



Barefoot Water Skiing

Australia's Early History Prior to the 1st World Titles in 1978 and Other Formative Information

(Minute Badge Numbers if known under photographs)



Front Page Photographs - Left to Right

Top Row – John Hollands 4, Ray Leighton 2, Betty Leighton 19, Paul McManus 237

Middle Row – Dave Hamilton 168, Gary Barnard, Garry Barton 606

Bottom Row – Paul McManus 237, Stephen Partridge 303, Geoff Nichols 115, Kevin Stuart 68

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History Statement

15 October, 2020

The information in this document is true and correct from my personal knowledge and research. Every endeavour was made to include as much information as possible, however many persons contacted for information did not respond.

Greg Brown 899 – Historian, World Barefoot Council, AO Confederation.

This document basically replaces page one of the Australian History as per...

<https://www.worldbarefootcouncil.com/docs/history/7.barefoothistoryAustraliav2.pdf>

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Pamela Barton,
Steve Darcy 6469,
Brett Wing 817,
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Shayne Evans,
Debbie Williams 2738,
Ray Cooper 205,
Ray Patterson 711,
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Proof Readers - Final Document

Who was Australia's First Barefoot Water Skier in the 1950's?

The first Barefoot Water Skier in Australia is believed to have been between 1954 to 1957, but it was never recorded who in fact was the actual person!
Who do you think it was?

It is often reported that during the mid 1950's Betty or Ray Leighton from Balgowlah in Sydney were the first to Barefoot Water Ski at Sackville on the Hawkesbury River, NSW.
(Betty Leighton was an Australian Water Ski Overall Champion in 1951 and 1952 and an Australian Team member from 1953. Her first world competition being Toronto, Canada, 1953.
Ray Leighton came from a Surf Life Saving background with the Manly Club in Sydney and was responsible for the introduction of Surf Boards being used for Surf Rescue in Australia during September 1945.
Ray also competed in the Australian Water Ski Championships with his wife Betty in 1952, winning Mens Tricks and being placed very high in the Overall)

AND

it was also rumoured that Australia's first barefoot water skier was Betty Wheeler who barefooted first on the Nerang River, Gold Coast, QLD.
(Betty Wheeler was the Personal Assistant of Australian Champion Water Skier Keith Williams and she won many events in the Australian Water Ski Titles from 1957.
Keith Williams opened Surfers Paradise Gardens in 1957.)

OR

was it Ray Job?
Ray saw a movie clip of barefoot water skiing from the Cypress Gardens Water Ski Show, Florida, USA..
In late 1954 or early 1955 he then taught himself to barefoot water ski by stepping off one ski at the St Lucia Water Ski Club near Sandgate on the Brisbane River, Brisbane, Queensland.

Ray Job was approached by Keith Williams in 1956 to join a new Australian Water Ski Show to be called Surfers Paradise Gardens that commenced operations on the Gold Coast in 1957.
Ray was the first barefoot water skier at Surfers Paradise Gardens when first opened.

(All research leans towards Ray Job as being Australia's first barefoot water skier!)



Ray Job, Brisbane River, Sandgate, QLD, late 1954 - early 1955



Photographs of Ray Job courtesy family members, Graham Job, Kerri Blackford (nee Job) and Cliff Blackford 5898

The following article and photograph appeared in the PIX Magazine 08 November 1958.

A PERFECT combination of strength, condition, balance and constant practice gives Queenslander Ray Job what it takes to water-ski on his bare feet.

One of the stars of the Surfers Paradise Gardens Water Ski Troupe, Ray Job also is one of the few men in the world who can withstand the buffeting of water on bare flesh to skim along the water's surface as competently as a man with the protection of one, or even two skis under his feet.

Job's take off is similar to the ordinary water skier's—he is pulled out of the water by the boat and is balanced on one ski. When he achieves the correct speed and balance, he sets one bare foot on the water, gets his balance again, then discards the ski as he moves along and he's on his way.

Job's act is part of a regular show which takes place on the Nerang River at Surfers Paradise every weekend. Other performers, led by local businessman, Keith Williams, include male skiers who perform spectacular jumps off ramps and a water ski ballet of girls who form an attractive background to the show as they parade on the water in brightly coloured costumes.

First of its kind in Australia, the ski troupe is becoming one of the leading tourist attractions in Queensland.

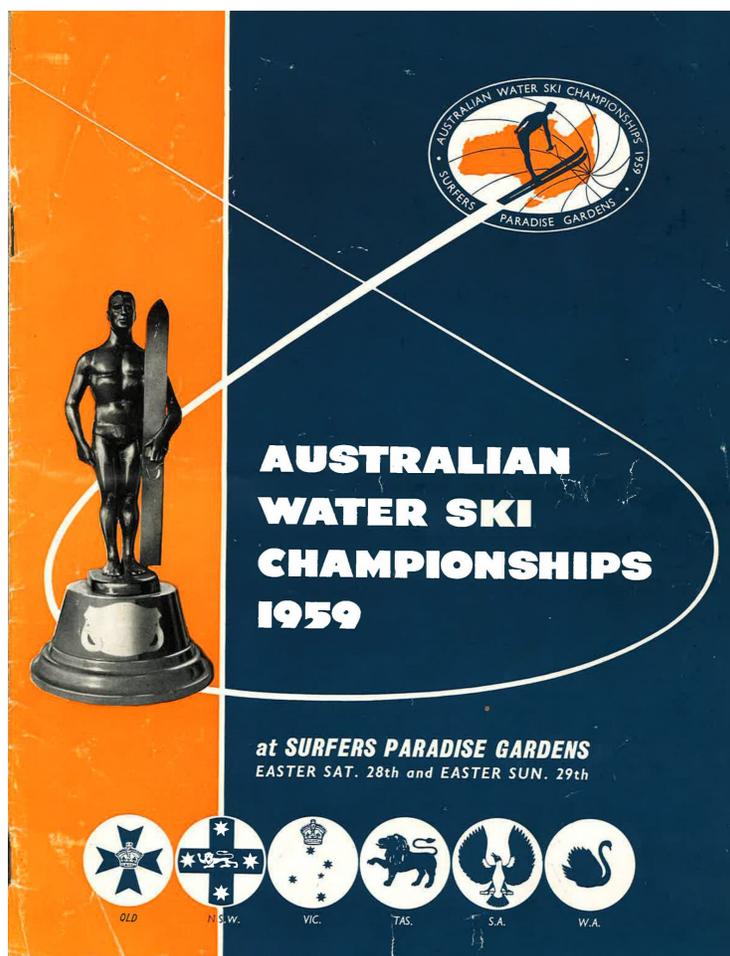
THE SKI-LESS SKIER

...land

HIS BODY TENSE and stooped with strain, Ray Job struggles to get his balance (above). Below, he straightens as balance is maintained.



Following extract from the Programme – Australian Water Ski Championships March 1959



AUSTRALIAN WATER SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS 1959

at **SURFERS PARADISE GARDENS**
EASTER SAT. 28th and EASTER SUN. 29th

QLD N.S.W. VIC. TAS. S.A. W.A.

THE MIRACLE OF BARE FOOT SKIING

Introduced some years ago by Dick Pope, Junior, of Cypress Gardens, Florida, even to-day is considered one of the most amazing feats ever accomplished.

Here at Surfers Paradise Gardens we have two of the most experienced bare foot skiers in Australia in Ray Job and Wally Morris. Both of these boys

have skied on bare feet for distances of four and five miles.

Over the past two years quite a number of skiers in Australia have managed to successfully ski on bare feet, and naturally once anything becomes commonplace, there are always those who will try and make the feat even a little more difficult. The obvious way of doing this in bare foot skiing is to once again reduce the planing area by lifting one foot from the water.

Both Ray and Wally have been trying this over the past six months and are now successfully skiing on one bare foot.

This requires perfectly smooth water, as even the slightest ripple is more than sufficient to upset a skier who is travelling at some 40 miles an hour and planing over the surface on approximately eight square inches.

Ray Job & Wally Morris

Australia's First Backwards Barefoot Water Skier late 1959 early 1960

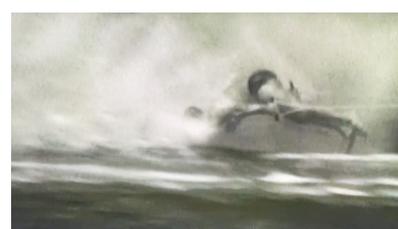
The first to Barefoot Backwards in Australia was late 1959, early 1960.

It was 18 year old Gary Barnard who skied on the Canning River, Perth, Western Australia.

Gary was also interested in 3 event Tournament Water Skiing and left Australia early 1961 and ended up being a Barefoot Water Skier in the Cypress Gardens Ski Show, Florida, USA.

He returned to Australia early 1964 and skied at Surfers Paradise Gardens and won the 1964 Australian Water Ski Jump Championship.

Gary also gave an exhibition of Backwards Barefoot Water Skiing at the 1964 Australian Barefoot Water Ski Championships.



Gary Barnard (Pics Courtesy Ian Faulkner)

Was the World's 1st Barefoot Water Skier actually an Australian in December 1941?

History of Barefooting

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

"Barefoot water skiing originated in Winter Haven, Florida. According to the Water Ski Hall of Fame, and witnesses of the event, 17-year-old A.G. Hancock became the first person ever to barefoot water ski in 1947. That same year, Richard Downing "Dick" Pope Jr., was the first person ever to be photographed barefooting, stepping off his skis on a training boom alongside the boat."

An Australian Story

The following story was told to Phillip Smyth (969) 4747 and possibly the recorded history of barefoot water skiing may be incorrect..What do you think?

(Phillip was active in Australian barefoot water skiing being an official at many State and National Titles and he was the Tournament Director at the 4th World Titles in Canberra in 1985.)

Phillip's Story.....

Phillip met a hairdresser in a Hawker (ACT) salon soon after the First World Barefoot Titles in 1978.

She noticed his barefoot water ski T-Shirt and commented that her late husband was the first person in the World to water ski on his bare feet.

Phillip cannot remember their names but they lived near Hillston, Lake Cargellico in the Riverina, NSW.

She went on to say that her late husband was at home recuperating from being wounded in the North African Campaigns in the Second World War.

Just before Christmas in 1941 he and one of his friends Jack Murray, then 34 years of age (who later was known as "Gelignite" Jack Murray) absconded with the flag pole from the local primary school. They went out to the irrigation channel where they would drive along the track on the side of the levy bank and would water ski off a rope tied to the rear of the tray of the bed of his father's utility truck. They lashed the long flag pole to the rear of the utility truck and connected it by rope to the front roof bar.

He hung onto the end of the flag pole with water skis on and Jack drove off up the side of the channel and he came out of the water on 2 skis. Jack sped up as fast as the utility truck would go and he jumped out of the skis and landed on his bare feet and continued until Jack had to stop,

Jack then had to reverse all the way back up to where they could start again and then they swapped for Jack to have a go. He fell on his first two attempts but barefooted on his third attempt.

Early in 1942 he had to return to North Africa but soon after was sent to Singapore and was captured and sent to Burma as a prisoner of war. After the war due to ill health he never played any sports nor water skied again and worked on his family farm for many happy years until he passed on.

Jack Murray went on to be in the first group of water skiers to join Australia's First State Barefoot Club in November 1960.



First State Club 1960

In November 1960 a group of water skiers met at Ray Leighton's water ski beach (Leighton's Beach) at Sackville on the Hawkesbury River near Sydney, New South Wales to form a barefooters club.

Barefoot water skiing was a newly developed discipline of water skiing.

The "NSW Water Ski Association Barefooters Club" was formed with initial members being Bruce Purnell, Bryan Neale, John Hollands, Ray Leighton, John Challinor, Jack Murray and Ron Marks.

Membership numbers are unknown from this club but others also included Kurt Lance, Bruce and Betty Wheeler, Reg Walker, Lindsay and Jackie Sidwell, Betty Leighton, Chris and Eric Baldwin, Larry Caplin, Noel See, Max Old and 10 year old Laurie Purnell.



SACKVILLE . . . 1960

DOWN a water-eroded track from the mountain above, tumbled several cars to what was popularly known as "Leighton's Beach", on the Hawkesbury River, N.S.W. The cult had gathered. That is, the barefooters from in and around the environs of Sydney.

The river at this early hour was shrouded in the unusual summer mist rising from the placid waters. Then breaking through came a figure—yes, it was Bruce Purnell, of Sydney, who was undergoing the initiation for the first member of the Barefoot Club, the laid down requirements being 1 minute on bare feet. Some feat in those early days of barefooting, still today it remains as the entrance demand for membership to the Club. During the ensuing hour some 15 skiers did their minute and some who did not succeed. A club was born!

Under the auspices of the N.S.W. Water Ski Association the Club grew slowly at first, then as the feat became more popular the membership boomed along to today's standard.

It was not very long before the organisers received an unusual request: "How long does a little 10-year-old lad have to ski on his bare feet?" After a hurried conference it was decided that the test for juniors or women would be restricted to half a minute. Shortly after, in what had been the sole domain of muscled men, 10-year-old Laurie Purnell took his place—no mean feat for a slender built lad, but perhaps the famous family whose name he bears would have something to do with his success.

The initial shocks were not over, for three members of the fair sex then took their place in the annals of the Club's history—they were Betty Wheeler, Betty Leighton and Jackie Sidwell—the husbands of whom share equal interests in barefooting.



Betty Wheeler 19



Ray Leighton 2



Betty Leighton 20



Bryan Neale 3



John Hollands 4



Tony Purnell 17

Second State Club 1962

Several Years later in October 1962 another group of enthusiastic water skiers met at Murray Bridge near Adelaide, South Australia to form a barefoot water ski club.

They agreed together that in order to qualify to join the new club that a candidate must barefoot water ski for sixty seconds.

The "SA Barefoot Ski Club" (SABSC) was formed with initial members being Brian Fox (SA's 1st Barefoot Water Skier), Eric Casanova, Max Moore, Ted James and David Mutton. Membership of this club was unknown but also including Joe Csอร์ตan, Jennie Moore and Aivars Lidums.



Brian Fox



Joe Csอร์ตan 203

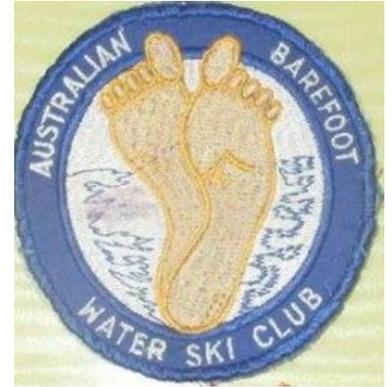


Aivars Lidums 292

Australian Club Inaugurated 1963

In early February 1963 an Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club (ABWSC) was inaugurated at a meeting held at the Chevron Hotel in Kings Cross, Sydney, with Bryan Neale being elected President and John Hollands, Secretary.

It was at this meeting the functions of both the "NSW Water Ski Association Barefooters Club" and the "SA Barefoot Ski Club" were taken over by the new "Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club"



The first meeting of the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club was held at the home of Mr. Bill Burns of Forestville, NSW, on the 19th February, 1963, and was attended by Brian Neal in the chair, John Hollands secretary, treasurer Bill Burns, Ron Bohm, John Challinor, G. Bevin B. McKeon and Bob Yonge.

The first name suggested for the Club was the Australian Barefooters Club, but this was not accepted and the Club was named the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club.

It was then resolved that the first Australian Barefoot Water Ski championships be held at Manly Dam in April 1963, and that all States and zones in Australia should be informed of this forthcoming championship.

The Second President of the ABWSC was John Hollands, elected in November, 1964 and John remained the President until 1969 when Ken Mathews took over as President and conducted the inaugural meeting of the Australian Barefoot Club, National Body, which was held at Wiseman's Ferry, NSW, on 28th November, 1970 and had representatives from NSW, Queensland, Victoria and South Australia.

This was the beginning of the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club really becoming a national body, and then in April 1971, for the first time, the Australian National Barefoot Championships moved out of NSW to South Australia on Lake Patawalonga.

AUSTRALIAN BAREFOOT WATER SKI CLUB



Box 47 ST. IVES,
N. S. W.

FOUNDED 1963

This is the only form on which application for membership may be made.

I,, being a member of the A.W.S.A., do solemnly declare that at, on the, day of, 196... I did ski on my Bare Feet for the time of, secs this time being in excess of the required standard of one minute, within THREE ATTEMPTS, In consideration of your accepting my application I enclose subscription of 10.00 DOLLARS, which entitles me to life membership of the club, so long as I remain a financial member of my Water Ski Association.

SIGNED ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

WITNESS TO THE ABOVE ATTEMPT. By authorised Official.

I, of
NAME. ADDRESS.

declare I was present at the above attempt, and all facts therein contained are true.

SIGNED. DATE.

Only Authorised Examiners may test applicants. Other testings by arrangement should be made in writing to the Secretary. No application will be considered unless on official form by qualified examiners and accompanied by cheque.

Life Membership	}	10.00 \$10.00
Cloth Badge with Serial No.		
Metal Lapel Badge		
Car Transfer		
Barefoot World Magazine, Literature etc.		
Car Medallion		\$3.00 Extra

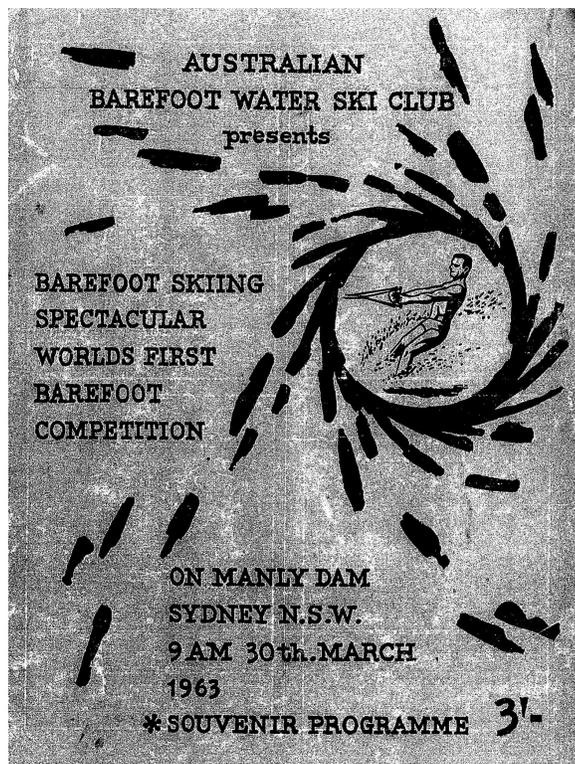
OFFICE - All correspondence to Secretary, Box 47, P.O., ST. IVES, N.S.W. 2075.

DATE RECEIVED.	DATE APPROVAL	SERIAL NO.	RECEIPT No.	DATE OF DISPATCH
APPROVAL LETTER	INSIGNIA AS ORDERED	CONSTITUTION	LATEST BULLETIN	MISS.

First Australian Championships 1963

The first Australian Barefoot Championships were held on Manly Dam in Sydney, March 1963, with Erwin Luthiger winning the overall from 38 competitors. The President Bryan Neale a NSW Water Ski State Referee drew up the first events (rules). Each year there after more interstate barefoot water skiers competed other than from NSW.

Competitor List



Name
LANE, Nick
CAMPBELL, Bill
WARD, Harry
FRANCE, Ray
KENNEDY, Lionel
KENNEDY, Des
HAEBICH, Fred
TILLING, Robt.
CATTERSON, Geoff
GOLDSMITH, David
HOLLANDS, John
NEALE, Bryan
YONGE, Bob
FERGUSON, David
FORRESTER, Peter
BOHM, Ron
WALKER, Reg
COLTMAN, Ian
BEVAN, George
TEMPLETON, Keith
WARREN, John
BEASLEY, Robt.
PETERSON, Ted
AUSTIN, Bruce
BURNES, Bill
CLARKE, Ray
GLASSON, Ray
GLASSON, John
LEE, Noel
McEWEN, Brian
CHALLINOR, John
STUART, Kevin
BALDWIN, Eric
SMITH, Charlie
ROGERS, Wal
LUTHIGER, Irwin
PETERSON, Ray
LUTH, Ron

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Today we live in an era of "firsts", which go down in history as magnificent experiments, tremendous efforts or gigantic flops. But it is always the very first of anything which people remember, whether it be to climb Mt. Everest, to orbit the earth, or to jump seven feet in the high jump. And so we live with history, when today this Club—the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club—holds its first competition.

Not so very long ago this form of skiing was unknown, and elsewhere in the programme you will find a short history of the sport. I can remember myself, a little over five years ago, seeing my first barefoot skier, craning my neck, to get a better view, and later wondering whether this feat was in fact reality or fantasy. Even today at our competitions in water skiing, whenever we put on a display of barefoot skiing, the crowd still rise at the sight.

And yet here, today, we are holding a competition, not for a few skiers but forty or more assembled together to vie against each other in various forms of endurance and ability.

On the cover of this programme you will see the words "Souvenir Programme", which is often misused these days, but in fact this is a souvenir and copies of this book will, in a very short time, be eagerly sought throughout America, Europe and any other place where water skiing is practised. This, indeed, is a time when the words "We lead, others follow" would be most fitting.

So after today, do not cast aside this book—in not so very many years, you may produce it to your children saying that you, yourself, were present when history was made on the Manly Dam on the 30th March, 1963.

EVENTS :

Explanatory notes on the Barefoot Competition

The various events that have been evolved are for the purpose of finding, not so much who can ski the furthest on their bare feet (which is dependent mainly on water conditions and similar factors), but who can commence to ski the quickest when skiing along on an ordinary ski, and in the figure eight for instance, who has the greatest ability to keep their balance. In all events, therefore, the element of luck is not as important as much as ability and tenacity. **EVENT ONE** is a straight out race against the clock. The handicap, of course, is getting rid of the ski, for whereas the support gained from one foot is sufficient to hold the skier's weight (with firm foot-gear as necessary in the rules), the first part is to get the leading foot out of its gear. This is the most difficult part — falls after this are mainly due to trying to "step off" before sufficient speed has been reached.

In **EVENT TWO**, competitors are encouraged to depart from the normal barefoot skiing position and attempt to cross the wash, lifting one foot from the water, points being allocated for the various feats.

EVENT THREE, the figure eight competition, is the endurance event in which the highest skill is required to avoid falling. Each crossing of the wash presents its difficulties, and the centre of the figure where the skier is obliged to cross the boat's own wash is a great hazard. From the competition rules you will see that the points are increased in value on every crossing of the wash, as the rough water generated by the boat increases.

EVENT FOUR is to encourage our skier to depart from the usual methods of "stepping off". Although the thrill of barefoot skiing has to be experienced to be believed, 99% of the attempts are made off the single slalom ski.

By encouraging our skiers in these various forms of take-off we hope to eventually see the accomplishment of the three most difficult forms in barefoot skiing, i.e., skiing backwards, starting from the water (deepwater start) with no assistance from skis, etc., and the beach start. John Hollands, the Secretary of the Club has already promised to give a £25 trophy to the first person to accomplish these three things.

Within twelve months it is confidently predicted this will be accomplished and the trophy won. Already we know the backwards start has been achieved, the beach take-off on a few occasions (but not consistently), and there are many trying for the deepwater. Although our method of skiing is dangerous, there is not one of our members who would consider giving it up, no matter how many falls they have.

Most important part in the programme is the boat driver, who can almost feel for his skier and his difficulties. Our driver for the day is Ray Clark, who has the experience of driving for the first barefoot skier in N.S.W., John Challinor. Our members have the utmost confidence in his ability to get them going and keep them going. Thank you, Ray Clark!

To all our spectators we say "We hope you enjoy the programme".



1963 Banner Pic and 1960 NSW Water Ski Association Barefooters Club Badge Pic supplied courtesy of Daniel Taplin, grandson of Bruce Austin 55.

Erwin Luthiger 88 Overall Champion



1963 Australian Championships - Quick Step Off

1957 - Barefoot Water Skiing at Surfers Paradise Gardens

The Surfers Paradise Gardens was started by Keith Williams in 1957 and it had weekly water ski shows and promoted all forms of water skiing. Ray Job was the first barefoot water skier to perform at the Gardens when they opened in 1957. Wally Morris was the second barefoot water skier at the Ski Gardens in 1958.

Several other early pioneers also performed at the Gardens from 1963 onwards including Vaughan Bullivant, Phil McIntosh and Eric Baldwin.

Water Ski Revue and Aqua Ballet

at SURFERS PARADISE GARDENS
EVERY SUNDAY—3 P.M. TO 4.30 P.M.

- MIRACLE OF BAREFOOT SKI-ING
- AQUAMAIDS BALLET
- DARE DEVIL KITE FLYING
- AMAZING SLALOM
- UNDER & OVER SKI JUMPING
- WHIRLING SAUCER RIDERS
- AQUAMANIACS IN SCREAMING COMEDY

This Glamorous, Colourful Exhibition is a must for every Photographic Enthusiast.

- T.S.M.V. CAPRICORN. — Enjoy a Leisurely Cruise up the Nerang River to Surfers Paradise Gardens and watch this colorful Water Ski Revue from the spacious decks of our luxury cruiser. Afternoon Tea served on Board. All Inclusive Fare £1. Depart from Enderley Avenue every Sunday at 2.15 p.m. returns 5.30 p.m. Enquiries Phone Surfer's Paradise X 1117 or Tweed Heads 996

The only Water Ski Show of its kind in Australia

ADMISSION : ADULTS 5/-; CHILDREN 2/-

BE ATTRACTIVE WHILE YOU'RE ACTIVE IN A **Jantzen** SWIMSUIT



Top - Ray Job
Middle - Wally Morris
Bottom - Eric Baldwin 24 (L)
- Vaughan Bullivant (R)

Paul and Norm McManus, Hawkesbury River, Sackville, NSW, 1965

(Photograph Courtesy Grant Torrens 717)

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON *or should it be the other way round?*

Photographs of father and son ski-ing isn't normally of world-shattering importance . . . but behind the picture (below) there is a story.

To start with, both dad and son are barefooting. The youngster is Paul McMannus, of Lugarno, Sydney, and Paul is the World Endurance Barefoot Record Holder . . . having skied barefoot for just under an hour! And the more distinctive gent is Norm. McMannus, Paul's father, who concentrates on the quieter things of life, like barefoot beach starts and barefoot deepwater starts, and so on.

Need we say more?



Like father — like son.

Norm McManus 275

Paul McManus 237



Original photograph courtesy Skye Harrison (nee McManus)



Paul McManus 237

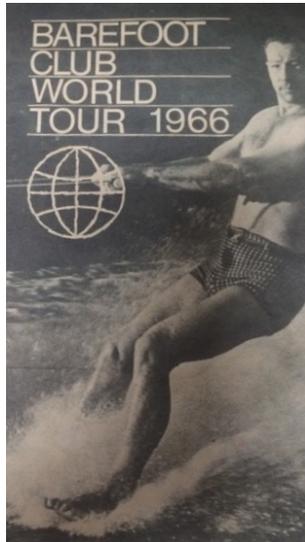
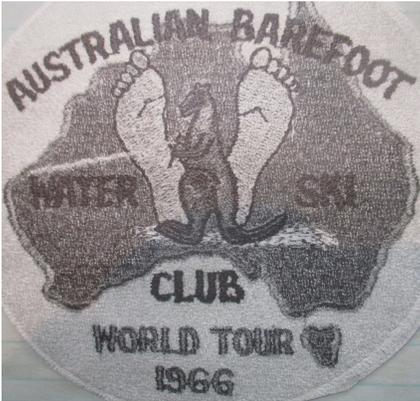
First World Demonstration Tour 1966

In 1966 a World Demonstration Tour was conducted showing the Australian Barefoot Water Skiing skills to the world..

Countries visited included Fiji, Mexico, USA, Great Britain, India, Japan and Hong Kong.

One of the highlights of the Tour was the Australian barefooters meeting in Winterhaven USA with A.G. Hancock, the Worlds' First barefooter, and Harold Miller the Mens World Endurance Record Holder at that time.

The Australian Team Members included – John Hollands 4, Ray Clarke 82, John Hocking 121, John Warren 84, Wal Spicer 173, Neil Mitchell 187, Garth Henderson 157, Ken Tilling 335, Ron Bohm 81, Bob Kirkpatrick 312, Reg Walker 11, David Hamilton 168, Erwin Luthiger 88, Colin Watson 240, Jim Quinn 323, Darrel McInnes 190, Harold Miller 295, Bill Gray 243, Joe Csortan 203 and Bob Tilling 78.



Harold Miller 295

Australian Team

JOHN HOLLANDS
Club President and Team Manager. One of Australia's earliest barefooters and co-founder of the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club.

RAY CLARKE
Committeeman and boat-driver. Highly regarded by fellow team members for his ability to "feel" his skier whilst being towed.

JOHN HOCKING
Committeeman and boat-driver; he also has charge of all our gear. As keen as anybody can become.

JOHN WARREN
Public Relations man in charge of Club publicity. In a nutshell, a barefooter from way back.

WAL SPICER
Barefooter of the toughest degree, first man in Australia ever to be awarded the "Golden Triple." Takes an active Club interest as committeeman and runner-up overall National Champion.

NEIL MITCHELL
Only 20 years old, has the greatest beach start you have ever seen—don't miss it. Man against boat!

GARTH HENDERSON
Committeeman and Team Captain, he is directly responsible for the complex organisation of the show.

KEN TILLING
Boat-driver with barefooting in his blood and the happy ability to "get his man away."

RON BOHM
Committeeman, boat-driver, barefooter. Ron has been on the committee since the Club's inception. One time endurance record holder.

BOB KIRKPATRICK
Committeeman and Club Treasurer, has the onerous task of managing all finances.

REG WALKER
"Hard as nails" and a topline barefooter in any water conditions. Reg is in the double beach start.

DAVID HAMILTON
The only man in the world who can side slide barefoot—he rarely misses.

ERWIN LUTHIGER
National Champion 3 years out of 4—a polished barefooter in all aspects of the sport. See him barefoot rope on toe!

COLIN WATSON
"Golden Triple" Award man and no doubt the greatest Backwards Barefooter in Australia. Barefoot backward on one!

JIM QUINN
"Hotfoots" it through the "wall of flame" on his bare feet. Jim, however, is a proficient barefooter and takes his sport quite seriously.

DARRELL McINNES
See Darrell jump from a disc at 45 m.p.h. on to his bare feet—a dicey one in anybody's language—does it in tandem, too!

GEOFF NICHOLLS
"Jumping Geoff"—our hardest man. He jumps 40 feet over the ramp.

HAROLD MILLER
He skied barefoot for 1 hour 9 seconds and is world endurance record holder.

BILL GRAY
Barefoots on one in any conditions. Also a "Golden Triple" winner.

JOE CSORTAN
19-year-old natural barefooter destined to become National Champion. See him in action with 180° barefoot turns.

ROB TILLING
Great all-round barefooter, who holds a "Golden Triple" award. Rob does the double beach start.

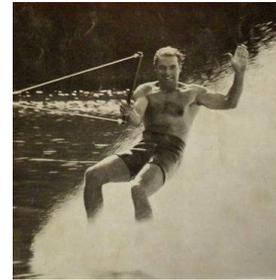
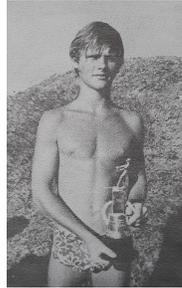


First Barefoot, Kite and Water Ski Combined Competition 1969

This event was held at Penrith, NSW February 1969. The Overall was won by Eric Baldwin 2nd Larry Partridge and 3rd Wally Spicer. Eric Baldwin skied for some years earlier in the Surfers Paradise Gardens.

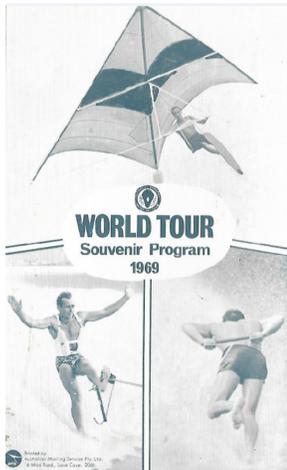


Eric Baldwin 24 receiving his trophy from Larry Partridge 189
ABWSC President, John Hollands 4



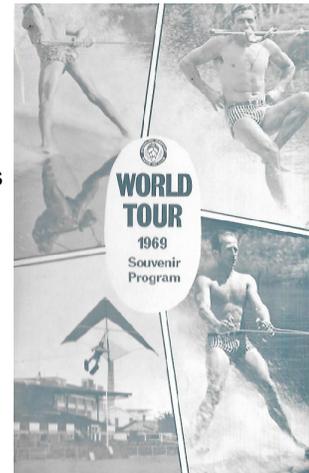
Wal Spicer 173

Second World Demonstration Tour 1969



Another Australian World Barefoot Demonstration Team was sent to Denmark in August 1969 to perform daily during the World Water Ski Championships.

The Team included John Hollands, Mary and Ron McMillan, Ken Mathews, Peter Forrester, Erwin Luthiger, Garry Barton, Graham Dance and Bill Moyes then travelled giving exhibitions in Singapore, Thailand, Sweden, Spain, USA, Mexico, Tahiti and New Zealand.



Kite – Bill Moyes
Rope on Toe – Ken Mathews
Backwards – Garry Barton

Backwards – Erwin Luthiger
Rope on Neck – Peter Forrester
Kite – Graham Dance
Frontwards – John Hollands

Team Members

Left to Right..
John Hollands 4, Erwin Luthiger 88,
Ken Mathews 344, Mary McMillan 134,
Peter Forrester 74, Paul McManus 237,
Ron Bohm 81, Garry Barton 606



State Divisions Formed from Mid 1968

Initially the Australian Club was predominantly NSW run and state divisions were formed making the club then a true Australian Club with delegates from each state division being represented on the national committee. At the same time an affiliation was formed with the Australian Water Ski Association that is now the Australian Waterski and Wakeboard Federation.

In Western Australia a meeting was held in March 1969 and attended by Simon Devitt, Robin Hill, Norm Neindorf, Phil Newton, Graeme Dwyer, John Bruinsma, Ken Burton, Grantley Schmidt, Chris Davies, Richard Digby, Keith Florence and John Leschen.

A decision was made to form a state club independent of the ABWSC called West Coast Barefoot Water Ski Club.. The state ran 2 state titles in 1970 and 1971 with the overall champion being Robin Hill on both occasions.



The independence of the West Coast Barefoot Water Ski Club was finally rectified when on July 10th 1972 Ken Mathews the President of the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club met with WA members in Perth. The club was dissolved and a new Western Australian division of the Australian body was formed and a new logo designed.

State Divisions formed....

South Australia - July 1968

Queensland - October 1968

Victoria - December 1968

New South Wales - May 1970

Western Australia - July 1972

Australian Capital Territory - August 1977

Tasmania



Barefoot Talk

NSW DIVISION FORMED

THE Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club recently held its Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers. At the same meeting the NSW Division was formed. Election of office bearers for this club also took place. The executives of the two bodies are as follows:—

AUSTRALIAN BWSC

President: Ken Mathews, Vice President: Garth Henderson, Secretary: Ray Clarke, Treasurer: Ron Bohm, Committee: 2 Representatives from each state will be requested to join the committee.

NSW DIVISION

President: Steve Haritos, Vice

President: Peter Forrester, Secretary: Graham McVie, Treasurer: Len Kilmister, Committee: Dennis Mitchell, Harry Byron, Ken Mathews, Graham McMillan.

All mail for the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club should still be directed to Box 47, Post Office, St. Ives NSW 2075.

Address for NSW Division is Box 247, Eastwood, 2122.

Formation of the NSW State division in May 1970

1st NATIONAL ABWSC MEETING

On the 25th November the ABWSC held its first National Meeting.

Present were:

Ken Mathews	<i>President</i>	Garth Henderson	<i>Vice President</i>
John Holland	<i>Im. Past President</i>	Ray Clarke	<i>Secretary</i>
Ron Bohm	<i>Treasurer</i>		

Committee

Steve Haritos - Graham McVie	<i>N.S.W.</i>
Barry Hynes - Tom Wyld	<i>Victoria</i>
Des Willey - Ron Childs	<i>South Australia</i>
Denis Kelly - Jim Hartley	<i>Queensland</i>

The meeting was held at Wisemans Ferry Ski Gardens and our host was Mr. Grev Torrens, who by the way, treated us to a very enjoyable week-end (steaks, dinner, breakfast, & tea.)

Many subjects were discussed, one being the holding of the National Barefoot Titles in South Australia on Patawalonga in April 1971.

All States will hold a State Title and Skiers will be selected from these to compete in the National Titles.

Also in 1970 the ABWSC was invited to join the newly formed Divisional Technical Directors of the Australian Water Ski Association. This offer was accepted and the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club became the Barefoot Division of Australian Water Ski Association and had their rules sanctioned by the Technical body of the AWSA.

The next step was to have barefoot accepted as a recognised form of water skiing by the World Water Ski Union. Former Australian AWSA President Alan Clarke, who was a member of the World Water Ski Union executive body, first presented the Australian rules to that body in 1971 and received the necessary instructions as to how it would be possible to stage the first World championships.

The two things that had to be established were:

- (a) A set of rules acceptable to the Technical Committee of the WWSU and
- (b) To show that the sport was a truly World Sport.

First National ABWSC meeting November 1970

Endurance Barefoot Water Skiing 1960's

During the early years when the sport was in its infancy there were very few tricks and endurance Barefoot Water Skiing was very popular.

WORLD ENDURANCE RECORD HOLDERS

1965	Paul McManus	Lugarno	59 minute 13 sec.
1966	Harold Miller	Condobolin	60 minutes 8 sec.

AUSTRALIAN ENDURANCE RECORD HOLDERS

Seniors

John Warren	Liverpool	1 minute 32 sec.
Bruce Austin	Castlecove	5 minute 12 sec.
Ron Bohm	Elanora	6 minute 21 sec.
John Hollands	St. Ives	9 minute 12 sec.
Geoff Nicholls	Manly	13 minute 24 sec.
Ian Coltman	Dee Why	20 minute 4 sec.
Harold Miller	Condobolin	40 minutes 13 sec.

Womens

Mary McMillan	Crows Nest	4 minute 27 sec.
---------------	------------	------------------

Juniors

Tony Purnell	Bankstown	4 minute 12 sec.
Reg Eddy	Gosford	10 minute 21 sec.
Robt McPherson	Ashfield	15 minute 2 sec.
Paul McManus	Lugarno	27 minute 27 sec.



Paul McManus 237

RECORD HOLDERS FOR AUSTRALIAN

BAREFOOT ENDURANCE



JOHN WARREN 1.32 sec
August 1963, Windsor



BRUCE AUSTIN 5.12 sec
October 1963, Wisemans Ferry



RON BOHM, 6.21 sec
November 1963, Wyangla



JOHN HOLLANDS 9.12 sec
25th January, 1964,
Lower Portland



GEOFF NICHOLLS 13.24 sec
11th March, 1964, Windsor



TONY PURNELL 4.12 sec
25th January, 1964, Dargle Farm



REG EDDY 10.21 sec
1st March, 1964, Gosford



MARY MacMILLAN 4.27 sec
4th April, 1964, Lower Portland

Many endurance records set during the early years are world records** and still current today (15 October 2020) after more than 50 years!

(The Australian Mens Endurance Record 90 mins 19 seconds set by Paul McManus June 1968, is still current)

1969 Sub Junior Boys Frontwards – Grant Torrens – 31mins 43 seconds ** World Record

1969 Mens Backwards – Paul McManus – 33 mins 19.5 seconds ** World Record

1970 Womens Frontwards – Haidee Lance – 24 mins 30 seconds ** World Record



Haidee Lance 727



Grant Torrens 717



Paul McManus 237


AUSTRALIAN WATER SKI ASSOCIATION
[Inc.]

Record Certificate

This is to Certify that Grant Torrens created a Record
of 31 minutes 43 seconds
in the Barefoot forward endurance (Subjr boys) Event
during the held at Hawkesbury River
on the 17th day of September 19 69

The Event was conducted strictly in accordance with the current Rules of The Australian Water Ski Association. (Inc.)

Harry Gynn
Divisional Director.

Al Boehman
Vice President (Technical) A.W.S.A.

Grant Torrens 717 – Sub Junior Boys World Record Certificate - 31mins 43 seconds

Australian Pioneering World Firsts

Australian Barefoot Water Skiers Pioneered the Following World Firsts.

- 1964 180 Back to Front – Joe Csortan
- 1964 Rope on Toe – Vaughan Bullivant
- 1964 Barefoot Jump – Geoff Nichols
- 1965 Backwards One Foot – Col Watson
- 1966 Side Slide – David Hamilton



David Hamilton 168



Joe Csortan 203

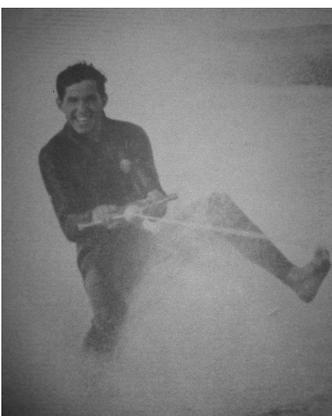


Geoff Nicholls 115

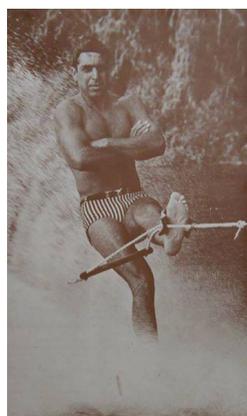


Vaughan Bullivant

- 1966 Somersault – Joe Csortan
- 1968 Rope in Teeth and Rope in Teeth One Foot – Peter Forrester
- 1968 Rope on Foot Backwards – Erwin Luthiger



Joe Csortan 203



Peter Forrester 74



Erwin Luthiger 88

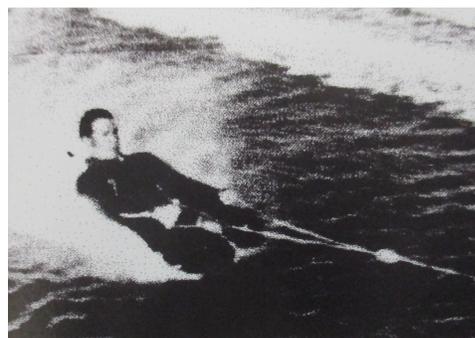
- 1968 Backwards first woman – Mary McMillan
- 1969 Backwards Deep & Beach Starts – Garry Barton
- 1969 Knees to Feet – Robin Hill



Mary McMillan 134

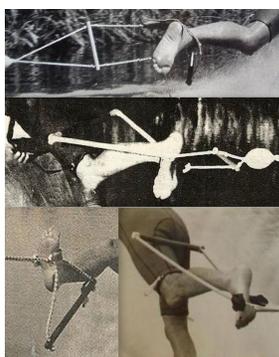


Garry Barton 606



Robin Hill 1007

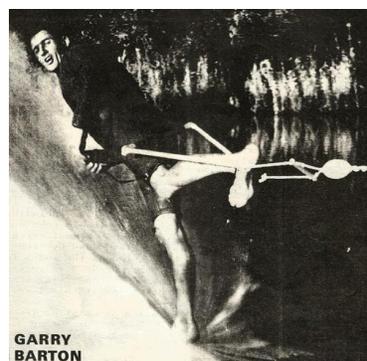
- 1970 Kidney Belt, Rigid Handle & Barefoot Wet Suit – Garry Barton
- 1970 Barefoot Jump First Woman – Haidee Lance
- 1970/72 Back one starts - Reverse tumble turns and one foot tumble turns,
One foot forward wake crosses - back wake crosses - one foot back
wake crosses – Backwards rope on toe and reverse toe - Garry Barton



Garry Barton 606



Haidee Lance 727



Garry Barton 606

- 1972 Deep Water Start Rope in Teeth – Greg Brown
- 1973 360 Degree Whirl around the boat – Garry Barton
- 1973 Frontwards Deep Water Start Rope on Toe – Paul McManus
- 1974 Backwards Tumbleturn – Roger Gooden



Greg Brown 899



Paul McManus 237

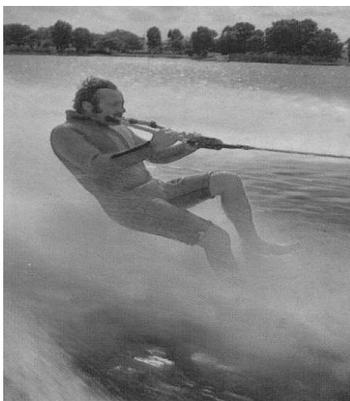


Roger Gooden 771

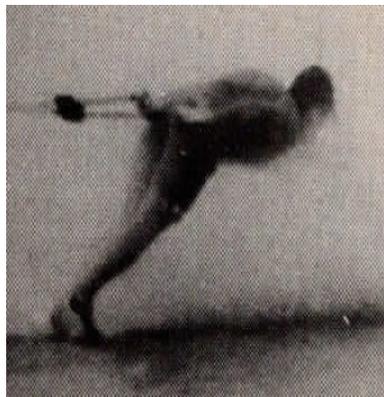
- 1974 Line Step 180 – Roger Gooden
- 1975 Backwards Rope on Toe Deep Water Start – John Hacker
- 1976 Backwards Beach & Deep Water Starts – First Woman
- Back to Front 180 – First Woman
- Backwards Tumbleturn Start – First Woman - Colleen Thompson (nee Wilkinson)



Roger Gooden 771



John Hacker 662



Colleen Thompson(nee Wilkinson) 1495

- 1977 Rope on Toe Back to Front – Brett Wing
- 1978 180 Front to Back and Back to Front including Reverses
- 360 Front to Front – Brett Wing
- 1979 Back Toe Tumbleturn
- Front to Back and Back to Front Reverse
- Wake 360 Front Wrapped Position – Brett Wing
- 1980 360 Front to Front Reverse – Brett Wing
- 1981 One Foot 180 Turn Front to Back
- Wake 180 Turn Back to Front
- Front to Back Line 180 – Brett Wing
- 1981 Rope on Toe Front to Back – Allan Moffatt



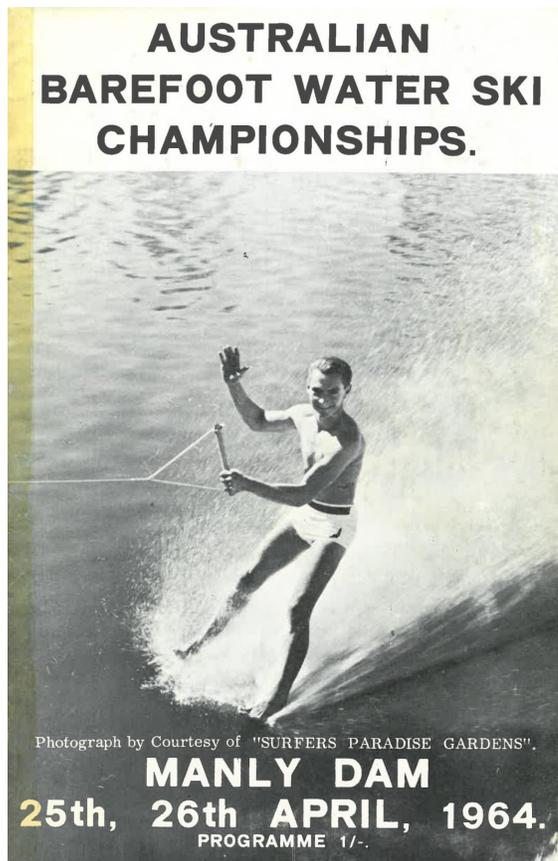
Brett Wing 817



Allan Moffatt 2027

Australian Championships go Australia Wide

The Australian Barefoot Championships from 1963 were held on Manly Dam ,Sydney, NSW until 1971 when South Australia hosted it for the first time outside NSW. Since then the Championships have been held in every state and territory other than Tasmania.



1964 – NSW – Eric Baldwin 24

THE AUSTRALIAN BAREFOOT WATER SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS

No doubt "The Greatest" to coin a phrase. Under near perfect conditions some 6,000 people spilled through the gates to Manly Dam to witness the battle from competitors representing the far flung states of Australia. As one may observe from the results they certainly made their presence known - and what a fine bunch of sportsmen. Such highlights as Geoff Nicholls making the world's first Barefoot ramp jump, Gary Barnards backwards barefooting, Bob Neville's deep water take off, the wonderful beach starts from the South Australians who afterwards put on a demonstration two off at once! To complete the day we had an excellent ski show organised by John Challenor which incorporated the Kite Flying display by the Victorians.

1964 Rules

Barefoot Competition Rules

For many people, this will be their first opportunity to see a barefoot competition, and may in fact be the first time they have seen barefoot skiing. To enable our spectators to appreciate some of the finer points of the competition a brief summary of the various events and the manner in which they are judged is listed below.

EVENT ONE. Time Trial. .

This is a straight out race against the clock! The commencement of the timing is signified by a gun. To handicap the skiers, who normally "step-off" one ski, they are compelled to wear two skis, as some additional time is used in ridding the first ski. Timing is continued until the skier is completely rid of both skis. In addition a skier must continue to ski barefoot for a further 5 seconds. All timings are made from the boat, and the judge skiing alongside.

SECTION TWO. Wake Crossing. etc.

This event is to encourage our skiers to perform other than straight barefoot skiing. Twenty seconds are allowed each skier after the flag has been dropped. The end of the run is given by a hooter on the shore and during the allotted time, points are allocated as follows:-

Crossing Wash	1st occasion, complete	10 pts.	to centre only	5 pts.
	2nd "	15 pts	" "	5 pts.
	3rd & subseq.	10 pts	" "	5 pts.
Skiing ONE FOOT				
	Held for 5 secs.	35 pts		
	With rope on toe	50 pts.		
Skiers Salute	One hand on bar, other over head, 3 secs hold,	10 pts.		
	As above on one foot	5 "		60 pts.

Points are added for form and no fall bonus to the above score.

SECTION THREE.

The normal method of attaining the Barefoot skiing position is off one ski. In addition other methods have and are successfully accomplished, and in some cases, such as a deepwater start, and a beach start, no skies at all are used. Points are therefore awarded by the judges, according to the degree of difficulty presented by the method used. Each skier is allowed two attempts, which may be by any method or the same method, even if successful the first occasion. After "Take-off" skiers must continue for at least 5 secs to confirm they are in skiing position.

Points are awarded as follows:-

Starting from	One finless ski	20 pts	Backwards	50 pts.
	Jump off 2 skis	35 pts	Beach start	55 pts.
	Deepwater start	60 pts	Off plank	30 pts.
	Deepwater, ski assisted	30 pts	Off shoe skis	30 pts.
			" ski assist.	25 pts.
	Jump off disc	35 pts		

SECTION FOUR. Team Event.

Similar to any team event, points are awarded, one point for each time the baton is changed from one skier to the next. The teams are allowed 15 seconds started with a flag and finished with the hooter. A fall or loss of the baton concludes the run.



Mary McMillan 134 Womens Overall Champion 1964



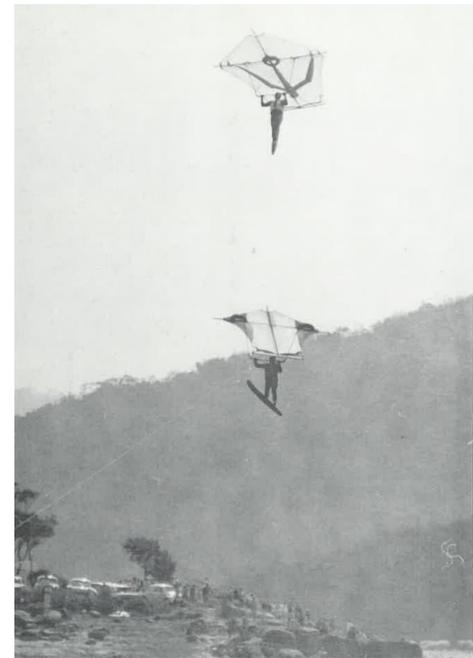
Kevin Stuart 68 Mens Overall Champion 1964



Gary Barnard



Doug Sundstrom 204 Beach Start



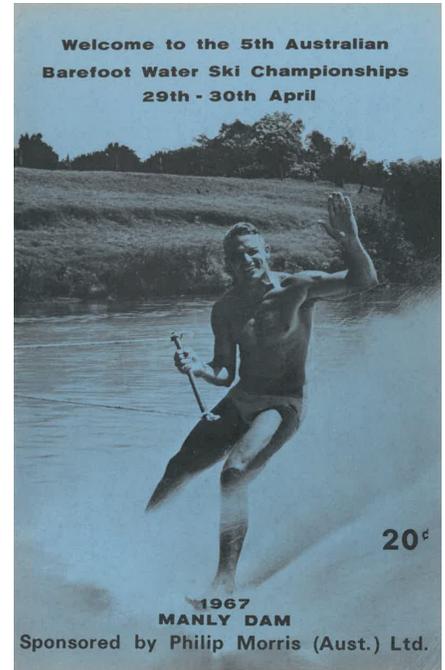
Victorian Kite Flyers Demonstrations



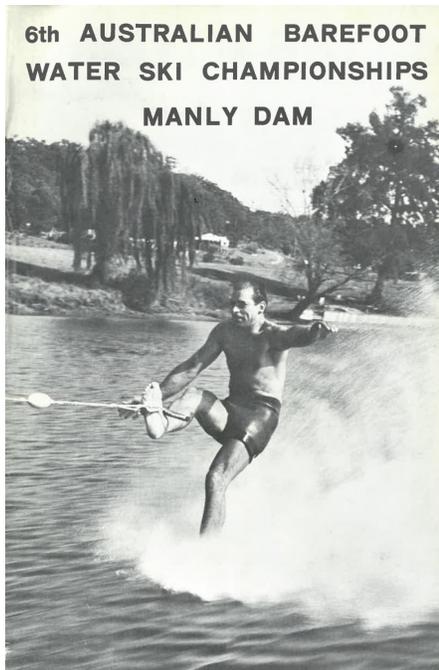
1965 - NSW – Eric Baldwin 24



1966 – Geoff Nicholls 115



1967 – NSW – Erwin Luthiger 88



1968 – NSW – Wal Spicer 173



1968 – NSW - Poster

1968 AUST. BAREFOOT TITLES

THE 1968 Barefoot National Titles, held on Sydney's Manly Dam, April 27-28, provided more upsets in the final results than in the short history of barefooting. Major upsets were recorded in the Men's Open and Women's sections.

Reigning 1967 Overall Champion Wal Spicer, despite a torn knee cartilage suffered on practice day while attempting a 180° back-to-front turn, still competed in all events. Wally went down in the Tricks held on the Saturday after two falls, and after this was in trouble. He finished 8th in his favourite event, the Slalom, which was won by Ray Frater, and managed one jump of 32ft, but this was dramatically beaten by newcomer to jumping Paul McManus, who recorded a magnificent 40½ft leap to take the Jump Title. Then, to complete his day of outs, Wal was beaten into 4th place in the Start Event won by Irwin Luthiger. Like a true champ, though, Wally's still smiling.

The new 1968 Overall National Champion Ken Mathews, although a re-

lative newcomer to barefooting, is one of the really keen members of the club and a worthy champion. Ken was able to come up with the "right numbers" in all events (including a win in Tricks) to humble the old masters. Congratulations, Ken, on an outstandingly consistent performance.

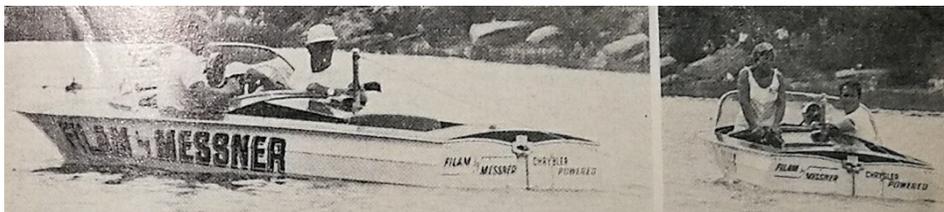
In the Women's section, young Sandra Kirkby caused a minor sensation in toppling the "unbeatable" Mary McMillan to take the Women's Overall Title. Practised to machine-like precision, Mary just had "one of those days" and finished 3rd overall to Sandra and June Hamilton.

Sandra, however, fully deserved her win as she won both the Start and Tricks events and tied for 3rd in Slalom. A wonderful performance.

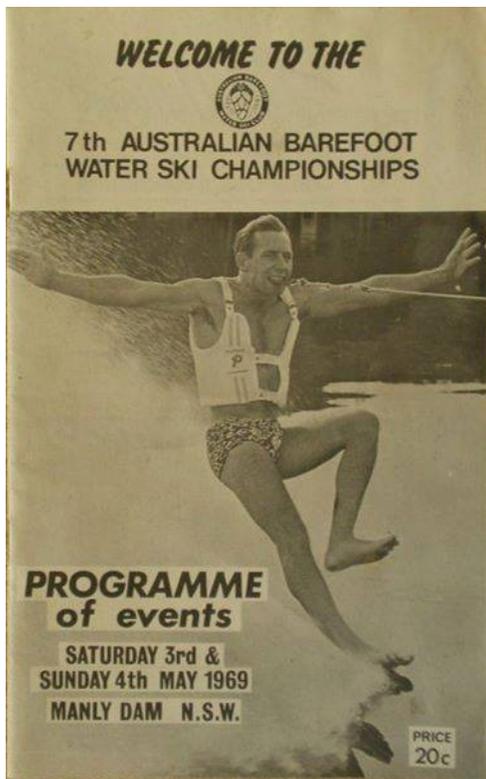
Young Stephen Partridge, whose brother Larry already has his name on the Junior Overall Trophy, added his own name as the 1968 Champion. Stephen won the Start and Tricks and placed 3rd in Slalom.

Brian Taylor won the Encourage Title

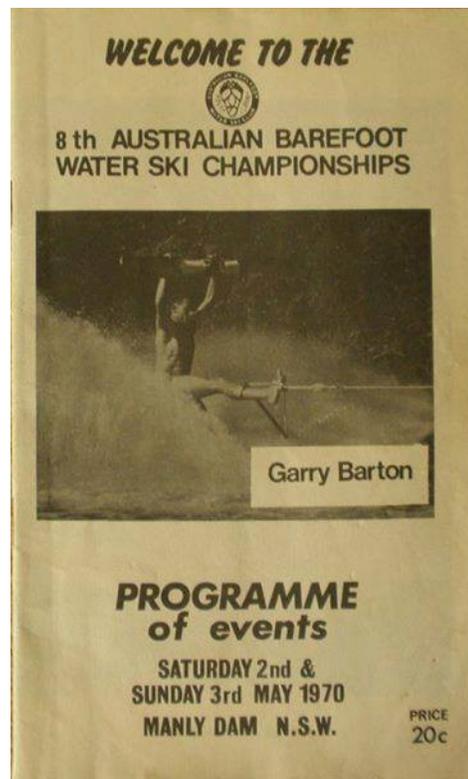
Overall winners, from left: Brian Taylor (Encourage); Sandra Kirkby (Womens); Stephen Partridge (Junior); Joe Pace (Novice). Victorians Graham Dance and Barry Hynes, lower right.



1968 Australian Nationals Official Towboats were driven by Ray Clarke 82 and Ken Tilling 335. Judge Clive Thompson 546 sitting(L) and Betty Leighton 20 standing(R)



1969 -NSW - Ken Mathews 344



1970 - NSW - Garry Barton 606

**WELCOME TO THE
AUSTRALIAN BAREFOOT
WATER SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS**

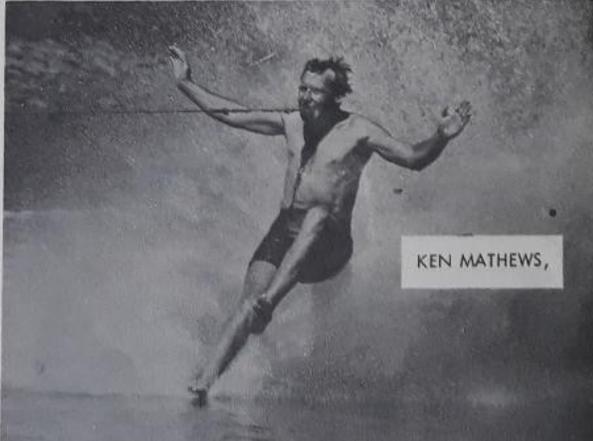
Since the first Australian Barefoot Championships were held in 1963 we have witnessed striking progress in this unique sport. Our rules are now recognised all over the world and we hope to be able to hold the first World Championships within the next one or two years.

With the rapid development of more and better tricks each year it is quite a problem for the Committee to keep ahead with the formulation of rules. As you are probably aware, the Rule Book is continually being amended!

May I take this opportunity of thanking the Tournament Committee for its help during the year, and may I also at this stage wish the best of luck to all competitors during the course of these Championships.

Further on in the programme you will find a brief description of each event.

Tournament Director.



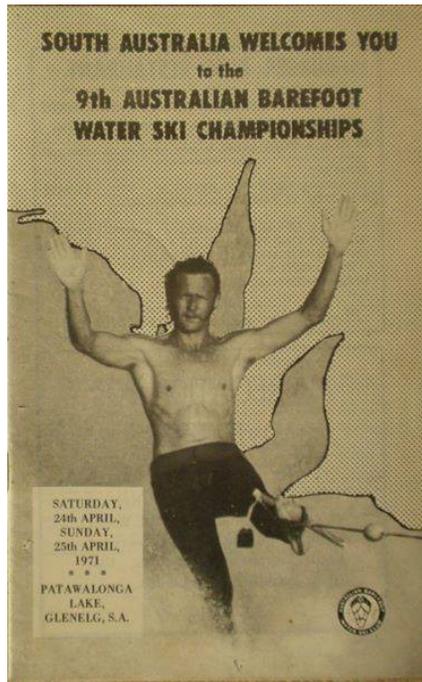
KEN MATHEWS,



**AUSTRALIAN BAREFOOT
WATER SKI CLUB.**

1970 NATIONAL COMMITTEE

President:	Ken Mathews
Immediate Past President:	John Hollands
Vice President:	G. Henderson S. Haritos
Secretary:	Ray Clarke
Assistant Secretary:	P. Forrester
Treasurer:	Ron Bohm
Committee:	R. Walker, D. Mitchell, G. McVie
<u>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</u>	
President:	Ron Childs
Vice President:	Kevin Poole
Secretary:	Marjorie McDonald
Treasurer:	Bill Trengrove
Committee:	R. Shuster, B. McDonald, G. Brown M. Lindsay, I. Christie, A. Leitins
<u>VICTORIA</u>	
President:	Jim Reid
Secretary:	Barry Hyndes
Treasurer:	Steve Chiado
Committee:	T. Wylde, A. Leighton, G. Dance R. Dowsett, L. Hayes, T. Quick, G. Leishman
<u>QUEENSLAND</u>	
President:	Dennis Kelly
Vice President:	Ray Kingston
Secretary/Treasurer:	Phil Shipton
Committee:	C. Smith, R. Bowkett, M. Leighton P. Pearson, N. Simpson, J. Hartley



1971 – SA - Ivan Christie 561

AUSTRALIAN BAREFOOT SKI TITLES 1971

OPEN DIVISION

START METHODS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. J. Croxon (NSW) | 13. V. Cross (Vic.) | 24. G. Bennett (SA) |
| 2. H. Byron (NSW) | 14. G. Brown (SA) | 25. K. Poole (SA) |
| 3. N. Middling (Vic.) | 15. G. Skipper (Vic.) | 26. B. Hynes (Vic.) |
| 4. J. Hacker (NSW) | 16. W. Langfield (NSW) | 27. W. Spicer (NSW) |
| 5. C. Neale (NSW) | 17. H. Roberts (Vic.) | 28. R. Schuster (SA) |
| 6. S. Riley (Vic.) | 18. T. Teague (Tas.) | 29. P. Trim (Qld.) |
| 7. R. Stout (NSW) | 19. G. Barton (NSW) | 30. L. Knopp (Vic.) |
| 8. T. McNair (Vic.) | 20. R. Poole (SA) | 31. K. Nugent (Qld.) |
| 9. M. Lindsay (SA) | 21. D. Lugg (NSW) | 32. P. Wilkie (SA) |
| 10. I. Christie (SA) | 22. A. Svenson (Qld.) | 33. T. Skelley (Vic.) |
| 11. C. Cater (NSW) | 23. G. Dance (Vic.) | 34. B. McDonald (SA) |
| 12. L. Acfield (SA) | | 35. W. Bowden (NSW) |

TRICKS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. H. Roberts (Vic.) | 13. C. Cater (NSW) | 24. K. Nugent (Qld.) |
| 2. G. Barton (NSW) | 14. B. McDonald (SA) | 25. P. Trim (Qld.) |
| 3. W. Langfield (NSW) | 15. T. Teague (Tas.) | 26. P. Wilkie (SA) |
| 4. I. Christie (SA) | 16. K. Poole (SA) | 27. V. Cross (Vic.) |
| 5. G. Skipper (Vic.) | 17. C. Neale (NSW) | 28. G. Brown (SA) |
| 6. W. Bowden (NSW) | 18. A. Svenson (Qld.) | 29. J. Croxon (NSW) |
| 7. B. Hynes (Vic.) | 19. T. Skelley (Vic.) | 30. L. Acfield (SA) |
| 8. W. Spicer (NSW) | 20. R. Stout (NSW) | 31. D. Lugg (NSW) |
| 9. N. Middling (Vic.) | 21. L. Knopp (Vic.) | 32. S. Riley (Vic.) |
| 10. M. Lindsay (SA) | 22. R. Poole (SA) | 33. G. Dance (Vic.) |
| 11. H. Byron (NSW) | 23. R. Schuster (SA) | 34. G. Bennett (SA) |
| 12. T. McNair (Vic.) | | 35. J. Hacker (NSW) |

MEN'S OPEN DIVISION

WAKE CROSS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. B. Hynes (Vic.) | 13. A. Svenson (Qld.) | 24. V. Cross (Vic.) |
| 2. B. McDonald (SA) | 14. T. McNair (Vic.) | 25. G. Brown (SA) |
| 3. G. Barton (NSW) | 15. T. Skelley (Vic.) | 26. L. Acfield (SA) |
| 4. L. Knopp (Vic.) | 16. R. Stout (NSW) | 27. D. Lugg (NSW) |
| 5. T. Teague (Tas.) | 17. M. Lindsay (SA) | 28. J. Croxon (NSW) |
| 6. W. Langfield (NSW) | 18. G. Skipper (Vic.) | 29. J. Hacker (NSW) |
| 7. R. Poole (SA) | 19. P. Wilkie (SA) | 30. H. Roberts (Vic.) |
| 8. S. Riley (Vic.) | 20. H. Byron (NSW) | 31. W. Spicer (NSW) |
| 9. C. Neale (NSW) | 21. N. Middling (Vic.) | 32. K. Poole (SA) |
| 10. I. Christie (SA) | 22. G. Bennett (SA) | 33. R. Schuster (SA) |
| 11. W. Bowden (NSW) | 23. C. Cater (NSW) | 34. K. Nugent (Qld.) |
| 12. G. Dance (Vic.) | | 35. P. Trim (Qld.) |

JUMP

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. R. Stout (NSW) | 5. G. Brown (SA) | 9. C. Neale (NSW) |
| 2. N. Middling (Vic.) | 6. T. Skelley (Vic.) | 10. P. Trim (Qld.) |
| 3. K. Poole (SA) | 7. L. Acfield (SA) | 11. C. Cater (NSW) |
| 4. G. Dance (Vic.) | 8. J. Hacker (NSW) | 12. W. Spicer (NSW) |

JUMP (Cont.)

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 13. L. Knopp (Vic.) | 20. G. Barton (NSW) | 27. I. Christie (SA) |
| 14. B. McDonald (SA) | 21. W. Langfield (NSW) | 28. B. Hynes (Vic.) |
| 15. R. Schuster (SA) | 22. G. Bennett (SA) | 29. S. Riley (Vic.) |
| 16. R. Poole (SA) | 23. M. Lindsay (SA) | 30. V. Cross (Vic.) |
| 17. W. Bowden (NSW) | 24. T. McNair (Vic.) | 31. H. Byron (NSW) |
| 18. K. Nugent (Qld.) | 25. J. Croxon (NSW) | 32. D. Lugg (NSW) |
| 19. P. Wilkie (SA) | 26. G. Skipper (Vic.) | 33. H. Roberts (Vic.) |
| | | 34. A. Svenson (Qld.) |

WOMEN'S DIVISION

WAKE CROSS

- H. Lance (NSW)
- M. McMillen (NSW)
- M. Hacker (NSW)

TRICKS

- M. McMillen (NSW)
- H. Lance (NSW)
- M. Hacker (NSW)

JUNIOR BOYS' DIVISION

STARTS

- G. Beer (Vic.)
- D. Bowen (Vic.)
- A. Richards (SA)
- A. Pfeiffer (SA)
- G. Torrens (NSW)
- R. Hausler (NSW)
- K. Reetz (SA)
- D. Richards, (SA)
- B. Ward (NSW)
- R. Wing (NSW)
- D. Beer (Vic.)

WAKE CROSS

- D. Beer (Vic.)
- D. Richards (SA)
- G. Torrens (NSW)
- A. Richards (SA)
- K. Reetz (SA)
- R. Wing (NSW)
- G. Beer (Vic.)
- D. Bowen (Vic.)
- R. Hausler (NSW)
- A. Pfeiffer (SA)
- B. Ward (NSW)

TRICKS

- A. Pfeiffer (SA)
- B. Ward (NSW)
- K. Reetz (SA)
- D. Beer (Vic.)
- D. Richards (SA)
- G. Torrens (NSW)
- R. Wing (NSW)
- G. Beer (Vic.)
- A. Richards (SA)
- R. Hausler (NSW)
- D. Bowen (Vic.)

JUNIOR GIRLS' DIVISION

STARTS

- W. Sunstrom (NSW)
- S. Fisher (NSW)

WAKE CROSS

- W. Sunstrom (NSW)
- S. Fisher (NSW)

TRICKS

- S. Fisher (NSW)
- W. Sunstrom (NSW)

SUB-JUNIOR BOYS' DIVISION

STARTS

- B. Wing (NSW)
- P. Chitten (NSW)
- B. ADAMS (NSW)

WAKE CROSS

- P. Chitten (NSW)
- B. Adams (NSW)
- B. Wing (NSW)

TRICKS

- B. Adams (NSW)
- B. Wing (NSW)
- P. Chitten (NSW)

SUB-JUNIOR GIRLS' DIVISION

STARTS

- S. Peters (NSW)
- M. Fisher (NSW)

WAKE CROSS

- M. Fisher (NSW)
- S. Peters (NSW)

TRICKS

- S. Peters (NSW)
- M. Fisher (NSW)

1971 AUST. BAREFOOT TITLES

THE 9th Australian Barefoot Water Ski Titles were held on April 23, 24, 25 at the Patawalonga Boat Haven, Glenelg, South Australia, in bleak, wintery conditions.

Practice day, Friday, was interrupted continually by showers of rain, debris in the water, and rough water conditions.

Rain poured down all Saturday and spectators were few in numbers. However, the wind dropped for most of the day and water conditions were good. On Sunday the wind shifted to south-east and white caps remained all day.

Garry Barton, NSW, proved that he is still the master as he won the Open Title for his 3rd year in succession. Garry won the trick event and was placed 2nd in both the Start Methods and Wake Slalom.

Chris Cater won the wake slalom event with 320 points, which broke the Australian record. Chris accomplished 8 wake crosses on one foot in the 20 second duration. David Lugg was placed third in this event.

Chris Neale, who specialises in start methods, won this event with 485 points. Recently Chris perfected the very spectacular backwards flying beach start. Peter Trim (Qld) and Garry Barton tied for 2nd place in starts with 455 points.

During the trick events water conditions had deteriorated and most competitors attempted tumbleturns. Garry Barton won this event with a score of 530 points. Harry Roberts (Vic) was placed 2nd with 305 points and Alan Svenson (Qld) 3rd with 260 points. During the trick event Trevor McNair (Vic) dislocated his shoulder and the new ambulance boat, supplied by Adelaide Outboard Service, showed to be very efficient.

The men's jump event had to be cancelled for safety reasons and the overall placings were taken on tricks, slalom and starts. Garry Barton was placed 1st with Peter Trim 2nd and Chris Cater 3rd.

Mary McMillen won the Australian Women's Title for the 5th time. She was the only competitor to score in every event. Haidee Lance, NSW, who was tipped to win, fell in start methods which ruled her out of the overall. Other minor places in the women's events were taken by Elin Ree of Victoria and Margaret Hacker of NSW.

A shock result eventuated in the Junior Boys' Division when Robert Wing scored a victory over the 1970 champion, Grant Torrens. Grant was

leading the point scores until the trick event in which he scored poorly. Other minor places in the junior events were taken by Anthony Pfeiffer of South Australia and Brandt Ward and Russell Hausler of New South Wales.

In the Junior Girls' Events Wendy Sundstrom narrowly defeated Sharon Fisher for the overall trophy.

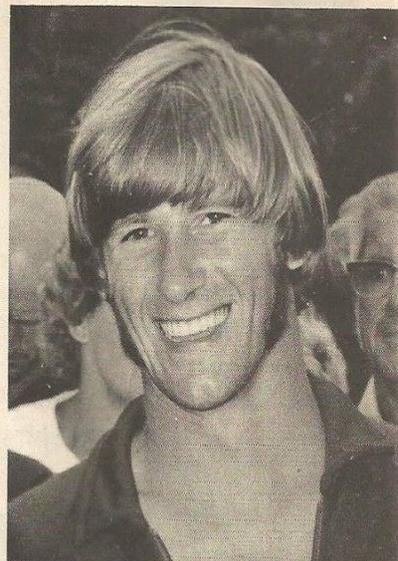
Brett Wing won the Sub-Junior Overall Boys' Trophy with a grand slam win in all 3 events. Brian Adams was placed 2nd in all event to young Brett. In the Sub-Junior Girls' Division there was no overall trophy, but the trophies were well distributed between Michelle Fisher and Sue Peters.

Placings for the John Hollands Shield for overall points were: 1) NSW, 2) SA, 3) Vic, 4) Qld, 5) Tas.

The weekend was completed with the presentation dinner where all competitors relaxed for the first time during the weekend.

The Barefoot Titles could not have been held without the assistance of our ever helpful sponsors. Adelaide Outboard Service provided the wonderful Bell Boy runabout, powered by two new 125 Johnson Outboards. The boat ran faultlessly for the whole weekend and it was a credit to Mr. Bruce Fitch who set up the rig. Adelaide Outboard also provided the ambulance boat and the 3 pick-up boats for the occasion. I would also like to thank Shell for the use of their petrol and Cordex, who provided the faultless ski ropes.

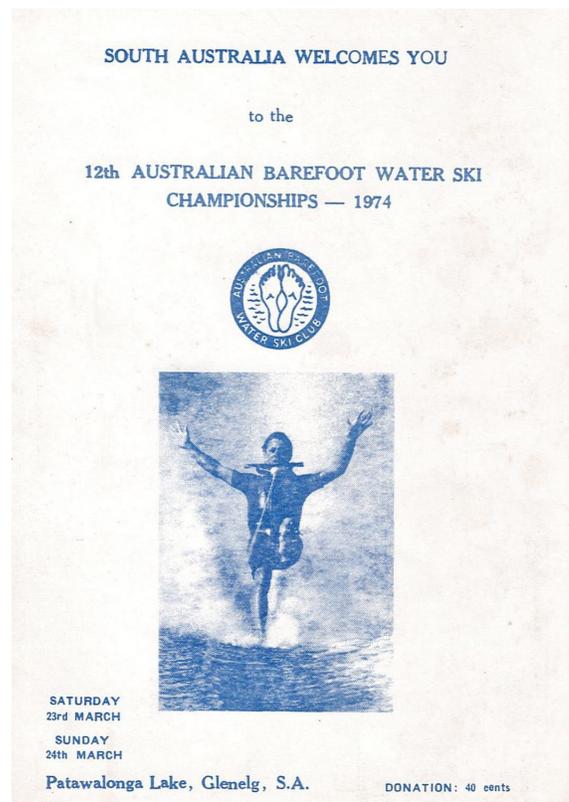
G. M. Brown,
Publicity Officer.



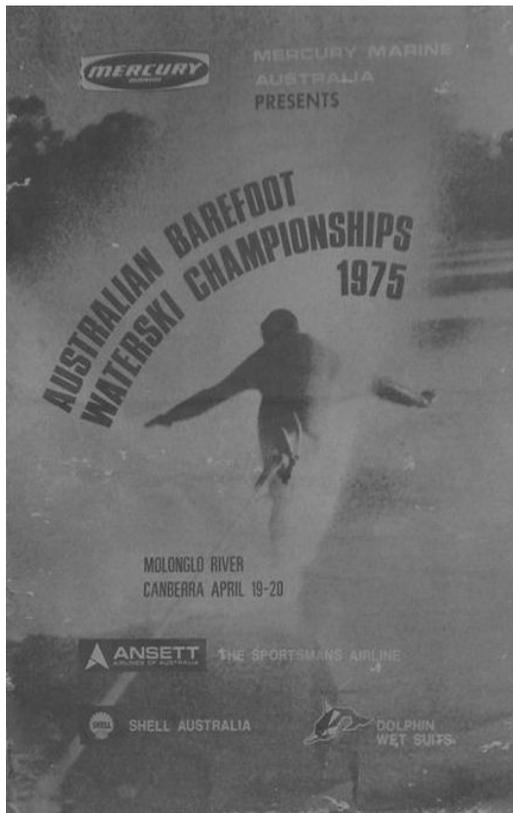
ABOVE LEFT: Robert Wing on his way to winning the Junior Boys Trick title. The win also gave him the Overall Title from fellow NSW competitor Grant Torrens who was 1970 champion. **TOP RIGHT:** Open Overall Champion Garry Barton. **CENTRE:** Start Method winner Chris Neale. **BELOW:** Wake Slalom winner Chris Cater.



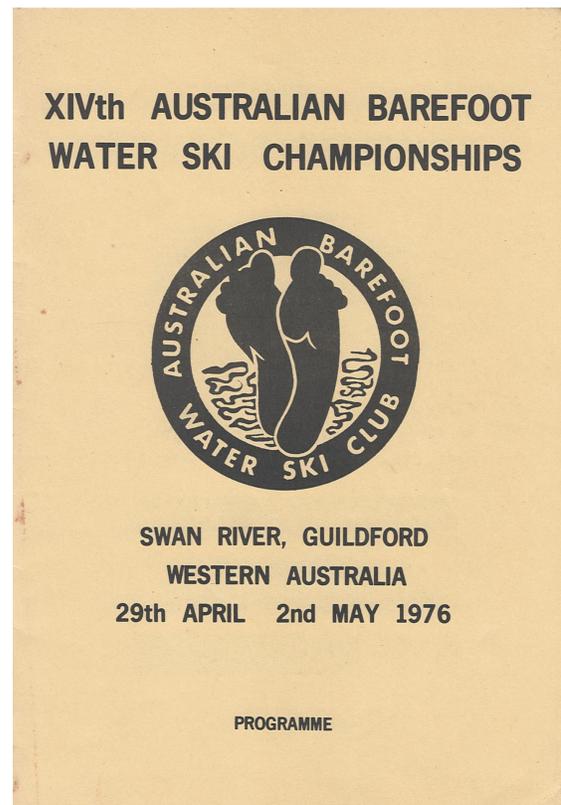
1972 - Qld - Peter Trim 935



1974 - SA - Davey Lewis

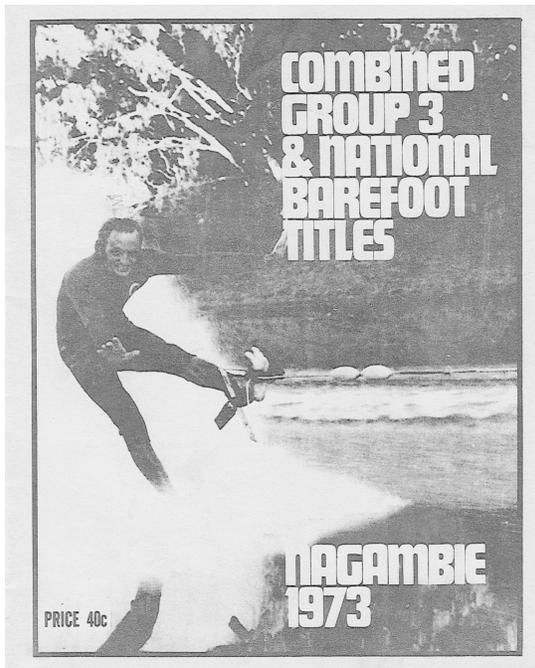


1975 - ACT - Leigh Acfield 1113



1976 - WA

1st World Group 3 and Australian Championships 1973



1973 – Vic – Peter “Chooka” O'Rourke 1095



Photograph Courtesy Rex Haw 2204

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are at last experiencing a prelude to the first World Barefoot Water Ski Championships. My congratulations go to ABWSC Victorian Division for having the honor to host and conduct these combined Group 3 and National Barefoot Championships. My good wishes go to Victorian State Division President Tom Wyld and his committee for every success in this forerunner to the first World Barefoot Titles. It is my privilege as Australian President of the ABWSC and national host to these combined titles here on Lake Nagambie to conjointly welcome WWU Group 3 President John Wigglesworth and AWSA National President Max Kirwin. From the official inception of the ABWSC in 1963 six affiliated divisions are now operative under the umbrella of the national body. WA inauguration taking place during 1972, making our 5th State Division, the latest affiliate being Papua-New Guinea Division, whose ratification is now imminent. The year 1972 saw the emergence of a comprehensive national constitution and consequent legal incorporation of the ABWSC. On the technical side ABWSC may well have representation at world level by virtue of our technical chairman's presence being requested by the WWU. Appreciation is extended to our many sponsors for their support, trusting our association proves advantageous to them. From a spectator viewpoint, barefoot water skiing becomes more startling each year with new proficiencies being added annually and although it does not now draw the frowns of disbelief as in the past, barefooting being practiced by a vastly greater number of water skiers gives satisfaction and a sense of achievement to the participants and still astounds the spectator. So with these combined Group 3 and National Barefoot Championships 1973, our 11th annual titles since 1963, I tender sincere tanks to all States for their preparations and good luck to all competitors.

GARTH HENDERSON,
ABWSC
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Lake Nagambie occupies a significant place in the history of barefoot water ski-ing, having been chosen in the dual role of host site for not only the Australian Nationals but also the first World Group III Titles. The conduct of the titles paves the way for the World Championships in 1974. World Group three covers the Pacific Basin area generally, except the the Americas, but encompassing South East Asia and India. The importance of the championships lies in the linking of these countries with Australia with a common cause, to find a champion barefooter. Since 1960 we have observed a period crowded with a series of events ranging from enthusiastic club meetings to World Tours, each contributing in some manner to the continuity of barefoot water ski-ing in Australia. Indeed Australian barefooters not only lead the world in tournament barefooting but also may lay claim to the unification of rules throughout the barefoot world. Whilst we had barefoot water ski-ing as a spectacular in Australia during the fifties it was not until early sixties that any serious effort was made to control the sport with clubs, tournaments, records and proficiencies, and certainly not least the rules and judging. At the onset of regular competition, recognition became automatic and barefoot waterski-ing was a sport. Perhaps after reading the last paragraph, one must ask the question of who pioneered the stepping stones! Pioneers they were creating events and rules to suit, methods of controlling the sport, and the participants who graced the pages of the programme of the first barefoot tournament ever held in the world, long forgotten names and long forgotten events. Pioneering was never "easy street" way of life. The passing years provided various eras associated with barefooting the once elusive "Golden Triple", the great endurance runs, the conquering of backwards barefoot, the creation of the barefoot jump, national titles with all states participating, drag races, barefoot ski shows, tours throughout Australia and the "evergreen" fund raising nights.

Competitor List

Mens Division

Womens Division

P. Jones (NSW)	L. Acfield (SA)	2 nd H. Lance (NSW)
J. Bruinsma (WA)	S. Devitt (WA)	1 st C. Wilkinson (NSW)
C. Davies (WA)	W. Bowden (NSW)	J. Sills (VIC)
T. Skelly (VIC)	N. Middling (VIC)	
T. Hinchcliff (NSW)	K. Bailey (WA)	
G. Handshin (SA)	B. Carroll (N.Z.)	
P. Thurgood (QLD)	B. McDonald (SA)	
V. Cross (VIC)	D. Mullin (VIC)	
K. Burton (WA)	S. Riley (VIC)	
H. Roberts (VIC)	D. Paynes (SA)	
J. Hacker (NSW)	G. Torrens (NSW)	
B. Randerson (N.Z.)	B. Henry (QLD)	
J. Latham (SA)	N. Neindorf (WA)	
P. Trim (QLD)	R. Stout (NSW)	
R. Poole (SA)	Richard ?? (N.Z.)	

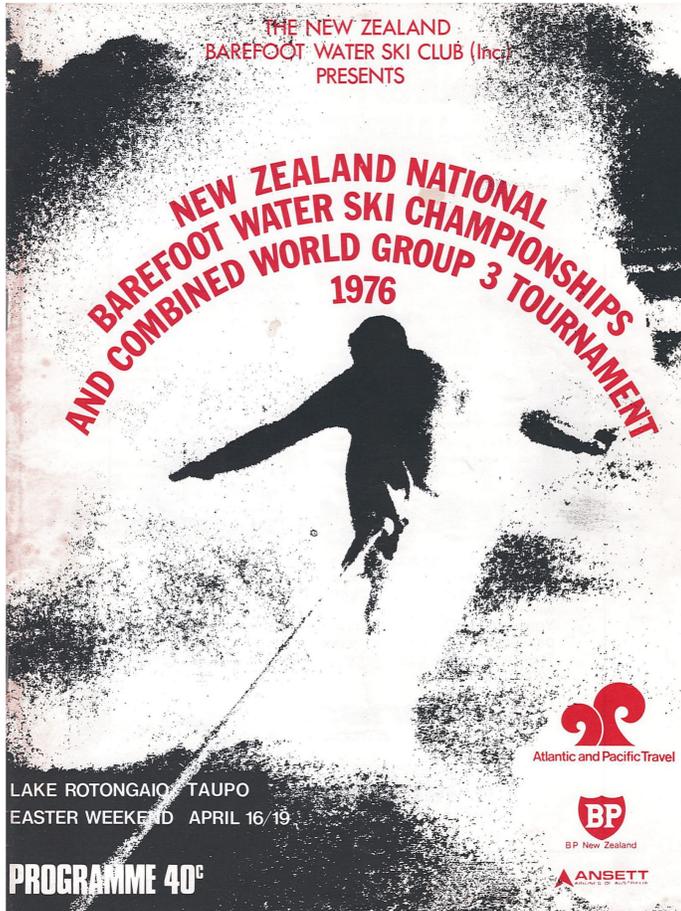
Australian Team : Colleen Thompson(nee Wilkinson), Rudi Stout, Terry Hinchcliff, Harry Roberts, Gareth Handshin, Norm Neindorf and Peter Trim

Overall Winners

Womens Division : Colleen Thompson(nee Wilkinson) – Australia

Mens Division : Rudi Stout - Australia

2nd World Group 3 and New Zealand Championships 1976



WORLD GROUP III--WOMEN:

1	COLLEEN WILKINSON	(AUSTRALIA)
2	JAN MORGANS	(NEW ZEALAND)
3	MARTHA HILL	(NEW ZEALAND)

WORLD GROUP III--MENS:

1	HARRY ROBERTS	(AUSTRALIA)
2	BRIAN NICHOLAS	(NEW ZEALAND)
3	JOHN GUTHRIE	(NEW ZEALAND)
4	BRETT WING	(AUSTRALIA)
5	RICHARD FAISANDIER	(NEW ZEALAND)
6	ROBERT WING	(AUSTRALIA)
7	PAUL JONES	(AUSTRALIA)
8	NOEL MIDDLING	(AUSTRALIA)
9	JOHN MATTHEWS	(NEW ZEALAND)

Contestant	START METHOD		WAKE CROSSING		TRICKS		JUMP		Total Points	Overall Place
	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place		
R. Faisandier NZ	260.8	8	291.6	6	150.2	8	691.5	7	702.6	7
B. Nicholas NZ	260.8	8	361.1	5	150.2	8	—	—	—	—
J. Guthrie NZ	478.2	6	375.5	4	300.4	5	1000.0	1	2154.1	4
B. Wing Aus	1000.0	1	1000.0	1	1000.0	1	863.6	3	3863.6	1
N. Middling Aus	434.7	7	83.3	8	164.3	6	779.2	4	1461.5	6
H. Roberts Aus	750.0	4	194.4	7	328.6	4	577.9	8	1850.9	5
R. Wing Aus	847.8	2	500.0	3	492.7	2	772.7	5	2613.4	3
P. Jones Aus	706.8	3	805.5	2	342.7	3	889.6	2	2798.6	2
J. Matthews NZ	576.0	5	—	—	164.3	6	701.3	6	—	—
Contestant	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Total Points	Overall Place
WOMENS										
Australia	1000	1	111	2	1000	1	—	—	—	—
New Zealand	833	2	1222	1	656	2	—	—	—	—
MENS										
Australia	3359	1	2305	1	2164	1	2531	1	—	—
New Zealand	—	—	375	2	—	—	1000	—	—	—
OVERALL										
Australia	4359	1	2416	1	3164	1	2531	—	12,470	1
New Zealand	833	2	1597	2	656	2	1000	2	4086	2
Contestant	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Total Points	Overall Place
C. Wilkinson Aus	1000.0	1	111.1	3	1000.0	1	—	—	2111.1	1
M. Hill NZ	416.6	3	222.2	2	—	—	—	—	638.8	—
J. Morgan NZ	416.6	2	1000	1	656.2	2	—	—	2072.8	2

AUSTRALIAN

WORLD GROUP 3 BAREFOOT WATER SKI

Colleen Wilkerson

COLLEEN WILKINSON (NSW) is an eighteen year old two time Australian womens champion. Prior to moving up to womens Colleen was the reigning Junior Girls champ. She's a Sydney University Economics student, who loves her footing. Some years ago Colleen was a formidable trial (marathon) skier but she gave it away for barefooting and three straight NSW womens titles plus three straight Australian titles must surely prove it was the right decision. She skis on the Hawkesbury river south of Sydney and is currently the only woman in the world going backwards.



PAUL JONES (NSW) at thirty-two years is the oldest member of the Australian team. Paul's an electrician and a fitness fanatic, he spends three or four nights a week at a gymnasium. At the recent NSW titles Paul scored second, and is recognised as the world's finest exponent of the back to front 180° turn, he has represented NSW for four years. He was the first person in NSW to try the backwards slalom, and regularly scores 400 points. Paul is reportedly known as "Mr Fitness".

Paul Jones



NOEL MIDLING (VIC) joined the Australian Barefoot Club in 1959 and since then has been Victorian champion in 1971, 1972 and 1974. He's competed in the Nationals for seven years, and is off to Perth next weekend for his eighth. Noel was an active scuba diver prior to becoming a competitive footer and among his many achievements has scored an unofficial 63' (with bonus points) jump. He's the proud father of a brand new daughter—Kristy.

Noel Middling

TEAM

CHAMPIONSHIPS



Robert Wing

ROBERT WING (NSW) at eighteen years of age is currently the third seeded barefoot skier in Australia, scoring a third overall in the recent NSW State titles. Robert works in his father's printing business and devotes more time to skiing than to printing! Last year he spent some time in Canada training a team of Canadian Tournament skiers, then went on to Britain and Europe where he won the European Barefoot Championship. Considered one of the best jumpers in Australia Robert is an excellent all round performer.



HARRY ROBERTS (VIC) was the first in the world to slalom backwards in competition. He's also heading for his eighth Australian Nationals, and is the current Victorian Champion, as he was in 1973. Harry is the only Victorian to do a one foot backward deepie. He's a farmer and has a six month old footer for a son.

Harry Roberts



BRETT WING (NSW) current Australian masters champion at sixteen years of age, Brett is considered the best barefoot skier in the world. At the recent NSW titles (which he won) he scored 1775 points in tricks (21 separate tricks) which is getting mighty close to the 2000 points target he has set himself for this season. Brett is a newly apprenticed outboard mechanic in his home town of Blakehurst (Sydney) and holds just about every proficiency in the book.

Bwing

Tom Skelly

TOM SKELLY (VIC) (Team Manager) is the Technical Chairman of the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Association, and an active competitor himself.

3rd World Group 3 and Australian Championships 1978

COMBINED GROUP III AND AUSTRALIAN BAREFOOT WATER SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS 1978



**YARRA RIVER
MELBOURNE**

DONATION 60c

EVENTS and COMPETITORS

MEN & GROUP III

WAKE SLALOM	START METHODS	TRICKS
1 B. Price (Vic)	1 D. Little (Qld)	1 B. Henry Jnr. (Qld)
2 S. Pace (NSW)	2 A. Macri (WA)	2 N. Tomlin (Qld)
3 R. Smith (Vic)	3 G. Allen (NZ)	3 B. Dimple (USA)
4 J. Guthrie (NZ)	4 G. Shipton (NSW)	4 N. Skinner (Vic)
5 J. Gardiner (Vic)	5 P. Jones (NSW)	5 R. Percival (Qld)
6 G. Rees (Qld)	6 G. Rees (Qld)	6 D. Lugg (WA)
7 G. Shipton (NSW)	7 G. Handshin (SA)	7 G. Rees (Qld)
8 D. Little (Qld)	8 W. Shipp (NSW)	8 R. Smith (Vic)
9 W. Shipp (NSW)	9 B. Henry Jnr. (Qld)	9 G. Shipton (NSW)
10 N. Middling (Vic)	10 D. Lewis (SA)	10 J. Gardiner (Vic)
11 B. Nicholls (NZ)	11 B. Price (Vic)	11 A. Moffatt (SA)
12 G. Allen (NZ)	12 J. Mathews (NZ)	12 K. Schoen (USA)
13 S. Trestrail (SA)	13 B. Dimple (USA)	13 G. Handshin (SA)
14 B. Wing (NSW)	14 A. Moffatt (SA)	14 A. Macri (WA)
15 G. Wincey (WA)	15 K. Johnson (SA)	15 G. Williams (Vic)
16 G. Williams (Vic)	16 G. Wincey (WA)	16 G. Adams (NSW)
17 K. Schoen (USA)	17 R. Percival (Qld)	17 W. Shipp (NSW)
18 R. Percival (Qld)	18 S. Pace (NSW)	18 G. Allen (NZ)
19 F. Macri (WA)	19 G. Williams (Vic)	19 K. Johnson (SA)
20 N. Skinner (Vic)	20 G. Adams (NSW)	20 S. Trestrail (SA)
21 D. Lugg (WA)	21 R. Angel (Qld)	21 P. Jones (NSW)
22 N. Tomlin (Qld)	22 J. Guthrie (NZ)	22 F. Macri (WA)
23 P. Jones (NSW)	23 F. Macri (WA)	23 B. Price (Vic)
24 B. Henry Jnr. (Qld)	24 B. Nicholls (NZ)	24 J. Guthrie (NZ)
25 A. Moffatt (SA)	25 D. Lugg (WA)	25 L. Ackfield (SA)
26 D. Lewis (SA)	26 N. Skinner (Vic)	26 N. Middling (Vic)
27 J. Mathews (NZ)	27 L. Ackfield (SA)	27 G. Wincey (WA)
28 A. Macri (WA)	28 R. Smith (Vic)	28 J. Mathews (NZ)
29 R. Angel (Qld)	29 S. Trestrail (SA)	29 R. Angel (Qld)
30 G. Handshin (SA)	30 N. Tomlin (Qld)	30 S. Pace (NSW)
31 G. Adams (NSW)	31 J. Gardiner (Vic)	31 D. Little (Qld)
32 L. Ackfield (SA)	32 N. Middling (Vic)	32 D. Lewis (SA)
33 K. Johnson (SA)	33 B. Wing (NSW)	33 B. Nicholls (NZ)
34 B. Dimple (USA)	34 K. Schoen (USA)	34 B. Wing (NSW)

JUMP

1 L. Ackfield (SA)	13 K. Schoen (USA)	24 R. Percival (Qld)
2 B. Dimple (USA)	14 A. Macri (WA)	25 S. Pace (NSW)
3 A. Moffatt (SA)	15 G. Williams (Vic)	26 J. Gardiner (Vic)
4 K. Johnson (SA)	16 G. Shipton (NSW)	27 R. Smith (Vic)
5 P. Jones (NSW)	17 J. Trestrail (SA)	28 J. Guthrie (NZ)
6 N. Middling (Vic)	18 G. Adams (NSW)	29 F. Macri (WA)
7 D. Lewis (SA)	19 B. Price (Vic)	30 R. Angel (Qld)
8 G. Wincey (WA)	20 G. Handshin (SA)	31 W. Shipp (NSW)
9 G. Allen (NZ)	21 B. Henry Jnr. (Qld)	32 D. Little (Qld)
10 B. Wing (NSW)	22 J. Mathews (NZ)	33 B. Nicholls (NZ)
11 D. Lugg (WA)	23 N. Tomlin (Qld)	34 G. Rees (Qld)
12 N. Skinner (Vic)		

WOMEN

WAKE SLALOM	START METHODS	TRICKS
1 M. Ledger (NSW)	1 M. Ledger (NSW)	1 C. Wilkinson (NSW)
2 C. Wilkinson (NSW)	2 M. Judd (Vic)	2 J. Norman (SA)
3 M. Judd (Vic)	3 J. Norman (SA)	3 M. Judd (Vic)
4 J. Norman (SA)	4 C. Wilkinson (NSW)	4 T. Noble (NSW)
5 J. Noble (NSW)	5 J. Noble (NSW)	5 M. Ledger (NSW)

Overall Winners

Womens Division : Colleen Thompson(nee Wilkinson) - Australia

Mens Division : Brett Wing - Australia

Wal Spicer 173

Wal learnt to water ski in 1960 when on vacation in Queensland.

He then water skied on a regular basis at Lower Portland on the Hawkesbury River and learnt to barefoot in 1963. His barefoot companions then included Col Watson and Bob & Ken Tilling.

Wal was timed into the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club in 1964 and entered his first National Titles the same year coming equal 4th with Reg Walker in the Novelty Step Off Ski Event.

During 1965 he learnt to barefoot backwards and gained his Frontwards Masters 10 minute badge barefoot water skiing between Lower Portland and Sackville. He was also awarded the first ever Golden Triple Proficiency Badge that included front and deep water starts and a backwards step off ski. He entered the Nationals Winning the Gold Medal in Starts.

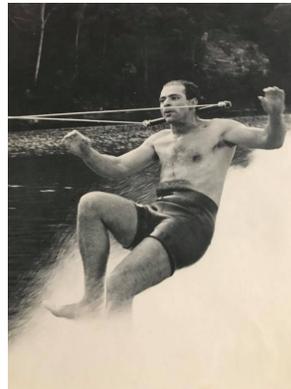
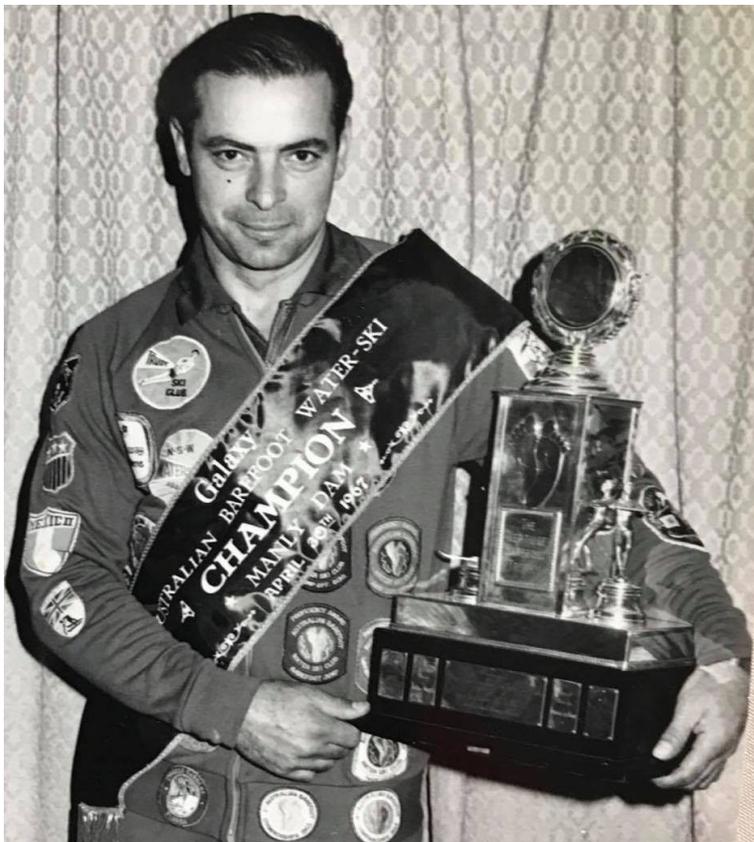
In 1966 Wal became a Committee Member of the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club and served on the committee until 1970, the final year being a Vice President. He wrote many learn to barefoot articles that appeared in the Barefoot World Magazine.

At the 1966 Nationals he won gold medals in Starts and Tricks and was a Close Second Overall to Erwin Luthiger. In 1966 Wal was also part of the first Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club's World Touring team.

Wal won the Slalom gold medal in the 1967 Nationals and scored very high in all other events winning the Australian Mens Overall Championship. He had a bad fall doing a 180 back to front during the 1968 Nationals injuring a knee and was forced into retirement.

WAL SPICER
Barefooter of the toughest degree, first man in Australia ever to be awarded the "Golden Triple." Takes an active Club interest as committeeman and runner-up overall National Champion.

Extract from the 1966 World Tour Team members profiles



Mid 1960's Jump Instructions and plans by Wal Spicer 173

Wal wrote a series on "how to do" various barefoot skills that were published monthly in the Barefoot World Magazine. The series included, tumbleturns, rope on neck, deep water starts, beach starts and backwards step off ski etc.

The Barefoot Jump

various phases of barefooting by W. Spicer

The best practice for the barefoot jump is jumping out of two skis (refer article in "Barefoot World", second issue 'new look' magazine). When you have mastered this trick you will be ready to attempt the barefoot jump.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO OBSERVE.

Always wear a wet suit and life jacket and always use a crash helmet. Have a competent driver and observer in the boat. Always respect the jump and and jump only if the water is smooth.

Wet the jump initially, and check it after each attempt. The edge of the jump should not be higher than 18" out of the water, and at least 15" should be under water on the approach side (see Fig. 2.).

The boat should travel no more than 2' away from the jump (see Fig.5) and must always run on a straight course. Never approach the jump at an angle. If you find yourself not in line with the jump, let go the rope. Under no circumstances must the driver vary his boat speed during a run.

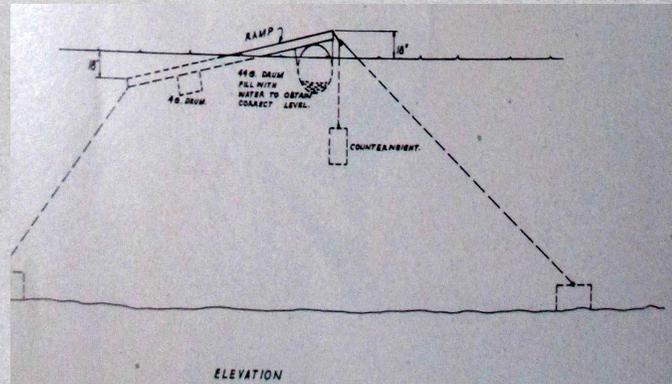
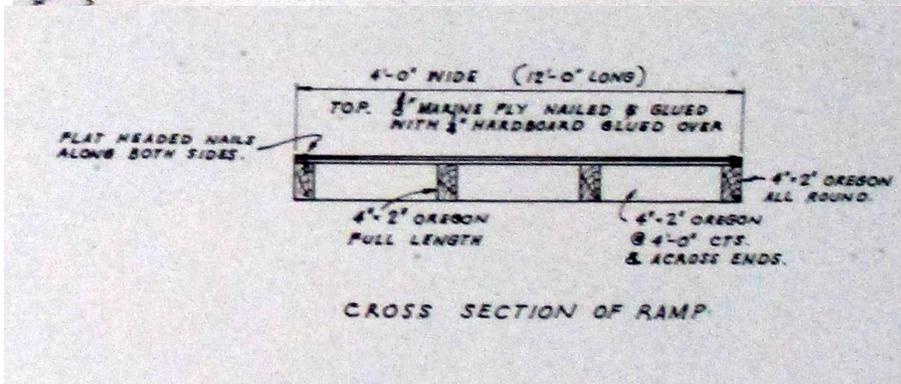
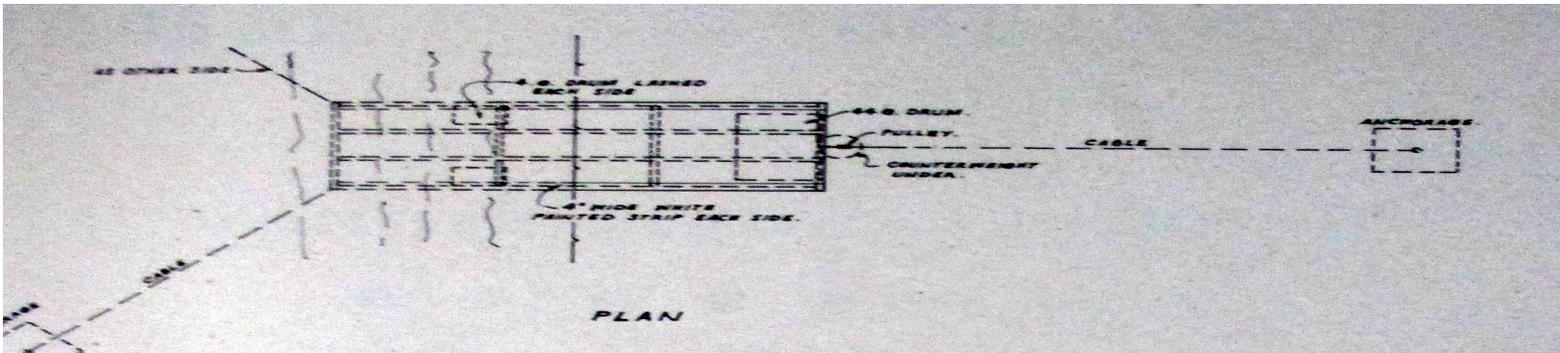
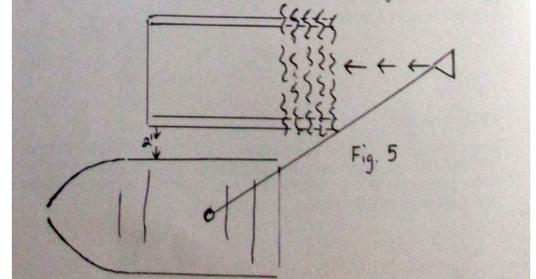
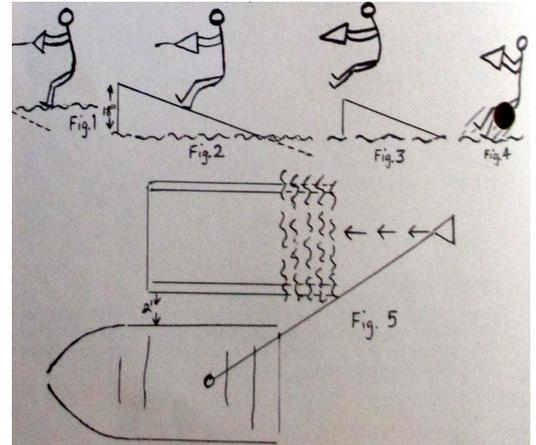
METHOD.

Ski in the hollow of the wash at normal barefooting speed on the side of your preference. Get well down in your knees, do not lean back (see Fig. 1.). Keep arms bent.

Step off your ski, get yourself settled, arms straight, knees bent, head down a little and keep your weight on your bottom so that you can not fall forward (see Fig. 1.). Freeze in this position and go over the jump as though you were jumping out of two skis (see Fig. 3).

As you land on the water, bend your knees and arms (see Fig. 4). You will travel over the jump so fast that you will hardly realize going through the air.

In the next issue of this magazine I will give particulars of the construction



Joe Csortan 203

Joe learnt to barefoot water ski around 1960 and joined the South Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club in 1962 (member number 26) and then joined the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club later in 1963(member number 203).

He was a natural and talented all round water skier and entered the 1964 Australian Barefoot Water Ski Championships in the junior section and also won the mens wake crossing/tricks event.

In 1964 he was the first barefoot water skier in the world to execute a 180 degree back to front.

Joe competed again in the 1965 Nationals in Mens division and just missed out on the overall for the second year. He won a special award for the best all round performer outside of NSW and was tipped to be a future national champion.

He competed coming 3rd overall in the 1966 Nationals and was selected in the World Barefoot Tour in 1966. Just prior to the tour Joe became the first barefoot water skier in the world to do a somersault.

After the world tour Joe retired from barefoot water skiing to concentrate on 3 Event Tournament Skiing and won the 1968 Australian Mens Overall and the World Water Ski Union Group 3 World Championship. He then represented Australia another 3 times, won South Australian Mens Overall 7 times from 1967, won European Overall 1969 and the Australian Masters in 1989.

Joe designed and manufactured RAPID Water Skis.



JOE CSORTAN
19-year-old natural barefooter destined to become National Champion. See him in action with 180° barefoot turns.

1966 Australian National Barefoot Championships and extract from the 1966 World Tour Team members profiles



1967...Joe slalom skiing on his home made RAPID FURY Slalom Ski

Early Memoirs - Ray Cooper 205

Including the manufacture, testing and early rules for the 1st Barefoot Water Ski Jump.



I became a member of the Barefoot Club early on with a membership number 205 and also achieving the Barefoot Masters requiring you to barefoot continuously for 10 minutes. I also took part in barefoot tournaments including the Nationals but I must add, not very successfully.

Barefoot competitions, at that time, were not of a standardized format as they are today.

One early competition I remember, the entrants being required to step off the ski (Deep water starts were in the future here) and then barefoot in a figure 8, following the boat around a two buoy course passing the first buoy then the second buoy, if possible!

Needless to say the scoring was on the low side.

Another barefoot course was a row of buoys in a straight line with the skier required to navigate the buoys with regular decreases between the buoys along this line.

This was scrapped and with further experimentation the current scheme evolved.

But interesting times all round particularly in regard to the barefoot jump.

This was evolved largely at Manly Dam.

One of the executives on the barefoot committee owned a hardware store , in the days when hardware stores were small business owned, and he manufactured a jump out of a 44 gallon drum and a couple of smaller drums, with a sheet of masonite , or similar, as the deck.

The first, or it might have been the second jumper , managed to put their heel through this surface but landed safely, so modifications were needed.

It was also found that the ordinary nails holding the deck sheet on had lifted up somewhat, posing a very significant risk.

So more modifications were needed ending the testing on that day.

Eventually something solid and safe evolved, probably conforming with what would be called a health and safety issue today.

In these early barefoot jump days, the skier nominated the speed he wished to travel at when he stepped off his ski (no lady jumpers) and then the speed he wished as he approached the jump itself. In addition to this the skier was able to nominate the distance away from the jump for the boat path as well the side of the jump he wished the boat to travel past.

A lot for the barefoot jump driver and crew to remember and the cause of a large amount of protests and dispute. It also meant that the jump was a considerable distance from the bank (spectators and judges etc) and a decision was made to have the tow boat only on one side of the jump.

There was an awful lot of discussion when a standard boat side approach was first brought up as all has their favourite side for the boat's passage and didn't want to change their jump style, in some cases, completely. However a decision was made and the barefoot jump is now a fast and action packed part of a barefooting competition, particularly now no need for the competitors to step off a ski, which in the past had to be retrieved before the next entrant comes onto the course.

In these early tournaments everyone stepped off a ski to commence their barefoot run but if you were good enough you could jump out of two skis or if you wished, also on your second pass, jump off a disc. These were much higher scoring start methods but all of this gear had to be loaded into the tow boat at the starting dock and retrieved after every run, before the next competitor took to the course making this event somewhat slow.

Ken Mathews 344

Ken when 24 years old learnt to water ski in 1964.

He was a natural and learnt to barefoot quickly and competed as a Novice in his first National Titles in 1966.

Ken was hardly out of the water and skied summer and winter and in 1967 he entered the Nationals again but in the Open Mens division.

He continued skiing nearly daily and then won the Mens Tricks Gold Medal in 1968 and was also Crowned the Australian Overall Champion.

“What comes to mind is the Winter of 1969, the year after I won the Championship and the year Garry Barton beat me, we were off to Copenhagen to the World Water Ski Championship to display Barefooting.

We had to practice so we went to Manly Dam in July in fresh water and after a couple of hours we were blue with cold so we lit a fire to warm up”

Also in 1969 Ken together with former 3 times Australian Overall Barefoot Champion Erwin Luthiger did a Barefoot Exhibition at the Moomba Water Ski Championship in Melbourne.

In early 1970 he was part of a demonstration team at White Sands and the Patawalonga Lake in South Australia and he unsuccessfully attempted a World Barefoot Speed Record in the USA in July 1970.

Ken also was the first to Barefoot on a trapeze behind Bill Moyes Kite, Bill being the Australian Birdman and the best Kite Flyer in the World at that time.

Ken Mathews was also an administrator being elected in 1968 as a Committee Member of the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club. In 1969 he was elected Secretary and 1970 President. During 1970 the NSW Barefoot Water Ski Club Division was also formed and Ken was appointed as a Committee Member for NSW.

In November 1970 he also chaired the first national meeting of the ABWSC with state delegates and it was at that meeting the first Nationals outside NSW were awarded to South Australia for 1971. In July 1972 Ken met in Perth with members of the WA Barefoot Water Ski Club and a WA State Division with the ABWSC was formed.

During Ken's time as President of the ABWSC a Barefoot Division was Formed within the Australian Water Ski Association. Moves were also made by him to have Barefooting Recognised as a Form of Water Skiing within the World Water Ski Union and the Australian Barefoot Competition Rules also being Approved making way for a Future World Barefoot Water Ski Championship.

WELCOME TO THE



**7th AUSTRALIAN BAREFOOT
WATER SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS**



**PROGRAMME
of events**

**SATURDAY 3rd &
SUNDAY 4th MAY 1969
MANLY DAM N.S.W.**

PRICE
20c



Garry Barton 606

Garry Barton was tipped in 1968 as the "One to watch for in 1969" They were correct!

Garry is often referred to as the God Father of Modern Barefoot Water Skiing. He pioneered backwards beach and deep water starts, the rigid handle and the barefoot wet suit as we know it more than 50 years later. He won 4 Overall Australian Mens National Championships from 1969 and there after toured the world promoting barefoot water skiing. As an ambassador for the sport of barefoot water skiing, Garry was introduced in 1970 to Queen Elizabeth 11. In August 1972 he received the first Masters rating in Australia for all four barefoot events, slalom, starts, tricks and jump.

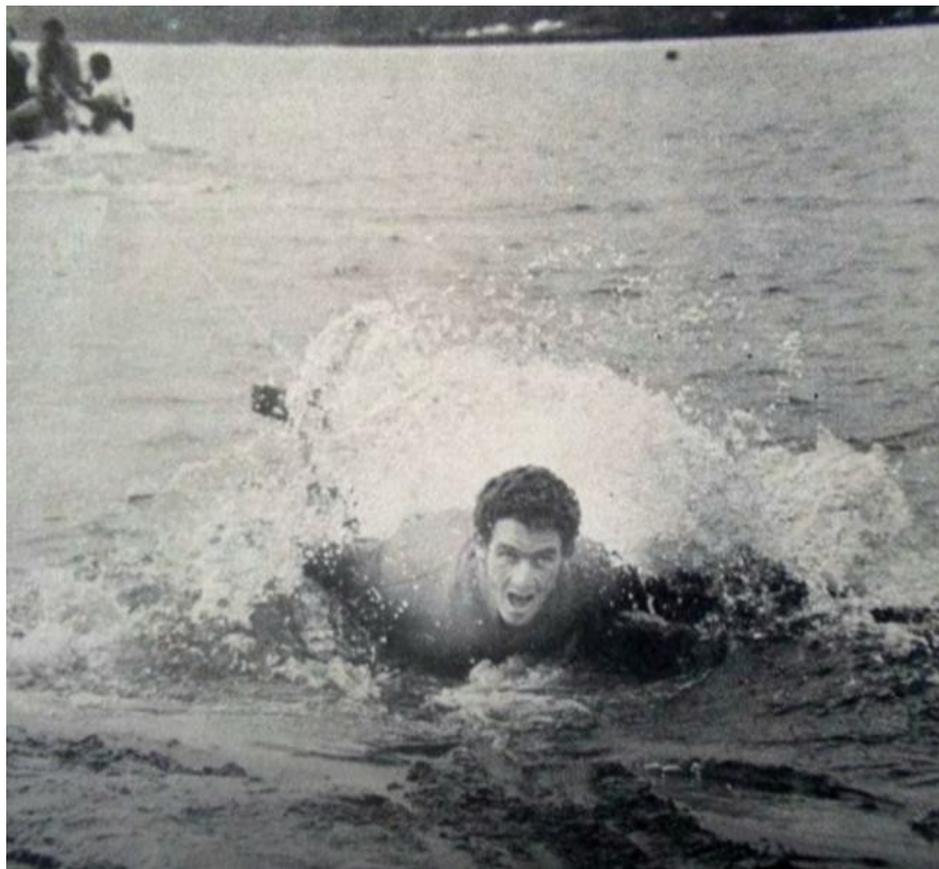
Garry Barton whose photo appears on this page is no "usual run of the mill" barefooter even though he works in a mill. Garry would be one of the roughest toughest barefooters that I have ever met. He boasts that he never takes a ski with him on the weekend to Raymond Terrace where he skis every weekend. Thats how this boy trains himself to become completely self contained barefooter!

A Brown Belt Karate expert, Garry, until recently was an instructor in this field, in his home town of Maitland. Committeeman David Hamilton went along the other day to test Garry for his proficiency and after rattling off Beach Deep, Jump out two, Jump off Disk, One foot, Rope on Neck, Rope on Toe, Tumble Turn etc decided that there was no time like the present to do his masters. Well Garry came to grief at 9½ mins, a great performance from any barefooter. During the Nationals last year Garry was first in the Novice Wake cross and ran 2nd in the Novice Overall. I'll wager that his name is in the results this year too.

Just hot off the press in the results from Zone four Championships, Garry won against all comers, including all the really big names in barefooting, a drag race for endurance through the roughest water possible acclaimed as one of the great performances of the day, it qualifies this boy as the one to watch for 1969.



**Garry Barton's first ever public Backwards Beach Start. May 03 1969.
Australian Barefoot Water Ski Championships, Manly Dam, NSW.**



Brett Wing joined the Barefoot Club - March 03 1968 - Member 817

Brett went on to become possibly the World's best all round water skier and won 3 Sub Junior Overall , 3 Junior Overall and 7 Mens Overall Australian Championships and was the world's Overall Mens Champion 3 times from 1978.

Is this a family effort?

On the 3rd of March this year Brett Wing of Hurlestone Park was timed for his proficiency to join the Barefoot Club. "Whats so amazing?" You may ask. Well Brett is only EIGHT YEARS old and three foot ten inches high; in our books a valiant effort when considering that most of us at nearly three times that age (wishful thinking) had to be coaxed to step off a ski.

Bretts brother Robert aged 10 and Father aged ?? (He would not disclose it) also gained their proficiency to join the club on the same day.

Brett started skiing at the age of six and surprised everyone one day by stepping off his ski and barefooting for a considerable distance.

He is the youngest member in our club and possibly the youngest barefooter in the world.

Congratulations Brett keep up the good work and to all our other junior water skiers let this be a challenge to you. If you can ski you can barefoot.



Brett (L) 817, Bob (C) 815 and Robert Wing (R) 816

State Identities

Both **South Australia and Victoria** had 2 barefoot water skier identities during the 1970's. They competed against each other in many interstate SA/VIC events, at Moomba and at many nationals.

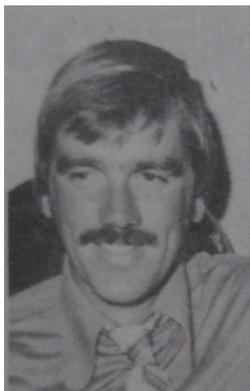
Leigh Acfield 1113

Leigh Acfield from South Australia learnt to barefoot water ski in 1965/6 and entered 23 continuous national championships from 1970 until 1993 and won numerous medals.

He was part of the first State Demonstration Team in 1969 and also barefoot skied on the Torrens River during the Adelaide Festival of Arts in 1970. Leigh was invited to ski at Moomba on 4 occasions, he entered many South Australian State Titles and won the Mens Overall in 1976.

He was also responsible for many barefoot coaching clinics in South Australia and competed for many years in the triathlon. Like many barefoot water skiers Leigh also water skied raced with some success.

During Leigh's sporting years he amassed more than 150 tournament trophies.



Harry Roberts 1484

Harry Roberts from Victoria learnt to Barefoot Water Ski in 1970 and being a dairy farmer he had many day time hours to get out on the water!.He skied and trained with his brother John 1483 and friend Stephen Riley 1690 on the Barwon River at Geelong.

Harry learnt very quickly and started competing in 1971 and won the Encourage Overall that year in the Victorian State Titles and then a silver medal in open mens tricks at the 1971 Australian Nationals.

He competed in 3 Moomba barefoot competitions and represented Australia in the 1973 and 1976 World Group 3 Competitions. He had mixed successes during many competitions and won many trophies.

Harry's prized trophies are his Victorian Overall Open Mens from 1973 and 1975.

He was the first barefoot water skier to slalom backwards in competition and the first in Victoria to master back deep water starts, flying backwards starts and one foot back starts.

Harry retired from competition in 1977 and had a 3 year come back in 1980 winning a Victorian Senior Mens Overall.

His family are active within the sport including his 2 sons Peter 6356 and Brett 6355 and grandson Thomas 6357



Paul Jones 1763

Paul Jones was an avid sportsman who learnt to water ski whilst being a keen gymnast, unicyclist, surfer, cyclist and skate boarder. As a spectator he attended the 1970 National Barefoot Water Ski Championships with his friend Barry Buist and after that, along with wife Carolyn and daughter Kim, purchased a boat. They learnt to water ski in 1970 and to barefoot water ski in 1971. Two years later, Peter McNally joined their crew.

Paul was an all round super fit sportsman and his ability to balance was advantageous on the water and he learnt barefooting manoeuvres easily. Paul was noticed by officials of the NSW Barefoot Club and started competing. Soon after he was selected to ski in the first Australian Team in the 1973 Group 3 World Titles at Nagambie in Victoria. He then went on to represent Australia in the 1st World Barefoot Water Ski Championships in 1978 and was part of the winning Australian Team. At the 1st Worlds he won the silver medal in Slalom and the bronze medal in Tricks.

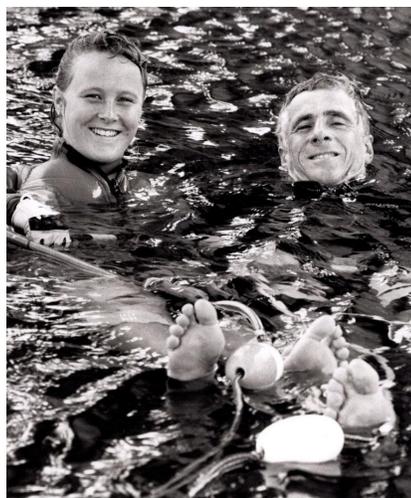
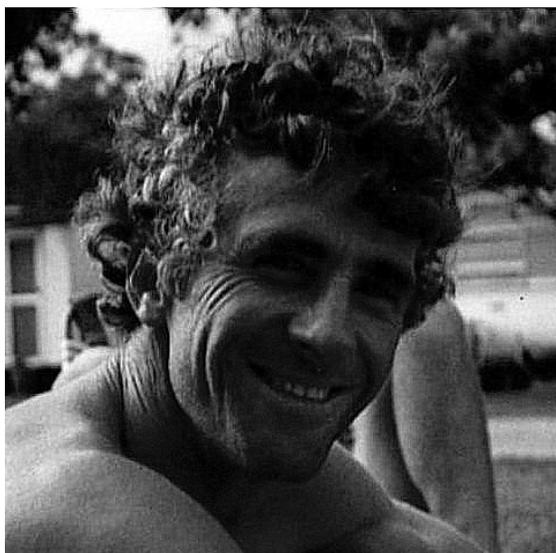
Paul represented Australia 6 times from 1973 to 1999 and won countless medals. He held the World Barefoot Water Ski Jump record of 15.5m in 1974. He competed in 31 Australian Nationals from 1973 to 2006 winning 17 of these in the Senior and Veteran Men's divisions. He held ten Australian Records. On a State level, he won the state championships 26 times and held 19 state records.

In the late 1970's Paul attended the Salvation Army Congress Celebrations in Canberra and did a barefoot display on Lake Burley Griffin for the then Prime Minister of Australia, Malcolm Fraser.

At the conclusion of the display the Prime Minister was amazed at Paul's barefoot water skiing ability and went to the water's edge and shook Paul's, still wet hand, as he walked up the bank.

Paul also taught his daughter, Charise Hassey 5087 (nee Jones), to barefoot water ski and they competed together in 17 National Championships and were both Australian Champions. Together they represented Australia as part of the Australian Team at the Asian Australasian Championships in 1997 at Piarere, New Zealand. Paul and Charise were the first father daughter combination to represent Australia, and, at the same time. The photograph of Paul and Charise below was taken at Liverpool, NSW, during a barefoot championship.

Sadly Paul passed away 31/03/2019 aged 76 years.



Colleen Thompson (nee Wilkinson) 1495

Colleen learnt to water ski when she was 10 years of age at Joe Torrens Water Ski Gardens on the Hawkesbury River, Wisemans Ferry, NSW.

She skied most weekends with her parents Joyce and Colin and her twin sister Patricia.

Colleen learnt to barefoot water ski in 1972 when she was 15 years and after she learnt her family left home before dawn most weekends so that she could get the calm water for barefooting before the other boats arrived. Early in 1972 Colleen had some coaching from Harry Byron the President of the NSW Barefoot Club and he introduced her to competitions.

Her first National Championship was in Queensland in 1972 and she won the Overall Junior Girls. The following year Colleen entered the Womens Division winning the Australian Overall that she held for 7 years until 1979.

Colleen represented Australia in 1973, 1976 and 1978 in the 3 Group World Championships winning all 3 overalls.

In 1976 Colleen was the first woman in the world to execute both Backwards Beach And Deep Water Starts, Backwards Tumble Turn Starts and Back to Front.

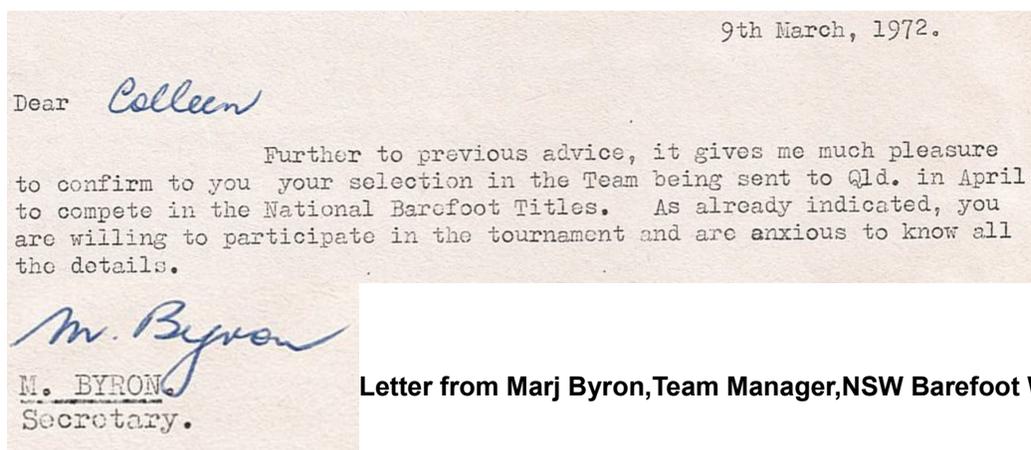
She was then crowned the First World Womens Barefoot Water Skiing Champion in 1978 taking the gold medal in both Slalom and Start Methods.

Colleen retired from barefoot competitions after the first worlds after setting 6 Australian Records and 7 World Records.

After 30 years Colleen made a comeback to Barefoot Water Ski Competitions and Won the Overall Australian Veteran Womens in both 2009 and 2010 and then Won the Super Veterans Overall in 2012 and 2013.

She represented Australia again as a Senior at the 2010 World Championships and was part of Australia's gold medal team.

Colleen is very proud of the fact that she and her son Alex are the only Mother Son combination of Australian Champions. Alex won Australian Mens 2 Overall Champion twice.



Letter from Marj Byron, Team Manager, NSW Barefoot Water Ski Club, 1972



Gillian Davis (nee Shipp)

Gill began Barefoot Water Skiing when she was 12 years old.

The family were occasional water-skiers until her father Bob Shipp and brother Warwick discovered barefooting and they had begun entering local zone tournaments.

They both convinced Gill to enter her first zone tournament where there were no junior girl barefoot water skiers in NSW. They said "You could win it by doing only one move in each event".

Gill won that zone 4 tournament in 1975. No other junior girls. No high scoring points!

Gill and Warwick trained every weekend on the Shoalhaven Rver, Nowra, their father as coach along with other barefoot water skiers including Greg Shipton and David Coles.

Bob Shipp and Gill's mother Norma Shipp also ran barefoot junior training schools at Berry, NSW for a few summers during the late 70's.

By 1976 more girls were competing, and Gill improved her score points!

Gill won the NSW Overall State and Australian Overall Junior Girl Championships in 1976, 77 and 78.

The Australian Junior Championships were shared with her brother Warwick, who won the Overall Junior Boys Division in 1977.

At 15 years of age Gill was chosen to represent Australia at the First World Barefoot Water Ski Championships in 1978. This was a great honour, privilege and opportunity, though the Australian Team and the Barefoot Water Ski Community was deeply affected by the death of her brother Warwick 6 weeks earlier.

Gill in Open Womens Division at the World Championships Won the Gold in Tricks, Bronze in Starts and Third Overall. She retired from competitive Barefoot Water Skiing after the 1978 World Titles.

Pics below

1978 First World Barefoot Water Ski Championships.

Gill & Warwick – Trophies from 1977 Nationals



Bronwyn Koeck (nee McCaskill) 3080

Bronwyn lived in Canberra and her family water skied near Yass at the Good Hope Resort, on a Murrumbidge River Arm of Burrinjuck Dam.

In 1972 when only 6 years old she learnt to water ski and was very proficient. Bronwyn's father Bob McCaskill (ABWSC 761) taught her to Barefoot Water Ski in 1976 at 10 years of age and she was timed into the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club. Her father continued coaching her for many years whilst mum Carole was the observer.

After attending some training schools run by the NSW Barefoot Water Ski Club, Bronwyn as a Sub Junior Girl entered the NSW State Titles in 1977 and won the overall..She also won the overall at the 1977 Australian Championships and duplicated these results in 1978 and 1979..She won all events!

Bronwyn represented NSW 6 times at the Australian Nationals from 1977 to 1982 and the Australian Capital Territory 3 times from 1983 to 1985.

Her results at the Australian Titles in Womens Division from 1980 to 1984 included 6 gold medals, 3rd overall once, 2nd overall 3 times and she won the overall in 1984.

Bronwyn when still a Sub Junior was chosen to Represent Australia at the First World Titles in 1978 and then another 3 times until 1985. At the World Championships she won 10 individual medals gained one 2nd overall and 3 times 3rd overall

This talented Young lady set 9 Australian Records, 3 World Records, invited to compete 8 times in the Australian Masters, Represented Australia Twice in the World Group 3 Championships, was the First Sub Junior Girl in the World to barefoot backwards, the First Woman in the World in Start Methods to do a Back Toe Tumbleturn Start and in 1979 set a Womens Barefoot Water Ski Speed Record Backwards at 67.793 Km/Hr. (42.125mph)

Post retirement Bronwyn has continued to teach water skiing and barefooting.



Bronwyn at the 1978 First World Barefoot Water Ski Championships in Canberra, ACT, with Sir Zelman Cowen Governor-General of Australia.

Kim Izzard (nee Lampard) 3338

Kim's family were avid water skiers and she learnt to water ski on the Hawkesbury River at Willow Run near Dargle at the age of 8 ½ years and her father Keith Lampard taught her how to barefoot water ski soon after.

Keith was also a NSW Barefoot Water Ski Club member and he sent Kim to her first club training school in 1976 on the Williams River at Clarendon and she entered her first competition at the training school.

Kim aged 12 years won her first Australian Junior Girls Overall Championship in 1976 and again in 1977 & 1978 and won the Australian Junior Girls Overall Championships in 1980, 1981 and 1982. In 1983 & 1986 Kim was crowned the Overall Womens Australian Barefoot Champion.

In 1980 at 14 years of age Kim was selected in the Australian Team and won the World Women's Overall Championship in the USA. She repeated her success in winning the World Overall Women's Championship's in 1982 Mexico, 1985 Australia and 1986 Germany.

During Kim's later years of barefooting she trained with Bronwyn Koeck (nee McKaskill) & Peter Wellham. Kim retired from barefoot water skiing competitions in 1988.



Top photo - Kim 8 ½ years of age Barefoot Water Skiing on the Hawkesbury River – Next 4 photos 14 years.

Kim Lampard — An Australian Legend

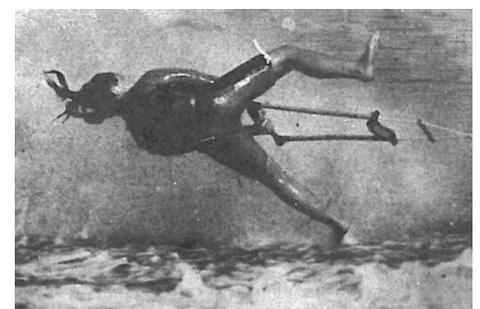
A name predominating the modern era of barefooting; Kim Lampard with four world titles has helped put Australia on the map and ensured the popularisation of what would be normally a difficult sport to promote.

Kim epitomises what Aussie footing is at the moment. She was part of a dedicated waterskiing family and savoured the delights of waterskiing from an early age. Combined with this, the coaching of Glen and Gary Mathews, in the training school environment, helped Kim accelerate through the ranks, pushed earlier by Bronwyn McCaskill and later by Debbie Pugh, to achieve four consecutive World Overall Titles. The 1980s has been so far predominated by this modest, personable young lady from Blacktown in Sydney's western suburbs.

The name Kim Lampard has become synonymous with good sportsmanship, a dedicated approach to her sport and the ability to accept both victory and defeat in the most gracious manner.

Upon hearing of her retirement at the Masters in 1987 the whole barefoot waterskiing world was upstanding in its unanimous recognition of one of the greatest sports in Australian history.

Kim Lampard, Barefooters the world over, salute you!



Debbie Pugh 3420

Debbie learnt to water ski on the Brisbane Waters at Gosford NSW during the early 1970's when she lived on the Central Coast. Her family being avid water skiers then moved to the Williams River, Clarendon NSW, the perfect barefoot water skiing location.

During winter 1977 Greg & Warren Adams taught Debbie then 15 years old to barefoot water ski at Raymond Terrace NSW and she then attended a training school at Clarendon learning to do deep water starts & basic tricks before she entered her first competition a few months later in a Zone 2 Competition at Clarendon. She then competed for the next 15 years!

Her father Lloyd also a barefoot water skier coached her daily on the Williams River. With the help of Garry Barton, Debbie then competed in the 1978 NSW and Australian Championships.

Debbie was then

10 times NSW Overall Womens Barefoot Water Champion from 1980 to 1992 winning 16 Gold Medals,
6 times Australian Overall Womens Champion from 1980 to 1989 winning 7 Gold Medals,
4 times Australian Masters Champion from 1982 to 1989 winning 4 Gold Medals,
World Group 3 Champion 1982, and represented Australia 3 times in the World Group 3 Championships from 1980 to 1984 winning 3 gold medals.
Represented Australia 6 times in the World Championships from 1980 to 1993, being runner up 5 times and winning 4 gold medals

During Debbie's barefoot water skiing career she broke 9 World Records spread between all 4 events and only 1 of 2 women to achieve 620pts in the start event.

Barefoot water skiing for Debbie was a family orientated sport and her mother Barbara became a barefoot judge, her father Lloyd an Australian barefoot junior team coach and her brother Shane also an Australian Barefoot Water Ski Representative.



1969 - Early Correspondence re New Proficiency "Knees to Feet" Robin Hill 1007

70 WILLIAMS RD
NEEDHAM N.A 0009
14.12.69

THE PRESIDENT
A.S.N.C.
ST. MARYS NSW.

DEAR JOHN,

I HAVE GOT A STUNT GOING THAT KEN MATTHEWS CONSIDERED WORTHWHILE AS A PROFICIENCY AWARD, AND AN OFFICIAL START METHOD FOR TOURNAMENTS.

IT IS SUFFICIENTLY UNLIKE ANY OTHER METHOD OF START, AND IS DIFFICULT ENOUGH TO BE WORTH SOME HARD WORK. I ENCLOSE AN EXAMINERS CHECK FORM FOR THE FIRST PROFICIENCY BADGE AND IF YOU ENDORSE IT AS A COMPETITION START METHOD, I WOULD SUGGEST A VALUE OF 60 POINTS.

BAREFOOT FROM KNEES.

CANDIDATE TO ATTAIN A SKIING POSITION ON BOTH KNEES FROM ONE SKI. A FALL EXECUTING THIS CONSTITUTES A MISS. CANDIDATE TO THEN PULL LOWER LEGS FORWARD AND WITHOUT FALLING ONTO BACK, STAND UP TO BAREFOOT SKIING POSITION.

THIS IS NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH A TUMBLE TURN TO BAREFOOT FROM A KNEES SKIING POSITION. WHILE THIS IS QUITE SPECTACULAR, IT IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY DIFFERENT FROM THE TUMBLE TURN START TO WARRANT A SEPARATE BADGE. IT IS SIMPLY A DIFFERENT WAY OF ATTAINING A BANK-SLIDE READY FOR TUMBLE TURN.

COULD I NOTE IN PASSING THAT A SINGLE-FALL IN EXECUTING THIS STUNT IS GUARANTEED TO DETER THE FAINT-HEARTED SO ITS STATUS IS WELL PROTECTED.

COULD YOU ADVISE ME OF YOUR DECISION. R. HILL
1007 R.H.H.



phone 789 1856

mathews tyre service

cnr. fifth & ninth aves., campsie, 2194

Dear Robin

Just a short note to fill you in on your request for recognition of knee skiing

The position is as follows
it has been OK'D in principle for a proficiency award and has been rejected as a start method (just changed pers other up to shit)

You will be the first person to obtain same the only thing holding it up was the committee wanted to judge how hard it was and over Xmas they are doing that. I tried it and I reckon it is reasonably difficult. Will keep in touch re decision all the best for New Year

Ken Mathews

ALL TYPES OF WHEEL MODIFICATIONS, TYRES, MAG WHEELS, MOTOR ACCESSORIES, SPEED EQUIPMENT



New Proficiency Badge



Robin Hill Knee Skiing and barefooting behind the boat.. Jumping off the cavitation plate was popular during the late 1960's early 1970's.

First International Competition with USA 1973

In 1973 an International event was organized by the Americans to compete at Cypress Gardens USA. An Australian team consisting of Garry Barton, Peter Trim, Grant Torrens, Mary McMillan and John Hacker, competed with Grant Torrens winning the overall.



1973 Cypress Gardens Barefoot Championship

Standing left to right: Pat Callan, Tournament Director; Stew McDonald, Chief Judge; Grant Torrens, AUS; Jenny McDonald, Cypress Gardens; Garry Barton, AUS; Mary MacMillan, AUS; Peter Trimm, AUS; Unknown, AUS; Rudy Stout, AUS; John Hacker, AUS.

Kneeling: Mike Botti, Chas St.Cyr, Bill Price, John Gillette; all U.S. skiers.



Peter Trim 935



John Hacker 662



Spectacular Growth prior to first World Titles 1978

The growth of the sport was spectacular.

Such greats as Mary McMillan, Gillian Shipp, Colleen Thompson (nee Wilkinson), John Hacker, Garry Barton, Brett Wing, Warren Bowden, Terry Hinchcliffe, Peter Trim, Paul Jones, Allan Moffatt, Roger Gooden and Rudi Stout all carried Australian Barefoot Water Skiing into the forefront of world competition that commenced in 1978.



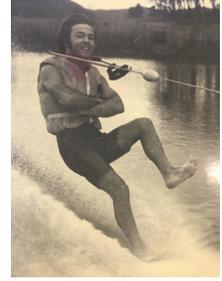
Brett Wing 817



Garry Barton 606



Warren Bowden 627



Rudi Stout 534



Colleen Thompson
(nee Wilkinson) 1495



Allan Moffatt 2027



Paul Jones 1763



Gillian Davies
(nee Shipp)



Terry Hinchcliffe 580

Pictorial - Early Pioneers



Mary McMillan 134



Bernardin Georges



Brian Price 2225



Wal Spicer 173



Graham Dance 650



Leigh Acfield 1113



Ken Matthews 344



Collage – Many Pioneers



Collage – Many Pioneers



Pyramid
Rudi Stout 534 (L)
Garry Barton 606(R)
Brett Wing 817(Top)



Colleen Thompson 1495
(nee Wilkinson)



Barry McDonald 571



Kevin Poole 882



Edith Poole



Wendy Feros 805
(nee Sundstrom)



Kathie McInnes 733



Barry Hynes 582



Daryl Hodge



Brett Wing 817



Harold Miller 295



Rodney Fox



Grant Torrens 717



Mary McMillan 134



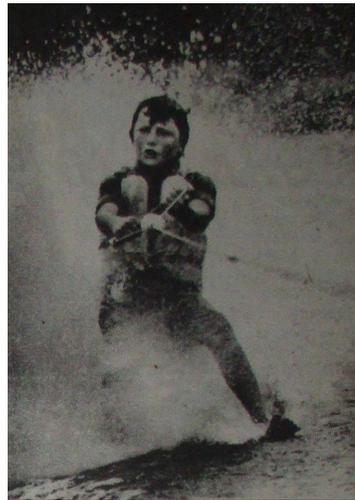
Harry Byron 842



Garry Barton 606



Bob Wing 815



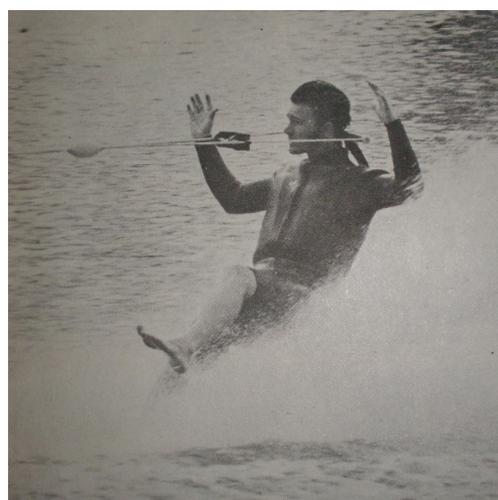
Gavin Williams 2082



Paul Jones 1763



Greg Skipper 1065



Noel Middling 1118



Greg Shipton 2299



Peter McClung 2837



Dennis Mitchell 187



Greg Brown 899



Ray Cooper 205



Wal Spicer 173



Larry Partridge 189



Tony Purnell 17



John Hollands 4



Bruce Austin 55



Greg Rees 2634



Geoff Nichols 115



Reg Eddy 111



June Hamilton 329



Gareth Handshin 1425



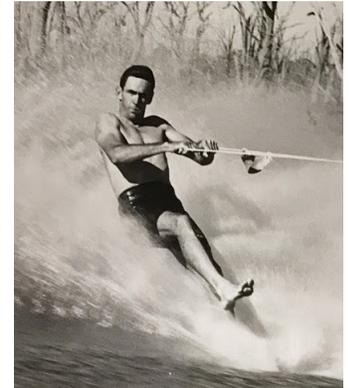
John Challinor 22



Leigh Hamilton 1266



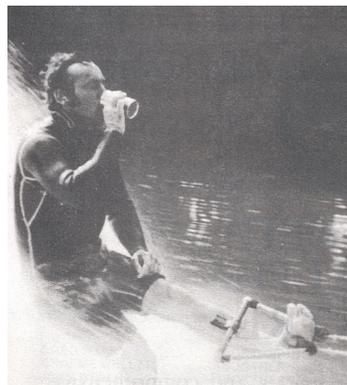
Des Lilley 1390



Reg Cowie



Sam Pace 725



John Hacker 662



Terry Hinchcliffe 580



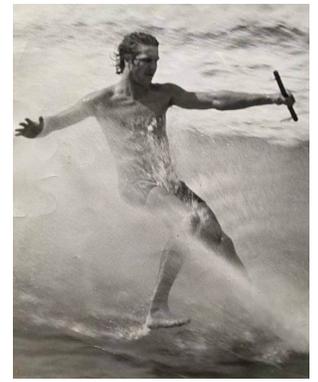
Keith Florence 2009



Peter Forrester 74 (L) Ken Mathews 344(R)



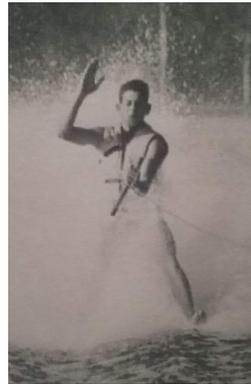
Rob Schuster 881



Ashley Mison



Barry Delaporte 2370



Stuart Dore 196



Doug Sundstrom 204



Warren Bowden 627



Penny Hacker



John Hacker 662



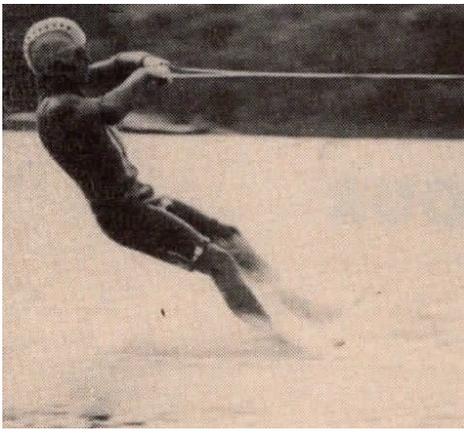
Barry Buist



Aivars Lidums 292



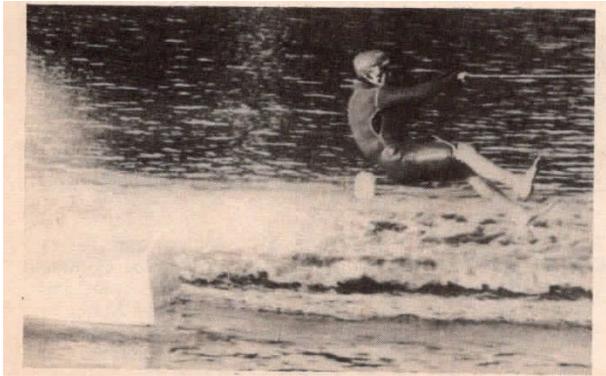
Kelvin Weston-Green 2962



Greg Adams 2714



Debbie Pugh 3420



Bob Inman 532



Robert Wing 816



Garry Matthews 2713



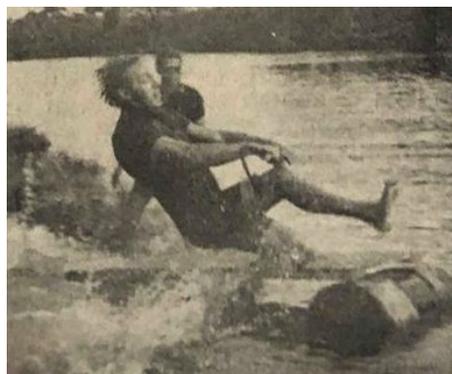
Greg Rees 2634



Greg Treasure 2391



Gillian Davis (nee Shipp)



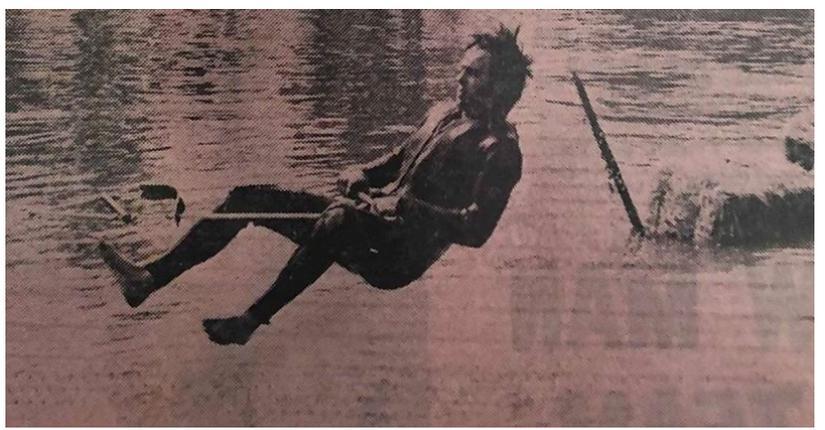
John Bruinsma 1984



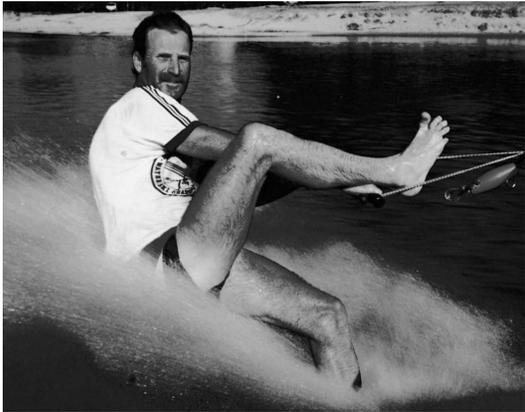
Brett Wing 817



Tony Teague 487



Harry Roberts 1484



Brian Sullivan 3245



Rod Trevillian 3108



Chooka O'Rourke



Rudi Stout 534



Graeme Dwyer 2010



Rod Trevillian 3108



Kelvin Western-Green 2962



Warwick Shipp



Dodd Dwyer 2531



Garry Barton 606



Dodd Dwyer 2531



Haidee Lance 727



Kim Izzard (nee Lampard) 3338



Allan Moffatt 2027



Irwin Luthiger 88



Gary McNeill 1329

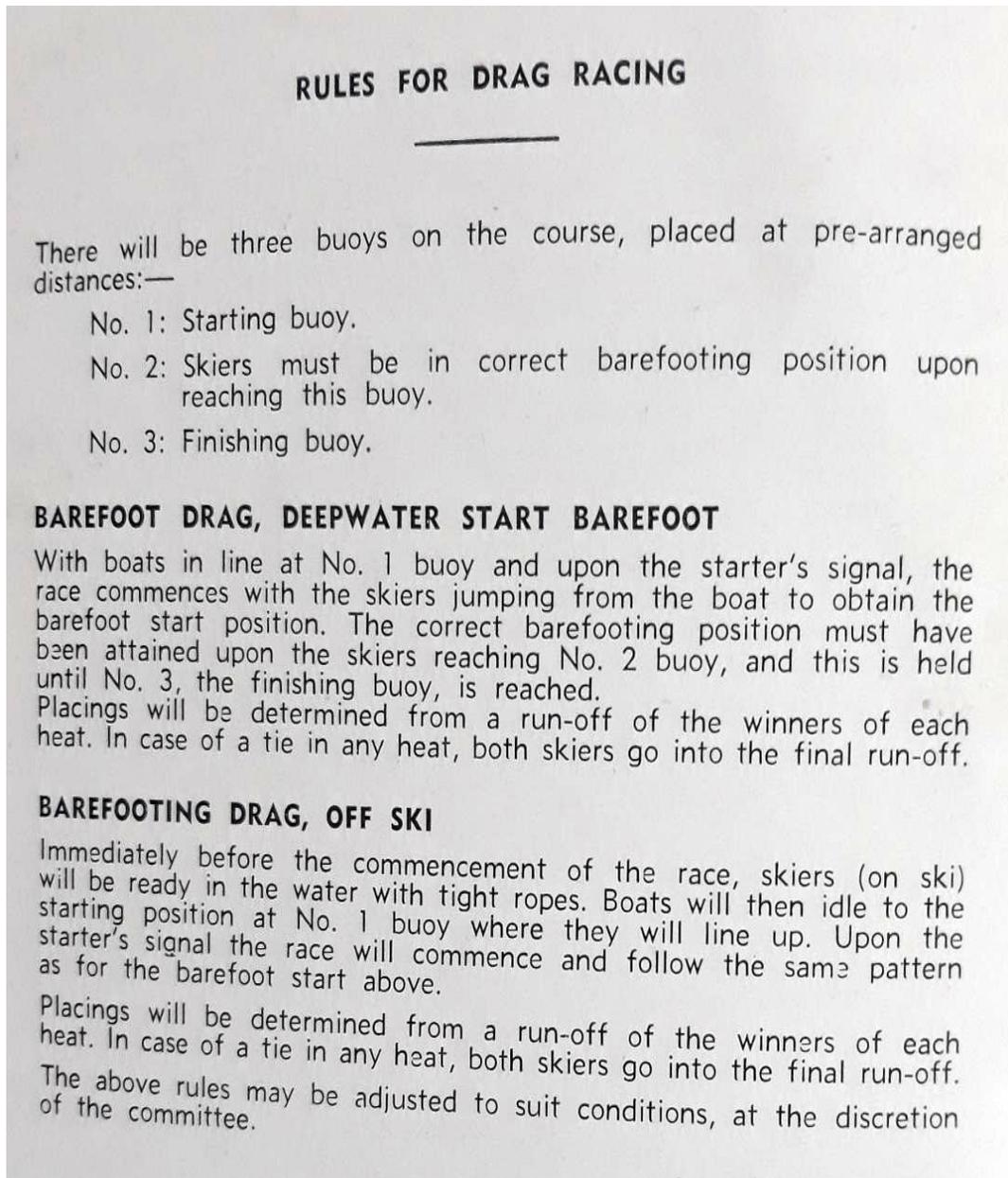
Barefoot Drags, Marathons and Speed Records.

Barefoot Drags

Barefoot drags gained popularity in many states during the later part of the 1960's.

There were many different drag rules over many years including jumping off the inboard cavitation plate or off the back of an outboard powered boat or step off ski starts, and then when the flag dropped for a deepwater start.

An independent barefoot drag club was started called the "Australian Barefoot Racing Club" but is no longer active.



Barefoot Marathons

The marathon was held over a 10km course with boats away every 39 seconds similar to water ski racing.

The NSW Barefoot Club held marathons from 1975 until 1982.

Brett Wing won the marathons 1975-76-77-78-79 and then Michael Lampard 1980-81-82

In 1983 the NSW marathon became an Australian event until abandoned in 1985.

Garry Barton won the Australian Marathons in 1983-4.

In the past decade many states have run endurance events and marathons with the most recent being the independent "Williams River Barefoot Marathon" in NSW.

BAREFOOT CLUB

SKI DAY

TORRENS SKI GARDENS

SUNDAY 12TH Nov. 1967 !!

- * Starting at 9:00 AM * Entries $\frac{1}{2}$ hr before each event * Entry fee \$5.00
- * Big prizes & trophies for all events!
- Free refreshments & Barbeque *

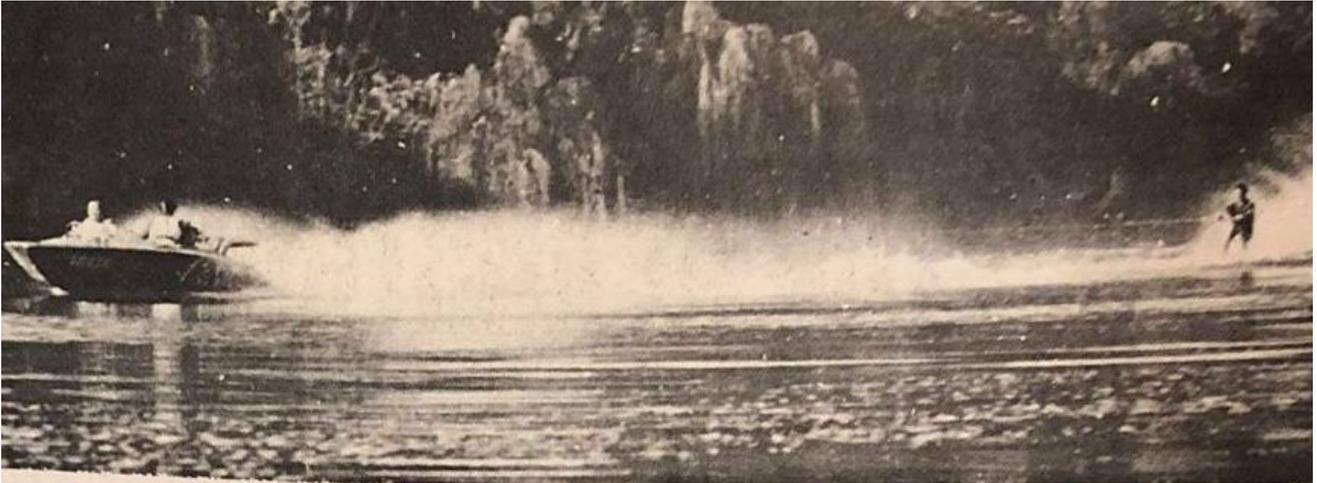
① JUNIOR TIME TRIAL ● 3 miles	* * *	② WOMEN'S TIME TRIAL 5 miles
* *	③ OPEN TIME TRIAL 15 miles before lunch THE BIG ONE!	* *
④ BAREFOOT DRAG RACE!! 1st OVER THE LINE - 5 boats to a heat.	⑤ LADIES & GENTS SURPRISE START! Who skis with who in your club???	⑥ NOVELTY * EVENT Finish and your Good

JUDGING BY W.J.A.

1967 Barefoot day at Torrens Ski Gardens, Wisemans Ferry, NSW

Barefoot Speed

Sadly Les Drysdale lost his life in 1984 attempting a World Barefoot Water Ski Speed Record at Windsor in NSW .



March 1970 .. Noel Forrester 761 .. Penrith NSW 65.3mph / 105.09kmh .. World Record



April 1970 .. Wayne Langfield .. Penrith NSW 68.16mph / 109.69kmh .. World Record



May 1970 .. Wayne Jones .. Penrith NSW 75.35mph / 121.26kmh .. World Record



ONE cool morning in May the still waters of the Penrith river were almost literally set on fire by a pair of pretty feet as young Queanbeyan housewife and mother of two children, Haidee Lance hot-footed it along a special 1/8th mile course behind Harry Byron's fibreglass runabout Taboo in an attempt to establish for the first time in Australia Women's Barefoot Water Ski Speed Record.

Timing was done by officials of the Australian Barefoot Club (NSW Division) with Ken Mathews, Steve Haritos, Dennis Mitchell and Graham McVie officiating.

May 1970...Haidee Lance 727 Penrith NSW... 61.39mph / 98.8kmh World Record



July 1970...Garry Barton 606 ... Berkley Aquatic Park USA 77.77mph / 125.16kmh...World Record



August 1972...Grant Torrens 817...Long Beach Marine Stadium USA...79.03mph / 127.19kmh...World Record



**August 1972...Sharon Torrens (nee Fisher) 1223
Long Beach Marine Stadium USA
55.00mph / 88.51kmh**



**1976 Michelle Geoghegan (nee Fisher) 1401
Long Beach Marine Stadium USA
58.15mph / 93.58kph**

AUSTRALIAN WATER



SKI ASSOCIATION
[Inc.]

Record Certificate

This is to Certify that MICHELLE FISHER created a Record
of 45.47 MPH BAREFOOT SPEED

in the Sub Junior Girl's Barefoot Speed Event

during the held at DARGLE SKI RESORT

on the TWENTY EIGHTH day of JUNE, 1972

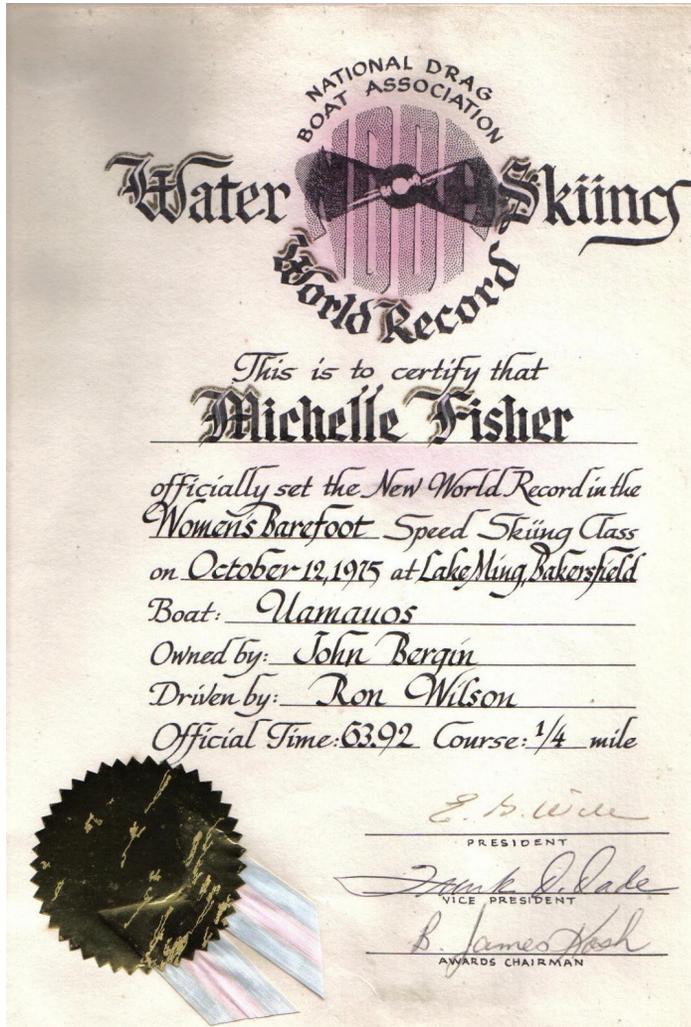
The Event was conducted strictly in accordance with the current Rules of The Australian Water Ski Association. (Inc.)

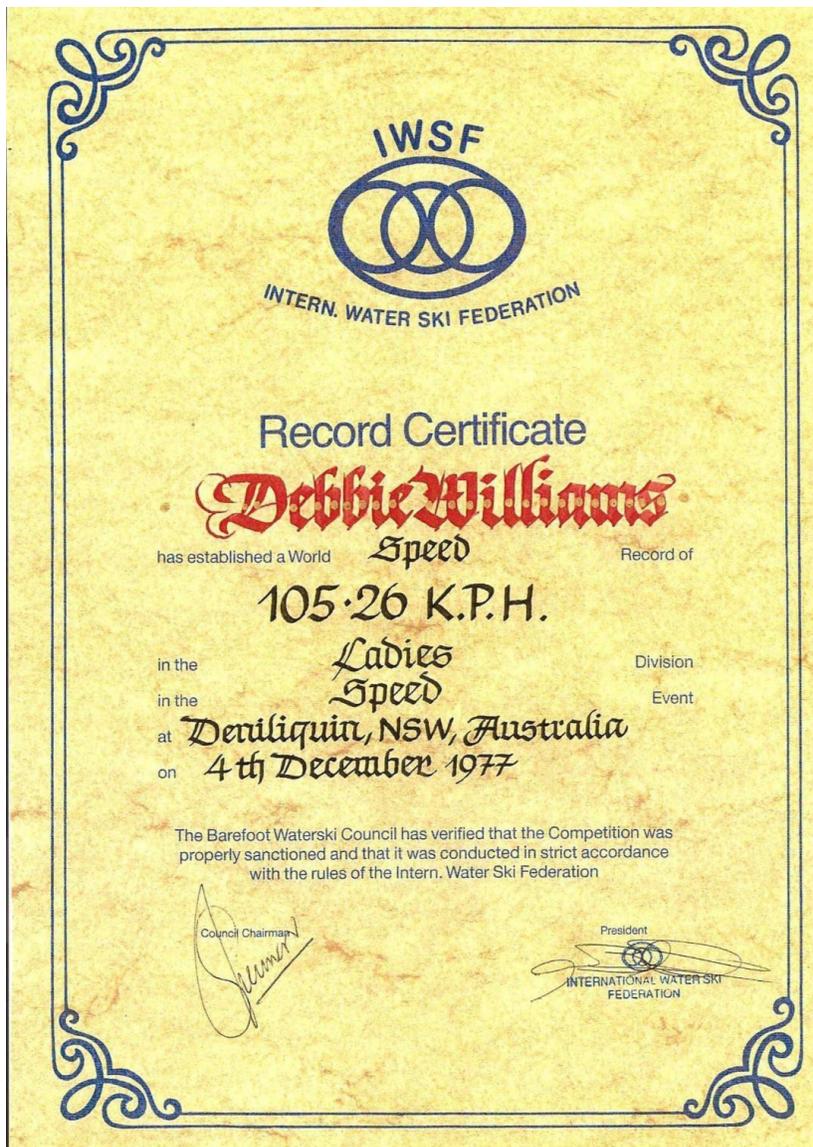
Ray Byron
Divisional Director.

Al Boehlen
Vice President (Technical) A.W.S.A.

Top...June 1972... Michelle Geoghegan (nee Fisher) 1401...Dargle, Hawkesbury River, NSW
45.47mph / 73.18kph Sub Junior Girls World Record

Bottom...October 1975...Michelle Geoghegan (nee Fisher) 1401...Lake Ming, Bakersfield, California, USA
63.92mph / 102.7kph World Record





December 1977 ... Debbie Williams 2738 ... Deniliquin NSW...65.41mph / 105.26kph ...World Record

NAKED FEET

WINGS ACROSS THE WATER — SYDNEY BAREFOOTERS SET WORLD RECORDS —

Silverwater Speedboat Club on the Parramatta River was the stage for the setting of 3 new World Records recently.

17-year-old Brett Wing established a new World Men's Barefoot Water Ski Speed Record of 88.5 mph (142.39 kph) — note, BAREFOOT! Brett's super-towing power was provided by Bert Hines' "Waltzing Matilda" fitted with a Johnson 200 hp motor.

The previous open men's record of 81.64 mph (131.36 kph) was held by Gary Barton, as was the existing World Men's Backwards Barefoot record. The same day that was also broken, this time by Robert Wing with a speed of 61 mph (98.14 kph).

Garry Matthews set the third new World Record of the day by improving the existing speed of 76.2 mph (122.6 kph) for Junior Boys at 79 mph (127.11 kph).



BRETT WING

World Records Speed Day...Deepwater Motor Boat Club...Sydney August 1977

EXISTING WORLD BAREFOOT SPEED/ENDURANCE RECORDS						
	Skier	State	K.P.H./M.P.H.		Place	Date
Forwards Speed:						
Men	B. Wing	N.S.W.	142.39	88.5	Silverwater	7.8.77
Women	H. Lance	N.S.W.	99.25	61.69	Penrith	29.6.70
Junior Boys	G. Matthews	N.S.W.	127.11	79.00	Silverwater	7.8.77
Junior Girls	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sub Junior Boys	B. Wing	N.S.W.	89.52	55.64	Dargle	17.6.72
Sub Junior Girls	M. Fisher	N.S.W.	73.16	45.47	Dargle	28.6.72
Backwards Speed:						
Men	R. Wing	N.S.W.	98.14	61.	Silverwater	7.8.77
Forwards Endurance:			Hrs. Mins. Sec.			
Men	P. McManus	N.S.W.	1	30	19	River Hawkesbury
Women	H. Lance	N.S.W.	—	—	30.5	Nalligan River
Junior Boys	G. Torrens	N.S.W.	28	09	—	River Hawkesbury
Junior Girls	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sub Junior Boys	G. Beer	N.S.W.	40	04	—	River Murray
Sub Junior Girls	M. Fisher	N.S.W.	2	18	—	Dargle
Backwards Endurance						
Men	P. McManus	N.S.W.	33	19.3	—	River Hawkesbury
Junior Boys	G. Torrens	N.S.W.	12	34.2	—	River Hawkesbury
Barefoot Jump:			Metres Feet			
Men	R. Stout	N.S.W.	15.8	52	—	South Aust.

Australian Barefoot Water Skier World Records August 1977



June 11 1979...Brett Wing 817...Parramatta River, Sydney, NSW ...94.946mph / 152.80kph...World Record

1973 – 1974 Timex Watch Television Commercials

Garry Barton 606 was chosen by Timex Watches to promote their Marlin water proof range of watches. Two commercials were produced...1973 for Canadian Television and 1974 for Australian Television

https://www.ngataonga.org.nz/collections/catalogue/catalogue-item?record_id=147130&fbclid=IwAR3TC4E7g8E5c-gWk6qZQQDOxfQIH5F_2qAX1c2hI5MhYYd-NIezmG0UJX4



1977... 12 Barefoot Water Skiers behind one boat Wisemans Ferry, Hawkesbury River, New South Wales.

This World Record event was co-ordinated by Bob Wing 815 and was achieved on the very first try! Roy (KEG) Cadman was the President of the NSW Club at that time.

Skiing behind Bob Wings 16 foot Savage Electra that was powered by a single 200hp Evinrude motor and on extra long ski ropes, these current NSW and Australian champions started from the deep water on 2 skis.

As the boat speed increased and driven by Robert Wing 816 they all dropped a ski, then as the boat speed maxed out at 45mph (72kph) the older and heavier skiers stepped off. With the power still on maximum the boat speed slowed to a speed where the younger skiers were comfortable to step off.

This amazing world record stood for decades and was only conquered by the advancement of multiple engines and the use of boom technology.

Many of the 12 skiers went on to represent Australia and also win gold at the 1st World Barefoot Championships in 1978.



(Photograph courtesy Greg Shipton)

Barefoot Water Skiers - Left to Right

Bronwyn Koeck (nee McAskill) 3080, Darryn Richards, Gary Adams 2713,
Colleen Thompson (nee Wilkinson) 1495, Glen Mathews, Garry Matthews 2713,
Brett Wing 817, Greg Adams 2714, Gillian Davis (nee Shipp),
Greg Shipton 2299, Sam Pace 725, Warwick Shipp

Unique Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club Embroidered Badges

From the club's inception, special badges have been struck depicting Membership with Number, Masters Award (Master – 10 minutes), Proficiency Awards, National Championships and other Special Events. The first 4 badge numbers.. 1 Bruce Purnell - 2 Ray Leighton - 3 Bryan Neale - 4 John Hollands

Membership Numbered Badges



Ray Frater 458



Garry Barton 606



Ray Patterson 711



Brett Wing 817



Greg Brown 899



Leigh Acfield 1113



Peter Gordon 1269



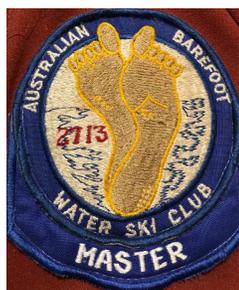
Gareth Handshin 1425



David Stephens 2035



Greg Owen 2234



Gary Adams 2713



Greg Adams 2714



Danny Cropper 2726



Wayne Farrell 3598



Gizella Halasz 4121



Mark Barton 4720



Phillip Smyth 4747



Clay Grono 5814

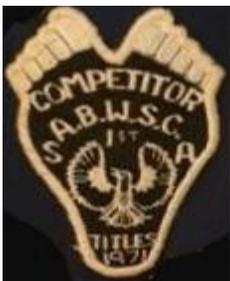


Mick O'Connor 6269



Sam Bell 6318

Competitor / Official Badges



7 Backwards Barefoot Water Skiers – One Boat – World Record



During late winter in August 1982 a World Record of 7 backwards barefoot water skiers behind one boat was set on the Hawkesbury River at the Windsor Marine Stadium. The barefoot water skiers included Glen Mathews, David Lugg, Kim Izzard (nee Lampard) 3338, Peter Wellham, Steven Fyfe, Jeff Murray and Phil Nichol.

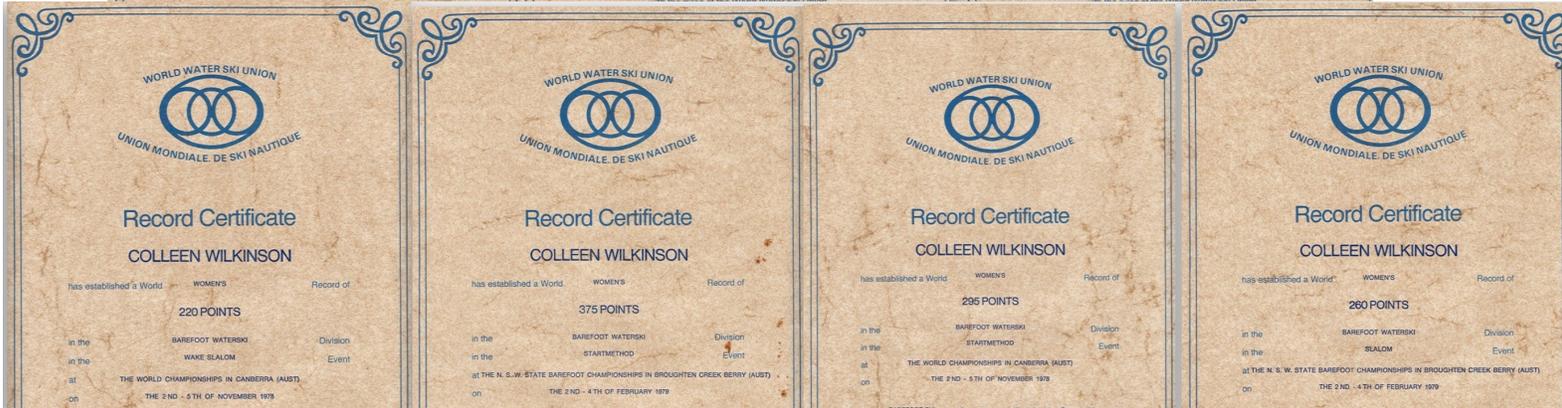
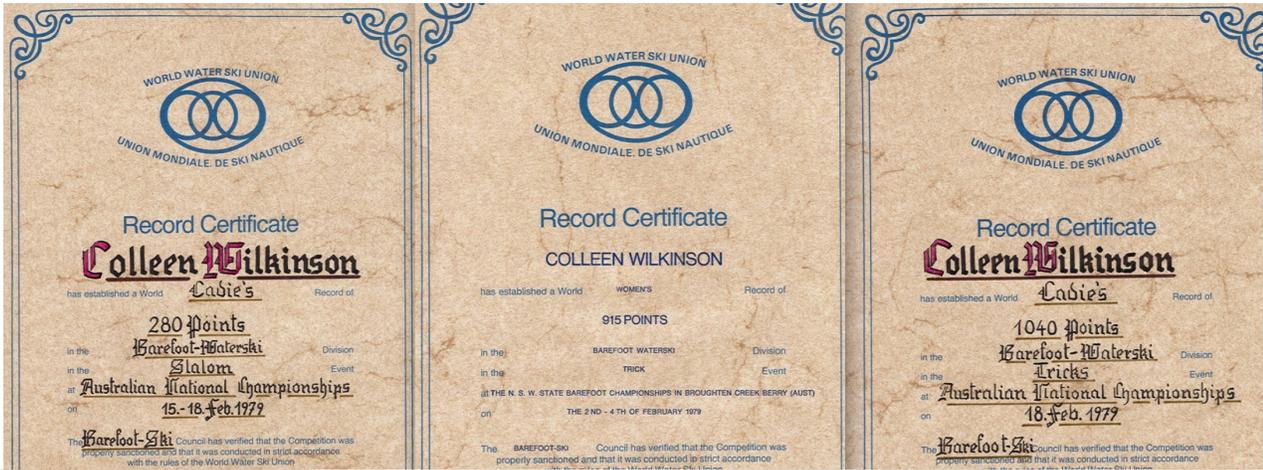
Memories and Memorabilia



Joe Csorkan 203 - Australian Medals 1964 – 1965



Garry Barton 606 - Australian Overall Champion Badges 1969 – 1985



Colleen Thompson 1495 (nee Wilkinson) – Australian and World Record Certificates



Tony Teague 487



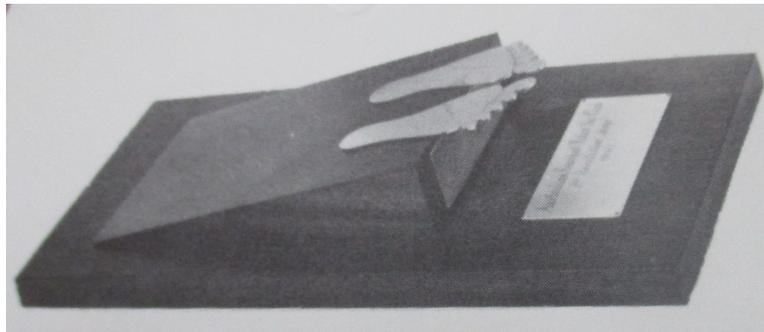
Greg Brown 899
1972 Sommersault Handle,
Rope in Teeth Deepie Handle
Tricks Handle



Ray Patterson 711



Gareth Handshin 1425
Invitational Masters 1974



Robert Tilling 78 – Jump Trophy 1966



Ray Patterson 711
Car Emblem 1968



1970 National Titles Manly Dam.. Jump Competitors together with their step off skis go by boat to the start area



1971
Garry Barton 606(L)
Warren Bowden 627 (R)



1969
George Blair (Banana George) (L)
Paul McManus 237 (C)
Garry Barton 606 (R)



1972
Roger Gooden 771(L)
Chris Neale 1471(R)



1968
Brett Wing(L) 817
Sue Baker (nee Peters) (C)
Michelle Geoghegan(nee Fisher) (R) 1401



Mid 1970's
Reg Cowie (L)
John Hacker(R) 662



1971
Michelle Geoghegan(nee Fisher) (L) 1401
Wendy Feros 805 (nee Sundstrom) (C)
Sharon Torrens (nee Fisher)(R) 1223



Mid 1970's
John Hacker(L) 662
Margaret Hacker(R) 1010



1967 – Jump Practice Day – Manly Dam NSW (L to R)
Ken Mathews 344, Reg Walker 11, Ray Carrol 494
Irwin Luthiger 88, Wal Spicer 173, Peter Forrester 74, Darrel McInnes 190



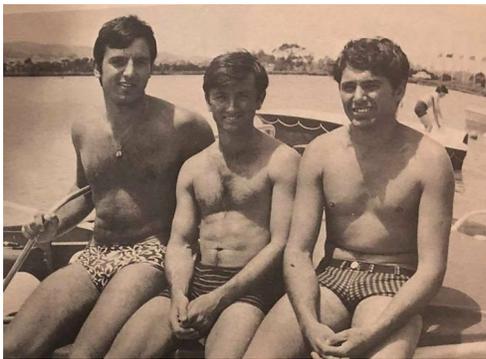
Late 1971
Garry Barton 606(L)
Peter Trim 935(R)



July 1971
Greg Brown 899 (L)
Garry Barton 606(R)



4 only Backwards Masters!
Warren Bowden 627
Garry Barton 606
Grant Torrens 717
Paul McManus 237



January 1969
First Victorian Barefoot Championships
Peter Chiodo(L)3rd Barry Hynes(C)582 1st
Jim Reid(R) 928 2nd



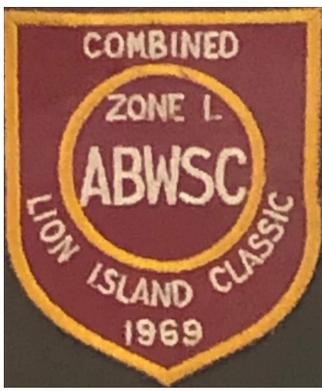
Late 1971
Warren Bowden 627(L) Garry Barton 606(R)



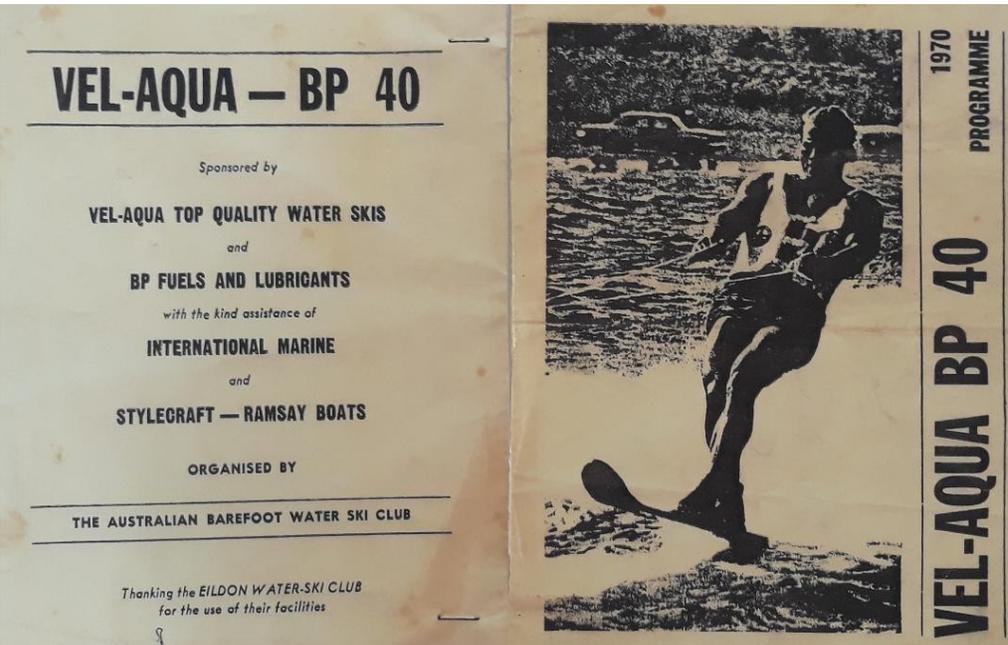
January 1969..1st Victorian Barefoot Championships
Caribbean Boats and twin Mercury 125hp Outboard Motors



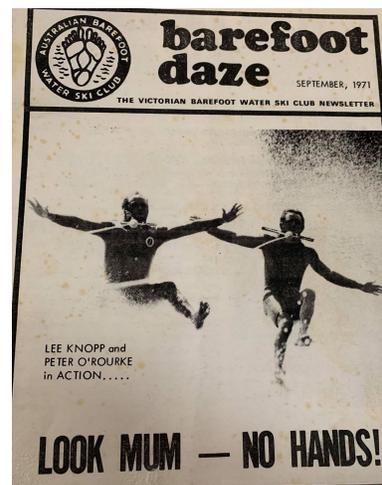
The Classic "Lion Island" Water Ski Race' in Sydney was originally instigated in 1965 by the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club and the running of it later passed over to the Zone 1 Committee of the NSW Water Ski Association. The first outright winner in 1965 was Ken Tilling 335 in his boat "CHA CHA" towing Terry Bennett 175 and Robert Tilling 78 with Ernie Charlton in the observers seat.



"Lion Island" Water Ski Race – Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club badges – Pics Courtesy Ray Frater 458



In Victoria all the water ski races were originally organised in the late 1960's by the Victorian Barefoot Water Ski Club. The running of these races were all transferred to the Victorian Water Ski Association during the early 1970's. Photos Courtesy Tom Wyld 1005

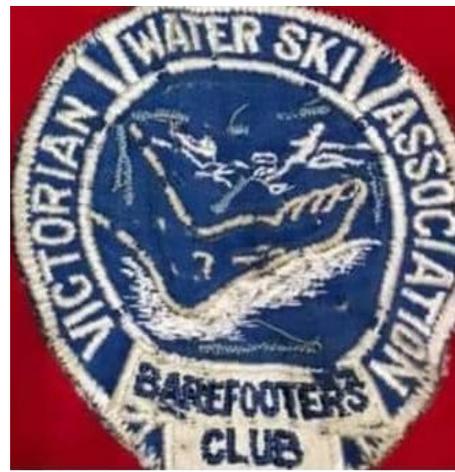


Photos Courtesy Tom Wyld 1005

1971/73 - The Victorian Barefoot Water Ski Club issued monthly Barefoot Daze Magazines courtesy to their Members.



1977 National Championships, Nerang, Queensland
 Gary Adams 2713 (L)
 Gillian Davis 1977(nee Shipp)(C), Rod Trevillian(R) 3108



1970/71 Victorian Barefoot Club Embroidered Badge



Photograph Courtesy Rod Trevillian 3108
 Truck load of sub juniors and juniors skiers (and pallets of beer!)
 headed to the start area at the 1977 Nationals on the Nerang River, Queensland



June 1972... Michelle Geoghegan (nee Fisher) 1401...World Endurance Record. Sub Junior Girls..2 Minutes 18 Secs



Howard Mitchell 314, 1967 National Titles rounds a buoy in the Slalom Event

SLALOM Course will consist of 10 buoys spaced at varying intervals. Skier must negotiate as many consecutive buoys as possible to gain maximum points. 10 points per buoy. If skier falls after centre of any buoy he is allowed 5 points. Boat will be 15 ft. from slalom buoys. Rope length will be 75 ft. Skier may ski on either side of the boat. Any fall eliminates. Should a tie eventuate between two or more competitors then a run off will be held, with each skier skiing on the opposite side to his original run, and boat speed will be increased by 2 mph until a decision is reached. Boat speed to be nominated by skier before leaving beach. Straddling a buoy will be considered a miss.

Dimensions will be:- 70' between first 5 buoys then diminishing by 10' per buoy thereafter. Total number of buoys a maximum of ten. Boat guides to be arranged so that boat will be 15' from course.



Bronwyn Koek(nee McCaskill) 3080 (L)
Kim Izzard(nee Lampard) 3338 (C)
Debbie Pugh 3420 (R)



1978 1st World Barefoot Water Ski Championships
Trophies - Paul Jones 1763
2nd Slalom..3rd Tricks



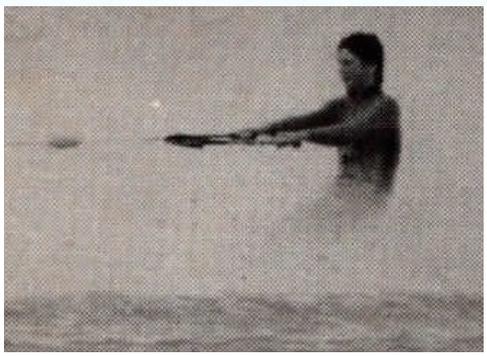
Record Certificate

BROWNWYN MC CASKILL

has established a World **WOMEN'S** Record of
835 POINTS
 in the **BAREFOOT WATERSKI** Division
 in the **TRICK** Event
 at **THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN CANBERRA (AUST)**
 on **THE 2 ND - 5 TH OF NOVEMBER 1978**

The **BAREFOOT-SKI** Council has verified that the Competition was properly sanctioned and that it was conducted in strict accordance with the rules of the World Water Ski Union

Council Chairman *[Signature]* President *[Signature]*



A LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

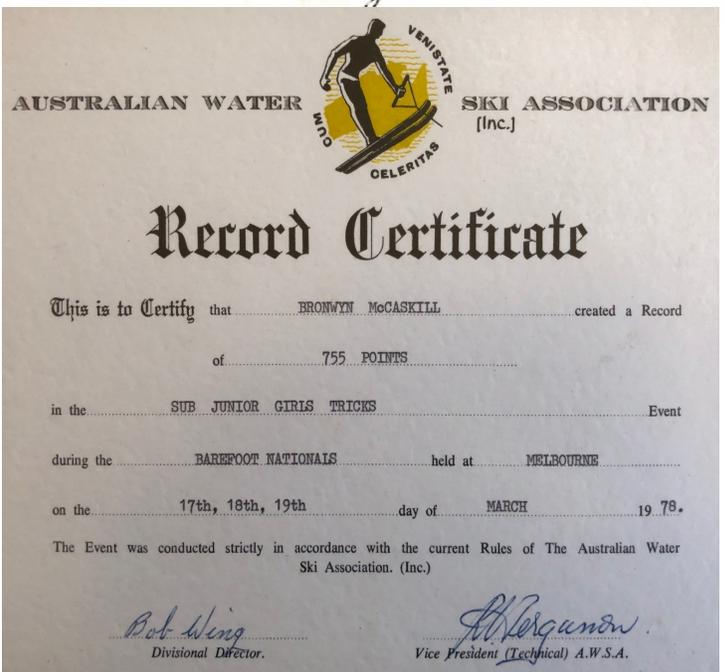
Dear Sir,

It was a tremendous thrill to be named in the Australian Team and maybe have the opportunity to ski on my home water in front of our local supporters. As this is the chance of a lifetime I hope I can fulfill the confidence shown by the selectors who included me. I extend my congratulations to all other members.

I owe my success to the unselfish advice from my fellow N.S.W. competitors, coaches at the Training Schools, Mr. Shipp for his help and advice, Mr. Adams & family who have helped me with my training during the cold weather, Rod Trevillian who encouraged me when tricks proved difficult, and also Tracey Noble, Anne Develin & Mr. Trevillian for driving coaching & putting my tricks together, I am indebted to my patient father and my family for their help "Victor J - Couteux" team where it all began.

Yours faithfully,

Bronwyn McCaskill



Bronwyn Koeck(neeMcCaskill) 3080

BAREFOOT

WATER SKI CLUB
FRIDAY 25TH SEPT., 8-1, 1970
BURNSIDE BALLROOM

\$6.00
DOUBLE
INCLUDES
CHAMPAGNE
VERMOUTH
BEER
SUPPER & THE FABULOUS COASTERS

Ba



PREFACE

In the year of our Bi-Centenary Celebrations

AUSTRALIA	200 years
BAREFOOTING	8 years



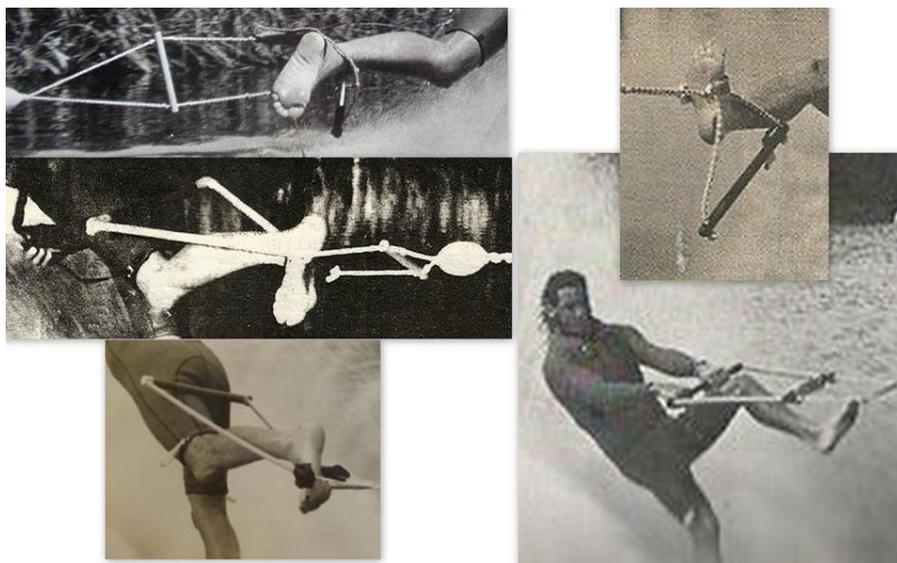
Maybe Captain Cook didn't Barefoot Water Ski, but he discovered the land that put it on the World map. To-day just 200 years later we in our own way gather to witness our eighth national championship at Manly Dam.

1970 SA Barefoot Club "Barefoot Ball"

Extract from 1970 - 8th Australian Barefoot Championships Programme



First Two SA State Titles Programmes



Development of the Rigid Handle – Garry Barton 606



1973 Cyprus Gardens
First International Competition with USA



September 1971 Zone 2 Comp - Williams River, Clarencetown NSW
Jumpers heading to Start Area
L to R – Warren Bowden 627, Greg Brown 899
Harry Byron 842, David Lugg

AUSTRALIAN WATER



SKI ASSOCIATION
[Inc.]

Record Certificate

This is to Certify that RUDI STOUT created a Record

of 52 FEET

in the MENS BAREFOOT JUMP Event

during the BAREFOOT NATIONALS 74 held at PATAWOLONGA, GLENEILG., SOUTH AUST

on the TWENTY FOURTH day of MARCH 1974.

The Event was conducted strictly in accordance with the current Rules of The Australian Water Ski Association. (Inc.)

J. H. Kelly
Divisional Director.

A. Ferguson
Vice President (Technical) A.W.S.A.

Rudi Stout 534 – Australian Record Certificate 1974 - World Record



Australian Demonstration Team 1966
Group shot leaving Sydney Airport.



Group of barefooters at Lower Portland,
Hawkesbury River, NSW, mid 1960'S

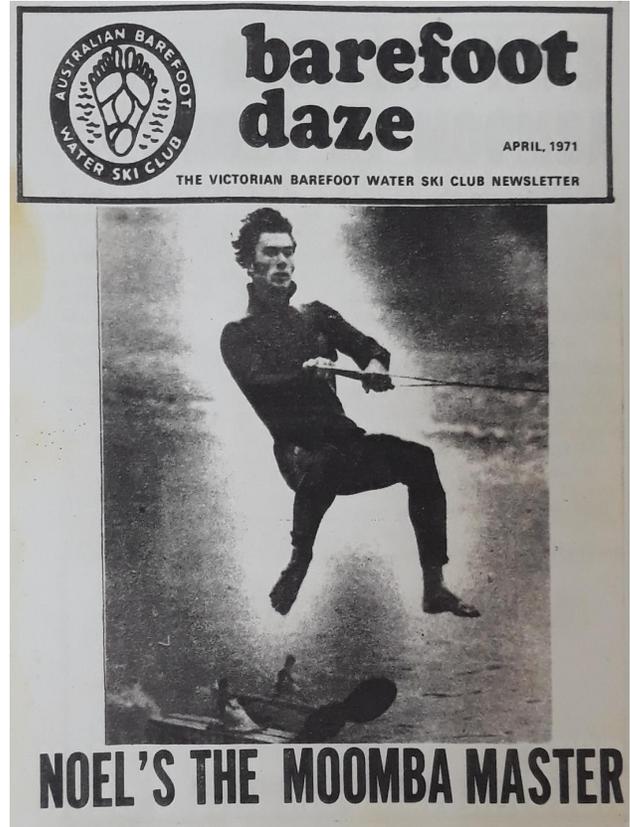
Photographs Courtesy Wal Spicer 173

1971 First Moomba Barefoot Water Skiing Invitational Competition.

Water skiing on the Yarra River in Melbourne, Victoria was introduced in 1959 to the Moomba Festival.

The Victorian Water Ski Association are proud and honoured to present the Moomba Masters yearly and world acclaimed athletes participate and compete in various water ski activities.

The first barefoot water ski invitational competition at Moomba was introduced in 1971.



NOEL MIDDLING WINS OUTRIGHT AT MOOMBA

Moomba 1971 saw for the first time Barefooters from S.A., N.S.W., and Vic. competing for the Moomba Master Barefooter Trophy. S.A. represented by Barry McDonald, Greg Brown, Robert Schuster, Ivan Christie. N.S.W. had Warren Bowden as No. 1 man and he carried home with him the Winners Trophy's for Starts, Tricks and Wake Cross which is a pretty good effort. Warren was a narrow 2nd in the N.S.W. state titles to Aust. Champ. Gary Barton. Others from N.S.W. were 13 year old Grant Tarrons, the wonder boy, Harry Byron and also Rudi Stout. Victoria showed the way in overall results with Noel Middling being the best overall, 2nd was Lee Knopp from Echuca

and 3rd Non-backwards Graham Dance, Barry Hynes and Greg Skipper. Both had unlucky runs in all events but Greg with his leg badly gashed from a skiing accident, won the jump event with a jump of 35'6". Noel Middling is to be congratulated on his fine performance.

Noel tried harder than any other Barefooter in Vic. to prove his Barefooting over the past 12 months, and shortly to go into National Service Noel's hoping to do extra well in the national titles in Adelaide as this could be his last tournament for a long while. I'm sure every Barefooter in Vic. wishes Noel all the best.

Barefoot Water Ski Display Team.

Exhibition at White Sands, South Australia, January 25, 1970

This was a privately organized exhibition by Aivars Lidums, White Sands Riverfront Caravan Park, Murray Bridge, South Australia. The exhibition attracted 100's of spectators and further promoted barefoot water skiing.



Exhibition Team (L to R)

Reg Walker 11, Barry Hynes 582, Graham Dance 650, Garry Barton 606,
Steve Haritos 421, Aivars Lidums 292, (Absent from pic Ken Mathews 344)



1964 and 1966 Newspaper Clippings (Courtesy Joe Csortan 203)

FRIDAY DAILY TELEGRAPH MAY 1, 1964

World's first barefoot jump

World recognition will be sought for Sydney barefoot waterskier Geoff Nichols following his spectacular jump at Manly Dam last weekend.

WATER-SKI officials will claim his effort as a "first in the world" performance.

They say the barefoot jump has never before been attempted anywhere outside Australia.

Nichols successfully performed the dangerous feat four times last weekend during the Australian barefoot water ski championships on Manly Dam. More than 5000 people watched the titles over the two days.

Nichols made the jump twice without mishap on the Saturday.

At his first attempt on the Sunday he took the jump successfully, but crashed heavily on landing 20 feet beyond the ramp.

He was being towed by a speedboat at more than 40 miles an hour at the time.

Nichols was unhurt and immediately made another attempt — this time successful.

In a spectacular display he skimmed up the jump ramp, soared 20 feet through the air, landed in the water and skied away on his bare feet.

The large crowd roared their applause.

Later in the day he again successfully made the barefoot jump.

The Australian barefoot ski championships are the only one of their kind in the world.

More than 50 skiers from all States except Tasmania competed in the titles which were divided into three major championships.

In each event spectacular spills kept the crowd on their feet.

In the men's events, West Australian Garry Barnard took out the quick step-off title, in which the skier has to discard his two skis and ski on barefoot as quickly as possible.

Barnard did this in the remarkable time of one second.

Only two-tenths of a second slower, however, were local skier Bill Campbell and Victorian Vince McLaren.

The novelty take-off, which includes beach starts, deepwater starts and stepping off a disk, went to Bob Neville, of Penrith, with 115 points.

South Australian Joe Csortan took second with 90 points and Queensland Bruce Dore third with 75 points.

The third championship event, wake crossing, went to Csortan, who is only 17 years old, with 69.75 points.

Kevin Stuart (N.S.W.) was third with 58.1 points and Ron Yates (N.S.W.) third with 47 points.

Stuart gained the overall championship for his consistent performances in each event.

The women's events saw

Continued in col. 7

BOATING
BY COLIN HYRIE

UP AND ...



OVER!



● Action shots of the dramatic jump. (Above) Geoff Nichols shoots up the 9ft. ramp at 40 m.p.h. (Below) Nichols poised in mid-air as he skims the water for 20ft. before landing on his bare feet and skiing away.

Continued from col. 5.

a clean sweep for Mrs. Mary McMillan, who is the mother of an 11-year-old son.

In the juniors, 12-year-old Red Eddy, of Gosford, won the wake crossing and the novelty step-off.

Second to him in the wake crossing was 10-year-old Stuart Dore, of Queensland, the youngest competitor in the championships.

Fourteen-year-old Greg Campbell won the quick

Hongkong Standard

Page 18 Friday, September 9, 1966

Barefoot skiers in action



20 barefoot water skiers

A 20-member team of Australian barefoot water skiers arrived by Air India yesterday from Tokyo to give an exhibition at Repulse Bay tomorrow afternoon.

The skiers, who are on a round the world tour to promote what they call the penultimate to water skiing on skis, will leave on Sunday for Singapore.

Team manager is Mr. John Hollands, co-founder and current president of the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club.

A barefoot water skiing exhibition, given by the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club, was watched by about 1,000 enthusiasts in launches and small craft at Repulse Bay yesterday.

The exhibition, sponsored by Rothmans of Pall Mall Ltd and Air-India, and organised by the Hongkong Motor Boat and Ski Club, was the first of its kind in the Colony.

Among about 12 items performed, trick skiing barefoot and backwards on one foot and the 180 degree turn proved most popular with the spectators.

Mr. Garth Henderson, the team's captain, later said that for this specialised type of skiing, the boats must have a speed of 45 miles per hour and team members must wear rubber shirts and sometimes rubber vests for their bodily protection.

Yesterday's exhibition lasted about two hours.

赤足滑水

為了促進赤足滑水運動之發展，澳洲赤足滑水隊一行二十人，由東京乘空運，於昨日（八日）下午三時，由香港抵港，將於明日（九日）下午二時，在港灣舉行表演。

赤足滑水，係一種極具挑戰性之水上運動，其特點在於滑水者不穿水鞋，僅靠其身體平衡及技巧，在水面上滑行。此項運動在澳洲已發展多年，現正積極推廣至世界各地。

此次來港之澳洲赤足滑水隊，由隊長葛斯頓（Mr. Garth Henderson）率領，成員包括男女老幼，年齡介乎十歲至六十歲。他們將在香港灣舉行一場精彩之表演，內容包括：赤足滑水、單腳滑水、後向滑水、以及各種高難度動作。

表演將於明日（九日）下午二時，在港灣舉行。屆時歡迎市民前往觀賞。表演地點：港灣（Repulse Bay）。表演時間：下午二時。

Barefoot World Magazines

Soon after the Australian Club's inauguration in 1963, Barefoot World Magazines were produced and sent to all members.

The Magazines ceased during the late 1960's



Magazine Front Covers of Australian Barefoot Water Skiers 1960's and early 1970's



1st World Barefoot Water Ski Championships - Canberra Oct/Nov 1978



*1st World Barefoot
Water Ski Championships*



BOB WING

*Chairman 1st World Barefoot
Championship Committee.
President Australian Barefoot Water
Ski Club.
Barefoot Director Australian Water
Ski Association.*



Bob Wing 815 at the 1978 Championships with the Prime Minister of Australia ,The Right Honourable, Malcolm Fraser.

WORLD SELECTION BAREFOOT CHAMPIONSHIPS — MACDONALD RIVER — FRIDAY 19/5/78

Contestant	START METHOD		WAKE CROSSING		TRICKS		JUMP		Total Points	Overall Place
	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place		
G. Adams	110.39		466.67		466.02					1043.08
G. Matthews	—		533.33		357.28					
P. Trim	642.86		—		330.10					
B. Wing	1000.00		1000.00		1000.00					3000.00
R. Smith	298.70		400.00		483.50					1176.37
B. Williams	714.29		533.33		477.67					1725.29
P. Jones	649.35		800.00		299.03					1748.38
N. Tomlin	694.81		550.00		438.83					1683.64
N. Middling	694.81		333.33		320.39					1348.53
J. Stekelenberg	714.29		600.00		667.96					1982.25
A. Moffatt	305.19		533.33		594.17					1432.69
G. Rees	603.90		566.67		553.40					1723.97
M. O'Mahoney	649.35		533.33		351.46					1534.14
B. McCaskill	652.17		800.00		801.32					2253.49
C. Wilkinson	1000.00		1000.00		1000.00					3000.00
G. Shipp	652.17		833.33		937.51					2459.01

MASTERS 1978 BAREFOOT CHAMPIONSHIPS — SILVERWATER — SAT & SUN, 20-21st MAY

Contestant	START METHOD		WAKE CROSSING		TRICKS		JUMP		Total Points	Overall Place
	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place		
Rob Smith	266.23	681.88	428.57	406.25	453.76	356.98			2593.67	
Greg Rees	662.33	427.27	500.00	187.15	481.72	477.41			2735.88	
Peter Trim	603.89	418.18	392.85	312.05	301.07	464.51			2493.00	
Gavin Williams	266.23	427.27	428.57	500.00	412.90	367.74			2462.71	
Buist	448.05	927.27	285.71	—	356.98	189.24			2207.25	
Mark O'Mahoney	642.85	899.99	571.42	500.00	458.06	318.27			3390.59	3
Noel Middling	707.79	972.72	571.42	125.00	356.98	292.47			3026.38	
Jim Boyette	64.93	90.90	160.71	93.75	43.01	43.01			496.37	
Sam Pace	402.59	890.90	535.71	250.00	647.31	539.78			3266.29	
J. Stekelenberg	603.89	1000.00	857.14	562.05	778.49	593.54			4395.56	2
Alan Moffatt	649.35	909.09	535.71	62.05	490.32	406.45			3053.42	
Neil Tomlin	266.23	918.18	535.71	515.62	464.51	387.09			3087.34	
Bill Henry Jnr	64.93	363.63	357.14	390.62	359.13	367.74			1904.19	
Paul Jones	649.35	154.54	464.28	750.00	606.45	455.91			3080.53	
Greg Adams	311.68	154.54	535.71	593.75	625.80	202.15			2423.63	
Gary Matthews	305.19	1000.00	571.42	406.25	408.60	475.26			3166.72	
Brett Wing	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00			6000.00	1
B. McCaskill	352.94	322.58	866.66	1000.00	913.90	419.04			3875.12	
C. Wilkinson	1000.00	322.58	1000.00	1000.00	986.75	1000.00			5309.33	
G. Shipp	441.17	1000.00	800.00	1000.00	1000.00	447.61			4688.78	

WORLD SELECTION BAREFOOT CHAMPIONSHIPS — MANLY DAM — MONDAY

Contestant	START METHOD		WAKE CROSSING		TRICKS		JUMP		Total Points	Overall Place	
	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place			
G. Adams	309.21		466.66	500.00	520.34		835.71	672.72		3304.64	
G. Matthews	197.36		349.99	446.42	445.39		700.89	740.55		2880.06	
B. Wing	1000.00	1	1000.00	1000.00 (1)	1000.00	1	998.21	1000.00	1	5998.21	
R. Smith	493.42		366.66	321.42	531.04		919.64	622.37		3254.55	
G. Williams	644.73		—	535.71	417.55		776.78	629.37		3004.14	
P. Jones	644.73		733.33	107.14	494.64		1000.00	692.30	2	3	3672.14
N. Tomlin	697.36	3	533.33	535.71 (2)	471.09		642.85	534.96		4	3415.03
N. Middling	111.84		466.66	357.14	312.63		803.57	772.72			2824.56
J. Stekelenberg	710.52	2	733.33	285.71 (3)	736.61	2	883.93	790.20	3	2	4140.03
A. Moffatt	644.73		333.33	500.00	599.57	3	696.42	622.37		5	3396.42
M. O'Mahoney	105.26		266.66	178.57	462.52		870.53	627.27			2570.81
B. Rees	671.05		—	642.85	537.47		616.07	524.47			2991.91



WORLD TEAM SELECTION

Colleen Wilkinson: Five times Australian Women's Champion, twice Junior Girl Champion. Must be undoubtedly the best woman skier in the world and she will certainly be out to prove that in the World Titles in November. Skied well in the Trials events, but had some very hard competition from the other competitors. Colleen is 21, comes from Sydney and is an Accountant.

Gillian Shipp: 16 years old student from Sydney. Has been Junior Girl Champion for the last three years. Moves into the Women's Section next season. Her favourite hobbies are skiing and boys.



Bronwyn McCaskill: Bronwyn is from Canberra, 11 years of age. Has been Sub-Junior Champion for the last two years, and has had a very quick rise. Her forte is Tricks, where she has tricked the highest Trick score of any woman in the world. Bronwyn is still in Primary School, and her selection has pleased the local Canberra people to no end.

Brett Wing: 18 years old, from Sydney. Outboard Motor Mechanic, three times Australian Men's Champion, three times Junior and three times Sub-Junior Australian Champion. He is regarded as the world's best barefooter.

Paul Jones: 36 years of age, from Paddington, Electrician. The oldest member of the team and probably the fittest. Has been runner-up in the last three Australian Championships and is one of the most consistent skiers in Australia.

John Stekelenberg: 16 years of age from Ballarat, Victoria, has won his selection, though still in the Junior ranks, and was second place in the Moomba

Masters and the Invitational Masters, and is certainly going to be a very strong force in the senior ranks, to which he moves in the coming season.

Greg Rees: From Queensland, farmer. Represented Australia in the recent Group 3. Trains most days in the warm Queensland climate, and is one of the personality skiers. He is 17 years of age.

Neil Tomlin: From Queensland. 20 years old. A consistent skier, improving all the time. He is one of the brightest prospects Queensland have produced.

Allan Moffatt: From South Australia. South Australian Champion for the last two years. Was Australian Junior Champion in 1976. He is a student and is at present touring Europe coaching Barefooting.

Greg Adams: From Nelsons Bay, N.S.W. In only his second year in competition. Was fourth overall in the Australian Titles, and trains most days of the week, and is a student at Newcastle High School.



AUSTRALIAN TEAM

Paul Jones, Greg Adams, Bronwyn McCaskill, Neil Tomlin, Colleen Wilkinson, John Stekelenberg, Gillian Shipp, Greg Rees, Allan Moffatt, Brett Wing.

JUDGES & OFFICIALS FOR 1ST WORLD BAREFOOT WATER SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS



CHIEF JUDGE:	RON FERGUSON	AUSTRALIA
ASSISTANT CHIEF JUDGE	MAX LINDSEY	AUSTRALIA
JUDGES: GROUP 1	STEW McDONALD	U.S.A.
	JOHN CORNISH	U.S.A.
GROUP 2	KEN PORT	GT. BRITAIN
	RITA RAMSEY	HOLLAND
	FRED VAN DER LINDEN	HOLLAND
GROUP 3	MARGARET HACKER	AUSTRALIA
	SUE TREGELLIS	AUSTRALIA
	MARY TAYLOR	NEW ZEALAND
	FRAN HYNES	AUSTRALIA
HOMOLOGATOR	BOB WING	AUSTRALIA
ASSISTANT HOMOLOGATOR	BARRY DAVIES	AUSTRALIA
CHIEF CALCULATOR	IREN WING	AUSTRALIA
ASSISTANT CALCULATOR	JAN WHITE	AUSTRALIA
COMPUTER OPERATOR	BARRY DAVIES	AUSTRALIA
ASSISTANT COMPUTER OPERATOR	CHERIE DAVIES	AUSTRALIA
GROUP CALCULATORS: GROUP 1		
GROUP 2		
GROUP 3	MARGE SHIPTON	AUSTRALIA
JUMP METER & ASSISTANT CO-ORDINATOR	BOB SHIPP	AUSTRALIA
TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS	COL SIGAL	AUSTRALIA
	ADRIAN STEKELENBERG	AUSTRALIA
	KEN WILLIAMS	AUSTRALIA
	RHONDA NORMAN	AUSTRALIA
	JOHN HACKER	AUSTRALIA
	KEITH FLORENCE	AUSTRALIA
TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR ASSISTANT	HAROLD BURNETT	AUSTRALIA
	BOB McCASKILL	AUSTRALIA
SAFETY DIRECTOR	ROY CADMAN	AUSTRALIA
DRIVERS:	DAVID DREW	GT. BRITAIN
	PETER SUTTOR	NEW ZEALAND
	BEN APPLETON	AUSTRALIA
	PETER LE PLASTRIER	AUSTRALIA
	ENRICO BAAK	HOLLAND
SECRETARIAT	SANDRA FERGUSON	AUSTRALIA

1978 - November 2-5, Molongo River Canberra, Australia - 1st open World Championships



Chief judge:	Ron Fergusson	AUS
Assistant Chief Judge:	Max Lindsay	AUS
Chief scorer:	Irene Wing	AUS
Homologator:	Bob Wing	AUS

Team scores:

1. AUSTRALIA	11 661
2. NEW ZEALAND	7 960
3. U.S.A.	7 103
4. GREAT BRITAIN	5 597
5. BELGIUM	5 232
6. NETHERLANDS	5 053
7. FRANCE	2 182
8. AUSTRIA	1 771
9. GERMANY	1 761
10. ITALY	1 502

Men's division

starts	1. Wing Brett	AUS	2. Stekelenburg John	AUS	3. Rees Greg	AUS
slalom	1. Wing Brett	AUS	2. Rees Greg	AUS	3. Stekelenburg John	AUS
tricks	1. Stekelenburg John	AUS	2. Wing Brett	AUS	3. Jones Paul	AUS
jump	1. Adams Greg	AUS	2. Wing Brett	AUS	3. Guthrie John	NZL
overall	1. Wing Brett	AUS	2. Adams Greg	AUS	3. Stekelenburg John	AUS

Women's division

starts	1. Wilkinson Colleen	AUS	2. Mc Caskill Bronwyn	AUS	3. Shipp Gillian	AUS
slalom	1. Wilkinson Colleen	AUS	2. Mc Caskill Bronwyn	AUS	3. Matthisen Jean	USA
tricks	1. Shipp Gillian	AUS	2. Mc Caskill Bronwyn	AUS	3. Morgans Jan	NZL
overall	1. Wilkinson Colleen	AUS	2. Mc Caskill Bronwyn	AUS	3. Shipp Gillian	AUS

Honorary Board

Life Members..Australian Barefoot Water Ski Club

1971
Brian Fox

2018
Geoff Davis

2018
Brian Price



Hall of Fame.. Australian Water Ski and Wakeboard Federation

2011
Brett WingLegend
Kim Izzard (nee Lampard)
Garry Barton
Sharon Stekelenburg

2014
Kim Izzard (nee Lampard) Legend
John Pennay
John Stekelenburg
Debbie Pugh
Graeme Dwyer

2018
Garry BartonPioneer
Gizella Halasz
Peter Wellham
Bronwyn Koeck (nee McCaskill)
Rod Trevillian
Brett New
Brett Fritsch
Peter Wellham



Sport Australia Hall of Fame

1987
Brett Wing



Hall of Fame.. International Water Ski and Wakeboard Federation (IWWF)

1996 Brett Wing
2011 Kim Izzard (nee Lampard)
2019 Garry BartonPioneer

