



Newsletter

Christmas Events

November, 2016



Christmas Meal!

It's not too late if you want to join us on Saturday 10th December between 7.30 – 8.00 p.m. at the London Bridge Pub, Stockton Heath for this year's Christmas night out.

The cost is £12.50 per head, with two choices of meal. To book your place, contact Julie Trevor pauljulietrevor@btinternet.com by 1st December. This year's winners of the Anderson Trophy and Swimmer of the Year will be announced during the evening.

Christmas Handicap and Children's 'inflatable fun' session

This is happening on Sun 18th December at Orford Jubilee Centre and will replace the normal Sunday training session. The 'inflatable fun' session will start at 6 p.m. until 6.55 p.m. This is for children aged between 8 and 14 yrs. who can swim a minimum 25m's without armbands. Club member's children are welcome to come and join in even if they are non-members. There is a £3 charge per child, which includes a small present. Please let Julie Trevor know in advance if you have any children wanting to take part pauljulietrevor@btinternet.com.



The Christmas handicap will start at approximately 7.00 p.m. All swimmers competing need to be on the poolside by 6.45 p.m. Entry fee is £3.

It is the usual 'handicap' arrangement i.e. swimmers estimate the time they will take to swim 1 mile. The person who complete their swim closest to their predicted time is the winner and will receive the Championship shield. Please provide a wrapped 'Secret Santa' gift to the value of £5. There will be a separate 'Secret Santa' for the junior swimmers, so please ensure that junior gifts are suitable for under 18's. The winner of the swim will have first choice of the gifts.

Boxing Day Swim!



For those who fancy a mid-winter dip or want to burn off a calorie or two from Christmas Day, our traditional 'fun' swim is taking place at Budworth Sailing Club at 10.30 a.m. It is a short lap course, approximately 60m. Although there is the option to complete additional laps!

Registration commences at 10.00 a.m. Entry fee is £3.00, which includes a hot drink and bacon sandwich. Both wetsuit and non-wetsuits accepted. Spectators welcome.

The smiling faces of previous participants Caroline Lewis and Julie Trevor prior to going in the water!

If the Boxing day swim gets you in the mood for more 'Chill' swimming or if you were unable to take part, consider going to Salford Quays to join in the 'Uswim' annual New Year's Day Charity Swim commencing at 11.00 am. For further information go to: <http://www.uswimopenwater.com>.

Other forthcoming Club events

1500m Championships

This will be taking place on Saturday 4th February at Orford Jubilee Centre, commencing at 4.00 p.m. In addition to the 1500m Championship events, there will be an 800m junior race and an award for the swimmer finishing closest to their predicted time. Entries will be opening shortly via EntryCentral @ <https://www.entrycentral.com>. Time keepers are needed for the event. If you are able to help, please contact Barbara Harding (Barbara.dolphins@outlook.com).

Postal swim 2017

The BDLSA Postal swim commences on 1st January with the final entries post marked 1st March 2017. Last year 37 Dolphin members took part in the event. It will be great if even more of us take on the challenge in 2017, particularly if more junior members get involved. Just to remind you of what's involved, the aim is to swim as many lengths that you can in under 1 hour.

Club dates for taking part in the event are Friday 20th, Sunday 22nd January and Friday 24th, Sunday 26th February. These will replace the normal swimming sessions. Cost of entry will be covered by the Club, but usual swimming session fee will be charged. If you would like to take part in the swim or to volunteer as a lane counter, please contact Mandy Reid Mandy.postalswim@aec.uk.net/Caroline Lewis snailsontour@hotmail.com with your preferred date.

Channel Relay team updates

(Report by Rob Waterhouse)



Members of the 2016 Channel relay team (pictured left)

Richard Taylor, Adam Farini, Marc Pomfret, Rob Waterhouse, Greg O'Connell and Chris Carter attended a re-union at Mr Lau's in Warrington for this year's channel relay success. Each swimmer received a pack containing their certificate, plot of the swim, observer and pilot reports.

They were joined by Mike Farini & Alan Pomfret who both received a small gift for assisting the relay team on the boat. Rob thanked the pilot Eddie Spelling and Kevin Murphy from Channel Swimming and Pilot Federation for their support for this year's relay.

Channel Relay 2017 We are now preparing for next year's event due to take place in August. The team, dependant on each completing the two-hour qualifying swim, are Julie Trevor, Barbara Harding, Jonathan Gatley, Faye Hodgkins, Karen Hodgkins & Mandy Reid.

Channel Relay 2018 - Swimmers Wanted! The Club has booked a crossing between 3rd - 10th July. Currently 4 swimmers, Rob Waterhouse, Beth Dowding, Tom Stephens and Maurizio Luccessi, have asked to be part of the team. If you would also like to be involved, please contact Rob Waterhouse (robert.waterhouse@ntlworld.com).

Congratulations to

Chris Carter and **Dave Cornwell** on their achievements at the Manchester Open Water Swimming Festival, Sale Water Park on 3 September. Chris finished in 1st place in the 3.8km senior non-wetsuit event and Dave took 3rd place in the 1500m senior wetsuit event.

Beth Dowding on her success in the 5.25 mls 'Chill-swim' Coniston 'end to end' event on 3 September. Swimming brilliantly in torrential rain, poor visibility and a misty, murky, uninviting lake 14 yrs. old Beth finished 3rd in the 16-19 yrs. category in a time of 2hrs 17 mins. Overall, she was the 11th female to complete the race and was placed 27th out of a total of 513 swimmers. Beth was officially under age but had received special permission by the event organisers to enter due to her being a member of Warrington Dolphins and competing in the Clubs long distance events.

Ellie Jane Knight and **Margaret Smith** who both represented Warrington Dolphins in the BLDSA St Mary's Loch Championships. Ellie the only junior to enter the 3.5 mls event and swimming breaststroke, was the 1st contestant to finish, in a time of 1hr 58 mins 55secs. Margaret was 1st in the ladies' breaststroke 1 km event in 40 mins 10 secs.

Chris Carter following his earlier success at Sale Water Park travelled to the Scilly Isles to take part in the Scilly Swim Challenge on the 13/14 September. This 'swim and walk' the Islands event consists of 6 swims averaging 2.5 km (total 15km) and can be completed over one or two days. Chris took part in the two-day event.

On his return, Chris described the weather on day one of the challenge as 'brutal' with the 3rd swim being shortened due to a headwind and following tide. Water temperature was between 14.5 and 16°C, with air temperature averaging 17°C. The second day swims started off in relatively flat water and a much warmer air temperature, but deteriorated during the day; finishing with six foot swells and white water side on. Eighty swimmers took part. Chris was one of only six others not wearing a wetsuit. Many of the participants were aged over 40 years, although the 1 day event attracted a younger age group.

Chris described this is a 'proper' swim challenge, "you can expect low temperatures and to be open to the elements. However, it is superbly organised and safety coverage is of the highest quality". If you are interested in taking part in next year's event entries are now open at: www.scillychallenge.co.uk.

Budworth Sailing Club

Over the last 12 months the committee have been in negotiation with the Sailing Club officials to use it as our Club base which has now been approved. This will enable us to make better use of the facilities and extend our current training arrangements.

As part of the agreement we have been granted permission to erect a shed on the site. There are plans for this to be installed sometime in February and will house all our Club equipment. We will have a notice board in the Clubhouse with information to promote Dolphins and have use of the function room and bar for meetings/social/training events.

The Sailing Club committee have also agreed, in principle, for us to extend our current Tuesday night training sessions to other evenings. This will be great for our members who require additional outdoor training or for those who are unable to attend on Tuesday evening. The additional sessions will be subject to the approval of the Committee, dependent on any Sailing Club activities taking place and on volunteers from Dolphins in providing safety cover and administration. If you would like to take advantage of additional outdoor training sessions, please contact Julie Trevor, Mandy Reid or Michaela Richard.

Unfortunately, blue-green algae greatly affected this year's Tuesday evening training sessions – Fingers crossed that 2017 will be better!

2016 Mileage chart

If you want the details of your outdoor swimming events completed this year (times/distances) to be included in the Dolphins mileage chart please send these to Michaela Richard (michaela.richard@ntlworld.com), if you have not already done so.

Results from the Archives..... THE LONG HOT SUMMER OF 1976!

(Reported by Joe Coy)

12th June - 111 swimmers took part in the Warrington Dolphins Pickmere Championships. with water at 18c and intermittent sunshine, Claire Allman of the Dolphins won the Junior Girls 2 miles' event

13th June - Billy Dutton finished 2nd at Exmouth Fairway Buoy with rough conditions in exposed sections and water temp down to 13.5c in the sea.

27th June -Billy Dutton won BLDSA Morecombe Bay for the 3rd year in succession, with the last 3 miles in a vigorous cross tide. Maurice Ferguson and Arthur Williams also completed the course. Gina Clarke (Grand-daughter of Arthur Williams) was 2nd lady home, with Dilys Benyon 3rd and Pat Dawson 4th. Margaret Smith was another successful Dolphin.

14th August -Margaret Smith set a new Breaststroke record (6:48:57) in the Irish LDSA Lough Neagh Championships, which she had set the previous year and was again the only lady finisher.

29th/30th August - Chris Carter won the BLDSA Loch Lomond Championship in a record time of 11 hours 39 mins on a breezy night with air temp down to 10c at times

4th September - Billy Dutton won BLDSA Windermere in 5:00:02, with Chris Carter 3rd in 5:12:01.

Many Thanks



To everyone who very kindly donated to the 'BBC Children in Need' appeal at Friday 18th and Sunday 20th November swimming sessions.



Volunteers Needed

Due to personal commitments Rob Waterhouse who organised this year 1500m Championships and Adrian Moylan, organiser of the Budworth Championships, are unable to commit to carry on these roles.

Michaela and Larry Richard have kindly offered to organise the next Budworth Championships and Barbara Harding is organising the 1500m event. However, they are unable to continue as organisers beyond 2017. The committee is seeking volunteers to assist with organising the next events with a view to becoming lead organisers in 2018. If you are interested in taking on responsibility for organising either of these events or would like further information about what is involved, please contact Michaela (Budworth Championships) or Barbara (1500m Championships).

AGM

The 2017 Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 29 January at Orford Jubilee Centre at 5.00 p.m. All members are welcome to attend.

Christmas training

Our last training session is Friday 23rd Dec and will re-commence on Friday 6th Jan. There will be no Sunday training session during these dates. Public lane swimming will be available at Orford Jubilee Centre and Woolston Leisure Centre during the Festive period. For further details go to the LiveWire website (<https://livewirewarrington.co.uk/leisure/swimming>).

Items for future Newsletters

Send any items or results for inclusion in the next newsletter to Secretary@warrington-dolphins.com.