SPECIAL OLYMPICS SYDNEY SOUTH

POLAR PLUNGE EDITION

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What a fantastic morning at Gunnamatta Bay for the LETR POLAR PLUNGE





While the Sydney South team cooked up a storm on the BBQ, the torch run began its way down Nicholson Parade with athletes, volunteers, LETR and plungers joining the run. Sydney South athletes were privileged to run a section with the torch.







The cauldron was lit by Patrick May who raised \$1600 for the LETR. Both he and Danielle Slade received awards from the Police Bank as athletes who raised the highest amounts. Andrew Richardson raised \$3100 – fantastic effort. Together our two teams, Team Syd South and Charlie's Angels raised \$13550 - a mighty effort!







The Police Commissioner Karen Webb led off the Plungers followed by the Fire Commissioner. Other VIPs followed including Mark Speakman MP Cronulla, Carmello Pesce SSC Mayor and Pierre Comis CEO Special Olympics. Soon it was time for Sydney South to Plunge. Looking fabulous in Green and Blue Team Sydney South led by Lincoln walked out to the jetty.



After the countdown our plungers leapt into the chilly water with a shout, a scream, a yippee and a big splash!! A variety of plunge styles were demonstrated – the pencil dive, the bomb, the leap of faith and the "gee it's a long way down and I am a bit scared, but I am doing it anyway plunge" just to name a few! The crowd cheered and everyone made it safely to the beach under the watchful eyes of the police diver and the safety board rider. Here is the video of the plunge <u>Sydney South Polar Plunge</u>







Well done, Dani, Linc, Claire, Simone, Ryan, Cooper, Pat, Justine, Keegan, Donelle, Andrew and Kathy.



Then it was Charlie, and his Angels turn. Charlie is part of our Thurs Basketball training group. Charlie led his family out to the plunge spot and the team of eleven all leapt into the water, including Charlie's Mum Kristie, Dad Rob and his Grandmother - good on you all!

Here is the link to Charlie's jump Charlie's Angels Plunge

Well done to all our plungers. The club is especially proud of our athlete plungers - you were all very brave in the attempt!

Our LETR friends were the last group to jump, and a large group assembled to cheer these champions as they plunged to loud clapping and cheering!! Special Congratulations to long time Sydney South Committee member, Alan Keane, who if you look closely at the photo, walked back to the beach rather than swim like the rest of us!







Thanks to everyone who helped out on the BBQ throughout the day, we had plenty of helpers which was great. Huge thanks to everyone who came to Gunnamatta in Club colours and cheered us on.



The NSW LETR raised \$92,470. Across Australia and New Zealand LETR raised \$275,300. All of the funds raised go to helping athletes and assisting with Special Olympics programs. Thanks to the LETR for their continuing support and friendship for our athletes.

Thanks so much to everyone from the club who donated to the plungers and to all the other plunging teams who raised \$\$ and awareness for Special Olympics. Thanks to the athletes from our sporting groups who responded to the request to donate to their fellow athletes. Also to our friends at North West New England Club who donated to our team.

It's not too late - if you haven't donated yet here is the link: https://include.specialolympics.com.au/fundraisers/SydneySouth







Mike Dalton from Channel 9 came along and did a great story which featured on the Sunday night news with Sydney South athletes in our blue and green uniforms front and centre. Great work by Pat lighting the cauldron, our team in lime green leaping into the Bay and our Cooper starring in the news clip! See it <u>here</u>







Huge thanks to Scott, Alan and our LETR friends for organising a great event. We hope you had as much fun as we did. Looking forward to 2025 – everyone from the club is welcome to join with us and plunge!