



# Boys dive in for Rotto challenge

**BRIDGET LACY**

They conquered the English Channel together and now their sights are set on the HBF Rottneest Channel Swim.

At just 15 years of age, Churchlands Senior High School students Michael Charlesworth and Sam Devine hope to do the open water swim as a duo next year.

Their coach Pauline Pratt said they could comfortably finish as soloists but decided to team up as they did when they crossed the English Channel in a team of six in July.

"They should do well," Ms Pratt said. "They are used to tough conditions and have trained hard."

Michael said it was a great experience crossing

the English Channel and he looked forward to his first Rottneest crossing, which they hoped to finish in under five hours.

"It's pretty much the next big step in swimming for us," he said.

Michael, who has been swimming for seven years, said he hoped to swim professionally one day.

Registration for the event opens today.

Solo swimmers who register by November 14 will be guaranteed a start but teams and duos must register by 5.30pm next Monday to enter the ballot to win a place in the popular event.



**On their marks: Sam Devine and Michael Charlesworth**