



# **Drummoyne Water Polo Club**

## **Annual Report**

**2011-12**



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## DWPC Sponsors

On behalf of the Drummoyne Water Polo Club members and supporters thanks you to our sponsors. Without the support of our major sponsors, cap sponsors and supporters we could not deliver the DWPC water polo program.



A special thanks to Patrick, Craig and everyone at our major sponsor PJ Gallagher's Drummoyne. Thanks to Birkenhead Point Shopping Centre and Abacus Group for sponsoring the Club's Junior Development Program. Thanks again to our sponsors Renascent Construction, Datapharm Australia, James Tuite & Associate Lawyers, Australian Structural Steel and the City of Canada Bay who have all been great supporters for a number of years.



### PJ Gallagher's

Thanks to Patrick Gallagher for his ongoing support this last season. PJ's is a great location for your next birthday party or to get together for a meal and some refreshments after work.

### Birkenhead Point Outlet Centre

Thanks to Birkenhead Point Outlet Centre who is the major sponsor of the Junior Development Program. Birkenhead Point is Sydney's number one outlet and shopping centre.



### Datapharm

Datapharm Australia is well known in the industry for its role in managing clinical trials and for the niche data management services that it offers. This includes an emphasis on technology applications for clinical trials, programming and a strong statistics team to design studies and perform the statistical analysis.



### LPC Renascent Construction

Renascent provide a wide range of constructions services. They are a committed team of building professionals that assist clients with their property decisions, project planning, design management and construction of their building or fit-out project.



### City of Canada Bay

Thanks to Angelo, Gary and all the team at the City of Canada Bay for their ongoing support.



### James Tuite & Associates Lawyers

For your conveyancing, sale or purchase of a business, commercial advice or litigation needs, contact James Tuite for the right advice.



### Australian Wrought Iron Design & Australian Structural Steel

Contact Paul Mirabito and the team at Australian Wrought Iron & Australian Structural Steel if you need any metal work. From window grills to the Harbour Bridge, Paul won't let you down.

Thanks also to all our National League cap sponsors for their ongoing support.

***and a huge thank you to our number one sponsors – the parents and friends of Drummoyne Water Polo Club.***

## Office Bearers 2011-12

President*	Michael Hahn
Secretary*	Michael Young
Treasurer*	Kevin Prout
Player Liaison & NSWWPI Metrop Rep*	David Baxter
Sales & Marketing*	James Brennan
Ladies Water Polo Director	Tracey Mirabito
Mens Water Polo Director	Tony Watson
National League Director	Randall Polivka
Womens Club Captain	Nicola Murphy
Mens Club Captain	Fraser Foristal
Junior Development	Andrew Murray
Operations Manager	Mark Simpson
Communications	Peter McGraw
Registrar	Dave Bushell
Referees	Arthur Fogarty
Apparel	Lynn Hahn
Equipment Manager	Peter Corbett

\* Position is an Executive Committee role

## Presidents Report

Congratulations to all the players and coaches on a fantastic season. Season 2011-2012 was another successful season with some fantastic achievements in and out of the water.....What a great way to cap off the season with three Drummoyne Devils in the Australian Olympic squad with Aidan Roach going all the way to London 2012 Olympics to become our first Olympian. Congratulations to Aussie Samuele Avallone and John Hahn for their efforts to make the final cut. They also found time to coach, train and organise the very successful inaugural Derby Day. All the best to AJ who played his first game of water polo in 1999 as a nine year old and his next will be at the 2012 London Olympics as Australian Water Polo Olympian #105 and Drummoyne Water Polo Club Olympian #1.



**AIDAN 'AJ' ROACH**  
**AUSTRALIAN TEAM LONDON 2012 OLYMPICS**

It has been a highly successful season with a National title, two NSW Club Championships, five summer premierships and NL finals. We entered uncharted territory hosting the NSW U16 Club Championships and the feedback from all quarters has been outstanding with the entire water polo community very complimentary and delighted that we put our hand up as a host. To everyone involved in the tournament a huge thank you to you and the 120 plus volunteers who worked tirelessly.

Congratulations to Shannan Martin, Stephanie Calaizis and Fiona Walsh on their selection in the AUS B94 team

Congratulations to Kaitlyn Laycock and Sam Stanton on their selection in the AUS B96 team

Congratulations to James Smith, Rowan Farrell and Steven Xenakis on their selection in the AUS B96 squad.

Congratulations to Fiona Walsh, Ellen Hahn and James Smith on their selection in the AUS Schools teams.

Congratulations to all the winners of the awards. It's great that we are able to recognise the efforts and success of our members. A special pat on the back to Isabella Mercuri whose work in and out of the water was recognised as the winner of the Garry Nicholls Junior of the Year and Wendy Tuite who won the Michael Corry Clubman of the Year Award.

I would like to congratulate everyone who achieved representative selection. Congratulations to the 76 Drummoyne members selected to compete, manage or coach at various levels of water polo from primary schools to the Olympics.

Just recapping the 2011-12 season highlights:

- Australian U18 Girls Champions;
- NSW U18 and U20 Girls Champions;
- JDP in its 12<sup>th</sup> season – over 1,100 participants;
- 29 teams – 10 junior, 17 senior, 2 NL teams;
- 20 teams qualified for finals 5 premierships, 6 silver medals;
- NSW Club Championship – 1<sup>st</sup> U20 & U18 girls, 2<sup>nd</sup> U18 boys;
- Australian Club Championship 1<sup>st</sup> U18 girls boys 13<sup>th</sup>, U16 girls 2<sup>nd</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>, U16 boys 6<sup>th</sup>, U14 girls 9<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> U14 boys;
- Australian representatives 5 senior, 8 junior & youth and 1 Olympian; and
- Social events swimathon, LML, Red Ball with a twist - our own citizenship ceremony.

Thanks to our inaugural water polo directors Tony Watson and Tracey Mirabito who both did a great job in the first season in these roles. To our inaugural Club Captains an honour bestowed on Nicola Murphy and Fraser Foristal who did a sensational job and I'm pleased to say will be continuing in the role for another season. The Clubs juniors ranks continue to grow with the girls and boys teams having their share of success while the Clubs Men's and Women's lower grade sides continued to provide an opportunity for social water polo and for some juniors to gain invaluable experience.

Without the commitment week in week out by the managers, coaches, referees and all the volunteers it would not have been possible to run the Ladies and Men's teams each week.

I would like to thank the team managers Alison Greig, Craig Scott, Cheryl Jones, Clare Douglas, David Parker, Di Churchyard, Gil Bennett, Ineke Gough, Jenny Tilyard, Jeanette Pittorino, Julie Taylor, Mario Crkvencic, Mary Linfield, Mitsa Mercuri, Mike Smith, Paul Steen, Phil Hayward, Rachel Horton, Rob

Laycock, Sean Rankin, Sharon Harnwell, Tony Watson, Tracey Mirabito and Wendy Tuite for all their work on pool deck. Without their commitment week in week out it would not have been possible to run the Ladies and Men's teams each week.

Thanks to Aidan, Alicia, Andrew, Bec, Bubba, Chicka, Clare, Emma, Erin, Ineke, Kelly, Matty, Murph, Simmo, and Youngy for organising the Clubs traditional grades and making sure we continue the Clubs traditions in and out of the water on Tuesday and Sunday.

Special thanks to the coaching team for their efforts especially Men's Head Coach Dmitry Gorshkov and Women's Head Coach Mitchell Scott. I would like to make special mention to the great work by both Dmitry and Mitch who both decided not to continue in these roles next season. A big thank you to all the other coaches Petar Petrovic, Andrew Maddocks, Andrew Murray, Ash Faulder, Emma Hill, Gav Aubrey, Fraser Foristal, Jenny MacGregor, Juan Ramirez, John Hahn, Emi Cranco, Milan Nestic, Kelly Conlan, Shona O'Brien and Wendy Stanton.

Thanks to all the referees, especially Arthur Fogarty for coordinating the Sunday referees, table officials, helpers and the fun police and everyone who contributed to making it happen this season.

A huge thanks to Andrew Murray for his work with the junior development program and Wendy Tuite and Armanie Ronan who did a great job administering the program and Joanne Steen who did a fantastic job promoting the School Holiday Clinic.

The club is fortunate to have a fantastic committee and I would like to thank them all for their work. The contribution made by the entire committee was again outstanding. The success in recent seasons would not have been possible without their contribution and I would like to thank them for their long standing service to the Club. To the strong core group of workers who support the efforts of the club, thank you for your ongoing support. This workload needs to be spread amongst the members and friends of Drummoyne Water Polo Club. Special thanks to Kerrie Emery and all her team of helpers for their fantastic work and in the Devils Kitchen's.

Looking back on the last season everyone can be very proud of all their efforts and I am very thankful to the long list of helpers. As the Club continues to flourish and grow the requirements on the Clubs infrastructure expands. This requires both financial and people resources, something that we take for granted. The Club has made a huge investment developing the water polo program our players and pool space for them to train and play. We need more people to step up and contribute on pool deck as coaches, referees, managers, to secure funding etc otherwise the growth of the club cannot continue and the number of teams we enter will be a reflection on the available resources. Drummoyne continues to grow in its standing in the Australian water polo community. If we're to maintain this position we need to spread the workload and this can only happen if we have more helpers.

Out of the water the Drummoyne Club continues to excel providing the young and not so young an insight into life skills. Whether it's a full house for the Life Members lunch, Red Ball, swimathon, great crowds at Derby Day, Club and National League games, on the road at State and National tournaments, Cans by Candlelight, Wild West Tour, Manning Mug, Raymond Terrace, Club Presentation and Winter luncheon the traditional culture of Drummoyne Water Polo Club shines through.

Financially it was a par year with sponsorship down but our income was bolstered with the Red Ball, hosting the NSW U16 Club Championships, general trading and Club Apparel filling the void. Thanks to our eagle eye Treasurer Kevin Prout who kept us on the fiscal track with the Club returning a budget surplus, its first since joining National League in 2008.

Thanks again to our sponsors especially major sponsors PJ Gallagher's, Abacus Property Group, Birkenhead Point Shopping Centre, James Tuite & Associate Lawyers, Renascent Construction, Datapharm and the City of Canada Bay whose contribution made it possible for the club to compete at all levels. The growth of the Club sees a need for other fundraising events and revenue streams to be in place. This requires additional resources, mainly people to assist with planning and implementation of events and to help secure sponsorship.

I know everyone has their own commitments however if we are to sustain and fund our water polo activities we need help from our members and support network. I encourage all members to get involved and help make a difference to the Clubs operations

The season wound up with another huge Drummoyne effort hosting the U16 NSW Club championships over three days. 38 teams over 400 players and 120 volunteers putting in a huge effort at three pools.

In closing I would like to thank my family for their patience and support and the Club for recognising me as the newest Life Member. It is an honour and recognition I will treasure and would not have been possible without the support of my family.

Thanks again to everyone for your continued support of the Club and water polo in the Drummoyne district by the Drummoyne community. I look forward to seeing you all on pool deck. Go the Drummoyne Devils!!!

**MICHAEL HAHN**  
**PRESIDENT**

## Secretary's Report

Firstly, I would like to say that I am very proud to be a part of the Drummoyne Water Polo Club. We set a very high standard that other clubs can only wish for.

After stepping into a vacant role for one season I am still seeking out an apprentice Club Secretary. Please contact me if you are interested or even if you aren't! I'm happy to report the following activities for Drummoyne Water Polo Inc during season 2011-12.

1. New Constitution adopted at Special General Meeting;
2. Seven Committee meetings held meeting with Constitution requirements of six;
3. Secretary nominated as Public Officer to Dept of Fair Trading;
4. M Hahn honoured with Life Membership;
5. Introduction of female & male Club Captains;
6. AGM scheduled.

**MIKE YOUNG**  
**SECRETARY**

## Treasurers Report

I would now like to congratulate everyone on their wonderful contribution to bring the current year accounts into surplus.

When I first took up the role of Treasurer I expressed my concern in relation to the lack of reserves in the clubs accounts. A combination of fiscal restraint and more vigorous debt collection plus the cancellation of some expenditure and the introduction of new revenue streams has turned the accounts around.

### Key Features

#### Revenue

The revenue generated from the state U16's Championship was a pleasant surprise. The amount in the accounts is a conservative figure as it does not allow for the apparel sales or the additional bar sales.

The Golf day and the Service directory were two new streams of revenue which have the potential to improve into the future.

The Cap Sponsorship revenue improved through more consistent invoicing and the following up of outstanding amounts in a timely manner.

Other areas which performed well were the Life Members Luncheon the Red Ball and the junior development which also includes funds earned for the four week Ryde ITC course.

Areas of concern would have to be sponsorships which appear to have declined probably as a result of the poor business economic outlook. The operation or timing of the Swimathon will probably need to be reviewed; however, it was a great day for fee collection and merchandise sales.

### **Expenses**

There are some obvious big ticket items of expenditure which are relatively fixed and cannot be changed. These expenses are Australian and NSW Water Fees and charges.

The cost of hiring the pools has been partly offset by the training levy. Also the partnership deal done with MLC School helped mitigate a considerable cost increase.

Other big ticket items of expenditure are coaching fees and National league expenses. The latter has been partly offset by a travel levy.

### **Looking Forward**

I hope that my accounts have improved the level of transparency in relation to the financial operations of the club. Knowing more clearly how we stand allows the club to make informed decisions in relation to how funds should be spent and allocated. Whilst the revenue raising ability of the club is robust, funds will always be limited. We need to ensure that these limited funds are spent in the most effective way to achieve the clubs goals.

**KEVIN PROUT**

**TREASURER**

## **Functions & Events**

The Devils have had another highly successful Summer of Events in 2011-12 and the newly appointed Club Captains have taken an active role in helping organise and drive up interest in the social events at DWPC. The highlight of the season was the RED BALL which was held at La Montage in March. Over 400 guests, all looking resplendent, flocked to the waterside venue for this fantastic event, which proved to be a most successful fund-raiser. It was a glamorous night and a huge amount of planning and organisation was undertaken by the hard working committee.

The Life Members lunch was again held in August and “Sirro” and Adam Freier more than entertained the crowd. This is an event open to all members and guests and is always loads of fun.

The inaugural Devils Golf Day at Royal Massey Park was held on 14 October and proved to be a major hit. This event was well attended and is now firmly placed on the DWPC social calendar as a must attend event. Once again well done to the organisers for all their hard work.

The inaugural “Derby Day” was a massive hit at Drummoyne Pool in March. One of the largest crowds ever assembled at the pool were treated to a host of activities including: classic polo, music, DJ’s. You name it, the night had it. This will be an annual event and keep an eye out for it next season.

As always, numerous after match functions & BBQ’s were staged during the year and many thanks must go to the ladies and men in the kitchen and behind the bar and BBQ’s who make it all happen. It can be a thankless job and your support is appreciated.

We have a big year planned ahead, including the February luncheon at Darling Harbour, the swimathon and of course “Cans by Candlelight.” We look forward to support from all associated with DWPC to make these functions successful.

**JAMES BRENNAN**  
**SALES and MARKETING**

## Junior Development Report

This year’s program saw a new group of young enthusiastic boys and girls introduced to water polo. We had great support from some of our juniors who helped out each week in coaching roles. Participants were introduced to the basics skills, some tactics and had lots of fun.

The program continues to provide a good pool of players for the Sydney Metropolitan Competition with many JDP participants graduating to the clubs playing ranks.

Sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to the continued success of the program. In particular I would like to thank Wendy Tuite and all the parents and Club members for their support in the Clubroom, making all of the newcomers welcome. I would also like to thank Amanie Ronan for her wonderful efforts in promoting and administrating the School Holiday Clinic to all of the local school network as the main feeder into the Junior Development Programme on the Fridays.

**ANDREW MURRAY JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT**

## Mens Water Polo

The Drummoyne men's programme enjoyed a very successful season with only one grade from National League down to 14B boys not be represented in the play offs and 3 premiership pennants added to the club house ceiling.

Numbers in the juniors were very strong with the club entering a record number of boy's players in the summer competition. All 5 teams made the play offs and they brought home 3 titles, including our first ever 16A boy's premiership, and the U14A boys a silver medal. Our juniors also had great success in the state and national championships. The 18's winning silver at state, U16's 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state and 5<sup>th</sup> in the nationals as well as the 14's losing by a goal in the bronze medal match at their national championship.

Much of the credit for the success of our boys must go to the tireless efforts of head junior coach, Petar Petrovic. Petar has now worked for 4 years developing the skills of our junior boys, work that is being rewarded with success in the pool as well as recognition for our boys in state and national representative teams. His effort is also assisting our national league side with a number of the boys who have been through Petar's programme now involved in the club's senior team.

Last January the club added Milan Nestic to the coaching ranks. Milan, fresh from a season in Portugal, took over coaching the 14's boys and nearly grabbed a national medal in his first attempt, losing the bronze medal match in Perth by a goal. I have received many very positive reactions from both players and parents to Milan's coaching and we look forward to a long association with the big man.

The men's teams were boosted by the return of a number of senior players to both the national league and second grade sides. With this influx of quality and experience and the resultant trickle-down effect into the lower grades, big things were expected from both the Saturday and Tuesday divisions.

First division saw all three teams make the play offs with M2 winning silver medal. While a big improvement on last year there is a sense of what could have been. M1 lost a close semi to the eventual premiers, M2 were missing several starters for their grand final and M3 saved their worst for the semi. That said, we did get all teams to the play offs and blooded a number of younger players in M2 and M3 under the watchful eye of Gavin and Juan. Improved training arrangements, these grades will give the competition a shake next year.

Second division again set the standard for enjoyment and success with fifth grade as undefeated premiers and sixth grade going down in the grand final chasing kids 30 years their junior. With a better effort in ensuring players pass down from the Saturday to Tuesday playing ranks we should be able to improve on our one title this season.

This was my first year in the director's role and I thank the committee for all the support I have received while learning the role. I hope to be able to add a bit to the job this year and ensure we turn playoff berths into premiership flags.

**TONY WATSON**  
**MENS WATER POLO DIRECTOR**

## Womens Water Polo

It was my honour this year to be asked to be Water Polo Director for the Womens side of the Drummoyne Club.

The women's side this year National League was a tough season with the loss of senior players and only having one import. Congratulations to Coach Mitchell Scott who came into the season quite late and spent many hours structuring training sessions, planning the attack and defence of games. Our team had a number of young players who really stepped up to the mark and should be congratulated on their maturity in a competition that field players 10-15 years older.

In our younger teams we boast a lot of talent. Some of these girls have been with us through Junior Development and have spent a couple or more years in 14s. To all our girls in U14s and U16s well done on a great year.

The U14As were 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Sydney Comp. They came 4<sup>th</sup> in Tamworth in the State Champs and 9<sup>th</sup> in Perth at Nationals.

The U14Bs was a very fresh team for Summer a mix of girls who have watched their brothers and sisters play. They came 5<sup>th</sup> just missing out on the semi finals.

Thank you to Emma Hill and Shona O'Brien who come to training every week and coach the girls on the weekend. I am sure I speak for all the parents who would like to thank you for all your efforts. Thank you to your Managers, Wendy Tuite and Gill Bennett who are behind the scenes helping out.

The U16 Reds and Blacks both played in the A comp of the Sydney Comp both teams had quality players and although they did not reach the finals there was some fierce competition in this age group. A number of the girls went to Melbourne and played at the Nationals a fantastic experience where the girls really stepped up and came top 8.

The U18s was a large group of girls this year. A very talented bunch of girls with enormous potential. These girls won the National Club Champs a well deserved win after a lot of hard work. Congratulations girls.

Thanks to Jenny MacGregor and Wendy Stanton for a great season and their Managers, Mitsa Mercuri (18s), Rob Laycock, Di Churchyard and Sharon Harnwell. Thank you for all your help and support.

The U20s where do I begin. I was there at the start and there at the end. I have watched that team since Dave Hudson had them in U14s and we came 2<sup>nd</sup> at Taree in 2005 to winning the Gold Medal for their final time in an age Championship in U20s. It could not have been more of a spectacular finish. To all these girls I have watched you grow and mature into young ladies and most of them are still playing Water Polo at our Club. Congratulations on a spectacular year and years. I am not sure that any other Club could boast the success of this age group.

Thank you to Mitch who coached the girls for this final championship. It was a truly memorable comp.

To our other grades:

- L1 placed 5<sup>th</sup> in a very close competition.
- L2 placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in a nail biting grand final. Thank you Michael and Janette Pittorino.
- L3 (Jenny's Team) Premiers
- L3 (Red) placed 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- L4 Premiers.
- L5 (Red) 4<sup>th</sup> in the longest L5 game in history.
- L5(Black) a fun season.

I would like to thank Andrew Maddocks for all his hard work with organising of the Ladies Team L3-L5. To these teams as well who in some cases Manager and Coach themselves. They are a fundamental part of our Club and I hope you will all continue playing and contributing to the Club for many years to come.

As this has been my first year as Water Polo Director I have been ably supported by the Committee and especially Michael Hahn who I feel has been sharing the role. Thank you Michael you are very much appreciated at the Club and on behalf of the Women's side I would like to thank you for everything that you do.

This year we hosted the U16s State Championships which was held over 3 pools. Thank you to all the parents involved in the organization of this carnival which was a fantastic success and a true testament to what our Club is all about. Working together.

To anyone I have forgotten to mention I apologise. Thank you!

**TRACEY MIRABITO**  
**WOMENS WATER POLO DIRECTOR**

## Mens Club Captain

It is with immense pride that I submit the first Club Captain's Annual Report. Whilst our great Club has been in existence since 1904, this year was the first time we have had elected Club Captains.

I'm sure I speak for Nicola also in saying it was a great honour to take on this role knowing members felt we were suitable to represent them.

What is a Club Captain? I think it is an evolving role but essentially we represent the playing members as a conduit to the committee & hopefully exist as an approachable sounding board for ideas & issues.

Whilst our Club has changed greatly since my first year in 1983, & most noticeably in the last ten years, the most important thing about Our Club is the culture of it. I see the retention of our culture as the most important thing I can do as CC.

What is our Culture? Let me take you back. When I joined DWP, our "Clubhouse" was a tiny fibro shed that sat at the Rowing Club end of the pool perched over the bay. All our teams shared it, with only one team able to fit in at any time.

Our few trophies shared pride of place on top of the school locker at one end with paraphernalia for the next "Disco" coming up. Discos were essential, (not to mention infamous) in order to pay for equipment etc.

If you don't believe they were big, ask your parents if you were possibly conceived after Bodyline or Callan Park.

The Club competed in Men's & Women's Comps in 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, meaning we played only Tuesdays (M) & Sundays (W). We left Saturdays for the more serious. Playing Saturdays interfered with going out Fridays or organising another Disco.

We were a **very** social club. That social fabric was woven together by people like Bill & Rob Priest, Rod & Gary West, Darren Spooner, James Brennan, Mike Young, Dave Henricks, Kerry Sunderland, Sue Ashton (nee Tuite) & Wendy & Karren Morrison, among others.

The Club wasn't just a vehicle to play water polo, it was part of our identity. We grew up in it. It was & is like family. That's why it's easy for me to give back to the Club, because The Club has given me so much.

We would play our games hard but just as important was the beer & chat afterwards. When Joe Tonner (the Pool Lessee) would return from another bout with the one armed bandits at The Rowers, he would turf us out. We would retire to the car park where we would try to avoid Spooner's gaze, knowing the up & coming copper could be cutting &/or hilarious in his assessments. It probably sounds innate &

juvenile. Yeah, it was all of that, but it was character building for a bunch of kids just out of school. We were hanging out with our older brothers.

What I learnt in those times was that, it didn't matter what you did for a living, or what school you went to. It mattered even less how good or bad a player you were. What mattered was if you could hold a mirror up & have a laugh at the person staring back. You had to be able to take some stick & return serve when the time arrived. You had to be around to help when it was needed & we were gladly.

We grew up & so did the Club. Contemporaries of mine who had enjoyed the company of Club greats like Mick Corry at the Car Park Club, had finished degrees & were looking to use their skills to the betterment of the Club. Peter Gainsford initiated a bold plan to take over the old pool reception area & turn it into our present Clubhouse. Again Club spirit came to the fore as working bees led by John Brahms completed the project which is the best water polo facility in Australia.

Since then, our Club has grown exponentially. That growth would not have been possible w/o the leadership of our last two Presidents in Andrew Murray & Michael Hahn. They have had to manage our club as a completely different beast to the one I joined thirty years ago. Whilst our aims & expectations are a little higher these days, I would like to think the fundamental core is still the same. I would like to think it would be no different for me to ask for assistance in a task as James Brennan asking me to man a bar at a Club party in 1985. I am heartened to see so many of us old heads choose to encourage our children to grow up within our club. As they say, it takes a village to raise a child.

When I see or hear of a fantastic time had by teams (& parents) on a Club tour, it reminds of those earlier times. When you tour, you carry the responsibility of a fine tradition. Our Club has been spreading the good word for generations. We are famous in & out of the water, DWP was the first entry form sent & received by any tournament organiser. We play hard & fair, we party even harder. I think it was Groucho Marx who said "I wouldn't want to be a member of any club that accepted me as a member". Well, our motto is "come one, come all".

It is **all** of these things that make Drummoyne Water Polo Club what it is. I can only hope you can get as much from it as I have.

I look forward to serving again next year as your Club Captain.

## **FRASER FORISTAL CC #1**

### **Womens Club Captain**

This year I was honoured in being named the first Club Captain for the Women's Program and I have thoroughly enjoyed the role. What I have most enjoyed is being involved in parts of the club not previously exposed to and have been able to meet new people across all areas of the Club. I was able to

be involved in the organisation of events such as the Red Ball and the Inaugural Derby Day, which we are looking forward to developing going forward.

The role is quite large, in that Fraser and I have been given flexibility in our interpretation of the position. If you know Fraser and I at all, you would know that we both love Drummoyne Waterpolo and can often be found floating around the pool deck, or more often, the bar. So I think the way we have interpreted the captaincy role centres around the social side of the Club. My main focus is for people to enjoy the Club, in whatever way that may be. Drummoyne has an amazing group of players and families, and I hope to develop the Devils Playground as a place we all can spend time. It was only a matter of years ago when our National League teams had just started, and the social events on the weekend in the Clubhouse were booming. I hope to reinvigorate that atmosphere, it would be great for the younger generations of players to be involved and have these types of experiences to look forward to.

The Women's program is in great shape, so many junior and senior teams have done so well over the 2011-12 Summer season with nine of our twelve teams qualifying for the semi finals. Our L3 and L4 teams were premiership winning teams and L2 managed to come in second place. We dominated the U20 and U18 State competitions and won the U18 National Championships. The Women's program is very important to the Club and I am so thankful to be apart of the process. I hope we can build the womens side of the Club and I hope to do so by introducing a Ladies Lunch to be held later in the year and to integrate the senior and junior programs over the upcoming 2012-13 season.

**NICOLA MURPHY**  
**CC #1**

## **Under 14A Boys (MSJA)**

The Drummoyne U14 A team had an enjoyable and successful summer. They started the Summer season with a bang winning the first 13 matches. The development of the team was exceptional, especially after arrival of the newly appointed coach Milan Nestic. Positional play continued to evolve and individual skills became good enough for genuine game play and tactics to emerge. Milan continued to build a very solid platform for the rest of the season. After a long season they went on to play in the Grand Final and win a silver medal after losing a tightly contested game against Cronulla by 1 goal.

Midway through the season the team participated in the NSW 14 and under State Championship in Tamworth. Although the boys were a bit disappointed with the end result they showed real commitment in finishing credible 5th after losing only 1 game for the whole tournament.

Significant skill improvement week by week saw the boys going to Perth for the 14 and under National Championship, although with somewhat reduced and weakened team . After 5 long days of water polo, playing against the best teams in the whole country, the boys exceeded all expectations by qualifying

for the bronze medal match against SE Qld Bees. The match was neck and neck the whole way, with neither team giving an inch until Bees keeper made two spectacular penalty saves to give his team the advantage and eventual victory 6:5 over Drummoyne.

It is also worth mentioning team's participation in the NSW 16 and under State championship. The boys performed credibly losing a couple of close matches and gained a valuable experience for the season ahead competing with the teams from the older age group.

Although the team didn't have all the success in the pool that they would have liked, the boys enjoyed their share of wins and they had their share of representative players selected, with 4 players ( Rory, Lachlan, Cooper and Edoardo ) selected in U14 NSW State squad. And it was not all about how many games they won but enjoying the opportunity to get out there and have a play each week, the wins they have were just a bonus. The thrill of playing a team sport and working together with others will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

Even though the whole team improved immensely this season and can look forward to an even better next season, two of the players stand out for their contribution to the team's success:

**MOST VALUABLE PLAYER – RORY WILLIAMS** - for providing leadership within the team and leading by example in and out of the pool with his commitment, courage and versatility. Rory was used this season in the variety of roles by the coach and was able to take all these in his stride, playing important role in defence as well as creating opportunities in attack

**MOST IMPROVED – LIAM CORRY** - really developed into a team player getting heavily involved both at training and during matches. Liam kept improving his game and reading of the play the longer the season went on and has become the platform for many forward attacks. His change in focus now allows him to concentrate on the game and his attitude was fantastic and a real credit for the team and the club.

## Under 14B Boys (MSJB)

Well what a year!!!! For many, this was the first time many they wore the red devil emblem in the summer competition. And something tells me it won't be the last.

This year saw a slight change to the format with only one competition. This enabled the boys to get exposed to matches against some A teams which was invaluable for their water polo development. For the record the team finished mid table and qualified for the 2<sup>nd</sup> tier finals. Overall the team was probably the next best performer against the top 2-3 sides. However unfortunately but not uncommon, they lowered their standard against some of the lesser teams resulting in the odd surprising loss.

However in this age group and level, as a coach the key measure is player development and in this result it was extremely pleasing. There were marked improvements across the whole group both individual and the way the boys played as a team. It was great to see Angus Rankin making the NSW state squad and with most of the boys still having another 1-2 years in this age group, all goes well for them in the future.

A strong contribution to this was the commitment to attend trainings throughout the season. Most of the boys never missed a session. Mention must go to the parents for getting the boys to the sessions and the matches on a weekly basis.

Again special thanks to David Parker in supporting the group as the manager and Sean and the team for helping out on the table each week. Very much appreciated.

Finally, again the weekend away to Tamworth was a highlight. No injuries this year but fun had by all with some great water polo played.

Team: Harry Gilkes, Daniel Lukic, Josh McMahon, Benj Murray, Ethan Parker, Angus Rankin, Bronson Ronan, Oscar Ryan, James Tuite, Patrick Zardow, Jason Zervos

***MVP – Angus Rankin***

***MOST IMPROVED – Benj Murray***

**ANDREW MURRAY COACH**

## **Under 14A Girls (LSJA)**

We finished 3rd in the winter comp this year going down by 1 goal in the semi final against UNSW. Tamworth was a great success with the girls getting a taste of playing against the top teams in NSW. What we learnt from Tamworth was that we needed to improve on our fitness. With this in mind the girls stepped up their training to three nights per week and also extra squad training. As a group we improved out of sight with our fitness and commitment to the team. During the Nationals in Perth the girls played out of their skin and improved immensely. Fitness was outstanding, team work was exceptional and our defence was second to none. Due to a few close calls and a very hard draw we came away from Perth 9th which didn't reflect how the team played and what we had achieved.

***MVP – Emma Workman for her outstanding year in goals after moving from the field.***

***MOST IMPROVED – Sarah Kerrison - Sarah has worked very hard this year with her swimming and improving her overall game. She has shown commitment to training and has been a pleasure to train.***

**EMMA HILL  
COACH**

## Under 14B Girls (LSJB)

From the start of the Summer Season we have played consistently as a team, much improved from the winter comp when all girls were relatively new to the game of water polo. All the girls came into the summer comp looking like a team and played together like a team.

Albeit that the majority of games weren't challenging the girls continued to improve and hone in their skills.

Highlight of the season was Tamworth and the teams ability to adapt to playing against the A's in the competition. The girls played above their weight and had a fast track learning curve to high pressured waterpolo. We played fantastically well in defence and gained further experience in how to set up in attack.

Although we didn't win the grand final we got to the grand final as a team, everyone contributed in getting to the final. We bonded as a team and everyone improved throughout the season.

***MVP – Kayla Rogers***

***MOST IMPROVED – Maddie Tilyard***

**SHONA O'BRIEN COACH**

## Under 16 Red Girls LJA

This age group had an unusual high number of strong players so the club decided that there would be two teams entered into the A competition. The aim of this was to give all players of this potentially strong group the opportunity to develop their game skills.

Results in the summer metropolitan team may have been affected but the large number of players being selected into the State Squad has justified the overall aim for player development.

### **Results:**

Red lost the minor semi-final to Cronulla Black finished in 5<sup>th</sup> position at the end of the rounds.

***MVP –Red Kaitlyn Laycock***

***MOST IMPROVED – Georgia Mirabito***

***Jenny MacGregor***

**Coach U16 Red**

## Under 16 Black LJA

U16 last summer was a very strong group of 20 girls which were divided into two teams. The U16 Blacks were predominantly the younger side with most players still in U16's this season. We started the season strong with draw against the U16's red, who hit back to convincingly beat us after Christmas. We bounced back at home to record a strong win against the Reds in our last game, in front of a very enthusiastic Drummoyne crowd just missing out on a top four position for semis.

The entire team developed well and improved throughout the season, many successes achieved with Lara Murray selected in the Under 16 NSW Blues team, Mackenzie Marnell, Anna Linfield Kent, Sarah Churchyard, Hannah Grey and Alex Corbett were all selected in the Under 16's Waratahs team with Alex named as captain of this side. These girls competed at the NZ Pan Pacific tournament.

***MVP – Lara Murray***

***MOST IMPROVED – Anna Linfield-Kent***

***Wendy Stanton***

**Coach U16 Black**

## Under 16A Boys (MJA) - Premiers

After a season of improvement and development last year, we approached the 2011-12 season with a great deal of optimism. Winter competition saw coach Petrovic taking a well-earned rest in winter with a trip home to Serbia with the team coached by Nick Taylor and Alex Allen in his absence. Nick and Alex now boast the impressive coaching record of 1 from 1 on the premiership stakes after leading the team to the winter title in a hard fought final win against Wests. A fifth place finish in the Nationals in Melbourne was a great send off for our senior players and gave a taste of good things to come.

The summer season saw the introduction of 5 new players from the 14's and this new combination took some time to gel. A first round loss was followed by 2 draws and another loss and after 4 rounds we were bottom of the table and looking for inspiration. A scratchy win against Wests got the ball rolling and we never looked back. By Christmas we were on top of the table with a semi-final berth already locked away.

The major semi against Hunter always had the makings of a great tussle. The sides had played 4 times during the normal season with us holding the upper hand with 2 wins and a draw against 1 loss. The goal difference for the 4 games was only 1 so a close semi was assured and we weren't disappointed. With the scores locked at 6 all with 1 minute to play, Drummoyne won an exclusion. Coach Petrovic's timeout talk proved a master stroke with the boys converting the extra man and then running down the clock to progress to the grand final.

We met Hunter again 2 weeks later in a tense grand final. The sides by this time knew each other's game so well there would be no great surprises from either side. The Drummoyne boys were magnificent, controlling the game from the outset. Having built a 3 goal buffer by  $\frac{3}{4}$  time, the boys shut their opposition down in the final quarter to record a memorable 7-5 victory and the first 16A summer title in the club's history.

This was a title earned through hard work and determination of the boys and their coach to be the fittest, strongest and technically the best team in the competition. The seemingly endless swim sets with weight belts were forgotten when the gold medals were handed out. The boys learnt, with Petar's urging, that near enough wasn't good enough and they responded by being the first in the water and last out at most training sessions.



**2011-12 Under 16 Premiers**

Having secured the summer competition, sights were reset for a state championship at our home pool. Unfortunately some stories don't have a happy ending. After cruising through the rounds and quarter final, a semi-final clash against Sydney Uni seemed to offer a great chance of a grand final berth. After jumping to a 3-0 lead after the first quarter, the dream turned into a nightmare with the side squandering multiple opportunities to score and Uni feed off scraps of possession to keep the score close. Uni took the lead late in the final quarter and our boys couldn't respond, missing the chance to again play their bunny side Hunter in the final. Hunter went on to win the state title, the side we beat 4 times during the normal season. While this was a lost opportunity, if the boys learn the lesson of not thinking too far ahead about finals before you have won the semi, we will have salvaged something from the weekend.

Congratulations to James Smith on his selection in the Australian B96 squad and Lachlan Faulder, Rowan Farrell, James Smith, Sam Watson and Steven Xenakis for their selection in the New South Wales. Well-deserved recognition for their efforts both at the State Championship and throughout the season.

To Petar, thank you for your absolute dedication to the boys. Your reward, other than the pennant no one else has managed to secure for the club, is shown in the willingness of the boys to turn up each week even when their bodies are crying out for a rest. They know they have the best coach in the competition and the results proved it this year.

***MVP – James Smith***

***MOST IMPROVED – Sam Watson***

**PETAR PETROVIC - COACH**

**TONY WATSON – MANAGER**

## **Under 16B Boys (MJB) - Premiers**

Persistence pays off.....

It is with mixed emotions that I write this report. Although we had a successful season, it is likely to be my last with this group.

I have coached the vast majority of these boys since the U/14B's through 14A's & again this year as 16B's. I have enjoyed every moment & wouldn't swap it for anything.

What started as a new experience for the boys developed into an all-encompassing journey from boyhood to fine young men.

After finishing last year's 14A's on a high note, finishing 5<sup>th</sup> at Nationals, it was inevitable that some of that team would be fast-tracked to the 16A's.

In a late night deal in the back bar at PJ's, it was decided that four of my team would step up & three of the 16A's would join our team.

We gained some valuable size for the older age comp in the shape of Emmanuel Ronconi , Harry Steen & Tom Southern. All three players made great difference for us & the team benefited from their presence.

As the season progressed it became apparent there were possibly only two other teams likely to trouble us. Cronulla, as always in juniors, had assembled a team that was winning, but not to the extent that we were.

Balmain, also had a good team that had Devil alumni, Blake Sullivan in the corner to call the shots. We were travelling well until a few weeks before the Xmas break when we met Balmain on a night we were missing quite a few players. They managed to nip us by one in a low scoring match. It ultimately became our only loss through the entire Metro Comp.

We had bumps along the way as we lurched towards the finish line. As to be expected at this still developing age, some weeks (or in some cases, quarters) were great, whilst others were terrible.

The Coach was seen throwing a water bottle or two as his frustration boiled up through the thinnest of hair. Such was his desire to win a deserved medal, he couldn't stand the thought of opportunity lost. His desire burnt deeper by heart breaking, medal affecting loss on three occasions by the same opponent in the 14A's. These boys deserved their day in the sun & duly delivered.

Perhaps, a little surprisingly, Balmain had beaten Cronulla in the Final to qualify as GF opponents against us. The game was tight but ultimately just reward for a bunch of guys who had, with & despite of (sometimes) their Coach decided this was their time.

Well done boys & congratulations. Thanks for my gifts including the limited edition (series of 1) Drummoyne Gentlemen T-Shirt designed by Tom Southern.

After completing the Metro Comp, our attention turned to the State Titles (held at Drummoyne).

As a "B" team, our progress was a happy unknown. There was no pressure from the Coach. Enjoyment was paramount. We drew two Sydney "A" teams, one "B" team & ACT in our group. Needless to say, one of the "A" teams was our old nemesis Cronulla who beat us but not w/o a fight.

We beat Parramatta & unluckily drew with ACT when we turned the ball over in the last thirty seconds to allow them one last chance to level, which they did. We beat Breakers "A" team in our last game to show our pedigree only to miss out on a QF place on a count back.

It was disappointing for the boys who had really relished the better competition to miss out so narrowly. They really came of age as a group in that tournament.

Our pleasing performance had lasting benefits for one of the boys. Emmanuel was selected to trial (& then to play) for the NSW Waratahs in the recent Pan Pacs in NZ.

All in all, it was a fitting way for our journey to end. A few wins, a tough loss, a draw on the bell & a lot of great food back at Jen's.

Over the course of the last year, people regularly asked why I would coach a team that my son was no longer a part of. The answer is simple.

I did it because (a)I loved doing it, & (b)because the boys still needed me. Do they still need me? I'm not so sure. They have all matured so much as young men & as players, they have maybe surpassed my limits.

It has been a hell of a ride, taking us places many & varied. That ride has been provided by a fantastic group of parents who, if they didn't before, now have w polo in their veins.

From bbq chickens poolside in Tamworth to late finishing training at Cabarita, they never buckled. They came to the well & drank.

Special mention to Jen Tilyard who has managed the team in every way possible. Thanks for all the team dinners Jen.

Also hats off to Sue Sharrock, who despite not wanting to be our nominated referee, never failed to do the job.

Also special mention to James Hayward, Daniel Tilyard, Josh Sharrock, Harry Tunstall & Michael Long, who have been on the bus from go to whoa. Thanks guys.

Over & out

***MVP – James Hayward***

***MOST IMPROVED – Daniel Tilyard***

**FRASER FORISTAL – SUPER COACH**

## **Under 18 Girls LC Australian & NSW Club Champions**

### **The Way We Did It!**

**October 2011** - The Sydney Metropolitan Competition starts. We stumble our way through many games to remain undefeated leading into the State Championships. All was well, players keen, coach and manager happy.

### **December 2011 - The NSW State Championships**

A BIG DILEMMA was the championships coinciding with the Australian Schoolgirls commitments. This left the team without Shannan Martin, Steph Calaizis and Fiona Walsh until Sunday, the semi-final day. This meant all other players must stand up if we are to feature in the semi-finals..... and they all DID. We were in the semi-final against Cronulla. The defeat of Cronulla (8-3) was an extremely solid team effort. The team effort continued into the Grand Final which was won (12-3) on the back of some outstanding defence. Congratulations to Erin Moodie who was awarded the Tournament MVP award.

### March “2012 - The Big Disaster

The team lost their Metropolitan semi-final against UNSW 6-7. Finally what I had been saying for a month hit home. “We cannot win the Australian Championships without training”. Thanks to UNSW I now heard “Jenny we need to train” Was 3 weeks going to be enough time???????

### April 2012 – We Did It

What a great team. We won the Australian Championships going through undefeated in the rounds – UWA (6-4), SNB ‘B’ (21-3), All Hallows (12-2) the quarter final Hunter (6-2), the semi UNSW (8-6) and the Grand Final SNB ‘A’ (6-3). Congratulations to Shannan Martin who was awarded the Tournament MVP award.

I would like to thank Mitsa Mercuri for all her hard work and effort organising the team from week to week, during the State tournament and in particular at the Australian Championships in Canberra. She has made it very easy for me to just turn up and do what I enjoy “just coaching”. Thank you again Mitsa we couldn’t have been so successful without you.



**DRUMMOYNE U18 2011 NSW CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM**

**The Team** - Stephanie Calaizis, Shannan Martin, Erin Moodie, Karlee Assef, Kelsey Baxter, Izzy Mercuri, Kristen Bennett, Ellen Hahn, Fiona Walsh, Lily Murphy, Katie Laycock, Sam Stanton, India Jamison(State), Lauren Wilson(Metro).

For the majority of the past five years I have had the pleasure of coaching this group of girls.

“I sincerely thank all of you for your commitment to water polo and the faith and the loyalty you have given me. I hope you continue to enjoy your water polo and the friendships you have made in this time. You should all be proud of yourselves. You have been a most successful team”.

***MVP – Shannan Martin***

***MOST IMPROVED – Kelsey Baxter***

**JENNY MacGREGOR**

**COACH**

## **Under 20 Ladies Col Smee**

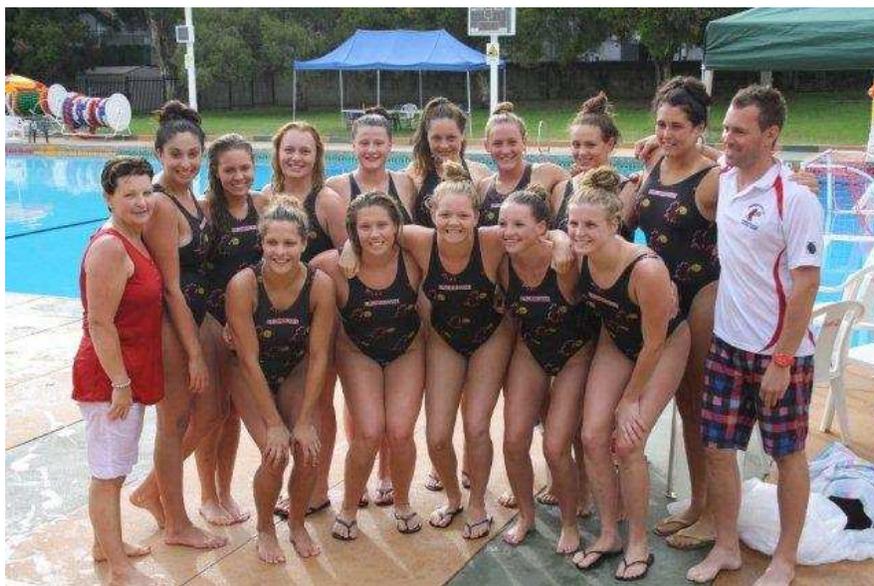
The girls were aiming to go for 3 in a row NSW Under 20 State Championships and it wasn't an easy task and they were the heavy favourites.

The round draw meant we played each time before the top 4 were decided and no team was an easy beat. Each game was competitive and only several goals were divided the top from bottom teams.

We finished the round games undefeated with Balmain, SNB Breakers and UNSW also qualifying for the semis and aiming for a spot in the final.

Our semi final opponent was UNSW and after a slow first half, the game opened up and we eventually finished the game in blistering form and won by a quality margin of 14-5 meaning we qualified for the championship game.

Our opponent was Balmain after a rain, storm delayed other semi final and the final was nearly postponed to a mid week game but the decision was made and the game was eventually played and what a nail biter it was.



**DRUMMOYNE U20 COL SMEE 2011 BACK TO BACK TO BACK WINNERS**

The devils held an early lead at half time but the game was anyone's for the taking and to Balmain's determination and our loss of concentration; we trailed late in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Scores were level with 3 minutes to play and no team could break the deadlock but a showdown finish was in stall. A timeout was called with 3 seconds to go and Morgan threw a long bomb bounce shot from halfway and the ball slammed into the back of the net and the devils took back the lead with 1 second remaining. Balmain gave everything to take the game to extra time but the devils held out and the championship was ours.

For some girls in this Drummoyne group they have won every State Championship since Under 14s and should be congratulated in its consistency in effort and its longevity. Well done all the girls involved.

Team: Steph Calaizis, Elise Holden, Elise Mirabito, Devon Boyle, Dani White, Morgan Baxter, Alana Jones, Amy Pittorino, Shannan Martin, Karlee Assef, Erin Moodie, Fiona Walsh, Ellen Hahn.

Well-done girls. Top effort. Great finish.

## **MITCHELL SCOTT COACH**

### **Womens National League**

2012 was always going to be a tough season for the Drummoyne Devils. Losing number of senior players including Serena Reid (University of Hawaii), Angela Turnbull (marriage) as well as difficulty of obtaining international players due to Olympic year. Although these circumstances occur, it was a chance for juniors who have come through the club to really make a stand and take leadership and cement their spot in the top 13 for 2012.

The devils welcomed back the return of impact player Sasha Cuffe to CF to help University of Arizona import Nikki Unbehaun and youngster Shannan Martin fend off the best CB's in Australia.

It was also going to be a difficult season and in somewhat seen as a 'development year' for the squad but with the amount of success the players have had in the junior ranks, there was no reason why the devils couldn't compete with the top rank teams.

The draw in the earlier part of the season looked promising with opening games against Adelaide and KFC Breakers in the first two rounds and the devils were looking to start with a 4-0 record. Unfortunately, the story of our season was told in the opening 4 games, 3 solid quarters of waterpolo but one quarter in lapse of concentration, cost us the game. This continued throughout the opening half of the season and we were stilling looking for our first victory and a 4-quarter game of waterpolo.

A blessing in disguise came when our road trip to Perth happened. A new environment, relaxation, no uni, no work and a fully focused squad in the extreme heat of Perth. Opening game- UWA Torpedoes.

The girls played the perfect half of waterpolo, leading 7-1 at the main break. The torps came out firing in the second half and clawed their way back into the match but as always, Devils pride and determination kicked in and hung on for a 9-8 victory. A WIN AT LAST.

This victory was a monkey off the back for the girls and we relaxed into the remainder of season. We were competitive and challenged teams ranked higher than us on the table including another victory against UNSW Killer Whales and a spirited performance to finish the 2012 season against eventual champions Cronulla Sharks.

To all the girls, thank you for your efforts throughout the season. As much as I carried on about commitment and discipline and threw tantrums and yelled profusely, I did appreciate every single persons effort during the season. I wish you all the best for your water polo futures and hope one day when you all inspire to represent the “Stingers “on the main stage.

A few special mentions:

- Tracey Mirabito. An outstanding and supportive manager for not only the girls but also myself as coach. Always ready for anything thrown at her (including whiteboard markers and drink bottles). Thank you so much. From water bottles, to caps to food on road trips. Nothing was too much trouble. An unbelievable job.
- Dmitry Gorshkov. My sounding and ideas board. Although Dim was busy with the Men’s squad, he always had an eye out for the development of the girls team and was never short to help out with what he has seen and give ideas to improve the teams performance. A great mentor.
- Adam Richardson. Thanks for the support and stand in sessions for the girls with variety. Much appreciated.
- Michael Hahn, David Baxter, Randall Polivka. Thanks guys for your support throughout the season.
- Sasha Cuffe. Thanks for your help as a senior player and your experience played a huge role in the development of the squad. Your words and help were invaluable throughout the season.
- Nikki Unbehaun- I hope you enjoyed your experience playing in Australia and its something you will cherish for the remainder of your water polo career. You were a “Sun Devil” and became a “Red Devil” and did a fantastic job and thank you for it.

***MVP – Nikki Unberhaun***

**Mitch Scott HEAD COACH**

## Ladies 1st Grade (L1)

A warm up competition to National League 2012 and the girls started strong and continued throughout the season. With a number of interruptions due to various other tournaments and competitions as well as holidays during L1, a lot of teams were under the same circumstances.

A number of players were used in the L1 competition throughout the club and stood and played their role in the games they played when called upon.

The team missed out on the semis by a point but looking back on the results from the competition, we were competitive with every team, including Balmain who went on to win the competition.

All in all, a good warm and preparation for National League 2012. Final Placing: 5th

***MVP – Shannan Martin***

***MIP – Erin Moodie***

**MITCH SCOTT COACH**

## Ladies 2nd Grade (L2)

Another successful but difficult season for Ladies Second Grade, who have begun to be recognised by fellow team mates in L1 as 'The Chokers'. Perhaps season 2012-13 will be the year that L2 brings home the Gold, but for now, the girls should be very happy to be awarded Silver overall and Minor Premiers for the season. The girls went down against Ryde Rhinos in the Grand Final in extra time after leading by two with just under 2 minutes remaining. The loss was disappointing, but hopefully we learnt from our mistakes - never underestimate your opposition and press when I say press.

Amongst the competition rivals, the Drummoyne L2 team is known to be consistent and competitive. This team shows up each game, maintains defence as its strength and more often than not, keeps the spectators on the edge of their chairs till the last whistle blows.

We had the reliable 'old girls' who have been involved in L2 for some time now, know their competitors inside-out and play to their strengths (ie avoid swimming wherever possible). With a few young, new faces into the team this year, the girls took some time to gel together, but managed to find strong combinations and balances by the second round of the season. These young talents provide L2 with our competitive advantage and seem to have learnt a great deal during the season. The game of water polo differs dramatically from juniors to seniors, and the young'ens definitely adapted to this game and managed to find some aggression and tactics against physical teams such as Balmain and Ryde.

A very enjoyable season overall, looking forward to the next.

***MVP – Nicola Murphy***

**MICHAEL HAHN COACH**

## Ladies 3rd Grade Black (L3) Premiers

L3 Black had a most successful season. Successful in terms of being **PREMIERS** but also successful in how well the players from many different generations enjoyed playing with each other.

The team finished the round in second position placing the team into the major semi-final against the Blue Mountains. The Blue Mountains had not lost during the season in the rounds. Two losses were come to the mighty Black unit, 9-3 in the semi-final and 6-5 in the grand final.



**Team:** Tara Graetz, Alison Greig, Julie Rohl, Lisa Murphy, Georgia Mirabito, Sarah Harnwell, Jenny MacGregor, Hannah Gray, Brooke Dredge, Sharna Small, Alex Corbett, Kim McJannett

***MVP – Sharna Small***

***MOST IMPROVED – Sarah Harnwell***

**JENNY MacGREGOR PLAYER/MANAGER**

## Ladies 3rd Grade Red

I hope everyone enjoyed the season. It was another successful season in which we achieved our highest finish on the ladder (3<sup>rd</sup>!) since playing in L3 and made the semi-finals for the third year in a row. There were some great team performances during the season including a win over Breakers for the first time and some close games against the Blue Mountains and the other Drummoyne team.

McKenzie was amazing in goals this season, and we struggled when she couldn't make it. Amy Sundercombe was strong in centre forward as usual scoring most of the goals for our team. Dani, Phoebe, Mikayla and Kristyn were strong all season in attack and defence, scoring many goals as well.

Unfortunately for us Kristyn was called up to L2 for the second half of the season and Mikalya missed the last couple of games after being bitten by a spider.

This season a number of younger players joined the team for their first season in L3. Amy Harnwell and Hayleigh played well for their first year in L3 and improved considerably as the season progressed. Jade gave an outstanding performance in centre back almost every week getting a number of turnovers each game. Special thanks to Kailyn who helped us out most weeks playing with her older sister.

A special thank you to Andrew who coached even though Nicole wasn't playing, and also thanks to Piper our newest team member for coming and cheering us on.

***MVP – Danni Willis***

**RACHEL HORTON**

**PLAYER/MANAGER**

## Ladies 4th Grade - Premiers

This summer was a great year for the L4 team. This was the first Summer Comp where we combined two L4 teams together to make a formidable team. We started the year very strong with wins most weeks and attendance at each game was very good. This year we had a change of Goalie as Cat has other commitments with Lara Murray the new L4 Goalie. What a great season Lara had in goals, she saved us on many occasions and was a stand out. We also had two of the 16's join us this year with Churchie and Anna Linfield Kent joining us most weeks. These girls developed through out the season and became an integral part of the team. Thanks to Clare who was our manager before she left on her overseas jaunt.

***MVP – Genevieve Fogarty***

**EMMA HILL PLAYER, MANAGER**

## Ladies 5th Grade (L5 Red)

L5 Red were true to form. Consistently top 4 with a semi-final berth; consistent inconsistency in our shooting; and consistent insistence that training is not part of our plan....The semi-final show down was a great one, with a second half comeback and a penalty shoot out. The fact it required more than 5 shooters in the penalties is testament to Sara who stepped in for all of us who had taken turns in goals post Shona's back sidelining her early in the season. Pity about the penalties outcome as we did hope to send the retiring Sue 'Sue\_nami' Sharrock out with a gold. We did send her out with the longest fifth grade game on record though. Oh and thanks to James who continues to attempt to coach us now and again and Becs for organising us every week - thankless tasks we're sure - because overall it has been another very enjoyable season.

**MVP – Sue Sharrock** - After our final she had several sessions with the chiropractor which cemented her decision to retire. Not only has she sat out of some of our games through the season to ref she also refs all of her sons junior games throughout the year. She is a great player and is going to be missed in the pool, hopefully we can lure her back in a couple of years.

**MVP – Sue Sharrock**

**JILL REID Player**

## Ladies 5th Grade (L5 Black)

The L5B's had a very mixed team this season, with some people who had played for ages and some new people who had never even seen a game before.

We started shakily with some frustrating games because we knew we could play better. Towards the end of the season though it all came together with great improvement from every player especially the new girls and if we had played like that all year we could have done much better overall. We had a lot of fun playing and training.

**MVP – Becky Coy**

**ERIN COWMEY Player**

## Mens National League

The 2012 National League season officially started on 4<sup>th</sup> Jan with the full squad going to **Bondi Icebergs** to see the hugely successful Aussie Sharks v USA game featuring Devils AJ Roach and soon to be Aussie Samuele Avallone.



The club presented the full squad with their club NL official number and their caps for the 2012 season to our Sponsors at a Pre-season function at the club. This successful night also celebrated our non-playing past NL captains [Grant, Sean & Dean] and honoured those Devils to have played 100 NL career games [Mitch Scott, Mitch Emery, John Hahn and Angela Turnbull]

The 2012 season allowed us to have three imports to add to our existing squad. These were:

1. Emi Cranco from Italy
2. Ross Sinclair from USA
3. Milan Nestic from Serbia

The 2012 season featuring the new penalty shoot-out rule started with home games against eventual bottom dwellers Jets and Breakers. This got us off to a flying start with four easy wins and plenty of goals. From here we had a roller coaster season either beating or being very competitive all the top sides except locals Wests.



The squad's depth was really challenged with significant injuries to three key players that resulted in them missing significant games and or limiting training. These included Sam & captain Mitch both damaging ribs limiting their game time and performance but the worst injury was to import Ross Sinclair whose burst ear drum requiring surgery ending his [and some would say our] season.

The top 6 was always going to be tight with our finals spot coming down to a local derby in Perth where eventual winners Fremantle won allowing us to grab that final top 6 spot with 11 wins, 1 draw and 10 losses.

Our season ended with at the finals losing our 2 play-off games on day one featuring a one goal loss to Fremantle after fighting back to level with 2 minutes to play. Sadly this reflected our season where brief lapses resulted in important losses.

### **Highlights of the Season**

- John Hahn's consistent from in the cage featuring a staggering 258 saves
- Tyler Martin's early season goal scoring form resulting in 55 for the season
- Emi Cranco's 58 earned Extra Man at centre forward
- Captain Mitch Emery all round season with 41 goals, 40 steals and 23 blocks

## Coaches Comment



“The past NL season left us all with a sensation of sadness. Sadness for lost opportunities that were given to us to play in the finals and to play for medals.

I think we've been so happy to make the finals that we forgot about the fact that in the finals we would play the 5 other strongest teams of Australia. And you then have to prove that you have the right to play for medals.

But at the same time, I have to say we should be proud and happy for our guys, because we are still one of the youngest teams in Australia. We don't have the same depth of experienced players that the other top teams had this season.

I can say we weren't stable enough during the NL season. But we didn't have the team 100% fit and well for the entire season. We were followed by injuries!

And this left us with the dream that if we can preserve this squad for next season, maybe some young players would grow.

We should analyse and eliminate the mistakes of this season.

With the essential support of our club we could show our sponsors, the fans and parents that we are strong enough and can prove we are able to play, not only for top 6... but for medals.”

Coach Dmitry Gorshkov

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The season also featured two New Successful Additions to the season with



Derby Day at Drummoyne Pool and the 400 spectators', sponsors, corporate boxes on pool decks



The starting of the clubs National League Old Boys where past captains were recognised for important part in the development of our club and having a home game to invite and recognise all the past players.

***MVP NL – John Hahn***

**CRAIG SCOTT MANAGER**

## **Mens 1st Grade (M1)**

The 2011 season was welcomed with plenty of anticipation for coach Dmirty, the club and the squad after the tough 2011 National League campaign and its very young inexperienced squad.

The seasons plan was to blend those youngsters who gained that valuable experience with the returning players and a couple of new players to evaluate them for the upcoming National League campaign.

New and returning players for 2011 season

- The return of Tyler Martin and Samuele Avallone from a season playing professionally in Italy
- Italian centre forward Import Emi Cranco
- Canberra youngsters Justin Trabinger and Nathan Sinclair

The M1 competition is always only a short competitive season of 10 games, with the team finishing up the season in 3<sup>rd</sup> spot and a semi final berth to eventual winners Balmain. The boys lost the hard fought semi by a goal.

Dmitry, although a little disappointed with the semi loss, gave the squad Christmas off, returning early January for some heavy training in preparation for National League.

Making the finals of any competition should always be considered a good season with 17 players gaining valuable experience in the M1 competition in preparation for the upcoming National League Season.

Highlights of the M1 season

- Returning Sam Avallone scoring 20 goals.
- Adam, Mitch & Tyler and getting more than 10 goals.
- Consistent performances from John Hahn in the cage

The draw was again kind with all three men's and two ladies teams playing back to back most Saturdays, allowing most players to get exposure in higher (and sometimes lower) grades. This also built good club spirit and made all home games at Drummoyne pool a pleasure with plenty of support.

As usual we had a core of parents helping at all games. This help is well appreciated with these parents and players always volunteering to help with pool set-ups and table duties.

***MVP – Samuele Avallone***

***MIP – Justin Trabinger***

**CRAIG SCOTT MANAGER**

## Mens 2nd Grade (M2)

This year's M2 team saw the return of our elite senior elite players with our up and coming younger players. The team overall had a very successful season reaching the grand final, however due to a number of unavailable players did not take out the gold this time.

***MVP – Alberto Rapisardi***

## Mens 3rd Grade (M3)

**M3 - From last to 4<sup>th</sup> in one season!**

After a forgettable 2010/11, the M3 had some memorable moments but fell at the second last hurdle, losing a semi –final to Wests at Parramatta Pool. Some great keeping by Steven Xenakis, plenty of goals from Matt, some great talking by Muz and occasional flashes of brilliance from Bradley and PJ saw the side beat most comers during the regular season. A slaughter of Balmain at Dawney was a season highlight as well as the progression of the younger players, Mikey, Daniel, Rowan and Sam.

A big thank you to Juan for all his efforts in and out of the pool, it made this a season to celebrate.

***MVP – Juan Ramirez***

**Tony Watson MANAGER**

## Mens 4th Grade (M4)

It was another enjoyable season of BBQ water polo, even if it was not the end to the season that we were after. Hope to see you all back over the winter and next summer.

***MVP – Mark Simpson***

## Mens 5th Grade Red

The M5's again proved to be the entertainers of the summer competition. Brilliantly managed throughout the year they finished minor premiers at season's end. M5 Red completed something rarely done in the long history of DWPC this year with an incredible undefeated premiership. A thrilling grand final win over our good friends from Balmain was the perfect way to finish the year on a high. Most opposition sides were half the average age of the mighty M5 Red side, but they quickly learnt experience counts for everything and it ain't easy swimming up and down a pool with 100kg's on your back. This was the third successive Grand Final for this magnificent side and it appears they are finally beginning to make up for all those missed opportunities over the last 30 years. Just like a good red wine they are starting to show their quality and class at the right time. Onwards and upwards!

***MVP – Pat Long***

**CRAIG PENDERGAST  
PLAYER/MANAGER**

## Mens 5th Grade Black

As always we start out each year with high hopes and aspirations of making it to the finals. As the season prevailed the finals were slowly moving out of reach, however there were times that M5B kept those top 3 teams honest and on their feet. Thrown the challenge these teams struggled at times and our brilliance did shine, but wasn't sunny enough for us to make the finals.

We had all sorts of injuries during the year (showing our ages I guess), which left gaps that had to be filled some how. It doesn't help when Dave P rips his bicep muscle from the join or Braams falls of roofs or Aidan P tearing a new one in his head. Then there's the challenge of those with work or holiday or exam commitments that remove players from the team.

At the end of the season we have one common goal to be there as a team, play, have a social and watch our coach's blood boil....."How many times have I told you mark up...MARK YOUR PLAYER.....!!!! See you next Season.

***MVP – Tom Southern***  
**AIDAN PENNYCOOK**  
**PLAYER/MANAGER**

## Mens 6th Grade Red

M6A Started the season well winning two of first three games including win over last season's premiers Parramatta but found it very difficult with injuries & unavailability of players. Most of the second round was played with eight players. The team found it very difficult to score however the defence was good with goalkeeper Kerry Sunderland in fine form together with ex Springbok Shaun Povey. Some good polo was played when the play was not rushed & first instinct passes made. On average we scored less than a goal a quarter but we defended well under the circumstances. Great season by our GK COCKO.

***MVP – Kerry Sunderland***  
**MIKE YOUNG**  
**PLAYER/MANAGER**

## Mens 6th Grade Black

There was definitely a strong sense of commitment from our team right from the start this season and an aura which was felt by all with a team made up of speed, agility, skill and youth Jack Slater and Matt Took but still headed with all the old diehards, Hahn, Spooner, Murf and the like.

The season started off solid by winning our first 9 games although we did receive a fierce beating from Cronulla before the Christmas break 3-12.

We returned however with guns a blazing with everyone on deck, except for one due to injury, yes Roy was out for the season. There were some very convincing series of scores : 14-3 12-5 13-2 etc.



With a very strong for and against (147 for and 75 against) this indicated that the team had the ability to put the pill in the back of the net. Theo top scoring 49, young Jack 30 and close behind Marco with 25. I don't think Hahnje scored (my memory is shot like my shooting arm) but he had plenty to say, if I remember correctly Broomie played a couple of games and flew in for the final, lucky for us he brought his misses. The GK scored 1 having a swim in the field. Col, Nick and Dave were rock solid all season with must be close to a 100% attendance and Matt Cross showed his flare when he had a swim.

We played 15 games before the semi's losing 3 (2 to Cronulla 3-12.... and 7-8 but leading 6-3 at the 3/4..not good) and (1 to Ryde 4-5) in a very controversial game (tough hard M6 stuff, a little like National league).

This placed us 2nd on the ladder to play the major semi final, we went down to Cronulla 3-5 but coming back the following week to a solid win against Ryde 5-2 this gave us a second chance to have a hit out against Cronulla in the Grand Final.

There was no better spectacle with standing room only for M6 at this particular game, the lead changing hands many times but at no stage was the game in the bag for either team.

It was 2-2 at the 1st break and at half time 3-4 then 5-4 to us approaching 3rd quarter time but 2 quick goals from Cronulla puts them back in the lead at the 3/4 break. 5-6 with their team having some young swimmers, who came off the bench, we tried so hard to maintain it but unfortunately went down 6-8 (Theo 3, Jack 2 and Spooner 1).....Roy got his hair wet but that was about it, Nick broke his ankle a week before and Matt took couldn't make it.

There was no better recipient for this year MVP than our keeper who consistently kept our score (against) down with soon outstanding work around the goal and returns balls into play, saving two 5 metre penalties in the one game against the premiers Cronulla and also managed to put one at the back of the net himself, great effort Bradley! Say hi to your misses

The next season will surely bring us back together again and with a end of season cruise and a few drinks with all hand's up to go round again for another season, maybe just maybe we can make the final with a different result

I have enjoyed the season, gentlemen.

Cheers

**ROY aka Part time player hoping to be a full time contributor next season**

***MVP – Brad Palmer***

## Camp Devil 2011

"I've spoken to the Manager & he's left the keys out for you. You'll be right. I've emailed the activity sheet & btw I'm not coming up now till Saturday night because M3s can't win w/o me. See ya....."

With that, he was gone. The Great Muz (TGM) had done it again. I turned off the highway onto the dirt road that seemingly lead nowhere, swearing I wouldn't listen to TGM ever again.

This was the start of Camp Devil 2012.

Camp Devil is a great initiative where the NL Boys go away for a few days to prepare for their season. They join in a series of activities that are designed to test individual strengths & nurture team bonding. This year we went to Point Wolstoncroft @ Gwandalan on Lake Macquarie.

TGM had no doubt driven Greg the poor Manager to spare with his incessant phone calls & was probably relieved to hear he wouldn't have to meet him till Sunday, but he had done as TGM had said as I finally reached the gates of the resort. Nobody in sight as I tentatively tested doors on the first cabins I came across. All good as I found the keys & unloaded the car. The boys had had another win back at Devil HQ & were on their way.

Not much doing at the local bowlo except for a couple of boilers that were keen for some Lambada with Phil Emery but he declined & re-focused on the job at hand instead of the other way around.

Most of them arrived at Camp Devil shortly afterwards & had a cooling ale to quench their thirst after their long journey. Some had an even longer trip. John Hahn (Son of God) had decided to give some of his younger car-mates a tour of the M3. Deciding not to exit by the most convenient means, he was heard to say "you blokes aren't ready for Camp Devil yet, I'm taking you blokes all the way to Hexham & back". Whatever was his method, it seemed to work. When they finally arrived, the boys, although full of McDonalds, seemed all the better for the three hour excursion.

After their official welcome & initiation, I decided to do a head count. All done except one. Mister Magoo (Alex Allen) was missing & apparently had been delayed by the Police for not exceeding 60 on a motorway. After that was sorted, all the boys were tucked in by Captain Mitch (CM) & a few of the younger ones were given hot milk for their butterflies.

As the sun rose, so did the expectations of a great day. Those hopes were enhanced when I stopped burning the bacon & eggs thanks to the Domestic God that is Ryan Lear (DG). After DG had cleaned up, we had a visit from Manager Greg to run us through the day's programme. After he left, we couldn't help but notice the cotton wool he'd applied to his reddish ear. TGM????????

First activity was wall climbing. Instructor Matt took us through the various tests & teams were sorted. It was explained how when you are hooked up to a rope & hanging off the wall, you are reliant on your

teammates to stop from falling. There was a brief delay after big Emi hooked on & it became apparent a crane may be required to counter him. There was also an awkward moment each time Tyler hooked on as he laboured last in each contest. This was to prove an ongoing theme for Buttocks Martin (BM) for the rest of the w/e.

After I'd conquered every mountain Matt could muster, I ducked off to prepare a lunch fit for Kings (Sami) & Queens (Ross). As I did this, the boys went about their next activity which was similar to orienteering where they had to combine shared information to proceed to the next stage. Apparently a couple of the boys stepped up & found their voices. All in all, a very productive morning.

After ten bbq chickens, rolls & three salad leaves, the boys were ready for anything. Anything came in the form of a workshop to define "What it means to be a Devil". Each player who had been at the previous Camp was asked to describe a piece of artwork they had done at that Camp which was to then define the Devil spirit. Everyone was also asked to write, draw or describe that sense of being or belonging. It was very informal & a great session for newcomers to the Club or Team.

Next on the agenda was archery where the boys all got competitive & some even hit the board. Ryan Marnell was the standout as he pretended he was in the middle of Sherwood Forest, although no Maid Marion was to be found. Just as we concluded our Robin Hood practice, the main players of the w/e arrived to little or no fanfare. As the car pulled up, the passenger side leant alarmingly. As the door swung open & a large figure stood up, the car lurched back to equilibrium. "Hi, I'm Lonno" said the Life Member as he stuck out his large paw. He walked through the group & greeted them all. Following right behind was the equally illustrious Club Secretary & fellow Legend Mike "but you can call me Youngie" Young. These guys had given up their own time willingly to come to Camp Devil to get to know these "Young Punks".

The "programme" as such had finished for the day & the boys firstly had a game of basketball where Big Milan showed off his Euro style to great effect & Ross Sinclair showed some erstwhile ball skills. After that it was time for touch footy & both team Captains fought over the prodigiously talented CE & the traditional skills of the former Balmain Tiger, Lonno.

Whilst most eyes were on those two, nobody expected the Club Captain (CC) to dummy, feign, weave, accelerate then dart through for a try with his first touch. Everyone blamed each other for letting the forty six year old make them look silly, but two minutes later they were clutching at air again as the Man of the Match left them for dead as he went over untouched again.

As the bedazzled water stars headed for the comfort of the pool, knowing they had been given a lesson on land, the fun was just about to start. Lonno had organised the Bowlo Courtesy Bus to call past & pick us up for a couple of sundowners. As they were representing the Club on unknown ground, the boys wanted to look their best so most of them put on their cleanest singlets before stepping out. Ross even slipped on his best flip flops. With his tight long shorts Milan displayed his unique Euro style again & BM somehow found a pair of shorts that weren't split at the seams. Youngie looked like.....Youngie.

We all gathered at the Bowlo & personalities were sorted. Phil was restless, knowing this was the scene of his closest encounter since Wyong. He never took his forlorn eyes off the door. BM was torn, not knowing whether to have a flutter on the one armed bandits or pre-order the fried ice cream from the adjoining restaurant. That pillar of stability, Lonno, held court on one table & Youngie looked on drolly, adding comment when necessary. After a couple of bevies, there was a sense of expectation, & almost on cue, the doors slid open to reveal that veritable King of Spin TGM. Before taking a seat at Lonno's Table Of Knowledge, he'd spoken to the Manager about some roadies with ice for the arduous five minute drive back to Base Camp. Always on the think is TGM.

We all proceeded upstairs for dinner not realising this esteemed establishment offered the world's fastest meal. Plates were delivered to our tables in some cases before they were ordered. The only people who had to wait were Emi & Sami who were out the back cooking their own Linguine Carbonara. Brightened by his win over a generous one armed bandit, BM scoffed down his couple of mains in order to hasten his appointment with dessert. Being his usual self, he offered his fried ice cream to all & sundry & not surprisingly, the team helped him out. We were all mindful of the top button on his pants popping so we all dug in. Being selfless he immediately ordered another only for the same thing to happen. We were only thinking of the ramifications if that said button took an eye out. We all returned downstairs for a few more bevies before loading the bus with supplies & heading back to Base. Upon arrival orders were followed, trees felled & before long we had ourselves Bonfire of the Vain.

We all settled down for a couple stories of lore from Lonno & Youngie. It'd been a while since Youngie had been up this late, so he was like a kid on first day at Camp. After a verse or two of Kumbuya, we were suitably primed for more stories from the heart. A quick head count from the CC discovered Young Gun Jumbo hadn't arrived as expected & Mister Magoo had sensibly decided not to return as he'd had a beer two days ago & you never know.

As SOG stood we sensed we were in the presence of someone even higher but his relaxed delivery put everyone at ease. After some stirring words, he unveiled a brown paper bag which contained all manner of thrills.

Jake Stanton had caught Youngie's enthusiasm & was first to stand at SOG'S alter. He drank the holy water with relish. (Funnily enough it returned to earth some time later, having cleansed his soul, looking very much like (carrot) relish too).

We all took turns at SOG's alter as he revealed himself a true leader of men. He had thought about this quite obviously as he coaxed the best from his young flock. CE was relaxed as ever, ready for anything but more likely to show his passion through actions than words. Aussie Sami (AS) was very relaxed & thoughtful as always. Never one to waste words, when he speaks, the others listen. Eli & Ross discussed surf breaks & athletes foot threats in public showers as Justin & Nick as young disciples hung on every word from the esteemed company. Learo (DG) was at his best, cleaning as he went about his business of bridging the age gap. TGM sat on his log, available to anyone who cared to listen. He was advised by

elder Lonno to keep his sermons to half hour portions. Meanwhile Phil looked at the gate & Youngie was still giggling.

My last memory from a memorable night was sitting in TGM's Public School coxless four along with the Emery boys & DG as we won the head of the creek regatta.

TGM's last sermon was delivered as the sun was rising to a non-plussed Milan who finally decided the only way to shut him up was to fall on him. With that, they both finally slept.

Sun arose to another display of good house-keeping by DG as he cooked, mopped & strode about in a pinnie. Brekkie was delicious & finished before TGM discovered a way out from under the big man Milan. Cars were loaded post haste & off we set for Caves Beach. TGM had organised surf craft as part of a punishing fitness session. All the boys gave it their all, but Ross, still wearing his anti fungae flip flops was the stand out as he showed his surfing pedigree. BM, wearing his custom xxxxxx sized cossies lagged at the back but still tried, to his credit. Eli showed some local knowledge & managed to return from one hill sprint with a coffee, & still won it. Nick proved again he's the sprint king while Phil kept one eye on the car park.

We all re-gathered at the adjoining Surf Club for lunch and a debrief on the w/e. The final part of the w/e was for the boys to set some goals as a team for the year. This was all discussed & aligned & we all disbursed happy in the knowledge that as a team these guys carry the true Devil Spirit. We all look forward to the next Camp Devil (with or without relish).

GO DEVILS !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Fraser (CC#1)**

## Award Winners 2011 – 2012

	<b>MVP</b>	<b>MOST IMPROVED</b>
Under 14A Girls	<b>Emma Workman</b>	<b>Sarah Kerrison</b>
Under 14 B Girls	<b>Kayla Rogers</b>	<b>Maddison Tilyard</b>
Under 16 Red Girls	<b>Kaitlyn Laycock</b>	<b>Georgia Mirabito</b>
Under 16 Black Girls	<b>Lara Murray</b>	<b>Anna Linfield-Kent</b>
Under 18 Girls	<b>Shannan Martin</b>	<b>Kelsey Baxter</b>
Under 14A Boys	<b>Rory Williams</b>	<b>Liam Corry</b>
Under 14B Boys	<b>Angus Rankin</b>	<b>Benj Murray</b>
Under 16A Boys	<b>James Smith</b>	<b>Sam Watson</b>
Under 16B Boys	<b>James Hayward</b>	<b>Daniel Tilyard</b>
Under 18 Boys	<b>Mitchell Holden</b>	<b>Steven Xenakis</b>
Garry Nicholls Outstanding Junior	<b>Isabella Mercuri</b>	
Women National League	<b>Nikki Unberhaun</b>	
Ladies 1st Grade	<b>Morgan Baxter</b>	Ladies 1 <sup>st</sup> Division MIP
Ladies 2nd Grade	<b>Nicola Murphy</b>	<b>Erin Moodie</b>
Ladies 3rd Grade Red	<b>Danni Willis</b>	Ladies 2 <sup>nd</sup> Division MIP
Ladies 3rd Grade Black	<b>Sharna Small</b>	<b>Sarah Harnwell</b>
Ladies 4th Grade	<b>Genevieve Fogarty</b>	
Ladies 5th Grade Red	<b>Sue Sharrock</b>	
Ladies 5th Grade Black	<b>Becky Coy</b>	
Men National League	<b>John Hahn</b>	
Mens 1st Grade	<b>Samuele Avallone</b>	Mens 1 <sup>st</sup> Division MIP
Mens 2nd Grade	<b>Alberto Rapisardi</b>	<b>Justin Trabinger</b>
Mens 3rd Grade	<b>Juan Ramirez</b>	
Mens 4th Grade	<b>Mark Simpson</b>	
Mens 5th Grade Red	<b>Pat Long</b>	
Mens 5th Grade Black	<b>Tom Southern</b>	Mens 2 <sup>nd</sup> Division MIP
Mens 6th Grade Red	<b>Kerry Sunderland</b>	<b>Not Awarded</b>
Mens 6th Grade Black	<b>Brad Palmer</b>	
Michael Corry – Clubman of the Year	<b>Wendy Tuite</b>	

## Representative Honours 2011 – 2012

<p><b>Primary Schools</b></p> <p><b>Under 13 Development Squad</b> Annabelle Bennett Gabby Hall Harry Gilkes Isabella Faulder James Tuite Jasmine Yip Kayla Rogers Maddison Tilyard Ned Churchyard Oscar Ryan Phoebe Pride</p> <p><b>NSW Under 14</b> Cathryn Prout Cooper Steen Emma Tuite Emma Jones Emma Workman Lachlan Davis Sarah Kerrison Shania Mitchell</p> <p><b>NSW CIS</b> Amy Graetz Daniel Trent Fiona Walsh Georgia Mirabito James Brennan Jnr James Smith Kaitlyn Laycock Mitchell Holden Sam Stanton</p> <p><b>NSW CCC</b> Anna Linfield-Kent Bethan Smolenic Bronte Hare Cathryn Prout Ellen Hahn Hannah Gray Isabella Mercuri Jayden Namroud Kristyn Bennett Lara Murray Steven Xenakis</p>	<p><b>NSW CHS</b> Adam Hall Joel Foristal Josh Rogers Megan Moodie Mitchell Taylor</p> <p><b>NSW Schools</b> Ellen Hahn Fiona Walsh James Smith</p> <p><b>NSW Under 16s</b> Alex Corbett Anna Linfield-Kent Georgia Mirabito Emmanuel Ronconi Hannah Gray Lachlan Faulder Lara Murray Mackenzie Marnell Rowan Farrell Sam Watson Sarah Harnwell Sarah Churchyard Steven Xenakis</p> <p><b>NSW Under 18s</b> Alex Allen Amy Graetz Ellen Hahn Erin Moodie Isabella Mercuri James Smith Karlee Assef Kelsey Baxter Nick Taylor Steven Xenakis</p> <p><b>NSW Under 20s</b> Alex Allan Ellen Hahn Erin Moodie Fiona Walsh Jake Stanton James Smith Morgan Baxter Ryan Marnell Shannan Martin Stephanie Calaizis</p>	<p><b>2012 London Olympics</b> Aidan Roach</p> <p><b>Australian Senior</b> Aidan Roach John Hahn Samuele Avallone</p> <p><b>Australian B93</b> Justin Trabinger Morgan Baxter</p> <p><b>Australian B94</b> Fiona Walsh Justin Trabinger Shannan Martin Stephanie Calaizis</p> <p><b>Australian B96</b> James Smith Kaitlyn Laycock Rowan Farrell Sam Stanton Steven Xenakis</p> <p><b>Australian Schools 2011</b> Fiona Walsh Justin Trabinger Shannan Martin Stephanie Calaizis</p> <p><b>Australian Country</b> Ben Scott Justin Trabinger</p> <p><b>NSWIS NTC</b> Adam Polivka Aidan Roach Mitchell Emery Morgan Baxter John Hahn Shannan Martin Stephanie Calaizis Tyler Martin</p> <p><b>NL All Stars</b> Morgan Baxter Samuele Avallone Tyler Martin</p>	<p><b>TEAM OFFICIALS</b></p> <p><b>NSW Under 14</b> <b>Manager</b> Emma Hill - Girls</p> <p><b>NSW Under 16 - NZ</b> <b>Coach</b> Wendy Stanton - Girls</p> <p><b>Manager</b> Tracey Mirabito – Girls</p> <p><b>NSW Under 18 - NZ</b> <b>Coach</b> Michael Hahn – Girls</p> <p><b>Manager</b> Tracey Mirabito – Girls</p> <p><b>NSW Under 20</b> <b>Coach</b> Michael Hahn – Girls</p> <p><b>Manager</b> <b>Australian Youth</b> <b>Manager</b> Tracey Mirabito – Girls Mike Smith – Boys</p> <p><b>Australian Junior</b> <b>Manager</b> Jenny MacGregor – Girls</p> <p><b>NL All Stars - Women</b> Mitchell Scott - Asst</p>
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## **Financials 2011 - 2012**

**See attachment Financial Statement for Year End 30 April 2012**

## DWPC Life Member #13

**R. M. HAHN  
LIFE MEMBER 2012  
DRUMMOYNE WATER POLO CLUB**

We have a new life member, our 13<sup>th</sup>, he is a player, a coach, a parent, a committeeman, a president and now a recipient of our highest award, the 13<sup>th</sup> Life Member of Drummoyne Water Polo Club.

**Raymond Michael Hahn**

Hahnie, Firewalker or Ray Ray as they girls call him came over from North Sydney Water Polo Club in the early 80's. There he was a fiery centre forward/driver and many of us over 50 year olds here tonight can recollect the odd battle involving Firewalker. It was the norm when playing Nth Sydney to see how long he could last before getting his marching orders, Hahnie had done well if he got to half time.

He crossed the bridge, joined DWPC in summer and played for Drummoyne Rugby Club in winter, married Lynne, got himself a mortgage, and not many years later started producing kids. For many summer seasons life was simple, a 5 minute warmup before a game on a Tuesday night, and running the gauntlet on the back streets through Drummoyne on the way home. He ventured onto the committee in the early 1990's, and was instrumental in getting the Parliament House Luncheon up and running in 1999.

As with many of us, his involvement grew dramatically once the Hahn kids got the sniff of how much fun you can have playing polo, Hahnie was involved in getting the Friday night Junior Development Program, John started, then Rob, PJ and Ellen finally.

Being the coach of his M6 team, I have seen his skills, fitness & swimming times deteriorate over the last 10 years, and he is now a mere shadow of his former self on a Tuesday at 7.30pm at HQ.

In 2005 he took on the Presidency, 8 years later is still there, and in my view, has been the driving force in building our one time 3 team club, to the National League and 25 competitive summer teams.

He brings his many talents to the club, he seems to know everyone, if not he knows someone who knows someone, his workrate is enormous and his devotion to making Drummoyne Water Polo Club a great fun place is unquestionable.

We are indeed very lucky that he crossed that bridge to the inner west many years ago, as he has been the builder in making DWPC what it is today.

Raymond Michael Hahn, our very, very worthy 13<sup>th</sup> Life Member.



**Thanks everyone for a great season. See you on pool deck.**