



# Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club

[www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk](http://www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk)

## Annual Report 2005

This has been another successful year for the Dolphins. We have been delighted to welcome new members to the Club over the season and have had several members swimming in outdoor swims for the first time. Members competed all across England, Scotland and Wales and all BLDSA swims had at least one swimmer from the Dolphins completing. The Club has swum 419 miles outside this season and there has been a close battle between four Dolphins. Joe Coy with his completion of Windermere took the title of the Dolphins who swum the most in the season with 54 miles.

Before updating you on details of the season it is important to draw attention to the continuation of the excellent Club spirit and willingness of its members to help out. On many occasions again this season members have supported other Dolphins enabling them to participate in swims which otherwise may not have been possible. Thanks for your help and time. Additionally, members, their partners, spouses and parents have supported and helped out at Club events. This has helped our members and the wider long distance community to participate in well organised events. Again thank you for your help.

**Budworth Handicap:** 28 swimmers entered the mere on a beautifully sunny day. However, the water temperature didn't quite match the air temperature, being 56°F. As usual the course was set off one of the jetties. The President, organising the event, was persuaded by others that 6 not 7 laps should be swum. Once again the handicap was short.

**Budworth Championship:** Another successfully Championships were organised for the first time by Joe Coy. The modernisation to the Budworth Mere Sailing Club house, particularly the changing rooms impressed all. Andrew Byrne claimed the 3mile breaststroke title, just ahead of Nick White with Mark Blewitt making it a clean sweep of medals. Clare Kane and Chris Byrne both finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the senior freestyle championships. The Dolphins won the senior team trophy for the 7<sup>th</sup> year on the run.

**Albert Dock Championships:** Alan Pomfret organised his second excellent Championships. Julie Mainwaring, after asking Michaela Richard to look after on her first visit to the dock, promptly swam off to finish second ahead of Michaela in the 2mile event. Graham Padgett retained his veteran's title in the four mile event and Nick White won the 4 mile breaststroke race.

**Bob Keating/Dick Dickinson Handicaps:** These were exceptionally well attended with 3 swimmers in each lane. The winners were Caroline Lewis (Bob Keating) and Julia Lydon (Dick Dickinson). Andrew Byrne produced the most impressive performance by swimming 19 minutes inside his predicted time. The presentation was held across the road straight after the swim in the local pub.

**Marbury Handicap:** Yet again another success with 18 swimmers competing. This forced a third heat to be run. The rain falling during the race didn't prevent Julie Mainwaring from winning. John Glynn again organised the refreshments at the Cock O' Budworth where the presentation was held. Thanks John and Alan for running the event on the day.

**Postal Swim:** Dave Feakes maintained the same high standard as previous Dolphin members in running the postal swim on behalf of the BLDSA and Dolphins. He has agreed to run it for another year. Many members will not appreciate the continual effort that the Postal Swim Secretary donates freely to organise this event. Thanks Dave.

**Masters:** Judy Brown excelled at the ASA Short Course Championships claiming three 1<sup>st</sup> places, two 2<sup>nd</sup> places and one 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The highlight of her swims being the 200 IM where she broke the British record. Twelve Dolphins entered the Cheshire Masters and the Club was narrowly beaten into second place by Macclesfield. Graham Padgett, Keith Bosson, Christian Wade, Chris Byrne and Judy Brown all won individual Championships in their age group. Judy set four County records in all 4 events she entered.



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**Juniors:** Three of our junior ladies (Rachel Byrne, Charlotte Dickinson & Alison Lydon) swam in the L&D championships and all qualified for to swim for L&D in the Northern Counties inter association age groups. Well done ladies.

**'On a Clear Day':** The film in which Dave Feakes swam in starred in was released. Many members went to the 'Print Work Manchester' to watch it. What fame for Dave, Red Carpet Premiers, mentions on radio and TV. He's star. Will he swim with us again!!

**Training:** Attendance level have maintained during the season. Thanks to all who have taken sessions during the year. There have been many enjoyable (if not painfully hard) sessions.

**BLDSA:** The BLDSA annual dinner and AGM were held in Warrington to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Dolphins. The event was held at the Daresbury Park Hotel. Many Dolphins and their partners attended the event where their presence dominated the dinner. Your President was asked to make a speech, which was on 40 years of the Dolphins. At the AGM Maurice Ferguson was elected to President for the second time.

**A Seasons Outdoor Swimming:** Chris Byrne set a new record in the 4mile Breaststroke race at the 25<sup>th</sup> Llyn Padarn Championships. At the same event Martin Bosson in his first open water swim won the junior gents 2mile race.

Caroline Lewis returned to open water swimming completing a solo Coniston swim on her way to peak fitness.

Mark Blewitt finished third in the two way Windermere Championship swimming freestyle. This was his third double Windermere Championship in a run. He remains the only male to have swum a two way Windermere on both freestyle and breaststroke.

Joe Coy had a tremendous outdoor season taking approx 60minutes off 2 way Bala, 30minutes of Coniston and 90mins of Windermere.

Christian Wade completed his first Coniston with an impressive time. Next season watch out!

Five out of the six entries to the Gents Loch Earn race this season were Dolphins. That was a pretty impressive sight to see written in the programme.

Already looking forward to next season.

Budworth Championships 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2006  
Albert Dock Championships 5<sup>th</sup> August 2006

Joe Coy & Andy Wright  
Secretary & President