members, endlessly, with booze.

In this regard, life member Al Marsh was deeply complicit ... spending many Wed evenings slaking the thirst of members when they, briefly, broke from their incessant nonsensical, inane banter about the game they'd just played, and how heroic they'd been, to purchase a red or gold can.

These long-term, infamous Wed night piss-ups had their genesis at Bold Park Pool; where they were often accompanied by a 'hair of the dog' Friday night event.

As always, in this unfair world, these events catered heavily, and almost solely, for male Baby Boomers; and it looked like this situation would continue ad infinitum.

A step out of this primordial slime was taken, when a prescient and enlightened member installed a 2nd hand coffee machine in the Challenge Stadium clubrooms.

Many club Philistines scoffed at the thought of imbibing a soy latte but, strangely, these offerings – enjoyed by 2/3 of the world's population who drink a caffeinated beverage each day – caught on.

Saturday morning coffee was first served up by the effervescent Stephanie Hughes; and then continued by Tayla Symons, representing the powerful management team affectionately nicknamed by former club captain Elliott Rowton as Team Symo.

Accolades abounded about this innovation; and these have continued and, possibly, become even more fantastical since the club upgraded its coffee machine.

Al Marsh regularly says: It's the best coffee in Perth; it's so good that I always have what's a rare thing for me – a second cup!

Russell Garvey famously said, at a significant birthday party of his, amid tears: Just after I've finished my Sat morning swim, and have a Team Symo coffee in my hands while surrounded by my mates [sob] ... is the best time of my week!

Coffee is an important part of the Club's culture; but Team Symo never forget that booze and polo are two things that are inextricably linked, like those two great statesmen ... Hughes and Trump.

Wednesday evening post-game celebrations continue, profitably, under the guidance of people like Ian Thomson, Phil Earles, Jack Ion and Matt Grey. Mercifully, these people reversed the tradition of one socialist barman ... who'd leave the Bar unattended, to play a game; and then return to his post, and over-dose his teammates with free beer.

Along with this new management, and as a new generation of men slowly replaced the Neanderthals who'd semi-evolved at Bold Park; women, people like the CB Sistas, bravely returned to the Bar.

Mixed patronage meant that the Bar/Café needed to move upmarket.

Patrons now select from a range of boutique and 'real' beers; while Matt charms the ladies as he serves G&Ts with a slice of lemon. Free BBQ snaggers are on offer ... in a bid to 'blot' up some alcohol with this 'food'; and hence entice patrons to drink more.

Soon after Damian Kelly came to the Club, Bar turn-over jumped, with the need to keep the Friday night FlippaBall players' parents lubricated.



Team Symo:

Peter Symons, manager; Matt Grey, barman; Rick Wolozny, coffee; Russell Garvey, cups; Tayla Symons, barista all hard at work ensuring patrons of the Polo Bear Bar/Café are caffeinated, lubricated or both.

Spot the difference



Russell Garvey

Brick \$h!thouse

Two sides of a former Club Captain and President:

*featured in the CBWPC eNews,
16 Feb 2010*



Clubrooms at HBF Stadium

This is a hugely popular family night, with the kids enjoying a game and then a sausage/soft drink/python; while their parents take the opportunity to become '(over) tired and emotional' knowing their kids are in the safe hands of UWA City Beach Polo Club organisers, coaches and referees.

Some believe that parents shouldn't drink at a children's event; while others counter that kids seeing their parents enjoy a drink, for a short period, while out with family at one of their sporting events; is a judicious introduction to an activity that's not, yet, illegal.

The social life provided by and for sports clubs, makes a massive contribution to community wellbeing.

In water polo this social contribution starts with our Flippaballers; and continues through to the Masters ... old(er) blokes with testosterone levels waning, and medical issues waxing ... who get great comfort discussing their various, numerous disabilities, in a safe and supportive environment, at the Bar/Café.

Somehow, it seems to work, with one Triton visitor, female, perhaps summing it up best, one Wed night, saying: "I just love what you guys have got going down here."

Thanks go to Tayla Symons of Team Symo, and her current assistants Matt Grey and Drew Lilleyman; along with Steph Hughes, Daniel Vittino, Jack Ion, Georgia Symons and Phil Earles. Special mention to: Mark Enright [all round support], Rick Wolozny [coffee supply] and Russell Garvey [coffee cup supply].

The Cardiac Club

An attraction of water polo is that, because it's a low-impact sport, you can keep playing well into old age. On Tuesday nights when the Masters' competition is held; the pool is full of these 'ageing evergreens'.

There are still injuries in Masters' games but, because of the significant number of cave-men still playing, the type of injury has changed.

Heart disease is no stranger to middle-aged, 'big-boned' men; and club members have not defied these odds.

Over Saturday morning coffees a large, and growing, group of members of the Cardiac Club pay homage to one of the club's most important members – cardiologist Mark Ireland – and talk about their various medical devices and interventions.

Master photographer Geoff Fisher – the beneficiary of the skills of another important club member, cardiac surgeon Rob Larbalestier, plus a donor's heart – shows off his scar; while Peter Symons, Graeme Geldart and Jamie Murphy compare the performance of their Internal Cardiac Devices [which act as pacemakers; or defibrillators; or both].

Surgeon gives mate Geoff Fisher another second chance at life



Gary Adshead | The West Australian
Saturday, 5 May 2018 2:04AM

Gary Adshead



Geoff Fisher and Rob Larbalestier at HBF Stadium Picture: Ian Munro/The West Australian

*The Club goes way beyond water polo:
Geoff Fisher, with fellow player and his
heart-transplant surgeon; Rob Larbalestier*

Rob Cullingford talks about his coronary arterial stents and Geoff 'Boof' Morris about his bypass surgery; while Mark Mason and Michael Hopkins natter about their atrial arrhythmias.

Hanging around the outskirts of the Cardiac Club are interested observers ... burnt-out and bloated club members whose lifestyles, despite the best advice, are strongly indicative of a desire to join this club.

These days, a strong recommendation amongst older Club members is not to enter the pool for a Saturday morning

swim ... unless and until either Mark Ireland and/or Rob Larbalestier is present.

Fortunately, the club has always had a strong medical fraternity to assist in emergencies. In addition, we have a strong legal fraternity to assist with litigation, in the event that the former fraternity are not successful.



Memorable Moments

The longest game in water polo history!

Michael Hopkins recalls being involved when the City Beach A grade team won the longest game in water polo history:

It was a preliminary final against Dolphins, at Melville, that went for 24 quarters, over about five hours, which was a world record at that time. We ended up winning the game. Gary Allison, a state player from NSW was playing and coaching Dolphins; and he kept shooting and levelling the score which, each time it happened, meant we had to play an extra two quarters. I was getting very frustrated in goals. After that game, FINA changed the rules. After a drawn game, there would only be two periods of extra time and, if it was still a draw, it went to a penalty shoot-out. Now, after a draw, it goes straight to penalties.

Rob Cullingford remembers the same game:

We played 4 quarters and 20 periods of extra time, which went for five hours. I remember playing the last 8 periods of extra time with cramp. Both teams finished without any reserves. I awoke that night thinking I had broken both arms. Unsurprisingly, we lost the grand final.

Michael "Hoppy" Hopkins in goals.

Michael holds the club record for most games played 750+

A grand final the Div 2 women will never forget

In 2010/11 Linda Gilbert, Club stalwart, organised a team to compete in the WAWPI Division 2, many of whom had a surf club connection. Led by Linda Gilbert the team stayed together in 2011/12 successfully bringing home the premiership flag after another very long grand final. The game was locked at full time and extra time before the girls clinched the win in an action-packed penalty shoot-out, that goalie Jenni Davidson will never forget!

Div 2 Premiers, 2011/2: Trish Gilbert, Lisa Lilleyman, Jen Davidson, Nicky Scott, Linda Jackson, Kerstin Gadston, Emily Banyard, Kellie McCrumb & Cath Fletcher



Club Traditions

The Dunny Seat Award

A tradition initiated by foundation member Brett 'Bruiser' Barns is the annual Dunny Seat trophy, awarded for that year's least savory performance in the pool. A discarded wooden dunny seat is the award, painted in red, black and white. It hangs in the Club rooms; and is now inscribed with 45 names.

Pumper was not a fan of the Dunny Seat Award, believing it honoured poor playing standards, and he is fortunate to have escaped the wrath of the selection committee, to date. Still, the award remains part of the Club's rich history.

The inaugural winner was 'Mauler' Mick Gunn, a surf club recruit with only a modicum of water polo ability; but a massive talent for brawling with anyone who touched him in the water. In fact, he won it the following year as well.

Most recipients accepted the trophy with pride, although some didn't!

Rob Cullingford:

I remember being erroneously [sic] awarded the dunny seat for accidentally knocking someone out in a semi final, one year. Because of my meticulous record and clean reputation; I was given the prestigious honour to the mirth of all.

Bill Ramsay also has memories of being red-carded and 'unfairly' awarded the seat:

I got awarded the toilet seat trophy a few times - I never really hit anyone, it was more of a wrestle.



Dunny Seat Award:

Award donor, Brett Barns, with 2003/4 winner - Harvey 'Head-Butt' Smith



Dunny-Brush Award:

Most Awarded Player of our First Four Decades - Danny 'KO' Rechichi ... the only person in the running

Social Traditions

Tour-de-Fridge

Grand final week is when all grades, except the Torpedoes, play-off and it is time for players to let their hair down. There have been some outrageous antics over the years.

About 2008, the Tour-de-City-Beach (or more accurately the tour-de-fridges) started as an end of year activity. Senior players ride bikes from house to house around City Beach and participate in a variety of social activities. The players are broken up into teams and compete for a trophy. Some of the activities and antics can be outrageous, and the bike-riding, at the end of the day, is pretty precarious.

Dad and Kids' Camp

The Water Polo Dad and Kids' camp was introduced by senior members Peter Hughes, Robbie Cullingford and Michael Hopkins in the Dwellingup reserve, on the banks of the Murray River, in September 2003.

Pumper recalls,

One weekend it was so cold that I woke the kids up and said, put every piece of clothing you have on your body, and huddle together. When we returned to Perth we discovered the temperature in Dwellingup the previous night had plummeted to -2o!

The main premise of the camp was purportedly to give the Mums a break for a few days; and for the kids to experience drop-toilets, a different attitude to personal hygiene and a new diet consisting of soft drink and meat with not a vegetable in sight. The weekend involves a

couple of nights camping under the stars in Dwellingup and one of the highlights of the trip is mandatory canoeing down the Murray River on Saturday afternoon and taking on the rapids where carnage is eagerly anticipated.

Popular club member Steve Cook, recounts some memorable stories and shenanigans. Here are a few that are printable:

- *Some Eskies were stolen overnight by some local banjo players. After our intrepid campers reported the incident, the Rangers then came around to investigate and asked for a description of the items stolen. They were told "the Esky was blue, the bacon was pink and the eggs were white"*
- *Rob Cullingford's family tradition of having potato chips in white bread with a slice of lettuce, as nutrition on the canoeing trip.*
- *One dad, who evidently had been having a very good time, fell into the fire and was quickly pulled out by his friends, only to repeat the performance when he was let go. He was then made to remain seated in a chair. No names, but it was obviously a goalie.*
- *A dad made the journey to the campsite only to find out on arrival that he had left his tent poles behind. After squeezing his kids into other people's tents, he slept in the back of his car for the next two nights. You can bet his name was Mud.*

The years between 2001 and 2014 were the most populous with a peak of 38 happy campers in 2014.

Dads, kids and others at Dwellingup camp



New Traditions

Fastest Polo Bear of the Year

Simon and Nathan Phillips were the masterminds behind the inaugural Seniors' Club Race Day in 2017.

Andrew Ford was the Fastest Man Bear Alive with an impressive time of 24.87 secs. Sana Brotherson took out the Ladies title with a speedy 25.62 secs. All place getters enjoy wearing their Fastest Bear t-shirts and the Clock trophy hangs proudly in the Club rooms.

The seniors' day was so popular that a juniors' day was introduced on Sunday 2 February 2018. As well as the Fastest Junior Bear, events were held to determine the longest throw and the highlight of the afternoon was a novelty 'blow-up swan' race!

The fastest 14&Us were Thomas Michael and Bella Sayer.

And 16s were Andrew Barber and Jamie Cannon

Longest throws to Zelma Koka and Georgina Purvis for the girls and Owen Lilleyman and Billy Browne for the boys.



Our Fastest Junior Bears [33m]

14U Boys

- Thomas Michael - 19.00
- James Lantzke - 19.81
- Josh Rasmussen - 20.30

16U Boys

- Andrew Barber - 16.78
- Flynn Mason - 17.32
- Menno Talbot - 17.88

14U Girls

- Bella Sayer - 19.87
- Alice Williams - 19.94
- Zelma Koko - 20.16

16U Girls

- Jamie Cannon - 19.56
- Millie McFarlane - 20.88
- Sami Rasmussen - 20.94



Nathan & Simon Phillips:
Thanks for sponsoring the 1st Fastest Bear Alive race-day. A great initiative!



Congratulations to our Fastest Bears Alive [50m] ...
they're also handy with a polo ball
2017 Fastest Man Bear Alive
Andrew Ford: an impressive 24.87s
2017 Fastest Lady Bear Alive
Sana Brotherson: a speedy 25.62s



Club Communications

In the beginning it was post and telephone. With open registration days.

Newsletters such as the Foul News were photocopied and distributed.

With the rise of the internet, a Club webpage was introduced and emailing changed the way of the world.

The best newsletters on file, were those put together by the then Men's Captain, Elliot Rowton from 2009 to

2011. Titled CBWPC eNews they were comprehensive and always included interviews with players.

Now days in addition to relying on our website and bulk emails, social media (Facebook and Instagram) is used as an avenue to enhance Club communications, drive membership growth and share successes and opportunities. Thanks to Kelle Mason and Jackie Vittino for taking on the social media initiative.

Our Volunteers

Volunteers are the foundation of great clubs and CBWPC has been very fortunate to have had exceptional volunteers taking on committee, managing, coaching and administrative roles through the years.

Life Members

Peter 'Pumper' Hughes - The long-term strategic thinker who has always been in the background plying his moves to ensure the future stability of the Club. His influence cannot be underestimated. He is often referred to as the founder of the Club (it was his idea to merge Flotsam & Rangers), played at A Grade level, coached the first A Grade premierships and many junior boys national teams, served two terms as president, oversaw building projects at Challenge Stadium,

team manager, committee delegate including Treasurer, financial underwriter of building projects, generous club sponsor and mentor to many young players.

He did spend some years in the water polo wilderness; and at the low point was involved in a legal fight with the club for the recovery of an outstanding loan. Under his stewardship the Club has evolved into the strongest polo club in WA.

Rod Davidson:

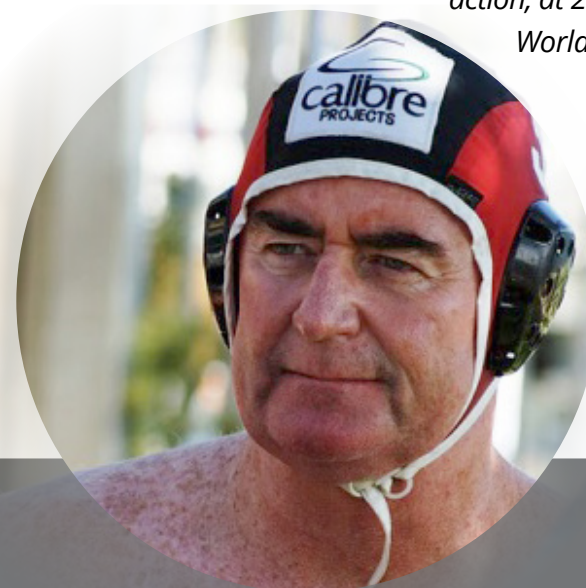
Pump can be a polarising character, but he has been fabulous for the Club - he literally loves the game. He's also good at gathering talented people around him to get the best out of any circumstances. I'm a great admirer.

The Prez:

Capped up, ready for action, at 2008 Perth World Masters'



Life Members, 2018:
Steve O'Keefe, Leigh Smith,
Al Marsh, Alison Morris,
Leigh Farnell, Peter Hughes
Absent: Bill Ramsay,
Danny Rechichi, Peter Symons



Elliot Rowton:

Pumper is a doer but can be a bit polarising. Without what he's done and the vision he had, the Club wouldn't be the success it is today. People might want to snipe at Pumper, but it's usually sour grapes and says more about them than it does about Pump.

Brett Barns believes there are two sides to Pumper:

One, an uncompromising visionary for the club who doesn't mind treading on toes or alienating groups of people to achieve his aims. The other is his nurturing of young players and his generosity towards the Club. He has picked up juniors for training and matches, let them stay in his house and supported the Club financially, when it wouldn't have survived.

Michael Hopkins:

If it wasn't for Peter Hughes a lot of the progress in the Club wouldn't have happened. From a personal point of view he was instrumental in my playing development, and getting me to achieve what I wanted out of the game and the Club. I wouldn't have gone on and played as much as I did if he hadn't given me that bit of a nudge. He encouraged me to go into goals and that gave me something I wouldn't have otherwise got from the game.

Most members would consider that Pumper has now corporatised the Club which has made the other, established clubs in the Perth metro competition very envious. The next decade will function without Pumper's direct involvement (he retires from the committee in 2019) but the Club hopes he is still in the background continuing his visionary work to keep the Club strong, well into the future.

Bill Ramsay – A popular, fun guy who was in the thick of it when the Club started way back in 1979. Was the President for almost 10 years taking on the role in the late 8's almost single-handedly running the Club.

Danny Rechichi - Life member. A fine A grade player whose passion resulted in clashes with authorities and Club members; and finally the severing of ties with the Club.

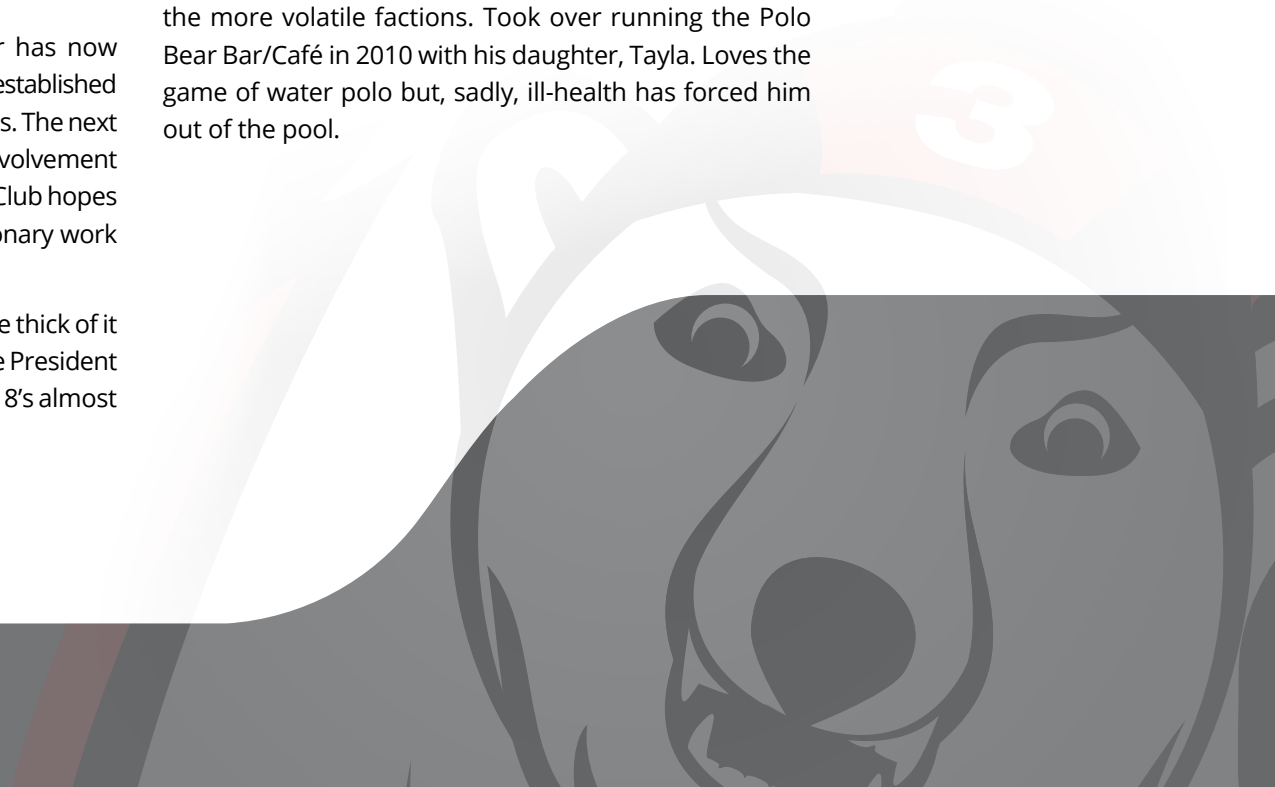
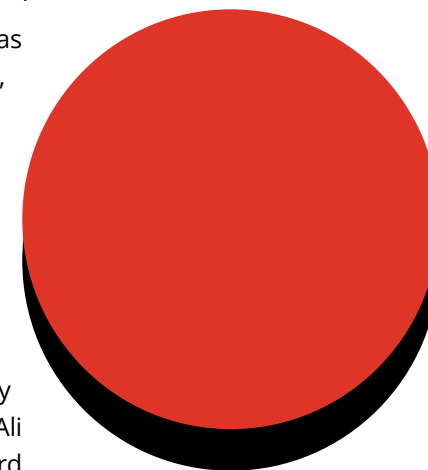
Leigh Smith – A long-term secretary of the Club and later took on the task nobody wants, the Property Manager (caps & balls). Still playing today, as a goal keeper.

Stephen O'Keefe - A life member who has contributed in a variety of roles; as president, player, and general Club man. Has two sons who played and a wife who is a regular attender. When the Club was at its lowest ebb, Steve O'Keefe stepped in and gave it financial and strategic direction.

Alison Morris – Club Secretary from 2001 to 2010, Alison is the Club's only female life member and has played more games than any other female. Passionate about water polo, Ali also received the Volunteer of the Year Award in 2004 and 2006.

Leigh Farnell - A strong player and major contributor to the social side, and integral in the cohesion of the Club. Leigh has enriched the fabric of City Beach as a player, supporter and entertainer.

Peter Symons – Life Member, coach and mentor. Probably an important moderating influence between the more volatile factions. Took over running the Polo Bear Bar/Café in 2010 with his daughter, Tayla. Loves the game of water polo but, sadly, ill-health has forced him out of the pool.



Some Players of Influence

The Hadley Sisters: Alison, Claire, Zoe & Gemma -

Four sisters who contributed so much to the fabric of the women's side of City Beach. It was unfortunate that internal politics led to them leaving the Club to form North Coast WPC in 2008.

Kevin Hobbs - A good player. He was tough, and often used the skills he learnt when working as a bouncer. A wonderful clubman who, during one long enforced absence from the Club, still made all the phone calls necessary to keep teams organised. While playing A reserve, he could be less than respectful of Pump's coaching addresses, which had some long-term ramifications.

Greg Jones - Men's and Women's A-grade coach. As a player, Jonesy was a no-nonsense person who had plenty of advice, not always complimentary, to give to both opposition and teammates. As a coach, he was a refreshingly skilled tactician and mentor; who added great value to both our men's and women's elite teams.

Pim Hendrix - A big, strong and charismatic player who came from Darwin. He was and is, as a Masters player, a centre-forward superstar in the pool and a superstar with women out of it. He left WA for Hollywood and became a script writer; but returned to Australia after 20 years. Continues to play in the World Masters and has won MVP for the carnival on a number of occasions. Many consider Pim the best player to have played for the Club, due to his ability and longevity at an extremely high level.

Warwick Syphers - Another influential player who arrived at the Club from the Cronulla Club in NSW, in 1982. He was a single fellow who could 'play a bit' and he engendered a new energy into the club; an influential member.

Michael Hopkins - The Club's games record-holder, with over 800 games (including 188 in A grade). Won an A grade flag. Broke his thumb one year and couldn't play in goals, so was dropped to Division 3 and won a premiership with them playing in the field. Next year went back into goals in Div 2 and won five years in a row. The same team missed a year of making the finals, dropped down to Div 3, and won another flag.

Mark Mason - a strong character in Michael Hopkins' Bears team; and who has kids at the Club. Mark, a popular assistant junior coach and former women's coach and his wife Kelle contribute a lot to the way the Club functions.

Haydn Jackson - Jacko was going to join the Army but was talked into playing water polo by Pump and didn't get on the bus, instead went and boarded with Hughes. A good player and very good coach. After an absence, he attempted a comeback but tore his shoulder, which finished his career. Currently not seen around the Club; but we hope to get him back.

Rick Wolozny - An original member who came from Flotsam. A major contributor in and out of the pool. A goal keeper still playing Masters in 2017; and a generous sponsor via his company Trident Insurance.

Jason Shaw - Started as a junior, then played A grade and in state teams. He had a critical role as treasurer when the club was effectively insolvent. As captain of the Quarter Century team; Jason did it all, including meeting his wife poolside and taking her to the club's 25th Anniversary Dinner!

Rob Cullingford - Good, solid club man. Wonderful premiership player who has gone on to coach juniors; including his daughters' teams, to grand finals/premierhips and to instil the right values into his charges. Rob also spent time as a volunteer-doctor in PNG. A nurturing club member along with his wife Sally. A highlight for Rob was playing his last game of A grade, age 43, together with his son David, who was playing his first, at age 15.

Jamie Kearsley - Excellent player who was best-in-pool in the first A grade premiership team. Considered by many to be the best early-era player the Club has produced.

The stability of the Club, including the Torpedoes, can also be attributed to the long term sponsorship of Peter Hughes' APIL Group, and Rick Wolozny's Trident Insurance Group, as well as various benefactors and members with entrepreneurial skills involved in fund raising and deal making.

What Club Members value about City Beach

Michael Hopkins:

I have played the most games for the Club, with over 800; and I probably couldn't have achieved that playing in the field where there is more wear and tear on the body. I played 188 A grade games, and the remainder has been played gradually drifting down the grades. I've played with the same mob of blokes for many years. When the Masters' competition started about 2010, I was very lucky that City Beach had such a good group of people. I've been able to play seven years, on the trot, with a core group of the same guys.

Nic Hughes:

When you do go out you tend to hang out with your water polo mates. They're good people and you have that common interest. The feeling you get from the success of the elite team, is something you can't explain. You get a big buzz out of celebrating an achievement that big. There is nothing better than playing on someone you know is training just as hard as you. That is seriously satisfying, especially when you beat them. I love the Club and even if a top coaching job came my way in the future, I could not imagine moving to Melville, for example.

Leigh Farnell:

One of the great things about a Club with such a strong culture is that members introduce their kids to the kids of their friends; and become involved in their coaching, playing and social life. The constant is water polo. Members maintain strong bonds through travelling interstate, overseas and playing, training and socialising every week. The associations cross over into business, so the Club network is cast wide. The City Beach Club has provided a healthy environment where the distractions of too much partying or drugs are avoided. There are a lot of good people who provide example, guidance and entertainment. Kids who have grown up playing in the Club tend to stick around; their mates are those they have played with; they take on voluntary roles in the running of the facilities and organisation and so give back a bit of what they have got out of the Club. It is still a place where older players and families meet to have coffee, play and enjoy the camaraderie.

For retired elite players; and for players who worked out that the elite pathway was not for them, early in their careers; there's still competition, and they really enjoy it.



*A hard fought battle amongst the
Over 50s a few years ago ...
white hats won*

Al Marsh - Had played A grade for ten years and never played in a premiership. He subsequently won flags in various other grades, but regrets never having played in an A grade premiership. He is still enjoying playing Masters with long-time friends in the Club, and in 2017 **ended up on top of the table:**

I'm very proud of how the Club has progressed. We are now the biggest club in Australia, and had an amazingly successful year in 2016. The success of the Club can be largely attributed to Peter Hughes - he's a very good organiser of people, and a very good delegator. I just hope that if and when he goes or steps aside, there are the right people and structures in place for the Club to continue as successfully. I reckon the Saturday morning coffees served at the clubhouse from 8am after training, are the best in Perth. This may also have something to do with the camaraderie of the swimmers involved - it is a great way to start a weekend.

Despite the profile of the Torpedoes there is still plenty of grass-roots activity in the Club, but the players have something much higher to aspire to.

Bill Ramsay:

It has always been a family Club. My son and daughter played a few games, my brother still plays and I was playing up until my shoulder wouldn't allow me to play anymore. But I still get down there every now and again. I've got a lot of friends in the Club.

Peter Symons:

When players feel they're too old or lack the endeavour required for the Wednesday night senior competition; they're encouraged to play in the Tuesday night Masters' competition, where they can remain actively involved in the camaraderie and competition within the Club. It is amazing how good these 'coulda, shoulda, woulda's' are in their own minds. When the older players move to Tuesday nights, it gives some of the up-and-comers a chance to develop and show their abilities. That is the way a successful Club evolves.

Once the testosterone-driven bravado of youth evaporates, the basis of the club is made up of a cohesive, giving and talented group who are willing to assist other members. The Club started with a joint interest of water polo as a sport, but has evolved into more than that. The Club provides a culture in which people can feel comfortable to ask for advice, fellowship and support.

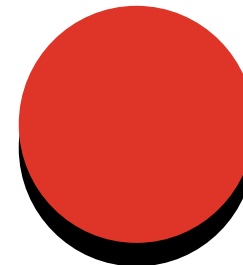
We believe the club environment can also introduce drinking to juniors, in a sensible and responsible manner. It can be done with the family involved and without excess. It is a legal and responsible introduction to an acceptable societal pastime.

Brett Barns:

My involvement with City Beach kept me on the straight and narrow as a youth; and I believe Club life is very valuable as a support for young people. My son Mitch was also a bit lost socially when he was studying medicine and I suggested he return to water polo, and he found that his mates from under 14's and 16's were still playing and he slotted back into A reserve. That friendship and camaraderie can be picked up, at any stage, in a good strong club.

Dan Toleman:

A large portion of my social life and big number of my friends are from the Club. I spend at least two days a week there so it's an integral part of my life. If you play a lot of sport you tend to socialise with guys with similar interests; and City Beach and UWA have been a big part of my life for twelve years or so. In that time, I have seen the Club move on from a relatively small one to a semi-professional organisation, and now the biggest Club in Australia by a considerable way. With the improved standard of coaching we are now producing some of the best players in Australia. And we now have access to more pool space, both at Challenge and at UWA. The facilities at the Club house have improved out of sight.



Rob Lodge - His three sons Harry, Will and Sam came up through the juniors; and he **is a great advocate for the Club** as an opportunity to make them good players, club members and citizens:

I enjoy being involved and I manage one of the boys' teams and help out organising training if required. My company, PerkinsTPD, is a sponsor of the Club. The opportunity for the boys to travel has been enormous, Will has just returned from a training camp at the Sunshine Coast and Harry has had the opportunity to go to Barcelona and Dubrovnik. For the national Club Championships the boys have travelled to Hobart, Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne.

The great influence of their peer group, who also play water polo, has been very positive. They are committed to playing and keeping fit and the peer group doesn't seem to want to dabble in the unsavoury side of social life. They still have the same youthful rebellion, but it is far more focused on their sport. The whole Club encourages that. Coaches Damian Kelly and Andrei Kovalenko have been positive influences at the Club, and some of the older boys like George Ford and Tom Rigoll offer great encouragement. There is a real connection between the younger boys and the older ones in the Club. It's a very nurturing environment and there are some great mentoring examples from parents and older members. Peter Hughes has also had a massive influence.

The boys all have different aspirations in the game, but all appreciate the environment the Club provides - as players and socially. I can't praise the Club highly enough.

Rob Cullingford:

As a player I have enjoyed all aspects of the club. I have had the opportunity to play at all levels of the sport in the Club. I have played with great players and good mates to this day. I have been blessed with playing with great friends, many from those days as a 14 year old. Hoppy, Mud and Jacko have been very long-term friends and I have enjoyed many years of success and challenges with them. The club has also been great at bringing in new players and I continue to play with these men who I consider to be my best friends. I have also had the privilege of coaching junior water polo since 2002, coaching some wonderful kids and meeting wonderful parents who have made the Club a part of their life and a great place. I hope I have instilled in these kids a love for the game, a dedication to team mates and good sportsmanship in success and failure. I've made not only friends within Australia, but friends overseas as well.

For the club to be great, it must outlive any one individual and take priority over any individual. People come and go from the club; whether they be presidents, players, coaches, parents or supporters.

The club must have a clear vision and set of values that never change and are preserved forever in order for the club to be great. I believe the City Beach structure will allow it to do that. By providing that environment, the kids are involved in a healthy activity in a supportive structure, thus reducing the involvement in less desirable activities of modern life.

Rod Davidson - Rod and Jen Davidson's two daughters Jamie and Riley have both played with the club. Rod **described the Club as playing an important part in his family's life:**

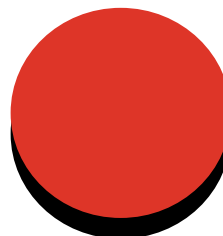
Our two girls Jamie and Riley were keen on basketball early on. Even in our first year back after seven years in Margaret River, the girls played basketball, but once they were introduced to water polo they just took to it and really enjoyed it. They were both pretty good swimmers. Both girls went through the ranks from State Junior League to eventually playing in the Torpedoes.

A lot of our social life is with Club members. In summer you're training, going to the gym and playing with those guys, and you have a few beers after games on Wednesday nights. It's natural for these club members to be those who you spend a lot of your leisure time with. It's a good mob.

Mark Enright:

Being team manager for my son's team when we beat Melville at the 14&U Boys National Competition in Perth in 2009 was such a proud occasion. Also winning (and sharing) 3 Championships (Div E/Div 4).

I have loved watching the Club grow since I was asked to join the committee; and love meeting new people with a similar passion for sport, who have since turned into lifelong friends.



The Club

The City Beach Water Polo Club was established to provide a social environment for a group of people who wanted to play water polo and have a bit of fun. The player's aspirations were to go as far as they could with their ability, but without compromising their social activities.

As the members started having children, they wanted an environment for their families to become involved in a healthy, team-orientated environment. It was important to

have numbers of players, whatever their capability, so that there was a feeling of wanting to belong to the Club. It has been important that each age cohort is supported to prevent friends from moving away from the sport and the Club. The Club encouraged teams to play members of the same age up through the grades, until the elite level. That way, friends who started together continue together. By providing that environment, the kids are involved in a healthy activity in a supportive structure, hopefully reducing their involvement in less desirable activities of modern life.

The Club can be proud that it has achieved these objectives, and more; it is now considered the premier water polo club in Australia when measured by membership numbers and playing achievements.



The 2018 AGM

A Final Word

The founders of City Beach could not possibly have imagined what started as a lot of fun and excitement forty years ago; could today be a major Australian sporting club offering so many services to its 800 members aged from 7 – 67 years.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time with the Club, particularly the earlier years when it was the hub of social entertainment for so many people. We have read earlier that members have forged lifelong friendships and even quite a few marriages have emanated through the Club association.

The stories and record of achievements mentioned in this book bring back the fondest memories. It would be hard to imagine a world without this Club and its colourful characters.

Today, the Club has risen to the challenge of offering high quality services to the demanding local sporting community. Gone are the days of volunteers coaching; today it is all user-paid service which has elevated the Club to being a leader within the Australian Water Polo community. This was my vision and I am proud that it has been successful.

A lot has been said about my role. I have given the Club a great deal of service for a very long time and have always put the club first. This has not been popular with members pursuing their own interests. I have been referred to as a dictator but those that know me better realise that the tough calls were always for the Club's benefit.

UWA City Beach is now positioned to continue as a powerhouse well into the future. I trust that current and future members will build on what has been achieved in the past 40 years, with great pride.

Peter 'Pumper' Hughes

Tables

	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER	MEN'S CAPTAIN	MEN'S COACH	WOMEN'S CAPTAIN	WOMEN'S COACH	JUNIOR CO-ORDINATOR
1979/80	O'KEEFE Stephen	EDWARDS Chris	BOYS Alan	HUGHES Peter	MALONEY John	WOLOZNY Karen		HUGHES Peter
1980/81	ANDERSON Charles	EDWARDS Chris	PAULY Joanne	HUGHES Peter	GERRITZEN Jim	EWERS Joanne		HUGHES Peter
1981/82	O'KEEFE Stephen	SMITH Leigh	SYPHERS Warwick	HUGHES Peter	GERRITZEN Jim	WHITE Anna		HUGHES Peter
1982/83	SMITH Peter	RAMSAY William	SYPHERS Warwick	HUGHES Peter	GERRITZEN Jim	WHITE Anna		HUGHES Peter
1983/84	ALLEN Geoff	SYPHERS Warwick	WEAVER Graham	HUGHES Peter	GERRITZEN Jim	DAVIS Felicity		HUGHES Peter
1984/85	ALLEN Geoff	DAVIS Felicity	SYPHERS Warwick	JACKSON Hadyn	GERRITZEN Jim	MELE Marie-ann		HUGHES Peter
1985/86	HUGHES Peter	DAVIS Felicity	SYPHERS Warwick	HOBBS Kevin	POWERS Ray	McCLOY Wendy		JONES Alan
1986/87	RAMSAY William	DAVIS Felicity	WOLOZNY Rick	HOBBS Kevin	KEARSLEY Jamie	McCANN Felicity		RAMSAY William
1987/88	RAMSAY William	DAVIS Felicity	WOLOZNY Rick	JACKSON Hadyn	HENDRIX Pim	McCANN Felicity		RAMSAY William
1988/89	RAMSAY William	RECHICHI Danny	HOPKINS Michael	HUGHES Peter	HUGHES Peter	EARNSHAW Anna		BLENKINGSOP Martin
1989/90	RAMSAY William	RECHICHI Danny	HOPKINS Michael	FARNELL Leigh	HENDRIX Pim	JAMES Brigitte		RAMSAY William
1990/91	FARNELL Leigh	LANG Andrew	HOPKINS Michael	SYMONS , P GARVEY, R	RECHICHI Danny	GILBERT Linda		RAMSAY William
1991/92	FARNELL Leigh	DOWD Melissa	LANG Andrew	SYMONS Peter	HURLEY Geoff	TURNER Natalie	MIRANDA Wayne	PAINI Anthony
1992/93	RAMSAY William	SMITH Leigh	LANG Andrew	PEARCE Danny	JACKSON Hadyn	GILBERT Linda		PAINI Anthony
1993/94	RAMSAY William	SMITH Leigh	LANG Andrew	PAINI Anthony	JONES Greg	GILBERT Linda		PAINI Anthony
1994/95	RAMSAY William	SMITH Leigh	LANG Andrew	PAINI Anthony	JONES Greg	HADLEY Claire		RAMSAY William
1995/96	RAMSAY William	SMITH Leigh	SANDOVER Richard	TREW Grant	JONES Greg	HADLEY Claire		RAMSAY William
1996/97	SMITH Leigh	WATSON Meg	HUGHES Peter	TREW Grant	JONES Greg	HADLEY Claire	MASON Mark	RECHICHI Claire
1997/98	GILBERT Linda	HASSON Julie	HUGHES Peter	LANG Andrew	KEARSLEY Jamie	WATSON Meg	MASON Mark	MARSH Allan
1998/99	GARVEY Russell	MELONCELLI Gemma	HUGHES Peter	LANG Andrew	ARANCINI Peter	PODMORE Stephanie	JONES Greg	MARSH Allan
1999/00	GARVEY Russell	PODMORE Stephanie	LANG Andrew	GEORGE Matt	GIBSON Colin	HAWKES Kerrie	JONES Greg	MARSH Allan
2000/01	O'KEEFE Stephen	PODMORE Stephanie	SHAW Jason	GEORGE Matt	SHAW Jason	HADLEY Gemma	TREW Grant	O'KEEFE Stephen
2001/02	O'KEEFE Stephen	MORRIS Alison	SHAW Jason	Vacant	JONES Greg	HADLEY Gemma	BROOKS Eddie	O'KEEFE Stephen
2002/03	O'KEEFE Stephen	MORRIS Alison	SHAW Jason	CONTESSI John	LIGGINS Charlie	HADLEY Gemma	MORELLI Gerry	HADLEY Zoe
2003/04	O'KEEFE Stephen	MORRIS Alison	SHAW Jason	CONTESSI John	LIGGINS Charlie	RECHICHI Claire	RECHICHI Claire	KRZUS Mike
2004/05	O'KEEFE Stephen	MORRIS Alison	SHAW Jason	Vacant	RECHICHI Danny	Vacant	RECHICHI Claire	KRZUS Mike
2005/06	O'KEEFE Stephen	MORRIS Alison	MODRA Gemma	Vacant	McPHEE Michael	Vacant	RECHICHI Claire	KRZUS Mike
2006/07	O'KEEFE Stephen	MORRIS Alison	MARSH Simon	Vacant	O'KEEFE Stephen	Vacant	RECHICHI Claire	KRZUS Mike
2007/08	KRZUS Mike	MORRIS Alison	MARSH Simon	Vacant	JACKSON Hadyn	Vacant	RECHICHI Claire	HUGHES Peter
2008/09	KRZUS Mike	MORRIS Alison	MARSH Simon	Vacant	JACKSON Hadyn	Vacant	KING Andy	HUGHES Peter
2009/10	KRZUS Mike	MORRIS Alison	ENRIGHT Mark	ROWTON Elliott	KOVALENKO Andrei	Vacant	KING Andy	SANGSTER Adele
2010/11	HUGHES Peter	HERLIHY Stephen	ENRIGHT Mark	ROWTON Elliott	KOVALENKO Andrei	Vacant	KING Andy	THOMPSON Cassandra
2011/12	HUGHES Peter	HERLIHY Stephen	ENRIGHT Mark	ROWTON Elliott	KOVALENKO Andrei	Vacant	KING Andy	THOMPSON Cassandra
2012/13	HUGHES Peter	VITTINO Jackie	ENRIGHT Mark	TOLEMAN Daniel	KOVALENKO Andrei	MORRIS Alison	KING Andy	THOMPSON Cassandra
2013/14	HUGHES Peter	VITTINO Jackie	ENRIGHT Mark	TOLEMAN Daniel	KOVALENKO Andrei	MANNING Emma	CALLAGHAN Martin	KELLY Damian
2014/15	HUGHES Peter	VITTINO Jackie	ENRIGHT Mark	TOLEMAN Daniel	KOVALENKO Andrei	LILLEYMAN Lisa	CALLAGHAN Martin	KELLY Damian
2015/16	HUGHES Peter	LIDDLE David	ENRIGHT Mark	TOLEMAN Daniel	KOVALENKO Andrei	MASON Kelle	CALLAGHAN Martin	KELLY Damian
2016/17	HUGHES Peter	LIDDLE David	ENRIGHT Mark	TOLEMAN Daniel	KOVALENKO Andrei	MASON Kelle	SCHWEICKLE Scott	KELLY Damian
2017/18	HUGHES Peter	LIDDLE David	ENRIGHT Mark	TOLEMAN Daniel	THOMPSON Brent & QUINLIVAN Luke	SIMSON Michelle	SCHWEICKLE Scott	KELLY Damian

	P D Hughes Trophy Most Outstanding Junior Boy	Kylie English Trophy Most Outstanding Junior Girl	C A Edwards Perpetual Shield Male Fairest and Best 'A' Grade	The Ramsay Trophy Female Fairest and Best 'A' Grade	
1979/80	Haydn Jackson		Pim Hendix	Maureen King	1979/80
1980/81	Jamie Kearsley		Jim Gerritzen	Karen Wolozny	1980/81
1981/82	Robert Cullingford		Jim Gerritzen	Felicity Davis	1981/82
1982/83	Michael Hopkins		Jim Gerritzen	Sandra Lavers	1982/83
1983/84	Dean Jones		Jim Gerritzen	Sandra Lavers	1983/84
1984/85	Greg Jones		Pim Hendix	Donna Hill	1984/85
1985/86	Greg Jones		Jerry Birmingham	Felicity McCann	1985/86
1986/87	Bradley Hopkins		Pim Hendix	Felicity McCann	1986/87
1987/88	Jason Shaw		Jamie Kearsley	Gina Pethick	1987/88
1988/89	Andrew Fidge		Alan Anderson	Maureen King	1988/89
1989/90	Darren Beeston		Colin Braund	Natalie Turner	1989/90
1990/91	Elliott Rowton		Michael Hopkins	Donna Coghlan	1990/91
1991/92	Matthew Shaw		Jamie Kearsley	Joanne Lunt	1991/92
1992/93	Grant Patterson		Brad Hopkins	Claire Hadley	1992/93
1993/94	David Longshaw		Alan Taylor	Joanne Lunt	1993/94
1994/95	Lochlan Anderson		Alan Taylor	Rachel Donnellan	1994/95
1995/96	Gemma Hadley		Alan Taylor	Claire Hadley	1995/96
1996/97	Jamie Rhodes		Alan Taylor	Claire Rechichi (Hadley)	1996/97
1997/98	Jamie Rhodes	Gemma Hadley	Alan Taylor	Claire Rechichi	1997/98
1998/99	Tom Jasper		Alan Taylor	Kylie English	1998/99
1999/00	Luke Quinlivan	Zoe Hadley	Garrett Head	Gemma Hadley	1999/00
2000/01	James Rogers	Zoe Hadley	Charlie Liggins	Gemma Hadley	2000/01
2001/02	James Rogers	Kate Jasper	Charlie Liggins	Gemma Hadley	2001/02
2002/03	Justin O'Keefe	Felicity Trend	Charlie Liggins	Zoe Hadley	2002/03
2003/04	Ben McCleery	Emily Walker	Charlie Liggins	Gemma Hadley	2003/04
2004/05	Ben McCleery	Alex Marsh	Charlie Liggins	Claire Rechichi	2004/05
2005/06	Troy O'Keefe	Alex Marsh	Dave Will	Gemma Hadley	2005/06
2006/07	Troy O'Keefe	Claire Pierce	Dave Will	Gemma Hadley	2006/07
2007/08	Henry Brown		Mitchal Ainsworth	Claire Rechichi	2007/08
2008/09	Phillip Salter	Eloise Pierce	Phil Stroud	Zoe Hadley	2008/09
2009/10	Dimitri Stamatis	Eloise Pierce	Sasha Kovalenko	Gemma Hadley	2009/10
2010/11	Tom Sangster	Adelaide Garland	Brett McCleve	Claire Rechichi	2010/11
2011/12	Fraser Smith	Casey Rushforth	Jo Balczer	Jess Reynolds	2011/12
2012/13	Lachlan Pethick	Dayna O'Leary	Nic Hughes	Gemma Hadley	2012/13
2013/14	Jed Thompson	Claire Durston	Fraser Smith	Alex Hughes	2013/14
2014/15	William Lantzke	Madi Rigo	Nic Hughes	Alex Hughes / Perri Thompson	2014/15
2015/16	Christian Kyriakou	Amy Wylde	Milos Vukicevic	Dayna O'Leary	2015/16
2016/17	Matthew Murphy	Glenda Morgan	Florian Naroska	Tess Hosking	2016/17
2017/18	Campbell McAullay	Jamie Cannon	Tim Putt	Ayssa Diacono	2017/18

LIFE MEMBERS

1989	Hughes	Peter
1994	Ramsay	William
1998	Smith	Leigh
1998	Rechichi	Danny
2004	Marsh	Alan
2006	O'Keefe	Stephen
2007	Morris	Alison
2014	Farnell	Leigh
2014	Symons	Peter

BEST CLUB MEMBER - POLO BEAR OF THE YEAR**SENIOR POLO BEAR**

1979/80	Hughes	Peter
1980/81	Hughes	Peter
1981/82	Thomson	Ian
1982/83	Syphers	Warwick
1983/84	Davis	Felicity
1984/85	Jones	Greg
1985/86	Hobbs	Kevin
1986/87	Hobbs	Kevin
1987/88	James	Brigitte
1988/89	Rechichi	Danny
1989/90	Rechichi	Danny
1990/91	Rechichi	Danny
1991/92	Paini	Anthony
1992/93	Paini	Anthony
1993/94	Smith	Leigh
1994/95	Rechichi	Claire
1995/96	Rechichi	Claire
1996/97	Hughes	Peter
1997/98	Smith	Leigh
1998/99	Podmore	Stephanie
1999/00	Marsh	Allan
2000/01	Hadley	Gemma
2001/02	Hadley	Fran
2002/03	Marsh	Allan
2003/04	Morris	Alison
2004/05	Hadley	Zoe
2005/06	Morris	Alison
2006/07	Krzus	Mike
2007/08	Sangster	Adele
2008/09	Paterson	Grant
2009/10	Rowton	Elliott
2010/11	MacDonald	Ross
2011/12	O'Leary	Coco
2012/13	Gleeson	Margie
2013/14	Vittino	Jackie
2014/15	Enright	Mark
2015/16	Lilleyman	Paul
2016/17	Rigo	Fia
2017/18	Marshall	Maryanne

JUNIOR POLO BEAR

2012/13	Manning	Pierce
2013/14	Lilleyman	Drew
2014/15	Purvis	Georgina
2015/16	not	awarded
2016/17	Rasmussen	Sophie
2017/18	Rasmussen	Samantha

NATIONAL AGED CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS - GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE MEDAL WINNING TEAMS

National Aged Club Championships began in 2006 City Beach Water Polo Club first entered teams in 2006

Year	Month	Venue	Gender	Age Group	Age	Team Name	Place	No of teams	Coach	Manager
2008	April	Sydney	Boys	Under 14	1994	City Beach Bears	SILVER	14	Peter Hughes	Mark Enright
2009	April	Perth	Boys	Under 14	1995	City Beach Bears	GOLD	13	Alan Taylor	Mark Enright
2012	April	Canberra	Boys	Under 18	1994	UWA Torpedoes Blue	GOLD	14	Andrei Kovalenko	Derek Smith
2014	April	Brisbane	Boys	Under 14	2000	City Beach Bears	SILVER	25	Damian Kelly	Glen Ruscoe
2014	April	Perth	Boys	Under 18	1996	UWA Torpedoes Blue	SILVER	16	Andrei Kovalenko	Michelle Quinsee
2015	April	Gold Coast	Boys	Under 14	2001	City Beach Bears	GOLD	29	Damian Kelly	Jane Maurich
2015	April	Adelaide	Boys	Under 18	1997	City Beach Bears	GOLD	16	Andrei Kovalenko	Michelle Quinsee
2015	October	Hobart	Boys	Under 16	1999	City Beach Bears	GOLD	26	Andrei Kovalenko	Dennis Garbutt - Wilkins
2016	March	Gold Coast	Boys	Under 14	2002	City Beach Bears	GOLD	28	Damian Kelly	Clare Barber
2016	April	Perth	Boys	Under 18	1998	City Beach Bears	GOLD	13	Brent Thompson	Florian Naroska
2016	October	Brisbane	Boys	Under 16	2000	UWA City Beach Bears	SILVER	29	Andrei Kovalenko	Maryanne Marshall
2017	April	Albury	Boys	Under 14	2003	UWA City Beach Bears	BRONZE	31	Damian Kelly	Mark Mason
2017	April	Perth	Boys	Under 18	1999	UWA City Beach Torpedoes	SILVER	18	Andrei Kovalenko	Jackie Vittino
2017	October	Sydney	Boys	Under 16	2001	UWA City Beach Bears	GOLD	31	Andrei Kovalenko	Tony Rowbottam
2018	March	Canberra	Boys	Under 18	2000	UWA City Beach Bears (B01)	GOLD	13	Andrei Kovalenko	Tony Rowbottam

THE O'KEEFE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING TEAM CONTRIBUTION

2001/02	C Grade Men	John Contessi
2002/03	A Grade Women	Claire Rechichi
2003/04	C Grade Men	John Contessi
2004/05	D Grade Men	Brad Mellen
2005/06	A Grade Women	Gemma Hadley
2006/07	A Grade Women	Gemma Hadley
2007/08	Women's 30+ World Masters Team	
2008/09	C Grade Boys	Michael Hinchley
2009/10	Division 2 Men	Brad Mellen
2010/11	A Grade Women	Gemma Hadley
2011/12	A Grade Women	Gemma Hadley
2012/13	Division 2 Men (Bears)	Michael Hopkins
2013/14	Division 2 Men (Bears)	Michael Hopkins
2014/15	Division 3 Women (Sisters)	Lisa Lilleyman
2015/16	Men's Premier League	Luke Quinlivan
2016/17	Division 3 Men (Bears)	Michael Hopkins
2017/18	A Reserve (PCs and Mac Equity Bulls)	Dan Toleman / Alex Krzus

SENIOR GAMES PLAYED AS AT 30 APRIL 2018

SENIOR MEN						SENIOR WOMEN			
700+		200+		100+		100+		400+	
755	HOPKINS Michael	296	PATERSON Grant	192	WATTS Michael	117	SMITH Mark	461	MORRIS (HADLEY) Alison
600+		291	HOBBS Kevin	190	GEORGE Matthew	117	FLINT Lloyd	421	RECHICHI (HADLEY) Claire
677	RAMSAY Robert	289	LIGGINS Charles	184	HARDIE David	116	SMITH Connor	406	JACKSON (GILBERT) Linda
634	CONTESSI John	284	SHAW Jason	184	TERRY Matt	115	JASPER Thomas	300+	
623	MARSH Allan	280	EASTON Christopher	183	PATTIARATCHI Charitha	115	SYMES Tony	323	HADLEY Gemma
500+		270	HALLIDAY Michael	181	TAYLOR Peter	115	BRAUND Colin	321	STENHOUSE (HADLEY) Zoe
583	HUGHES Peter	269	PAINI Anthony	177	FARABEGOLI Fabian	115	BROWN Ryan	200+	
576	WHITING Richard	266	IRELAND Rosh	177	PEARSON Todd	113	LEWIS Todd	293	McCANN (DAVIS) Felicity
568	CULLINGFORD Robert	259	SHAW Mathew	176	O'TOOLE James	112	SANGSTER Thomas	260	MODRA Gemma
564	SMITH Leigh	258	PATERSON Greg	175	WISKEN Stephen	111	ERBE James	216	GILBERT Tricia
555	LANG Andrew	255	MARSH Simon	174	CAZOLLI Rick	111	COOK Stephen	207	JASPER Kate
536	IRELAND Mark	252	ROBINSON Stephen	166	HENDERSON Daniel	111	HUGHES Nicholas	200	AVINS Janelle
528	KOSKI Glen	251	HINCHLEY Michael	162	ESZE Tom	111	DOWNES Brendan	100+	
511	WOLOZNY Rick	251	RHODES Jamie	159	HENDRIX Pim	111	COOPER Timothy	176	WAGNER Anna
400+		246	TREW Grant	158	ANDERSON Charles	109	TROTTER Rory	162	KING Maureen
487	BUTTSWORTH Jeremy	243	CONTESSI Todd	157	CULLINGFORD Daniel	109	BROWN Henry	154	CARROLL Tracey
485	GARVEY Russell	238	TAYLOR Alan	152	ROBERTS Kevin	108	HANCOCK Bradley	153	WATSON Sarah
485	MASON Mark	237	KRZUS Michael	152	BALCZER Jozsef	108	SMITH Fraser	149	KEARSLEY (BRAY) Lisa
468	RIGO Mark	236	McCLEERY Ben	148	TODD Andrew	108	VITTINO Ben	140	ENSLEY Leanne
449	FARNELL Leigh	235	EASTON Peter	148	SAGGERS Richard	107	FELGATE Lawrence	137	TREND Felicity
436	SMITH Brian	232	ULLRICH Michael	146	BURTON Kim	106	TIMMERMANS Phillip	135	MAJOR (LEE) Anna
416	VITTINO Ric	232	LOVE John	145	O'KEEFE Justin	106	ROWE Michael	131	MARSH Alex
409	JACKSON Haydn	232	MICHAEL Chris	143	TATE Gregory	105	STUBBER Raymond	128	McGUINNESS Hayley
300+		232	ENRIGHT Mark	142	KRZUS Alexander	105	RICH Paul	127	WHITE Anna
390	PATEMAN Brett	230	PEARCE Daniel	140	LUDBROOK Ty	105	MARANO Robert	123	JASPER Susie
377	SANDOVER Richard	216	BRIDGLAND Murray	140	MEYER Andrew	103	FIDGE Andrew	121	BROCK Arrie
373	JONES Gregory	215	DAVIS Michael	139	GREGORY Thomas	102	DAVIS Nicholas	120	GARRICK Alyssa
370	DAVIDSON Rodney	214	GREEN Timothy	137	STAMATIS Dimitri	102	JONES Anthony	115	COUGHLAN (HILL) Donna
365	RECHICHI Danny	212	CULLINGFORD David	135	MALONE David	102	GELDART Graeme	115	JAMES Bridgett
365	STACY Matthew	211	PATTERSON Phillip	135	CAMERON Brett	102	McPHEE Michael	107	BRADSHAW (MARSH) Peta
360	HUTCHINSON Craig	207	MAINSTONE Greg	135	CHRISTIENSEN Lee			104	O'CONNOR Margaret
358	MELLEN Brad	205	WEDD Colin	133	McGURK Shane			104	SLY Nicole
355	FISHER Geoffery	204	GOW Mark	132	PHILLIPS Simon			100	HAWKES Kerry
354	LANG David	202	MICKLE Gregory	128	WATSON Anthony				
352	KEARSLEY James	202	STANTON Michael	127	LARBALESTIER Robert				
343	HOPKINS Bradley	100+		124	HALLEEN Andrew				
336	O'KEEFE Stephen	199	TOLEMAN Daniel	124	JONES Dean				
330	SYMONS Peter	199	LITTLE David	124	LITTLE Peter				
330	LILLEYMAN Paul	197	MORRIS Geoff	122	SANDOVER Kim				
317	RAMSAY William	195	WESTOLL Mervyn	120	BEVIS John				
306	ROWTON Elliott	195	MALCOLM Paul	119	ANDERSON Lachlan				
301	BARNS Brett	192	HARDISTY Ian	118	BLAKE John				

DUNNY SEAT

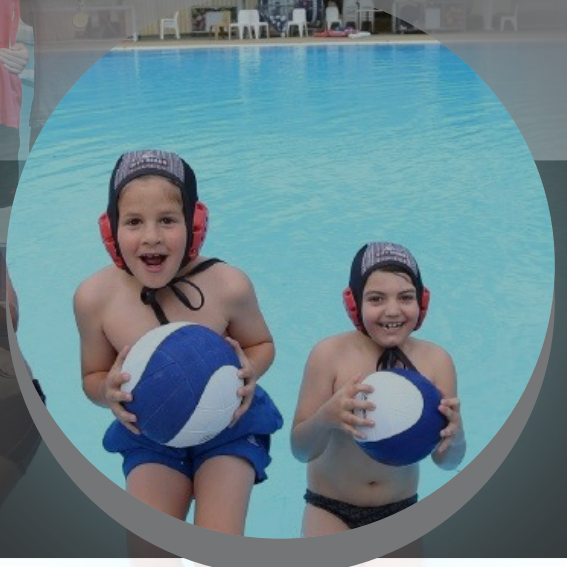
1978-1979	
1979-1980	Mauler' Mick Gunn
1979-1980	Mauler' Mick Gunn
1980-1981	Al 'Masher" Marsh
1981-1982	Basher' Bill Ramsay
1982-1983	Deadly' Doc Davis
1983-1984	Nasty' Nick Darin
1984-1985	Danny 'KO' Rechichi
1985-1986	Whacker' Wayne Davies
1986-1987	
1987-1988	Angy 'Ant' Jones
1988-1989	Kevin 'Hitman' Hobbs
1989-1990	Rob 'Tractor' Ramsay
1990-1991	
1991-1992	
1992-1993	Claire Hadley /Malicious Mills v Jabber Jones fight (won F&B same year!)
1993-1994	Danny 'OK' Rechichi
1994-1995	Rough' Robbie Cullingford (in jest)
1995-1996	Phil 'Toughy' Timmerman
1996-1997	C 'Squirrel' O'Keefe
1997-1998	Symonds v Michael
1998-1999	
1999-2000	
2000-2001	Matt 'pumpkin soup' Shaw
2001-2002	
2002-2003	Harvey 'head butt' Smith
2003-2004	Janelle 'juggernaut' Avins
2004-2005	
2005-2006	Brad 'mouth' Mellen
2006-2007	Paul 'cracker' Lilleyman and Phil 'cracker' Lilleyman
2007-2008	Lawrence 'thrasher' Felgate
2008-2009	Danny 'KO' Rechichi
2009-2010	Jo 'scouser' Farrell
2010-2011	Big Bad Brad Hopkins
2011-2012	Danny 'polo pants' Rechichi
2012-2013	Dan 'KO' Pearce
2013-2014	Richard 'snap' Erbe
2014-2015	Matil 'stop or else' Connor
2015-2016	Daniel 'how high' Henderson
2016-2017	Ian 'not again' Hardisty
2017-2018	

AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVES

Australian Senior Men		Australian Senior Women	
GERRITZEN Jim	1982-83	LAVERS Sandra	1983
TAYLOR Allan	1996	ENGLISH Kylie	1997
AINSWORTH Mitchal	2006-07	RECHICHI Claire	1999
FORD George	2015 -	HADLEY Gemma	2004-08
FORD Andrew	2016 -	O'LEARY Dayna	2017
PUTT Tim	2017 -		

Australian Junior Men		Australian Junior Women	
KEARSLEY Jamie	1981	RECHICHI Claire	1993-94
JONES Greg	1985-86	MODRA Gemma	1999
BOGUNOVICH Alex	2014	HADLEY Gemma	2000-01
PETHICK Lach	2014	HADLEY Zoe	1999-03
PUTT Tim	2016-17	AINSWORTH Catherine	2005-08
THOMPSON Jed	2016	PIERCE Claire	2007-08
VOS Lachlan	2016-17	O'LEARY Dayna	2017
KYRIAKOU Christian	2016-17	HOSKING Tess	2017
WILLIAMS Damian	2017		

Australian University Men		Australian University Women	
SHAW Jason	1993	n/a	
FORD George	2013		
HUGHES Nic	2013/17		
FORD Andrew	2013/15		
SMITH Fraser	2013		
PETHICK Lach	2015		



The history of
City Beach
Water Polo Club

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