

# MEDIA RELEASE



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## **Wellington divers gain from Chinese experience**

Wellington High Performance Aquatics (WHPA) divers, Gabe Armstrong Scott and Kate Irving, have returned from China on a diving scholarship giving them a unique opportunity to train with divers and coaches at an elite level.

Two of WHPA's most successful members, Gabe and Kate were selected for the Gordon Ng Scholarship to train at the Shenzhen Sports Centre for 10 days with Chinese national divers and coaches.

This year, Gabe (12 years) has won two titles at the Australian Junior Elite Championships, taken several New Zealand titles and broken New Zealand records. Kate (14 years) has also been successful winning New Zealand titles and being selected for the Pacific School Games team to compete in Canberra in November.

"We had a fantastic time and a wonderful experience which has built on the training we are getting from Steven Zhu at Wellington High Performance Aquatics," said Gabe.

Of her experience, Kate said "I was amazed at the training facilities available to the Shenzhen divers. It was great to train with other divers who we may eventually compete against in international events."

Gordon Ng was a founding member of the Wellington Diving Club and has successfully coached divers to an international level. Now in Hong Kong, Ng maintains his connection with the Wellington Diving fraternity by sponsoring two scholarships each year for young Wellington divers to train in China.

The scholarship ties into WHPA's philosophy of providing training and experience for its members with the aim of achieving at elite international level.