



# Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club

[www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk](http://www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk)

## Newsletter – March 2006

As we move into 2006, its time to bring you all up to date with what's going on at the Dolphins.

At the end of January we held our AGM. John Watkin retired as Treasurer and Caroline Lewis was elected in his place. John has been an active member of the Dolphins for many years. Although John has not trained with the Dolphins for a number of years he has coached us. John has served the Club as both Secretary and Treasurer and has help at many Dolphin events. At the AGM, John was presented with an engraved silver salver and was elected as Life Member of the Club. Can I take this opportunity to thank John on behalf the club for all his effort and good work.

The committee this year is Andy Wright (President), Caroline Lewis (Treasurer), Joe Coy (Secretary), Alan Pomfret, Maurice Ferguson, John Glynn, John Lydon and Julie Mainwaring. I'd like to welcome Julie to the committee to boost the representation of the fairer sex. At the AGM a new set of rules adopted. The committee has been tasked to compile a Child Protection Policy and when agreed upon will be distributed to members for their comment.

The two-hour training sessions at Fordton have continued to see a higher attendance the current average since the middle of December is 15. What is pleasing to see that most members are now staying through to the end of the session. The shared coaching rota has worked well and we get varied, interest and hard sets. Broomfields continues to be a success. However, numbers can fluctuate with some weeks having around ten in and other weeks as many as 20 have attended.

Again this year we had three sessions in which members could swim the Postal Swim. Thanks to Helen for organising it at Club level and all who counted. Our thanks should also be extended to Dave Feakes who continues to be our front man in the organisation nationally.

Can I draw your attention to **Membership – if you haven't paid it, its due, so please pay it.** Remember you are not insured if you have not paid your membership and you will not be allowed to train.

Two announcements: Firstly congratulations to Sunny Lowry for being awarded the MBE in the New Years honours and secondly to Christian Wade who got married to Sarah on the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2006.

You've probably noticed the days are getting longer and before you know it the out door season will be upon us. We had some great turnouts last year at our Club events. Let's see if we can better last year.

### *Dates for your diary are:*

Bob Keating/Dick Dickinson Handicap	30/4/06	Fordton 6:00pm
Budworth Handicap	13/5/06	10:00am briefing 10:30am start
Budworth Championship	3/6/06	Swim Sec Joe Coy
Marbury Handicap	30/6/06	6:45 for 7:00pm start (date to be confirmed)
Albert Dock Championship	5/8/05	Swim Sec Alan Pomfret, <b>Briefing 9:00am</b>

Budworth & Albert Dock Championship entry forms are on the website.

If anyone is not swimming the Budworth Handicap please support your club by helping on the day, please let me know.

Andy

## Newsletter October 2006

This newsletter will update you all on the activities of the Club since the last newsletter in April and will additionally; give advance notice of forthcoming event. Firstly can I take this opportunity to welcome to the Club all new members who have joined throughout the year. Secondly, can I thank all of you who have helped out coaching. Finally, I would like to thank all who have helped at Club events and have supported others at swims during the summer.

### ***Budworth Handicap***

A great day and what a way to start the out door swimming season. This year there were 23 swimmers taking part on a sunny day, the water temperature was just below 60°F. An improve guess by the President this year meant that the length was pretty near the mile mark. This year's winner was Michaela Richard remarkably only 2seconds away from her predicted time.

### ***Bob Keating/Dick Dickenson Handicaps***

Unfortunately the date selected for the handicaps turned out to be a poor choice for many of our members as a result numbers were down on last year. In the end the Secretary and President were within 5seconds of their predicted times. The Bob Keating Handicap winner was Joe Coy.

### ***Budworth Championship***

The Championships were yet another success being organised for the second time by Joe Coy. Again we have excellent safety cover. There were some notable firsts for members at the swim, Lisa Stout, Dave Bowker and Alex Glover all completed the 1mile race. Alex swam breaststroke with such ease and just finishing ahead of Lisa, to finish first gent and Lisa was first lady. Nineteen Dolphins took part this year and many others officiated. It was very nice to past member Harry Peacock watching. The Dolphins won the senior team trophy for the 8<sup>th</sup> year on the run.

### ***Albert Dock Championships***

Alan Pomfret organised yet another excellent Championships. This year the swim took part in the morning. Many Dolphins were involved, 10 swimming, 15 officiating and it was great to see Tony Johnson there checking that 'his event' was still up to standard. Julie Mainwaring & Billy Dutton acted as timekeepers, Claire Dickinson was Referee. The water was very clear and fairly warm. Some excellent times were achieved particularly Helen Tristram who 'blitzed' around the 2mile course in 64minutes. Graham Padgett was once again 1<sup>st</sup> Dolphin in the 4mile event.

### ***Training***

We have monitored the attendance level at our Sunday sessions and over the last 42 weeks and the average is 11, which shows members have been attending during the summer, well done. As winter approaches now is the time to build your stamina for next year. Take advantage of the 2 hour session. Attendance at Broomfields could be better. Remember a good swim session counters the effects of Friday night's wine consumption, honestly!

### ***Marbury Handicap***

What can be said about this event, we had to run 3 heats and the last heat had 8 in it. Not only were there 21 swimmers taking part there were around 12 on the side counting or supporting. Just to add to the success the predicted times were remarkable; the top 15 swimmers were all within 30seconds of their predicted time. The top 5 were within 5seconds of their predicted time. Andrew Byrne was the winner swimming exactly to his predicted time. He became the first recipient of the new John Heapy Memorial Trophy. A fantastic evening thanks to Alan Pomfret, Julie Mainwaring and once again John Glynn organised the refreshments at the Cock O' Budworth where the presentation was held.

## **Masters**

At the Cheshire Masters 14 Dolphins entered. Unfortunately, there was a considerable increase in entries over last year and we finished in fifth place. There were some excellent performances with Judy taking four titles, Chris Carter two titles and Billy five titles. An administrative 'faux pas' placed Chris Byrne in the wrong age group which meant we could have collected more titles. The highlight of the evening was to see 'Novice' Chris Carter become the Cheshire Masters Breaststroke Champion. The evening was rounded off with a visit to the pub for the usual debriefing. Well done Claire Dickinson for organising an excellent Championship.

## **Two-way Channel Relay**

Michaela's keen to get back into the channel and is organising the crossing for next August. So you can expect to see some serious training over the winter!

## **Notable swims**

- Solo Windermere swims by Joe Coy.
- Martin Bosson won the Junior Budworth Championship.
- Nick White (Flash) unfortunately was beaten by worsening conditions on his Channel breaststroke attempt. Best of luck for his next attempt.
- Mark Blewitt was forced to retire from his attempt on Loch Lomond in poor conditions, swimming freestyle he would have been the only person to have swam the loch breaststroke and freestyle if he had finished. Better luck for 2008, Mark.
- Judy Brown made it, a European Record in the 200Fly at the ASA Master long course championships at Manchester in June. What a swim.
- I'll support you Kevin for your swim of Loch Lomond!! Such generosity of Lisa. Unfortunately, the Kevin was Kevin Sanders not Saunders. Nevertheless she stuck to her word and just to make it an exceptional Dolphin effort Kevin Saunders volunteer to crew as well. From what I've been told the 2 of them and Lisa's boyfriend were instrumental in Kevin coming second in the Championship. Well done. Just a final word on Kevin Saunders efforts rowing for others he also supported another swimmer who completed Loch Lomond and one on Windermere.
- Dave Bowker & Lisa Stout have gone from strength to strength this season after their Budworth 1mile they went on to swim longer distances, Lisa swam Coniston and Dave Coniston Veterans, both swam Bala one-way.
- A word about Helen Sydenham, she is determined to swim outside and hasn't beaten the swim yet despite visits to Marbury. I'm quite sure we will see her smiling proudly next year. What worries me is that she'll probably be ahead of me.
- Our Treasurer, Caroline swims beyond the call of duty. At eight months and 2 weeks pregnant what an amazing swim for her to comfortably completed the 1mile at Budworth. That is definitely a Club record!!
- Joe Coy for the second year on the run top the mileage chart with 56.3 miles.

## **Forthcoming Events**

- 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2006 - Final training session, we're trying to organise the usual buffet, plus the Presentation of the Anderson Trophy, at Broomfields 9:45pm. To be confirmed.
- 17<sup>th</sup> December 2006 - Christmas 1mile Handicap at Fordton 6:00pm. As usual bring a wrapped present of value around £4.
- A Sunday towards the end of January 2007 - AGM (date and venue to be confirmed)

Joe Coy & Andy Wright  
Secretary & President



## **Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club**

[www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk](http://www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk)

### **Newsletter – March 2007**

Here we are again at the start of another season and its time to bring you all up to date with what's going on at the Dolphins. Firstly, I'd like to welcome new members to the Club and I hope that you find us all welcoming and friendly.

At the end of January we held our AGM. The committee this year is Andy Wright (President), Caroline Lewis (Treasurer), Joe Coy (Secretary), Alan Pomfret, John Glynn, Julie Mainwaring & Michaela Richard. I'd like to welcome Michaela to the committee to boost the representation of the fairer sex. Also I'd like to thank both Maurice Ferguson and John Lydon for their efforts while they were on the committee; both have decided to stand down this year.

A number of members turned out to swim or to watch at our annual Boxing Day Dip. There was a close 'fought' finish with Mark Blewitt winning this year.

At the BLDSA Golden Jubilee annual dinner held this month there was a magnificent representation of Dolphins. The following day at the AGM I was elected to President. I'd like to thank everyone for their good wishes. Maurice was re-elected as Secretary and Membership Secretary, Joe was elected as Child Protection Officer and the Dolphins were once again given the duty of running the Postal Swim nationally.

Once again this year we held our Postal Swims in late February and we had a fine turn out of swimmers, who also produced some excellent swims. We should see how our teams have done at the beginning of May. Thanks to Julie Mainwaring who organised the Clubs swims.

Can I draw your attention to **Membership – if you haven't paid it, its due, so please pay it**. Remember you are not insured if you have not paid your membership and you will not be allowed to train. Also the £3 discount is only available until the end of the month.

You've probably noticed the days are getting longer and before you know it the out door season will be upon us. If any of you are looking to complete a swim and are struggling to get support, a request can be placed on our website. Don't forget global warming means warmer water so I'm sure you'll all take advantage of it and turn out in force to our swims.

As mentioned in the October newsletter, Michaela has organised a 2 way Channel relay for August. This will hopefully be our first successful 2 way relay. We are also hoping to put an entry into the BLDSA Golden Jubilee 2 way Windermere Relay. Anyone interested in being in team or helping, please tell me.

#### ***Dates for your diary are:***

Bob Keating/Dick Dickinson Handicap	29/4/07	Fordton 6:00pm
Budworth Handicap (1 mile)	12/5/07	10:00am briefing 10:30am start
Budworth Championship	2/6/07	Swim Sec Joe Coy
Marbury Handicap (1 mile)	TBC	6:45 for 7:00pm start (date to be confirmed)
Albert Dock Championship	4/8/07	Swim Sec Alan Pomfret, Briefing 9:00am

Budworth & Albert Dock Championship can be entered on-line from our website. Paper entry forms can also be downloaded from our website or see Joe, Alan or myself if you haven't internet access.

If anyone is not swimming the Budworth Handicap please support your club by helping on the day, please let me know. The same also applies to our other swims.

**Andy Wright**



# Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club

[www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk](http://www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk)

## Newsletter October 2007

As usual this newsletter is designed to update you all on the activities of the Club since the last newsletter in April and will additionally; give advance notice of forthcoming event. This year has seen an excellent turnout of members to either swim or to help either at events or coaching and I thank you all, that's what makes the Club so friendly.

Billy Dutton – I'm pleased to report that Billy is now well on the road to recovery after his emergency visit to the hospital earlier this year. Billy has now had his by-pass operation and has been helping out at a number of events such as the Marbury Handicap and Cheshire Masters. Under the watchful eyes of a number of members (Julie, Judy and Graham to name a few) they have encouraged and helped Billy back to health. I believe we're all been pleased to hear their regular updates.

Warrington Dolphins this year became the first Club to take entries for their swims 'On-line'. Entry for both Budworth and Albert Dock via the internet was very encouraging. It is anticipated that most of the entries next year will be via the internet.

### ***Budworth Handicap***

At the Budworth Handicap the Dolphins showed off one of their new 'Huge' marker buoys. The weather leading up to the event was wet and threatened to rain but fortunately held off. Water temperature was 57F. Eighteen swimmers took part. Dave Bowker thought he had won coming in 2 second away from his predicted time, only to be disappointed by Caroline won came in exactly on her predicted time. The President and Secretary had the worst predictions for the eight lap race. This year we had great help on the side. Which meant that the President celebrate his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday by swimming.

### ***Bob Keating/Dick Dickenson Handicaps***

Bob Keating & Dick Dickenson Handicaps were held at Fordton at the end of April. There were again no junior in attendance, so the Dick Dickenson Trophy was for the 2year on the run unclaimed. However, 8 swimmers competed for the Bob Keating Trophy. Caroline Lewis again took the trophy being only 19seconds away from her predicted time. Russ Mason was 'gutted' to have come second, by only 1 second. He blamed Christian Wade who had a 'senior moment' during the race, swimming into Russ, which stopped him.

### ***Budworth Championship***

The Budworth Championship were again organised by Joe. 40% of entries for the swim were taken on-line. We also held a new Tri mile which attracted 8 swimmers and followed the same route as the 1mile race. The weather was once again fine. Warrington retained the team trophy, with a team of Graham Padgett, Julie Connor and Christian Wade. Graham was first veteran and Dolphin home. Martin Bosson retained his junior 2mile title by over 4 minutes.

### ***Marbury Handicap***

The Marbury Handicap was once again a great success with 19 swimmers taking part. Chris Byrne ensured that the trophy stayed at the Byrne house for the second year running by his victory. The usual visit to the Cock O'Budworth followed where a buffet and the presentation took place. Thanks are again due to Alan Pomfret and Julie Mainwaring and to John Glynn for organising the excellent buffet.

### ***BLDSA Golden Jubilee Relay***

We entered two teams into the two-way relay on Windermere. The event proved to be a truly enjoyable day for all who were either swimming or helping out. In total we were represented by 14 swimmers, 4 rowers and 4 helpers, which included your President as the swim organiser. Our two teams consisted one for the Ladies and the second for the Gents. Caroline was fairly sure that she would out swim



## Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club

[www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk](http://www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk)

Chris Carter in a sprint finish. However, the gents had other ideas and managed to put some clear water between the ladies. Our two other swimmers were in the Breaststroke team.

### **Albert Dock Championships**

The weather was nearly perfect for yet another successful Championship organised by Alan Pomfret. We had yet another record entry this year at 46. Once again many Dolphins were involved, either swimming or officiating. The usual course was again laid out the previous evening to ensure a prompt 9:30am start was achieved. With Claire Dickinson Refereeing and Peter Dickinson as Safety Officer the event proceeded without a hitch. Graham Padgett produced his usual medal swim in the 4mile with Christian Wade (first time in the dock) just behind him. Michaela also took a medal in the ladies 4mile. Mike Gallagher finished the 4mile course inside the time limit. Graham Boswell completed his first 2mile swim in a very respectable time. The proceedings were completed with an excellent buffet and presentation by the President of the BLDSA.

### **Two-way Channel Relay**

On the 26<sup>th</sup> August 2007 the team of Michaela Richard, Andy Wright, Jo Norton-Barker, Mark Blewitt, Chris Carter and Caroline Lewis became the first Dolphin team to achieve a 2-way crossing of the English Channel. Setting out on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> August at 5:38, Andy landed in France in 13hours 6minutes. The return journey became an epic swim due to an unusual tidal flow which took the team far north into the North Sea. Chris Carter landed just east of Dover to complete the swim in 28hours 54minutes. It was a truly fantastic swim in at times choppy conditions.

### **Masters**

Unfortunately, this year we didn't have a large entry into the Cheshire Masters. However, our 4 swimmers all swam well. Judy & Graham won all there races and Michaela and Dave had finishes in the top 4. However, Dave Bowker's breaststroke swim proved to be very memorable swimming in lane 4 of the fastest heat.

### **Notable swims**

- Richard Walsh swam 9 lakes including Windermere twice in 24hours to raise money for Guide Dogs for the Blind.
- Martin Bosson won the Junior Budworth Championship.
- Alison Lydon and Martin Bosson won the junior ladies and gents Llyn Padarn Championships.
- Christian Wade achieved his first Windermere swim, after 3miles his shoulder started playing up but continued at a slightly slower pace. Alan Pomfret was part of his boat crew.
- For a second year on the run members of our club help overnight other swimmers to achieve their goals. This year it was Jo Norton-Barker who rowed on the 2way Windermere for Dave Cech. In very wet conditions Jo and her partner Mick guided him to a new Championship record.
- Jo Norton-Barker started the season never swimming outdoors and finished it in the Channel relay team. The highlight of the year must be her Bala 1-way third place the day after swimming 2-ways in very poor conditions.
- Mark Blewitt has topped the mileage chart with 58.6 miles.

### **Forthcoming Events**

- 21<sup>st</sup> December 2007 - Final training session of the year at Broomfields.
- 16<sup>th</sup> December 2007 - Christmas 1mile Handicap at Fordton 6:00pm. As usual bring a wrapped present of value around £4.
- The Anderson Trophy will be presented at Curry night – details to be confirmed.
- Boxing Day Dip – Budworth Sailing Club, 10am briefing, 10:30am swim.
- Provisional AGM date is Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2008, 4:30pm prior to training

Andy Wright  
President



## **Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club**

[www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk](http://www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk)

### **Newsletter – March 2008**

Hasn't the year flown by quickly? Once again I'd like to start by bring you all up to date with what's going on at the Dolphins. Firstly, I'd like to welcome new members to the Club and I hope that you find us all welcoming and friendly.

On a sad note - In February, Sunny Lowry passed away. Sunny was part of the driving force behind the formation of our club in 1964 and has always considered herself as a Dolphin. She was the first English lady to swim the Channel and was until this year President of the Channel Swimming Association.

At the end of January we held our AGM with a disappointingly poor attendance. The committee this year is Andy Wright (President), Caroline Lewis (Treasurer), Alan Pomfret, Julie Mainwaring, Michaela Richard, Dave Bowker, Mark Blewitt & Christian Wade. I'd like to welcome Dave, Mark & Christian to the committee to boost its strength. John Glynn decided to stand down from the committee this year after serving for over ten years and for the last six years he has been our social secretary. In recognition of his efforts he was elected as a life member to the Club. Congratulations John. Finally, although Joe Coy was re-elected as Secretary he felt the need to resign from the committee for personal reason. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Joe for all his efforts over the last few years. Michaela Richard has volunteered to take on the Secretaries post pro-temp.

We had a good turnout on Boxing Day for our annual Dip at Budworth. Mark Blewitt set off with his usual lightening pace to be caught at the first turn by Richard Walsh who went on to win followed in second place by Emma Bartlett. There was also a good turn out of spectators making the event very successful.

Once again this year we held our Postal Swims in late February with a slightly reduced number of swimmers taking part. However, our youngsters all swam well.

At the BLDSA AGM I was elected to Secretary. Maurice was re-elected as Membership Secretary and the Dolphins were once again given the duty of running the Postal Swim nationally.

Can I draw your attention to **Membership – if you haven't paid it, its due, so please pay it**. Remember you are not insured if you have not paid your membership and you will not be allowed to train. Also the £3 discount is only available until the end of the month.

As some of you may be aware, Mark Blewitt is in New Zealand waiting to swim the Cook Straits. Although he's due to swim around now I've heard of no swim report. Hopefully he'll 'bag' another major swim.

#### ***Dates for your diary are:***

Bob Keating/Dick Dickinson Handicap	27/4/07	Fordton 6:00pm
Budworth Handicap (1 mile)	10/5/08	10:00am, briefing 10:30am start
Budworth Championship	31/5/08	Swim Sec Michaela Richard
Marbury Handicap (1 mile)	TBC	6:45 for 7:00pm start (late June/early July)
Albert Dock Championship	2/8/08	Swim Sec Alan Pomfret, Briefing 9:00am

Budworth & Albert Dock Championship can be entered on-line from our website. Paper entry forms can also be downloaded from our website or see Michaela, Alan or myself if you haven't internet access.

If anyone is not swimming at either Budworth or the Albert Dock, please support your club by helping on the day, please let me know if you're available.

**Andy Wright**



# Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club

[www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk](http://www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk)

## Newsletter October 2008

It's hard to believe it but another summer has passed by with what seems to be a blink of the eye and five months have passed since the last Newsletter letter in April. As usual the aim of the Newsletter is to welcome new members to the Club and provide an update on the club.

Most of you will know that Maurice Ferguson passed away in May. Maurice spent years swimming as a Dolphin and working on the Administration of the Club. It was very pleasing to see such a great turnout at his funeral of passed and present Dolphins. He will be sadly missed.

### ***Bob Keating/Dick Dickinson Handicaps***

The Handicaps were held at Fordton at the end of April. This year we had a good turn out of seniors but once again a shortage of juniors. Dave Bowker claimed the Bob Keating title swimming only 17seconds outside his predicted time. Following the swimming, members retired to the pub to discuss the merits of their swims. We also had great support from members willing to count.

### ***Budworth Handicap***

After the cool weather in spring the week leading up to the Budworth Handicap was beautiful resulting in a nicely warm lake (17.2C). The Dolphins hoisted a trail on the new BLDSA electronic timing which was a success. We had 24 swimmers taking part this year and many others helping out. The event was a great success, helped by the Presidents fairly accurate prediction of 10 circuits being a 1mile long. The winner was guest Dee Llewellyn who narrowly beat Judy Brown in her first open water swim.

### ***Budworth Championship***

The Budworth Championship were organised this year by Michaela Richard. They were a tremendous success with an entry of 86 swimmers. The weather was good, the water temperature was in the mid 60's and most Dolphins were there either swimming or helping out. What a Championships.

### ***Marbury Handicap***

The Marbury Handicap despite the prospect of a damp night saw a record 21 swimmers taking part. The three heats saw a broad range of the membership taking part. However, Stuart Ainsworth took the title being only 3 seconds outside his predicted time. Following the swim everyone went to the Cock O'Budworth for the presentation and food. In addition to the handicap a presentation of a Silver Salver was made to John Glynn to commemorate his election as Life Member earlier in the year.

### ***Albert Dock Championships***

Alan Pomfret organised yet another excellent Championships. Many Dolphins were involved either officiating or swimming. With the water temperature in the upper 60'sF everyone had a great swim. In the gents 4mile race we had a 1, 2 and 3 with Nick Aspey 1<sup>st</sup>, Graham Padget 2<sup>nd</sup> and Christian Wade 3<sup>rd</sup>. As usual the presentation was held at the Blue Bar. Alan has organised the event for 5 years now and has decided to pass over the leadership as he is going to lead the running of the Postal Swim. Dave Bowker has agreed to lead the event next year.

### ***Training***

The numbers attending session during the summer have been good. Only in August did the number drop on Sundays while members were away on holiday. Thanks are due to Jim and Christian who have organised the coaches for the Friday and Sunday session respectively. Christian is always keen to receive offers for Coaching at Sunday sessions, so please volunteer.



## Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club

[www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk](http://www.warrington-dolphins.co.uk)

### **Masters**

The Masters this season had a quiet year. However, as usual we had a contingent who entered the Cheshire Masters. Graham Padget, Judy Brown, Christian Wade and Owen Griffith all produced good swims. Rumours have returned that Owen blitzed his leg of the relay in a sub 30sec time, 'a dark horse'. Once again Claire Dickinson organised an excellent Championship.

### **Channel Relay 2010**

Early in the summer we sounded out amongst member the interest level in another relay. To our surprise 15 members were interested. While at the Champion of Champions event we discovered that our Channel Pilot of many years, Dave Whyte, was retiring at the end of the year. This meant that a new pilot was required so with the interest shown we were very pleased to have booked 2 experienced pilots, Alison and Neil Streeter for August 2010. Alison is the Queen of the Channel having swam it more times than any one else. However, since then the interest list has grown and now stands at 20.

### **Notable swims**

- Solo Windermere swims by Dave Bowker & Joe Coy. This was Dave's first Windermere, a great achievement.
- Members who made their first open water swims this season as a Dolphin were Sarah Beresford, Nick Aspey, Emma Dean, Laura Flaherty, Sarah Mahar, Courtney Dean, Connor Dean, Patrick Horgan, Judy Brown, Steve O'Brien and Kay Gorzko.
- Mark Blewitt attempted the Cooke Straits (New Zealand) early in the year but was beaten by the tides.
- Mark Blewitt had 2 attempts to swim the Channel, the first attempt ground to a halt with equipment failure and the second, Mark retired cold. He still retains the title of the only British Diabetic to have swum the Channel.
- Courtney Dean and Connor Dean won the Junior Ladies and Junior Gents 3km Cheshire County Open Water Championships.
- Joe Coy topped the mileage chart with 52.4 miles.
- Nick Aspey had in late September a slot to swim the Channel but unfortunately the weather wasn't good enough to go. As it was late in the month it meant that he didn't get away this year. A great pity since he had spent a number of weekends down in Dover training.
- Michaela Richard swims her first Loch Earn Championship in appalling weather and won 'her age group'.
- A number of Dolphins have swum abroad this year – Mark Blewitt (New Zealand and Ireland) Kevin Saunders (New York) Michaela Richard & myself (Scotland!!!).

### **Forthcoming Events**

- Curry Night - 4<sup>th</sup> December 2008 - Including the Presentation of the 'Anderson' and 'Dolphin of the Year' Trophies.
- Christmas 1mile Handicap - 21<sup>st</sup> December 2008 at Fordton 6:00pm. As usual bring a wrapped present of value around £4. This is a very enjoyable event.
- Boxing Day Dip – Budworth Mere Sailing Club, 10am followed by the usual Bacon Buttie.
- AGM – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2009, 5pm Fordton
- Coniston Relay – 18<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

Andy Wright  
President