

WARRINGTON DOLPHINS LONG DISTANCE SWIMMING CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1976

34.

It is with pleasure that I present the Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club Annual Report for 1976.

Last season saw the club achieve its record total mileage and we are once again close to this figure having totalled 808½ miles for 1976. This year however, is outstanding in the number of championship wins and record times taken by club members.

Claire Allman a junior in her first full season equalled the record in the Club's own Pickmere Junior Ladies Championship and took 1st place in the River Wharfe, Derwentwater, Waterloo and Bala Junior Championships and also broke the existing records for both Derwentwater and Waterloo Lake. Elaine Jordan became the first junior to swim a two way Solent and also took the River Esk breast stroke record.

Chris Carter had a great season in that despite sacrificing the opportunity to enter certain swims whilst crewing for other swimmers, he still totalled 79 miles for the season, won Loch Lomond championship breaking the record in the process and established a new record for the two way Coniston.

Bill Dutton won the Morecambe Bay Championship for the 3rd successive year and may well be on his way to a Windermere championship hat trick having won this 10½ mile event for the second successive year.

Kevin Murphy set off twice this season to satisfy his most immediate ambition to become the first person to swim a three way channel. Unfortunately due to adverse conditions Kevin was forced to retire after 1½ and 1 crossings respectively. Kevin twice broke the then existing record for the 17 mile Wash (Skegness to Nunstanton) and also took the record for the 23 mile Loch Ness swim.

Dilys Beynon won the two-way 20½ mile Windermere Championship and was also second in the Mumbles - Aberavon swim.

Margaret Smith completed 19½ miles in Loch Lomond before retiring and made a brave but unsuccessful attempt on the North Channel. Margaret took the allcomers breast stroke record for the Lumber Spurn Point to Cleethorpes swim, first place, and ladies breast stroke record in Lough Neagh.

Gina Clarke in her first full season as a senior deserves special mention, having taken second place in 3 championships.

Paul Tew who took 4th place in 2 way Windermere had his swimming season suddenly curtailed when, in setting out for a 6 way Windermere attempt, cut his foot on a broken bottle whilst wading into the water, necessitating hospital treatment and stitches.

Kevin Ferguson had some fine swims and became our latest Windermere swimmer in completing the championship. Kevin is now regularly beating his "dad".

Ken Bailey despite his Channel disappointment assures me that he intends to crack the Channel next season.

The "grandfather" of the club, Arthur Williams, became the oldest person to complete a 2 way Coniston and completed the 10 mile Morecambe Bay swim in the same championship as his grand daughter Gina Clarke. Our "flyer" John Heapy chalked up another first by completing Kerrera to Oban for the first time ever on butterfly and totalled 21 miles for the season.

Bob Keating was unfortunate in sustaining a medical incapacity which restricted his outdoor swimming but as with Paul Kochanek, gave an invaluable service in crewing boats.

I feel that special thanks are due to both Alan Humphries who resigned from the post of Club Secretary and Cec Shallcross who resigned as Club Coach and Treasurer, for the many years of service they have given to the Club in these capacities. I should point out that both are still active in club affairs and will, I hope, continue to be so in the future.

Annual Dinner and Dance - Lakehouse Restaurant, Pickmere. Guests were George Owen (President of B.L.D.S.A.) and his wife and Messrs. Ken Hope and Alan Storton of the Warrington Baths Department and their respective wives.

I extend sincere thanks on behalf of the Dolphins to Pickmere Boating Company, the Management and Staff of the Warrington Baths Department and all who have helped or served the club in any capacity during the past year.

THANK YOU

Russ Holbrook, Hon. Secretary.

TWELFTH ANNUAL PICKMERE CHAMPIONSHIPS
RESULTS : 1976

35.

DATE: Saturday 12th June 1976.

CONDITIONS: Slight chop. Water Temperature 64 deg.F.

We finally topped the ton on the day with 1.7 entries, 103 starters and 95 finishing, both junior and senior gents records being lowered again. Congratulations to all who completed the course, commiserations to those forced to retire. My personal thanks to all the members and friends without whose help this event could not be run. We hope to see you all again on June 11th 1977 for our thirteenth championship.

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TEAM AWARDS

1. Morton	3-38-28	5. Radcliffe	4-30-33
2. Warrington Dolphins	3-49-34	6. N.D. Metcalfe	4-31-23
3. Aberavon	3-55-12	7. Bradford	4-34-09
4. Bethnal Green	4-10-10	8. Royal Navy	4-39-35
		9. Warwickshire	6-41-02

JUNIOR GENTS 2 MILES

New Record

1. M. Davies	43-21
2. R. Sherburn	44-51
3. R. Wilde	46-14
4. D.R. Jones	48-35
5. P. Reed	48-39
6. N.D. Hammev	49-04
7. N.D. Metcalfe	49-46
8. D. Flynn	49-46
9. D.T. Morgan	53-12
10. S. Hammond	53-23
11. T.A. Ansell	53-51
12. D. Keatley	57-04
13. C. Goddard	57-31
14. M. Jones	59-54
15. A. Rea	1-00-06
16. M. Bird	1-03-10
17. J. Penhalagon	1-07-40

JUNIOR LADIES 2 MILES

New Record

1. Claire Allman	48-12
2. Alison Roberts	48-14
3. Kay J McGinty	48-21
4. Anne Osborne	49-38
5. Jill Pines	51-52
6. Julie Wheeler	52-03
7. Nicky Treadwell	56-02
8. Andrea Metcalfe	59-07
9. Alison Simester	59-09
10. Carole J. Monks	1-00-48
11. Leanne Fellows	1-01-44
12. Heather Mendham	1-01-48
13. Lesley Read	1-02-13
14. Christine Miles	1-03-35
15. Carolyn Evans	1-06-46
16. Elaine Jordan	1-08-56
17. Alison T. Hawkins	1-09-44
18. Karen Hawkins	1-14-56

SENIOR GENTS 3 MILES

1. R.J. Evans	1-07-00
2. R.J. Baker	1-10-54
3. G. Admans	1-13-54
4. W. Dutton	1-14-16
5. W.N. Pearce	1-17-27
6. K. Murphy	1-17-28
7. D. Mace	1-17-37
8. R. Hadfield	1-17-50
9. G. Wilson	1-18-15
10. C. Carter	1-19-40
11. D. Briden	1-19-58
12. E. Millican	1-22-33
13. H. Fellows	1-22-53
14. J. Tanner	1-23-52
15. R. Parsons	1-25-13
16. P.M. Stephens	1-25-36
17. J. Evans	1-28-05
18. A. Heaton	1-28-12
19. P. Goodman	1-29-37
20. K. Keighley	1-31-07
21. J. Bayliss	1-31-07
22. D. Graham	1-34-00
23. M. Johnson	1-34-42

SENIOR GENTS (Continued)

24. K. Ferguson	1-37-11
25. F. Tew	1-38-52
26. S. Bruton	1-39-37
27. J.J. Alexander	1-40-34
28. D.I. Jones	1-42-35
29. C. Burnott	1-42-50
30. M. Ferguson	1-43-53
31. P. Rushworth	1-43-56
32. T. James	1-44-54
33. G. Forsberg	1-45-46
34. A. Coward	1-47-27
35. C. Webster	1-51-20
36. J. Sharp	1-51-40
37. A. Ayres	1-54-26
38. E.C. Greenwood	1-55-33
39. A.R. Phillips	1-59-36
40. A. Williams	2-03-47
41. S. Bedford	2-03-51
42. K. Bailey	2-06-56
43. D. Dukes	2-17-21
44. P. Kochanek	2-23-50
45. K. Robinson	2-28-05
46. P. Bull	2-29-15

1. Valerie Taylor	1-14-45	8. Jane Murphy	1-37-08
2. Elsie Brook	1-15-35	9. Kathy Smith	1-41-25
3. Lindsey Reed	1-16-13	10. Kim Harris	1-44-23
4. Gina Clarke	1-17-40	11. Patricia Dawson	1-45-02
5. Linda Westlake	1-17-41	12. Dilys Beynon	1-46-17
6. Carol Bradford	1-25-45	13. Susan Shand	2-01-53
7. Anne Ramsey	1-22-27	14. Lilian Bell	2-04-07

THE IRISH LONG DISTANCE SWIMMING ASSOCIATION.

The season was very successful and the weather for all our events was ideal. Early in the season we were delighted to have a visit from Mr. & Mrs. John O'Hara, our Windermere Hon. Secretary. The first race of the season was Carrickfergus Harbour to the Fisherman's Quay, a distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Water temp. 56F. The course was littered with thousands of small jellyfish but happily no one was stung seriously.

Date: Monday 21st June. 7.30 p.m.

<u>Men.</u>	1. R.Skillen.	33m. 14.s.	<u>Junior Race - 1 way.</u>	1. Leonard McDonald.	25m. 31s.
	2. J.Burton.	35 44			
	3. T.Woods.	39 41			
	4. J.McKenzie.	43 13			
	5. D.Bell.	55 46			

Carrickfergus to Helens' Bay 5 miles in Belfast Lough.

At 1 p.m. 24th July. North West wind from behind. Temp. 56F. All competitors badly stung with jellyfish and received treatment in Hospital. However, Dick Skillen set up a record and Jim Burton was well within the previous record.

<u>Men.</u>	1. R.Skillen.	1h. 59 m. 48s.
	2. J.Burton.	2 32 7
	3. W.Wallace.	2 45 46
	4. D.Bell.	3 2 30

The swim and reception were well organised jointly by the I.L.D.S.A. and the Helens Bay Life Guard Club on whose premises on the beach the reception was held. It lasted two days as the refreshments and sing-song was so good. Some of the ladies rendered fine solos accompanied by Dick Skillen on guitar, and Jimmy McKenzie and myself on accordian. Clancy McDermott, an ex-International Soccer player and water polo player presented tankards to the finishers.

Copeland Island to Donaghadee, 3 miles.

Started at 1.30 pm Sat. 7th August. Temp. 54F in fine weather.

<u>Men.</u>	1. Neil Cooper.	45m 15s.	6. Jim Burton.	62. 00.	<u>Ladies.</u>
	2. Noel Munnis.	47 30	7. Gareth Archer.	63 55	1. Susan Neill. 61.42
	3. Ian Reid (Dundee)	53 59.	8. Terence Woods.	65 21	(Record)
	4. Richard Skillen.	54 9	9. Wm. Wallace.	69 31	2. Sheena
	5. Arnold Mahood.	56. 45.	10. David Bell.	83 12	Grierson. 70.03.

2nd International Lough Neagh Swim, 10 miles. Ardmore, Co. Antrim to Arboe, Co. Tyrone.

Conditions absolutely ideal. 10 a.m. 14th August. from McGarry's Yard in Ardmore. Heat wave, flat calm, water 70F. Wm. Bennett lead for the first 2 miles, Dick Skillen then overhauled him and took the lead. High excitement among the large crowd at the Battery in Arboe. Dick Walked ashore to tremendous applause in a new record time. Willie Bennett and Jim Burton battled out for 2nd place.

<u>Men.</u>	(1) Dick Skillen.	4h 47m 00s.	<u>Ladies.</u>	(1) Margaret Smith. 6. 48. 59.
	(2) Wm. Bennett.	5 18 55		
	(3) Jim Burton.	5 19 59		
	(4) Billy Wallace.	6 15 59		
	(5) Terry Woods.	6 25 09		
	(6) Herbie Harrison.	7 32 30		

Retired: Pat Brown ^(Lincs) 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours. His sister Mary Brown - 7h.45m. Keith Willox - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours. All three, especially Mary, received a very warm welcome from the spectators for their gallant efforts.

At the Reception at Arboe, tankards were presented to the finishers and Willie Bennett won the lovely cut glass bowl as well because he was the first 'outsider' to finish. Mr. Ken Bowles of the Northern Ireland Tourist Board presented the prizes. I would like to thank everyone who helped to make this swim a success, especially Mr. Paddy Devlin, Recreation Officer of Cookstown D.C. for his help and organising ability. I would like to mention that this swim is open to any member of any club or other such body to take part in, and this applies also to all our swims in Ireland.

Proposed dates for 1977. Fisherman's Quay Carrickfergus, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. 7.30pm M. 27th June. Copeland Island to Donaghadee, 3 miles, Sat. 30th July, 2 p.m. Helens Bay Swim, 5 miles, 12 noon, Sat. 2nd July. Whiteheas to Bangor, 7 miles, 10 a.m. Sat. 16th July. 3rd International Lough Neagh, 10 miles, Sat. 13th Aug. 9.30am.