



Melbourne's year-round open water swimming group

The B Team's Odyssey - Lorne 2026

by Keith Badger

B Team camaraderie knows no bounds and a sensational sunny winter day in Lorne offered the perfect opportunity for a Pier to Pub escapade. Fourteen took to the placid 13°C water for the famed 1.2kms swim.

Of course, when the B Team swims it is never a race just a group of people splashing along in joyful exuberance. Some hugged the rocks while others built in a loop out into deeper waters. With a premium on safety, Andrew Buchanan held back at the start acting as a sweeper while Peter Botterill stroked around on a kayak keeping an eye on the stragglers. Nearing the beach many took time out to body surf the small breakers finally walking up the sand with broad smiles to be met by a hot ginger drink and piece of Debby Badger's boiled fruit cake. After recovering in the hot spa and steam room we regrouped at the pub for dinner and the elevation of the days events into tall tales of derring do.



B Teamers

LtoR: Rohan Timlock, David Williams, Keith Franklyn, Mal Robertson, John Scanlon, Russell Parrington, Andrew McLaughlin, Tas Kakkos, Dale Perkin, Stephen Gray, Bruce Whan, Michael Lombard, Andrew Buchanan

photo by Ria

The origins of this annual winter event were established at the turn of the century when Blackberries were the latest high tech gadget rather than a roadside fruit. On a slack mid-week day Peter Homann suggested Peter Court and I join him for an away day winter excursion. We drove to Lorne pier swam to the pub, had lunch there by the fire and were home again by teatime.

In 2026 that tradition was honoured and after dinner an awards ceremony recognised the achievements and bloopers of the day. Whether it was Michael's "I'm not having a good day, am I?", or Mal's cramp-wracked ending followed by a forlorn "I knew I needed to stretch beforehand, but didn't". A trophy was finally presented. It was a close run thing which anyone could have won. As Andrew Buchanan profoundly observed when reflecting on awards, "Enough is enough". Finally, Rohan Timlock was recognised as this year's B Team swimmer who had contributed most to the days enjoyment.

Afternoon Delights – Middle Brighton Images Friday 31st July 2026

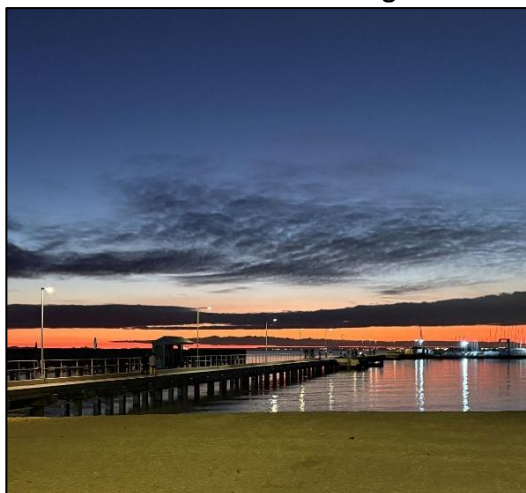


photo: Janie Zacharin



photo: Clive Fraser



Iceberger Bake-Off 2026 -

by Ria Bleathman

This year's Winter Classic Swim events (refer Newsletter 13th August 2026) were followed by the third Iceberger Bake-Off event which again showcased the cake-making and baking talents of Icebergers and their significant others. Three categories were contested and the winners were:



Novelty

Peter Maddison
(Chocolate Royals All At Sea)

Healthy eating / dietary

Fiona Townsing
(Flourless Lemon Greek Yoghurt)

Non-cake / open

Andrew Mullholland
(Lumberjack)

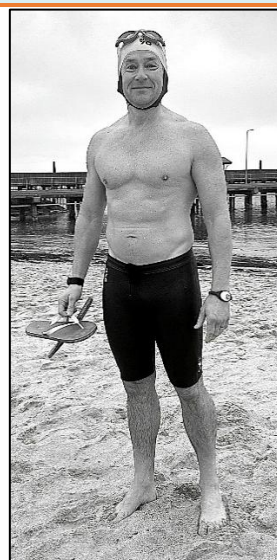
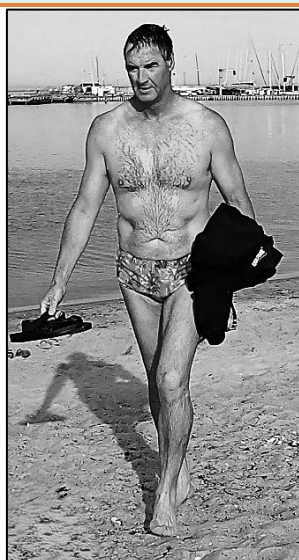
Well done and thank you to all entrants and many thanks to the judges: Alison Blacket and Cath Hurley.

The Seven Wurundjeri Seasons

The Newsletter series about the seven seasons according to the Wurundjeri was one of the most popular amongst readers so here is a complete list of all the seasons and the Newsletter issues in which they appeared:

Season	Referred to as...	Newsletter Edition
January - February	Biderap (Dry Season)	1 st January 2026
March	Iuk (Eel Season)	12 th March 2026
April - July	Waring (Wombat Season)	9 th April 2026
August	Guling (Orchid Season)	31 st July 2025
September - October	Poorneet (Tadpole Season)	11 th September 2025
November	Buath Gurru (Grass Flowering Season)	6 th November 2025
December	Garrawang (Kangaroo Apple Season)	4 th December 2025

Warriors of the Sea – Series Forty-Four



LtoR: Marcus Lethlean, Dan Wallace, Millie Hosie, Daniel Bailey

Letters to the Editor – Warren Fisher, Tribute Edition 13th August 2026

Thank you for another beautiful Newsletter. Rob Hooper was a kind and gentle and strong bloke! Thank you also for reminding us of Vietnam Veterans Day. A good day to think of my two brothers again!

The Iceberger Calendar

Date	Event
Sunday 13 th December 2026 at RBYC	Olsen Hooper Classic. Ross MacDowell



27th August 2026

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