

John Heapy (sadly passed away on 30th December 2003)

John joined the Warrington Dolphins in 1967. Over the years John has swum as a Dolphin all over the country and even abroad.

Probably his biggest legacy to the Club is the Boxing Day Dip, which was his idea. He struggled to get the committee of the Dolphins interested in the swim and for two years his idea was rejected. On the third Christmas (1969) he announced that he was going to swim on Boxing Day at Pickmere and John Alexander said he would swim with him. The first Boxing Day race was in 1973. John has organised and attended all but one race, which he couldn't attend because of illness.

In his later years he has spent hours in a supporting roll to swimmers from all over the country particularly on Windermere and Loch Lomond. He crewed for Dave Feakes on his Two Way Windermere swim in 2001 and was his supporter when he swam the Channel in 2002.

The history of Warrington Dolphins is currently being compiled and this has uncovered some interesting facts about John, which to me demonstrate that he was probably one off the most experienced and knowledgeable Long Distance Swimmers in this Country. Plus he holds may records, which most current Long Distance Swimmers wouldn't believe were possible. Have a look at the list below, which is not complete, but will enlighten you to his ability.

John will be greatly missed.

Windermere (10.5miles)

1972	Freestyle	06:14:09
1974	Freestyle	06:34:08
1977	Freestyle	07:18:54
1983	Freestyle	07:36:19

Torbay (8miles)

1973	Freestyle	05:28:34
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Morecambe Bay (10miles)

1973	Freestyle	03:15:23
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Coniston (5.25miles)

1972	Butterfly	03:45:49	Inaugural Record
1973	Freestyle	03:11:08	

Coniston 2 Way (10.5miles)

1971	Freestyle	07:08:00	
1981	Backstroke	07:18:20	Inaugural Record

Coniston Veterans (3.3miles)

1984	Butterfly		
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Bala 2 Way (6miles)

1971	Freestyle	04:00:00	
1973	Freestyle	03:47:29	

Bala 1 Way (3miles)

1972	Freestyle	01:40:00	
1972	Butterfly	02:22:00	Inaugural Record

	1973	Freestyle	02:13:00	
	1974	Freestyle	01:41:00	
	1974	Freestyle	02:17:00	
	1982	Freestyle	01:43:00	
	1983	Freestyle	02:06:00	
	1983	Freestyle	02:40:00	
Trentham (3miles)				
	1971	Freestyle	1:49:02	
	1972	Freestyle	1:33:16	
	1973	Freestyle	1:28:48	
	1974	Freestyle	1:31:08	
	1980	Freestyle		
	1981	Freestyle		
Ebro River - Spain (10miles)				
	1971	Freestyle	4:20:00	
	1971	Butterfly	4:15:38	Record
Invergowrie - Broughty Ferry				
	1971	Freestyle	2:24:00	
Exmouth Fairway Buoy				
	1973	Freestyle	2:04:50	
Ullswater (7miles)				
	1982	Freestyle	04:17:00	
Loch Earn (6.5miles)				
	1972	Freestyle	03:18:32	
Kerrera to Oban				
	1976	Butterfly		