

Annual Review

Rainbow Club 2018/19

celebrating



years

celebrating
50 years



Ron Siddons names his swim group Rainbow Club. That's Ron (top-right) with foundation members: Rebecca Howe, Trevor Metcalf, James Cooper, Fiona Gallagher, Daniel Cummins, Ryan Cuthill and Ryan Craig.

1969-1992

Chasing rainbows

When Beach Inspector Ron Siddons sees a father trying to keep his disabled son afloat in the surf with a tyre inner tube – he decides to design an unsinkable swimsuit.

Ron has created other water safety equipment and believes an inflatable swimsuit will allow children with a disability to stay safe and feel confident in the water while they develop new skills.

He spends three years designing, testing and funding his swimsuit and even convinces media mogul Frank Packer to contribute. After many prototypes, Ron's cossie launches in 1973. Special schools commend it, but few commit to using it, so Ron sets up his own informal swimming group in Cronulla with three-year old Fiona as one of his first students.

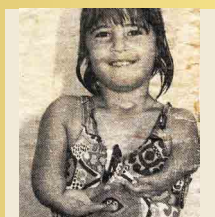
As the word spreads and more families join, Ron's lifeguard mates volunteer to help and social gatherings are arranged so families can share wisdom, joy and sometimes tears. In 1986, Ron calls his group Rainbow Club. By 1992, Rainbow Clubs pop up in Bondi, Sutherland, Rockdale, Campbelltown, Liverpool and Lindfield.



1969 Ron devotes his life to helping children with a disability enjoy the water, with his wife Lily's support.



1970-73 Ron tests his inflatable swimsuit prototypes and starts a free swim school.



1974 Rebecca is told she can't swim but joins Ron and becomes an Australian champion.



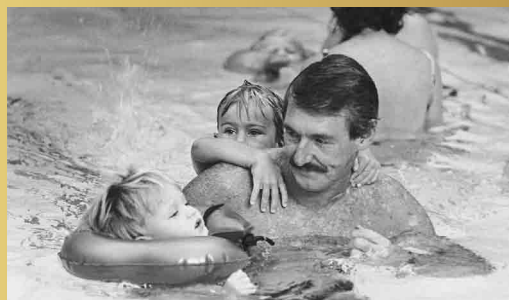
1975-77 Ron's cossie is marketed. Of his cossie, Ron says, "I want families to enjoy the water without constant fear of tragedy."



1979 Prisoners host an Olympics fundraiser. Ron joins them for a marathon.
1981 Ron is the first lifesaver to receive an MBE.

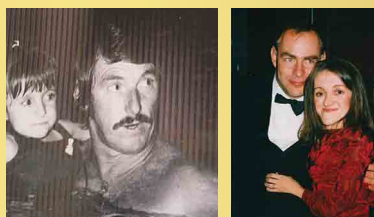
I just want disabled children to enjoy the things that normal children take for granted...to see joy in their faces when they realise they don't have to flounder whenever they venture into the water.

Ron Siddons MBE OAM, 1969



Good things come in small packages

When 3-year-old, Fiona joins Ron's little swim class, it's the start of an incredible journey.



Fiona is born with 26 fractured bones and diagnosed with Osteogenesis Imperfecta, or brittle bones. Her prognosis for survival is six weeks.

Fiona survives, but doctors say she will never walk. Later, her orthopaedic surgeon refers her to Ron, hoping that swimming may help her limited mobility. At first, Fiona is terrified of the water. For weeks she screams, but Ron perseveres and within a few years she can swim unaided.

Fiona says, "From my encounter with Ron, my life changed forever. Through his tireless dedication, I learnt to swim...and I learnt to walk. My doctors were amazed."

Fiona's doctor told Ron, "Your contribution to Fiona's progress is at least equal to that of all the surgery I've carried out."

Today, Fiona walks unaided and is married with three children. Fiona's youngest daughter has the same condition and learns to swim with Rainbow Club... in the same pool she did.

Rainbow Club sets no limit on what the children can aim for, or any expectation of what they ought to achieve.
Ron Siddons, 1986

Rebecca defies the odds

Rebecca becomes Rainbow Club's first champion when she represents Australia at the FESPIC Games in Japan in 1989.

At the sports event for people with a disability Rebecca joins 1,646 athletes from 41 nations. Rebecca is the only swimmer without arms below the elbows and has to swim against higher-functioning swimmers.

Rebecca returns home with two gold medals in freestyle and breaststroke, and later wins national titles in trampolining, javelin and discus. Wow!

Why 'Rainbow Club'?

Ron chose the name Rainbow Club because it represents a bright future – if you can see beyond the rainbow, you can believe anything is possible.



1983-86 Ron calls his growing group Rainbow Club and some of his students graduate to swim teachers.



1987 Ashley's mum praises Rainbow Club for his health and happiness.



1988 Ron makes Fiona and Rebecca office bearers and they host the first social day.



1990 Ron is awarded on OAM for his volunteer group.
1991 An eastern suburbs Club opens and employs a swim teacher.



1992 Rainbow Clubs pop up across Sydney. Families unite at horse riding.





Chevy, Tristan and Mathew enjoy a lesson with Christine at Rainbow Club Liverpool in 2005. The trio are some of 25 students ranging from 12 months to 16 years, and soon there'll be more thanks to a \$10,000 grant!

1993-2009

Into the deep

Things really start to kick-off for Rainbow Club in 1993 when Ron forms a volunteer Board of business professionals led by Philip Holt OAM.

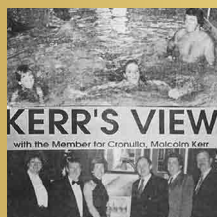
The Board is tasked with formalising the Rainbow Club network, expanding its reach and raising funds. Very quickly, the Board bring the collection of clubs under the umbrella of Rainbow Club Australia Incorporated and the new association is registered as a charity.

Once the formalities are complete, the Board reach out to their networks to raise awareness. The Holt Group is Rainbow Club's first major sponsor whose support continues to the present day. Soon, politicians and sporting champions support the cause, including Murray Rose and later Mark Speakman MP and Louise Sauvage OAM. Everyone has a blast when Malcolm Kerr AM hosts the first gala ball. The annual ball becomes the major fundraiser for Rainbow Club for almost two decades. Suzanne Stanton takes the reins as President in 1999, a colourful new logo rolls out and in 2009 an ocean swim launches – which is now the Murray Rose Malabar Magic.

Without any government funding, Rainbow Club grows from one club in Cronulla to sixteen clubs, qualified teachers are hired, Sue Green is Rainbow Club's first employee when she joins as Club Liaison Officer and Maree Jackson starts her long service to the Club. But the cost of insurance, qualified teachers and pool hire slowly creeps up. When the Global Financial Crisis hits and donations take a dive, the Board prepare for tough times.



1993 Ron forms a volunteer Board led by Philip Holt, with John Taplin joining the Board soon after.



1995 The first annual ball at Sydney's Parliament House is a sell out and makes the news.



1998 Swimming legend, Murray Rose becomes Patron and is soon in the pool.



1999 Suzanne Stanton becomes President and is honoured as a Life Member in 2013. She remains on the Board until 2019.



2000 St George Leagues Club commence 20 years of support. 200 children enjoy the first Christmas Olympics.

Rainbow Club believes in the right of every Australian child in the city and the bush to just be a kid in the pool, to play Marco Polo with siblings, splash mum's new hairstyle, swim into daddy's arms and pretend to be a famous swimmer.

Suzanne Stanton, Rainbow Club President, 1999-2009



In the fast lane

When Sherrie and Michael Eddie join Rainbow Club their parents just want them to learn to be water safe in the backyard pool.



They never imagine they'll see them on the podium receiving medals or representing Australia!

After gaining confidence with Rainbow Club, Sherrie and Michael start to enter local carnivals. In 1999, they are invited to compete at the Special Olympics National Games – Sherrie wins two gold and two silver medals, and Michael comes home with one gold and one silver.

Everyone is proud of the duo, including Murray Rose who sends a note to say, "On behalf of Rainbow Club, we are all immensely proud of what you have achieved. Sherrie and Michael, if we can work out the details I'd love to share a technique session with you."

This is just the beginning for the Electrifying Eadies! Sherrie represents Australia at the Global Games in Sweden in 2004 and both participate in multiple national events in swimming as well as golf.



Michael moves on, parents don't

Four-year-old Michael Taplin starts swimming with Rainbow Club to improve his low muscle tone, a common issue for children with Down syndrome. He tried private lessons but found it difficult to follow instructions.

At Rainbow Club, Michael quickly masters his swimming skills and particularly likes diving underwater. At 6, Michael gives Nippers a go and at 19 he snorkels with whale sharks in WA.

Although Michael leaves Rainbow Club, his parents don't. Mum, Margaret is now a Life Member and still the powerhouse behind many fundraising events, including Christmas in July, while dad John sits on the Board and has been awarded an OAM for his Rainbow Club commitment.

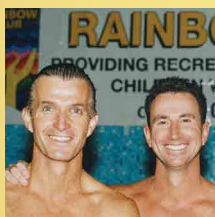


A new look

In 2006 a fresh logo for Rainbow Club is unveiled.



2001 Blind marathon swimmer, James Pittar joins as Ambassador and swims from Palm Beach to Manly. NSW Governor, Marie Bashir is a fan.



2003 Olympic champs raise \$15k at Swim over the Rainbow Challenge.
2004 Ryan from Campbelltown Club falls into Sydney Harbour ...and saves himself.



2006 475 children swim in 14 Rainbow Clubs.



2007 It's the GFC, but there's a ray of sunshine in a big cheque.

2008 Australian Olympian, Melinda Gainsford hosts the Bollywood Ball.



2009 506 swimmers face awful conditions at the first Malabar to Little Bay Challenge.





In 2017, six-year-old Sawyer gives Rainbow Club a thumbs up, alongside his dad Steve and teacher Nikos. Now we're giving a thumbs up to his brother. Sawyer's big brother Hudson told us, "Learning to swim is very important because we live near the beach. All people in Australia should know how to swim."

2010-2019

Swim the rainbow!

Under the new Presidency of Alexandra Finley, the Board seek significant government funding for the first time.

In 2012, after many meetings, submissions, negotiations and advocacy by a refreshed Board, the NSW government announce they will invest \$250k into Rainbow Club. This is the beginning of greater stability and measured growth.

In 2013, Catriona Barry joins as General Manager and over the following six years reframes the structure of the organisation, building the capacity of the Clubs to increase membership by 100%. The Swim the Rainbow program launches, Rainbow Club becomes a registered NDIS Provider, waiting lists are addressed ...and green rashies pop up all over Sydney! New Club resources give structure to the program, awards are given and a calendar of events – including the Family Carnival and Rainbow Connect – provide social activities for families and professional development for teachers and staff.

Rainbow Club goes from strength to strength and the Board invest in new technology platforms to manage membership and assist Club Committees. The aim is individualised swim lessons and social participation for 1,000+ children with a disability. It's a big goal, but it's within our reach ...and what a celebration it will be when we get there!



2010 This year conditions are perfect for the ocean swim.



2011 Louise Sauvage and Mark Speakman become Patrons and Louise is often seen at Rainbow Club events.



2012 NSW Minister for Disability announces a \$250k grant alongside Mark Speakman and Alexandra Finley.



2013 The ocean swim is renamed the Murray Rose Malabar Magic.



2014 Georgia is the first Rainbow Club child to make the Malabar Magic. Aqua Awards open.

We all take for granted the chance to swim. Being able to provide Rainbow Club children with this very important life skill is a special gift. Confidence and social skills is a bonus.

Alexandra Finley, Rainbow Club President, 2010-today



Karl just keeps going

Rainbow Club graduate Karl Keller is a handsome 21-year-old enjoying life. At age 5 he joins Rainbow Club to help him explore his love of the water. Karl can't talk or walk independently because he has cerebral palsy and an intellectual disability, so the water gives him freedom to move and express himself.



Almost a decade after joining Rainbow Club, his mum Leanne thinks Karl might enjoy the challenge of the Malabar Magic, just the 1km event! Karl has no experience of ocean swimming, but begins training in earnest.

On Magic day, Karl has four Rainbow Club teachers as companion swimmers. Leanne says, "The water was freezing but Karl just kept paddling. He was a champ and it was incredible to see him cross the finish line. Our family were so touched by how kind everyone at Rainbow Club was to help Karl achieve this goal. It's something our family will treasure forever."

Karl completes the Malabar Magic again in 2015 and 2016. Today, Karl attends a day program for people with a disability, enjoys bowling and still swims for exercise. Leanne says, "I sometimes try to swim beside him but off he goes. He's quite the independent young man."

The sky is the limit

Six-year-old Ahmed Jabba has Down syndrome. At 14 months he tries mainstream swimming lessons to develop his physical strength, but with little success.

But when Ahmed joins Rainbow Club in 2017 the family delights in his progress and the difference in his fine and gross motor skills.

There's also a big improvement in Ahmed's communication skills as he learns to receive and respond to instructions from teachers.

Mum Sadia says, "Liverpool Rainbow Club provides a friendly and caring environment. Seeing Ahmed enjoy himself and his social skills blossom is amazing. Ahmed's teacher told me recently that physically he's not far behind other kids his age. That's wonderful feedback."



We stand out

Rainbow Club rashies always make a splash.



2015 Swim the Rainbow, the green rashie and the Family Carnival launch.



2016 New resources for Clubs and the inaugural Maree Jackson Medals are awarded at the Malabar Magic.



2017 573 children Swim the Rainbow weekly and the Family Carnival is held at Sydney Olympic pool.



2018 Swimming royalty, Dawn Fraser launches the tenth Malabar Magic and 10:10:10 Challenge.



2019 Let's celebrate Rainbow Club and its 900+ members!

celebrating
50 years



There are many opportunities for the Rainbow Club family to come together to connect and celebrate.

Let's celebrate!

To everyone who has made Rainbow Club a success, thank you. You should feel very proud. It really is a place that creates magic, in and out of the water.

Alexandra Finley, Rainbow Club President, 2010-today

A Rainbow Club year

Full of swimming, training and social participation, the Rainbow Club calendar has something for everyone.



February to December

Our swim program.
Certificate presentations at the end of Terms 2 and 4.



February

All funds raised by the inclusive Malabar Magic support Rainbow Club.



February

A team of members who participate in the Malabar Magic.



July

Annual fundraising social dinner held at the St George Leagues Club.



July (usually)

Training for family and friends who wish to teach swimming.



August

Essential water safety training (held during normal lessons).



October

Our community comes together to share and learn. Includes our AGM.



October (biennial)

Recognising our outstanding teachers and volunteers.



December

Where Rainbow Clubs meet, compete and celebrate. Family-friendly and fun!

Honouring our Life Members



2006

Gary Bradshaw



2006

Philip Holt OAM



2006

Malcolm Kerr AM



2006

Tony Williams



2013

Suzanne Stanton



2015

Margaret Taplin



2018

Rob Lloyd



2019

Alexandra Finley

Message from our President

Through our proud 50 year history Rainbow Club has always been about providing children with a disability the chance to have fun and be safe in the water.

Through the achievements of many people who have been part of Rainbow Club over the years, we have built a Rainbow Club family. It's a community of past and present parents, teachers, children, Board members, patrons, ambassadors, funding supporters and staff who all believe that magic happens in the water for children with a disability. This Rainbow Club family is pivotal to the network of Rainbow Clubs and how each Rainbow Club child is able to participate in activities, build confidence and life skills, and strive to achieve their dreams like every Australian child.

We are proud to be an NDIS registered provider. We are proud that therapists recommend Rainbow Club for our combination of individualised lessons and social participation. We have remained committed to ensuring that no child is turned away because of financial hardship or the nature of their disability and a key commitment of Rainbow Club is our approach to early intervention and our subsidies for children under seven to help them achieve health and fitness under the guidance of a qualified teacher.

Today we are a network of 23 social swimming clubs across NSW. We provide inspiring events for children of all abilities and our wonderful teachers, parents and supporters are what make Rainbow Club truly great. We are especially proud of our Swim the Rainbow program as a pathway to participation in the annual Family Carnival and the Murray Rose Malabar Magic Ocean Swim – both amazing, inclusive events that showcase our Rainbow Club children.

Alexandra Finley

President, Rainbow Club Australia



2018 Rainbow Connect: Jodi Rose with Rainbow Club President Alexandra Finley and 2018/19 Aqua Teacher Award winner Jen Azar

Our events are more successful each year

Rainbow Club's events build on our community atmosphere and showcase children with a disability participating in extraordinary events – swimming in the Malabar Magic Ocean Swim or representing their local Rainbow Club by competing at the Family Carnival.

2018 Family Carnival

Our Family Carnival in December 2018 at Newington College, Stanmore was another great success and a fun day for swimmers, siblings, teachers and parents. There were ribbons, medals and a visit from Santa.



Congratulations to Newington College Rainbow Club who were awarded Club of the Year for the best participation by Committee members, swimmers and teachers. Thank you to the Family Carnival Committee: Cherie Gray, Arthur Cooke, Anna Torok, Jason Xing, who were supported by Emma Baldwin and Nicola Davies-Cooke.



2018 Club of the Year: Newington College, Stanmore pictured with Rainbow Club Co-founder Lily Siddons



2019 Malabar Magic

The 2019 Malabar Magic was hugely successful event with the most ever registered swimmers, amazing sunshine, and many personal bests.



The 2019 Maree Jackson Medal was awarded to all Rainbow Club members who participated as part of the Magic Rainbows team. For recipients see myrainbowclub.org.au/honour-rolls

A big shout out to 13cabs for their Magic Carpet. Thanks to 13cabs our Magic Rainbows travelled in style to Malabar and were spared following directions or finding parking. Another huge thank you to all our sponsors and fundraisers.

2020 Ambassador



In March, the Malabar Magic Committee announced Ollie Spanton as the

2020 Ambassador. Ollie has competed at the Malabar Magic for the past four years, always placing in the top three and is excited to share the message of the importance of swimming for children with a disability.

Accessible matting at Malabar



Malabar Beach was the first beach in Sydney with permanent wheelchair

access. Randwick Council installed The 60-metre long, specially designed mat over the sand, providing easier access for wheelchair users to reach the water's edge – perfect for the Malabar Magic and people with a disability.

2019 Malabar Magic sponsors and supporters



The people who made this year great

For children with a disability, the scope of recreational and social opportunities can be limited.

Rainbow Club provides its members with a sense of 'belonging' – particularly with their own Club – and we rely on many people working together to achieve this. Here are some of them:

Club Committees

Thank you to the Committee members who bring their time and dedication to making their club operate each week. There have been some remarkable achievements at each club during the year and we are delighted that the combined effort of our Committees means that our membership capacity has eclipsed 900 members.

Our 23 Club Managers liaise with the pool managements about lane space, timing and the bookings for each term. They help to recruit teachers and most importantly they support our Lead Teachers.

Each Scheduler has a busy job liaising with parents, reducing waiting lists and making sure that everybody is informed of the schedule at the beginning of each term.

Our Treasurer role phased out during 2018/19 with online timesheets now completed by teachers. The position on each Committee is being replaced by a Social Coordinator and their role is making a difference to community building across all Clubs. They are organising Club rashies for children, assembling teams to go to the Family Carnival and the Malabar Magic, and making more magic happen with twice yearly certificate presentations.



During the last year we were delighted to welcome three new Rainbow Clubs at The Ponds, Villawood and Hurstville.

*The inaugural Committee at
The Ponds Rainbow Club*



Our people

Founders:

Ron Siddons MBE OAM, Lily Siddons

Patrons:

Mark Speakman SC MP,
Louise Sauvage OAM

Ambassador: James Pittar

Life Members:

Gary Bradshaw, Philip Holt OAM,
Malcolm Kerr, Rob Lloyd,
Suzanne Stanton, Margaret Taplin,
Tony Williams

Board:

Alexandra Finley (President),
Philip Holt OAM (Vice President),
Rob Lloyd (Vice President),
Ernie Cirignano, Ally Cox, Dipen Dhruv,
Steve Langan-Stark, Mark McCormack,
Bob McCotter, Tracy Raso,
John Taplin OAM

Staff:

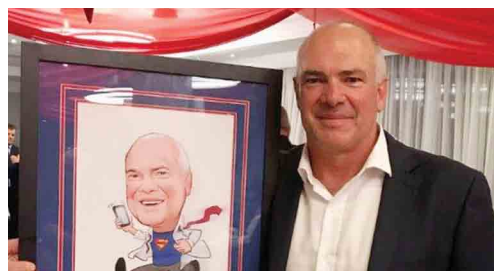
Catriona Barry (General Manager),
Emma Baldwin (Events Officer),
Nicola Davies-Cooke (Swimming Officer),
Eliza Kelleher (Accounts Officer),
Heather Nadilo (IT Manager),
Sarah Simon (Accounts Officer),
Min Strauss (Membership Manager)

Malabar Magic Committee:

Peter Appleyard, Catriona Barry,
Annabelle Campbell, Ally Cox,
Rob Lloyd, Mark McCormack,
Neil McLennan, Eddie Moore,
Anna Torok

Family Carnival Committee:

Arthur Cooke, Nicola Davies-Cooke,
Elissa Jamieson, Jeremie Smith,
Min Strauss, Anna Torok, Jason Xing



New Life Member - Rob Lloyd

At the 2018 Christmas in July, Rob Lloyd was awarded Life Membership of Rainbow Club. Rob's energy and enthusiasm and absolute dedication to Rainbow Club is the essence of the man. Rob is a co-founder of the successful Malabar Magic which raises funds that allow Rainbow Club to achieve its mission.

Life Membership is awarded to select individuals in recognition of their contribution over a significant period of continuous and extraordinary service to Rainbow Club.

Teachers and inpool volunteers



Thank you to all our dedicated teachers who commit to Rainbow Club and helping children with a disability, watching them develop their skills in the water. Thank you to our inpool volunteers for assisting our teachers each week.

2018/19 was a great leap forward for Rainbow Club

New Clubs, access to enhanced resources for teachers, 'Pooldeck' iPads and successful fundraising initiatives strengthen our network.

New online resource for teachers

TEACHER CENTRAL

During 2018/19 the Board of Rainbow Club committed to a substantial upgrade to our Salesforce system with the main aim of providing enhanced resources to our teachers.

In October 2018 prior to Rainbow Connect, our Lead Teachers had dinner together to hear about the upcoming Teacher Central project and provide their input and feedback.

They met again in January to review progress and in March 2019 we launched Teacher Central at Orange, Cherrybrook and Campbelltown Rainbow Clubs.

With Teacher Central, teachers can check their weekly schedule, and see timely, secure and relevant information about the children they are teaching and their disability. They can also access tips about teaching techniques for that disability at each colour of Swim the Rainbow.

This is a major advance for Rainbow Club and our teachers love being empowered with information to improve the quality of their lessons.





Leading the way

Rooman Aishaith, Lead Teacher at Liverpool Rainbow Club tackled the Club's long waiting list by running a Summer Club and is also helping indigo and violet members transition to mainstream swimming clubs.

Rainbow Summer Club

In January 2019, seventeen children participated in Summer Club and their families were unanimous the format (3 lessons a week for 3 weeks) worked well and they would recommend Rainbow Summer Club to other families on our waiting lists.

Transition to mainstream swimming

In another initiative supported by Rooman, six Rainbow Club members signed up for Wednesday night races at the Michael Wenden Swimming Club, with Rooman attending to give them support and encouragement.

This was a pilot project and provided great insight into the challenges of members and their families as they move from the comfort of Rainbow Club to a mainstream environment.

A big thank you to the Committee of Michael Wenden who warmly welcomed Rainbow Club members into their Club this past year.



2018 Train to Teach

The inaugural Train to Teach was held in July 2018. Twenty-seven friends and family of Rainbow Club members and teachers participated in the program, offering free training to obtain AUSTSWIM teacher accreditation.

Our trainees commit to teaching with Rainbow Club for twelve months following the training. Many have now attained their swim teacher licence and are making a difference in our Clubs as qualified swim teachers.

The 2018 Train to Teach program was supported by the Jenour Foundation



iPads and the Pooldeck portal

Our new iPads and 'Pooldeck' portal enable parents to sign in online so that scribbles on wet paper are a thing of the past! Online sign in means we have up to date information about attendance and allows us to offer places to children on our long waiting lists.

Expanding our network of Clubs

During the year we welcomed three new Rainbow Clubs and increased our membership capacity by 27%.

Welcome to the Committees, members and teachers at Hurstville, The Ponds and Villawood. It is lovely to have you in the Rainbow Club network and providing a much needed service in your community.

As our network expands, so do the waiting lists. It is a great tribute to all our Club Committees that Rainbow Club and the service we provide are in such demand.

At June 2019:

- 873 children with a disability were receiving individualised swimming lessons - an increase of 27% on June 2018
- 17 children participated in Rainbow Summer Club at Liverpool Rainbow Club
- 501 children were on waiting lists for our 23 Clubs

Committed to helping those in need

Rainbow Club has continued to provide a subsidy for those under seven years to ensure they receive the best chance possible in their early years to participate in a social and physical activity in their local community. The Rainbow Club Board is committed to maintaining this subsidy for children under seven years of age.

Our Board is also committed to ensuring that no child is deprived of Rainbow Club because of financial hardship and many members were supported during the year to relieve the financial burden on families and allow Rainbow Club membership to continue.



Certificate presentations

Swim the Rainbow Certificates are presented at end of Term 2 and 4 and are designed to recognise the achievements of Rainbow Club members. NDIS reports are also available for Plan Review meetings.





Thank you to our funding supporters

Thanks to the many donors and funding bodies, who with the support of teachers, volunteers and staff, enabled us to increase our capacity so that 873 children with a disability were receiving weekly lessons during school terms by end of 2018/19. That's a massive 31,200 individualised lessons during the year that would not have happened without your support.

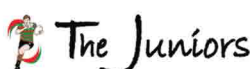
Thank you to **ClubGrants NSW** and the individual Clubs who provided support in their local community. **St George Leagues Club** is one of our longest continuous supporters, helping us each year for more than 20 years. A big thank you also to: **Commonwealth Bank** for year two of a three year funding commitment for five Clubs to become sustainable; **St George Foundation** who helped support our transition to NDIS; **Westpac** who supported members to join mainstream swimming clubs; **Jenour Foundation** who supported our 2018 Train to Teach program and **The Primary Club of Australia** for funding the Swim the Rainbow visual aids.

Learning to swim, to be safe, and to participate socially each week is not something every child with a disability can take for granted but with the individualised support your funding allows, they receive a great start and they love it. Magic happens in the water each week our children with a disability who are able to attend Rainbow Club.

Supporter and ClubGrants funding has meant our Clubs have been able to continue to operate and subsidise those who most need your support.

Supporters

ClubGrants



Rainbow Club Financial Statement

1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

Statement of Profit or Loss	2019 \$	2018 \$
Revenue	1,255,978	993,949
Other Income (Interest)	8,927	10,936
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	(14,073)	(4,721)
Rental expenses for storage	(4,691)	(4,039)
Staff/Teacher training and development	(91,227)	(50,237)
Audit, legal and consultancy fees	(2,786)	(2,400)
Service provision	(885,921)	(672,157)
Fundraising expenses	(71,554)	(68,983)
	194,653	202,348

Assets and Liabilities Statement	2019 \$	2018 \$
Assets		
Total Current Assets	999,179	849,352
Total Non-Current Assets	120,367	5,129
Total Assets	1,119,546	854,481

Liabilities		
Total Current Liabilities		(64,722)
Total Non-Current Liabilities		
Total Liabilities	(135,134)	(64,722)

Net Assets (Total Equity)	984,412	789,759
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Rainbow Club Australia Incorporated ABN 96 753 434 862. This is a summary of audited statements to 30 June 2019. For full report see myrainbowclub.org.au/annual-report Accountants: SGB Partners, Chartered Accountants, Sydney





Moving forward

Our mission

To provide a network of social swimming clubs for children with a disability, enabling them to learn, achieve and enjoy participating in aquatic activities.

Our vision

To be recognised across the disability and aquatic industry for our network of quality, social swimming clubs. To have efficient and streamlined operations to support 1000+ members with participation in local and state-wide events.



Member pathway



Our Clubs

as at June 2019



Bexley
Angelo Anestis Aquatic Centre
James Smith



Hurstville
Danebook School Hurstville
Taylor Dawson



Bondi
Wairoa School
Reka Donath



Lane Cove
Lane Cove Aquatic Centre
Ana Clara Soares



Byron Bay
Byron Bay Council Pool
TBA



Liverpool
Michael Wenden Leisure Centre
Rooman Aishath



Campbelltown
Eagle Vale Aquatic Centre
Carly Baker



Maroubra
Des Renford Leisure Centre
Peter O'Donnell



Cherrybrook
Carlile Swimming Centre
Jackie Cole & Claudia Seal




Newington
Newington College Stanmore
Darcy Imrie



Cronulla/Miranda
Starting Blocks Miranda
Janelle Armstrong & Joanne Coleman



Orange
Orange Aquatic Centre
Graham Strudwick



Hornsby
Knox Grammar School
Louise Colnan



Penrith
Kurrambee Special School
Cheryl Dorry

Revesby

41 members

Max Parker Aquatic Centre
Jen Azar

The Ponds

24 members

The Ponds Special School
Kellie Lane

Seven Hills

39 members

Aquatic Safety Training Academy
Nicola Yee

Villawood

47 members

Wran Leisure Centre
Carol Tomkinson

Sth Highlands

13 members

Moss Vale Aquatic Centre
Maria Letteri

Warriewood

31 members

Brooke Withers Swim School
Jan Evans

Sutherland

54 members

Sutherland Leisure Centre
Ashleigh Gibson

Warringah

48 members

Warringah Aquatic Centre
Catherine Bray

Tamworth

14 members

Bullimbal Special School
Rohanne Mulligan



Registered NDIS Provider



Vouchers accepted



Deductible gift recipient status

At a glance



4 terms of 9 weeks per year



Rainbow Clubs in NSW



children with a disability



qualified and dedicated



children on waiting lists



Club Committees



Location



Lead Teacher

Swim the Rainbow

Swim the Rainbow is a specialised program that provides motivation for children to learn to be safe in the water, have fun and learn to swim within their capability. It recognises the children as they progress through the colours of the rainbow and achieve goals. We love our Swim the Rainbow program and how it is both a toolkit for teachers as well as a motivator for children and families.



Green may be the pinnacle of achievement for children with severe physical and intellectual issues. When reaching Green Goals, a child should have an understanding of the fundamentals of being 'water safe', be able to recover a safe position (float) if they fall in water and have some form of propulsion when on their back with whatever body movements are required (whether arms/legs or whole body).

Meet Riley

Riley loves splashing about in the water but doesn't understand danger.

His mum Larissa explains, "Riley is on the autism spectrum and has no fear of anything, including the water. We take a beach holiday each year, so water safety is really important to us."

While Larissa was waiting to start four year old Riley at Seven Hills Rainbow Club, she gave the local swim club a try. "It was a disaster! There was such little space in the pool and the teacher wasn't attentive to Riley's anxiety. She just wanted him in the water. He was dragged in and had a meltdown. We never went back." she says.

Riley's introduction to Rainbow Club wasn't good either. "For weeks, we fought to get him through the door and when we were near the pool, he screamed."

But, after four weeks, his dad Daniel shared this news: "Excellent swim school! Teachers are friendly and understanding. My child was screaming the place down the first session, but they didn't force him into the pool. They've worked with us and today he got into the water with little fuss. The kindness of the other parents was amazing. Many shared encouraging words or gave us the 'we understand' look."

Larissa and Daniel know that Seven Hills Rainbow Club is the right place for Riley to become water safe...at his own pace.





myrainbowclub.org.au



Rainbow Club Australia

PO Box 432
Brighton Le Sands NSW 2216

Incorporated Association in NSW
ABN 96 753 434 862

Registered NDIS Provider
NO. 4050000653

Charitable Status:

Rainbow Club is a not for profit organisation with tax exempt charity and deductible gift recipient status. Australian Taxation Office CFN 11011



Registered
NDIS Provider



Vouchers
accepted



Deductible gift
recipient status

Annual Review: Rainbow Club would like to thank our photographers: Karen Burgess, Dipen Dhruv, Nick Ellis, Maria Jardine, Mitch Karadonovski, Dara Munnis and Sharon Nixon

Celebrating 50 years: Thanks to everyone who has contributed to our journey. To our Board, Patrons and Ambassadors, Life Members, Staff, Organising Committees, Club Committees, Teachers, Volunteers, Fundraisers, Partners and Supporters – whether past or present, thank you!

celebrating
50 years



Times have changed and people have come and gone, but the aim of Rainbow Club is the same – the happiness of the children. If Ron were here now, he would be proud of what his little club has achieved.

I smiled when a rainbow appeared above Ron's memorial service. It was him showing that the show must go on and it does, thanks to you.

Lily Siddons, Rainbow Club Co-founder