

**WARRINGTON DOLPHINS L.D.S.C.**  
**ANNUAL REPORT 1993**

Hello to one and all,

For the last time I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club. This year has been the high point of my swimming career by the fact I completed no training and entered a successful Channel Relay swim, but more about that later. Throughout the year the club has had numerous successes in the events held around the country but it would be somewhat tedious to list them all, but the main outstanding achievement is the completion of 3 first time Windermere swims by Sally Baldwin, Caroline Smith and Mike Cooke, both Mike and Sally competing in their first year of competitive outdoor swimming. To top that all the above three are in training for their next jolly to France in 1994 - but on an individual basis, the club wishes them every success and another three Channel swimmers in the club can't be bad.

The year started for the club with its own well known Pickmere Lake Championship, which I am pleased to inform you is to be held on the 4th June 1994, entry forms should be available from the BLDSA Annual Dinner in the coming year. This years event also took a small diversion as we held the Northern Counties Outdoor Championship alongside our own event, this was done to try to encourage more swimmers from the indoor scene to participate in long distance swims and to ease them outdoors - it might catch on you know! The results for the day are given at the back of this report along with the Albert Dock Championship results. The Albert Dock was in very good condition for this years event the only worry was that all the little jelly fish had hidden under the bridge waiting where they couldn't be seen, but that only added to the - screams - fun. A great amount of thanks must go to our acting swim secretary for the Albert Dock swim, Jon Stringer, as he and his family stepped in at the last moment and took the reigns to make the swim a successful event, Jon's report follows later.

On the 26th August, 60 years nearly to the day six swimmers and a manager were hurriedly drinking booze trying to look experienced Channel swimmers in a B&B at Dover. The 60 years is in commemoration of Mrs Andersons crossing in 1933 where things were slightly different - people turned out to see you finish and the whole idea was somewhat of a novelty. There was much talk and most things revolved around whether we would be away at 6am the following morning. This team consisted of Karen Jones, Your Truly, Sally Baldwin, Mike Cooke, Caroline Smith and Maurice Ferguson - Three novices and three with previous experience, note the three repeating names from above, - and a manager Lilian Brookes-Bell. All went well for the first nine hours with all swimmers sprawling on deck in the sun, BUT, after nine hours the wind decided to change its mind and livened things up. All in all the wind, Sea Cat, Hovercraft, Supertankers, dead Herons and Jelly Fish made for an interesting swim which took just over 15hrs, the time we recognise as being aimed at the original one of Mrs Andersons and by no account slow.

The 20th November brought us all to the Fir Grove Hotel at Grappenhall, Warrington where the Annual Dinner of the club was held, guests included the BLDSA President John Bedford, Mrs Anderson and Cmdr Gerald Forsberg. Whose impressive

company was enjoyed by all with some small witticisms from our president Chris Carter. At this great night out there was a lovely meal and several presentations were made to the assembled mass - 100 people - the Channel swimmers were awarded their certificates and the main presentation of the year the Anderson Trophy was made to the most deserving of people The Stringers - namely Jon and Helen Stringer who have it would seem from the outside effortlessly organised the dinner over the years, stepped in when there was a crisis, and helped out at every possibility with the events through the year. From all at the club congratulations and thankyou, don't stop.

That's all folks, bye bye,

Simon Ferguson.  
Hon. General Secretary.

Dear Fellow Dolphins,

My thanks to you all for your support and kindness shown to me on my return to swimming after the opp last February 1993, You've all helped to make my comeback much easier.

John A. Heapy,  
Tick Toc.

### **ALBERT DOCK - Saturday 14th August 1993.**

With the bad weather of the previous days before the swim things weren't looking too good. Saturday dawned, low and behold sunshine ALL DAY.

The swimmers assembled on the quay side for the briefing from the original entry of 34 swimmers only 25 entered the water with only one retirement during the swim. There was a titanic struggle for 1st place between Justin Palfrey and Simon Emm, this went on for three circuits with Justin being able to pull away to finally finish 1st in the gents 4 mile swim with Simon finishing a close second. The ladies swim was somewhat depleted in number but we had a worthy winner in the 4 mile event, that of Kelly Stuart and Amanda Taylor in the 2 mile event.

In the junior section we have an up and coming young lady breastroker that of Lindsey Entwistle and in the gents we have also got three up and coming swimmers, Mark Brown, Vaughan Morris and Tim Shield.

In conclusion I would like to thank all the time keepers, baotcrews, race referee and catering staff, last but not least my wife and daughter for all their help in making this event such a success.

Jon Stringer,  
Acting Swim Secretary.