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Rugby league schools tournament comes alive

LIVERPOOL schools will participate in this year's Arrive Alive Cup rugby league gala event being held today, (Wednesday) at Eschol Park, Campbelltown. Casula, Ingleburn, Liverpool and Lurnea High Schools are four of the local schools participating. This year 20 open-age teams from schools are competing, with the finals winners advancing to the next round to be played at a later date and the national final televised on Channel Nine.

Details: Linda Kitchen, 0400 345 724 or email mac arthursecondary@arl develop ment.com.au



A life aquatic: Justin Rothwell loves the world of professional swim coaching. Picture: Angelo Velardo

Justin takes the plunge

Aquatic academy expands to Liverpool

By Paul Haigh

THIS is the story of the former Olympic contender who is now a revered coach.

Justin Rothwell's name is synonymous with the swimming fraternity. Since October, Rothwell, and his wife, Angela, a highly accredited swim coach, are based at the Whitlam Leisure Centre, Liverpool.

Rothwell, who has been coaching since 1991, runs the Rothwell Swim Academy from the centre, where four squads comprising 80 swimmers are under his control.

"The opportunity arose to run the learn-to-swim and swim programs at the centre last October," Rothwell said.

As a swimmer, Rothwell, was a national level backstroke champion.

"I swam at the 1992 Barcelona Olympic selection trials and didn't quite make it," he said.

With an accountancy background, Rothwell, started coaching at Bradbury pool at Campbelltown under current Australian head coach Alan Thompson.

"I was in Alan's swim squad and was going to uni and I started doing learn-to-swim coaching part-time to earn some money," he said.

"My coaching started from there.

"I was at Bradbury for five years then went to Roselands, then I had five years at Macquarie Fields, a few years at Ashfield then since October at Liverpool."

He also established the Rothwell Swim Academy at Guildford Swim Centre.

Rothwell has a relaxed attitude to swim coaching and understands the demands of coaches and the swimmers in the sport.

"I am fairly laid-back person, I try and make it fun and coach in a good and creative environment.

"If I won a lot of money in Lotto tomorrow, I would still be coaching, because I do enjoy it."

