

Warrington Dolphins LDSC – Newsletter September 2004

What lot has happened in this our 40th year and since the last newsletter in April. I have highlighted a number of items below.

- Budworth Handicap – an excellent turn out on a fine day. The good thing about this handicap is that it is difficult to cheat since there are two variables. The first is the time it will take you and more importantly the unknown length of the swim. This year the nominal distance of 1mile turned out to be nearer 1.5miles, which threw a 'curved ball' at many of the swimmers guesses. The winner was Anna Barker who additionally complicated the race by swimming without the navigation aid of looking where she was going because she swam backstroke.
- Bob Keating/Dick Dickenson Handicap – the Bob Keating was shortened to 100length due to only being able to get Sankey for an hour. Plus the schedule swim date had to be re-arranged due to the pool closure because of a gas leak. The winners were Jim Nurse for the Bob Keating and Sam Reynolds for the Dick Dickenson.
- Budworth Championships – once again Lesley organised a tremendous event even if she didn't swim due to her new head cut. Another good turn out of Dolphins.
- 40th Buffet was held on the evening of the Championship and was a great success. It was pleasing to see some old faces and Steven Dockery was nearly tempted back to join the Channel Relay team. A point of discussion was the photos on show and the swim data that had been collated together for the event. Everyone who attended was given a commemorative mug and a booklet detailing the history of the Club. Thanks should be extended to those who helped make the event a success.
- Dave Feakes (equity member) – Dave had decided to have a quiet season, but he was unable to miss his filming opportunity, all be it as a stand in for Peter Mullan in 'A clear Day'. His quiet season turned out to be spent (2.5 weeks) in Isle of Man and a morning at Dover. However, it was the fringe benefits that he enjoyed the most, like the rub down by 3 beauties. However, we won't say too much about them shaving off his hair and beard.
- Channel Relay – a success for the 6 swimmers of Joe Coy, Phil Taylor, Nicola Wright, Alan Pomfret, Claire Dickinson and Andy Wright, which was professionally managed by Chris Carter would really wanted to swim but a 'bureaucrat' at the CSA wouldn't let him. The swim was on 20th July, starting at 9:30am and took 14hours exactly. The conditions were excellent.
- Albert Dock Championships – a great success thanks to Alan Pomfret who did an outstanding job. Thank should also go to the many others who helped Alan. It was very nice to see Tony Johnson watching on the quayside once again.
- Swimming – we have had some pleasing results with Natalie winning a few events as a senior lady, Graham Padgett winning the 1st Cheshire Championship and

Christian and Andrew Byrne both competing in their first open water swims this season.

- Web-site (www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk) - John Lydon has done an excellent job in putting together the web-site, which hopefully contains all you need to know, including the famous mileage chart.
- Training – Members of the Club have shared the coaching on Sunday's, with a number of Juniors also taking sessions. There have been an excellent variety of sessions. Attendance at the sessions has held up, with numbers generally constant at Sunday sessions even in the summer. We also had excellent attendance at the few Thursday session at Sankey when Broomfields was closed.
- Marbury Handicap – As for the last two years the format was maintained. Thanks to Claire for organising the swimming side and John Glynn for organising the buffet at the Cock o' Budworth. The Lydon sisters dominated the winning rostrum by coming first and second. A good turn out made the event successful.
- Postal swim – Chris Byrne has now finished his 5year 'sentence' in single handed running the postal swim. Next year Dave Feakes will run the event on behalf of the Club and as a reward we will take 50% of the profits. He's looking for volunteers to help fold entry forms during October. Please help if you can.
- It is with great sadness that Lesley has decided to resign as Club Secretary. Lesley has done an absolutely excellent job over the last 6years. We wish her well in her new ventures (which could include marathon running). We are pleased to announce that Joe Coy has volunteered to become our new Club Secretary as well as the organisation of the Budworth swim. Many thanks to Joe. We wish him every success.
- *Stop Press News* – we have at long last negotiated a 2hour training session. As from Sunday 24th October 2004, Sunday training will switch to Fordton Leisure Centre (on the A49) from 6pm to 8pm. The last Sunday morning session at Great Sankey will be at 8am on the 17th October 2004. We believe that the Fordton will be available for the winter months to April. The one-hour training will continue after that throughout the summer, venue could possibly be back at Sankey. We have been campaigning for the past year for a 2hour session. Please give this new venture you full support.
- Forthcoming events
 - Xmas handicap at Fordton 19/12/04
 - Final session buffet at Broomfields 17/12/04 (Families and friend welcome), price will be £3.50 per head.
 - AGM – Sunday 29th January 2005