

Warrington Dolphins LDSC

Annual Report 2001

Dear All,

Well, what a brilliant year for the Dolphins!

It all started in February with the Postal Swim. Many individual and team medals were gained including top 3 places for Michaela Richard, Graham Padgett and John Watkin in their relevant age groups.

A lot of hard work goes into organising the Postal Swim for which we should thank Chris Byrne (and his patient wife Liz).

The Foot and Mouth outbreak delayed the start of many Dolphins outdoor swimming training at Marbury Pool but fortunately this was only for a couple of weeks and didn't have too much of an adverse effect on the 'serious swimmers' training schedule (Andy and David!).

The Dolphins held their annual 1 mile handicap at Budworth Mere in May. Nicola Wright was nearest to her estimated time. Unfortunately, the trophy could not be awarded due to the previous year's recipient not returning it. To date this still has not been returned despite several phone calls, so if you're reading this Aidan Bew please return it as soon as possible!

The Budworth Mere Championships in June were well attended and the 1 mile novice race will definitely continue. Unfortunately we have no report for this years Championships but I know Keith Bosson featured highly in many categories and that the raffle nearly took as long as the swim (did anyone win Andy Wright's flask full of coffee?).

Towards the end of our indoor Sunday training sessions several Club members agreed to organise some canoe coaching sessions for those interested. This proved to be a great success and enabled several Club members to provide escort cover for many of our swimmers during the season. Many thanks to the 2 Martyns and Peter.

Many Dolphin members entered Open water Championships for the first time this season. Well done to them all and we hope you'll be back next year maybe trying a longer distance.

The Howebridge Marlins Llyn Padarn Championships was one of the highlights of the year with many swimmers competing and other members providing safety cover. The Dolphins gained many individual and team trophies. The weekend camp was great fun too with our colleagues from the Liverpool Swimming Club adding to the fun and games (thanks to Colin, Chris and Bob (with 1 dobble)).

Congratulations must go to Andy and David on their successful 2 way Windermere swims. Both completed the swim in excellent times and Andy gained the male freestyle trophy, well done.

Many Dolphins also completed the 1 way Windermere swim for the first time including Kevin, Keith and myself and again, many members provided safety cover.

The Club is active at the moment in terms of swimmers competing outdoors and there is strong competition amongst individual swimmers due to Andy's mileage chart (the fact that he's top this year is not a fix honest!).

The Clubs Annual Dinner will be held in November, unfortunately this is likely to be the last one due to lack of support from Club members. The Anderson Trophy will be presented to John Heapy this year for all his hard work both in long distance swimming in general and especially his support of the Dolphins.

Finally, congratulations to Larry and Michaela on the birth of their first child, Dominic in October (we understand he's already been equipped with trunks and goggles).

Once again, congratulations to all who competed in swims this year and thanks to those who supported swimmers this season and here's to a competitive and enjoyable season next year.

Happy New Year and here's to a successful 2002.

Lesley Feakes
Hon. Club Secretary.