

HISTORY OF SWIMMING IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS.

Introduction

The Cayman Islands are about 500 miles south of Miami, just over an hour's flight away. Grand Cayman, the largest and most populous, is about 150 miles south of Cuba and about 180 miles NW of Jamaica. Little Cayman lies 60 miles to the ENE and a further 4 miles on is Cayman Brac.

Grand Cayman is about 22 miles long and 8 miles at maximum width with its most striking feature, the North Sound, a reef protected area of shallow sea just over 7 miles by 6 miles and almost cutting the island in two.

At the end of 1989 the population was estimated to be 26,400 of whom 16,600 (63%) are Caymanians. The majority of non-Caymanians are either on work-permits or employed by government.

The development of sport depends on people with some knowledge of a particular sport, and available facilities. While there are many small private pools in Cayman, the only pool suitable for competitive swimming is the 25 metre Lions Aquatic Centre pool, which was opened in January, 1986. However, the beautiful clean, clear and warm waters of the Caribbean Sea are all around us, so we have gone from 3 miles to 25 metres, from triathlons to swim meets! We've come a long way, but, as regards international competition, we are still at the beginning. It is interesting to note that in 1971 the Cayman Islands took part in a Sea-Scouts Jamboree in Grenada, which included swimming, sailing & rowing. Peter Milburn was the coach. Cayman's sea-scouts took two of the five trophies. The training in sailing had much longer lasting effects on the scouts than in swimming.

The Lions Club Swim Meets on Cayman Brac are a big event in their annual calendar, with the 1990 meet thought to be the fourteenth.



2nd. Annual Lions Club Swim Meet, Public Beach.
October, 1974.

1974. Oct. Cayman Islands Divers (British Sub-Aqua Club - BSAC), most notably Jim Walker, teach 25 children of the Happy-Go-Laddie Club swimming technique at the Seaview Hotel Pool.
Lions Club Swim Meet at the Public Beach. The races are held between two pontoons. Champion Boy: John Bodden (Comprehensive School), Champion Girl: Eva McFarlane (Triple C School). Peter Stafford (Catholic School) did well in the under 12 division.
1975. Oct. Lions Club Swim Meet at the Public Beach. The races are again held between two pontoons. Champion Boy: Chris McTaggart (Cayman Islands High School -CIHS). Catholic School wins the Junior Schools plaque.
1976. Nov. Lions Club Swim Meet in the Seaview Hotel pool. CIHS wins Senior Schools trophy, Catholic School wins Junior Schools trophy.
1977. April Cayman hosts the first Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS) seminar, at the Royal Palms Hotel, with delegates from the Bahamas, Bermuda, Canada, Trinidad & Tobago & the U.K. (The RLSS was founded in Britain in 1891).
Oct. John Elliott establishes a branch of RLSS here; Jim Walker is the instructor.
July Cayman Islands High School Swimming Gala at the Public Beach. The races are far too short, but there was great competitive spirit. Dolphin House were the winners, followed by Wahoo, Barracuda, Marlin and Tarpon.
Nov. Lions Inter-Primary Schools Swim Meet at Seaview Hotel. Catholic School are the winners.
1978. June Catholic School Swimming Gala in the Seaview Hotel Pool. Swallows House wins, with John Michael Stafford winning 3 firsts.
- 1979.
1980. Oct. 1st. Annual Pirates Week 3 Mile Swim from the George Town Dock to Galleon Beach, organised by Raglan Roper. Dive-master Darby Bodden wins in 1hr. 39mins. with dive-master Peter Milburn 30 secs. behind him. John Miller is 3rd., 15yr. old Peter Stafford 6th., David Foster 8th. and first lady, Sandy Tatham 9th.
1981. Oct. 2nd. Annual Pirates Week 3 Mile Swim from George Town to Galleon Beach. 17 yr. old Shane Foster wins (1hr. 24mins.), followed by visitor Brian Reynolds, Darby Bodden, Peter Stafford, John Miller, Richard Hew, Nigel Phillips, John Michael Foster, Derek Weber, David Foster, John Michael Stafford, Skinny Donalds, Charlotte Malabre (first female) & Curtis Ebanks.
1982. Dec. 1st. Annual Budweiser/Nautilus Triathlon: "1 mile" Swim; 35 mile Bike; 8 mile Run, from the Ports of Call Restaurant. Carson Ebanks is first out of the water; Tim Byrne wins the triathlon in 3hr. 16mins. 41secs. with Carson less than a minute behind him. Visitor Lyn Schermerhorn is first lady (4:23:24), with Linda Barlow first female resident. In the team event visitor Andrew Phillips from Jamaica has the fastest swim, with Michael Day fastest resident male & Jane Gibson resident female.
1983. Dec. 2nd. Annual Budlight/Nautilus Triathlon: "1 mile" Swim; 35 mile Bike; 8 mile Run, from the Ports of Call Restaurant. Alfred Ebanks was over 2mins. ahead of visitor Patrick Poupert out of the water, who was 15 sec. ahead of Carson Ebanks. Unfortunately Alfred developed cramp and had to retire. Tim Byrne was the overall winner, with visitors 2nd. & 3rd. & Carson Ebanks 4th. (3:16:36). (Tim: 3:07:46). Visitor (& later resident) Kit Teasel was first female out of the water & also overall winner (3:47:47), with Laura Ribbins 2nd. female swimmer & overall. In the teams, Nigel Phillips was fastest male swimmer. Belinda Burrowes was over a minute ahead of him out of the water.

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1984. Oct. Pirates Week 3 Mile Swim from the George Town Dock to the Villas of the Galleon: 14 swimmers were ready to swim 3 miles but there was no official starter, time-keeper or other support personnel (apart from family members) for this long distance race, as there was no body for organising swimming events. With impromptu starter & time-keepers, Shane Foster won the race in 1hr. 25mins. 8sec., followed by Chris Gibbs of the Merryman Band from Barbados, Alfred Ebanks, Peter Stafford, Martin Gray (visiting businessman), first lady Judith Allen (1:41:24), Kit Teasdel, Clare Joy, Nigel Phillips, Tim Byrne, Steve Bassett, Paul Sleep & David Foster. There were no incidents, but two of the swimmers swam too far off shore.
- Dec. 3rd. Annual Budlight/Nautilus Triathlon: "1 mile" Swim; 35 mile Bike; 8 mile Run, from the Ports of Call Restaurant. Alfred Ebanks was out of the sea first (25:52), followed 4 secs. later by Patricia Daymon (USA), Patrick Poupert (USA), Peter Stafford & Tim Byrne. Judith Allen was first female resident (8th.), followed by Clare Joy & Kit Teasdel. Tim Byrne won the triathlon (2:57:02), overtaking Alfred in the later stages of the run (2:58:23). In the team event, John Miller was first out of the water, followed by Jean-Marc Lesieur, John Stafford & Nigel Phillips.
1985. May First meeting of the ^{future} Cayman Islands Amateur Swimming Association is held in the advent of a one mile sea swim, the suggestion of Peter Stafford. Sandy Schultz of Miami attended the meeting while on a brief visit to Cayman, prior to taking up her post as the first Lions Aquatic Centre Director. The boys of Bonaventure House are coached by CIASA volunteers, Peter Stafford, Laura Ribbins & Judith Allen. Judith also taught swimming to the children of the Lighthouse School for special education.
- June First One Mile Sea Swim, sponsored by the Stafford family & organised by the embryonic CIASA, with help from the Cayman Islands Amateur Athletics Association. 58 entrants swam from the Public Beach to Holiday Inn. Reg Koster won (24mins.20sec.) & Judith Allen was 1st. lady & 4th. overall (28:41). 10 swimmers from Bonaventure House Boys Home, better known for their running, swam admirably.
- July Leon Jackson, Youth & Community worker on Cayman Brac, holds weekly practice sessions for children in the Tiara Beach Hotel pool, with the help of teachers Mike Hundt, Doreen Ross & Rosalind Wilson.
- Oct. Newly constituted CIASA founder members: Clare Joy, Gerry Harper, Derek Banks, Reg Koster, Alfred Ebanks, Jan Pereira, Peter Stafford, Ann Stafford, Laura Ribbins, Doug Bickerton, and from Cayman Brac: Leon Jackson & Rosalind Wilson. Half mile sea swims are held in September & October. Reg Koster won both (12:46 & 12:36) with Carole Page 1st. lady & 7th. overall in Sept. (15:44) and 10 year old Tammy Wilson from the Brac 1st. lady & 15th. overall in Oct. (18:42). There are 79 swimmers in Sept. & 82 in Oct., with several from the Brac at both meets. Sue Hale re-activates the branch of the Royal Life Saving Society, together with Ingrid Watts.
- 6th. Annual Pirates Week 3 Mile Swim from the George Town Dock to the Villas of the Galleon. Reg Koster won (1:13:58), followed by Peter Stafford, Victor Thompson, Arlen Bodden, John Stafford, Marc Powell, Carole Page (1st. lady - 1:43:50), Frankie Flowers, Dayton Ebanks, Jim Fraser & Sue Hale.
1986. Jan. Dedication & official opening of the Lions Aquatic Centre by the President of the International Association of Lions Clubs, Joseph L. Wroblewski. The half-olympic size pool (25 metres - the largest pool in the Cayman Islands), was built at a cost of some CI\$345,000, with the local Lions Club raising \$220,000. & government the remainder. The pool project started to make real progress in 1982 after a committee comprising Delano Hislop, Mike Lockwood, Bill Bissell and Denniston Tibbetts was formed.

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1986. March CIASA is now an officially registered company, a non-profit organization.
Tony Hale wins CIASA logo competition.
Inaugural Nabisco Team Triathlon, in co-operation with the Athletics & Cycling Associations. Teams are selected by the organizing committee. The event is master-minded by Bonaventure House parent Denny Tomsu, to encourage people of all ages & abilities to swim, bike or run, with every team being as evenly balanced as possible.
- April Lions Aquatic Centre new directors (temporary): Sue Hale & Tony Huseman.
- May CIASA affiliated to FINA (Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur - the international governing body of swimming), at the FINA Bureau meeting in Bonn.
- June Lions Club first age-group swim meet at the Pool, with 16 children from Cayman Brac competing.
Half Mile Swim Meet (sea) winners are Peter Stafford (11:46) & Carole Page (13:32, 4th. overall).
- Sept. Lobster Pot One Mile Swim won by new-comers Roland (24:13) & Frances Crouch (25:02, 4th. overall) from a field of 72 entrants.
- Oct. New Lions Aquatic Centre director, Gil, & his wife, Eleanor Fennie arrive.
Pirates Week 3 Mile Swim is won by Chris Gibbs (1:09:23), followed by Angus Edghill (1:09:24), both from Barbados. They are followed by Roland Crouch, Reg Koster, Alfred Ebanks, Peter Stafford, Fran Crouch (1:17:26, 1st. female) & Victor Thompson. All 18 entrants finish.
- Nov. Foster's Food Fair Half Mile Swim, with 92 swimmers, is won by Roland Crouch (11:34) & his wife, Fran (12:38, 1st. lady).
Reg Koster is elected CIASA President.
- Dec. 4th. Annual Budlight/Nautilus Triathlon: $\frac{1}{2}$ mile swim; 20 mile bike 6.2 mile run, South Sound. Peter Stafford is first out of the water; visitor Brad Lebo wins the triathlon, followed by Alfred Ebanks & John Miller. Visitor Mabeth Acree is first lady, followed by Laura Ribbins & Sue Hale.
1987. Feb. Lions Pool Swimming Gala: boys & girls, 7 - 16 years.
- March. Lions Pool is closed for maintenance for 7 weeks.
2nd. Annual Nabisco Team Triathlon: ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile swim; 10 mile bike; 3 mile run. 40 teams of 3 people.
- April Caribbean Utilities Co. Half Mile Sea Swim (95 entrants), won by Roland (11:34) & Fran Crouch (12:26, 3rd. overall). This is the first year of CUC Sportsfest, in which many different sporting events are sponsored by CUC throughout the year.
- May Jeff Miller, Brac Aquatics 25 year old dive instructor (from Ohio) is the first person to swim from West End Point, Cayman Brac to Point of Sand, Little Cayman, to raise funds to purchase athletics equipment for youth on the Brac. He swam the incident-free 5 miles in 2 hours, 36 mins. 38 secs.
Burger King Kids Triathlon: 11 - 14 year olds, 200m. swim, 10K bike & 2K run, South Sound. Winners: Andrew Elliott & Krista Smith.
- June Lobster Pot One Mile Swim: 54 entrants. Winners: Roland (22:04) & Fran Crouch (24:26, 3rd. overall.)
Lions Club Pool Meet: boys & girls, 7 - 17 years; 25m. - 100m.
- Aug. CIASA affiliated to ASUA (Amateur Swimming Union of the Americas.)
X Pan American Games: Indianapolis, Indiana: Peter Stafford swam in the 50m., 100m. & 200m. freestyle, breaking the ice for the Cayman Islands in international swimming competition. He trained hard & gained valuable knowledge, which he hopes will benefit up & coming young swimmers here.
- Oct. 8th. Annual Pirates Week 3 Mile Swim from George Town Dock to Vill-
as of the Galleon, 18 entrants. Peter Stafford wins (1:23:57), followed by Alfred Ebanks (1:27:50), Reg Koster (1:29:57), Victor Thompson (1:35:20) & first lady Katherine von Offenheimer (1:40:07)
Only 5 seconds separated brothers Frankie & Clarence Flowers, (1:46:26).

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1987. Oct. Swim across North Sound, approx. 7.25 miles: Alfred Ebanks & Victor Thompson swim from Rum Point to Morgan's Harbour to raise money for the West Bay Youth Club on West Bay's Heritage Day during Pirates Week. They encounter cross-winds, strong currents & schools of jelly-fish. Alfred finishes in 3 hours, 58 mins. & Victor a few minutes later. They then ran nearly 2 miles to West Bay Town Hall.
- Foster's Food Fair Half Mile Swim: the sea was choppy, but all 48 entrants finished, (the course was reversed). Roland Crouch won, (11:24) & his wife, Fran, was first lady (12:27), 3rd. overall.
- Dec. Budlight/Nautilus Triathlon: 1.5K swim; 40K bike; 10K run, South Sound. Roland Crouch was first out of the water (21:40), but Alfred Ebanks wins the triathlon (2:06:30), with last year's winner, Brad Lebo 2nd. (2:07:20). Another visitor, Patricia Daymon is first lady (2:22:02), 11th. overall.
- During the year, Victor Thompson consistently wins the 35 plus age-group & 9 year old Tristan Abbott is an outstanding junior.
1988. The Cayman Islands Amateur Swimming Association continued its policy of encouraging swimmers of all ages and abilities, to participate for fun, fitness and competition. The sea-swims, not held during the Nor'wester season (Dec. - March), because of the possibility of very rough seas, attract large turnouts, often with parents & small children swimming alongside each other in this fitness-for-life sport. The age range was from 4 to 67 years! Trophies are awarded in seven age-groups, male & female, and all finishers receive a ribbon or T-shirt, etc., promoting the concept of every finisher a winner.
- Feb. Lions Aquatic Centre Pool Meet: 8 & under - 18 years, 17 records broken. Outstanding: Tristan Abbott & Caroline Sullivan.
- March CUC Sportsfest Pool Meet - CARIFTA Trials: 8 & under - 18 years, 21 records broken. Outstanding: Tristan Abbott & Caroline Marr. Brac Team Triathlon: 600m. swim; 6 mile bike; 3 mile run. Peter Stafford is first out of the water, with his wife, Claire first lady, 4th. overall.
- April June Borden's Pizza Youth in Action Relay: held on Easter Monday as part of the Easter Regatta activities, this new event was to encourage Youth Club teams from the various districts to participate in a short (50m.) fun event, but the turnout was disappointing, with only regular swimmers showing up.
- XVII CARIFTA Games, Jamaica: (Athletics, Badminton, Boxing, Swimming, Table & Lawn Tennis) - Cayman's second venture in overseas competition, first for juniors: 15 - 20 years: James Bush, Joan Everson, John Lawrence. 14 & under: Tristan Abbott, James Bettany, Tyrone Rojas & Caroline Sullivan. All gained valuable experience & achieved personal bests.
- Cable & Wireless Year of Sport Half Mile Swim: 87 entrants, Roland Crouch wins (11:36) & his wife, Fran is first lady, (12:10), third overall.
- Hyatt Regency Don't Try Drugs, Tri-Fitness Triathlon: 1K swim; 25K bike; 5K run. 48 entrants. Roland Crouch is first out of the water (14:31), but Alfred Ebanks wins the triathlon (1:20:01), followed by Peter Stafford (1:21:20) & Nick Baker (1:23:48). Celine Macken is first lady, 7th. overall (1:30:58) & Fran Crouch 2nd. lady, 9th. overall, (1:32:56).
- May 3rd. Annual Nabisco Team Triathlon: 1K swim; 25K bike; 5K run, South Sound. 19 teams of 3 in the open division, 4 family teams. Victor Thompson is first out of the water, with Caroline Marr, 13 years, first lady.
- June Lions Club Pool Meet - National Championships: 8 & under - 18 yrs. 24 records broken. Outstanding: John Lawrence & Lucy Benbow.
- Milo Kids Triathlon: South Sound. 7 - 10 yrs: 100m. swim; 5K bike; 1K run; 11 - 14 yrs: 200m. swim; 10K bike; 2K run. Triathlon age-group winners: Michael Cucknell, Tristan Abbott, Dominic Ross (Brac), Manlio Connolly, Samantha Erskine (Brac), Marita Pereira.

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1988. During the year CIASA is affiliated to Confederacion Centro Americana Y Del Caribe de Aficionados a la Natacion (CCCAN).
- June Lobster Pot 4th. Annual One Mile Swim: 46 entrants. Winners: Peter Stafford (23:30) & Fran Crouch (24:15), 2nd. overall.
- Sept. Texaco Twosome Half Mile Swim: 61 entrants in this new event- 49 in the individual age-groups, & 6 teams of 2 in the Family Duo category, in which one family member has to be under 16 yrs. of age. Peter Stafford won (11:28) & Fran Crouch was first female (12:24), 4th. overall. Edward & Martin Allen won the Family Duo in a combined time of 39:53. Totally blind swimmer, Jamie McCulloch finished in 26:12.
- Oct. 9th. Annual Pirates Week 3 Mile Swim: 24 entrants, ranging in age from 9 - 67 years. The course was shifted north for safety reasons to avoid swimming across a increasingly busy George Town harbour. Peter Stafford won (1:17:39), followed by Victor Thompson (1:27:33) Frank Flowers, Tristan Abbott, Clarence Flowers & first lady Claire Stafford (1:41:09), Martin Leggatt, Caroline Marr, Pierre Gross, John Stafford & 10 year old James Bettany (1:52:27). William Jones won the trophy for the youngest & John Davies for the oldest.
- 1st. Annual Pirates Week Lions Pool Swim Meet: 6 & under - 18 years. 32 records broken. Outstanding: Tristan Abbott & Lisa Abbott.
- Foster's Food Fair 4th. Annual Half Mile Swim: 77 entrants. Peter Stafford won with a new course record: 11:15; first lady Fran Crouch was 2nd. overall.(12:15).

During the year, consistent winners were: Robert Jones (under 7); Tristan Abbott (9 - 10); Victor Thompson & Ann Stafford (both 35 plus). Good performances were also put in by Frankie Flowers, Martin Leggatt, Caroline & Jackie Marr & James Bettany. In spite of lack of facilities, young swimmers from Cayman Brac have done very well when competing in Grand Cayman, especially Dominic Ross & Samantha Erskine.

There was no Budlight/Nautilus Triathlon in December, due to lack of race-director.

1989. Jan. Lions Aquatic Centre Pool Meet: 4 - 17 years. records broken. Outstanding: Tristan Abbott & Christine Hetley.
- March CUC Sortsfest Pool Meet: records broken. Outstanding: Tony Whitty & Lisa Buchanan.
- Brac Team triathlon: ½ mile swim; 6 mile bike; 3+ mile run. Peter Stafford is first out of the water, with his wife, Claire first lady, 3rd. overall.
- April 2nd. Annual Cable & Wireless Half Mile Swim: 74 entrants, Peter Stafford wins (11:29) & Caroline Marr is first lady, 4th. overall, (13:45).
- 2nd. Annual Hyatt Regency Don't Try Drugs, Tri-Fitness Triathlon: 1K swim; 25K bike; 5K run. 45 individuals & 6 teams of 3. (Teams allowed in 15 - 19 age-group only). Peter Stafford is first out of the water (14:25), but Alfred Ebanks wins the triathlon (1:15:47), followed by Peter (1:17:15) & Nick Baker (1:23:07). Fran Crouch is first lady out of the water (DNF), but Celine Macken wins the female division of the triathlon (1:26:16), 5th. overall, followed by Nicola Jordan (1:34:22) & Lucinda Bennett ((1:35:47).
- May Milo Kids Triathlon: Rum Point. 55 boys & girls. 100m. swim; 5K bike; 1K run (7 - 10 yrs.); 200m. swim; 10K bike; 2K run (11 - 14 yrs.) Triathlon winners: Jake Treen, Lisa Scoots; Mark Turner, Lisa Abbott; Tristan Abbott, Daniel Cummings & Samantha Erskine.
- June Borden's Pizza Swim Relay: 4 x 200m. Fun event in the sea. Junior (under 12); Youth (under 20); Open (20 yrs. plus). 9 teams of 4 competed.
- June Lions Club Pool Meet - National Swimming Championships: 102 competitors, 30 records broken. Outstanding: Tony Whitty & Jackie Marr.
- May 13 Annual Brac Lions Club Swim Meet: Tiara Beach Hotel.
- 4th. Annual Nabisco Team Triathlon: Public Beach. 21 teams. 1K swim; 15K bike; 5K run. Victor Thompson was first out of the water (13:21) & Caroline Marr first female (14:47), 3rd. overall.

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1989. June Lions Aquatic Centre Pool closed for maintenance for a period extending into 6 weeks.

Lobster Pot 5th. Annual One mile Swim: 45 entrants. Winners: Peter Stafford (23:08) & Fran Crouch (24:04), 2nd. overall.

July Victor Thompson's solo 5 mile swim from West Bay to George Town - The Wharf Restaurant (Ports of Call): 2hr. 20mins. to raise money for a foetal monitor for the hospital.

Aug. XVIII CARIFTA Games, Barbados. (Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Boxing, Cycling, Swimming, Table & Lawn Tennis). A Cayman swim team competed for the second time: John Lawrence (captain) & Jackie Marr in the 15 & over division; Tristan Abbott, Jason Bynoe, Oneil Roberts, James Bettany, Caroline Marr & Samantha Erskine in the 14 yrs. & under division. These Games have traditionally been held over the Easter holidays. The Cayman Swim Team's preparation was hampered by the closure of the 25m. Lions Pool (the only pool on the island suitable for competitive swimming) for a period extending into 6 weeks immediately prior to the Games. This meant they had to train primarily in the sea & a hotel pool. They did their best & benefitted from the experience of overseas competition.

Sept. 2nd. Annual Texaco Twosome Half Mile Swim: 61 entrants. For the first time, the overall winner of a sea-swim is female: Fran Crouch (12:22). Victor Thompson (13:13) is 2nd. & Caroline Marr (13:18) 3rd. The family Duo is won by Eddie & Martin Allen (32:51). Again, totally blind swimmer, Jamie McCulloch, a visitor, finished (26:38).

Oct. Lions Aquatic Centre directors, Gil & Eleanor Fennie leave the island after 3 years and the pool is again closed, this time for six months, until new Aquatic directors taken up their position.

Foster's Food Fair 5th. Annual Half Mile Swim: 18 entrants. The course is reversed; an early Norther causes swells & deters many swimmers, but all who enter finish in under 21mins. & some fast times are recorded, aided by a following current. Winners: Peter Stafford (11:35) & Caroline Marr (13:43), 5th. overall.

10th. Annual Pirates Week 3 Mile Swim: 21 entrants. The course is reversed for the first time, with the start at the Public Beach & a very exciting finish at the Wharf Restaurant. Chris Gibbs from Barbados & Peter Stafford have an incredibly close race. Both finish in 1hr. 11mins. 13sec. with Peter winning by a hand. A visitor, Henry Southall, was 3rd., Victor Thompson 4th. & Frankie Flowers 5th. Caroline Marr was first lady home, (1:31:14) just ahead of Tristan Abbott in 8th. place.

Nov. Pirates Week Kids Triathlon: Lions Aquatic Centre (opened for 2 days). under 11 yrs. - 35 teams; under 14 yrs. - 6 teams; under 17 yrs. - 6 teams.

Pirates Week Lions Pool Meet: 10 records broken. Outstanding: Jacob Treen ; Keri Ingle (Brac) & Tina Rae.

Throughout the year regular age-group winners were Robert Jones, Lisa Abbott, Tristan Abbott, Samantha Erskine, Martin Allen, Caroline Marr, Victor Thompson, Frankie Flowers & Ann Stafford. Claire Stafford started winning her age-group. Roland & Fran Crouch left the island in October. A tribute goes to youngest competitors Alexandra Whitty (5 yrs.) & Hamish Foster (6 yrs.) & to the oldest, Ed Oliver (71 yrs.) & a very regular competitor, John Davies (68 yrs.)

Dec. Budlight/Fitness Connection Triathlon: 31 entrants + 1 team (celebrity). Coconut Harbour Resort. 0.75K swim; 20K bike; 5K run. Peter Stafford is first out of the water & wins the triathlon (1:07:28), followed by Marc Powell (1:10:19) & Jim Fraser (1:11:43). First lady is Nicola Jordan (1:23:21), followed by Penny McDowall (1:25:37) & Amanda Cowan (1:25:58).

Peter Stafford, after months of training for the Commonwealth Games in New Zealand Jan. 1990) had to withdraw his entry because of the closure of the Lions Pool, with the departure of the Fennies, Aquatic Directors, in early October. During their tenure, many children were introduced to swimming.

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1990. March Lions Aquatic Centre: new directors arrive - Jim & Susan Hagen & the pool is re-opened after 6 months.

Brac Power & Light Team Triathlon: ½ mile swim; 6 mile bike; 3 mile run. Peter Stafford is first out of the water (12:15), followed by Victor Thompson. First female: Keri Ingle (9 teams).

3rd. Annual Cable & Wireless Half Mile Swim: 57 entrants. Peter Stafford wins (11:42) & Caroline Marr is first female (13:31), 4th. overall. In the 11 - 12 age-group James Bettany just edges out long-time rival Tristan Abbott for 5th. place (both 13:59).

April 5th. Annual Nabisco Team Triathlon: 1K swim; 15K bike; 5K run.

Victor Thompson is first out of the water (13:43), followed by first female, Caroline Marr (14:48).

3rd. Annual Hyatt Regency Don't Try Drugs, Tri-Fitness triathlon:

1K swim; 25K bike; 5K run. 42 individuals (all finished) & 2 15-19yr. teams & Celebrity Team: David Foster (swim); His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Alan Scott (bike) & Alan Jones (run). Peter Stafford was first out of the water (15:36) & won the triathlon (1:17:50), followed by Tim Byrne (1:21:25), recently returned to the island after several years. Pierre Gross was 2nd. out of the water (18:38) & Caroline Marr (18:49) - winning team, & Pete Ribbins 19:41 (3rd. overall - 1:24:31, winner men's 40+). Laura Ribbins was first individual female out of the water (21:38), with Celine Macken first female triathlete (1:27:08), 5th. overall. Laura was 2nd. female (1:37:11), 21st. overall, with Zanne Singmaster-Hunt 3rd. (24th. overall).