

**Congratulations Ryley Batt  
2012 WS NSW Athlete of the Year!**

*The Board and Staff of Wheelchair Sports NSW would like to wish all our members, volunteers and supporters the very best for 2013*

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## Vice Presidents Report

Congratulations to our marvellous 24 paralympians who competed so wonderfully well at the London Paralympic Games. Our WS NSW athletes came away with a haul of 5 Gold, 12 Silver and 11 Bronze Medals. I would have thought a very commendable performance by our members.

We all were thrilled with the coverage of the London Paralympics by ABC TV. The broad, well researched, enthusiastic and professional coverage was appreciated by all of us back home in Australia, and our paralympians on returning home from London were quite amazed to hear of the interest that had been generated during the Games.

We were fortunate to have two of the ABC paralympic commentators support us at our functions in the last little while. Stephanie Brantz was MC at our corporate fundraising luncheon in the city and she did a sterling job. The effervescent and dynamic Amanda Shalala was MC at our WS NSW Annual Awards at Bankstown Sports Club. Both these ABC commentators were right at home interviewing a number of our paralympians at these functions.

I was privileged to attend the Paralympian of the Year Dinner with 700 others and it was great that 2 of our athletes shared in the Team of the Year award namely Ryley Batt as a member of the Gold Medal winning Wheelchair Rugby Team, and Liesl Tesch as a member of the Gold Medal winning 2 person keelboat crew. Liesl you have finally achieved that elusive Gold Medal!

Ryley Batt incidentally was a finalist in the NSW Young Australian of the Year. In between all these awards Ryley had lunch with Prince Charles and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, in Canberra. What a packed schedule for Ryley.

Back in September a Testimonial Dinner was held for our former President and Chairman - Michael Godfrey-Roberts. The 60 (maximum for the room) who attended celebrated Michael's achievements and contributions over 32 years with Wheelchair Sports NSW. Speakers included Life Member Graeme Watts, Patron Louise Sauvage OAM, CEO Jim O'Brien and myself. An emotional and moving response by Michael followed these speakers. A highlight of the night was the wonderful photos of Michael over the years and some of these were framed in a collage as a gift to Michael. A fitting tribute night for Michael who has given so much to our organisation.

On a sad note one of the 2 Foundation Members of Wheelchair Sports NSW passed away in August. Trevor French was one of those original trailblazers who attended the first meeting of Wheelchair Sports NSW (then the Paraplegic Sports Club of NSW) in October 1961. Trevor along with Daphne Hilton (nee Ceeney) were given Foundation membership at Government House at the start of our 50 Year celebrations in January 2011.

Life Member Richard Cordukes and CEO Jim O'Brien attended Trevor's funeral in Springwood where a guard of honour of Morris Minor vintage cars farewelled Trevor. Trevor was a member of Mini Car Club of NSW for 35 years and he was also a Paralympian at the Tokyo Games in 1964. Vale Trevor.

Could I take this opportunity to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Craig Jarvis  
Vice President  
(Acting Chairman)



## WS NSW Paralympics Results

The 2012 Australian Paralympics Team finished the Games ranked fifth on the total number of medals won. Our WS NSW members brought home a total of 5 Gold, 12 Silver and 11 Bronze. A fantastic effort!

### Wheelchair Rugby

Ryley Batt Gold

### Wheelchair Track & Field

Angela Ballard Silver T53 Women's 200m  
Silver T53 Women's 400m  
Bronze T53 Women's 100m

Christie Dawes Bronze T54 Women's 5000m

Kurt Fearnley Silver T54 Men's 5000m  
Bronze T54 Men's Marathon

Rosemary Little Bronze T34 Women's 100m

Richard Nicholson Bronze T53/T54 Men's 4x400m Relay

### Sailing

Liesl Tesch Gold Two-Person Keelboat (SKUD18)

### Swimming

Michael Anderson Gold  
Bronze

Michael Auprince Gold  
Bronze  
4th

Matthew Levy Gold  
Silver  
Silver  
Bronze  
Bronze

Sarah Rose 7th

Reagan Wickens 4th

## CEOs Report

Two new staff have joined us over the past few months and we welcome them both. Sebastian van Veenendaal is our new Sports Development Officer replacing William Tan. Sebastian is completing his Bachelor of Management in Sport and Exercise at UTS Sydney and he has made an early impression in his portfolio sports of track / road, lawn bowls, handcycling and wheelchair rugby. Sebastian is also managing our chair purchases and chair loan scheme, so members can contact him for advice in this area. Welcome Sebastian.

Janyne Hogan (nee Parsonage) has joined us as our new Fundraising Manager after previously working for us some years ago as a Sports Development Officer. Janyne moved in the area of charity fundraising after that and comes to us after 3 years at the Starlight Childrens Foundation. Like Sebastian, Janyne is making an impact and she will no doubt contribute greatly to this crucial area of our operation. Welcome back Janyne.

There have been Award ceremonies galore of late but one was a highlight in my opinion. The NSW Institute of Sport Awards were totally integrated with athletes with a disability up against able bodied athletes – the way it should be. Of the 13 awards on the night, 8 were won by disability sport nominations. Our own members Liesl Tesch won 3 awards and Ryley Batt 1 award. These successes by disability sport send a strong message about inclusion and integration.

Our own WS NSW Awards Dinner at Bankstown Sports Club was a fun, entertaining and celebratory evening with Amanda Shalala from ABC TV sport pulling the MC strings. Congratulations to wheelchair rugby player Ryley Batt on achieving the WS NSW Athlete of the Year. Ryley was outstanding at the Paralympics being one of the superstars of the Games. 160 goals in 5 games meant he was unstoppable on the rugby court. Sincere congratulations on the Gold medal to Ryley Batt.

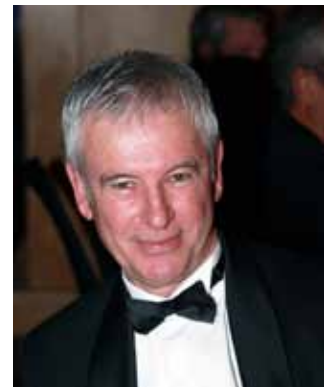
Col Dennis won our prestigious Club person of the Year. Col was on the Board of WS NSW for 4 years before retiring this year. However his contribution continues. He is always quick to volunteer and this year he has spent a considerable amount of time in our offices calling our donors and supporters thanking them, asking for contributions or trying to increase the numbers at our fundraising events. Col is on a Kevin Betts Stadium committee and also assists in the area of HR with appointment of staff and staff performance reviews. A willing and diligent worker is Col Dennis.

Our two major international events again come round in January and according to the paralympic cycle we expect lower numbers in 2013 for both Summer Down Under racing and Tennis. Still we are trying to make every post and winner and capitalise on some of that post Paralympics euphoria.

A major plus this year is the integration of our tennis tournament with the able bodied event - the Apia International. So now we have the Apia Wheelchair International which will overlap on 2 days with the able bodied tournament. Great for exposure as well as use of tournament infrastructure at the Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre. WS NSW members will receive invites to both events. Come along and witness the very best in wheelchair sport.

Could I wish all members and their families a happy Christmas and a wonderfully successful sporting New Year.

Jim O'Brien  
CEO



## Results cont.

### Tennis

|       |                              |                |           |                 |
|-------|------------------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------|
| 34pts | Men's 4x100m Freestyle Relay | Ben Weekes     | 2nd round | Men's singles   |
| 34pts | Men's 4x100m Medley Relay    |                | 2nd round | Men's doubles   |
| 34pts | Men's 4x100m Medley Relay    | Adam Kellerman | 3rd round | Men's singles   |
| 34pts | Men's 4x100m Freestyle Relay |                | 2nd round | Men's doubles   |
|       | Men's S9 100m Backstroke     | Janel Manns    | 1st round | Women's singles |
| 34pts | Men's 4x100m Freestyle Relay |                | 1st round | Women's doubles |

S7 Men's Freestyle

34pts Men's 4x100m Medley Relay

SM7 Men's 200m Ind. Medley

SB7 100m Breaststroke

S6 50m Butterfly

S6 Men's 400m Freestyle

### Wheelchair Basketball (Mens) Silver

Tristan Knowles, Bill Latham, Brett Stibners, Grant Mizens, Nick Taylor

### Wheelchair Basketball (Womens) Silver

Kylie Gauci, Katie Hill, Tina McKenzie, Sarah Stewart

# Fundraising News

## New face in the WS NSW team

Hello! My name is Janyne and I wanted to introduce myself as the new Fundraising Manager at Wheelchair Sports NSW. I am excited to return to WS NSW, having previously worked in the Sports Development Unit back in 2008.



Below are some key dates to lock in the diary for 2013 as well as a variety of ways you can get involved and help support Wheelchair Sports NSW in 2013 - I look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Have an idea for fundraising? Please get in touch via email – [janyneh@wsnsw.org.au](mailto:janyneh@wsnsw.org.au) or phone on 02 9809 5260 to discuss. I would love to hear from you!

Janyne Hogan  
Fundraising Manager

## Thank You

Heartfelt thanks go to our valued Trust & Foundation and ClubGrants supporters who have supported wheelchair sports programs with funding throughout 2012, including;

- St George Foundation
- The Primary Club
- Australian Chinese Foundation
- Lord Mayors Charitable Foundation
- ClubGrants from Clubs from the following regions: Bankstown, Canada Bay, City of Sydney, Coffs Harbour, Mounties, Hurstville, North Sydney, Parramatta, Penrith, Randwick, Ryde, Shoalhaven, Sutherland, Warringah, Wyong

WS NSW is proudly supported by **Charity Challenge** each year with an annual Golf Day (our Stacks Goudkamp Golf Day) which raised more than \$16,000, and an end of year celebration 'Gala Dinner'. More than 580 people attended the Gala Dinner on November 17 at the Hilton Hotel raising further funds for WS NSW. Special thanks to Gary Dawson and Matt Laverty for their ongoing dedication in organizing these fantastic events. 2013 marks the 10th year for Charity Challenge - exciting times ahead!

## Corporate Fundraising Luncheon

WS NSW conducted a very successful Corporate Fundraising Lunch at the Four Seasons Hotel for our Junior Wheelie Program with a real Paralympic theme. MC Stephanie Brantz from ABC Sport TV interviewed Paralympians Michael Auprince, Kylie Gauci, Angie Ballard and Ryley Batt as well as special guest Patron Louise Sauvage OAM and juniors CJ Grogan and Catherine Nelson from Nabcac. Significant funds were raised on the day for

our Junior Wheelie Program.

## 'Champions Award'

WS NSW proudly recognizes key individuals for their dedication and support of WS NSW programs.

At our recent Corporate Fundraising Luncheon (October 2012), we were delighted to present Matthew Kayrooz of GIO with a *Champions Award* – recognizing outstanding advocacy, support and dedication to the Wheelchair Sports NSW cause and our programs. Congratulations Matthew and thank you for all that you do in support of WS NSW!

Past recipients of this prestigious award also include David Piper OAM, David Bowen, John Trevillian, John Brown, Tom Goudkamp, Ivan Dzajkovski, Tanya Cox, Dr. John Grant and Brian Taylor.

## Help give our juniors a push start this Christmas

With Christmas now only weeks away, the spirit of giving is in the air. **You can make a special gift this Christmas by giving an emerging junior wheelie the push start they need to participate in sport.**

Showing your support is easy:

- Visit [www.everydayhero.com.au/event/wsnswchristmas2012](http://www.everydayhero.com.au/event/wsnswchristmas2012)
- Make a donation, OR
- Fundraise for WS NSW – by setting up a fundraising page and seeking support from your friends and family

## Looking ahead to 2013

As we move towards 2013, we look forward to a full calendar of activities and I invite you all to get involved wherever you may be able to – be it through supporting an upcoming event, fundraising, volunteering or helping to spread the word about our programs – your support is greatly appreciated.

## How you can help:

- **Donate** – make a donation via [www.wsnsw.org.au](http://www.wsnsw.org.au)
- **Fundraise** – host a fundraising event/activity on behalf of WS NSW
- **Support an Event** – attend an existing WS NSW event (Race Day, Golf Day, Luncheon)
- **Partner with Us** – explore opportunities for your business to work together with WS NSW in partnership
- **Volunteer** – Volunteer to assist at WS NSW events or share expertise / professional skills
- **Shop Online** – browse our online shop to purchase raffle tickets, entertainment books and other items from [www.wsnsw.org.au](http://www.wsnsw.org.au)
- **Bequest** – Consider leaving a bequest to WS NSW in support of future programs

For further information on how you can get involved and help support WS NSW in 2013, please contact Janyne via email – [janyneh@wsnsw.org.au](mailto:janyneh@wsnsw.org.au) or phone on 02 9809 5260.

## 2013 Fundraising Diary Dates

- **Saturday 2 March, 2013**
- **Wheelchair Sports NSW Race Day - Rosehill Gardens Racecourse**

This fantastic day at the Races includes a three course lunch in a private function area, horse races, auctions, raffles and prizes to be won. Tickets available soon, see the WS NSW website for details.

- **Friday 31st May, 2013**
- **Stacks Goudkamp Golf Day - Macquarie Links Golf Course**

The Stacks Goudkamp Golf Day, run as part of The Macquarie Links Charity Challenge, is a corporate golf day with a difference – a relaxed environment for client entertainment and networking whilst raising funds for WS NSW. Entries open in the new year, see the WS NSW website for details.

- **Sunday 11 August, 2013**
- **City 2 Surf - Sydney**

Following the success of 2012, WS NSW will again be participating in City2Surf in August 2013.

Entries for the 2013 event open in the New Year. Register your interest in joining the WS NSW team today by emailing Janyne via - [janyneh@wsnsw.org.au](mailto:janyneh@wsnsw.org.au) or calling 02 9809 5260

- **September 2013 (date tba)**
- **Corporate Fundraising Luncheon - Sydney CBD**

Our major fundraising lunch for corporates, sponsors and supporters – raising vital funds for junior sports programs. Further details coming soon, please see the WS NSW website for updates.



**FREE**  
Spinergy SLX  
Wheels offer



Order a new Top End Schulte 7000 Series or Top End Pro BB and receive a free pair of Spinergy® SLX wheels (offer includes black spoke SLX wheels in sizes of 24", 25", 26" or 700C valued at \$595 AUD). Offer good on orders received until December 25th.

Contact your Territory Business Manager so that you don't miss out on this super offer!



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# WS NSW Annual Dinner

Our Annual Presentation Dinner was held on Saturday 24 November at Bankstown Sports Club.

The evening, hosted by Amanda Shalala from ABC Sport and the ABC 2 Paralympic coverage, was a great night where friends, supporters and members of Wheelchair Sports NSW gathered and celebrated the achievements of 2012.

With the theme, Celebrating London, we were joined by royalty, the “Duke and Duchess of Drummoyne” and many came dressed in the spirit of the night with plenty of union jacks throughout the room! 2012 has seen many great sporting achievements (especially by our Paralympians) and contributions by our members: athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers.



*The Duke and Duchess of Drummoyne*

Congratulations to Ryley Batt the winner of the 2012 WS NSW Athlete of the Year Award. Ryley was the most outstanding wheelchair rugby player at the London Paralympics – a superstar of the sport. His team “The Steelers” won every quarter in every game to win Gold in London.

Ryley was awarded the MVP at the Canada Cup in August this year. And Ryley again spearheaded the Australian Steelers in the Wheelchair Rugby Test Series vs Japan, in Sydney this year. Australia won that Series 5-0. Ryley was awarded MVP at every tournament he played in 2012. Congratulations Ryley.

Other awards winners of the night were:

|                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Archery Athlete of the Year     | Luke Woodward           |
| Athletics Athlete of The Year   | Angie Ballard           |
| Basketball Athlete of the Year  | Brett Stibners          |
| Junior Athlete of the Year      | Michael Auprince        |
| Lawn Bowls Athlete of the Year  | James Reynolds          |
| Rugby Athlete of the Year       | Ryley Batt              |
| Handcycling Athlete of the Year | Ron Gibson              |
| Swimming Athlete of the Year    | Matt Levy               |
| Tennis Athlete of the Year      | Adam Kellerman          |
| Rookie of the Year              | Liam Luff               |
| Team of the Year                | Wollongong Roller Hawks |
| Volunteer of the Year           | Warner and Jan Gibbs    |
| Coach of the Year               | Louise Sauvage OAM      |
| Encouragement Award             | Jono Franklin           |



*The WS NSW Annual Dinner underway at the Bankstown Sports Club*

## The Nick Morozoff Scholarship

This is the second year of the scholarship.

Nick Morozoff passed away in April 2011 leaving Wheelchair Sports as one of its most loved and respected members. Nick joined Wheelchair Sports NSW 30 years ago and in this time he was a marvellous mentor and “life coach” for many of our members, particularly those who went through spinal rehabilitation. Nick was made a Legend of Wheelchair Sports in 2009.

Nick’s contribution will continue to be recognised and honoured through the awarding of this Scholarship. Nick’s widow Allison Wright was in attendance to present the trophy.

The Scholarship is for someone who has only recently been through spinal rehab, the sort of person Nick would have mentored and encouraged. As well this person must be showing a strong involvement in and commitment to wheelchair sport. The scholarship is a monetary one with the money going into the winner’s Levy account. We sincerely thank Rob King OAM the benefactor of this scholarship.



*Mitchell Stone receiving his Nick Morozoff Scholarship with Nick’s widow Allison Wright*

The **2012 Nick Morozoff Scholarship** recipient was **Mitchell Stone**.

At the age of 22, Mitchell Stone became a paraplegic after being involved in a boating accident in late 2010. After completing his rehabilitation at Royal Rehab in Ryde, Mitchell became heavily involved in wheelchair basketball in 2011. He is now a regular at both the Sutherland Wheelie Sharks Thursday night wheelchair

basketball development sessions and also the Wednesday night Daceyville scrimmage sessions. Mitchell was also selected to be part of Wheelchair Sports NSW wheelchair basketball Talented Athlete Program (TAP), which means he is provided with tailored, one on one coaching sessions with the TAP coach.

Mitchell has also joined the team of Wheelchair Sports NSW Roadshow presenters and all reports from senior Roadshow presenters indicate that Mitchell is doing an excellent job in the presentation of the Roadshow to schools and community centres. Congratulations Mitchell.

The Clubperson of the year was awarded to Col Dennis. Col Dennis joined us in 2007 when he chaired the organising committee for the highly successful 2007 Oceania Wheelchair Rugby Championships. These were recognised as the best Oceania Rugby Championships ever.



*Jim O'Brien, CEO WS NSW, presenting Col Dennis with his Clubperson Award*

Col joined the Board of WS NSW in 2008 and retired this year after serving 4 years on the Board and making a significant impact in that time. Col remains on a Kevin Betts Stadium committee.

Col is always been quick to volunteer and he has assisted greatly in the areas of human resources, member servicing and donor cultivation. This year he has spent a considerable amount of time in the office calling our donors and supporters thanking them, asking for contributions or trying to increase the numbers at some of our fundraising events.

Col was instrumental of doing some phenomenal fundraising for our recent Corporate Fundraising Lunch. Col has also assisted in the appointment of staff as WS NSW as well as staff performance reviews.

Col was awarded this at a special morning tea at WS NSW the week following the Dinner as he was unavailable to attend the evening.

Once again, WS NSW Vice President and Quizmaster **Craig Jarvis** conducted the trivia throughout the evening. There



Quizmaster Craig Jarvis

was a highly entertaining raffle this year, drawn by Life Member Errol Hyde (with his granddaughter Chesley taking home 2 of the prizes!) with products donated by Breville, dinner vouchers from

Bankstown Sports Club and some great bottles of bubbly.

A big thank to all who donated prizes this year and thanks must also go to the Annual Dinner Committee, especially Yvonne Talbott and Judy Simpson for their tireless baking efforts providing the dessert in the form of London themed cupcakes!



An impressive Union Jack inspired array of home made cupcakes

## Wheelchair Sports NSW Roadshow

*supported by Transport for NSW*

It has been a great last few months of 2012 with October and November fully booked for Roadshow programs at schools and community centres.

During this time we have visited 66 schools, PCYC's and Vacation Care groups. We have also had the privilege of participating in 3 Community Events which included - Kites for Kids, Sutho Cops & Rodders Safety and Car Show, and Camp Lionheart - Kids Rehab at The Childrens Hospital at Westmead. We have also visited two regional areas namely, Inverell and Blayney. Overall 5,697 students have experienced our unique and educational program during the past few months.

As mentioned previously Transport for NSW has come on board as the major sponsor of the Roadshow Program for the next two years. We have been adding Transport for NSW logos to our documentation, we will be getting both of the Roadshow Vans re-branded with logos and messages, and eventually new uniforms for all Roadshow staff.

It has been quite a few years since I last watched a Roadshow, but last week I personally got to experience another Roadshow Presentation at a school in my local area. I was so impressed by the professionalism of our staff and the amazing environment they create with the students participating in the wheelchair basketball game. During the presentation the students were captivated by our presenters personal stories which created many, many questions from all those participating. The wheelchair basketball game that followed had all of the students screaming out in support of their fellow class mates, creating an electric feeling in the school gym. We even got all of the teachers involved in a final game which was great for the kids to see!

Again, I would like to thank all of the Roadshow Presenters who do such an amazing job presenting to these students and getting across the important messages of the consequences of taking risks, living with a disability and the role of sport for those with a disability.

I am currently posting out Information Sheets on the Roadshow Program to all schools in NSW for re-bookings or new bookings for 2013.

If you or anyone in your family attends school, please advise the Principal, Head PE Teacher or Year Advisor of the unique Wheelchair Sports NSW Roadshow program that we run. This program covers a 20 minute presentation on topics such as Road Safety "the consequence of taking risks", Disability Sport, Living with a Disability, followed by a game of Wheelchair Basketball that all students get to participate in, using the 12 wheelchairs that we bring to the school.

Mel Jones – Roadshow Coordinator

9809 5260

[reception@wsnsw.org.au](mailto:reception@wsnsw.org.au)



# WS NSW Multi-disability Lawn Bowls State Championships

## 11-15 September

*Report by Gilbert Hicks*

In fine and sunny conditions Park Beach Bowling Club at Coffs Harbour provided an excellent venue for the 2012 WS NSW Multi Disability State Championships 2012. Thirty two competitors entered in pairs and singles events comprising the set play format of two games over nine ends with a three end tie breaker if necessary. Competitors came from all areas across NSW with Josh Barry from Victoria and a team of South Korean veterans also competing. The South Korean veterans have visited us on several occasions over recent years and are becoming more competitive with each visit.

After a warm welcome from the President of Park Beach Bowling Club, Mr Jim Gorman, competition began with the pairs on Tuesday morning. The final was played on Wednesday afternoon with Michael Vassallo and Josh Barry winning the Gold from Y-B and K-H Kim (South Korea). Carolyn Nelson and Jamie Reynolds won the bronze from Henry Ryan and Gilbert Hicks.

With the pairs out of the way, competitors settled into the singles with some very close games and plenty of tie breakers. Sectional play for the men consisted of five sections with the winners and the next three best performed runners-up making the quarter finals, whilst the ladies conducted their event with one section. By the conclusion of play on Friday afternoon the men's semi-finals had been concluded and the ladies event had been completed with Carolyn Nelson winning gold from Lyn Smith. Joy Boyd took home the bronze beating Cheryl Benbow in a tough match.

On Saturday morning in perfect conditions Jamie Reynolds, Jim Sigsworth, Kim K-H (Mr Bang - South Korea) and Josh Barry began their campaign for gold with Jamie and Josh winning through to face each other in the final leaving Jim and Mr Bang to fight it out for the bronze. In the final, Jamie won the first set but Josh settled down to win the second and played consistently through the tie break ends to win a very high standard game of bowls. Both players changed the length regularly and played the full range of shots. In the other decider Jim Sigsworth came home the better to take the bronze in another high class and close game.

The week wrapped up with the medal presentation evening on Saturday night. All the players were in high praise of the facilities provided at Park Beach Bowling Club and Coffs Harbour in general. A feature was the excellent and well-priced standard of accommodation with plentiful disabled access.

Much appreciation is extended to committeeman, Doug Lambert, who at short notice, stepped in to co-ordinate the event and to Jamie Reynolds for keeping the master board up to date throughout the week. Finally, appreciation to President Jim, Bowls Organiser Graham Smallwood, markers, umpires, helpers, caterers and staff of Park Beach Bowling Club for providing excellent facilities in a welcoming manner, ensuring all competitors and their families a wonderful week.

## Juniors



### Christmas Camp

The Christmas Camp is big this year with close to 30 registrations! The annual Junior Wheelies Christmas Camp is the highlight of the junior calendar and is a great opportunity for all junior members from around NSW to try a whole range of different sports and to meet new friends. Some of the activities at this year's camp include cricket, golf, kayaking, wheelchair basketball and wheelchair rugby (also known as Murder Ball). Thank you to all those campers who will attend, especially those who will travel from different parts of NSW and also to the wonderful volunteers who will assist over the weekend.

### Junior Come 'n' Try Days

WS NSW has been hosting a number of diverse junior Come 'n' Try Days including ten pin bowling, sailing and archery. These junior days could not have happened without the wonderful support of groups like Dobroyd Sailability volunteers and also the staff at St George Archers who provided a BBQ for all those who were involved.



*Kylie Gauci and Gerry Hewson (left back) at one of the "I Can Play" sessions*



*Billie enjoying her time out on the water.*

### I Can Play

WS NSW, with the support of the School Sports Unit and NSW Sport and Recreation, has been busy hosting a number of "I Can Play" wheelchair basketball clinics. School children of all ages and abilities were encouraged to attend one of the six clinics in Sydney and regional areas. The aim of these clinics was not only to promote wheelchair basketball to the wider



school community but to also let people know that everyone can play wheelchair basketball. Hence school children with a disability were encouraged to bring an able bodied buddy to experience the sport. All those who attended the clinic thoroughly enjoyed themselves due, in no small part, to the coaches, Gerry Hewson and Kylie Gauci who did a tremendous job teaching children all there is to know about wheelchair basketball.

### **AWD Junior National Championships 10-11 November 2012**

WS NSW took a team of four junior track racers (Liam Luff [T34], Luke Bailey [T54], Julie Charlton [T54] and Mikaela Dingley [T54]) to this year's AWD Junior National Championships which were held at the AIS track in Canberra. This was the first time competing at a national level for Liam and Luke, and the first time Julie had competed in a track chair. It was great to see the team in action on the track and showcasing their talents.

Luke and Liam were locked in a tight battle for the duration of the event with Luke taking home Gold in the 400m and Liam taking home the title in both the 100m and 200m. Mikaela showed her commitment to the sport by competing and taking home gold in all the distances on offer - 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m and 1500m while Julie was kept busy winning silver in the 100m, 200m and 400m as well as juggling her field event commitments. A number of other Wheelchair Sports NSW Junior Members including Jess Cronje, Dean Chesolm, Sarah Walsh and Craig Jarrett were also in action in Canberra and finished with some amazing results. WS NSW had far and away the largest representation of any State.



*Left to right: Liam Luff, Danial Thain, Luke Bailey, Mikaela Dingley, Rosemary little and Julie Charlton at the AWD Junior National Championships*

#### *Mikaela Dingley*

- 1st – U/20 Women's Wheelchair 100m
- 1st – U/20 Women's Wheelchair 200m
- 1st – U/20 Women's Wheelchair 400m
- 1st – U/20 Women's Wheelchair 800m
- 1st – U/20 Women's Wheelchair 1500m

#### *Liam Luff*

- 1st – U/16 Men's Wheelchair 100m
- 1st – U/16 Men's Wheelchair 200m
- 2nd – U/16 Men's Wheelchair 400m

#### *Luke Bailey*

- 2nd – U/16 Men's Wheelchair 100m
- 2nd – U/16 Men's Wheelchair 200m
- 1st – U/16 Men's Wheelchair 400m

#### *Julie Charlton*

- 2nd – U/16 Women's Wheelchair 100m
- 2nd – U/16 Women's Wheelchair 200m
- 2nd – U/16 Women's Wheelchair 400m
- 7th – U/16 Women's Ambulant Shot Put
- 10th – U/16 Women's Ambulant Discus

#### *Jess Cronje*

- 2nd – U/16 Women's Ambulant Shot Put
- 2nd – U/16 Women's Ambulant Discus
- 11th – U/16 Women's Ambulant 100m
- 11th – U/16 Women's Ambulant 200m
- 6th – U/16 Women's Ambulant Long-Jump

#### *Dean Chesolm*

- 1st – U/16 Men's Ambulant Shot Put
- 8th – U/16 Men's Ambulant Javelin
- 16th – U/16 Men's Ambulant 200m
- 22nd – U/16 Men's Ambulant 100m

#### *Sarah Walsh*

- 1st – U/16 Women's Ambulant 100m
- 1st – U/16 Women's Ambulant 200m
- 2nd – U/16 Women's Ambulant Long-Jump

#### *Craig Jarrett*

- 1st – U/20 Men's Secured Shot Put
- 1st – U/20 Men's Secured Discus
- 2nd – U/20 Men's Secured Javelin

## **Sport Shorts**



### **Athletics**

#### **Development Squad**

The Wheelchair Sports NSW development squad have been consistently improving

under the watchful eyes of Louise Sauvage, Angie Ballard and Rosemary Little. Over the next two months the squad will work on preparations for the 2013 Summer Down



*A clinic for the Athletics Development Squad at Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre*

Under Series in which Liam Luff and Luke Bailey will compete in for the first time.

For anyone wanting to get involved training takes place each Saturday morning between 8 and 10am at Sydney Olympic Park Athletics Centre – contact Sebastian for more information.



### **Basketball**

#### **Slam Down Under**

This year's Slam Down Under was bigger than ever! There were a total of 16 teams competing, and this meant a second venue was used to get through the games. Teams from all around Australia and NZ came to Shellharbour to compete for the Slam

Down Under title. Illawarra won Division 1 and 2 while the ACT Chargers won Division 3. Congratulations to everyone involved and a special note of appreciation to the Wollongong Rollerhawks crew for staging yet another tremendous weekend.

### Spring League

The WS NSW 2012 Spring Wheelchair Basketball League (Spring League) has just concluded for 2012. It was held over three consecutive weekends at various locations around Sydney. There were enough teams entered for 2 Divisions in each round. The Sydney Uni Wheelkings entered two teams, one team in each division. The NSW Junior team, the formidable Illawarra Eagles, the Sydney Uni Flames and also the young and fearless Sutherland Wheelie Sharks made up the Spring League teams.

For those developing players and referees who may have had little court time throughout 2012, this tournament proved to be the perfect introduction to wheelchair basketball competition and for the more experienced of players, Spring League provides valuable game experience outside of the National Wheelchair Basketball season. A huge thank you to all the teams and referees who were involved!

### Women's Festival of Wheelchair Basketball (WFWB)

This WFWB is for women of all ages and abilities from young girls who may have never played wheelchair basketball before to our Paralympians. The weekend will involve skills sessions and a round robin. For the round robin, teams will be made up of a mixture of abilities with the goal of having a Paralympian on each team. This weekend is the one women's only competition in Australia apart from the Women's National Wheelchair Basketball League (WNWBL), therefore we encourage all women to come along and play some great wheelchair basketball. The festival will be held at the NSW Academy of Sports at Narrabeen, Sydney from the 1 – 3 February 2013. If you would like more information please contact Megan in the office 9809 5260 [meganr@wsnsw.org.au](mailto:meganr@wsnsw.org.au)

### Upcoming Dates:

*NSW Junior Wheelchair Basketball Selection Camp* 18–20 January, 2013

*Women's Festival of Wheelchair Basketball* 1–3 February, 2013

### Handcycling



#### NSW Handcycling Series

The 2012 NSW Handcycling Series is in full swing with 3 of the 4 round series completed.

Both Round's 1 and 3 were completed at Lidcombe Oval Velodrome while Round 2 was a criterium race part of the Festival of Cycling at Sydney Olympic Park. The number of competitors has been growing this year with 13 handcyclists taking part in the Series.



Left to right: Grant Nickel, Brett Ogden and Andrew Naglins

Current series standings are as follows:

A-Grade: Ron Gibson, Todd Phillpott

B-Grade: Christian Robertson, Jono Franklin

C-Grade: Andrew Naglins, Rosemary Little

D-Grade: Gary Croker, David Galea, Glenn Bennett, Grant Nickel, Brett Ogden, Emilie Miller, Mark Harris

The 4th and final round of competition is on December 15th at Lidcombe Oval Velodrome. Racing starts at 5pm.

### Sydney to Gong

WS NSW members Ron Gibson and Jono Franklin competed in the 2012 Sydney to Gong MS ride on their handcycles. The ride started at St Peters and covered 90km as it headed to Wollongong via Brighton Le Sands, the Royal National Park and the spectacular Sea Cliff Bridge.

### Lawn Bowls



#### AAWD Gold Squad

Congratulations to Wheelchair Sports NSW members Joanne Hunter, Carolyn Nelson, James Reynolds and Eddie Gollan who have been selected in the Australian Athlete's With a Disability Gold Squad. The Gold Squad will focus on developing an Australian squad of bowlers for the 2014 Commonwealth Games and other future international competitions.



### Wheelchair Rugby

Wheelchair Sports NSW is looking to grow participation in the wheelchair rugby program for the 2013 season. A 10-week development training program has been underway at St Ignatius' College, Riverview with the aim to develop skills amongst new players and work on fitness for current players. Curtis Palmer (former New Zealand International) has been recruited as head coach while fitness guru Matt Croese has come on board as head trainer. Numbers have been positive so far with between 6-9 players now attending these Sydney trainings including a number of new recruits.

A special mention must be made of Andrew Edmondson, Simon Bartlett and Curtis Palmer who along with Ryley Batt have been invited to the Australian Steelers Selection Camp in February next year. Well done guys!

Eight year-old Harry Clist from Bathurst (pictured) has also made his debut at training and will be a name to look out for in the future. Harry jumped in a rugby chair for the first time at the Royal Rehab Return to Sport Expo in October and has become obsessed with the sport ever since!



### Swimming

#### 2012 QLD Multi-Class Championships

Jessica Cronje from Menangle and Anna McNamara from Annangrove recently

competed at the Multiclass Swimming Championships in Brisbane. Both girls did exceptionally, Anna finishing the meet with three Gold and one Silver, while Jessica came home with one Silver and five Bronze.

Congratulations girls!

### 2012 Swimming NSW Multi Class Swimming Championships

On the 20th October, three WS NSW members competed at the 2012 Swimming NSW Multi Class Swimming Championships at Sydney Olympic Park. Representing WS NSW were Sophie Delezio, Jason Hooper and Reagan Wickens. They ended the day with a tremendous total of 8 Gold and 2 Silver medals between them.



### Tennis

#### South Pacific Open

From the 14-16 of September, the 2012 South Pacific Wheelchair Tennis tournament took place at the West Street Tennis Complex, in Nowra.

There were a total of 15 entrants, three of these being from New Zealand, meaning the pool of players was extremely competitive. In the men's singles final Travis Moffat from New Zealand played reigning champion Mick Connell, who was looking to win his 6th consecutive title. Former world number two, Mick Connell proved too good in the final beating Travis in a close three set match, 6-0 5-7 6-1. It was to be a memorable weekend for Mick as he also won the open doubles with rising player, Keegan Oh-Chee. They beat South Australian Henry de Cure and Jerry Markoja in the final 6-2 6-1.



Mick Connell in action at the South Pacific Open in Nowra

#### NSW Open

The NSW Wheelchair Tennis Open was held over the first weekend of November at the Wollongong Tennis Club. There was a total of 14 entries one of which came from New Zealand. Despite starting late on the Saturday due to some bad weather, tournament referees Sharad and Keith ensured all matches were completed so only the finals were to be played on the Sunday. Again it was Mick Connell who reached the singles final, his opponent



Stephan Rochecouste in action in the WS NSW Tennis Series

being number one seed Keegan Oh-Chee. Despite Keegan taking the second set, Mick was victorious in the third. Mick played with Rick Engles in the doubles final again local Jerry Markoja and South Australian representative Henry de Cure. It was a wonderful match to complete the weekend and despite Rick and Mick's efforts, Henry and Jerry won the super tie break to win the doubles.

## SUMMER EVENTS



Friday 11 - Tuesday 15 January 2013

Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre

ALL Welcome

Entry for Friday and Saturday [www.ticketek.com.au](http://www.ticketek.com.au)

Entry for Sunday - Tuesday FREE



Monday 21 - Saturday 26 January 2013

Mon 21/Tues 22 - Canberra Track Meet from 5:30pm

Australian Institute of Sport

Thurs 25 - Sydney Track Meet from 5:30pm

Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre

Saturday 26 - GIO Oz Day 10K race starts 9am

Alfred St, The Rocks, Sydney

Entry for ALL events are FREE

## Regional Corner

### Coffs Harbour

Long-time member and Coffs Harbour regional coordinator Ray Munro is doing great things in the area. On a recent trip up the coast by Sports Development officer Sebastian van Veenendaal, Ray proudly showed off a number of recent projects in which he has been instrumental in planning. Some of these included custom accessible walkways to beaches and jettys, purpose built disability fishing platforms and a fully accessible shooting range. Sebastian was lucky enough to watch Ray in action at a club shooting competition – he was on fire literally!

Ray also runs a weekly wheelchair basketball session with upwards of twenty participants. Due to Ray's hard work numbers are growing and the region is not far away from setting up a local league!

A huge thank you to Adrian and the team at Sportz Central Coffs Harbour for their ongoing support of Wheelchair Sports NSW and Ray's program.

If you have any news of activities or WS NSW members in your region please email articles/images/stories to Kathleen Nicholls ([kathleenn@wsnsw.org.au](mailto:kathleenn@wsnsw.org.au))



# Upcoming Events

|                      | Level         | Sport       | Event  | Location                            | Event contact        |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>December 2012</b> |               |             |  |                                     |                      |
| 25                   |               |             | Christmas Day                                      |                                     |                      |
| 26                   |               |             | Boxing Day   |                                     |                      |
| <b>January 2013</b>  |               |             |  |                                     |                      |
| 1                    |               |             | New Years Day                                      |                                     |                      |
| 11-15                | International | Tennis      | Apia Wheelchair International Sydney               | Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre   | WS NSW - Megan       |
| 21-22                | International | Athletics   | GIO Summer Down Under Series - Canberra Track Meet | AIS Athletics Track                 | WS NSW - Sebastian   |
| 24                   | International | Athletics   | GIO Summer Down Under Series - Sydney Track Meet   | Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre | WS NSW - Sebastian   |
| 25                   | International | Athletics   | GIO Summer Down Under Series - Mentor Clinic       | Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre |                      |
| <b>Australia Day</b> |               |             |  |                                     |                      |
| 26                   | International | Athletics   | GIO Oz Day 10K                                     | The Rocks, Sydney                   | WS NSW - Sebastian   |
| 18-20                | State         | Basketball  | NSW Juniors Selection Camp                         | Sydney Academy of Sport, Narrabeen  | WS NSW - Megan       |
| <b>February</b>      |               |             |  |                                     |                      |
| 1-3                  | National      | Basketball  | Women's Festival of Wheelchair Basketball          | Sydney Academy of Sport             | WS NSW - Megan       |
| 9-10                 | National      | Handcycling | National Handcycling Series Rnd 1                  | Sydney Olympic Park                 | WS NSW - Sebastian   |
| 24                   | National      | Rugby       | Australian Steelers Selection Camp                 | VIC                                 | WS NSW - Sebastian   |
| TBC                  | National      | Rugby       | Referees Training Camp                             | Sydney - TBC                        | WS NSW - Sebastian   |
|                      | State         | Basketball  | Sydney Spring Autumn League                        | TBC                                 | WS NSW - Megan       |
|                      | International | Basketball  | Osaka Cup  | Osaka, Japan                        | Basketball Australia |
| 23-24                | National      | Handcycling | National Handcycling Series Rnd 2                  | QLD                                 | Sp. Wheelies QLD     |
| 24                   | State         | Rugby       | Sydney Slam Series                                 | Ryde Community Sports Centre        | WS NSW - Sebastian   |
|                      | National      | Lawn Bowls  | Australian Open AWD                                | Melbourne, VIC                      | WS NSW - Sebastian   |
|                      | National      | Basketball  | Men's National Wheelchair Basketball League        |                                     | Basketball Australia |
| <b>March</b>         |               |             |  |                                     |                      |
|                      | Development   | Juniors     | Junior Day   | TBC                                 | WS NSW - Megan       |
| 9                    | State         | Rugby       | Sydney Slam Series                                 | Ryde Community Sports Centre        | WS NSW - Sebastian   |
|                      | National      | Basketball  | Men's National Wheelchair Basketball League        |                                     | Basketball Australia |
|                      | National      | Basketball  | Women's National Wheelchair Basketball League      |                                     | Basketball Australia |
| 11-13                | State         | Lawn Bowls  | WS NSW Singles Classic                             | Everglades Country Club, Woy Woy    | WS NSW - Sebastian   |
| 15-17                | National      | Rugby       | Hamilton Classic                                   | Hamilton, VIC                       | DSR - Victoria       |
| 16-17                | National      | Handcycling | National Handcycling Series Rnd 3                  | WA - TBC                            | WS WA                |
| 23                   | State         | Rugby       | Sydney Slam Series                                 | Ryde Community Sports Centre        | WS NSW - Sebastian   |
|                      | National      | Basketball  | Men's National Wheelchair Basketball League        |                                     | Basketball Australia |
|                      | National      | Basketball  | Women's National Wheelchair Basketball League      |                                     | Basketball Australia |
|                      | Development   | Tennis      | Coaching Clinic                                    | TBC                                 | WS NSW - Megan       |
| 29                   |               |             | Good Friday  |                                     |                      |
| 31                   |               |             | Easter Sunday                                      |                                     |                      |



For more information or enquiries call: 02 9809 5260 OR WE ARE LIVE @ [www.wnsnw.org.au](http://www.wnsnw.org.au)

Images contained in this document have been kindly provided by Serena Corporate Photography, William A Stewart AAPS and Wheelchair Sports NSW members.

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The views expressed in Pushers Post do not necessarily reflect the views of Wheelchair Sports NSW Inc.