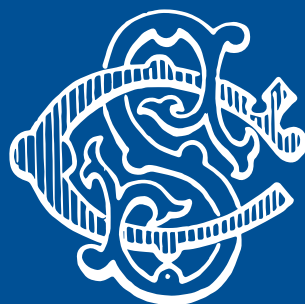


OTTER SWIMMING CLUB

FOUNDED 1869



ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2017



OTTER SWIMMING CLUB

FOUNDED 1869



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PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

Paul Hindle

2017 - ANOTHER FANTASTIC YEAR FOR OTTER.

- Otter Ladies' Water Polo continue to develop as the premier ladies' water polo club in London and the South East.
- Otter Men's Water Polo once again delivering real success.
- Otter Swimmers performed strongly in

every competition they competed in. Dave Adamson medalled at the FINA World Masters Championships and achieved multiple GB records.

- *And in Open Water swimming – Maddie Parra medalled at the FINA World Masters Championships.*

You can read all the detail in this excellent Annual Report.



150TH ANNIVERSARY

As you will probably all know the Otter Swimming Club was founded in 1869. 2019 will be our 150th anniversary year.

Otter is not the oldest swimming club around, but it certainly has a long and very proud history and has played an important role in the development of competitive swimming and water polo in the UK and around the world. We have a lot to celebrate and be proud of.

Your Committee is intending to make 2019 a memorable year and to that end plans are in motion to put together a package of celebration events, on top of the usual very full calendar.

As ever, such events do not happen by themselves, they need a lot of organising and will each take many months of planning and coordination. I know you will all agree that the 150th Anniversary is something very special for us all to celebrate, and I hope you will all be able to find time to play a part in helping to make it happen. Please do not hesitate to step forward and volunteer to help.



COMMITTEE 2017-18

The principal decision making body of the Club is the Committee. Its key functions are to set the strategic direction, manage financial affairs, and oversee the ongoing health and welfare of the Club. The Committee meets formally once every two months. The meetings are either face to face or by conference call, depending on the matters to be discussed. Urgent matters are usually dealt with via email. The 2017-18 Committee was elected at the April 2017 Annual General Meeting.

President:	Paul Hindle
Vice President	Lesley Davies
Hon. Treasurer	Chris Eden
Hon. Secretary	[unfilled]
Hon. Handicapper	Dave Warren
Captains of Swimming	Nico Barber Olivia Reynolds
Captain of Water Polo (Men)	Leon Estrella
Captain of Water Polo (Women)	Tracey Allen
Committee members	James Williams Holly Campbell Luane Sandrin Gauer Elodie Marnat

Due to a move overseas, Olivia Reynolds was replaced as one of the Captains of Swimming by Pip Bennett at the beginning of 2018.



CLUB ADMINISTRATION

Chris Eden

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OVERVIEW

Overall, the Club showed an operating surplus of £1,243, compared to the operating deficit in the prior year of £5,334, which has stemmed the tide of recent deficits dating back to 2014. Taken net of other movements in reserves (donations to the Memorial Fund and the annual increase to the Trophy Insurance fund) the net surplus for the year was £5.0k (2016: deficit £1.6k, 2015: surplus £1.0k).

The story of the year was an increase in the percentage of “full subscription” members as a portion of overall members, together with cost savings on coaching and pool time.

Membership numbers, excluding those competing only in the water polo age group tournaments, grew slightly (108 joiners, 102 leavers) although our member retention worsened slightly as shown by the churn rate (the monetary effect of people joining and leaving, when comparing expected income for a full annual subscription to what was actually received) at 31%, compared to 25% in 2016. This was largely a result of the leaver numbers also increasing compared with prior years and a higher than average take-up of temporary memberships.

The increase in subscription income was primarily related to the Club having more “full” subscription members in comparison with 2016 and compared to the budget. The Club also benefitted from another strong effort in fundraising, both from the raffle at the Annual Dinner as well as individual fundraising efforts by the ladies’ polo team.

Pool costs increased due to the usual annual inflationary rises in hourly rates, plus men’s polo took up some trial pool time at ULU in quarter 4 with the aim of fostering a link with London University students and developing a recruitment line. Coaching costs were down compared with 2016 and budget primarily due to coaching absences through illness early in the year.

The balance sheet remains strong, providing the base to invest in the right opportunities as the Committee considers appropriate. In particular, we are expecting to add more trial sessions at a selection of pools in 2018, to both widen both the geographical and timing (e.g. morning sessions) options available to the Club’s members.

Looking forward to 2018, the initial budgeted session offering is over 700 coached swimming hours and over 530 coached polo hours over the year. We continue to take regular time at top-class facilities such as London Aquatics Centre for swimming

and Crystal Palace for both men’s and ladies’ polo. Taking into account the Club handicap competitions, open water swims, and other Club events throughout the year, not least the excellent Annual Dinner, and great team-mates whether you’re swimming a straight route or a more circuitous one (with or without a ball): Otter continues to be a great club to be a member of!

Pool-time help!

Plea from the Committee: we continue to be keen to investigate pool-time opportunities. Any introductions to contacts within pool management that you can make for us would be extremely welcome. It remains tough to obtain time at new facilities (or even older ones!), with so much competition from other clubs and a warm introduction would help greatly.

Prizes & General Fund and Memorial Fund donors

The generosity of members, either in paying over and above their regular subscriptions or in making separate designated donations, continues to help manage the Club’s annual costs as well as strengthen the capital base. As such, we thank the following:

David Adamson, Michael Amos, Matt Burgham, Annette Coomer, Charles Doxat, Martha Dean, Alex Flash, Martin Flash, Alex Fraser, Michael Gallagher, Victor Hardy, Gina Hobson, John Illife, Xavier Imbs, Ric Jones, Peter Kirk, Andrew Louw, Fiona Marshall, Jeff Mattick, Andrew Morton, Doug Payne, Peter Rae, James Scanlan, Elizabeth Shaw, David Skidmore OBE, James Stewart, Cliff Stossel, Bob Thomas, Hugh Turner, Martin Vandersteen, Dave Warren and Thibault Williams.





MEMBERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

During the year, Otter welcomed 108 new members (compared with 93 in 2016), 37 of whom were water polo players (2016: 35). All new members are included in the list of current members attached at the end of this report. The average number of members during the year was:

	2017	2016
Active swimmers	118	106
Country swimmers	26	25
Non-active swimmers	60	69
Life member swimmers	34	34
Junior swimmers	5	5
TOTAL SWIMMERS	243	239
Active polo	57	62
Country polo	7	8
Non-active polo	12	14
Life member polo	8	8
Junior polo	47	44
TOTAL POLO	131	136
TOTAL MEMBERS	374	375

Thanks to the considerable efforts of the following, for signing up new members, policing memberships and more: Olivia Reynolds, Nico Barber and Emma Cartwright for swimmers; Jill Dean, Jill Rogers, Daryl Nurthen, Tracey Allen and Peggy Etiebet for ladies' polo; Leon Estrella, Ivor Sokolic, Paolo Sirianni and Paul Hindle for men's polo.

Thank you also to Emma Cartwright for handling the Club's ASA registrations, especially the annual renewal which is proving ever trickier with shortening deadlines; Tony Ray for running the shop and managing swimming competition entries; and Michelle Senecal, Yuri Schwartz, Daryl Nurthen and Paul Hindle for managing the pool bookings.

The Club website continues to be a key factor in attracting new members – thanks to John Talbott, Lex Higglett and Dave Warren. The quality of the website is defined by the content on it (news, reports, photos, etc.) so please get in touch throughout the year if you have any contributions, whether it be for swimming, polo, triathlon, open water, or any member news at all. We hope to be able to reintroduce the online kit shop through the website in 2018 through an enhancement to our club management software, so watch this space!

Finally, massive thanks to Tom Burkinshaw for continuing to serve honorary Club auditor for another year, ensuring that the Club's finances are properly reported!




INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - £

Year ended 31 Dec 2017	2017	2016
Members income	126,817	119,082
Subscriptions income	117,008	110,360
Special sessions	940	1,150
Match fees	7,101	5,901
Prizes and general fund	1,768	1,671
Other income	2,158	2,244
Capital income	1,387	1,312
Miscellaneous income	771	932
TOTAL INCOME	128,975	121,326
Pools & equipment	(81,169)	(76,141)
Pool hire costs	(80,398)	(75,537)
Equipment costs	(771)	(604)
Coaching	(21,578)	(24,950)
Coaching costs	(21,578)	(24,950)
Activity costs	(14,109)	(16,800)
Water polo expenses	(8,708)	(8,396)
Swimming expenses	(807)	(883)
Affiliation costs	(4,474)	(7,433)
Prizes and trophies	(120)	(88)
Club activities	340	(95)
Dinner	600	(20)
Open water races	(437)	160
Shop sales	177	(235)
Administration	(11,216)	(8,674)
Insurance	(2,000)	(2,000)
Post and printing	(2,369)	(1,720)
Bad debts	(6,045)	(4,332)
IT costs	(352)	(199)
Miscellaneous costs	(450)	(423)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	(127,732)	(126,660)
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	1,243	(5,334)

'I have examined the books and vouchers of Otter Swimming Club and have obtained all necessary explanations for me to confirm that these accounts show a reasonable view of the Club's activities for the year and its financial position as at the 31st December 2017.' Hon Auditor. Tom Burkinshaw


BALANCE SHEET - £

Year ended 31 Dec 2017	2017	2016
Trophies	35,000	35,000
<i>Tangible fixed assets</i>	<i>35,000</i>	<i>35,000</i>
Investments at cost	30,142	30,142
Self insurance investment	30,069	26,064
<i>Investments</i>	<i>60,211</i>	<i>56,206</i>
Fixed assets	95,211	91,206
Stock	5,755	4,206
Debtors	9,003	4,287
Cash at bank and in hand	23,177	46,364
<i>Current assets</i>	<i>37,935</i>	<i>54,857</i>
<i>Creditors falling due within one year</i>	<i>(10,094)</i>	<i>(28,021)</i>
Net current assets	27,841	26,836
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	123,052	118,042
Computer fund	3,880	3,880
Spoon fund	7,038	7,038
<i>Sinking funds</i>	<i>10,918</i>	<i>10,918</i>
Provisions	10,918	10,918
Life membership fund	21,295	21,295
Memorial fund	38,692	36,925
Trophy insurance fund	26,983	24,983
<i>Capital funds</i>	<i>86,970</i>	<i>83,203</i>
Balance brought forward	23,921	29,255
Capital income and reserves	-	-
Result for year	1,243	(5,334)
<i>Reserve funds</i>	<i>25,164</i>	<i>23,921</i>
Reserves	112,134	107,124
RESERVES AND PROVISIONS	123,052	118,042

Investments # and value at 31 December 2017; Brunner Investment Trust 2,517 £21,848, Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust 7,465 £24,411, JP Morgan Claverhouse Investment Trust 1,530 £11,781, Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust 14,270 £62,075. Total market value of portfolio £120,115 (2016 £96,536); unrealised gain £89,973 (2016 £66,394).



MEMBER NEWS

HELLO FROM...

In 2017 a number of long standing and active members left London for pastures new. But they haven't forgotten their Otter roots. Here are some words from a few of them:

Lex Higlett in Portland, USA

Pleased to report that everything is going well over here in the States. Missing Otter but Portland is lovely, and a very, very easy place to live.

With the help of some generous references from Otters, Gina Hobson and Olivia Reynolds, I've managed to score a membership to a fancy "Portland Country Club" - The Multnomah Athletic Club. The MAC was established in 1891, so boasts a very cool proud history, and a small but awesome masters swim team. The club's facilities are pretty special, huge gym, a football stadium where Portland's MLS team play and, most importantly, three indoor pools including a six lane 50m pool where we do most of our training. I haven't found a polo team yet, and I'm still not quite sure about this yards thing. But I'm excited to get back into racing in 2018 and I'm hoping to see lots of Otters at the LEN European Masters Championships in Slovenia. 'Till then have fun, and look after each other.



Lex Higlett at MAC

Alex Fraser, AKA Silf, in Toronto, Canada

"Hey buddy, how about that snow, eh?"

Since moving to Toronto I haven't really mastered the accent, and I'm still met with looks of confusion when I try to explain the significance of England losing the Ashes. However, as the stereotype goes, all Canadians are very friendly and have welcomed me at my new work and there's a strong ex-pat contingent all keen on watching the Six Nations in February. The hardest change has been the lack of cider out here, so it will please the social Otters to know I do find the taste of Coors Light bearable.

As for swimming, I'm hoping to join the Ryerson Uni Masters team in the New Year and have already scoped out the "Polar Bear Ice Dip" New Year's Day Swim and a considerably warmer one around the Toronto Islands in Lake Ontario in August. All Otters welcome to visit any time.



Fraser in Toronto

Chris Sutton, AKA Ginger Babies, in Chicago, USA

Chris Sutton moved to a new job with a new wife and dog in Chicago, he joins two other Otters there. For his wedding a bevy of Otters went across the pond to Dallas, Texas to celebrate and even managed to get some late Sheffield training in.



Chris & Paige wedding

Kathy Rogers in Michigan, USA

This August I started at the University of Michigan to be part of their Women's Water Polo team. I chose to do this because I wanted to be able to progress my water polo whilst studying and Michigan gave me the opportunity I needed. Michigan's team is currently ranked 7th nationally for water polo and is considered the top public university in America. So far, Michigan has lived up all of my hopes and I am really enjoying everything, (maybe apart from the few days of -20 degree weather) and very excited to move in to season this semester. The team will travel to California several times as well as to the east coast in the hope of defending our conference title in April to qualify for the NCAA championship.

An average day at Michigan would start with a 3 hour polo session in the morning, then straight to 2 or 3 lectures for the day and then maybe weights session at the end.

Some perks of being a student-athlete at U of M include lots of free food, free kit and free tickets to every sport including American football games in a stadium of 110,000!



OTTER'S ENTREPRENEURS



John & Madeline

In 2013 we first came up with the idea that sifting through the millions of things that people post on social media every day would be a great way to find the best restaurants and bars to go to.

After knocking up a prototype one weekend in Cambridge we thought it would be easy. It wasn't.

Enter years of late nights seven days per week, spending a lot of other people's money, building a team and generally making it up as we went along. Anyone that's been to La Santa in the last few years has probably seen us buried in our laptops more than we were in the swimming pool!

The hard work paid off - during the life of Twizoo we won best new app for iPhone, were covered by the BBC and The Times and worked with customers like OpenTable, Yell.com and LateRooms.

Thanks so much for all of your support, filling in surveys, downloading the app, putting up with all our lateness and still inviting us to things despite countless no-shows. We couldn't have done it without you.

In September 2017 Skyscanner bought the whole company. Which was nice.

THE FRASERS DO JOGLE



Alex & Tim start JOGLE

Venturing out of the pool, Tim and Alex Fraser (aka DILF and SILF) cycled from John O'Groats to Land's End last summer in aid of Multiple Sclerosis. Here Alex recounts some of the highlights.

"This is going to be a lot harder than expected": that was the overriding thought going through our heads as we sat slumped in our chairs, exhausted and not talking in the Altnaharra hotel after day one of our John O'Groats to Land's End bike ride. We had another 13 days still to go and about 1100 miles still to cover. Setting off had been easy, good weather followed us from John O'Groats but we hadn't accounted for headwinds and just how desolate Northern Scotland was; three hour mark of riding to finish the day and we hadn't seen a single building. This meant rationing our food supplies and stocking up wherever possible would be essential over the coming days to replenish the 5,000 calories we were each using.

Training for this marathon cycling event had perhaps been too gentle in hindsight. Laps of Richmond Park were great for building up speed and had improved my endurance to the five hour mark, but on this trek we would regularly be cycling for closer to eight hours a day over much hillier terrain. However, days two, three and four passed much easier than the first, some steep climbs but the views over Loch Awe, Loch Ness and beyond were well worth it and fortunately the weather from Inverness to Fort William was stunning.

DILF had intentionally chosen a scenic route and our day on the Isle of Arran, complete with whiskey distillery tour was testament to that. The other benefit of this route was the quiet roads which meant we could ride side by side for much of the way. In an attempt to ignore the aches in our legs, backs and buttocks we took great pleasure in spotting street names with innuendos. Day nine we hit the jackpot with the Willey Estate, Titton and Minge Lane (yes really!) all featuring on our ride through Gloucestershire. Fair to say conversation had dried up by this point!

Days 11-13 were miserable. Or more accurately, the rain and sharp hills made me miserable, Dad was his usual chipper and (by this point) mildly annoying self. But we cheered ourselves up and got warm with regular stops for cream teas during the 90 mile daily grind. Our hurricane-like conditions across an airfield on Bodmin Moor complete with sideways rain and treacherous wind were well rewarded with fish and chips on the penultimate night of our journey.

We'd been fairly lucky with falls and mechanicals up until the final day when, first of all, I managed to avoid two indecisive pedestrians but not the road as we came down a hill into Polperro. Fortunately, my helmet had taken the brunt of the impact but my ankle, shoulder and hip were badly grazed. Then Dad managed to get not one but two punctures as we left Hayle some ten miles later. By this stage we were not to be deterred however, and we rode on through Poldark country and the abandoned tin mines. Shortly before 6pm on 1st July, surrounded in mist, we crossed over the finish line at Land's End. Exhausted, hungry but two very happy Otters.



Fraser's finish JOGLE

CHANNEL RELAY SWIMS

On 14th July, four Otters and two friends headed off from Dover aiming for the coast of France. The team comprised of Elizabeth Galvin (nee Attwood) (one previous relay crossing and one solo crossing), Hayley Attwood (past Otter coach), Deirdre Ward (previous single and double solo crossings, plus a few relays), and Lesley Davies (one previous relay crossing).

The swim was completed arriving in France to a firework display (turned out it was not the Otter welcome but Bastille Day) having seen a porpoise, the biggest moon and a sighting of the new Queen Elizabeth cruise ship.



Lesley's Channel team

And then a slightly different experience. A channel relay in December, it was a stupid idea but how could you say no... It wasn't a new idea but the general feeling was that the coastguards wouldn't want to swim that late. A recent comment suggested otherwise and an idea formed. The qualifying rules were simple - have a previous channel swim to your name, swim a few hour swims in 10c as training and be a little bit stupid.

A team of seven was gathered and as the water temp dropped, we kept swimming and waited. The aim was a December swim with the Sandettie Lightship Buoy giving a water temp of 10+ and perfect weather. The usual waiting game applied but we

were the only team on the tide. 2nd December gave us all three - the call came through on the Friday afternoon for a 6:30 am meet on the Saturday morning at Dover Marina.

The final six were Dani Lobo, Deirdre Ward, Kevin Blick, Mark Johansen, Boris Marvra and Rob Ouldcott, all Serpentine swimmers with a wealth of channel experience. Anita Goyos, an Otter swimmer, was not able to join us due to work commitments on the day. She had trained valiantly and would have been the lead swimmer had things worked out differently.

Layered in thermals and massive coats, we met our pilot, Lance Oram, with his boat Sea Satin and crew which today included his father, Mike Oram, and our observer for the day, Jason Kelvin. We started at 07:52 from Abbott's Cliff with a yelp from Dani as he entered the water. We rotated swimmer every hour. The cold water and cold air, especially in the dark took its toll. Each hour was a long one. Once out of the water we were back in all our clothes as quick as possible before the shivers kicked in, then warming up and prepping for the next stint.

The air temperature barely rose above 3 degrees and the water temperature was 11 degrees mid channel (per the Sandettie reading). The inshore water temperatures on either side were a couple of degrees lower. As we swam on through sunrise and sunset, the lights of France got closer and after 13 hours 18 minutes I had the privilege of landing us on Wissant Beach. Standing up in the night air was cold - this was not the moment for celebration and I dived back in and sprinted to the boat.

It was a relay with a difference - a challenge but immensely fun. I wouldn't do it again but I am very glad to have done it! Team Cold Turkey (6) saw from England to France on 2 December 2017 in a time of 13 hours and 18 minutes. It was cold.



Cold Turkey relay team

WEDDINGS, BABIES AND OTHER CELEBRATIONS

2018 was massive year for the Men's Water Polo section in terms of love, weddings and babies. We celebrated the big fat Greek wedding of our second team captain, Paolo Sirianni. That was quite an event for him, her and all of us. Nothing beats "WaterPaolo" in a suit.



Otters on duty at Paolo and Alkistis' wedding

Two other members of the section also got married this year. Both of them came from overseas to join the Otter team and found a wife along the way. Nick Monahan, who stepped up to become team coach immediately after his wedding and Big Chris George, who decided to get married along his journey of great achievements: participation in the 2016 Olympics in Rio (judo not water polo), be a good friend of Orion, play for the Otter 1st team and not get crazy, and then finally get married.

Nick Corjon, Daniel Shunn and Nikos Roussos have each decided to take the big step and became engaged to their respective partners in 2017. We can expect more celebrations in the coming months.



Nick Corjon and Jane



Daniel Shunn and Sophie

Several members of the squad started a family in 2017, and others increased the number of their family members. This is the case of our 1st team Vice Captain, Orion Ganase, our legendary coach, Adam Dodkins, and fellow 2nd team stalwarts, Nick Edelman and James Williams. All of them lost several hours of sleep this year to take care of the new comers. We wish them best of luck and lots of power naps to come.



Adam and Mackenzie



Orion and Max

And then:

- Chris 'Ginger Babies' Sutton married Paige in Texas
- Katie and Caleb Barnes welcomed George on 26 April 2017
- Marie and Rob celebrated the arrival of Rosie Mander on 2 June 2017
- Maximilian James Stewart was born on 4 September 2017; a grandson to James and Margaret Stewart and a new Junior Non Active Member.



George Barnes



Rosie Mander

Also in 2017, three long standing members celebrated their 40th birthdays, in varying degrees of style. Fiona Marshall Staines, Gina Hobson and Michelle Senecal helped each other celebrate/commiserate this milestone, with trips out in London, Sussex and Cork, Ireland. The bracing swim to celebrate Michelle's birthday was a particular highlight!



Gina, Olivia, Michelle and Emma, Cork

THE SCHOOLS RELAYS

John Nalson

The Otter Challenge Cup Event

As customary, the 2017 Schools Relay events were preceded by the annual Otter Challenge Cup competition at St Pauls School on 9 March, when Otter took on 10 schools teams among whom were some of the best in the UK.

Victory went to The Royal Belfast Academical Institution who won six of the eight events in the programme followed by Campbell College, Belfast and Loughborough Grammar School. Otter finished fourth. To put the quality of the opposition in context the two Irish teams went on to win and be runners up in the final of The Otter Medley and first and third in The Bath Cup the next day.



The Bath Cup and Otter Medley Relays

The 2017 Schools Relay events, once again held at the London Aquatics Centre, involved both boys and girls teams. 81 boys schools and 67 girls schools from all over the UK were entered. The main event results are shown below and while the boys events have already been subject to comment the girls from Guildford High School resumed their winning ways in both events regaining their titles after one year from Latymer Upper School.

The Bath Cup (4x100m freestyle relay):

- 1st The Royal Belfast Academical Institution (3:40.86)
- 2nd Elizabeth College, Guernsey (3:43.24)
- 3rd Campbell College, Belfast (3:43.49)

The Otter Medley (4x50m Medley Relay):

- 1st The Royal Belfast Academical Institution (1:51.52)
- 2nd Campbell College, Belfast (1:52.41)
- 3rd Whitgift School (1:52.57)

The Otter Girls freestyle relay (4x50m)

- 1st Guildford High School (1:50.20)
- 2nd The Mary Erskine School, Edinburgh (1:52.62)
- 3rd Sherborne Girls School (1:52.62)

The Otter Girls Medley Relay (4x50m)

- 1st Guildford High School (2:00.76)
- 2nd Sherborne Girls School (2:04.00)
- 3rd Latymer Upper School (2:04.43)



Otter relays, London Aquatics Centre

THE PIP BENNETT IM SPECIAL

On Thurs 23 March the Club ran a special IM session at QMSC in aid of the charities that had supported Danni and Pip Bennett (Royal Trinity Hospice, London; Maggie's; St Peter's Hospice, Bristol). Danni very sadly passed away on 15 February after a battle with cancer. Six swimmers completed a mammoth 1600IM (400m fly, 400m back etc etc), while 21 swimmers took part in the 800m version, with a special appearance from the Otter Oldies (Derek Parr, James Stewart, Charles Doxat, Roger Sharpley) joining as a relay.

As well as swimming there was cake and drinks and, for a select few, dancing until the wee small hours. All in aid of three special charities. The Club raised over £4,500.



Dave, Hayley, Fliss, John, Chris and Will, after a 1600IM



Pip and Danni

Pip Bennett writes: I was incredibly touched when Gina, Fliss and others suggested doing a sponsored swim to support the three charities which meant a great deal to me and Danni. Both during Danni's illness and after her death I have been so lucky to have been a part of such a caring team. The affection shown, tears shared, food provided and nights out in attempt to relax will never be forgotten. It is a sign of the strength of the community we have at Otter that everyone rallied round as they did and I will always be so grateful.

Danni loved the club and its members, whether it was joining in with the annual dinner or another party, seeing swimmers at competitions or knowing that there were sensible people around when I competed abroad. Her favourite event was the Half-Mile handicap at Henley. I think she felt it encapsulated everything that is wonderful about a team: good friends, food and, of course, competition. On her first visit she was roped into being part of the line judging team!

SOCIAL OTTER

There are many opportunities to catch up with fellow Otters outside of the pool. Ever year there's the Annual Dinner (usually in March/April) and the Christmas party. On 4 Jan 2018, some of the long standing members of the Club met for its annual 'Christmas' meal, kindly organised by Charles Doxat. You can see from the photo that a couple of Otter blazers made an appearance, one for the first time. A monthly Otter social continues to take place on the first Thursday of the month, usually in the Jugged Hare. All welcome!



Our long standing members celebrating the new year



Otter dinner 2017



CLUB PERFORMANCE: SWIMMING

Catherine Demont



Craig, Wade, Catherine, SJ, Dontony, Matt and Steve, Budapest

Otter swimmers compete in many local, regional, national and international meets over the course of the year. If you're interested in competing, you can find a list of upcoming meets on the Otter website (otterswimming.com/swimming). A small selection of meet reports follow. You can find a selection of the national and international medallists at the end of this report.

British Masters & Senior Age Group Championships, 16-18 June

We were very much spoiled by the fabulous racing facilities and hospitality at the Aberdeen Sports Village; June 2017's host of the long-course British Masters & Senior Age Group Championships. Not only did we get to race in their shiny and fast 50m pool, but they also put on a free drinks reception on Saturday evening for all the swimmers, where we were greeted by Aberdeen's mayor.



Wade (bk), Catherine (fc), Abi (fly) and Craig (br), British Record holders, with Coach Steve

Day one saw Otter pick up eight national titles. We produced some impressive performances in the 200m fly, with Catherine Demont winning the 25-29 age group, and Abi Hucker in second. Hayley Davis was third in the 30-34 age group whilst Derek Parr won the men's 70-74.

The 200m IM was dominated by Wade Rimbach and Craig Gillespie, taking gold and silver for the men's 30-34 age group, and Hayley picked up the national title in the women's. Derek also won the 70-74 age group, Emma Shkurka was second in

the women's 35-39, Enrico Hahn fourth in the men's 35-39, Gina Hobson was fifth in the women's 40-44, while Camille Vrain, Abi and Alice Dinsdale-Young finished 6th, 7th and 8th, respectively, in the women's 25-29 age group.

Otter came close to five more titles in the 100m back Hayley (30-34), Martin Sartorius (18-25), Wade (30-34), Michael Jennings (35-39) and Tony Ray (70-74) all picking up silvers and Nico Barber finishing fifth in the men's 30-34.

Day two finished with some strong results in the relays, with all four of the Otter 4x50m medley taking first or second. The men's 100-119 team of Wade, Craig, Fraser Peh and Martin took gold, as did the 280-319 team of Tony, Derek, Steve Braine and Roger Lloyd-Mostyn. The men's 120-159 team of Enrico, Dontony Gill-Nasadi, Matt Wan and Graham Webster and the women's 100-119 team of Abi, Camille, Catherine and Alice finished second. Both the men's and women's 4x100m free relay also won gold; the men's 120-159 team (Olivier Geleoc, Graham, Enrico, Dontony) and the women's 120-159 team (Hayley, Catherine, Gina, Olivia Reynolds). First places also went to the women's 120-159 4x50m free relay (Catherine, Emma, Olivia, Gina), the men's 100-119 (Fraser, Graham, Enrico, Dontony) and the men's 280-319 (Roger, Tony, Derek, Steve).

Otter had a clean sweep of the podium in the men's 30-34 200m breast. First was Craig, Wade second, and Matt third. Enrico won the 35-39. Camille and Liz Shaw took bronze in the 25-29 and 50-54 age groups, respectively, while Dontony and Alice both finished fifth in the 25-29.

We secured three gold medals in the 400m IM from Hayley and Wade (30-34) and Derek (70-74). Matt also took silver in the men's 30-34 and Abi was fourth in the women's 25-29.

The third and last day of long-course action began in style, with the men's 120-159 4x200m free relay taking gold (Nico, Graham, Mike Reys, Olivier). This was followed by all three Otter mixed 4x50m medley teams collecting silver medals: 100-119 (Matt, Dontony, Abi, Alice), 120-159 (Nico, Camille, Fraser, Emma) and 160-199 (Gina, Mike, Michelle Senecal, Olivier).

More Otter medals were produced in the 50m fly: Roger won the 75-79, Steve was second in 60-64, Fraser 25-29 and Craig 30-34 were third. Gina (40-44) was fourth, Matt (30-34), Olivier (40-44), Camille (25-29), Michelle (40-44) were fifth and Enrico (35-39) was sixth.

The very successful weekend came to a close in true Otter style, as the mixed 100-119 4x100m medley took not only gold but a British Record in 4:30.14. Congratulations to Wade, Craig, Abi and Catherine.



Mike Reys, start practice



Ben Thomas, Alex Fraser, Alex Thibault, Club La Santa

FINA World Masters Championships, Budapest, 11-20 August

From Friday 11th to Sunday 20th August, Budapest and Balatonfüred welcomed the arrival of 9,283 athletes, of which 6,524 were swimmers, and 1,239 open water entrants for the 17th FINA World Masters Championships. Four competition pools were required to accommodate these numbers over the five day competition; two in the brand new Duna arena and two in the outdoor Alfréd Hajós national swimming complex. Team Otter contributed a total of 24 athletes to the mix and achieved some great results.



Team Otter in Budapest

The beautiful Lake Balaton hosted the open water events in stormy conditions. Maddie Parra had a great swim finishing in fourth place in the 2.4km (this meet awarded medals for the first 6 positions), just 30secs behind the winner. There was also a strong swim from Jess Thorpe in 14th. The men's side was strongly represented by Pip Bennett, finishing in 8th, and Mike Reys, placing 29th, both in the 3km. In addition, Lesley Cook placed 18th (55-59) and Michelle Senecal 21st (40-44).

The pool swimming kicked off with the 800m free. Otter was solely represented in this event by Pip in the incredible Duna Arena, placing in the top 25.

Unsurprisingly, Otter's most popular event of the week was the 100m free, with ten swimmers competing. We saw several masters best times achieved by Michael Jennings, Martin Sartorius, Dave Adamson, Fraser Peh, Graham Webster, Sarah-Jane (SJ) Law, whilst Catherine Demont (16th) and Dave (10th) both finished in the top 20.

Meanwhile, in the landmark Alfréd Hajós complex several Otters raced outdoors in glorious sunshine for the first time. This complex is also home to Hungary's first indoor pool, where swimmers had the option of warming up. A season's best time was achieved in the 100m free by Olivier Geleoc, as well as for Liz Shaw (20th), Alice Dinsdale-Young and Camille Vrain in the 100m breast.

The 400m IM saw Etienne Cambier (20th) and Wade Rimbach (15th) both finish in the top 20. Etienne doubled-up on his first day in the competition, producing a second masters best time in the 200m free. SJ produced a significant masters best time in the 50m fly, and Dave's fantastic time earned him a fourth place medal.

A little drama ensued when Alice's new racing suit ripped moments before the start of the 200m IM. Luckily, the referee allowed her 5mins for a spare suit change, which must have fuelled the adrenalin and help her speed through a masters best time, and her highest finishing place of 29th! Unfortunately, last-minute injury had forced Hayley Davis to withdraw from her earlier races, but she braved the 200m IM, finishing in an impressive 14th place. Matt Wan joined Hayley for the IM, finishing in the top 40.

A huge highlight was Dave's second visit to the podium, this time with a bronze medal in the 100m fly. His time of 56.56 was a British record and just .16 behind recent Olympic gold medallist and ex-world record holder Darian Townsend, which speaks for itself as a massive achievement.

Michael and Martin both ranked in the top 25 for the 100m back, whilst Hayley and Catherine took on the 200m fly, sneaking into the top 10 in their respective age groups.

Several swimmers achieved their highest rankings of the meet on the final day; Martin in the 50m back (21st), Craig Gillespie in the 50m breast (16th) and Wade in the 400m free (13th). Catherine also finished in the top 10 in the 400m free. SJ finished on a high note, achieving a time a whole 15 seconds faster than her goal, and Dontony Gill-Nasadi was also delighted to swim his first 50m breast in under 34 seconds.



What felt like a very long and tiring, albeit thoroughly enjoyable week, came to a close. Every Otter swimmer went home with something to show for all their hard work, and a lot to thank Coach Steve for. Thanks to Steve, the team's turns, transitions and breakouts have never looked better. We look forward to even more of his renowned race pace work and reminders to 'swim big' over the coming months as we gear up for 2018.



Dave Adamson, bronze in the 100m fly



Maddie Parra, 4th in the Open Water

GLLAM, London Aquatics Centre, 9 Sept

This year, fellow London-based masters swim team, Out To Swim, hosted their annual GLLAM meet (Gay & Lesbian London Aquatics Meet) at the fabulous London Aquatics Centre on 9th Sept. Over 300 swimmers across 58 clubs from 15 countries entered, and whilst many Otters were heading out to Club La Santa, Lanzarote, to begin a week-long training camp, ten swimmers competed at this feel-good meet!

Alice Dinsdale-Young kicked-off the performances of the day, equalling the time she swam at World Championships in the 200m IM, whilst Dave Adamson's very impressive and out-of-the-blue time of 2:17.27 would have earned him 6th place at the World Championships! Christophe Amardeilh also achieved a master's best time in the same event.

Kara Jancourtz's debut swim of the season also proved successful, with a gold medal in the 100m back, and Etienne Cambier achieved a masters best time in the 100m free, finishing in fourth place. Dontony Gill-Nasadi achieved a second personal best time in the 50m breast this summer, further improving on his performance from Budapest.

After an entertaining lunch-break, featuring a synchronised swimming demonstration from Out To Swim's female and male talent, the racing resumed with the 100m fly, where both Catherine Demont and Craig Gillespie picked up gold medals.

A strong Otter presence was felt in the final individual event, 100m breast, with the gold and silver medal positions across four age/gender categories being swept up. Camille Vrain finished in a very respectable second place, despite being unwell the day prior, and making a very last-minute decision to still compete, and Matt Wan swam a faster time than he had at the World Championships, achieving a masters best.

That being said, the highlight of the day proved to be GLLAM's signature event - the mixed 10x50m free. All

10 Otters present had a spot in the team, several of whom were still breathing heavily and full of lactic acid from just completing the 100m breast! After an exciting performance and a solid effort, Otter finished in a close second place behind their friends at LUST (London Universities Swim Team). There's always next year..



Otter at GLAMM

Swim England National Masters Championships, 27-29 October



British record holders (4 x 100 fc), Emma, Gina, Jane, Fiona

GB's most anticipated annual masters meet - the Swim England National Masters Championships - came around again, with Otters keen to get in the water and swim fast! Otter saw more competitors than any other club head north to the beloved Ponds Forge International Sports Centre. A whopping 40 athletes racked up a total of 194 swims, including 65 medal-winning performances and two British relay records.

As expected, the team gave a solid performance with many notable highlights:

- Abi Hucker's 200m fly and Camille Vrain's 200m breaststroke earned both ladies their first individual national championship medals.
- Credit to Wade Rimbach and Derek Parr, for a clean sweep of medals in every race they swam.
- Several swimmers competed at the National Championships for the first time as Otters, including Enrique Ruiz, Liz Goad and Sophie Clarke - for what we hope was the first of many!
- Following the success of their previous relay performances, Roger Lloyd-Mostyn, Roger Phillips and Roger Sharpley are now looking to recruit a fourth Roger to complete their senior men's relay team of Rogers - applications are open, so spread the word!

Lastly, huge congratulations to the 160-199 women's relay teams. In keeping with Otter tradition, the 4x100m free



team, consisting of Emma Shkurka, Fiona Marshall Staines, Jane McMenemy and Gina Hobson, and the 4x100m medley team, consisting of Hayley Davis, Fiona, Gina and Jane, both achieved British records!

Another year closed, with a lot of hard work paying off, and we're already looking forward to the next big meet.

World Masters Games, April 2017

Jo Godwin (nee Breare) was at the World Masters Games in Auckland. Jo was an Otter in the 1990s and lives out there with her Kiwi husband and two daughters. She wrote of her experience:

The swimming has finished and I have done some good swims and times. I got 4th, 6th and 4th in the 50, 100 and 200m breaststroke (55-59 years). I missed out on a medal by 6/100ths of a sec in the 50m however I did break the NZ record for my age group in all three so I am now the NZ record holder for each which is very satisfying. Especially as two of them have been held since 1990. I checked the UK Masters records and I would not have got any of those as Amanda Heath is still tanking along I see.

I also got 10th and 9th in the 400m and 800m swims, and 5th in the 1500m open water, which I was very happy with as I swam very well paced swims.

The competition was tough. I was the only Kiwi in my heats. Beaten by truly international competitors from Canada, Switzerland France, Russia etc.



Team Otter SC nationals



Jane, Gina, Alice Moffat (standing in for Fiona) and Hayley, medley team

17th FINA World Masters Swimming Championships Budapest, Hungary, 14-20 August 2017

Swimming

Bronze (1)				
Dave Adamson	Men's 100m Butterfly	30-34	3rd	56.56

Top 10 (4)				
Dave Adamson	Men's 50m Butterfly	30-34	4th	25.49
Catherine Demont	Women's 400m Freestyle	25-29	9th	4:53.98
Dave Adamson	Men's 100m Freestyle	30-34	10th	53.10
Hayley Davis	Women's 200m Butterfly	30-34	10th	2:35.33

Open Water

Top 10 (2)				
Madeline Parra	Women's 3km Open Water	30-34	4th	38:03.0
Pip Bennett	Men's 3km Open Water	30-34	8th	37:06.9

British Masters & Senior Age Group Championships Aberdeen, 16-18 June October 2017

National Champions (27)				
Craig Gillespie	Men's 200m Breaststroke	30-34		2:36.22
Wade Rimbach	Men's 200m IM	30-34		2:24.35
Wade Rimbach	Men's 400m IM	30-34		5:23.25
Enrico Hahn	Men's 200m Breaststroke	35-39		2:41.98
Derek Parr	Men's 100m Butterfly	70-74		1:25.43
Derek Parr	Men's 200m Butterfly	70-74		3:46.27
Derek Parr	Men's 200m IM	70-74		3:24.67
Derek Parr	Men's 400m IM	70-74		7:32.21
Roger Lloyd-Mostyn	Men's 50m Butterfly	75-79		40.05
Roger Lloyd-Mostyn	Men's 100m Butterfly	75-79		1:43.81
Catherine Demont	Women's 100m Freestyle	25-29		1:01.75
Catherine Demont	Women's 200m Butterfly	25-29		2:42.77
Hayley Davis	Women's 200m IM	30-34		2:35.14
Hayley Davis	Women's 400m IM	30-34		5:36.06
Emma Shkurka	Women's 50m Freestyle	35-39		28.92
Fraser Peh, Graham Webster, Enrico Hahn, Dontony Gill-Nasadi	Men's 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay	100-119		1:46.50
Roger Lloyd-Mostyn, Tony Ray, Derek Parr, Steve Braine	Men's 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay	280-319		2:34.21
Olivier Geleoc, Graham Webster, Enrico Hahn, Dontony Gill-Nasadi	Men's 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay	120-159		4:06.75
Nico Barber, Graham Webster, Mike Reys, Olivier Geleoc	Men's 4 x 200m Freestyle Relay	120-159		9:27.51
Wade Rimbach, Craig Gillespie, Fraser Peh, Martin Sartorius	Men's 4 x 50m Medley Relay	100-119		1:53.02
Tony Ray, Derek Parr, Steve Braine, Roger Lloyd-Mostyn	Men's 4 x 50m Medley Relay	280-319		2:50.20



Martin Sartorius, Craig Gillespie, Wade Rimbach, Nico Barber	Men's 4 x 100m Medley Relay	120-159	4:35.68
Catherine Demont, Emma Shkurka, Olivia Reynolds, Gina Hobson	Women's 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay	120-159	1:55.30
Hayley Davis, Catherine Demont, Gina Hobson, Olivia Reynolds	Women's 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay	120-159	4:19.36
Michelle Senecal, Tony Ray, Astrid Wharton, Roger Lloyd-Mostyn	Mixed 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay	240-279	2:30.63
Dontony Gill-Nasadi, Enrico Hahn, Hayley David, Olivia Reynolds	Mixed 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay	120-159	4:10.86
Wade Rimbach, Craig Gillespie, Abi Hucker, Catherine Demont	Mixed 4 x 100m Medley Relay	100-119	4:30.14

Fraser Peh, Graham Webster, Emma Shkurka, Gina Hobson	Mixed 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay	120-159	1:46.05
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**Swim England Masters National Championships
Sheffield, 27-29 October 2017**

National Champions (22)			
Wade Rimbach	Men's 400m IM	30-34	4:51.58
Derek Parr	Men's 50m Butterfly	70-74	34.08
Derek Parr	Men's 100m Butterfly	70-74	1:20.34
Derek Parr	Men's 200m Butterfly	70-74	3:26.60
Derek Parr	Men's 100m IM	70-74	1:27.49
Derek Parr	Men's 200m IM	70-74	3:15.37
Derek Parr	Men's 400m IM	70-74	7:01.74
Roger Lloyd Mostyn	Men's 100m Butterfly	75-79	1:40.04
Hayley Davis	Women's 1500m Freestyle	30-34	18:44.07
Hayley Davis	Women's 200m Butterfly	30-34	2:31.80
Roger Phillips, Tony Ray, Derek Parr, Robert Thomas	Men's 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay	280-319	2:37.87
Roger Phillips, Tony Ray, Roger Lloyd Mostyn, Robert Thomas	Men's 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay	280-319	5:44.65
Etienne Cambier, Dave Adamson, Enrique Ruiz, Graham Webster	Men's 4 x 200m Freestyle Relay	100-119	8:16.20
Roger Phillips, Tony Ray, Stephen Braine, Derek Parr	Men's 4 x 200m Freestyle Relay	280-319	12:47.53
Tony Ray, Roger Sharpley, Roger Lloyd Mostyn, Derek Parr	Men's 4 x 50m Medley Relay	280-319	3:08.62
Wade Rimbach, Matt Wan, Fraser Peh, Dave Adamson	Men's 4 x 100m Medley Relay	120-159	4:05.78
Tony Ray, Roger Sharpley, Derek Parr, Roger Lloyd Mostyn	Men's 4 x 100m Medley Relay	280-319	6:50.58
Emma Shkurka, Fiona Marshall Staines, Jane McMenemy, Gina Hobson	Women's 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay	160-199	4:12.74
Gina Hobson, Fiona Marshall Staines, Emma Shkurka, Jane McMenemy	Women's 4 x 50m Medley Relay	160-199	2:09.28
Sophie Clarke, Camille Vrain, Sarah Jane Law, Alice Dinsdale Young	Women's 4 x 100m Medley Relay	100-119	5:07.90
Hayley Davis, Fiona Marshall Staines, Gina Hobson, Jane McMenemy	Women's 4 x 100m Medley Relay	160-199	4:40.31

TRAINING CAMP, CLUB LA SANTA

Alex Fraser



Lesley, Hannah, Tim and Steve, Club La Santa



La Santa

This was the 7th time in recent years we have been to Club La Santa as an Otter Team, and now as veterans of the training holiday we have come to appreciate all the facilities the complex has to offer and tailor our personal training



accordingly. Alongside two training sessions a day the Otters enhanced their training regime with various activities including spinning, TRX and the infamous “Ultimate Abs” classes (who said training was boring?).

Each week at Club La Santa there is a series of competitive events and as usual Otter placed highly in all of them. From claiming the top 3 positions in the men’s 5K run for Alex, Ollie and Mike (ignoring those who’s 10K splits were significantly faster!) to Fliss’ 1hr 35min half marathon on a very warm Tuesday morning to win the ladies event and place 2nd overall. Whilst we may have lacked the athletic appearance of a visiting Luxembourg swim club we made up for it in grit, determination and fear of being beaten by scrawny 16 year olds in the aquathlon and once again came home with podium finishes from Ollie, Fliss and Gina!

Trips abroad are a fantastic way to get to know your teammates. We learned that Fraser will skip breakfast, lunch and dinner if it means he can spend those hours being pampered in the spa and an afternoon of athletics coaching taught us that Ollie is a natural with a javelin but none of us can hurdle. Nico’s love of board games was well known prior to the camp but we were still amazed at his dedication to check an extra bag full of games and had to admit defeat after hours spent trying to work out what animal he meant by a “Sea ‘edge’og”...

A custom of the La Santa trip is the famed night out in one of Lanzarote’s cultural hotspots, which we have affectionately termed “Puerta Del Chav”. It was a delight to see Otters of all generations, and their partners, get into the spirit of the occasion by donning sailor-themed costumes for this year’s event. Special mention here must go to Bob “The Commodore” Thomas for his immaculate costume and for playing master of ceremonies during the meal. The relative newbies to the camp, Alex T and Fraser (not to be confused with the Alex Fraser) upheld the firm club traditions by whipping off their shirts to the Baywatch soundtrack quicker than you could say “Will Wall”. Good work boys!

As always the camp culminated in the fun relays session on the Friday afternoon. Joana led the Green Team to victory with a clearly superior t-shirt change over strategy despite a challenge from the Blue team thanks to Emma’s imperious sculling. Maybe if Tim’s backwards freestyle could have got off the start line the Pink team would have had a chance - but who are we kidding?

In amongst all the fun, there was some serious hard work. Two time trial sets were particularly painful but no one embodied the work ethic more so than Imran, who managed to get his heart rate up to 196bpm while trying to keep up with Ben and Dave during their bike ride.

We left Lanzarote collectively fitter, stronger, injury free (mostly), more tanned and with considerably better six

packs than we started. A special thanks must go to Nico for organising the trip this year along with help from Joana, Gina and Emma and of course to coach Steve for his many hours on poolside too.

If you’d like to sign up for La Santa 2018 please speak to Mike Reys.



Otters enjoying the delights of Puerto del Carmen



Otters try their hand at javelin, with varying degrees of success!



CLUB PERFORMANCE: WATER POLO - MEN

Another exciting year of progress for Otter Men's Water Polo

The highlights:

- Otter 1 finishes mid table in its return to the London Water Polo League's Premier Division.
- Otter 1 finishes phase 1 of the British Water Polo League season by winning the right to compete in the Championship 3 play off matches for promotion to next season's Division 3.
- Otter 2 finishes mid table in its return to the London Water Polo League's Division 2.
- Otter 2 wins the Thameside Water Polo Association Cup.
- Regular training at Crystal Palace has proved its worth.
- A Tour to Dubrovnik and Cavtat, Croatia.
- The Junior Water Polo group competes in the London Water Polo League under 14 and under 15 competitions.

OTTER MEN'S FIRST TEAM: SHEDDING THE WEIGHT BELT OF EMOTIONS

Ivor Sokolic



Ivor Sokolic keeps his eye on the ball

The Otter Men's First Team strode into their 2017 campaign considerably more mature, level-headed and optimistic than in previous years. Gone was the rebellious teenager, prone to throwing tantrums and uneasy in his own body. In its place came a dashing young man – reminiscent of a skinny Orion Ganase – driven by the optimism of Daniel Shunn, guided by the wisdom of Leon Estrella and diagnosed clinically insane due to the intensity of Chris Eden. Otter in 2017 was a team capable of playing the sexiest water polo known to

man, yet it was equally adept at undoing its own hard work within minutes. Expectations were met, if not exceeded, in both leagues and yet the team swam away knowing they could have achieved much more.

Otter's expectations on its return to the Premier Division of London League were realistic; regular training in the big pitch and double deep environment at Crystal Palace was recognised by all as a great benefit. The overriding goal was to avoid relegation, anything else was a bonus. Otter surprised all by finishing fourth out of seven, one win short of third spot. In a league featuring numerous current and former internationals (according to sources, 90% of its British players represent or have represented Great Britain), it was refreshing to see the team win all but one first quarter, only to plummet in the final quarters of matches. This left the team disappointed, but buoyed by the knowledge that they could vie for the top spots in years to come. Memorable moments came from Daniel Shunn, distracted by his teammates' bench gossip, mid-match he dropped a substitute ball into the water, forcing the referees to award the other team a penalty; from Leon, who showed that single-handed, cross-pool, counter-attacks are possible in high-level water polo; and from Giggles, who introduced much of the league to the Hungarian elbow greeting. Many friends were made, many more acquaintances turned to nemeses.

London Water Polo League – Summer 2017 Premier Division

	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Bexley	12	11	0	1	144	112	32	33*
2	Sutton & Cheam 1st	12	8	1	3	132	101	31	28*
3	Croydon Amphibians 1st	12	5	2	5	116	115	1	24
4	Otter 1st	12	4	1	7	130	138	-8	21
5	Beckenham 1st	12	4	0	8	118	133	-15	20
6	Watford 1st	12	4	0	8	104	123	-19	20
7	West London Penguin 1st	12	4	0	8	138	160	-22	17*

* = points adjustments



Otter came to British Water Polo League (BWPL), Division 4, in a position of relative strength and was, rightfully, a contender for one of the top spots. The first two weekends saw Otter comfortably beat all opposition. The single exception was table-topping Manchester Hawks, to whom we lost by a single goal, in what the referees, table officials and smattering of impassioned spectators deemed to be the best match of the division. Unfortunately, close losses in the final two matches saw Otter finish fourth out of eight. However, this was enough to qualify for phase 2 of the 2017/18 BWPL season in the Championship 3 playoff league for promotion to Division 3, but not enough to satisfy our near insatiable

hunger for victory. The team walked away from phase 1 of the season with their heads held high. Their friendliness and optimism brought praise from a number of teams and officials. And their dancing prowess continues to have no match in Grantham, if not further afield. Maybe it's this very reason why no other team in the league has yet to accept a dance off challenge from our fabulous fantasists.



Otter at Haberdashers

British Water Polo League 2017/18 Season Phase 1 Division 4

	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Manchester Hawks	7	6	0	1	83	57	26	12
2	Cheltenham Spartans	7	5	0	2	79	77	2	10
3	Hucknall	7	5	0	2	87	71	16	10
4	Otter	7	4	0	3	85	68	17	8
5	Rotherham Metro	7	3	0	4	75	72	3	6
6	York	7	3	0	4	68	81	-13	6
7	Tyldesley	7	1	0	6	82	99	-17	2
8	Invicta Marlins	7	1	0	6	64	98	-34	2

Many players stood out through their performances this year and we are grateful for the commitment all players, new and old, continue to show. The team has been greatly aided by the excellent play of ambidextrous Nicholas Corjon, who excels in all positions and scores roughly six goals per match, usually all in the same quarter. Special mention must also be made of our Most Improved trophy winner from last year, Orion Ganase, who continues to improve and has finally broken into the top 15 shooters on the team.

Croatia Tour

This year Otter undertook its third consecutive tour to Croatia, visiting old friends, but this time in Dubrovnik and Cavtat. The popularity of the men's tour continues to grow and this year a total of 16 players, including several invitees from UCL, took part. Otter was, once again, treated to local hospitality and plenty of water polo, all of it played on the historical water polo beaches of the area. Our friends and local guides exceeded themselves yet again; every night ended in singing, dancing and the occasional haka, silent or otherwise. Otter gave back to this welcoming community by providing a generous donation to the children's water polo programme in Cavtat, which has produced some of the world's finest players (including current world player of the year, Sandro Sukno), but continues to struggle financially.



Otter on Tour

The tour remains a highlight of the men's social calendar and is always an exciting opportunity for the team to bond and get to know each other better. Spending this amount of time together has its ups and down: as true love grows, one must also learn to cope with the others' shortcomings. Paolo Sirianni's complaining about Italian sea, food and drink – which he found inferior to its Croatian counterparts – grated on many of us. But we learned this was how Paolo expressed admiration. Benny C's aggressive form of love and loving was, physically, hard to handle. But it also showed us what a big heart he has.



Dance beach, Dubrovnik, where water polo was first played in the city

Four days, 120 litres of beer, 95 litres of wine, 6 litres of homemade rakija, a handful of mojitos, a couple of slaughtered lambs and 340kg of water polo player sharing one bed quickly turned our optimism, of "I never want tour to end", into despair. Safely home and, after a brief hiatus from each other, we now look forward to the next tour. All are welcome.

OTTER MEN'S SECOND TEAM

Paolo Sirianni

The Otter 2nd team achieved another successful year by winning the Thameside Water Polo Association Cup competition beating Poly in the final and achieving a mid-table finish in Division 2 of the London Water Polo League Summer competition.

The team continues to be a mix of serious and social water polo. It is our vehicle for providing competitive water polo for beginners and aspiring first team players, as well as those of us who still want to play but are particularly time challenged, because of age or work reasons, or both.

The year began with the Thameside Water Polo Association's League competition. We finished the competition in a very creditable second position.

Thameside Water Polo Association 2016/17 Season Division 1

	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Croydon Amphibians Mens 2nd	6	5	0	1	76	54	22	16
2	Otter Mens 2nd	6	3	1	2	52	42	10	13
3	Polytechnic Purples	6	3	0	3	39	44	-5	11*
4	Citizens Mens 1st	6	0	1	5	37	64	-27	5*

* = points adjustments

In May we played the final of the Thameside Water Polo Association's handicap knock-out cup competition against Poly, at their home venue of the Clissold Leisure centre. Knowing that Poly would field a strong side, we put out a strong mix that combined 1st and 2nd team experience. As usual with Poly the game was friendly but robust and played to a very high standard throughout. The final score after handicap adjustment was 14 apiece. Otter were declared the



Thameside Water Polo Association cup winners



In the London Water Polo League Otter 2nd played in Division 2 for the first time in several years having won promotion in 2016. The objective was to ensure that we consolidated our position and certainly not get relegated. Strong team play and a solid defence saw Otter finish mid table with a positive goal difference.

London Water Polo League – Summer 2017 Division 2

	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Guildford Mens 1st	12	11	1	0	149	69	80	35
2	Chelmsford Mens 1st	12	6	3	3	131	93	38	27
3	Avondale Mens 2nd	12	5	3	4	114	118	-4	25
4	Enfield Mens 1st	12	6	0	6	135	136	-1	24
5	Otter Mens 2nd	12	6	1	5	125	113	12	23*
6	Beckenham Mens 2nd	12	2	1	9	108	179	-71	17
7	Whitgift Trinity Mens 1st	12	1	1	10	62	116	-54	12*

* = points adjustments

In 2017, across all competition, Otter 2nd fielded 31 different players from 13 different nationalities, with all but 7 managing to score at least 1 goal. Pavlos Papadopoulos was the leading goal scorer.

OTTER JUNIOR WATER POLO GROUP

Paul Hindle

Since starting in 2016 our junior water polo initiative has continued to grow, although perhaps a little slower than originally hoped.

The Friday evening sessions, in the diving pit at the QMSC pool, continued. In the beginners group (age 9-12) we have between 16 and 20 regular attendees and in the developers group (13 – 16 years) we get a similar number. Paul Hindle and Spencer Thursfield are the coaches for this collaborative venture with the Chelsea and Westminster Swimming Club.

We also now have Junior Water Polo training sessions at the St Paul's Girls School pool in Hammersmith every Tuesday evening. Training in a full size pool has greatly benefitted the juniors who attend. Tim Kendall is in the lead coach position, with Paul Hindle in support.

For the first time in Otter history we entered a junior team, a mix of boys and girls, in the London Water Polo League's under 15 competition over the summer 2017. It was fantastic to see them compete on level terms with the other sides in our division, especially as the vast majority of the Otter team will be still able to play in this age group next year also. They finished in a very creditable mid-table position.

London Water Polo League – Summer 2017 Under 15's – Division 2

	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Croydon Amphibians Under 15s	12	10	1	1	90	16	74	33
2	Watford Under 15s B	12	10	1	1	87	13	74	33
3	Otter Under 15	12	3	0	9	23	76	-53	18
4	Bexley Under 15	12	4	0	8	25	55	-30	16*
5	Haringey Aquatics Under 15	12	2	0	10	18	83	-65	16

* = points adjustments

We have also entered a team in the London Water Polo League under 14 competition for winter 2017/18.

It has been a great pleasure to see these juniors progress from complete beginners to competent junior players with real water polo skills. A fine example is Isabella Kraft who joined the junior group in 2016 as a complete beginner and has since gone on to represent Otter in the Girls National Age Group under 15 team coached by Nick Buller.

We are planning to develop the initiative further by adding a third regular session to our program, Sunday afternoons at Crystal Palace, and also widening our catchment net.

The initiative remains a long term project that in time is hoped will see many of these juniors, both boys and girls,



Leon Estrella in action



CLUB PERFORMANCE: WATER POLO - LADIES

Tracey Allen

Otter ladies water polo teams had another successful year in 2017, with podium finishes in the British Water Polo League, National Age Group Championships and London League. Many juniors made their debut in senior teams, the club entered a record number of teams in national tournaments, and our members achieved international honours. Congratulations Otters!

The growth and success of our club has been supported by the dedication of our many volunteers. Thank you to our Head Coach, Nick Buller, for his commitment and expertise on the poolside. To Jill Dean, Daryl Nurthern and Peggy Etiebet, your tireless efforts behind the scenes have been invaluable, on behalf of members, thank you!

OTTER FIRST TEAM

After a successful run in the 2016/17 British Water Polo League, Otter narrowly missed out on the top spot after suffering a loss in the final weekend of the season to finish third. Otter then progressed to the British Championships, where the team qualified for the finals and finished fourth in the country.

A sad goodbye had to be said to long time Otter members Mhairi Nurthern and Kathy Rogers as they continued their water polo careers at Hawaii University and Michigan University respectively. We are all amazingly proud and will spend the next few years following their success!

Otter kicked off its BWPL 2017-18 season brilliantly in Newport over 16-17 September, beating the current title holders in our first game! The team welcomed a number of new faces. Our Cecily Turner topped the goal scorers' table for the first phase of the season, with a miraculous 10 goal contribution to her tally against Leeds. An amazing team ethic and willingness to win has seen Otter progress through to the Super 5's once again. We hope to replicate our success of 2014 and bring home the title!

The squad for this season consists of: Tracey Allen, Holly Campbell, Katy Cutler, Izzy Dean, Peggy Etiebet, Robyn Greenslade, Carly Jackson-Clark, Isobel Keith, Rebecca Mulcahy, Brooke Tafazolli (C), Sasha Tinkler-Davies, Lidia Toth, Cecily Turner.



Katy, Izzy, Robyn, Holly, Rebecca, Carly, Brooke, Tracey, Izzy, Peggy and Cecily



Otter and Lutra 2017/18 BWPL teams

OTTER LUTRA

Lindsey Williams

The second phase of the 2016-17 season started frustratingly for Lutra with a 10-10 draw against Liverpool Liverbirds. Our luck was no better against Welsh Wanderers and we lost to them 8-6. Both disappointing results as we had beaten both these teams in the first half of the season. We also lost to Sheffield Sharks, but this was a much better performance managing to keep the score to 18-7 against the top ranked of the teams who had come down from Division 1 and who would be the eventual winners of Championship 1.

Local support definitely made a difference when playing at Haberdashers in the second weekend and we were able to hold Hucknall to only a 2 goal defeat after they had played in Division 1 in the first half of the season. The fourth match brought our first victory and a sweet one as it was against local rivals Penguin who we beat 9-5.

This left us needing good results in the final weekend if we wanted to finish in a respectable position and we managed to pull out an easy win against Manchester Comets followed by a harder earned win against Caledonia, one of the teams who had come down from Division 1 after the first half of the season. This left us in fifth position in the table, behind only



Welsh Wanderers from Division 2 and the 3 teams who had come down from Division 1.

Katy Cutler was our top goal scorer and was 8th top scorer for Championship 1 overall. No Lutra player was in the top 10 major queens a tribute to either our fair play or our ability to get away with it!

In the new 2017-18 season we were very lucky to have a number of new players join the team and also a number of Otter veterans return to play with Lutra. With many players making their BWPL debut and without Bob, our regular goal keeper who was kept out the water by injury, the first weekend was tough-going. Playing against some of the better teams, playing on home turf and fielding outstanding players, the eight Lutra players involved in the weekend did brilliantly to continue to fight for the duration of each and every match.

We went into the 2nd weekend of the season with a point to prove and the pressure was on with the first match being against London rivals Penguin. After falling behind in the first three quarters, Lutra boldly fought back in our final quarter with brilliant goals from Tuesday, Emily and Sarah. The main enemy was the clock which sadly prevented us from levelling the score leaving us trailing 6-7.

Our luck was finally to turn with the game against Manchester Comets when we had the opportunity to show just how well we could play, beating them 17-1 and we started to feel like we had finally hit our stride. This was followed by another win against English Roses. Lutra ended the weekend much further up the table than they started and Tuesday Birmingham clocked up a massive total of 14 goals over the course of the weekend. Emily Campbell Lamerton and Erin Andrew also clocked up an impressive 6 and 5 goals respectively.

Going into the final weekend of the first half of the season the goal for Lutra was to secure their place in Championship 1 for the second half second and this meant winning more matches. We led against Southampton comfortably for the first half of the match and then found ourselves in the uncomfortable position of having to defend against a Southampton comeback in the second half, narrowly winning by 8 goals to 6. With few supporters having any nails left, Lutra continued to make them suffer in the final match of the weekend, beating the Welsh Wanderers 8-9 with 7 out of 8 goals coming from Tuesday Birmingham.

We are looking forward to continuing to improve and take on the challenge of the teams in Championship 1 in 2018.

OTTERS ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE

Otters had another successful international campaign over the summer across various competitions. Brooke Tafazolli and Carly Jackson-Clark took to the world stage to compete half-way across the globe in Taipei in the World University Games. They finished a strong 10th after losing out on penalties to Greece. The girls had earlier success in the summer, along with Kathy Rogers, when they took gold in the Senior EU Nations competition in Prague after winning all five of their games across three days. Holly Campbell represented Scotland at the same tournament.

Cecily Turner, Katy Cutler and Robyn Greenslade helped GB to its best ever result in Europe after beating the hosts Serbia on penalties taking them through to gain 6th place and qualify for the Junior World Championships in 2018. The girls also took gold at the Junior EU Nations competition earlier in the year. Another Junior EU Nations took place in Manchester where Cecily, Katy and Robyn took gold with England after convincing wins in every game. Sarah Rogers starred by scoring beautiful goals for Wales across the weekend.



Kathy, Holly, Carly & Brooke representing England & Scotland at the Senior EU Nations



Cecily (back, far right), Robyn (back, third from right) & Katy (back second from left) at the Junior EU Nations representing England

Finally, congratulations to Peggy Etiebet and her adopted masters team, SIS Roma, on winning the 2017 FINA World Masters Women's Water Polo Championships (40+), played in Budapest. Well done Peg, we're all very proud!



CLUB EVENTS: CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS



The Jackson Trophy

The 2017 Club Championship events include the Mile open water and nine pool events, which were held over three Thursdays in November at the QMSC pool. In total 33 men and 16 women competed.

While the club championships are a competition, and each event has a winner, the events are very relaxed and informal compared to a normal swimming competition. This is deliberate with the pool events being held during a normal Thursday evening training session. There is no pre-registration and swimmers just turn up the day, swim a normal warm up and then race the events as though they are part of the normal session. With three events on each evening there is very little rest between swims, although a few minutes easy swim is generally provided.

This year the winner of the men's competition for the previous seven years, Dave Warren, took a break and didn't compete in the pool events so we were expecting a new winner of the men's trophy. Instead, we got two! The men's overall competition was very close, with the top five finishing within six points, and resulted in a tie for the overall championship between Matt Wan and Will Wall. Interestingly, between Matt

and Will, they won just one individual event, yet they were both consistent and goes to show that consistency is the key to winning the overall championship. The top six in the men's overall were:

- 1= Matt Wan, 50 points
- 1= Will Wall, 50
- 3. Dave Adamson, 45
- 4= Wade Rimbach, 44
- 4= Etienne Cambier, 44
- 6. Enrico Hahn, 24

The women's competition wasn't quite so close and resulted in a second consecutive win for Hayley Davis, who won 8 out of the 10 events and was second in the other two events! She wins the Jackson Trophy. The top six ladies ranking as follows:

- 1. Hayley Davis, 78 points
- 2. Gina Hobson, 55
- 3. Susan Przywara, 47
- 4. Alice Dinsdale-Young, 35
- 5. Abi Hucker, 34
- 6. Olivia Reynolds, 23

HANDICAP COMPETITION

Dave Warren

The Otter tradition of handicap events is almost as old as the club itself, which is evident in the age of the trophies awarded to each event winner, several of which are over 100 years old. Perhaps the most striking trophy is the George Rope Averages Trophy, an "otter on a plinth" donated in 1911 and awarded to the person with the greatest cumulative points gained across all the handicap events that year. A separate trophy, the Frank Sachs Challenge Cup, donated in 1923 is also awarded to the overall cumulative winner of the three open water events.

The handicap events include both open water and pool swims spread throughout the year with the open water events swum in the warmer summer months. These events are for all members. They provide a great chance for those who don't normally compete an opportunity to "beat" the more experienced competitive swimmers because each swimmer is given a predetermined handicap start time by the Honourable Handicapper with the intention of all swimmers finishing together. Those that show the greatest improvement from their handicap time win the event.



Consistency is generally the key to winning the overall championship and in 2017 Etienne Cambier proved the most consistent. He was the overall winner, having jointly won the trophy in 2016 with Pip Bennett. The top 5 positions were as follows:

- Etienne Cambier 28 points
- Chris Delahunt 25
- Robert Mackay 20
- Joana Sandrin Gauer 19
- Hayley Davis 18



Pip Bennett & Jo Sandrin Gauer, Otter dinner



The JW Rope Trophy



CLUB EVENTS: CLUB OPEN WATER EVENTS



Otter swimmers prepare for the Half Mile

On Friday 14 July, 34 swimmers and supporters made their way to Henley on Thames for Otter's annual **Half Mile handicap**. In perfect conditions, 21 swimmers took to the Thames and glided effortlessly down to the Henley Sailing Club. We were treated to a flying visit from Barbara Woodward, in town for the ambassadors' conference and, adding weight to the argument that the best way to secure a good handicap is to leave the country for a prolonged period (ambassadorial posting optional), she reigned supreme, winning the JW Rope trophy.

In second and third place were Hayley Davis and Maddie Parra, with open water first timer, SJ Law, coming in fourth. All agreed that it was well worth the trip out of London for the evening, with Henley Sailing Club laying on another generous BBQ after the swim.



Barbara Woodward, winner of the Half Mile, with Paul Hindle

It was a decidedly grey and drizzly evening for the 2017 edition of the **Otter Mile**, run on Friday 28 July and taking in a pleasant and winding portion of the Thames at Windsor. 13 swimmers braved the conditions, along with an array of supporters. Having taken a boat ride a mile upstream the swimmers made their way back to Windsor leisure centre with various degrees of urgency.

Open water supremo, Pip Bennett was the first to finish (in 20 min 37 sec) but took himself out of the race for this year's trophies by donning a wetsuit (a one off, he assures us) so it was left to Hayley Davis to battle with Dave Warren for top honour and, in her first Otter mile swim, she took the overall win - the first lady to do so this decade. Well done Hayley! She showed her commitment to all things Otter by following this up with a trek to Barnet the next day for the annual Middlesex Masters competition, and reigned supreme there too. Dave won the men's trophy. The men's and women's top 3 were:

Men

1. Dave Warren, 21 min 4 sec
2. Mike Reys, 21:36
3. Chris Grey, 21:42

Women

1. Hayley Davis, 20:57
2. Lex Higlett, 21:45
3. Carly Jackson-Clark, 24:58

The mile is run as a scratch race, yet there is also a handicap event (the Hon Handicapper having decided the handicaps in advance and working out the handicap placing upon completion of the race). So, in addition to the 'first past the post' trophies, there's a handsome handicap plate on offer. This year Mike Reys defied the handicapper and added his name to the list of mile handicap winners. Top three in the handicap race as follows:

1. Mike Reys
2. Hayley Davis
3. Lex Higlett

Special mention to Ben Cocksworth, Alex Bion and Carly Jackson-Clark, all from the water polo side of the club who competed in their first Otter open water event and proclaimed that they'd be turning up for another one! Following the racing we quickly retreated to the pub to replace the burnt carbs.



Hardy Otters, and Pip, line up for the Mile



The season culminated in the **Quarter Mile** race and water polo match on 12 August.

Results:

- 1st Alex Fraser
- 2nd Joana Sandrin Gauer
- 3rd Dan Shunn

The overall open water results finished as follows:

- 1 Hayley Davis 15
- 2 Daniel Shunn 12
- 2 Joana Sandrin Gauer 12

OTTER GOLF AND SUMMER LUNCH

Paul Hindle

The 2017 Otter Golf tournament and Summer Lunch took place at the Ealing Golf Club on 19th May. Six Otters, Charles Doxat, Matt Staines, Mike Reys, Paul Hindle, Peter Rae and Adam Dodkins, took part in the golf tournament. The Ealing golf course was in great condition and the greens, as usual, unbelievably fast and true.

This year saw the Otters play some fine golf and good scores, a welcome break with the long tradition of dodgy golf and low scores. Adam Dodkins, handicap of 8, played some astounding shots to complete the round in a gross 77 shots and a stableford score of 37 points. Mike Reys, handicap 24, finished with a stableford score of 35 points, and Matt Staines, handicap of 9, posted a stableford score of 32 points.

In the “Longest Drive” competition, off the tee on the 7th hole, Mike Reys was the winner with a fine 206 yarder. Adam would have beaten that by some 30 yards had his drive not drifted off line, off the fairway and out of contention.

In the “Nearest the Pin” (on the green, in one) competition, on the short 18th, the prize was not awarded. Nobody managed to land their ball on the green.



Adam Dodkins, winner of the George Rope trophy

The 2017 Otter Golf champion and winner of the George Rope trophy was Adam Dodkins.

The Summer Lunch was a well-attended affair. Starting with drinks on the grass terrace before moving inside for a carvery lunch prepared for us by the Ealing Golf Club’s excellent catering staff.

A superb day, enjoyed by everyone.

The 2018 Otter Golf and Summer Lunch will be held on Friday 1st June at the Ealing Golf Club. If you are interested in taking part then please contact Paul Hindle for details.



2017 TROPHY WINNERS

Championship Races (Men)

Event	Trophy	Year	Winner
50m Freestyle	(No trophy)		W. Wall
100m Freestyle	5th Humphrey's C.C.	1911	D. Adamson
400m Freestyle	Major Collis Browne	1899	E. Cambier
100m Backstroke	Brown C.C.	1889	W. Rimbach
100m Breaststroke	2nd Annison C.C. (shared)	1914	W. Rimbach
50m Butterfly	(No trophy)		W. Rimbach
100m Butterfly	Peters Tankard	1966	D. Adamson
100m Medley	Ronald Edgar Salver (shared)	1952	D. Adamson
200m Medley	Arthur Batt Trophy (shared)	1996	D. Adamson
Mile Open Water	Dudley C.C.	1898	D. Warren
Points Total	Buller C.C.	1905	M. Wan W. Wall (shared)

Handicap Races

Event	Trophy	Year	Winner
10 Widths Handicap	Hodge C.C.	1970	(not contested)
50m Handicap	Macdonald C.C.	1893	C. Di Marco
100m Handicap	Pyers Mostyn C.C.	1955	S. Goff
100m Sealed Handicap	David Craig Salver	2004	W. Rimbach
125m Handicap	Ladies' C.C.	1874	E. Hahn
150m Handicap	Baldon C.C.	1934	C. Delahunt
200m Handicap	Alfred Jonas C.C.	1935	M. Sartorius
400m IM Handicap	Alex Ferguson Trophy	2008	G. Hobson
Veterans' 50m Handicap	Synge-Hutchinson C.C.	1931	A. Ray
Open Water Quarter Mile	2nd Tom Batt C.C.	1948	A. Fraser
Open Water Half Mile	J.W. Rope Memorial	1921	B. Woodward
Open Water Mile	Cunningham Plate	1951	M. Reys
Open Water Points total	Frank Sachs C.C.	1923	H. Davis
Handicap Points Total	George Rope Averages	1911	E. Cambier

Championship Races (Women)

Event	Trophy	Year	Winner
50m Freestyle	(No trophy)		S. Przywara
100m Freestyle	J.R.G. Millner C.C.	1977	H. Davis
400m Freestyle	Club Trophy	2001	C. Demont
100m Backstroke	Club Trophy	2001	H. Davis
100m Breaststroke	2nd Annison C.C. (shared)	1914	H. Davis
50m Butterfly	(No trophy)		H. Davis
100m Butterfly	Club Trophy	2001	H. Davis
100m Medley	Ronald Edgar Salver (shared)	1952	H. Davis
200m Medley	Arthur Batt Trophy (shared)	1996	H. Davis
Mile Open Water	C.G. Forsberg Memorial	2000	H. Davis
Points Total	Jackson Trophy	1993	H. Davis

Water Polo

Event	Trophy	Year	Winner
Men's Player of the Year	J.H.R. Haswell Trophy	1998	D. Shunn
Men's Most Improved Player	Doug Woo Award		O. Ganase
Women's Player of the Year	Water Polo Cup	2003	Not awarded
Women's Captain's Trophy		2014	R. Mulcahy & H. Campbell

Golf

Event	Trophy	Year	Winner
Otter Golf	G.H. Rope C.C.	1923	A. Dodkins



LIST OF MEMBERS 2017

Honorary Active Life Members

1966 Iliffe, Mr J.K.

Life Members

1946 Warnford-Davis, Mr D.M.
 1949 Millner, Mr J.R.
 1950 Cooper, Mr G.G.
 1951 Milton, Mr H.P.
 1952 Raw, Mr E.
 1953 Gill, Mr A.G.
 1953 Penny, Dr P.T.
 1953 Thorogood, Mr P.
 1953 Vandersteen, Mr M.H.
 1954 Burn, Mr R.G.
 1954 Dussek OBE, Mr I.J.
 1956 Doxat, Mr C.
 1959 Grundy, Mr M.D.
 1960 Downs, Mr M.C.
 1960 Goldberg, Mr M.D.
 1960 McLachlan, Mr M.L.
 1965 Thornton, Mr B.
 1966 Gawler, Mr D.
 1966 Thomas, Mr R.
 1967 Pointon, Mr G.H.
 1967 Wigginton, Mr A.B.
 1967 Woodman, Dr M.J.
 1971 Craig, Mr A.R.
 1971 Goodbody, Mr J.B.
 1971 Jones, Mr R.H.
 1976 Mackenzie, Mr J.
 1976 Miller, Mr D.R.
 1979 Marshall, Mr F.
 1980 Redpath, Mrs E.M.
 1981 Courtney, Mr M.
 1981 Plumley, Mr J.
 1983 Woodward CMG.OBE, Ms B.
 1984 Goudie, Mr P.A.
 1985 Grace, Mr P.M.
 1990 Williamson, Mr P.K.
 1992 Hopkins, Mr R.
 1993 Levitz, Mr M.D.
 1997 Phillips, Mr R.
 1997 Wake, Mr M.
 1998 Gallagher, Mr N.R.
 1998 Vider, Mr P.A.

Active, Non-active, Country Members

1946 Payne, Mr D.B.
 1954 Morton, Mr A.J.
 1955 Chaney, Mr A.J.
 1955 Stossel, Mr C.A.
 1956 Harford, Mr R.S.
 1959 Kennedy, Dr W.J.
 1959 Towers, Mr J.F.
 1960 Lloyd-Mostyn, Dr R.H.
 1960 Parr, Mr D.R.
 1960 Skidmore OBE, Dr F.D.
 1962 Flash, Mr M.H.
 1962 Stewart, Mr C.J.

1963 Gordon, Mr J.S.
 1964 Fox, Dr J.S.
 1966 Nalson, Mr J.K.
 1968 Palmer, Dr R.J.
 1972 Foxon, Dr M.
 1973 Musgrove, Mr N.
 1974 Sharpley, Mr R.F.
 1975 Bedford, Mr J.
 1975 Turner, Mr H.
 1976 Hindle, Mr P.E.
 1979 Flash, Mr G.M.
 1979 Kirk, Mr P.G.
 1984 Flash, Mr A.M.
 1984 Fraser, Mr T.M.
 1985 Stewart, Mrs M.J.
 1987 Davies, Miss L.
 1987 Evans, Mr P.
 1988 Wain, Mrs A.L.
 1988 Willetts, Mr G.
 1991 Kendall, Mr T.H.
 1993 McMenemy, Ms E.J.
 1994 Amos, Dr M.J.
 1994 Rae, Mr P.J.
 1994 Ray, Mr A.A.
 1995 Fraser, Mr J.
 1995 Gallagher, Mr M.
 1997 Bree, Dr S.
 1997 Evans, Mr B.E.
 1997 Fry, Mr W.G.
 1997 Hardy, Mr V.
 1997 Powdrill, Mr G.
 1997 Ray, Mr A.J.
 1999 Buckley, Mr E.J.
 2000 Hindle, Mr J.F.C.
 2001 Marshall, Ms F.C.
 2001 Shaw, Miss E.A.
 2001 Parrish, Mr J.
 2002 Dean, Ms M.E.
 2002 Monk, Mr G.P.
 2002 Slater, Ms S.
 2003 Joyce, Miss R.
 2003 Hobson, Dr G.
 2003 Eden, Mr C.G.
 2003 Ward, Mr S.D.
 2003 Paynter, Miss D.
 2004 Boldon, Mr E.M.
 2004 Bew, Miss B.
 2004 Turner, Mrs E.A.
 2004 Mikulskis, Mr D.P.
 2004 Williams, Mrs L.J.
 2004 Hudson, Mr A.M.
 2005 Russell, Mr A.
 2005 Miller, Miss A.T.
 2005 Miller, Miss K.A.
 2005 Miller, Mr R.G.
 2005 Etiebet, Miss P.E.
 2005 Buller, Mr N.
 2005 Lievesley, Miss A.
 2005 Miller, Mr L.A.
 2005 Miller, Mr B.Q.
 2005 Thomas, Mr B.

2005 Comiskey, Mr G.M.
 2006 Senecal, Miss M.L.
 2006 Estrella, Mr L.
 2006 Adams, Mr C.J.
 2006 Walton, Mrs S.
 2006 Aldana, Mr J.F.
 2007 Bullock, Mr D.
 2007 Bratt, Mr S.
 2007 Capon, Mr A.
 2007 Ochocinska, Ms A.
 2007 Hahn, Mr E.
 2007 Brown, Miss H.
 2007 Hasnain, Dr C.A.
 2007 Cook, Ms L.
 2007 Mulligan, Miss M.A.
 2007 Chopra, Dr M.
 2008 Mulcahy, Miss R.
 2008 Roberts, Mr D.
 2008 Wall, Mr W.A.
 2008 Williams, Mr T.
 2008 Sokolic, Mr I.
 2008 Sutton, Mr C.
 2008 Shkurka, Miss E.
 2008 Tufarelli, Mr T.
 2008 Wright, Mrs F.J.
 2009 Talbott, Mr J.R.
 2009 Burgham, Mr M.R.
 2009 Williams, Mr J.C.
 2009 Eden, Ms A.M.
 2009 Caldwell, Mr O.J.
 2009 Ganase, Mr O.A.
 2009 Sirianni, Mr P.
 2009 Benett, Miss S.E.
 2009 Prentice, Dr H.
 2009 Kruesmann, Dr M.
 2009 Warren, Mr D.
 2010 Burkinshaw, Mr T.
 2010 Moulson, Mr D.
 2010 Kerr, Miss K.
 2010 Bari, Mr F.
 2010 Tafazolli, Miss B.M.
 2010 Pariag, Mrs E.J.
 2010 Hannon, Miss F.A.
 2010 Basse, Mr A.
 2011 Bond, Mr I.
 2011 Louw, Dr A.R.
 2011 Wright, Miss S.E.
 2011 Schuring, Mr B.
 2011 Glennie, Miss G.
 2011 Cockill, Mr M.
 2011 Higlett, Miss A.
 2011 Shannon, Miss H.
 2011 Orosz, Mr G.
 2011 Scanlan, Mr J.
 2011 Grainge, Mr M.R.
 2011 Parra, Ms M.
 2011 Coomer, Miss A.
 2011 Csizsinszky, Mr D.
 2011 Davis, Mr M.
 2011 Thorpe, Miss V.
 2012 Cerqueira, Mr N.

2012 Grey, Mr C.
 2012 Barber, Mr N.
 2012 Reys, Mr M.
 2012 Gillespie, Mr C.
 2012 Eckert, Mr J.
 2012 Gauer, Miss J.S.
 2012 Finlay, Mr T.
 2012 Campbell, Miss H.
 2012 Nurthen, Ms M.L.
 2012 Patchett, Miss H.N.
 2012 Amardeilh, Mr C.
 2012 Roussos, Mr N.
 2012 Von Herberstein, Mr E.
 2012 Nyaka, Mr M.J.
 2012 Barone, Mr B.
 2013 Chopra, Dr M.
 2013 Reynolds, Miss O.
 2013 Voeltzel, Miss D.
 2013 Bennett, Dr P.S.
 2013 Mattick, Mr J.
 2013 Woolley, Mr R.
 2013 Allen, Miss T.
 2013 Dean, Miss I.A.
 2013 Freeman, Miss C.
 2014 Bautista-Garcia, Miss I.
 2014 Brayne, Miss S.
 2014 Brooks, Miss D.
 2014 Brown, Miss A.
 2014 Cappellari, Miss O.
 2014 Cartwright, Miss E.
 2014 Hedley, Miss K.
 2014 Macdonald, Miss K.
 2014 Wharton, Miss A.
 2014 Bonavota, Mr G.
 2014 Fackley, Mr P.
 2014 Jourdain, Mr M.
 2014 Nasadi-Gill, Mr D.
 2014 Sambrook-Smith, Mr J.
 2014 Third, Mr J.
 2014 Williams, Mr S.B.
 2014 Friefeld, Miss K.
 2014 Szyszko, Miss A.
 2014 Tinkler-Davies, Miss S.
 2014 Bion, Mr A.
 2014 Edelman, Mr N.
 2014 Shunn, Mr D.
 2014 Tatar, Mr D.
 2015 Benoy, Ms A-M.
 2015 Decla, Mrs S.
 2015 Demont, Miss C.
 2015 Matich, Miss S.
 2015 McCarthy, Ms E.
 2015 McGirl, Miss E.
 2015 Nonaka, Ms S.
 2015 Rhodes, Miss A.
 2015 Taurite, Miss D.
 2015 Vrain, Miss C.
 2015 Bail, Mr S.
 2015 Braine, Mr S.
 2015 Cambier, Mr E.
 2015 Davis, Mr G.



LIST OF MEMBERS 2017

2015 Ibanez, Mr D.
 2015 Jatteau, Mr R.
 2015 Kuchinskiy, Mr V.
 2015 Lawes, Mr M.
 2015 Marini, Mr P.
 2015 Masters, Mr N.
 2015 Matic, Mr D.
 2015 Northover, Mr J.
 2015 Pardoe, Mr B.
 2015 Paulson, Mr J.
 2015 Pisati, Mr M.
 2015 Schwartz, Mr Y.
 2015 Wilson, Mr P.
 2015 Cogni, Miss E.
 2015 Keith, Miss H.
 2015 Keith, Miss I.
 2015 Rogers, Miss K.
 2015 Bocsi, Mr G.
 2015 Cocksworth, Mr B.
 2015 Dodkins, Mr A.
 2015 Martinelli, Mr I.
 2015 Monahan, Mr N.
 2015 Oleinik, Mr B.
 2015 Turner, Miss C.
 2015 Zelei, Mr B.
 2016 Abdullin, Mr A.
 2016 Adamson, Mr D.
 2016 Allgar, Ms E.
 2016 Beitia, Ms O.
 2016 Blackmore, Ms V.
 2016 Burkhart, Mr J.
 2016 Campbell-Lamerton, Miss E.
 2016 Cavalcanti, Mr O.
 2016 Chambers, Mr R.
 2016 Colantoni, Ms I.
 2016 Corjon, Mr N.
 2016 Couquet, Mr A.
 2016 Davis, Ms H.
 2016 Dickx, Ms L.
 2016 Dinsdale-Young, Ms A.
 2016 Field, Mr R.
 2016 Filbey, Mr J.
 2016 Fincher, Mr H.
 2016 Gauer, Ms L.
 2016 Geleoc, Mr O.
 2016 George, Mr C.
 2016 Goff, Mr S.
 2016 Gorohovik, Mr F.
 2016 Gregson, Ms A.
 2016 Ho, Mr C.
 2016 Hopkins, Mr D.
 2016 Houghton, Mr M.
 2016 Hucker, Ms A.
 2016 Hussey, Ms S.
 2016 Jancourtz, Ms K.
 2016 Kwok, Mr D.
 2016 Law, Ms S-J.
 2016 Le, Mr M.
 2016 Levi, Mr N.
 2016 Lonoce, Mr F.
 2016 Marnat, Ms E.

2016 Manning, Mr J.
 2016 McNeill, Mr A.
 2016 Mills, Mr P.
 2016 Mohamed, Ms F.
 2016 Morten, Mr S.
 2016 Parsons, Mr M.
 2016 Peh, Mr F.
 2016 Pryke, Mr A.
 2016 Rigby, Ms H.
 2016 Ross, Mr J.
 2016 Sartorius, Mr M.
 2016 Thibault, Mr A.
 2016 Thomson, Ms A.
 2016 Thorpe, Ms J.
 2016 Treseder, Mr H.
 2016 van Wyk, Ms N.
 2016 Wan, Mr M.
 2016 Webster, Mr G.
 2017 Andrachnikov, Mr L.
 2017 Antolik, Ms L.
 2017 Battestini, Mr M.
 2017 Besslich, Ms N.
 2017 Birmingham, Ms T.
 2017 Bozkurt, Mr U.
 2017 Brzoska, Mr A.
 2017 Caignard, Mr A.
 2017 Canlan-Shaw, Mr J.
 2017 Castelli, Mr R.
 2017 Chan, Ms P.
 2017 Chow, Mr T.C.
 2017 Clarke, Ms S.
 2017 Clarkson, Mr M.
 2017 Conway, Ms N.
 2017 Cunningham, Ms C.
 2017 Delahunt, Mr C.
 2017 Duff, Mr M.
 2017 Earl, Mr G.
 2017 Elsaadany, Mr R.
 2017 Estrabaud, Mr P.
 2017 Fatehrad, Ms A.
 2017 Foster, Mr R.
 2017 Gallagher, Ms K.
 2017 Geysens, Mr R.
 2017 Goldblatt, Mr D.
 2017 Goyos, Ms A.
 2017 Grossett, Ms M.
 2017 Guicciardi, Mr A.
 2017 Hall, Mr T.
 2017 Harfield, Ms A.
 2017 Harper, Ms C.
 2017 Hellier, Ms G.
 2017 Hesketh, Mr J-C.
 2017 Hobson, Mr J.
 2017 Holland, Ms M.
 2017 Houghton, Mr M.
 2017 Hu, Mr A.
 2017 Iasevoli, Mr A.
 2017 Isherwood, Mr R.
 2017 Jackson-Clark, Ms C.
 2017 Jennings, Mr M.
 2017 Johansson, Ms K.

2017 Kemp, Mr R.
 2017 Kennedy-Hill, Ms G.
 2017 Klingenspor, Mr H.
 2017 Komiya, Mr M.
 2017 Liston, Mr G.
 2017 Lowi, Ms D.
 2017 Mackay, Mr R.
 2017 Magnusdottir, Ms S.
 2017 Masters, Mr N.
 2017 Matheson, Mr L.
 2017 McIntosh, Ms C.
 2017 McKay, Ms S.
 2017 Metsas, Mr A.
 2017 Moscatiello, Mr M.
 2017 Murphy, Mr A.
 2017 Muscato, Mr L.
 2017 Naseer, Ms Y.
 2017 Pantazis, Mr O.
 2017 Papadopoulos, Mr P.
 2017 Patilli, Mr M.
 2017 Peric, Mr N.
 2017 Phelps, Mr B.
 2017 Pitarides, Ms E.
 2017 Pitt, Mr G.
 2017 Playfair, Ms S.
 2017 Prudence, Mr M.
 2017 Pryzwara, Ms S.
 2017 Quaresima, Mr M.
 2017 Ramalho, Mr R.
 2017 Roje, Mr L.
 2017 Ruiz Garcia, Mr L.
 2017 Sapsford, Ms J.
 2017 Siegel, Ms Y.
 2017 Stops, Mr C.
 2017 Sullivan, Ms S.
 2017 Tollefson, Ms S.
 2017 Valeri, Ms C.
 2017 Verdugo Sanchez, Ms M.
 2017 Walter, Ms A.
 2017 Ward, Ms E.
 2017 Webb, Mr D.
 2017 White, Mr R.

Junior Members

2011 Wain, Miss Z.F.
 2012 Wain, Mr E.V.
 2014 Wain, Miss S.
 2015 Andrew, Miss E.
 2015 Bent, Miss M.
 2015 Chisadza, Miss A.
 2015 Cross, Miss H.
 2015 Cutler, Miss K.
 2015 Gillie, Miss E.
 2015 Hanrahan, Miss R.
 2015 Leeson, Miss A.
 2015 Mayall, Miss P.
 2015 Nicholson, Miss C.
 2015 Olusanya, Miss N.
 2015 Pennington, Miss A.
 2015 Poole, Miss E.
 2015 Redfern, Miss M.

2015 Rogers, Miss S.
 2015 Smith, Miss I.
 2015 Stoner, Miss H.
 2015 Toth, Miss B.
 2015 Toth, Miss L.
 2015 Wall-Peters, Miss M.
 2015 Wyrwas, Miss E.
 2016 Apps, Miss L.
 2016 Coulthard, Miss P.
 2016 Ellis-Keeler, Miss S.
 2016 Helliwell, Miss J.
 2016 Helliwell, Miss L M
 2016 Henderson, Miss L.
 2016 King-Dabbs, Miss M.
 2016 Moore, Miss M.
 2016 Poole, Miss F.
 2016 Rourke, Miss M.
 2016 Shute, Miss S.
 2016 Turner, Miss G.
 2016 Watt, Miss R.
 2017 Alfe, Mr P.
 2017 Ardis, Miss A.
 2017 Buckland, Mr K.
 2017 Buckland, Mr L.
 2017 Close, Mr C.
 2017 Croke, Mr M.
 2017 Danielson, Miss P.
 2017 Douglas-Mudie, Mr M.
 2017 Gardiner, Miss L.
 2017 Greenslade, Miss R.
 2017 Hegarty-Morrish, Miss R.
 2017 Horton, Miss I.
 2017 Hughes, Miss I.
 2017 Kinloch, Miss S.
 2017 Kraft, Miss I.
 2017 Jackson, Miss E.
 2017 Lyons, Miss J.
 2017 Maciejewski, Mr M.
 2017 McDonagh, Miss M.
 2017 Mdaoukhi, Miss S.
 2017 O'Malia, Miss M.
 2017 Onal, Miss A.
 2017 Roberts, Miss M.
 2017 Sabbaghian, Mr N.
 2017 Sharkey, Miss J.
 2017 Sherwood-Rogers, Miss H.
 2017 Shirvani, Mr K.
 2017 Smith, Miss K.
 2017 Spencer, Miss I.
 2017 Street, Miss J.
 2017 Tinkler-Davies, Miss A.
 2017 Thursfield, Mr J.
 2017 Thursfield, Mr T.
 2017 Trancas, Mr R.
 2017 Watt, Miss R.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Honorary Annual Report Editor:

Gina Hobson



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Thank you to all the contributors of material and photos for this year's report. I feel that photos bring the report alive, so particular thanks go to all the people who have supplied photos. This is my fifth and final time of editing the Otter Annual Report. I've really enjoyed collating material for the report and finding out more about different parts of Club. If you're interested in taking on the role and editing the 2018 report, please do get in touch (ginaju@hotmail.com).

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