

Race Report - Wednesday October 13th 2010

Event : Shortened Brent Street Single Aquathon (300m swim, 3.5km run,)

What began as a very unsettled night with the weather for the first night of racing in the season turned out to be ideal for the Aquathon. At 6.00pm Drummoyne pool was closed because of the lightning, but it held off and the pool was reopened by 6.30pm for racing to start.

Welcome to all First Timers: Andrew B, Craig L., Angelina S, Alaister B, Sam L, Andrew B, Peter B, Mark H, David H as well as those who have joined this season and completing their first official race i.e. Emma G, Letiza, Christine C, Paul E, Henrick, Daniel, Brownwyn I, Rick S, Warren M, Brendan O & Tim C

Welcome back Cannibals making their first appearance for this year, James, John M, Cameron, Jose & Nathan.

A strong crowd of 43 saw us go into 3 groups. We were lucky we had the pool to ourselves and managed to get all groups in and out of the water by 7.20.

Group 1 was away with Kylie McCulloch (Aka Dry Toes) pleading her way back into group 1 (haven't forgotten you still owe us money for that). Kylie pulled out a rip-snorter (hello Group 2 next week) - maybe it's her recent sneaky training or the fact that she was wearing an iron man swimsuit. Some of our newcomers to race slightly underestimated their capabilities with Craig L chasing Kylie down towards the end, closely followed by Andrew and Michelle G (nice to see you back). Good effort. A smidge behind them was Kelly (Kylie's-partner-in-crime-in-the-sneaky-off-training-sessions), Knoxy, Cath and first timer Emma. LaLa split the group, as consistent as ever, but Kylie stayed strong to take first place in group 1. Congratulations to Angelina for completing the 300 swim when she didn't think she could; big effort. Finally some good girl power shown to support each other as Letizia, Sam and Christine ground it out in the rain on the run home – nice work girls. Gaye had a short swim – more pool-time needed this week Gaye.

Group 2 started the swim strongly and were off and away with Frank weaving his way through, exiting the water early with no goggles. Steve came to the rescue with a pair of goggles and Frank was back on his way posting an impressive time of (23.17.94). It was good to see some of our members come out of retirement especially John Maguire who was disappointed that Sarah was pool marshalling so he could have an excuse not to race (I need more training sessions before I race you for a while John). Mark H showed a great turn of speed taking home first place in the group (that 3.5km run a virtual walk-in-the-park following his first marathon 2 weeks ago), Andrew 12 seconds behind him, and Peter B a further 30 metres back, completing the 1, 2 and 3 in Group 2 in tough conditions as the

skies opened up halfway on the run. I'm sure there were many motorists wondering who would be crazy to run in the rain. Not far behind them, David H and Paul E, both first time racers – in fact, the first 5 places in Group 2 going to first-timers – well done lads. It appears there will be very strong competition in Group 2 especially this season. A big crowd followed in Group 2 over the following 4 minutes.

Group 3 was dominated by the boys of triathlon, back together with only Michele to hold the light of girl power in the final group (own up boys, who scared the girls off?). Greg tried his own scare tactics by dropping his budgies as he exited the pool (a contender for the full moon rising award), but it didn't work as Tim and Chris cruised past him. Alan prepared himself for the rain by shaving down and showing off a set of impressive smooth legs that would put us girls to shame; and those beautiful legs carried him to 2nd place. The final group had the worst of the weather, with torrential rain setting in as they started their run. This didn't deter them as they battled it out on the run to finish close to each other at the end. Congratulations to Tim winning not only Group 3 but overall place – looking good for Noosa in the next few weeks. Following Alan home was Greg, Nathan and Jose in impressive times. A good effort from Warren, the only newbie willing to tackle Group 3, and posting a very respectable 23:11.

Anne and I enjoyed the recording with the new edition of a Seiko stopwatch found lurking in my storeroom at school those times will be accurate.

Despite the weather we had a fantastic turn out today with everybody having a chat at the end.

Sarah