

# SUMMER 2024



## CATCH UP FROM THE COACHING TEAM

As 2024 draws to a close, it's a good time to reflect on the year that was at Hamilton Aquatics and prepare for an exciting 2025 ahead. We have had a fabulous year at all levels with our team continuing its success at national competitions with consistent top 5 finishes overall including being named the top club in New Zealand at the National Open Water Championships. Several of our members have represented New Zealand in 2024 including Jesse Reynolds (Paralympics), Gina McCarthy (World Short Course), Sophie Hay (World Junior Open Water), Pippa Mihaka / Chloe Peters (Tri Series) and Orlando Hardie (Queensland Champs). Congratulations to these swimmers, the club is proud of your achievements.

2024 has also seen massive growth in our junior program. We have had big junior teams racing lately and these swimmers have made massive steps forward. This portion of our club is primed for a big 2025, and I am expecting the Hamilton Aquatics Team to really compete with the best juniors at both the Aquaknights Junior Festival (March) and Waikato Junior Championships (May). With so much talent in the junior program I can't wait to watch the progress of these swimmers over the next few years.

December will be a busy month for many of our swimmers, the Hamilton Aquatics Age Group team will be travelling to Melbourne to compete in the Victorian Championships. This is the first time a Hamilton Aquatics team has travelled offshore and it's an exciting opportunity for youth swimmers to race overseas and challenge themselves against some of the best athletes in Australia. We will also have a junior team who will compete in the St Pauls Xmas cracker to finish off the year. All of this along with Gina McCarthy swimming at World Championships in Budapest and Orlando Hardie swimming for New Zealand in Brisbane. Good luck to all of our swimmers, we can't wait to see you race.

I wish all of our teams and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, enjoy time off work/school, with friends and family whilst eating too much!

Kind Regards  
Mat Woofe



A great weekend held over the 30th November and 1st December as our swimmers showcased their hard work over the season at our championship meet. Age Group championship medals were presented in the morning with the evenings being top 8 Open Finals for all events. We had 38 swimmers racing over the 2 days and many at their first Waikato Champs and great to see participation of our Multi Class swimmers as well!!! A long weekend and lots of fight shown by our team with a huge number of lifetime best swims from across our 12 and over team. I have listed the Medallists below but a great job and contribution from all our team picking up club points, PBs and great support shown for all their teammates. Also congratulations to Melissa Donoghue who broke a multiclass NZ record over the weekend pending approval.

Congrats to the following swimmers who made the podium for age group and open races – some heading up multiple times over the weekend.

### Gold Medallists

Gemma Hay, Jessica Richardson, Indy Riley, Chloe Peters, Orlando Hardie, Pippa Mihaka, Ryder Elliott, Neave Hills, Ariella Riley, Shane Murdoch, Isaac Wren, Graysen Elliott, Sophie Hay, Hugo Krompass, Ethan MacDonald, Madison Marlow, Ari Narayan, Ruben Wren, Mateo Castro-Stephens.

## CATCH UP FROM THE COACHING TEAM

### Silver Medallists

Sophie Hay, Ethan MacDonald, Jacob MacDonald, Ari Narayan, Indy Riley, Jeremi Rataj, Mateo Castro-Stephens, Quinn Pike, Madison Marlow, Arie Riley, Gemma Hay, Chloe Peters, Hugo Krompass, Poppy Van Geneijgen, Shane Murdoch, Isaac Wren, Graysen Elliott, Jessica Richardson.

### Bronze Medallists

Quinn Pike, Neave Hills, Graysen Elliott, Isaac Wren, Lachlan Shirreffs, Gemma Hay, Shane Murdoch, Amelia Chittick, Neave Hills, Mateo Castro-Stephens, Melissa Donoghue, Madison Marlow, Finn Taylor.

### Open Medallists

Chloe Peters, Indy Riley, Ethan MacDonald, Orlando Hardie, Arie Riley, Chloe Peters, Neave Hills, Sophie Hay, Jacob MacDonald, Madison Marlow, Poppy Van Geneijgen, Jess Richardson.

Great weekend Team!!

Kind Regards  
Aly Fitch



## LEARN TO SWIM

The Learn To Swim program has restarted strongly in Term Four this year. The transition from Sarah's leadership to Kinnon's, with the help of club Administrators, Abby and Gina, has helped the program start off the summer season with a bang. Once again we are running out of the Hillcrest Normal School pool on Mondays and Thursdays and Hamilton West's school pool on Tuesday afternoons with 62 and 29 swimmers at each pool respectively. We have also welcomed some new staff for this term, bringing our count up to eight, this influx has been supported by an amazing grant from Wel Energy Networks, who have helped us invest in new equipment and gear for our coaches and swimmers.



Our new Learn To Swim Coordinator, **Kinnon Broekhuizen**, is an experienced LTS coach and ex-competitive swimmer, having worked with the club for over three years and swam for many more.

Working alongside him there is **Keira McNulty**, an ex-swimmer who is reaching the end of her second year of LTS coaching who can be found poolside on Mondays and Thursdays. Alongside her on Mondays and Thursdays, is **Dylan Roche**. A keen Water polo player, Dylan has joined the team this term and has very quickly learnt the ropes and become a confident and effective teacher. You can also find new recruit **Makyla Wyatt**, poolside on Mondays, using her expertise as a competitive swimmer to help coach the next Michael Phelps or Katie Ledecky.



Heading over to Hamilton West on Tuesdays, Kinnon is joined by the new coaches, **Giuliana MacDonald** and **Jessica Richardson**. Using their knowledge of the sport and its intricacies, these two are great at building the confidence of younger swimmers, and developing their techniques.

A huge acknowledgement should be made to **Rinoa Day**, who has helped out training the new staff and filling in gaps when a teacher is away. We also welcome **Niall Broekhuizen**, who has offered his years of swimming experience to help teach older teenagers and adults in new classes.

As Term Four nears its end, we look forward to our water safety week and our Open Day on December 15th at Hamilton West before heading into block courses in January and Term One in 2025.

## SWIMMER SPOTLIGHT

### SOPHIE MAKES A SPLASH IN ITALY

In September this year Sophie Hay travelled to Alghero, Italy to compete at the 2024 World Aquatics Junior Open Water Championships. Sophie was accompanied by swimmers Alex Dunkley, Larn Hamblyn-Ough and Jack Portier with our very own Head Coach, Mat Woofe, leading the team.

Sophie competed in two events, the Women's 7.5km and a new event to the Open Water Championships the 3km Knockout Sprint.

The weather although great for a European summer holiday, made for tough racing conditions as temperatures were up into the 30's. Upon chatting with Sophie she said "the conditions were tough. It was a lot hotter than I was used to. It wasn't windy which was nice as it meant the water was flat." Sophie dove into the Mediterranean Sea on day 2 of competition and after putting her heart and soul into the 7.5km race Sophie finished 33rd out of 48 competitors.

Day 3 saw Sophie compete in the 3km Knockout Sprint, a new event to the competition lineup being dubbed the "skins of open water" and consisting of three rounds. The first leg is 1500m, the second leg is 1000m and the final leg 500m. The first round was delivered via two heats, with only 10 swimmers from each heat progressing through to the following round. Sophie was in heat 2 and led the second pack of swimmers. She touched the pad in 18th placing her 37th overall.

Upon evaluation of her performances Sophie said "Although I didn't get the results I was hoping for it was a really good learning experience and I came home with a lot of knowledge about racing the best from other countries. I am very grateful for the experience.". World Champs was Sophie's second ever international competition with NSW Open Water Championships being her first.

Sophie's next big adventure is coming in August 2025 when she moves to the USA to attend University at Washington State University!

Congratulations on all your achievements this year Sophie! Hamilton Aquatics is very proud of you!

We would love to have a huge team compete with Sophie at the Open Water Championship held in Taupo on the 11th & 12th of January 2025. As a club we focus on entering all distances available (2.5km, 5km, 7.5km, 10km & 4x1km Relay)

More information can be found at: <https://www.swimmingnz.org/2025-apollo-projects-new-zealand-open-water>



## VICTORIAN AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIPS HAQ TEAM

We have 9 swimmers heading off next week to represent themselves and the club in Melbourne at the Victorian Age Group Championships. We are touring with St Pauls so look forward to working together to support our swimmers step forward with their swimming.

The meet runs from Saturday the 14th through to Wednesday the 18th December and will be a huge learning opportunity for our young team with most of the team touring overseas for swimming for the first time having raced at National Age or Open level before but taking a next opportunity step into the international zone. We will be staying in apartments in St Kilda and working together on using the trams, preparing meals and working through preparing to a timetable as the meet will be long but a wonderful challenge to them all.

All the best to Arie Riley, Indy Riley, Madison Marlow, Poppy Van Geneijgen, Neave Hills, Quinn Pike, Kahlea Norris, Graysen Elliott and Ari Narayan. Let's enjoy the week team!!

Live streaming I believe can be found of the Swimming Victoria Website and Facebook page. Racing starts at 10am NZT each day and we have swimmers in every session.

## SAVE THESE DATES



### JANUARY

- 11-12th Jan - NZ Open Water Championships
- 25-26th Jan - Hamilton Aquatics Cash Meet

### February

- 1st Feb - Matamata Sponsored Meet
- 15th Feb - St Peter's Festival Meet
- 22-23rd - Swimming Waikato Summer Meet

### March

- 08-09th Mar - 2025 Apollo Projects Junior Festival - Aquaknights
- 21-23rd Mar - 2025 Apollo Projects Division II Swimming Competition

### April

- 05-06th Apr - Swimming Waikato Juniors
- 13-17th Apr - 2025 Apollo Projects NZ Age Group Swimming Championships

## CLUB NEWS

### Club Records

Congratulations to these swimmers who have broken Hamilton Aquatics Records over the last few months

#### LC Records:

**Gina McCarthy:** Open 50m Free, 50m Brs, 19 years and over 50m Free, 50m Brs, 100m Fly

**Orlando Hardie:** Open 50m Fly, 16 years 50m Free, 50m Fly, 100m Fly

**Joseph Blake:** 19 years and over 200m Brs

**Ethan MacDonald:** 17 years 100m Free

**Pippa Mihaka:** 17 years 50m Free, 50m Fly, 50m Back

**Chloe Peters:** 17 years 100m Free, 100m Fly, 50m Fly, 100m Back, 200m Fly

**Neave Hills:** 16 years 100m Breast

**Ariella Riley:** 16 years 400m IM

**Shane Murdoch:** 12 years 100m Brs

**Cruden Aupouri:** 11 years 50m Back, 100m Back, 100m Fly, 200m Free, 200m Back

**Kalani Hofman:** 10 and under 50m Free, 50m Brs

#### SC Records:

**Gina McCarthy:** Open 200m Back, 200m IM, 19 years and over 200m Free, 200m Back, 200m IM

**Ethan MacDonald:** Open 50m Back, 100m Back, 17 years 50m Free, 100m Free, 200m Free, 50m Back, 100m Back, 200m Back, 50m Fly, 200m IM

**Orlando Hardie:** Open 100m Free, 100m Breast, 50m Fly, 100m Fly, 100m IM, 16 years 50m Free, 100m Free, 200m Free, 100m Breast, 50m Fly, 100m Fly

**Chloe Peters:** Open 50m Fly, 100m Fly, 200m Fly, 16 years 50m Free, 200m Free, 50m Fly, 100m Fly, 200m Fly, 100m IM, 200m IM

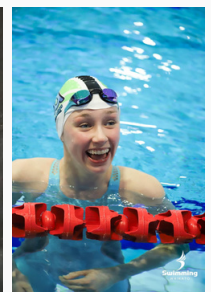
**Pippa Mihaka:** 17 years 50m Free, 100m Back, 200m Back

**Ariella Riley:** 16 years 100m Breast, 200m Breast, 400m IM

**Sophie Peters:** 13 years 50m Breast, 100m Breast, 200m IM

### Hamilton Boys High School

Hamilton Aquatics will be operating the Hamilton Boys High School Pool once again this summer. The facility will open to the public during January and February and our team will be making sure everyone is safe and having fun. Make sure you make a note and drop in sometime for a day in the sun and water with your family and friends.



## SUPPORT CREW UPDATE

In November we welcomed Kieran McCarthy onto our committee. Having just completed 2 years on the Swim Waikato board, Kieran decided it was time to return to club level governance - it's great to have him back.

We are also thankful to have Kelly Phillips step up to join Claire as a club recorder. Come swim meet time this is a crucial and busy role. Kelly will hit the ground running at our long course cash meet in January. Edward Hardie has entered Swimming NZs Technical Officials Mentorship Programme. This is a new programme to support the pathway of technical officials across the country.

Gina McCarthy has aptly stepped into our Administrator position and in her first 2 months has brought some great ideas and tweaks to the background functioning of our club. It's fabulous to have you alongside us in this role, Gina.

Wishing you all a lovely holiday season,

**Janine Broekhuizen** - Club President

## 2025 HAMILTON AQUATICS CASH MEET

On the 25-26th of January Hamilton Aquatics will be holding our annual Cash Competition. This competition is our largest and flagship event of the year. We will be needing all hands on deck to ensure this meet can go ahead.

We are currently looking for lane sponsorship. Lane sponsorship is \$300+GST and includes:

- Your logo and acknowledgement of your support on our website, Facebook and Instagram.
- Exposure of your brand on the meet programme and to the 100's that will be present during the two days.
- Company name and logo will be displayed at your sponsored lane for a day of the event.
- Numerous acknowledgements over the speaker during the meet.
- Promotion of your business via a rotating sponsors presentation on main display during warm up and breaks at the event.
- We will also run a raffle over the weekend. Any donation of product or voucher prizes which can be raffled would be gratefully received.



All proceeds from this swim meet, go into our Hamilton Aquatics Squad and Learn to Swim programmes. Please get in touch to secure your lane, email: [admin@hamiltonaquatics.nz](mailto:admin@hamiltonaquatics.nz)

## HAMILTON AQUATICS UNIFORM

Uniform is available to purchase through the Kapinua website link found on the Hamilton Aquatics website under the 'Members Info' tab - <https://www.hamiltonaquatics.nz/page/member-info/>

We have a few different uniform items to choose from including a polo, singlet and hoodie.

Polo = From \$86.95  
Singlet Youth = \$60.40  
Singlet = \$65.15  
Hoodie = From \$111.90

Swimming caps can be purchased by emailing [admin@hamiltonaquatics.nz](mailto:admin@hamiltonaquatics.nz)

Racing Caps = \$22  
Training Caps = \$15



## CARO CUP - 13 & UNDER REPRESENTATIVE DUAL MEET WITH AUCKLAND

Congratulations to our selected swimmers who represented Waikato at the recent Caro Cup racing meet in Auckland. This cup is over 70 years old and has been competed for between Auckland and Waikato in lots of different formats over the years. The top 5 to 6 swimmers in each age group 10 and under, 11 years, 12 years and 13 years are selected from performances over the end of summer and winter meets to represent the region against Auckland's very best.

A great experience to race hard and fast against the Aucklanders and all our swimmers gave it their all from start to finish to ensure the maximum points they could get for each of their swims. Each swimmer can race 2 individual events and as many relays as they are selected for.

Great to see Cruden Aupouri, Ning Lu, Chian-Ying Sat and Corey Peters who all had top 3 finishes in 1 or more of the races they competed in.

Congrats to our selected Waikato Representatives

10 Year Olds – Cullen Sinton

11-Year-olds – Cruden Aupouri, Fausta Wema, Ning Lu, Corey Peters, Chian-Ying Sat

12-Year-olds – Ryder Elliott, Lily Taylor, Brodie Hill-Liddle,

13-year-olds – Carlos Joe

Let's see even more of our young people earning their Waikato Selected Caps next year!!

## SWIMMING WAIKATO AWARDS

On the 19th of October Swimming Waikato held their 40th Anniversary Gala & Awards Evening. It was a fantastic evening full of celebration for the Waikato swimming community.

Congratulations to the following Hamilton Aquatics swimmers who won awards:

**Ariella Riley** – Balvert Trophy

**Chloe Peters** – Ken Key Memorial Trophy & Butterfly FINA Point Trophy

**Ethan Macdonald** – Backstroke FINA Point Trophy

**Gina McCarthy** – Senior Ladies High Points Trophy, Patricia O'Fee Cup, Judy Leat Trophy, Breastroke, Backstroke & Individual Medley FINA Point Trophy, Stanley Trophy & Winstone Challenge Trophy (Swimmer of the Year Plate)

**Jesse Reynolds** – Swimmer with a Disability of the Year

**Kinnon Broekhuizen** – Senior Mens High Points Trophy, Grocott Challenge Cup, Freestyle & Butterfly FINA Point Trophy

**Orlando Hardie** – Bob Frankham Trophy & Herbert Smith Cup,

**Sophie Hay** – The New Zealand Swimming Trust Emerging Swimmer of the Year

Congratulations to our President **Janine Broekhuizen** on her Swimming Waikato Service Award!

Hamilton Aquatics was also awarded the **Kenning Memorial Shield** for the best overall performance by any swimming club at the Waikato Age Group Champs as well as being named **Performance Swimming Club** of the Year for the third year in a row!

Also a huge congratulations to coach **Aly Fitch** for her induction into the Swimming Waikato Life Member's! This is an amazing award for Aly which acknowledges her many years of hard work and dedication into swimming. We are lucky to have Aly here at Hamilton Aquatics.

Thank you to Swimming Waikato for an incredible evening and congratulations on your 40th anniversary.



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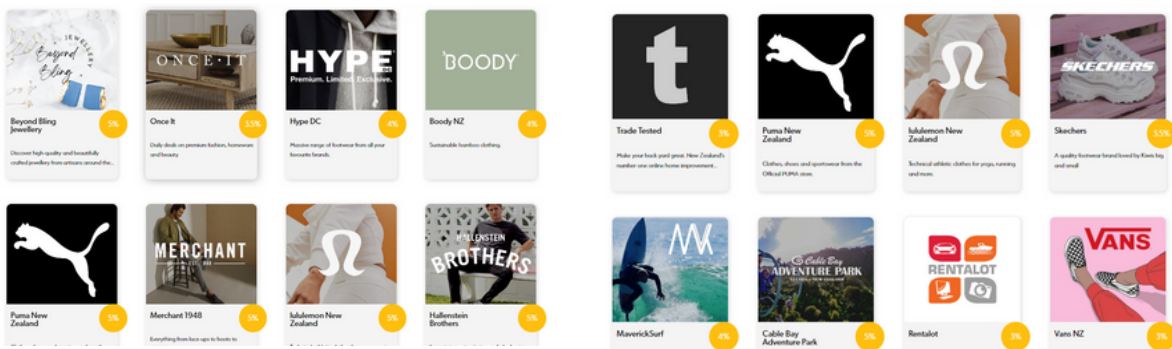
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## Where to find information.



For club information, & to log into Friendly Manager, go to our website.

[hamiltonaquatics.nz](http://hamiltonaquatics.nz)



For news, events & action from the pool deck follow us on Facebook & Instagram.



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