

# The Bottom Line

QEII UNDERWATER HOCKEY CLUB  
NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2004



## My Word!

What a year 2003 was for the Club! Whilst we may not have been as successful as we would have liked in actual competitions (B-Grade bronze at the Regionals in May being our only success), we can be proud of our efforts in hosting a total of six tournaments last year. Well done to those involved.

Our member base has not increased dramatically with all the promoting the club undertook last year but gladly we did manage to entice Matt Toohey back to underwater hockey after a number of years out of the sport. We have also managed to get some new players on board such as Adrian Metcalfe and Julia Jenkins. Hopefully this year we will be able to more actively promote the club, target the Saturday beginners session and local schools to lift our sport's profile and subsequently increase numbers within the club.

To increase our competitiveness in future competitions, the committee is looking to possibly set up a new format for our Thursday night sessions (or a part thereof). It is hoped that players will learn how to play designated positions within a team format and have full comprehension of what is required to play that position (during set plays, etc). A format has not yet been finalised by the committee, but should be soon.

It was great to see so many turn up to the Christmas BBQ. Understandably, it is impossible to find a date that suits all members and was a pity that some had other commitments. Hopefully all who could make it had a good time, albeit in the withering summer heat. A letter of thanks has been sent to Santa attending and performing so wonderfully for the kids.

Congratulations to all who received awards and/or recognition for their efforts during 2003 (details on inside of newsletter). I still have some to give out so will endeavour to do so as soon as possible.

Here's to an excellent year above and below the surface!

Hamish

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"The Bottom Line" is a name I thought up for our club newsletter. If you agree that it's appropriate, or indeed think you have a better name, please forward your thoughts to a committee member.

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## From 'El Presidente'

Happy New Year – I hope you've all had a good rest and not over indulged over the holiday break. Well now it's time to start into training for those of us that haven't been!!

Looks like we've got another action packed year ahead of us with Regionals coming up shortly it would be great to be able to field fit players to represent our region.

I'll look forward to seeing you on the bottom A.S.A.P.

Dave

## NZ Masters, Dunedin

In case you had registered for the Masters Underwater Hockey Tournament in Dunedin on Waitangi weekend, or had planned to go down, the tourney has had to be canned as there are not enough players. Great Shame!

## HELP!

The Worlds are not far away and a lot of volunteers are still required over the two week Competition period.

If you can help in some way, or know someone that can do so, please contact:

**Brian Soutar**

**358-9670**

**brian.soutar@xtra.co.nz**

# Christmas BBQ 2003

Breaking away from the trend of the last few years, the Christmas BBQ was held at Hamish and Maria's place, giving Dave and Pam a break and centralising the event to closer to town and hopefully the bulk of members.

As it turned out, the day was blistering hot and it would have been quite nice to have had some water flowing nearby to cool off in. The wind didn't help at all and prevented the erection of some much needed shade by form of a gazebo. Santa turned up for the kiddies and was sweating profusely due to him wearing his traditional clothing instead of more appropriate shorts and hawaiian t-shirt. It was noted that the one concession he awarded himself was to arrive without his boots on. Rudolph was sadly absent this year.

**Awards and certificates of acknowledgement awarded for the year 2003 were as follows:**

## Certificates of Acknowledgement:

Bryn Thompson	Member, NZ Masters Open team for 2003 Trans-Tasmans in Hobart Member, NZ Masters Open team for 2004 CMAS World Champs in Christchurch
Dave White	Member, NZ Masters Open team for 2003 Trans-Tasmans in Hobart
Ian Barker	Manager, NZ Masters Open team for 2003 Trans-Tasmans in Hobart Manager, NZ Masters Open team for 2004 CMAS World Champs in Christchurch
Aaron Smith	Trialist, NZ U19 Open team for 2003 Trans-Tasmans in Hobart Trialist, NZ U19 Open team for 2004 CMAS World Champs in Christchurch
Ian Soutar	Trialist, NZ U19 Open team for 2003 Trans-Tasmans in Hobart Trialist, NZ U19 Open team for 2004 CMAS World Champs in Christchurch
Brendan Maxwell	Trialist, NZ Open team for 2003 Trans-Tasmans in Hobart Trialist, NZ Open team for 2004 CMAS World Champs in Christchurch
Matthew Neale	Member, NZ Open team for 2003 Trans-Tasmans in Hobart Trialist, NZ Open team for 2004 CMAS World Champs in Christchurch

## Awards:

Penelope Spencer	Youngest Competitor in an open grade competition
Nicole Brown	Most Promising Player
Gary Kearns	Most Improved Player
Denis Chen	Rookie of the Year
Ian Barker	Personality of the Year
Ray Hall/Murray Greig	Most Valuable Player
Brian Soutar	Administrator of the Year
Hamish Howie	Club dedication Trophy

***A special thank you to Bryn and Ian who sped off to Kaikoura early in the morning to gather a heap of paua and spear a couple of butterfish for the barbie. Very tasty!***

***Their efforts were much appreciated by us all. Sadly the crayfish had heard they were coming and hid too well.***

One person was so impressed with receiving an award, he was still performing acceptance speeches at 9pm (well after practically everyone had gone home). Nice personality though!

***It had been hoped to show a montage of photos taken at the BBQ by Bryn. Sadly, his computer is not feeling well and is in at the doctors. All the photos taken on his digital camera are happily sitting on his hard drive. Hopefully by time of the next publication it will be possible to display a pictorial masterpiece of the event.***

## Pool Bookings '04

<b>Tuesdays</b>	<b>8.30 pm - 9.30 pm</b> 5 lanes – 50 Metre pool (North end)
<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>7.30 pm - 10.00 pm</b> 5 lanes – 50 metre pool
<b>Fridays</b>	<b>6.00 pm - 7.00 pm</b> Dive Well Shelf
<b>Saturdays</b>	<b>4.00 pm - 5.00 pm</b> Dive Well Shelf
<b>Sundays</b>	<b>4.00 pm - 6.00 pm</b> 4 Lanes – 50 Metre pool

### *Dates not available due to other bookings:*

#### **Tuesdays:**

23 March	World U/Water Hockey Champs
30 March	World U/Water Hockey Champs

#### **Thursdays:**

26 February	Canty Secondary Schools Finals
18 March	World U/Water Hockey Champs
25 March	World U/Water Hockey Champs
1 April	World U/Water Hockey Champs
12 August	Wharenui Winter Olympics

#### **Fridays:**

12 March	Canterbury Swim Centre Open Meet
19 March	World U/Water Hockey Champs
26 March	World U/Water Hockey Champs
2 April	World U/Water Hockey Champs
9 July	QEII Mid Winter Carnival
6 August	(ON HOLD) SI Masters
13 August	Wharenui Winter Olympics

#### **Saturdays:**

13 March	SI Secondary Schools Water Polo
20 March	World U/Water Hockey Champs
27 March	World U/Water Hockey Champs
3 April	World U/Water Hockey Champs
5 June	National League Canoe Polo Finals
7 August	(ON HOLD) SI Masters

#### **Sundays:**

18 January	Canterbury A Swim Champs
8 February	Aquagym Swim Meet
21 March	World U/Water Hockey Champs
28 March	World U/Water Hockey Champs
4 April	World U/water Hockey Champs
18 April	(ON HOLD) Asia Pacific Sp. Olympics
11 July	QEII Mid Winter Carnival
15 August	Wharenui Winter Olympics
28 November	Aquagym Challenge

Mr Barker has had ANOTHER scrape with an amorous shark, this time at Great Barrier Island. According to his son, Charlie, it was 11 metres long! Apparently water visibility was a bit 'cloudy' for a while thereafter. See Ian for the real story.

## Just a month away!

The harsh reality - our first competition of the year, the NZ Regionals, will be held here at QEII on Friday 20th and Saturday 21st February.

Some hard work will be required by those who wish to represent their region at the event. If you are one of those people, please try to get to as many club sessions as you can so we can attempt to organise some teams that will be competitive.

Please make your intentions known to Dave Whyte as soon as possible – phone 329-8150.

## Barker's Grand Slam

The notorious Barker's Grand Slam is again being held at D'Urville Island on the 30th and 31st of January. Eighteen beds have been booked but are quickly being taken so if you wish to join those going already, give Ian Barker a call on 383-2221.

It's a fantastic weekend of fun, fishing and friendship and I hope those attending this year have a great time (and a bit more luck than last year).

**Material required for next issue!  
Forward anything you have to Hamish.**

## A wee joke to finish

*The day after an underwater hockey player lost his wife in a free diving accident, he was greeted by two grim-faced policemen at his door.*

*"We're sorry to call on you at this hour, Mr. Jones, but we have some information about your wife."*

*"Well, tell me!" the man said.*

*The policeman said, "We have some bad news, some good news, and some really great news. Which do you want to hear first?"*

*Fearing the worst, Mr. Jones said, "Give me the bad news first."*

*So the policeman said, "I'm sorry to tell you, sir, but this morning we found your wife's body on the beach at D'Urville Island."*

*"Oh my god!" said Mr. Jones, overcome by emotion.*

*Remembering what the cop had said, he asked, "So what's the good news?"*

*"Well," said the cop, "when we pulled her up she had two four-pound crayfish and a dozen good size paddle crabs on her."*

*"If that's the good news, then what's the great news!?" he asked.*

*And the cop replied... "We're going to pull her up again tomorrow morning!"*

# QEII UWH Contact Details:

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