

## Annual Report 2023

Here we are again another year has finished and it was a successful year.

**BLDSA 1HSC (Postal Swim)** - This year eight swimmers took part. We allocated 2 sessions to complete the swim. Michaela Richard and Keith Bosson swam the greatest distances and both finished 2<sup>nd</sup> as did Chris Carter. Results for the other swimmers were Kalliopi Sinclair 11<sup>th</sup>, Martin Garbutt 5<sup>th</sup>, Julie Trevor 5<sup>th</sup>, Karen Hodgkins 4<sup>th</sup> & Andy Wright 3<sup>rd</sup>. We also entered 2 teams the Ladies+45 finished 1<sup>st</sup> and the Gents +55 finished 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**1500m Championship** - In late January we held our 1500m event at Warrington's Jubilee Hub. The swim format was a repeat of previous years and was a great success. It was lovely to see old friends from other clubs taking part once more. We plan to hold next years on a similar date. But our thanks must go to Kalliopi for her excellent organisation of the event.

## Budworth Summer Sessions



We held 21 Tuesday night open water sessions at Budworth this season, during the period from April to September. My thanks must go to Kalliopi, Alison, Julie, Dave and Chris plus all others who helped out to make the sessions so successful. We had a total of 70 swimmers registered and attending the sessions overall. Our busiest Tuesday was on the 27th June, when we had 23 swimmers in the water. The maximum water temperature observed was 23°C. We had to miss two sessions, the first was due to a Royal visit to Budworth SC and so the lake was closed, and the second we

cancelled due to a predicted thunderstorm. Alison encouraged and discussed swimmers stroke with them. Together with our friendly approach we have gained a reputation with other open water swimming groups, whose members have swum at Budworth, as a great place to swim. A number of people from the Warrington Park Runners who came for a swim were encouraged to come by Chris Carter. We did have on one occasion, 3 generations in the water from one family, grandson, mum and grandparents. It was very apparent that swimming was in the family.

**Anderson Trophy** - This year the committee decided to acknowledge Alison's efforts particularly towards running Budworth on Tuesday nights, by awarding her the Anderson Trophy. The presentation was made at Budworth at the social gathering in July. Well done Alison.

**Training** - We continue to hold training sessions at Broomfields Leisure Centre (8pm to 9pm) on Monday nights. Numbers attending have been varied with a hard core of swimmers attending. We did have for a few months some junior members being trained by Alun Hough in one of the lanes. However, Alun has taken a coach's post at a swimming club in Chester. We wish him success in his new post. In the last month the committee has made the decision to dedicate one lane to social swimmers.



It is mainly aimed at the Budworth Tuesday night swimmers who can swim long distance, but at their own pace.

I am pleased to report that Chris Carter has had a successful hip replaced in early July. As you would predict, he was back in the water 6 weeks after the operation. In early October he was able to complete the full hour's training. Also during the summer, we were pleased to see Billy Dutton turn up for a training session. Billy has recently had a few health issues so to see him in the water with a float doing a length butterfly legs was remarkable. Yes, somewhat slower than when he was younger but still remarkable considering at 79.

**Dee Mile** - Speaking of Alison's encouragement, she encouraged swimmers to enter the Dee Mile swim. As a result, there were 10 Budworth swimmers taking part. All enjoyed their swims and some were looking for more events to take part. This includes Jess Burke, who regularly joined the Tuesday session. Clearly a very fast swimmer, she came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Dee Mile and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the City of Liverpool Dock swim.



Our ladies have entered a number of swims together this year. The first was at Cholmondeley, where they excelled. They then went to Bala swimming, then the Dee mile. Julie and Alison both also swam in the Thames at different swims.

**Budworth Championships** – I can report the club is currently in discussion with Budworth Sailing Club over the reintroduction of the swim.

**Notable swims** – Anita Dodd made her first open water swims this season as a Dolphin.

Finally can I thank all those members, their partners, spouses and parents who have supported and helped out at Club events. This has helped make our Club and our events successful and the great club it is.

See you all soon.

Andy Wright  
President