

Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club



Affiliated to B.L.D.S.A. & N.C.A.S.A.

ANNUAL REPORT 1991

Hi everyone!

Once again I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club.

When I tell you that I haven't been swimming very much this year (once) it may come as bit of a shock, then again it may not, but there are others who have been splashing about all season. This year club members have participated in two Channel Relay crossings. Firstly, a trans-pennine team including Dawn Hall, John Heapy and Maurice Ferguson crossed in 12hrs 58mins. Secondly, a team with our illustrious president Chris Carter took 15hrs 12mins to cross. Helen Stringer, a woman with a desire to retire from the sport but can't quite manage it, swam the longest swim of her life both in time and distance completing Coniston in a time of 5hrs 4mins 18secs. Vicky Lovatt completed the two circuits a Hollingworth Lake to put her first outdoor race behind her.

Many swimmers throughout the country turn up each June to swim at the Pickmere championships and this year was no exception, and similarly, Albert Dock was welcomed back to the calendar. May I take this opportunity to thank Keith Rosson and Chris Owen, on the clubs behalf for their work in organising two successful championships. See the following reports for more information.

The Annual Dinner was held this year at the Dingle Hotel, Lynn. Guests of honour were the B.L.D.S.A. President Carl Walker, and The Secretary of the Channel Swimming Association Mrs Audrey Scott. This year the event was a great success with a lovely meal and short after dinner speeches. There were two presentations at the dinner, the first to Mick Gallagher for his excellent swim of Windermere in 9hrs 0mins 22secs, with an arm injury over the latter part of the race - what next Mick? The highest award of the club, The Anderson Trophy, was presented to Billy Dutton for his services to the club over the years. Billy has been the clubs Publicity Officer, Assistant Coach and is now our Chief Coach, and has swum for his country and club with never ending enthusiasm, extremely well deserved.

In conclusion we would like to give all swimmers around the country our best wishes for the forthcoming year and hope that you have a successful (not too cold!) season.

That's all folks, bye bye.

Simon Ferguson,
Hon. General Secretary.

TWENTY SEVENTH PICKMERE CHAMPIONSHIPS

8th June, 1991.

Weather conditions : Cold (56 F), calm and overcast.
Water temperature : Cool 58 F.

A total entry of 120 swimmers saw these championships off to a good start, 27 juniors and 93 seniors. No records were broken in these less than perfect conditions but the swimming was of the highest quality nonetheless.

Claire Phillips (14) of Dartford District SC swam an excellent 53 mins 21 seconds to win the girls' two mile race and Daniel Entwistle (14) won the boys' event in 49 mins 59 seconds again underlining the rapid progress that Howe Bridge Marlins are making. Scarborough SC took the team event and Howe Bridge were second. Darren Millward who helped Scarborough to take the event is only twelve years old and he recorded 53 mins 22 secs!

The women's event was won by mother Lynne Lee of Sheffield in 1.05.19 while father Simon looked on while taking care of their new baby. Andrew Hurst won the men's event in 1.05.13 for Howe Bridge. This sixteen year old certainly has a bright future. The team event was won by the Warrington Dolphins team of Bill Dutton, Simon Ferguson and youngsters. Again, Howe Bridge Marlins were second.

It is not often that the water temperature is higher than the air temperature at this venue and unfortunately this look its toll in retired swimmers: nineteen this year as against three last year. Needless to say the Red Cross gave us sterling service in this department with no-one suffering more than a dose of the shivers!

Anyway here's to next year.

Champs Sec. Keith Rosson.