

Chewton Pool Inc
2020/2021 Season Report
September 2021

1. Executive Summary

The 2020/2021 season of the Chewton Community Swimming Pool, is the tenth season operated by Chewton Pool Inc. Our Committee of Management and staff continue to work hard to maintain this facility, a key community hub, throughout the year. The summer of 2020/2021 was extremely challenging given unseasonably low temperatures, staffing issues and the impact of the COVID19 pandemic. Despite this, the pool was successful in providing unique programs and opportunities for the whole community.

Through our work, we make a practical investment into the community:

- The Pool provides learn to swim and aquatic awareness programs that educate and promote safety around water. We have had a particular emphasis on the way parents supervise children and increasing water safety awareness.
- The Chewton Pool invests in young people by providing employment and training for lifeguards. We also ensure regular ongoing training in emergency responsiveness.
- We seek to create innovative programs to meet the needs of particular community groups. Activities like Club Summer @ Chewton Pool address the needs of teenagers who were impacted by the lockdowns due to COVID 19 and targeted programs for older people.

The Chewton Community have continued to demonstrate their strong commitment to the pool:

- The number of volunteers who regularly participate forms a significant portion of the Chewton population. The breadth of activities includes: regular work on the grounds, undertaking work to improve the amenity of the pool, learning our pool plant system, maintaining the accounts, staffing the kiosk and assisting programs and fundraising.
- The Chewton community invest in the pool by purchasing yearly memberships which are a crucial source of revenue and provides a level of income certainty that allows for better budgeting each year.
- The Committee of Management continues to invest in improvements to the pool. This season was the first with the Heliocol system in place. The pool water was warmer, consistently around 27C, making it more comfortable for all users particularly the very young and older patrons. We also refurbished our pool pump and it is estimated that it will add approximately ten years to its working life. These investments help to ensure the future viability of the pool. A new hydraulic chair lift was installed as part of our commitment to improve the facility for disabled users.

There were some difficulties this season that were common to outdoor swimming pools across the region:

- COVID 19 posed problems throughout the season. There was a need to keep abreast of the changing levels of restrictions and protocols. We had to revise our COVID plan multiple

times to ensure the safety of pool users. The lockdown had an impact on attendance and on our income.

- The 2021/2022 summer was the coldest in 20 years. There were many days under 23C which is the minimum temperature required for opening. This is the protocol throughout the Mount Alexander Shire. The cooler weather was intermittent, so it was hard to get consistency during the season.

Despite these challenges, our attendance was consistent with last year's season.

2. Details of Income

There are a number of primary sources of revenue for Chewton Pool Inc in 2020/2021:

- Memberships give us certainty with our budget and allow us to plan for operational costs, maintenance and repairs. They are a key way that the community invests in the pool and demonstrates its commitment to the association. Memberships totalled 345 and provided \$10,955 income.
- The MASC grant continues to be crucial to pay for operational staffing costs. The 2020/2021 season saw the COM resolve to ask MASC to increase the operational grant to comply with LSV Guideline for Safe Pool Operations. The 2020/21 grant was \$42,800.
- Chewton Swim school has run for two years and is very popular with the community and provides the pool with an additional income stream. This season it enrolled 203 students and generated an income of \$7,322.
- The pool kiosk continues to generate a regular income stream, but with pressure from families wanting healthy food options this has become more variable in recent years. This season the income from the kiosk totalled \$3,545.
- Additionally, there is irregular funding from grants, programs and casual pool entry:
 - VicHealth Club Summer @ Chewton pool grant \$9,200.
 - State Government grant for a Strategic Plan \$5,000.
 - Donations \$369
 - Fundraising \$1,146
 - Donated materials and services \$6,000
 - Casual pool entry \$6,129

3. Staffing Numbers & Accreditation

Chewton Pool Inc provided seasonal employment for 20 staff. This includes a Pool Operations Manager, a Deputy Manager, a Kiosk and Events Manager, a Pool Plant Technician, and a rotating roster of 10 Lifeguards. In addition we had three casual program staff for Club Summer @ Chewton Pool and three swim teachers.

In line with the GSPO's, in addition to lifeguard training undertaken prior to the season, ongoing professional training was provided to the lifeguards throughout the season.

20/21 Roles - All Casual Positions.	Qty	WWC	CPR	LSV Lifeguard	First Aid	Aquatic Technical Operations	AUSTWIM Teacher	MASC Grant Funded:	Approx. MASC Funded Hours:
Pool Operations Manager	1								260
Deputy Pool Manager	1								150
Facilities / Volunteer Manager	1								240
Pool Technical Operator	1								100
Senior Lifeguard	1								80
Lifeguard/s	9								680
Chewton Swim Manager	1								
Swim Instructors	4								
Kiosk Volunteers	30								
Pool Plant Volunteer	1								

4. Attendance

Attendances were lower in 2020/2021 than previous seasons, as we faced unseasonably cold weather. Despite this, there were some key points of improvement this season. Our membership was the highest recorded. This indicates strong engagement with the pool by the Chewton community and those in surrounding areas. Attendance at Chewton Swim has increased markedly and was nearly double last season.

We hope that a more consistent weather outlook, coupled with the improved heating of the pool will continue to drive strong attendance figures.

Ticket categories

We continued to offer both casual entry tickets and memberships which provide good value to regular users of the pool. The ticket categories were:

Season Membership

Adult	\$75.00
Adult concession/volunteer	\$60.00
Child entry	\$50.00
Family (two adults and three children)	\$165.00
Family concession	\$140.00
Parent/carer and Child	\$110.00

This last category is included as an acknowledgement that single parents are frequently amongst the most disadvantaged in our community.

Casual Entry

Adult	\$6.00
Adult concession	\$5.00
Child entry	\$4.00
Family (two adults and two children)	\$16.00
Family concession (two adults and two children)	\$14.00

Attendance Summary

Days Open	58
Total Entries	5,127
Daily Average	88
Percentage of Members	68
Percentage of Casual Attendees	32
Membership Passes	139
Total Members	337
Adult Members	151
Child Members	186
Club Summer Registrations	44
Chewton Swim Enrolments	203
Chewton Swim Families	103

5. Program of Activities

The Committee of Management has instituted a range of programs, some of which are unique to this pool.

- Club Summer@Chewton Pool

The Committee of Management identified teenagers as a group who had been adversely affected by the COVID 19 pandemic. In order to respond to this need, the COM applied for a grant from Vic Health to run a program called Club Summer @ Chewton Pool. The focus

of the program was to get young people back into activity on their terms. The program ran for three hours over several Sundays across the season where the participants could have exclusive use of the pool. The program was facilitated by Sarah Cook of Xtreme Youth Projects with the assistance of Flynn and Cam from Walking the Walls Parkour. Our funding included the provision of a healthy barbecue lunch that was catered by pool volunteers. The program had 44 registered participants. The feedback from parents and participants has been overwhelmingly positive; many commenting that there was simply no comparable opportunity running for teenagers.

- Golden Nuggets

This popular program provides a chance for adults to have a swimming session without children. A large number of the participants are older people who prefer the quieter environment. There are also people who work at home or in the home and it provides an opportunity to connect with other adults during the day. In this way, it is helping to combat the social isolation that many have felt this year. Many people swim laps, some do aquatic exercise or rehabilitation activities. Some people appreciate the social atmosphere and it has been a place where friends are made.

- Chewton Swim

Chewton Swim is a success story that goes from strength to strength. This year there was again a huge increase in the program with 105 families and 204 individuals from across the Mount Alexander Shire participating. We ran three weeks of Swim and Survive intensive 5-day programs as well as weekly classes on Saturdays.

- Other

Additionally, we engage with the community to run events such as the Blue Light Disco in partnership with Victoria Police and the Chewton CFA. We provide a venue for local schools to undertake activities and swimming programs. Our swimming teachers work closely with the Chewton Primary School to enhance their program by providing clarity about students' prior attainments. This allows both the school and Chewton Swim to appropriately meet individual students' needs and ensure that their skills are developing.

6. Hours of Operation

In 2020/2021, the Chewton Pool Committee again followed a High season/Low season model and adjusted our hours of opening accordingly. This decision was based on the data from previous seasons, which indicated when attendances were higher or lower.

Low Season (shoulder season - approx. school term)

- Mondays to Fridays - 3.30pm to 6.30pm
- Saturdays – 2pm to 7pm
- Sunday – 3pm to 6.30pm
- Other programs were accommodated outside these hours such as the Golden Nuggets and the Chewton Primary School Swimming Program.

High Season (approx. school holidays)

- Mondays to Saturdays - 2pm to 7.30pm
- Sundays – 3pm – 6.30pm



- Other programs were accommodated outside these hours such as the Golden Nuggets and Chewton Swim

As always, these hours of operation will be evaluated at the end of season review to ensure that we met the needs and expectations of members as well as budget alignment.

7. Profit and Loss Summary - 2019/2020 Financial Year

Figures prepared by Sally McCarthy, Treasurer for Chewton Pool Inc.

Chewton Pool Inc Financial Summary 20/21 as at April 30	
LINE ITEM	INCOME
Booking Fees; Schools, Blue Light Disco	\$ 542.50
Donations	\$ 369.00
Entry Fees	\$ 6,129.00
Fundraising	\$ 1,146.35
Interest Received	\$ 6.58
Kiosk Takings	\$ 6,940.40
Membership Fees	\$ 10,955.00
Operational Support	\$ 42,800.00
Reimbursement (ATO Stimulus)	\$ 9,950.00
Sale of Second-Hand Goods	\$ 500.00
Chewton Swim Enrolment	\$ 14,685.00
Sponsorship	\$ -
Funded Projects; Club Summer, Strat Planning, PMP	\$ 32,165.26
Cash carried over	\$ 19,230.47
	\$ 145,419.56
LINE ITEM	EXPENDITURE
Accounting	\$ 1,202.08
Advertising	\$ 53.32
Asset Purchases	\$ 970.15
Association Administration	\$ 276.30
Chewton Swim Administration	\$ 207.65
Fundraising	\$ 200.33
Grounds	\$ 139.75
Maintenance	\$ 184.25
Operations-Admin	\$ 596.60
Operations - Facility	\$ 4,348.31
Operations - Kiosk	\$ 3,393.34
Operations - Pool	\$ 4,015.90
Operations - Staff	\$ 2,695.80
Utilities	\$ 14,888.71
Wages - Operational	\$ 43,013.98
Wages - Chewton Swim	\$ 7,362.96
Works	\$ 9,284.13
Miscellaneous	-\$ 103.15
Funded Projects	\$ 36,510.17
Contributions (PMP)	\$ 5,904.26
	\$ 135,144.84



We are pleased to present this report of the operation of our pool during the 2020/2021 season. As always, we are thankful for the contribution of the Mount Alexander Shire Council to the Chewton Pool. Without this funding, the pool would cease to operate and would be a great loss to the Chewton community.

Yours sincerely,

Sera-Jane Peters
President
September 1, 2021

Wendy Hopkins
Secretary
September 1, 2021