



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### WAIMAIRI LOCAL – YOUNGEST TO TAKE THE PLUNGE

An 8 yr old sports enthusiast from Waimairi Beach will take to the water as the youngest competitor in Christchurch's State Corsair Classic on February 26.

Taylor Chamberlain who has only just turned eight will join an estimated 700 other swimmers as he plunges into Littleton Harbour for his longest ever ocean swim, and the fourth event in the 2010/2011 State NZ Ocean Swim Series.

The event has attracted elite swimmers such as Kane Radford, Bryn Murphy and Steven Kent, who will swim the 2.8km event along with some other famous faces such as Stephen McIvor who will swap his television microphone for a swim suit and plunge into Corsair Bay. For those who just want to test the waters there's a 1000m or 300m option.

Chamberlain, who attends Parkview Primary School in Parklands has already made his mark in tennis and cross country running and has recently become an enthusiastic member of the Waimairi Surf Club Juniors. He is looking forward to taking the plunge in the State Ocean Kids 200m event. His parents say he is absolutely obsessed with anything sports related.

Joanne Chamberlain, Taylor's mum says "As a Mother, I will be watching nervously from the shore and yes I am a bit worried about what the conditions on the day might be, but I am very proud of him diving into this event at such a young age .... he has always been a little fish and loves to compete".

Scott Rice, Event Director, State NZ Ocean Swim Series says: "It's fantastic to see young people like Taylor giving it a go. I applaud his parents for making the commitment to support him in what will hopefully be a lifetime of swimming."

The State NZ Ocean Swim Series includes ocean swims in Auckland (x2), the Bay Of Islands, Wellington, Christchurch and Bay Of Plenty. The series kicked off in November with the Auckland State Harbour Crossing and ends with the State King Of The Bays swim in Auckland on April 16.

It's not too late - registrations for the State Corsair Classic close 5pm on 24 February – visit [www.oceanswim.co.nz](http://www.oceanswim.co.nz)