

The Telopea Swim Club mourns the passing of Patrick “Pat” Brazil AO – Patron, Life Member and Past President.

It is with great sadness that Telopea Swim Club mourns the passing of our Patron, Life Member and Past President – Patrick “Pat” Brazil – on 28 June 2017.

Pat Brazil was a valued member of the Telopea Swim Club, who held his association with the club very dear to his heart. Pat, his wife Colleen and children joined the club in 1968 only a few years after the club was formed where his children swam and competed at the local Manuka pool – Canberra’s first swimming pool and the original home of the club.

Pat’s long involvement with the Telopea Swim Club extended close to some fifty years. Like most parents, Pat and Colleen started out by holding stopwatches at the Saturday morning races each summer. He then quickly moved onto hold a number of executive committee positions, culminating in Club President from 1977 to 1982. He was unanimously nominated as a life member of Telopea in 1982 for his contribution to the club over the previous fourteen years.

Pat was also involved with amateur swimming in the ACT. He was President of the Southern Districts Amateur Swimming Association from 1976 – 1979, which included swimming clubs from Goulburn to Eden as well as the ACT (before the formation of the Capital Territory Amateur Swimming Association, the forerunner of Swimming ACT, in 1982). He was also a member of the ACT Sport and Fitness Committee, advising the Minister for the Capital Territory on matters affecting the development of sport and physical fitness in the ACT in the early 1980s.

Pat was a former senior career public servant, who was made an Officer of the Order of Australia in June 1989 in recognition of his service to the Australian Public Service as Secretary of the Attorney-General’s Department (1983 – 1989).

For the past twenty-five years, Pat has held the position as the Patron of the Telopea Swim Club. This is a unique position never held by any other member.

He will be sadly missed by the Telopea Swim Club.

On behalf of the Telopea committee and all members, we send our sympathy and support to the Brazil family at this time.