

Gallipoli Games 2015..

Auckland swimmer Phillip Ryan will head to Turkey on the 23rd April, along with 7 other open water swimmers and athletes from 8 other sports to take part in the inaugural Gallipoli Games.

These games have been introduced to honour the 100th Anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli and will continue to be held every two years. The focus of the games is to promote sportsmanship, peace and understanding amongst the different countries taking part.

Athletes from New Zealand will join athletes from Australia, Great Britain, India, France Germany and of course Turkey at these games.

The open water swimmers of Phillip plus Ben Ruback and Liam Albery (Wellington) Cameron Voykovich (Waikato), Penny Hayes (Waikato) Stefannie Gillespie (Otago), Elizabeth Brown and Grace Sommerville (Canterbury) will be hosted by the presidency of Turkey, with accommodation provided at Assos, one of the coastal resorts.

The 3.3 mile swim will take place with the start at Eceabat and finishing at Canakkale, The proximity to the Dardanelles and the importance this stretch of water had in the Gallipoli landing make it an important waterway in these commemorations.

The athletes will attend an opening ceremony in Gallipoli on the 25th of April, with the closing ceremony in Istanbul on the 29th. Apart from attending the games the athletes will be attending many of the areas of cultural significance to the Anzacs so a true honour to be a part of this team.

