

Hello to one and all.

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

Last year, I told you that I had been outdoor swimming once, this year I've surpassed myself and not been outdoor swimming at all. But as usual our club members have been out and about trying swims around the country with some success. Firstly, though I'd like to tell you about our Annual Dinner Dance. This was our end of season knees up where stories are told, theories discussed and the more serious business of drinking, dancing and gossiping about the year's events takes place. As usual a good time was enjoyed by all. This year our President, Chris Carter and our principal guest B.L.D.S.A. President Paul Jew (a former Dolphins member, when he was young!) were in full flight recounting events of their 1993 season and further back in their swimming histories. Paul proposing the toast to the Warrington Dolphins. One further honoured guest was also present, our former coach and immediate Past President Bob Keating, with his wife Ann. Mr. John Heapy acted as the Master of Ceremonies.

Chris on behalf of us all had the pleasure of presenting a commemorative silver plate to John Stringer who completed his first Windermere swim in 8hrs 34mins, WHAT A SWIM! Will this be the first of many? Chris also presented our most important award, The Anderson Trophy, to a very deserving club member, Dave Penketh. Dave is the clubs publicity officer and works behind the scenes, seeming to collect results of club members endeavours by telepathy. The first members know there names are in the papers is when Dave presents everybody mentioned with a photocopy of the article. This unending devotion has been most justly rewarded by the presentation of the clubs highest award. Our congratulations to both recipients.

Accompanying this report is the Pickmere report. The club once again had good supply of swimmers to start the season off and hopefully this will follow on to next year. Thanks to Keith Bosson and Kevin Normansell for their time and effort in organising and running the event. Keith and wife Sue also had their hands full with a new addition to the family, their son Martin. Congratulations to you both. This year two of our members have been in the Channel, one successful, the other nearly. Chris Carter made a successful crossing with five others in 14hrs 47mins, and John Heapy and team were within three miles when there boat was damaged in rough conditions and they had to abandon the crossing, better luck next time.

Phillip Stringer and Vicky Lovatt both received awards outside the swimming scene, Phillip was awarded Gold and Vicky, Silver, in the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. Congratulations to you both.

Steve Lodge was also at work in the swimming calendar when he organised and ran the B.L.D.S.A. Derwentwater Triangle for the first time, thus helping to maintain a full swim list for people to choose from.

In 1993 pickmere will be held on Saturday 5th June. I hope you can all attend and start the swimming season off in good style. The swim will be held with the Northern Counties A.S.A. running a long distance event alongside our own. Hopefully this will encourage the sprint swimmers to join us in our outdoor swims and at the same time help to increase awareness of the enjoyment and sense of achievement to be gained from the sport of long distance swimming.

To summarise the Clubs year, congratulations to Kathryn Lovatt, Jack Bull, John Gynn and Jim Nurse for completing their first outdoor swims plus Vicky Lovatt for her first four mile swim. This years total club mileage completed was in excess of 237 miles. Cannot be more accurate due to shortage of information.

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.

5th June, 1992.

TWENTY EIGHT PICKMERE CHALLENGERS

Weather conditions: Fair (51°/71°), slight wind occasionally sunny.

Water temperature: Cool 6:15°.

A total entry of 100 swimmers saw these championships off to a good start, 23 juniors and 77 seniors. One junior record was broken in these less than perfect conditions and the swimming was of the highest quality.

Claire Swain (15) of the City of Bradford SC swam a record breaking 43 mins 55 seconds to win the girls' two mile race amputating 25 seconds off Sara Ward's previous record in 1990 and Daniel Entwistle (15) won the boys' event for the second year in succession in 43 mins 54 seconds. Scarborough SC took the team event for the second year running and Abernvon were second Darren Millward continues to improve with a superb time of 47:03 and he is still only 13.

The women's event was won by Lynne Lee of Sheffield in 1:04:19 and Andrew Hurst won the men's event for Howe Bridge in 1:04:17 both for the second year in succession. The team event was won by Howe Bridge.

There were less retirements this year than last due to the more clement weather conditions. Needless to say the Red Cross gave us sterling service with no-one suffering more than a dose of the shivers!

Anyway here's to next year and we don't want any Warrington Dolphins jibbers next year coz we don't like jibbers!

The Management (Key Normansell and Keith Bosson)