



BLDSA 2018 Annual Report

2018
ANNUAL REPORT



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NEW SWIM EVENT FOR 2019

**HOLYHEAD HARBOUR
CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS**

Check out the website for further details

Also NEW for 2019

**SCALING DAM
CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS**

This swim will replace the Ellerton Lake event
see our website for more information



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President's Report

It has been a real honour to be your President this year.

In what has been a tough year or two for me the ability to come to swims and be part of such a supportive group of people has been a big help and makes me proud of our merry bunch.

I have really enjoyed travelling to the swims and meeting the swimmers and volunteers old and new. I covered over 4200 miles this year across our swims, affiliate events and meetings. We have seen some extreme weather this year with sun at Colwick Park, wind and sun at Champion of Champions South, wind and rain at Coniston and the rain at the end of Loch Lomond.

Front and centre I would like give a round of applause to all the volunteers who have helped make the season a success. Thanks to the Swim secs who put in many hours of work over the year to put swims on, their support networks for putting up with this and the on the day teams for getting things done.

I'll leave the details of the individual swims to the swim secs, but I would like to thank you all for your hard work. It was great to see people from across the globe competing and helping at the swims. With England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland represented well it was good to also have representation over the season from, amongst other places, Jersey, Republic of Ireland, New Zealand and Zimbabwe.

We can never forget the safety provision by the safety boats and crews who often spend unseen hours before and after the swims to set up and pack away; also, behind the scenes away from the swims with repairs and maintenance to our varied equipment. Also, the individuals who support swimmers in various water craft through the season helping swimmers achieve their dreams.

A big well done to the BLDSA safety officer, Richard Hardy, who often has a thankless task of making sure we continue to be safe and meet the requirements of our insurers; please make sure you understand what is required of you as a swimmer, crew or volunteer, and read the info that is sent out to support this hard work.

We see ourselves with a few roles open for people to step forward and take on:

Hon. Recorder
Hon. Publicity Officer
Hon. Insignia Officer
Colwick Park Swim Sec
Ullswater Swim Sec

If you are interested please get in touch with Vince, the Hon. Gen. Secretary.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Scarborough at our annual dinner and AGM.

Philip Yorke

Hon General Secretary Report

This is my first year as Hon. Gen. Sec. and it has not been an easy one. This year has seen several major changes, new faces on the committee and new Swim Secretaries and several leavers from both roles. There were no takers for the role of Hon. Recorder, so I ended up looking after the administration. There was also no taker for the Grand Prix administration, so I have had to sort that too. Hopefully everything in the Grand Prix is correct but please let me know if you spot any issues. I have also been a tad busy with Memberships as Hon. Membership

Sec. and the 200 Club as administrator. So, if it looks like my name keeps appearing on reports it is because of all of these.

We have lost 3 stalwarts of Open Water Swimming, Percy Bull in April, Carl Walker in May, and George Owen in Sept. They will be missed.

It is bit disturbing that we do not have a President Elect for the season, the Executive are working hard on resolving the situation and having a President in place for next season.

Part way through the year Graham McIntyre left the committee; I thank him for all his past work on the BLDSA Executive over the years and wish him well for the future.

The website now has Memberships and all the Event Entries available on line. The memberships coming onto the website was a bit unexpected and that meant a lot of hard work for Richard & Michelle Hardy having to play catch up and learn a whole new set of skills, but I think they have done a wonderful job. Apologies to anyone who had issues that took longer than expected to resolve.

Most of the events were completed without too many major issues, but hopefully lessons have been learned by the management teams, which will not be repeated in the future.

I am not sure how many emails and pieces of correspondence past Secretaries have had to deal with, but I know I have received and sent or replied to in excess of 4000 emails since taking over. If I have not replied to you within minutes of you pressing send, please bear with me, I do eventually get round to them. Or better still join the committee and take on a role.

Vince Classen

Championship Reports

Colwick Park

20th May 2018

The sun was shining, the water was clear (thank Goodness!) and the swimming was lovely.

The day started with the 1km swim and almost as soon as I arrived on site we had people wanting to enter on the day. Some people were entering an open water event for the first time, including one who had only initially turned up to watch, but decided to enter (he then thanked the swim team with donuts – just a hint to other swimmers!!). We also had another swimmer from the cast of Jersey Boys who came down for a swim before the show left Nottingham for Bradford.

In total we had 20 swimmers set off on the 1km swim – a number that we could grow even further once we have an online entry form for this swim. 12 of the 20 were wet-suited swimmers, so it's great to welcome so many swimmers that haven't traditionally entered BLDSA swims before.

The first swimmer home was Nick White in an incredible time of 11 minutes and 56 seconds. The first skins swimmer was Andrew Allum in 12.09, while Joanne Griffiths was the first female swimmer in a time of 14.06.

I hope all the 1km swimmers enjoyed it and will consider other swims on our calendar – many of which now also welcome wetsuit swimmers.

After the 1km swim we had the combined 3km/5km swim, with both events starting at the same time, but obviously doing a different number of laps of the 1km course.

We unfortunately had a few people that had to pull out in the week before the event (and I hope that all health issues are ok), so we had 26 swimmers in the water for this event.

The first person out of the water was Ian Murray who won the 3km event in 42 minutes and 1 second. The first female finisher and first junior home was Madeleine Adams in 47 minutes and 36 seconds.

Andrew Allum clearly enjoyed his 1km warm up swim as he was the first finisher in the 5km event in a time of 1 hour 3 minutes and 51 seconds. James Bridges and Paul Smith battled it out for second and third, with James just pipping Paul by a couple of seconds. They were closely followed by Georgia Amison as the first female swimmer home in 1 hour 8 minutes and 33 seconds.

My thanks to all swimmers, all race officials and especially to the safety crew. Good luck to next year's new Swim Secretary for Colwick Park.

20 May 2018 1 km

Place	Name	Category	Time	Stroke
1st W/S	Joanne Griffiths	Ladies	00:14:06	f/s
1st	Francesca Palfrey	Junior Girls	00:14:10	f/s
3rd W/S	Julie Lambourne	Ladies	00:17:16	f/s
4th	Jennifer Bridges	Ladies	00:19:52	f/s
5th W/S	Lilian Komor	Ladies	00:23:21	f/s
6th W/S	Marie Christine Pardon	Ladies	00:23:48	f/s
1st B/S	Margaret Smith	Ladies	00:35:22	Bst
1st W/S	Nick White	Mens	00:11:56	f/s
2nd	Andrew Allum	Mens	00:12:09	f/s
3rd W/S	James Van Tuyl	Mens	00:12:10	f/s
4th	Justin Palfrey	Mens	00:14:03	f/s
5th W/S	Thomas Marshall	Mens	00:14:04	f/s
5th	Andy Middleton	Mens	00:14:04	f/s
7th W/S	Nicholas Williams	Mens	00:17:10	f/s
8th	David Edwards	Mens	00:17:22	f/s
9th	Gordon Joyes	Mens	00:18:00	f/s
10th W/S	Toby Britton	Mens	00:18:37	f/s
11th	Tim Bunston	Mens	00:19:51	f/s
12th	MilhailMihaylou	Mens	00:23:47	f/s
13th	Nigel Turner	Mens	00:30:34	f/s

3 km

Place	Name	Category	Time	Stroke
1st	Ian Murray	Mens	00:42:01	f/s
1st	Madeleine Adams	Junior Girls	00:47:36	f/s
2nd	Heather Riley	Ladies	00:50:59	f/s
3rd	Susan Hathaway	Ladies	00:51:59	f/s
4th	Janet Wilson	Ladies	01:37:33	f/s

Ladies 5 km

Place	Name	Time	Stroke
1st	Georgia Amison	01:08:33	f/s
2nd	Louise Orgill	01:27:03	f/s
3rd	Michelle Hardy	01:27:23	f/s
4th	Helen Gilbert	01:31:57	f/s
5th	Zoe Sadler	01:34:39	f/s
6th	Jane Sedman	01:42:37	Bst
7th	Alex Sedman	02:01:52	f/s
8th	Geraldine Shelley	02:16:12	f/s

Mens 5 km

Place	Name	Time	Stroke
1st	Andrew Allum	01:03:51	f/s
2nd	James Bridges	01:07:30	f/s
3rd	Paul Smith	01:07:32	f/s
1st w/suit	Matt Donnelly	01:11:49	f/s
5th	Colin France	01:12:09	f/s
6th	Mark Yare	01:14:23	f/s
7th	Andy Middleton	01:15:37	f/s
8th	Andrew Wells	01:17:12	f/s
9th	Paul White	01:22:14	f/s
10th	David Randall	01:23:12	f/s
11th	Kevin Welsh	01:26:02	f/s
12th	Peter Timmins	01:26:31	f/s
13th	Francis Zielinski	01:42:37	f/s

Patrick Smith Swim Secretary

Wykeham Lakes Swims

26th/27th May 2018

The event was held at Wykeham Lakes and started on the 26th of May, 2018. I'm delighted to say that this was my first year of organising the Wykeham Lakes Championships after taking over from Liane Llewellyn Hickling. The BLDSA Wykeham event was the first event I ever competed in when I started open water swimming so it was lovely to be able to give back to the organisation who started all the madness for me! This year brought fewer swimmers due to Bank Holiday madness, but was none the less successful than other years.

The event began with the 5k night swim, and what a lovely evening it was! Briefing was at 2100hrs and the competition for the best lit support boat began, there were some good contenders from Kingfishers SC but it has to be said that Francis Zielinski won the contest hands down when his Kayaker started to tow a rather large inflatable unicorn behind her.

Everyone now started to get into race mode and the 5 early starters got in the water at 2130hrs ready to kick off the two-day championship, accompanied by a warm sunset. The lake was calm and very picturesque with Martyn Coates' truck lighting up the shore. At 2200hrs the rest of the swimmers set off and the night swim was underway!

Claire Bamford from Kingfishers SC led the race finishing just 6 minutes before Andrew Wells, who both took home the senior win for their categories. Ellie Knight was next to finish – the first breast-stroker home, followed shortly by Alex Lee and Sarah Taylor, with Jane Sedman bringing in the 2nd breast-stroker home finishing 34 seconds later! It was a very successful night swim with only one swimmer retiring. Unfortunately, due to a late start down to kayaking issues Kevin Welsh was only able to complete a fast 3k. After celebrating the night swim and warming up, swimmers and volunteers headed to bed to wake up refreshed ready for Sunday's early start.

0900hrs Sunday brought the Wykeham Championships day swim to a start with 20 swimmers in the water ready for the traditional 5k and 2-mile (junior & senior) races. Natalie McGuire was the first senior to finish the 3k in 59 minutes and the youngest swimmer in the event – Maddy Adams was soon to follow 4 minutes later, with Thomas Reynoldson; the other junior swimmer and team mate, to finish 8 minutes later - bringing two junior wins for Kingfishers SC. Winning the 3k male senior title was the Francis Zielinski – the one and only creator gunning for gold in the “Wykeham Lakes mini champions of champions” (5-mile night swim, 2 mile and 1k race).

The 5k event was won by Nikki Fraser with a time of 1 hour 25 minutes, regaining her ladies title for the 3rd year in a row! Nikki was closely followed by David Owen who also regained the senior men's title when he won the 5k in a very impressive time of 1 hour 31 minutes. Claire Bamford was next home chased by Andrew Wells, and Ellie Knight was the first breast-stroker home again winning the 5k senior breast stroke title as she had done the night before. Next up was the 1k event with only 3 swimmers, David Owen brought home his 2nd win of the day only hours after his previous race, followed by David Eblett and then the one and only Francis Zielinski (without his unicorn!).

Well done to all the swimmers who competed over the weekend and a big thankyou to everyone who came and supported my first year of organising the event, with hopefully many more years to come! The biggest of thankyou's goes to my family, who all volunteered at the weekend and especially my mum Trish Stansfield for all her hard work leading up to the event, and also Hazel Killingbeck for the help and support. Hope to see you all again there next year!

Erin Hope
Swim Secretary

Night Swim 26th May 2018

Ladies

Place	Name	Time	Stroke
1st	Claire Bamford	01:28:01	f/s
1st B/S	Ellie Knight	01:52:48	Bst
3rd	Alex Lee	02:06:18	f/s
4th	Sarah Taylor	02:08:06	f/s
2nd B/S	Jane Sedman	02:08:40	Bst
6th	Alex Sedman	02:25:01	f/s

Men

Place	Name	Time	Stroke
1st	Andrew Wells	01:34:30	f/s
2nd	Dave Neal	01:59:50	f/s
3rd	Francis Zielinski	02:10:31	f/s

2 Miles Sunday 27th May**Junior Girls**

Place	Name	Time	Stroke
1st	Madeleine Adams	01:03:24	f/s

Junior Boys

Place	Name	Time	Stroke
1st	Thomas Reynoldson	01:11:15	f/s

Senior Ladies

Place	Name	Time	Stroke
1st	Natalie McGuire	00:59:28	f/s
2nd	Alex Lee	01:18:22	f/s
DNF	Annie Stafford	DNF	f/s

Senior Men

Place	Name	Time	Stroke
1st	Francis Zielinski	01:27:55	f/s

5 km Senior Ladies

Place	Name	Time	Stroke
1st	Nikki Fraser	01:25:34	f/s
2nd	Claire Bamford	01:32:17	f/s
3rd	Louise Orgill	01:52:21	f/s
4th	Ellen Taylor	02:11:51	f/s
5th	Alison Russell	02:16:24	f/s
6th	Sarah Taylor	02:35:26	f/s
DNF	Alex Sedman	DNF	
DNS	Heather Riley	DNS	

Senior Men

Place	Name	Time	Stroke
1st	David Owen	01:31:19	f/s
2 nd	Andrew Wells	01:40:06	f/s
3rd	David Randall	01:52:13	f/s
4th	Kevin Welsh	01:53:59	f/s
5th	Owen Mahoney	02:00:28	f/s
DNS	Mark Yare	DNS	

Men 1k Novice Swim

Place	Name	Time
1st	David Owen	00:17:06
2nd	David Eblett	00:20:14
3rd	Francis Zielinski	00:26:48

Champion of Champions (South)

16th June 2018

The 2018 Champion of Champions was one of the most challenging in recent years. 20 mph winds, big chop and 14.7c water all contributed to tough conditions for swimmers, kayakers and safety personnel. At least there was no rain I said at one stage!

The statistics don't lie and the 56% completion rate this year puts it leaner than 2013 which was at 67% and the toughest one in my recent memory since the swim has been held in Dover.

The Gents race was dominated by the effortless Dr. Nicholas Murch - a fellow veteran of a Geneva solo. He beat Arvids Friedenfelds by ca. 10 mins overall but it was Arvids who had emerged from the 3 miler victorious. Amazingly, there were only 32 seconds separating Arvids in 2nd place from Andrew Allum who finished 3rd – a very slim margin over such a long 9 mile swim!

The ladies race was led from start to finish by Georgia Amison with Samantha Poulsen chuffed to win her slate silver trophy and, veteran of the distance weekend, Hayley Pennington in 3rd. It was lovely to see all the support these and other swimmers received from family and helpers – it really does help to have a 'buddy' to help you prevail at this event.

It's worth me pointing out that we were treated to a very close 1 mile swim at the end of the day where Nichola Murch beat husband Nick by 10 seconds & it was a shame she couldn't find a baby sitter for the day to complete the event in its entirety so had to just settle for one swim. Well done Nichola and hope you return for the full 9 next year.

I would like to thank all the swimmers for their patience and understanding during the day in what were tough conditions. At one stage the buoy attached to the turn-boat uprooted its anchor and (as usual at this event) they started to drift. The safety boats sorted that and soon afterwards were called to remove a straying sailboat drifting onto our course. No-one lost their sense of humour and common sense generally prevailed.

Despite lots of organisation behind the scenes beforehand the day itself went smoothly as I had a veritable army of brilliant volunteers. I generally drank Americanos with double cream, ate ice cream and applied sun lotion – that tan doesn't do itself you know! I really can't begin to thank our 9 determined kayakers and Julie Coleman on her brilliant rescue board enough. Their dedication

to the cause ensured that the event cracked on punctually. Being on the turn-boat was a challenge as ever and timekeepers, beach crews all made everything seamless with everyone wearing yellow dry-fit 'CREW' T-shirts for the first time.

I cannot thank my wife Emily enough for helping me behind the scenes and ensuring all the merchandise of lovely red t-shirts turned up on time.

Adrian Rotchell proved to be a whizz on excel with his laptop and ensured that the presentation was underway before 6pm therefore people could get home at a decent hour.

Certificates and world famous Champion of Champions red swim caps were presented to the 30 successful finishers (out of the 54 who had started). Andy Truscott went home with a warm red Champion of Champions hat to mark him travelling further than other swimmers from Jersey. Nathan Meadows and Cath Pendleton also walked away with the prize of a red swim hat to mark their swims as those having suffered the conditions the longest. Cath, in particular, dived with the cut off times beating the 3 mile cut off by only 90 seconds and the 1 mile by 1 second! The warm glow of achievement will no doubt sit with them and the other finishers for years.

Look forward to see you all on the circuit or at next year's swim which is usually the 3rd Saturday in June. Pray for less wind and bring your sense of humour again as the buzz this year was simply superb!

Mark Sheridan
Race Director Champion of Champions

Champion of Champions - Dover Harbour - Saturday, 16 June 2018

Senior Ladies		Age		5 Miles		3 Miles		1 Mile		Overall	
Name		Pos	Time	Pos	Time	Pos	Time	Pos	Time	Pos	Time
Georgia Amison	S	1	02:27:31	1	01:39:35	2	00:32:06	1	04:39:12		
Samantha Poulsen	V	2	02:35:53	2	01:40:05	4	00:33:27	2	04:49:25		
Hayley Pennington	V	3	02:38:35	3	01:46:50	3	00:33:24	3	04:58:49		
Anna Ploszajski	S	6	03:06:28	4	01:51:21	6	00:36:37	4	05:34:26		
Alice Harvey	S	5	03:04:24	6	01:58:25	9	00:39:29	5	05:42:18		
Leah Chowdhry	V	4	02:55:27	9	02:09:25	7	00:38:14	6	05:43:06		
Sarah Liles	S	8	03:08:52	5	01:57:59	8	00:39:05	7	05:45:56		
Lucy Roper	V	7	03:07:14	7	02:04:12	10	00:41:07	8	05:52:33		
Elaine Henderson	S	9	03:14:50	8	02:05:17	11	00:41:43	9	06:01:50		
Cath Pendleton	V	14	03:50:53	10	02:28:36	13	00:49:59	10	07:09:28		
Susan Ventham		10	03:16:28	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNF	DNF		
Claire Russell		13	03:41:05	DNF	01:39:04	DNS	DNS	DNF	DNF		
Alexia O'Mara	V	15	04:04:20	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNF	DNF		
Sandra Claxton	V	11	03:16:29	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNF	DNF		
Sarah Kenyon	S	12	03:40:02	DNS	DNS	12	00:42:36	DNF	DNF		
Sharon Atkinson	V	16	04:05:34	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNF	DNF		
Sissy Gasson	S	17	04:14:00	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNF	DNF		
Amanda Bell	S	0	03:02:30	DNF	DNF	DNS	DNS	DNF	DNF		
Michelle Hardy	V	0	02:48:37	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNF	DNF		
Sian Lane	V	0	03:04:28	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNF	DNF		
Amy Mellor	S	DNF	DNF	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNF	DNF		
Isobel Robson		DNF	DNF	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNF	DNF		
Zoe Sadler		DNF	01:31:50	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNF	DNF		
NicholaMurch	S	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	1	00:27:35	DNF	DNF		
Hazel Killingbeck	S	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	5	00:34:02	DNF	DNF		

Senior Men		Age		5 Miles		3 Miles		1 Mile		Overall	
Name		Pos	Time	Pos	Time	Pos	Time	Pos	Time	Pos	Time
Nicholas Murch	V	1	02:09:50	2	01:29:49			1	00:27:45	1	04:07:24
Avids Freidentfelds	V	4	02:20:53	1	01:28:07			2	00:28:06	2	04:17:06
Andrew Allum	V	2	02:11:50	3	01:35:15			3	00:30:33	3	04:17:38
Gary Brickley	S	3	02:18:31	4	01:44:00			5	00:33:01	4	04:35:32
Graham Lock	S	6	02:33:15	6	01:45:48			6	00:33:08	5	04:52:11
Paul Robson	S	8	02:35:34	12	01:56:56			4	00:32:45	6	05:05:15
Steve Henigan	V	11	02:46:20	8	01:48:57			8	00:34:36	7	05:09:53
Colin France	V	10	02:44:48	10	01:53:56			13	00:36:25	8	05:15:09
Miles Worling	V	13	02:47:04	11	01:55:25			10	00:35:34	9	05:18:03
Andy Truscott	S	18	03:03:09	7	01:48:29			9	00:35:25	10	05:27:03
Andrew Wells	S	16	02:56:19	14	01:57:33			12	00:36:02	11	05:29:54
Stephen Maloney	V	15	02:55:10	17	02:02:33			19	00:40:33	12	05:38:16
David Randall	V	19	03:03:46	16	02:01:23			7	00:33:28	13	05:38:37
Scott Rodger	V	17	03:01:26	15	02:00:35			18	00:38:57	14	05:40:58
Neil Brinkworth	S	20	03:05:36	18	02:04:02			20	00:40:52	15	05:50:30
Jon Southey	V	22	03:10:04	19	02:05:38			17	00:38:28	16	05:54:10
Jevon O'Neill	V	21	03:07:42	21	02:08:44			23	00:42:30	17	05:58:56
Kevin Welsh	V	25	03:15:00	20	02:07:40			24	00:45:41	18	06:08:21
Riccardo Iacono	V	23	03:12:39	23	02:24:12			21	00:40:59	19	06:17:50
Nathan Meadows	V	27	03:30:05	22	02:18:19			25	00:47:48	20	06:36:12
Mark Claxton	V	7	02:35:34	0	01:36:55			DNF	DNF	DNF	DNF
Steve Taylor	V	9	02:36:30	13	01:57:17			DNF	DNF	DNF	DNF
Lawrence Creswell	S	12	02:46:31	9	01:50:12			DNF	DNF	DNF	DNF
Mark Yare	S	14	02:52:58	0	00:40:35			DNF	DNF	DNF	DNF
Adrian Brown	S	24	03:13:39	0	01:07:00			DNF	DNF	DNF	DNF

Giles Meyer	V	5	02:29:55	DNF	DNF	DNF	DNF	DNF	DNF	DNF
David Oakley	V	26	03:29:57	DNF	DNF	14	00:37:00	DNF	DNF	DNF
Martin Joss	V	0	01:37:30	0	01:14:00	15	00:37:20	DNF	03:28:50	03:28:50
David Roche	V	0	01:14:00	5	01:45:21	11	00:35:46	DNF	03:35:07	03:35:07
Jan van der Poel	V	0	02:19:30	DNF	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS
Alex White	S	0	DNF	DNF	DNS	DNS	00:38:14	DNF	DNF	DNF

Champion of Champions (North)

23rd June 2018

What an absolute pleasure it was to be swim secretary for the second Champion of Champions North at Ellerton Lake. Again the weather and conditions were very kind to us and we had fantastic water temperatures. The wind did pick up at times but overall very nice swimming conditions.

In the men's event, we watched in awe as Oliver Wilkinson took the lead from the start and I did joke each time that he exited the water that he could at least make it look like he put some effort in. He finished in an impressive 3hrs 25mins 53secs. Andrew Allum finished second in 3hrs 45mins 51secs and was followed by north's very own Jim Bridges in 3hrs 56mins 28secs.

The ladies saw some fabulous swimming at the front with Nikki Fraser claiming first place in 3hrs 55mins 38secs followed by Carole Laporte in 3hrs 59mins 33secs and then Ruth Gertig closely followed in third place in 4hrs 00mins 30secs.

It was, once again, lovely to see some very talented younger swimmers at the event from Kingfishers SC Scarborough. Claire Bamford who completed the 3mile race last year came back and completed the full event in 4hrs 05mins 14secs. Ellie Jane Knight completed the 3 mile swim last year in an impressive time. She too returned this year and completed the full event in 4hrs 55mins 10secs swimming a very speedy breaststroke. The youngest swimmer of the day, Madeleine Adams, completed the full event in a very impressive 4hrs 55mins 04secs.

Well done to every swimmer who took part in the event and achieved their own personal goals. Special thanks go to the support given by the many volunteers on the day, without their help the event wouldn't happen. Thanks to the safety boat crew and kayakers, first aid, safe guarding officers, turn point people, time keepers, registration crew and the fabulous photographer.

See you all next year.....I can't wait!

Amanda Bell
Swim Secretary

Champion of Champions - Ellerton Lake - Saturday, 23 June 2018

Senior Men		5 Miles		3 Miles		1 Mile		Overall	
Name	Pos	Time	Pos	Time	Pos	Time	Pos	Time	Overall Time
Oliver Wilkinson	1	01:53:11	1	01:09:59	1	00:22:43	1	03:25:53	
Andrew Allum	2	02:03:53	2	01:16:36	2	00:25:22	2	03:45:51	
Jim Bridges	3	02:09:35	3	01:21:15	3	00:25:38	3	03:56:28	
Andrew Wells	4	02:20:03	4	01:29:10	4	00:28:25	4	04:17:38	
Andrew Middleton	5	02:22:51	6	01:33:29	8	00:29:21	5	04:25:41	
Sean Walsh	6	02:24:49	5	01:32:52	5	00:29:04	6	04:26:45	
Mark Yare	7	02:27:31	7	01:33:44	6	00:29:57	7	04:31:12	
Mark Sheridan	8	02:34:28	8	01:35:43	9	00:30:58	8	04:41:09	
Richard Royal	9	02:34:56	10	01:42:35	7	00:30:05	9	04:47:36	
Paul White	10	02:35:07	12	01:45:10	10	00:32:26	10	04:52:43	
Peter Tims	11	02:45:32	9	01:42:04	11	00:33:53	11	05:01:29	
Steve McHugh	13	02:51:47	11	01:43:13	13	00:35:10	12	05:10:10	
Paul Rowe	12	02:49:48	13	01:48:43	12	00:34:52	13	05:13:23	
Stephen Kerr	15	02:57:45	14	01:59:48	14	00:38:20	14	05:35:53	
Dave Neal	14	02:52:02	15	02:04:46	15	00:39:12	15	05:36:00	
Francis Zielinski	16	03:20:46	16	02:08:58	16	00:43:19	16	06:13:03	
Senior Ladies		5 Miles		3 Miles		1 Mile		Overall	
Name	Pos	Time	Pos	Time	Pos	Time	Pos	Time	Overall Time
Nikki Fraser	1	02:08:11	1	01:21:26	1	00:26:01	1	03:55:38	
Carole Laporte	3	02:11:39	2	01:21:49	2	00:26:05	2	03:59:33	
Ruth Gerfig	4	02:11:45	3	01:22:35	3	00:26:10	3	04:00:30	
Claire Bamford	2	02:11:29	4	01:26:45	4	00:27:00	4	04:05:14	
Michaela Richard	5	02:29:45	6	01:34:05	6	00:30:39	5	04:34:29	

Cathy Kitson Jones	8	02:35:09	5	01:33:07	5	00:29:02	6	04:37:18
Liane Hickling	7	02:33:56	7	01:34:58	11	00:32:17	7	04:41:11
Catriona Fraser	6	02:33:55	8	01:36:51	7	00:31:01	8	04:41:47
Victoria Wass	10	02:39:53	10	01:40:33	8	00:31:05	9	04:51:31
Madeleine Adams	9	02:37:03	15	01:46:09	10	00:31:52	10	04:55:04
Ellie Knight	12	02:45:43	9	01:38:20	9	00:31:07	11	04:55:10
Karen Throsby	11	02:44:48	11	01:41:47	12	00:32:31	12	04:59:06
Louise Orgill	13	02:47:03	12	01:44:13	14	00:33:30	13	05:04:46
Alice Goodridge	14	02:47:11	14	01:45:28	15	00:33:57	14	05:06:36
Jane Mitchell	16	02:51:37	13	01:45:05	13	00:32:51	15	05:09:33
Heather Riley	15	02:50:39	16	01:44:30	17	00:35:03	16	05:10:12
Michelle Hardy	18	02:55:39	17	01:47:46	16	00:34:02	17	05:17:27
Kate Sunley	17	02:54:08	18	01:49:31	18	00:35:32	18	05:19:11
Helen Gilbert	19	03:02:42	19	01:53:55	19	00:36:39	19	05:33:16
Jane Sedman	21	03:05:47	20	01:56:13	21	00:37:17	20	05:39:17
Helen Beveridge	20	03:04:40	22	01:57:45	20	00:37:10	21	05:39:35
Jane Bell	22	03:08:08	23	02:00:38	22	00:38:01	22	05:46:47
Kathryn Ayre	23	03:14:23	21	01:56:42	23	00:38:24	23	05:49:29
Alex Sedman	24	03:33:53	24	02:16:37	24	00:44:21	24	06:34:51
Leanne Bentley	25	04:03:28	DNS	DNS	26	00:47:00	DNF	DNF
Lyn Plumbley-Smith	26	04:19:00	DNS	DNS	27	00:51:28	DNF	DNF
Annie Stafford	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	25	00:37:41	DNF	DNF
Margaret Smith	DNS	DNS	DNS	DNS	28	01:09:28	DNF	DNF

Torbay

30th June 2018

No report submitted

LlynTegid (Bala)

8th/9th July 2018

I would like to thank everyone involved in the BLDSA Bala weekend for your flexibility and patience with the effects the Welsh Triathlon and Swim Wales events had on us.

Over the weekend we had 52 entrants: 8 in the 1km, 12 in the 3km, 16 in the 2 way and 16 in the 1 way. I think all the swimmers put on a great show in water that was a tad warmer than usual for us - I think it peaked around 24 C in patches. It was nice to see several new faces enjoying and pushing themselves, welcome to the family. I'm glad everyone who started finished, looked well and smiled lots. I think the weather helped more than a little.

Thank You to the Snowdonia National Parks team, The Mayor of Bala, and the Bala Town Council for allowing us to hold our event.

My volunteer support team over the weekend were amazing as always. I am truly thankful for your help and support, I didn't get to see you all properly at the end, which I am sorry about, but take a well-earned bow. On land, on the safety boats and in kayaks were: Sue Coates, Martyn Coates, Mick Blackburn, Richard Hardy, Paul Hodgson, Lyn Lowther, Margaret and Graham Smith, Simon Wallis, Anne Stafford, Janet Wilson, Francis Zielinski, Lois McCray Aaron Daniels, Jo Blackburn, David Kershaw, Rob Acton, Chris Hickling.

I'd like to thank Vince Classen and Richard Hardy for their help on getting the entries from the website and the results up on the website in a quick manner and Michelle Hardy for her work on checking the finances before and after the swim.

I am sure I will have forgotten someone, and I apologise but thank you.

A thought for the boat crews: they set off earlier than most to travel to the swim location, then get up early to be at the venue and launch the boats; leave late after landing the boats and then have the slow drive home finished with washing the boats down and stowing them until the next time...

I look forward to seeing you again in 2019 when we will back on our usual weekend and route and away from the triathlon events. Don't forget, if you enjoyed the swim, let your swimming friends know so they can enjoy it too.

Philip Yorke
Swim Secretary

1 Way				
Ladies				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Nikki Fraser	Stocksbridge Pentaqua SC	01:22:08	f/s
2nd	Claire Bamford	Kingfishers SC Scarborough	01:25:36	f/s
3rd	Natalie Mcguire		01:31:09	f/s
4th	Hazel Killingbeck	Manchester Triathlon Club	01:36:38	f/s
5th	Lesley Ferguson		01:45:57	f/s
6th	Elie Jane Knight		01:46:34	Bst
7th	Michelle Hardy		01:47:53	f/s
1st B/stroke	Jane Sedman	Kingfishers SC Scarborough	02:05:39	Bst
9th	Jean Wilkin-Oxley		02:17:20	f/s
10th	Alex Sedman	Kingfishers SC Scarborough	02:19:34	f/s
Men				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Niki Williams		01:13:40	f/s
2nd	David Randall		01:39:39	f/s
3rd	Christopher Carter		02:11:57	f/s
1st B/stroke	Martin Toms		02:27:27	Bst
5th	Graham Pickles		02:41:55	f/s
1 Way				
Junior Girls				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Madeleine Adams	Kingfishers SC Scarborough	01:37:23	f/s
2 Way				
Ladies				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Nikki Fraser		02:37:03	f/s
2nd	Georgia Arnison		02:44:19	f/s
3rd	Liane Llew ellyn Hickling		02:55:08	f/s
4th	Michaela Richard		03:03:18	f/s
1st B/stroke	Elie Jane Knight		03:29:20	Bst
6th	Michelle Hardy		03:33:59	f/s
2nd B/stroke	Jane Sedman	Kingfishers SC Scarborough	03:53:55	Bst
3rd B/stroke	Sian Moran		05:51:46	Bst
Men				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Tim Kendall		02:35:26	f/s
2nd	Adam Wardle		03:04:34	f/s
3rd	John Cote		03:20:03	f/s
4th	Kris Twyman		03:29:22	f/s
5th	Sebastian Lomas		03:34:12	f/s
6th	Ow en Mahoney		03:41:30	f/s
7th	David Randall		03:52:46	f/s
8th	Tim Cole		03:57:59	f/s

Ladies 3km				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Alex Lee		01:05:32	f/s
2nd	Kathy Batts		01:12:40	f/s
3rd	Annie Stafford		01:17:09	f/s
4th	Alex Sedman	Kingfishers SC Scarborough	01:20:21	f/s
5th	Janet Wilson		01:46:49	f/s
1st B/stroke	Margaret Smith		02:13:49	Bst
Men 3km				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Ian Murray	Flitwick Dolphins SC	00:48:06	f/s
2nd	David Randall	Trafford Metro Masters	00:57:06	f/s
3rd	Frank Kilgannon		00:59:28	f/s
4th	Christopher Carter		01:14:00	f/s
Junior Boys 3km				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st W/S	Kieran Williams		00:48:04	f/s
Junior Girls 3km				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Madeleine Adams	Kingfishers SC Scarborough	00:58:49	f/s
Senior 1km				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Joanne Griffiths		00:15:44	f/s
2nd	Garry Jackson		00:17:32	f/s
3rd	Hazel Killingbeck		00:20:13	f/s
4th	Darren Heald		00:21:51	f/s
5th	Karen Jones		00:29:28	f/s
Junior 1km				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Laura Shinton	New town Swimming Club	00:15:44	f/s
2nd	Abigail Haynes		00:17:19	f/s
3rd	Holly Rotchell		00:20:11	f/s

Coniston Veterans

28th July 2018

In 20 years' time when people talk about the long hot summer of 2018 we, those of us at Coniston for the BLDSA swim weekend, will be able to tell them how it wasn't good weather **every** day. In fact there were a couple of days at the end of July that were bloody awful – and we chose those days to swim and kayak.

Challenging weather – rain and a strong headwind – meant a challenging swim for everyone. Although it was probably even more challenging for the kayakers and the boat crews – so a massive thanks to them all.

Unfortunately not everyone made it home as the conditions claimed a few, but for those that did Justin Palfrey was the first finisher in a time of 1:19:12, followed by Giles Meyer in 1:27:35. The first female finisher was Cathy Kitson Jones in 1:31:11 with Michelle Hardy in second in 1:52:58.

However, the most noteworthy swim was by Suzanne Brown. She swam what we believe was the first ever Vets swim completed in butterfly, in a time of 2:37:16. Well done Suzanne.

Once again, thanks to everyone that offered their help weeks before the swim when the weather was glorious and then had to stand in the cold and rain during the swim.

Patrick Smith Swim Secretary

Coniston Veterans				
Ladies				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Cathy Kitson Jones		01:31:11	f/s
2nd	Michelle Hardy		01:52:58	f/s
3rd	Annie Stafford		02:06:18	f/s
4th ⁿ	Barbara Mears		02:07:02	f/s
5th	Jean Wilkin-Oxley		02:29:51	f/s
1st B/Fly	Suzanne Brown		02:37:16	B/Fly
DNF	Janet Wilson		DNF	
DNF	Louise Orgill		DNF	

Men				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Justin Palfrey		01:19:12	f/s
2nd	Giles Meyer		01:27:35	f/s
3rd	Patrick Smith		02:00:44	f/s
4th	Clive Woodcock		02:10:43	f/s
5th	Chris Carter		02:11:21	f/s
1st B/stroke	Jim Garnett		02:18:15	Bst
DNF	David Randall		DNF	

Coniston Water

29th July 2018

After the very tough conditions for the Vets swim the day before the weather was still threatening to overshadow this swim too.

A lot of debate was held by the organising team about what the conditions meant for the swim and whether we would need to make any changes. I'd like to thank all swimmers, kayakers and volunteers for their patience during this. However, I would like to assure you all that the debates were solely about the safety of the swimmers and kayakers out in the lake. As always, your safety is our primary concern.

In the end, the weather was a lot wetter, but a little less windy than the day before and the decision was made to run the swim as planned – and that decision was validated as all swimmers (and kayakers) made it home safely.

We had a top three finishers of Niki, Nikki and Nichola just to confuse the timekeepers. Niki Williams was the first swimmer home, yet again in a time under two hours, completing the course in 1:59:32. He was followed home by Nikki Fraser as the first woman home in 2:11:44, with Nichola Murch the second woman home in 2:14:58. The second man home wasn't a Nick at all and so broke the pattern, it was Colin France in 2:24:46.

Once again we were able to witness an amazing Junior swim by Madeleine Adams who completed the course in 2:44:42, part of a great season of swimming for Maddy.

Those of you that know the swim will know that we award the Arthur Ayers trophy, donated by the Warwickshire Swimming Club – the originators of the Coniston swim before the BLDSA took over the running of it – for the swimmer or swim that is most 'in the spirit' of the community. This year it went to one of only two swimmers who swam both Vets and Senior swims. He hadn't swum a BLDSA swim before this weekend, but has now swum two, and so as the person who spent the longest in the water (excluding capsized kayakers) the trophy went to Clive Woodcock.

Once again, it was a tough weekend when being in a kayak, a safety boat, or standing at the water's edge with a First Aid kit or stopwatch in hand was almost as tough as swimming. We cannot swim these events without all of the volunteers, so many, many thanks to you all.

Patrick Smith
Swim Secretary

Coniston Seniors				
Ladies				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st ^f	Nikki Fraser		02:11:44	f/s
2nd	Nichola Murch		02:14:58	f/s
3rd	Katie Goodall		02:23:18	f/s
4th	Wendy Figures		02:31:21	f/s
5th	Jane Mulderrig		02:38:38	f/s
6th	Cathy Kitson Jones		02:40:50	f/s
1st B/stroke	Jane Sedman		03:09:36	Bst
8th	Anne Strickland		03:28:27	f/s
DNS	Louise Orgill		DNS	
DNS	Michelle Hardy		DNS	
Junior Girls				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Madeleine Adams		02:44:42	f/s
Men				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Niki Williams		01:59:32	f/s
2nd	Colin France		02:24:46	f/s
3rd	Andrew Wells		02:28:13	f/s
4th	David Randall		02:47:38	f/s
5th	Clive Woodcock		03:40:10	f/s
DNS	Nicholas Murch		DNS	f/s

Ullswater

11th August 2018

With a dark cloud of impending doom shadowing the swim from the weather service at the start of the week we were blessed by a pause from potential downpours on the Saturday. Emails warning swimmers to be prepared for the worst sort of conditions required sun cream in the end.

The sun greeted us and stayed warming us through the day. All 16 swimmers were successful in finishing supported well by their kayakers. The swimmers were well within the time limit for the swim with the staggered start being effective for a stream of finishers for the timekeepers. It was lovely to see all swimmers attend the presentation and return their support back to the swim secretary and volunteers.

Many thanks go out to all the volunteers who gave up their time and brought skills to enable the swim to be a great success. Also the support of the organisations around the lake has continued to benefit the swim allowing access to the lakeside areas.

It will be excellent for more swimmers to challenge themselves in this picturesque location.

Francis Zielinski
Swim Secretary

Ladies				
Place	Name	Club/Town	Time	Stroke
1st	Nikki Fraser	Stocksbridge Pentaqua	03:07:32	f/s
2nd	Zoe Ward		03:33:42	f/s
3rd	Cathy Kitson Jones		03:35:44	f/s
4th	Wendy Figures	Langold Pikes	03:37:13	f/s
5th	Claire Bamford		03:41:48	f/s
6th	Amy Wyatt		03:45:40	f/s
7th	Jane Mulderigg		03:54:54	f/s
8th	Elaine Henderson		04:03:06	f/s
9th	Michelle Hardy	Langold Pikes	04:18:15	f/s
10th	Ellen Taylor		04:53:35	f/s
1st B/stroke	Ellie Knight		04:04:25	Bst
2nd B/stroke	Jane Sedman		04:52:19	Bst
Mens				
Place	Name	Club/Town	Time	Stroke
1st	Ian Lang	Exmouth	03:15:24	f/s
2nd	Andrew Wells		03:31:14	f/s
3rd	David Randall	Trafford Metro	03:45:55	f/s
1st B/stroke	Stephen Tyler		04:10:11	Bst

Derwentwater Triangle Championship

12th August 2018

This swim as usual was the day after the Ullswater swim and we introduced a new certificate for those who swam both Ullswater and the longer Derwentwater swim, or who swam one and paddled for the other. We called it The Northern Lakes Challenge!

The weather forecast before the event was grim with the potential for thunderstorms and high winds, but whilst we had a damp start it soon dried off and the water was fairly calm. We understand there were thunder storms the following night.

All swimmers completed the course and we had no first aid issues. This year the entry for the 2mile swim was a disappointing 3 swimmers. We will try to find ways of it being advertised more locally next year. The 5.25 mile swim attracted 11 seniors and 1 junior, about the same as last year, but we did see a few swimmers have to cancel late on due to injury, or work commitments.

Due to the long spell of dry weather the water was warm and shallow in places. However there always is a very refreshing stretch where the river comes in at the south end of the lake, which can be quite a shock!

Many thanks to the Keswick Launch company who loaned us a rowing boat free of charge. These can be a bit tricky to navigate but our rower soon got the hang of it.

We started and finished the race further away from the boat hire jetties which seemed to suit everyone.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped on the day, including safety boat crews, kayakers, time keepers and first aiders. The National Trust let us use their beach for the start of the 2 mile swim so our thanks go to them too.

We look forward to seeing you next year.

Annie Stafford
Swim Secretary

Ladies - 2 Miles				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Claire Bamford	Kingfishers SC	00:54:52	f/s
2nd	Jean Wilkin-Oxley		01:27:01	f/s
Men - 2 Miles				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Niki Williams		00:44:22	f/s
Ladies - 5.25 Miles				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Cathy Kitson Jones		02:31:39	f/s
2nd	Amy Wyatt		02:36:20	f/s
3rd	Louise Orgill	Newark SC	02:47:45	f/s
1st B/stroke	Ellie Jane Knight		02:50:55	Bst
5th	Michelle Hardy	Langold Pikes	02:53:06	f/s
6th	Sarah Taylor	Darwen Masters	03:15:29	f/s
2nd B/stroke	Jane Sedman	Kingfishers SC	03:25:00	Bst
8th	Diane Bent		03:31:40	f/s
9th	Alex Sedman	Kingfishers SC	03:37:55	f/s
Men - 5.25 Miles				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Andrew Wells		02:24:29	f/s
2nd	David Randall	Trafford Metro	02:28:28	f/s
Junior Girls - 5.25 Miles				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Madeleine Adams	Kingfishers SC	02:40:19	f/s

Loch Lomond

25th/26th August 2018

The 2018 biannual event took place on 25th/26th August 2018. The results with times can be seen elsewhere and complement this narrative account as I saw it.

Six people took part in a taster 1km event on Saturday morning at Ardlui, and although numbers were small it provided two people new to outdoor swimming with a chance to try an event.

Organisation and logistics for the 21.6 mile full length swim were challenging this time as most people had entered on the website, which gobbled up all the details swimmers put in, and then took the skill of others much cleverer than me to get it out again! I usually question people very early on about their choice of boat and crew, as this aspect is 50% of the chance of success of the swimmer. Although some of this rapport with swimmers was achieved, the lack of information left me and the Safety Officials somewhat concerned that everyone would turn up with the right support. In the event there were a few problems with boats and crew, with one boat proving unsuitable for the job, but seven of the 8 swimmers went in with a chance, between 5pm and 8pm.

The idea of the staggered start is to set the slower swimmers off first and the fastest last, with a view to them all finishing at around 8 am next morning. This aspect was achieved with 6 people arriving at Drumkinnon Bay within about an hour of one another.

The night was calm and water temperature between 14 and 16 degrees C. There was a little light rain around the finishing time, but not enough to prevent breakfast being cooked and eaten on the beach, before the presentation of trophies and certificates.

From the moment the Safety Boats were launched at Ardlui on Saturday morning to the moment they came out of the water at lunchtime on Sunday, a dedicated bunch of BLDSA volunteers worked tirelessly to make the swim a success. They may have stopped long enough to eat a sandwich and some may have snatched a little time to snooze, but they were concentrating on the job for over 24 hours.

By the time you read this there will have been all sorts of reports and photographs on social media, so I will restrict my comments about the swimmers to my observation of facial expressions as they all emerged from the water at the finish. This is what I thought they were thinking!

Graeme Schlachter – I want to cry!

Amanda Bell – Give me that bacon sandwich!

Anita Goyos – Can I sleep now?

Wendy Figures – That was more difficult than I expected!

Alice Goodridge – Never again!

Andrew Wells – Can I stop my tour of Loch Lomond now?

Janet Wilson

Loch Lomond Championship Secretary

Ladies - 21.6 miles				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Anita Goyos		12:21:16	f/s
2nd	Wendy Figures		13:12:00	f/s
3rd	Alice Goodridge		14:06:30	f/s
4th	Amanda Bell		14:42:22	f/s
Mens - 21.6 miles				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Graeme Schlachter		11:31:35	f/s
2nd	Andrew Wells		14:06:47	f/s
DNF	Gary Hurr		DNF	
DNF	Andre Roberts		DNF	
Ladies - 1 km				
1st	Emma Cummings		00:27:12	f/s
2nd wetsuit	Tricia Rice		00:27:32	f/s
3rd	Jean Wilkin-Oxley	BLDSA	00:35:17	f/s
4th=	Janet Lightbown		00:47:04	f/s
4th=	Helen Beveridge		00:47:04	f/s
Mens - 1 km				
1st	Francis Zielinski	BLDSA	00:30:22	f/s

Windermere

1st September 2018

No report submitted

Ladies				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Rachael Lee		04:07:53	f/s
2nd	Hayley Pennington		04:56:46	f/s
3rd	Laura Hardy		05:06:11	f/s
4th	Cathy Kitson Jones		05:46:07	f/s
1st B/stroke	Ellie Jane Knight		05:50:51	Bst
6th	Amy Wyatt		06:01:35	f/s
7th	Michelle Hardy		06:15:07	f/s
8th	Sarah Poll		06:16:43	f/s

9th	Debbie Wayman		07:15:19	f/s
2nd B/stroke	Jane Sedman	Kingfishers SC	07:15:44	Bst
DNF	Zoe Sadler		DNF	
DNF	Michaela Richard		DNF	
Mens				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Tom Healy		04:24:10	f/s
2nd	Matthew Cockill		04:28:33	f/s
3rd	Ronan Joyce		04:30:51	f/s
4th	Simon Rich		04:52:37	f/s
5th	Steve Taylor		04:53:51	f/s
6th	Nigel Dawson		05:03:51	f/s
7th	Steve Henigan		05:08:51	f/s
8th	Ian Lang		05:14:45	f/s
9th	Fabrice Beer-Gabel		05:17:40	f/s
10th	Mark Sheridan		05:22:03	f/s
11th	Andrew Wells		05:26:22	f/s
12th	Colin France		05:30:20	f/s
13th	Daniel Bunn		05:43:22	f/s
14th	Paul White		05:59:59	f/s
1st B/S	Stephen Tyler		06:12:16	Bst
16th	Thomas Enright		06:18:42	f/s
17th	Robert Waterhouse		06:22:27	f/s
18th	Jon Coe		06:44:11	f/s
19th	Dave Neal		07:02:33	f/s
20th	Ashley Garrill		07:27:07	f/s
DNF	David Randall		DNF	
DNF	Paul Rowe		DNF	
DNF	Matthew Van de Schootbrugge		DNF	

St Mary's Loch Report

8th September 2018

The swims took place on 8th September in this beautiful place in the Scottish Borders. After an initial concern that entries were low, a last minute surge took the total number of swimmers to 20. The results can be found elsewhere, but there were five 1km, one 3.25 miles and fourteen 6.5 mile swimmers. Only 4 males though!

The water temperature was between 12 and 13, but the day itself was bright and calm. Two swimmers retired due to the cold conditions. This swim is in a remote area, and the ethos is to compete with yourself and the elements. Of course there are winners and losers, but everyone receives the same reward when they complete their swim, except for the oldest person to finish the two-way event, who receives the Greta Gall trophy.

We were pleased to see several "Wild Highlanders" at the swim this year, some rounded up by Helen Beveridge, and all battled well with their native cold water.

Most of our officials, including Safety Boat crews gave up a whole weekend to make the swims a success, and were rewarded with the same dietary supplements as the swimmers.

We are very fortunate to have the support of Alistair from the Tibbie Shiels Campsite and Inn, who as usual made sure we had everything we needed. This year we preceded his wedding by one week to Eleanor, and witnessed much activity of a Marquee being erected on the campsite. We wish them every happiness for the future.

Saturday evening saw the usual gathering of all associated with the swim who were still present, in the static caravan, for an impromptu party and sing-along. Music this year was provided by Cat and Colin, with encouraging guitar sounds joining in from Liane and Alistair from time to time. I counted 26 in there at one point during the evening!

Thank you to everyone who took part in the weekend, and please come along next year and do it all again.

Janet Wilson
(St Mary's Loch Championship Secretary)

1 Way				
Men				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Gary Hurr		01:57:04	f/s
2 Way				
Ladies				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Nikki Fraser		02:40:36	f/s
2nd	Liane Llewellyn Hickling	City of Bradford	03:00:36	f/s
3rd	Catriona Fraser		03:35:47	f/s
4th	Morven Bridges		03:35:55	f/s
5th	Cathy Kitson Jones		03:37:56	f/s

6th	Jane Manson		03:45:13	f/s
7th	Helen Beveridge		04:07:55	f/s
8th	Sarah Wiseman		04:18:05	f/s
9th	Alex Sedman		04:40:44	f/s
Completed 1 Way	Jane Sedman		DNF	Bst
Completed 1 Way	Nicky Mather		DNF	f/s
DNS	Vicki Thompson		DNS	
2 Way				
Men				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Andrew Wells		03:11:33	f/s
2nd	David Randall		03:18:02	f/s
3rd	Matt Smallwood		03:53:50	f/s
1 km				
Ladies				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Hazel Killingbeck		00:21:22	f/s
2nd	Emma Cummings		00:28:39	f/s
3rd	Annie Stafford		00:30:21	f/s
1 km				
Men				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Adrian Rotchell		00:26:16	f/s
1 km				
Junior Girls				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Tally Beveridge		00:39:15	f/s

Lynn Regis

22nd September 2018

Having run the Lynn Regis swim for 12 years, Steve Smith stepped down this year and somehow I managed to fall into his place as swim sec. I'd like to thank Steve for his commitment over such a long time and for all the assistance that he gave me to help make this year's swim a roaring success.

Steve was actually my first contact with the BLDSA back in 2013 when I dropped him a call asking if myself and my friend were 'good enough' to come along to the event. If I'd known then what I know now I'd have realised that this was a silly question! Steve was most welcoming and his words to me at Lynn Regis that year (my very first with the BLDSA) still

echo in my mind as he grinned telling me that 'This is just the beginning'. Coming from a humble cabbie who had achieved the extraordinary at a later age in life, I found his words inspirational and, in time, they turned out to be absolutely true! So thank you Steve and long may you go on encouraging people to achieve their dreams ☺

I'd also like to say thank you to everybody else who helped out in the run-up and on the day itself. The volunteers around me helped the event to pretty much 'run itself', testament to the camaraderie and teamwork of the BLDSA family. At the sailing club the heatwave was well and truly over, the winds had been howling and the forecast looked pretty dismal. However, the storm blew itself out overnight and actually we were very lucky with the conditions. Not the blazing sunshine that we've seen in recent years but certainly not a wash-out!

The race itself saw a fierce line-up of fast swimmers and lovely mix of the slower swimmers there to enjoy the day and get their money's worth. Right from the outset we saw a battle of the ages and genders as Justin Palfrey and Jenn Read hammered their way around the three laps of the course to finish within two seconds of each other. Jenn, our youngest swimmer, aged just 16 pipping Justin on the finishing line. Andrew Allum and James Bridges took 2nd and 3rd for the gents just a few minutes behind the front-runners while Liane Hickling and Ellie Knight (yes another 16 year old!) claimed the same for the ladies, Ellie using her favoured breaststroke.

Bringing up the rear for the gents (in more ways than one, as will be revealed) was newcomer Andy Cheshire. Andy had only just joined the BLDSA and by all accounts had a baptism of fire. Unaware of the strictness of our swim-suit rules he had turned up with a pair of jammers. 'Scissors', came the cry from Jean Wilkin-Oxley as she went off to fetch a pair to 'legalise' his attire. Poised to snip the legs off a defiant 'Noooooooo!!!!' filled the air. 'Borrow a pair from somebody else, don't waste a decent set of trunks.' And in stepped Francis Zielinski to save the day..... offering the use of his RAINBOW trunks..... Andy was a great sport and, after a bit of persuasion, succumbed with a smile before going on to complete his first BLDSA event looking every bit like 'one of us'. Welcome to the BLDSA Andy ☺

Finishing off for the Ladies were the familiar faces of Jean Wilkin-Oxley and Janet Wilson, who touched in to a round of applaud from the masses. Janet was (not so secretly) pleased with the decision to recall trophies this year, while Jean beamed with joy for a different reason. Exactly 50 years earlier she had taken part in her very first swim with the BLDSA, a three-miler at Trentham Lake, at the tender age of 13! What a tremendous lady indeed!

The Junior and Novice events saw girls not too different in age take on the 1500m distance – my very own Maisie Bell, 15, and Holly Rotchell just 11 years old. Holly found it tough getting into the water but soon enough acclimatised and finished just one minute behind Maisie. Well done girls!

After presentations there was nothing left to do but celebrate Jean's extensive swimming career with a personalised cake and evening campfire pow-wow to the amazing voices and music of Cat Fraser and Colin Nicholson. A fabulous end to the season so here's to the next one!

Jane Bell
Swim Secretary

Ladies				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Jenn Read		01:05:56	f/s
2nd	Liane Hickling		01:22:45	f/s
1st B/stroke	Ellie Jane Knight		01:31:40	Bst
1st Vet	Louise Orgill		01:36:30	f/s
5th	Ellen Taylor		01:45:51	f/s
6th	Sarah Taylor		01:46:53	f/s
2nd B/stroke	Jane Sedman		01:52:13	Bst
8th	Alex Sedman		02:02:36	f/s
9th	Jean Wilkin-Oxley		02:07:24	f/s
10th	Janet Wilson		02:56:24	f/s
Men				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st/1st Vet	Justin Palfrey		01:05:58	f/s
2nd	Andrew Allum		01:08:39	f/s
3rd	James Bridges		01:10:12	f/s
4th	Nicholas Murch		01:13:08	f/s
5th	Ian Murray		01:17:07	f/s
6th	Andrew Wells		01:19:42	f/s
7th	David Randall		01:21:21	f/s
8th	Thomas Enright		01:28:04	f/s
9th	Andy Cheshire		01:40:31	f/s
DNS	Daniel Bunn		DNS	
DNS	Mark Yare		DNS	
Junior Girls - 1.5 km				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Maisie Bell		00:28:32	f/s
Novice - 1.5 km				
Place	Name	Club	Time	Stroke
1st	Holly Rotchell		00:29:31	f/s

BLDSA Grand Prix 2018

Position		Wykeham 2 miles		Champion of Champions South 9 Miles		Champion of Champions North 9 Miles		Llyn Tegid 3km (1.86)		Llyn Tegid 3 miles		Derwentwater 5.25 miles		Derwentwater 2 miles		Coniston 5.25 miles		Lynn Regis 1.5k (0.93)		Total	
		M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P		
Junior Girls																					
		M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P		
1	Madeleine Adams					9	10	1.86	10	3	10										43.86
2	Maisie Bell																	0.93	10		10.93
Junior Boys																					
		M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P		
1	Kieran Williams							1.86	10												11.86

Position	Grand Prix 2018 Veteran Ladies		Torbay 4 miles		Llyn Tegid 3km (1.86 miles)		Coniston 3.25 miles		Lynn Regis 4.5km (2.80 miles)		Total
			M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	
1	Jean	Wilkin Oxley					3.25	6	2.80	7	19.05
2	Elaine	Henderson	4	10							14.00
3	Cathy	Kitson Jones					3.25	10			13.25
4	Alison	Russell	4	9							13.00
5	Louise	Orgill							2.80	10	12.80
6	Michelle	Hardy					3.25	9			12.25
7	Kathy	Batts			1.86	10					11.86
8	Sarah	Taylor							2.80	9	11.80
9	Annie	Stafford					3.25	8			11.25
10	Jane	Sedman							2.80	8	10.80
11	Barbara	Mears					3.25	7			10.25
12	Janet	Wilson							2.80	6	8.80
13	Susan	Brown					3.25	5			8.25
		Breaststroke									

Position	Grand Prix 2018 Veteran Gents		Torbay 4 miles		Llyn Tegid 3km (1.86 miles) INCLUDED IN VETERANS		Coniston 3.2 5miles		Lynn Regis 4.5km (2.80 miles) INCLUDED IN VETERANS		Total
			M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	Total
1	Justin	Palfrey	4	10			3.25	10	2.80	10	40.05
2	David	Randall	4	6	1.86	9			2.80	7	30.66
3	Christopher	Carter			1.86	7	3.25	6			18.11
4	Steve	Taylor	4	9							13.00
5	Giles	Meyer					3.25	9			12.25
6	Nigel	Dawson	4	8							12.00
7	Ian	Murray			1.86	10					11.86
8	James	Bridges							2.80	9	11.80
9	Patrick	Smith					3.25	8			11.25
10	Scott	Rodger	4	7							11.00
11	Andrew	Wells							2.80	8	10.80
12	Clive	Woodcock					3.25	7			10.25
13	Frank	Kilgannon			1.86	8					9.86
14	Mark	Yare	4	5							9.00
15	Thomas	Enright							2.80	6	8.80
16	James	Garnett					3.25	5			8.25
17	Steve	Price	4	4							8.00
18	Andy	Cheshire							2.80	5	7.80
19	Adrian	Brown	4	3							7.00
20	Jevon	O'Neill	4	2							6.00
21	Robert J	Mitchell	4	1							5.00
		Breaststroke									

BLDSA Grand Prix 2018

Position	Breaststroke Ladies	Colwick 5km (3.11 miles)		Wykeham 5km Night Swim (3.11 miles)		Wykeham 5km (3.11 miles)		Champion of Champions South 9 miles		Champion of Champions North 9 miles		Torbay 8 miles		Lyn Tegid 3km (1.86 miles)		Lyn Tegid 6 miles		Lyn Tegid 3 miles		Coniston 5.25 miles		Ullswater 7 miles		Loch Lomond 21 miles		Derwentwater 5.25 miles		Derwentwater 2 miles		Windermere 10.5 miles		St Mary's Loch 3.25 miles		St Mary's Loch 6.5 miles		Lynn Regis 4.5km (2.80 miles)		Total		Status S For Senior, V For Veteran, M For Master	
		M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P				
1	Jane Sedman	3:11	10	3:11	9			9	9							6	9	3	9	5:25	10	7	9				5:25	9	10:50	9					2:80	9	147.02	V			
2	Elle Knight			3:11	10			9	10							6	10	3	10	5:25	10		7	10			5:25	10	10:50	10					2:80	10	126.66	S			
3	Margaret Smith														1:86	10																					11.86	M			
	Breaststroke Men																																								
1	Stephen Tyler	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	37.50	S		

Position	Colwick 5km (3.11 miles)		Wykeham 5km Night Swim (3.11 miles)		Wykeham 5km (3.11 miles)		Champion of Champions South 9 miles		Champion of Champions North 9 miles		Torbay 8 miles		Lyn Tigid 3km (1.86 miles) INCLUDED IN VETERANS		Lyn Tigid 6 miles		Lyn Tigid 3 miles		Coniston 5.25 miles		Ullswater 7 miles		Loch Lomond 21 miles		Derwentwater 5.25 miles		Derwentwater 2 miles		Windermere 10.5 miles		St Mary's Loch 3.25 miles		St Mary's Loch 6.5 miles		Lynn Regis 4.5km (2.80 miles) INCLUDED IN VETERANS						
	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	M	P	Total	Total					
1	Jean		Wilkin-Oxley											1.86	6			3	2														2.80	2	11.80						
2	Janet		Wilson											1.86	8																		2.80	1	11.66						
3	Anne		Stafford											1.86	8																				9.86						
4	Alison		Russell																																9.11						
5	Margaret		Smith											1.86	5																				6.86						
			Master Men																																						
1	David		Randall											1.86	9	6	4	3	9	5.25	7	7	8														6.5	9	132.88		
2	James		Bridges											1.86	7																							2.80	8	39.91	
3	Christopher		Carter											1.86	7																									19.86	
4	Ian		Murray											1.86	10																									11.86	
5	Clive		Woodcock																																					11.25	
6	Jonathan		Coe																																					10.50	
7	Frank		Kilgannon											1.86	8																										9.86
8	Tim		Cole																																					9.00	
8	Graham		Pickles																																						9.00

(Margaret Smith – Breaststroke)

And now for something completely different!

Jean Wilkin-Oxley – 50 years of swimming with BLDSA!

On 22nd September 1968, Jean completed in her first BLDSA event. Jean is not keen on record keeping but luckily for us, her father kept a scrapbook and in it Jean has found the programme for her first BLDSA event. It was Trentham Lake, a circuit swim of three miles. In Jean's own words "I don't know how I ended up entering a senior race but when I arrived one of the officials said "You're here now lass, you might as well get in and have a swim." I am listed on the programme as 16, but honestly I'm not adding a bit on, I was 13!!" Jean brought the programme to the Lynn Regis swim at the end of the season so that we could all enjoy the history.

Jean was encouraged to start long distance swimming by Bob Fletcher and Eric Millican. Eric still swims with Michelle at Langold Lake. Jean swam England to France when she was 17 and was the youngest and fastest British woman and that was her biggest swim. (14 hours 50 minutes). We say that was her biggest swim but over the years, Jean has swum approximately 30 lengths of Windermere, probably a similar number of lengths of Coniston and almost all of the BLDSA swims including some that are no longer in existence including Morecambe Cross Bay, Walton to Clacton, Sandsend to Whitby.

Jean was captain of the BLDSA women's team in the first London to Paris triathlon relay and that was interesting on many levels, not least that the ASA refused to give them permission to compete against those beastly cyclists who it considered to be professionals as they were paid expenses! Some of the team therefore dropped out and Jean was part of a scratch team that included a bloke who had just gone to drive for the navy team but let slip that he had run a 2.30 marathon! Anyway the event was challenging for those who were new to running and the water temperature of 48 degrees made the Channel interesting for others! It all sounds a bit tame nowadays but it was a big thing when the sport of triathlon was in its infancy.

Not content with swimming, Jean has also enjoyed paddling in her kayak and crewing and she has completed all the BLDSA events and many, many individual challenges. She finds that there is no better place than on a Cumbrian lake in a kayak or rowing boat, no matter what the weather!

Those of you who know Jean will know that she is not big on blowing her own trumpet and she hopes that she not a disappointment because she hasn't done many big swims! Well if the swims mentioned above means that she is a disappointment, I don't mind aspiring to that too! For some reason Jean feels that she hasn't done the amazing stuff that some others have done but she does feel extremely fortunate to have kept doing it. Jean epitomises what swimming is about – she swims for the here and now and sometimes we need to remember that this is what it is all about. It's not just about chasing longer, further, faster, it's about enjoying the moment and Jean's son, Joe, her dog and swimming are what life is all about.

Not content with keeping busy swimming for the last 50 years, Jean has had 27 years on the Executive Committee. She has worked tirelessly for the BLDSA on all fronts. For 25 years Jean was our Treasurer while at the same time being the swim secretary for the Coniston swims. She has been voted in to be our President on 2 occasions and accomplished this responsibility very professionally. Even though she is no longer on the committee, the knowledge that Jean has is regularly still called upon by the current members for advice and wisdom.

Congratulations Jean and Thank You for all your hard work – it has been and continues to be much appreciated.

Officers' Reports

Hon Membership Secretary's Report

Membership 2018

There are 3148 on the database.

There are:

373 "active" Members

294 Seniors, 125 are new this year.

Of the Seniors, 181 are Veterans, 62 are new this year.

Of the Veterans, 34 are Masters, 7 are new this year.

8 Juniors, 4 are new this year.

6 Affiliate clubs, returners, Chester Tri, Warrington Dolphins, Isle of Wight, Liverpool OWS and Jersey. Brand new this year I Swim Brighton.

58 Life members in various categories, 9 of which have swum in BLDSA events this year.

There is a new category for 2019 for members aged 16 to 25, these Members will pay £25 for their Membership. I am sure the Website will put the appropriate members in the correct category, can I ask anyone who thinks they have not been charged the correct amount please let me know asap.

Vince Classen

Hon Mem Sec

Hon. Recorder's Report

Swim Recognitions

Unfortunately, there were no volunteers to take on the role of Hon. Recorder so as Hon. Gen. Sec. I acted as Recorder for the season. It has been a very busy time and a steep learning curve, which I have undertaken with varying degrees of success. I apologise if I have been a tad late on processing all the paperwork in a timely manner. Hopefully as you are reading this, all certificates have now been received by the successful swimmers.

The following is a list of successful individual recognition attempts in date order.

Completed

Colleen Blair, 8th July, The Minch, Inaugural Swim and therefore a Record, 18hrs, 46mins, 29secs.

Martyn Webster, 9th July, Loch Awe, in a New Record time, 13hrs, 30mins, 37secs.

Mark Sheridan, 27th July, Windermere 1Way, 5hrs, 47mins, 28secs.

Helen Beveridge, 4th August, Loch Awe, 1st Female and therefore a Record Swim, 23hrs, 29mins, 55secs.

Aspire Plesiosaurs, 6th August, Loch Ness, Relay, 12hrs, 5mins, 12secs.

Team, Sam Beresford, Katy Bradfield, Sue Croft, Donna Humphreys, Tessa McClean & Tim Snape.

Manager, Andrew Ogierman

Carol Lord, 13th Aug, Loch Lomond, 19hrs, 33mins, 20secs.

Jason Betley, 13th Aug, Windermere 1Way, 7hrs, 29mins, 7secs.

Richard Royal, 20th Aug, Sealand to Felixstowe, Inaugural Swim and therefore a Record, 3hrs, 29mins, 16secs.

Helen Betley, 2nd Sep, Windermere 1Way, Butterfly, 7hrs, 56mins, 18secs.

Anna Carin Nordin, 3rd Sept, Loch Ness, 11hrs, 37mins.

Jevon O'Neill, 4th Sept, Windermere 2Way, 16hrs, 35mins, 24secs.

Not completed, no part 2 received, reported as withdrawn or another unknown reason.

Helen Beveridge
Andrea Ayres
John Zemaitis
Joseph Zemaitis
Pat Gallant-Charette
Nick Glendinning
Colin Harry France
Michelle Hardy
Peter Huecker
Andrew Truscott
Lynton Mortensen

Some of these attempts may simply be because no Part 2 has been received, if the Part 2 is subsequently submitted, the paperwork will be actioned later.

How to apply for recognition and ratification of individual or relay swims. Please download the relevant swim recognition form and read the Rules regarding the swim and the witness requirements. Complete the form with the details of the swim and witnesses in advance, then send or email a copy of this to the Recorder. An approximate date should be given and details of reserve witnesses may also be given. If details change before the attempt please let the recorder know as soon as possible. The Recorder and other members of the Executive may need to know further information in advance, particularly for swims that are not individual swims of a Championship Course. The signed Part 2 with times should be forwarded on completion of the swim to the Recorder, emailed Part 2s are not accepted.

Vince Classen
Acting Hon. Recorder

Hon. Publicity Officer's Report

Unfortunately, Andre Roberts who took over as Publicity Officer for this year found he had too much on his plate with moving overseas, starting a new job and expanding his academic situation. So, he had to withdraw from the role.

For those on Facebook, there are 1522 members of the Facebook BLDSA Group, which is administered on your behalf by several members of the Executive committee. We will be looking at the numbers of members on the group as there are only 373 active members for 2018.

The association continues to use Outdoor Swimmer Magazine and regular features are seen, both advertising the BLDSA and featuring swimmers and their exploits. All of which are a great read. The twitter account is now administered by Hazel Killingbeck @BLDSAswim.

The Website which continues to grow almost on a weekly basis is a huge source of advertising and getting the message about the BLDSA on the WWW. This is now administered by Richard & Michelle Hardy and a great job they are doing too. Richard and Michelle also collate, print and distribute the Annual Report which you are currently reading.

If there is anything you think we could do to further publicise the association or if you have a certain flair with words and fancy a go at it yourself, please let me know.

Vince Classen

Hon. Safety Officer's Report

The 2018 season started early for a group of our members with the Holyhead Training weekend in March. This can only be described as a roaring success with all the attendees gaining valuable knowledge from our in-house first aid trainer Janet Wilson and experiencing real live scenarios on a rather cold and windy beach. The weekend was so good we are planning to run another one with more practical casualty transfers and lifesaving skills and this time maybe a little less dancing in the evening entertainment section, some of you will have noticed that Chris Hickling was absent from most of our swims this season due to what can only be described as a "Dad Dancing Accident". Fortunately Chris is now fully recovered and hasn't suffered too many lasting effects.

A few of our events have had our rescue craft busy this year. Dover posed some new challenges with high winds and rapid tides with the newly created sea wall. What started out as a shallow edge on the course soon turned into a deep tidal assisted washing machine, pulling the turn boat and its anchor away from the course and making extremely difficult conditions for the kayak crews.

Ellerton was a great day but with the divers still present (after we kindly asked them to have a day off) we have decided not to hold the event there in the future. Amanda has found a new venue at Scaling Dam, North Yorkshire. Watch the web site for further details next season.

Bala created its own problems with the invasion of the Welsh Triathlon who after being involved with all our event planning decided that they needed the entire bottom half of the lake. As usual our safety teams sorted the majority of problems with skill and diplomacy – however some of the radio conversations were interesting to say the least.

The Lakes tried their best to finish off our swimmers and crews with some horrendous head winds, the boat crews had their work cut out for them with some very busy days.

Loch Lomond proved that a swimmer has to be very well prepared and do some homework on the lake, in particular the boats that are on offer. I would advise anyone taking on a swim of this magnitude to heed the wise words of Janet Wilson and check carefully what they are hiring before turning up on the day to find the boat they thought they were getting is nothing more than a disaster waiting to happen. Credit to the boat crew who made the entire length with a dodgy motor boat, not everyone had that luck! Preparation is key in all our events but especially on the long haul swims.

After the wind problems in the lakes we are looking into alternative solutions for kayak flags. These are a valuable visual aid to lake users but in the windy conditions they acted like sails and caused several kayaks major problems. The safety team will be trialling new ideas at next year's training weekend. More information will be posted on the website and facebook pages in the coming months. With this in mind it's worth reminding swimmers to choose their crew carefully and get some experience in the kayak before the event itself, whilst kayaking is easy in nice flat calm conditions, it's totally different when the weather changes and in our events the weather changes a lot and not always for the better.

I would like to thank all the safety teams for their continued vital support – without which our events could not be run. We are always looking for new volunteers and welcome anyone wanting to support the swimming members.

Richard Hardy

Hon. Rescue Boat Coordinator's Report

For many of our volunteers the season started early with a training weekend in North Wales in mid-March. Our safety boat crews along with many of our championship secretaries, race controllers, safety officers and other volunteers undertook some intensive first aid and incident management training, including handling some realistic scenarios out in the open at Porth Dafarch beach. Unfortunately high winds and rough seas put paid to our joint search and rescue exercise with the Holyhead Lifeboats but we did spend a very informative morning with the inshore lifeboat crew learning about their experiences and procedures and spent some classroom time looking at search patterns we could use if ever we had a missing swimmer or crew. Many thanks to Holyhead Sea Cadets for hosting us for the weekend, Holyhead Sailing Club for a great evening on Saturday and especially to Holyhead RNLI and particularly Nige, Martin and Beth for looking after us on Sunday. We are looking into making this an annual event and considering widening the invite to include affiliated clubs.

After 2017, 2018 was a much quieter season with no major incidents and the boats and trailers performing well. As always Mick Blackburn and Martyn Coates have given sterling service towing the boats, maintaining the boats and trailers and crewing around the country without complaint. Many thanks guys! Sue Coates has become a regular on the team alongside Richard Hardy, Paul Llewellyn-Hodgson and Andrew Wright. We have also had guest appearances from Andre Roberts and Phil Yorke on the safety boats. My sincere thanks to you all and hope to see you all on the boats next year.

As we move into 2019 we are improving the safety kit for our crews by investing in more drysuits and new hybrid life jackets. We also need to begin the process that will eventually lead to the replacement of Swim Rescue. Recent years have proved that two reliable boats are essential for many of our swims and Swim Rescue is getting to an age that we need to look at replacing her with a newer model. Richard Hardy and I will be leading that process to consider what our needs are going forward, identify a suitable design and draft a detailed AGM proposal.

Chris Hickling

Boat Crew Report

After 5 years helping boat crews on swims, I thought a little insight into what we do might be interesting and perhaps most swimmers do not realise that this year I personally have attended 13 swims – 12 of which were BLDSA swims and 1 for Warrington Dolphins. To complete these I've had 10 weekends away and one very long day at Windermere, I've travelled approximately 3811 miles spent approximately 100 hours behind the wheel towing the boat and about 120 hours on the water with another 13 hours putting the boat in and out of the water. In among all the swims, there's the washing off of the boat trailer and personal equipment plus checks to the trailer on every trip that nobody sees.

After saying all this it sounds as if I am moaning but I'm not. Both Sue and I love our weekends away and over the years we've met some great people - a lot of who we now class as friends. Yes, there are some long drives and some very long swims but the pleasure we get in seeing all of the swimmers who complete or even attempt these amazing challenges makes it all worthwhile and we are already looking forward to the next season.

Martyn Coates

Hon. Safeguarding Officer's Report

We have now updated our policies using the term "Safeguarding" rather than "Protection".

We continue to make safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults at all BLDSA events a priority and we have a Safeguarding Officer appointed at all swims. We have continued to remind parents to ensure there is a named adult responsible on site for all under 18s, when in the water or on shore.

We have had no incidents at any of our events this year.

We have updated DBS Checks for core swim volunteers and Exec Members who come into contact with children. This is an ongoing process as new volunteers take on various roles

Annie Stafford

Hon. Insignia Secretary's Report

Flag alphas and flag mount poles continued to be popular this season and new stock will be available for 2019. We will also have a fresh supply of yellow hats for novice swimmers and a rainbow of other colours remain in my possession for purchase.

BLDSA branded clothing continues to be available through GDB Manufacturing (gdbclothing.co.uk) and I am still working on setting up an online shop for next season to provide a range of tshirts and hoodies etc which will attract a small sales commission for the Association while remaining affordable for our members.

Please continue to use the order form on the website for light sticks, flag alphas, swim caps, flag mounts etc. To view pictures of the products available and download the order form just click on the 'Resources' tab at the top of the website then go to 'Shop'. Please post completed order forms and cheques to me at the address given. Alternatively if you wish to complete a bank transfer payment then you may email me your order and I'll then give you details to allow a bank transfer to be made. Where possible I can bring these along to swims to save on postage.

If you would like to see any particular items in the shop that aren't already there then please do let me know and I'll do my best to help.

Jane Bell

Hon. Dinner Secretary's Report

The Annual Dinner 2018 was held at the Hallmark Hotel, Cambridge, on 10th March with 77 members in attendance including Jim Boucher representing the CS&PF and Mike Read the CSA. I think you will all agree that Ros Hardiman's speech was inspirational and will make for a hard act to follow!

This was my first Dinner after taking over from Pat Llewellyn. By no means easy to deliver, I am grateful to so many who helped 'smooth out the bumps' along the way with many lessons learned for 2019.

Our next Dinner will be held on Saturday 9th March 2019 at the Royal Hotel in Scarborough, home of the Scarborough Kingfishers. The Kingfishers have held a strong association with the BLDSA over a long period of time, with members both young and old maintaining a presence at our swims. It feels appropriate to celebrate with them this time and there are plans for testing their waters in the North Sea after the AGM on the Sunday! Brrrr.....

Tickets can be purchased through our website or alternatively by filling in the Dinner form contained within your Annual Report package. Looking forward to 2020 we are planning a return to the Lake District, a special place for so many of our members!

Hope to see you in Scarborough!

Jane Bell

200 Club

Month	Amt	No	Name	Amt	No	Name	Amt	No	Name
Nov	£10	47	M Pike	£10	20	S Price	£5	68	J Classen
Dec	£10	38	P Yorke	£10	122	C Hickling	£5	87	I Naisbitt
Jan	£10	116	L Hickling	£10	80	H Beveridge	£5	73	K Coleman
Feb	£10	141	R Garnish	£10	16	M Smith	£5	28	G Smith
March	£10	108	G Llewellyn	£10	9	T Espin	£5	50	G Stables
AGM	£20	10	C McDonald	£20	55	P Rushton	N/A	N/A	N/A
April	£10	87	I Naisbitt	£10	37	G McIntyre	£5	105	P Rushton
May	£10	42	A Smith	£10	100	A Wright	£5	51	M Smith
June	£10	36	R Garnish	£10	67	S Coates	£5	47	M Pike
July	£10	76	M Coates	£10	7	V Classen	£5	126	F Zielinski
Aug	£10	28	G Smith	£10	145	J Smith	£5	46	R Garnish
Sept	£10	37	G McIntyre	£10	43	K Jones	£5	13	L Du Cane
Oct	£10	118	P Llewellyn	£10	80	H Beveridge	£5	102	J Wilkin Oxley

Congratulation to the winners for 2017/18, there are 116 numbers in use between 1 and 145. So, there are many still available for the annual cost of £6 per number. It could be well worth it, anyone wanting numbers please check the website for details or contact me for a form, email membership@blds.org.uk

Vince Classen

200 Club Administrator

Hon. Trophy Secretary's Report

First, I must say thank you to everyone who has helped in ensuring the Trophies are returned to me for checking. I hope to have retrieved the archived trophies from Jo Blackburn, hopefully in December.

Over the winter I will ensure they are engraved with this year's recipients' names and get any damaged ones repaired. (Subject to the agreement of the Committee for costs.)

I will endeavour to catalogue each trophy for insurance purposes. This may be somewhat time consuming as some trophies have no indication as to which Championship they belong.

I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Dinner in March. Good luck to everyone in being nominated for an Annual Award. Don't forget to get your nominations in for those you feel deserve recognition for outstanding achievement over the year.

Thank You

Jacky Classen

Affiliated Club Reports



Jersey Long Distance Swimming Club

Under the leadership of new President, Dee Richards, the JLDSC has had another successful year.



We were delighted to achieve our accreditation with Jersey Clubmark, which we are very proud of. This is an award for sports clubs who have met high standards in club management, safety, coaching and competition off Island.

Our swimming calendar started as always at St Catherine's with the New Year's day dip. With the windy weather threatening to cancel the swim, we got a lucky break in the clouds and the sun came out long enough for us to get in for a swim. Well done to everyone who took part. Thanks to St. Catherine's sailing club for the use of their club house for soup and nibbles afterwards. A great start to the New Year. About £80 was collected in donations for Macmillan Jersey.

Back in the pool, our Tuesday night sessions were well attended and we had dedicated technique sessions. We had another great turn out over all 8 lanes for the Swimathon and we raised a total of £899.

Well done also to all the 30 swimmers who took part in the postal swim this year, there were lots of PB's and 4 members achieved bronze medals in their age groups.

At the annual BLDSA dinner in March, Linda Breen was awarded the William Keating Trophy for her amazing Windermere swim. Wendy Trehiou and Linda Breen were proud to receive an award for the JLDSC in recognition of and to celebrate the ongoing friendship that the BLDSA and the JLDSC has had for many years.

At the local JASA Awards and Presentations evening, all our local 2017 round island and Jersey to France swimmers were recognised with Certificates of Achievement. A special mention must go to Robin Johnson who was awarded the Outstanding Open Water trophy for his record breaking swim from Jersey to France and Linda Breen who received an outstanding recognition award for her Windermere Swim.

We had a fantastic start to the open water season. The weather was hot and sunny which encouraged lots of swimmers into the sea. Those training for big swims clocked up the mileage and time in the water and light winds meant that all our big swims ran (or swam) to schedule. Tuesday evenings remained popular and we welcomed many new juniors and seniors alike.

Well done to everyone who wore pink and donated money/cakes for the annual Pink Swim. We had a great turnout and raised a fab £205 for Macmillan Jersey. Congratulations to Jorge Cabrejas who was awarded the Flambard trophy for his enthusiasm and willingness to support others.

Club life member and friend of many in Jersey, Adrian Sarchet, otherwise known as Sea Donkey brought his film to Jersey in June. It was an amazing documentary about his attempt to swim from Northern Ireland to Scotland followed by an entertaining Q&A session with Adrian.

Club members were once again involved in The Round the Island Challenge which took place in July. Raising funds for the Grace Crocker Family Support Foundation, amongst the many SUP boarders, kayakers and rowers taking part, there were 10 swimming relay teams.

After an amazing June and July, the weather in August was a bit disappointing leading us to alter or cancel a few of our Sunday swims. The joint 'Rewild the People' sea swim for Durrell and the De Caux trophy swim at Ouaisné was postponed due to stormy conditions. The rescheduled event was held at St Catherine's two weeks later in much sunnier and calmer conditions. We welcomed a few new faces who have since become members. William Cullinane was awarded the youngest male trophy.

The windy and rough conditions also caused the swim organisers to move the Le Hocq to La Rocque swim to swimming around the relatively sheltered La Rocque harbour. The Masters swim trophies were awarded to the first male and female home over a mile-long course, winners were Robin Johnson and Alice Harvey. Mini Masters trophies awarded to cover the age-group 18-25 years went to lady's winner Chantelle Le Guilcher.

Well done to all members who took part in the second Open Water Festival held over the August Bank Holiday weekend. Events were held over three days at various bays, they included a range of distances and age group races which attracted a large field of 90 swimmers. Strong winds and rain made it challenging for competitors, race officials and spectators alike.

Our Senior and Masters championships were incorporated into the swim on the Sunday at St Catherine's. Moving the swim to Archirondel because it was too rough at St Catherine's, conditions got progressively worse as the swim went on which led the organisers to halt the swim early. Congratulations to our senior club champions; Alice Harvey and Robin Johnson.

We have also had a good turnout in open water swims organised by the Jersey Swimming Club with many members being awarded age group trophies.

Well done to all our juniors who took part in this year's Junior Series. We had a great turnout over all three swims. Many thanks to Granite Products for sponsoring the Series yet again! The final swim of the series also doubled as the Junior Club Championships and the winners were Junior Girls – Clara McLoughlin and Junior Boys – Ethan Mwanga, Girls – Ellie Hegarty and Boys – Jack Duncan.

33 swimmers turned out for our traditional night swim on the last Tuesday night outdoors. Windy with a big swell, conditions were challenging but they didn't deter anyone from taking the plunge.

We heartily congratulate everyone who took part in a variety of open water swims, but we should like to highlight the following:

On 8th July, Wendy Trehiou successfully completed a swim from Guernsey to Jersey in a time of 16 hrs 46mins becoming only the 3rd person to achieve it.

Over 14th-15th July, Andy Truscott successfully completed an unprecedented Double Round Jersey swim. It took him 22 hours 7 minutes with a 10 hour 35 minute first circuit and an 11 hour 32 minute second circuit.

On 22nd July, Alice Harvey successfully completed her English Channel swim in a time of 13 hrs 11mins.

Life member Nick Adams completed his 14th crossing of the English Channel in a time of 12 hrs 27mins.

On 1st August, Chantelle Le Guilcher successfully completed her English Channel swim in a time of 14 hours 3 mins.

Many thanks to all our supporters, volunteers, boat crews, kayakers, observers and committee members who work hard throughout the year to make the swims a success.

That's it folks, well done to all members of the JLDSC for making 2018 such a successful year!!!

Jenny FitzGerald
JLDSC Hon Sec

Roll of Honour 2018

Champion of Champions- Andy Truscott 5hrs 27mins and Alice Harvey 5hrs 42mins

Arctic Circle swim - Hayley Butlin, Fay de Gruchy, Bianca Kempster & Debbie Banks

Ice Mile - David Coleman, January 13th, 37 mins, (water temp 3.9°C) and Graeme Lowe, February 3rd, 36 mins (water temp 4.5°C)

Straits of Gibraltar - David Coleman, 25th April, 4hrs 32mins

Coniston – Marc Poingdestre 3:06:31(wetsuit) and David Bailey 4:19:28 (wetsuit)

English Channel

Alice Harvey, 22nd July, 13hrs 11mins

Chantelle Le Guilcher, 1st August, 14hrs 03mins

Nick Adams, 25th July, 12hrs 27mins

Round Jersey Solo

Catherine Stefanutti, 13th July, 10hrs 56mins

Jon More O'Ferrall, 14th July, 11hrs 8mins

Catharine Colwill, 16th July, 10hrs 52mins

Bianca Kempster, 9th September, 11 hrs 29mins

Kathleen Long, 27th September, 12hrs 43mins

Round Jersey Relay

'Up to No Good', 1st July, 12hrs

YeAABA, 12th July, 11hrs 9mins

The Chosen Ouens, 15th July, 10hrs 46mins

Taunton School 1, 28th August, 9hrs 41mins

Taunton School 2, 28th August, 10hrs 34 mins

Taunton School 3, 30th August, 10hrs 36mins

Uswim 'Knitted Jerseys', 26th September, 10hrs 21mins

Jersey Round Island Challenge

North Norfolk Crawlers - 9:59:54

Team Corbyn - 10:15:00

Steyning Stingers (Team of 2) - 10:22:43

T.W.A.T.S. - 10:29:35

Mid Life Criseas (Some Wetsuits) - 10:30:55

The Internationals - 10:33:39

The Europeans - 10:36:51

Team Henry - 10:38:49

Coniston Swimmers (Some Wetsuits) - 10:43:01

Double Round Jersey Solo

Andy Truscott, 14th July, 22hrs 7mins (10hrs 35 mins, 11hrs 32mins)

Jersey to France Solo

Cliff Golding, 20th June, 9hrs 27mins
Yaron Davidi, 23rd June, 9hrs 19 mins
Prabhat Koli, 5th July, 6hrs 54 mins
Hayley Butlin, 9th July, 8hrs 3mins
Karen Gallichan, 22nd July, 10hrs 35mins
Nicola Naunton, 8th September, 9hrs 31 mins
Guernsey to Jersey
Wendy Trehiou, 8th July, 16hrs 46mins
Round Herm
Robin Johnson, 15th September, 1hr 42mins

Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club



Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who has supported the Dolphins throughout the year.

Jan - The year started with the **BLDSA Postal Swim** organised internationally by Dolphin Mandy Reid with Caroline Lewis organising it for the Club. We had a good turn-out this year again. Many thanks to everyone who entered and to all the lane counters. See full results on the BLDSA Postal Swim Website.

Feb - We held our **1500m Championships** indoor event, this was organised by Kalliopi Sinclair. We had 34 entries. We had representation from a number of clubs, Manchester Tri Club, Stockport SC, Bramhall, Barrow LDSC, Howe Bridge LDSC and Warrington Dolphins. A good time was had by all with a lovely meal and presentation afterwards at The Station, Irlam. We thank you for your support. See results on our website.

April - Bob Keating/Dick Dickinson Swim

Congratulations to all who took part and thank you to the counters who helped on the night. The swimmer closest to their time were Michaela in the Senior event and Joe Lewis in the Junior event. Awards were presented by Bob Keating. Well done to all the swimmers and again thank you to all the counters who made it possible to hold the event.

April - Guildford 12 – 9 members represented the Dolphins at the Guildford 12 event on the 12th April at the Guildford Lido, Surrey. This challenge is to swim a mile on the hour for 12 hours as a Soloist or Relay. Soloists were Michaela Richard, Caroline Lewis, Rob Waterhouse and Rachel Wilkinson, 2-person Relay was Andy Wright and Chris Carter and 3-person relay were Karen Hodgkins, Julie Trevor and Mandy Reid. All completed their challenge with smiles and laughter, most of the time anyway! Congratulations to all involved, Oh and not forgetting the counters, Larry Richard, Colin Lewis and Caroline Wilkinson

April - Outdoor swimming sessions. This year's Tuesday and the new Thursday evening swim sessions at Budworth Sailing Club got off to a cold start with the water temperature at 10C. However, this soon improved and over the following weeks, the temperature saw a steady increase up to the early 20's. The sessions have been well attended.

May – Budworth Handicap 1 mile Club Event

Budworth Handicap Swim took place on Saturday 10th May. Thank you to Jim, Lindsay, Kalliopi, Larry and Henry for helping out on the day. The results are:

Costume

1	Lucy Trevor	29.00	29.24	00:00:24
2	Ellie Knight	31.20	32.00	00:00:40
3	Chris Carter	37.51	38.38	00:00:47
4	Rob Waterhouse	27.32	30.40	00:02:32
5	Julie Trevor	33.00	35.44	00:02:44
6	Michaela Richard	25.00	28.24	00:03:24
7	Stuart Ainsworth	34.50	39.11	00:04:21
8	Karen Hodgkins	36.00	41.20	00:05:20

Wetsuit

1	Paul Harbidge	30.00	29.39	00:00:21
2	Garry Hilton	36.30	36.02	00:00:28
3	Fergal Harkin	35.00	36.15	00:01:15
4	Craig Smith	50.00	44.21	00:05:39

Budworth Championships

These were held on Saturday 2nd June. Water Temperature was very warm but an overcast morning. Thank you to everyone who helped on the day.

Senior Ladies 3 Mile

1 Nikki Fraser	01:11:01	StocksbridgePentaqua SC
2 Laura Bowden	01:11:25	Manchester Tri
3 Jane Nunn V	01:23:38	U/a
4 Beth Dowding	01:30:51	Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club
5 Ellie Jane Knight Club	01:35:26	Br/S Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club
6 Ellie Moore	01:37:32	Liverpool Water Sports Centre
7 Charlotte Long	01:39:17	U/a
8 Julie Trevor V	01:46:54	Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club
9 Amanda Reid V	02:19:36	Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club
10 Karen Hodgkins V Michelle Hardy V	02:20:58	Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club Retired BLDSA

Senior Gents 3 Mile

1 Ryan Huddart	01:06:06	Derventio Excel
2 Andrew Allum	01:09:19,	Henley OW SC
3 Adam Farini	01:24:29	Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club
4 Mike Reason	01:24:57	Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club
5 Rob Waterhouse	01:35:02	Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club
6 Steven Willder V	01:37:34	Blackpool Aquatics ASC
7 Nicholas White V	01:40:00	Br/S Blackpool Lifeguard
8 Nicholas Robinson	01:42:54	City of Liverpool
9 Joseph Coy V Club	02:25:53	B/Fly Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club

Ladies 1 Mile

1 Vanessa Compton	00:34:44	Br/S U/a
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Gents 1 Mile

1 AynsleyDowding	00:45:16	Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club
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Junior Ladies 2Mile Freestyle

1 Madeleine Adams	00:57:54	Kingfishers SC Scarborough
2 Lucy Trevor	01:01:43	Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club

Junior Gents 2Mile Freestyle

1 Jai Bolton	00:47:50	City of Salford
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Ladies 2 Mile Vet

1 Janet Wilson	02:01:36	BLDSA
2 Margaret Smith	02:19:15	Br/S Warrington Dolphins LD /Grimsby Water Rats

Gents 2 Mile Vet

1 David Randall	00:57:42 Trafford Metro Masters
2 David Reason	01:10:47 Howe Bridge Marlins LDSC
3 Christopher Carter	01:19:01 Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club
4 Chris Green	01:31:21 Barrow Long Distance SC
5 Bill Dutton	01:40:56 Warrington Dolphins Long Distance Swimming Club

Wetsuit 1Mile Ladies

1 Karen Munslow	00:29:45 U/a
2 Kathleen Medd	00:33:32 U/a
3 Jackie Carter	00:40:32 U/a

Wetsuit 1Mile Gents

1 Ian Bates	00:27:35 Stockport SC
2 Tim Munslow	DNS U/a
3 Paul Davies	DNS U/a

Wetsuit 3Mile Ladies

1 Joanna Wilding	01:15:05 Matlock & District SC
2 Barbara Cole	01:28:20 Shrewsbury Masters
3 Joanne Barnett	01:30:39 Matlock & District SC

Wetsuit 3Mile Gents

1 Peter Openshaw	01:15:00 Knutsford Tri club
2 Matt Donnelly	01:18:44 Darwen Masters SC
3 Peter Price	01:40:21 Knutsford Tri club

Merit of the Mere Award was presented to Chris Byrne for his continued safety support of the Budworth Championships over the years.

Other Awards in the 3 Mile Event

- 1st Breaststroke - Ellie Jane Knight
- 1st Breaststroke - Nicholas White

Social Evening

Thank you to Julie Trevor for organising this year's Social Evening held at Budworth Sailing Club on Tuesday 19th June. We had 5 kayakers on the water, Larry, Colin, John, Tom, Henry. With Mandy on food and Karen spotting, it was great to see a good turnout from non-members and members.

Channel Relay

Congratulations to Rob Waterhouse, Adam Farini, Rachel Wilkinson, Jackie Carribine, Beth Dowding and Tom Stephens on their epic and speedy English Channel crossing on Saturday 7th July. The time was 11 hours and 5 mins. Thank you also to Bill and Shanta Dowding for providing support on the boat.

August – Albert Dock. Organised by Rob Waterhouse. Thank you to Liverpool Watersports Centre for allowing the Dolphins once again to use their wonderful facilities and also a big thank you to Liverpool Canoe Club, friends of Warrington Dolphins and the BLDSA for providing Safety Cover on the day. Thank you to all who helped on the day and supported this event.

Senior 2 Mile Ladies Championships

Laura Bowden	00.22.23	00.45.38	00.45.38	1st Freestyle
Michaela Richard	00.26.34	00.54.08	00.54.08	2nd Freestyle
Jan Rigby	00.33.32	01.09.23	01.09.23	1st Breaststroke
Julie Trevor	DNS		DNS	
Mandy Reid	DNS		DNS	
Beth Dowding	DNS		DNS	

Senior 2 Mile Mens Championships

Ben Winterburn	00.22.31	00.47.33	00.47.33	1 st Freestyle
Steve Connor	00.26.38	00.54.19	00.54.19	2nd Freestyle
Frank Kilgannon	00.30.09	01.01.48	01.01.48	3 rd Freestyle
Colin Benn	00.37.36	01.20.35	01.20.35	

Junior 2 Mile Championships

Ellie Howley	00.28.40	Retired	00.28.40	Achieved 1 mile
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Junior 2 Mile Wetsuit Championships

Jessica Parry	00.22.09	00.45.06	00.45.06	1 st Freestyle
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Senior Wetsuit 2 Mile Ladies Championships

Sarah Roberts	00.22.09	00.45.08	00.45.08	1 st Freestyle
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Senior Wetsuit 2 Mile Mens Championships

Chris Malpass	00.22.09	00.44.56	00.44.56	1 st Freestyle
Billy Seaman	00.28.53	00.59.23	00.59.23	2 nd Freestyle
David Cole	00.25.04	00.52.25	00.52.25	3 rd Freestyle
Aynsley Dowding	00.33.25	01.07.50	01.07.50	
Ian Lovegrove	00.37.06	01.16.04	01.16.04	
Grant Carter-Moore	00.29.46	01.01.55	01.37.34	
Joseph James Robins	DNS	DNS		

Senior Ladies 4 Mile Championships

Rachel Wilkinson	00.24.37	00.50.00	01.15.28	01.41.16	01.41.16	1st Freestyle
Lucy Parker	00.26.28	00.54.14	01.23.29	01.52.42	01.52.42	2nd Freestyle
Ellie Jane Knight	00.31.42	01.04.54	01.38.16	02.10.45	02.10.45	1st Breaststroke
Michelle Hardy	00.32.46	01.07.13	01.42.35	02.18.41	02.18.41	3rd Freestyle
Julie Lloyd	00.37.29	01.15.42	01.54.36	02.34.04	02.34.04	
Vicki Thompson	DNS					

Senior Mens 4 Mile Championships

Justin Palfrey	00.28.23	00.45.46	01.09.36	01.34.16	01.34.16	1st Freestyle
Jim Bridges	00.00	00.46.33	01.10.46	01.35.23	01.35.23	2nd Freestyle
Jamie Campbell	00.27.26	00.55.39	01.24.08	01.52.45	01.52.45	3rd – Freestyle
Andy Sherratt	00.32.17	01.05.28	01.37.54	02.10.10	02.10.10	
William Taylor	00.36.40	01.15.20	01.55.18	02.36.30	02.36.30	
Nick White	00.35.46	01.16.07	02.01.53	02.51.30	02.51.30	1st Breaststroke
Andrew Orme	DNS					

Senior Wetsuit Ladies 4 Mile Championships

Emily Jevons	00.22.46	00.46.35	01.11.53	01.37.34	01.37.34	1st
Barbara Rigby	00.32.39	01.07.59	01.44.27	02.21.26	02.21.26	2nd
Chris Mantin	00.35.40	00.51.28	Retired	Retired		Achieved 2 miles

Senior Wetsuit Mens 4 Mile Championships

Dominique Miller	00.24.46	00.51.12	01.18.14	01.45.28	01.45.28	1st
Ian Girven	00.27.02	00.55.34	01.25.34	01.56.45	01.56.45	2nd
Andy Gray	00.27.02	00.59.37	01.31.10	02.01.50	02.01.50	3rd
Jeremy Cooper	00.28.07	00.57.51	01.29.30	02.02.17	02.02.17	
David Walsh	00.32.10	01.05.28	01.40.13	02.16.03	02.16.03	
David Laughlin	00.32.00	01.06.21	01.52.06	02.17.48	02.17.48	

Dolphins have shown their support for many more events around the country this year - Champion of Champions Ellerton Lake, Wykeham, Bala, Lynn Regis, Ivan Percival, Salford Quays, Dee Mile and many, many more.

Well done to all.

Michaela Richard
WDLDC President

Postal Swim

The 2018 Postal Swim, been a fantastic success, once again, a huge thank you to all swimmers who took part and a very special thank you to all the people who organised postal swims all over the world. The people behind the scenes at the clubs and swimming pools, who complete the paperwork, organise the counters and make sure that everyone's details are sent through to me, deserve a real pat on the back. You do a great job and without you there would be no Postal Swim.

This is my 5th year as the Hon Secretary of the Postal Swim, still learning and trying to speed up the process. Alan Pomfret has assisted me again this year, "thanks again Al".

As with previous organisers of the postal swim I have made every effort to keep mistakes to a minimum, this year we posted draft results on the website and it was great to get all your feedback before we went to print so I will do this again next year.

A total of 1009 swimmers took part in this year's event which is slightly down on 2017 by 106 entries. In 2018, we had both individual swimmer entries alongside Club entries from all over the World. If this year's postal swim was your first I hope you enjoyed taking part and that you will enter again next year. Don't forget to spread the word about how easy it is to take part, all details on how to enter is on our website. www.postalswim.com

Reece Barclay of Hoddesdon SC (Gents 25 – 29 year's age group) achieved the longest distance in the Postal Swim event this year with a tremendous swim of 5120 metres. Congratulations to Reece.

We have seen 5 records broken this year which is the most I have ever recorded since I took on the postal swim in 2012 – It seems our older swimmers are the ones breaking these records.

In no particular order Kath Thomas from Tri guru (ladies 45- 49 years) beat Judy Brown's record set in 2012 at 4355 metres by 105 metres, Kath came 1st in this category last year but didn't beat the record, well done Kath on your swim of 4460 metres and congratulations. Our next lady swimmer has beat her own record set in 2016 of 4010 metres in the 55- 59 years ladies, Esther Iseppi from Guernsey SC swam an extra 10 metres to come 1st in this category and set a new record this year of 4020 metres. I hope to see you in next year's 60 – 64 category setting more records, fantastic swim Esther.

The gents also broke records this year, Ian Wimpenny last year broke the 35-39 Gents category and this year he has entered into the 40 -45 gent's category and come 1st setting a record beating Alexander Knibbs 4780 metres swim in 2000 by 70 metres swimming 4850 metres, terrific swim Ian you seem to be able to maintain your distance – an example to us all. Our next gents' swimmer is no stranger to setting records Graham Padgett holds 3 records in 3 different age categories. Graham currently holds the record at 4300 metres, set in 2008 in the gents 60-64 category, in the 65- 69 gents category he holds the record at 4010 meters set in 2013. In 2018 Graham moved in to the Gents 70 – 74 category and has set a record of 3860 metres beating Peter Tucker of Darwen masters, who in 2003 set the record at 3490 – that's a massive 370 metres. Graham congratulations on your record for 2018 and long may your other records remain yours – a wonderful achievement. Our final record breaker is Mike Banfield at an amazing 85 years of age, Mike has broken the record set by Charles Ambler of Isle of Wight masters set in 2007 of 2300 metres by 240 metres and swam 2540 metres. Fantastic effort well done!

A big thank you from me personally to all the disabled swimmers who took part in this year's Postal Swim. You are all stunning swimmers and I hope you all achieved your goals. I love receiving your entries and watching your progress year on year.

Our youngest swimmer this year was just 3 years young, Loghan Wicks from GYWSO. Our oldest swimmers Betty Brown and Mike Banfield both 85 years young - you are both inspirational swimmers. Congratulations Betty and Mike.

As we have seen this year the postal swim is for everyone whatever your age or ability, male or female, disabled, an individual or member of a team, the postal swim welcomes everyone so please keep swimming and I look forward to seeing your efforts next year. As always details for next year's swim will be posted on our web site at www.postalswim.com where previous year's results, current entry forms, for downloading and contact details can be obtained. Please note that these forms have changed, and prices have been adjusted to reflect some increased costs from 3rd party suppliers.

For those who wish to sample the pleasures of outdoor swimming the British Long-Distance Swimming Association (BLDSA) web site www.bldsa.org.uk has information on this year's events.

Best Regards

Mandy Reid

Postal Swim Secretary

E: mandy.postalswim@aec.uk.net

AGM Minutes

61st Annual General Meeting held at the Hallmark Hotel, Cambridge

Sunday 11th March 2018

(Because of the absence of a Minutes Secretary, these minutes have been prepared from 3 different sources: The Hon Gen Sec 2017 Philip Yorke, Vince Classen and Jacky Classen.)

In Memoriam: A minute's silence was held, in memory of Graham Boswell, Derek Gill, Ulrich Haevecker & Keith Seymour.

1. Presidential Address: The President, Mark Sheridan presented his report as on Page 2 of the Annual report. He thanked all retiring officers & Championship secretaries for all their work over the years.

2. Apologies: Jo Blackburn, Mick Blackburn, Chris Carter, Peter Larrad, Caroline Lewis, Roger Parsons, Mike Read, Zoe Sadler, Graham Smith, Margaret Smith and Andy Wright.

3. Minutes of the 60th AGM: Held on 12th March 2017, as published on Page 76 of the Annual Report. There is no record of who proposed or seconded that the Minutes are accepted, however, they were accepted as a true record.

4. Matters arising: there were no matters arising from the minutes.

5. Hon. Secretary's report: Philip Yorke presented his report as it appears on page 10 of the annual Report. Proposed Accepted: Martyn Coates Seconded: Graham McIntyre, All in favour

6. Hon Treasurer's report: Michelle Hardy: the Enoch Tarder Trophy collected £122 and the Raffle raised £237, thanks to all who organised the two events. Michelle reported that as Colwick Park was cancelled, the deficit would require being written off. Proposed Accepted: Mark Sheridan Seconded: Annie Stafford, All in favour

7. Hon Membership Administrator's report: Vince Classen presented his report as it appears on page 50 of the Annual Report.

In addition to the written report, memberships and swim entries are now being processed through the Website for 2018. I would like to thank Andy Wright for all his hard work administering Entry Central over the years. I know Andy had prepared Entry Central to run with Membership and Events for 2018 but had not been kept fully in the loop as to the way forward. I have apologised to him for this on behalf of the committee and I closed the memberships on the 31st Dec. I would also like to thank Andre for his work getting the website ready -this has not been easy with his change of circumstances and location. Things were a bit bumpy at the start but have smoothed out since, with just an occasional hiccup.

To bring you up to date for this year so far:

274 Seniors, 77 are new this year, 173 Veterans, 39 are new this year, 24 Masters, 2 are new this year, 4 Juniors 2 new this year.

We have 10 active swimming Life Members. Of these 3 are new life members who have purchased life membership since the last AGM. 15 Social members, 2 are new this year. There are 3103 entries on the database.

There are 4 Affiliate clubs and I have had an enquiry from a potential new affiliate.

Proposed Accepted: Michelle Hardy, Seconded: Graham McIntyre, All in favour.

8. Hon. Safety Officer's report: Richard Hardy, presented his report as printed on page 55 of the Annual Report. He commented that the Insurance for the BLDSA is now with Perkins Slade. Repairs were needed for one RIB Engine and there has been some movement on Trailers. Proposed Accepted: Sue Coates, Seconded: Chris Hickling, All in favour.

9. Hon Child & Vulnerable Adult Protection Officer's report: Annie Stafford presented her report as printed on page 56 of the Annual Report. Proposed Accepted: Annie Stafford, Seconded: Michelle Hardy All in favour

10. Hon. Trophy secretary's report: NO report submitted.

11. Hon. Recorder's report: the report as written on page 51 of the Annual Report, there is no record of the Proposer or Seconder however there is a record of the report being accepted by the meeting.

12. Hon. Rescue Boat Co-ordinator's report: Chris Hickling presented his report as printed on page 55 of the Annual Report. He stated that there is a Training weekend for Boat Crews, First Aiders and Swim Secretaries in the planning stages.
Proposed Accepted: Martyn Coates, Seconded: Sue Coates, All in favour

13. Hon. Publicity Officer's report: NO report submitted.

14. Hon. Dinner Secretary's report: Jane Bell presented her report as printed on page 57 of the Annual Report. Proposed Accepted: Jacky Classen, Seconded: Graham McIntyre, All in favour

15. Hon. Insignia Secretary's report: Jane Bell submitted her report as presented on page 56 of the Annual Report. Proposed Accepted: Jane Bell, Seconded: Jacky Classen, All in favour

16. Championship reports:

16a. Champion of Champions (South): Mark Sheridan, submitted his report on page 16 of the Annual Report.

16b. Champion of Champions (North): Amanda Bell, NO report submitted.

16c. Colwick Park: Patrick Smith, submitted his report on page 11 of the Annual Report.

16d. Coniston Seniors: Patrick Smith, submitted his report on Page 27 of the Annual Report.

16e. Coniston Veterans': Patrick Smith, submitted his report as presented on Page 26 of the Annual Report.

16f. Derwentwater: Annie Stafford, submitted her report on page 32 of the Annual Report.

16g. LlynTegid: Philip Yorke, submitted his report as presented on page 23 of the Annual Report.

16h. Loch Lomond: next event in 2019.

16i. Lynn Regis: Steve Smith, submitted his report as presented on page 36 of the Annual Report.

16j. St Mary's Loch: Janet Wilson, submitted her report as presented on page 34 of the Annual Report.

16k. Torbay: The President submitted the report as presented on page 20 of the Annual Report.

16l. Ullswater: The President submitted the Annual Report as presented on page 32 of the Annual Report.

16m. Wykeham: Liane Llewellyn Hickling submitted her report as presented on page 11 of the Annual Report.

16n. Windermere: NO report submitted.

16o. Two Way Windermere: Mark Sheridan, submitted his report on page 29 of the Annual Report.

16p. Grand Prix: The President submitted the report as presented on page 39 of the Annual Report.

16q. Postal Swim: The President reported this raised £1500 for the BLDSA but as always, help and promotion required.

17. Special Awards: The Executive Committee awarded Life Membership to Steve Smith & Andy Wright for services to the BLDSA, certificates were presented during the Annual Dinner. The Executive committee awarded Margaret Smith a Plate to commemorate her 50 years, service on the Executive Committee, this was also presented during the Annual Dinner.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The recipients for the Association's Annual Trophies at the dinner:

The James Brennan Trophy; jointly, Andre Roberts & Zoe Sadler

The Harry Moffatt Memorial Trophy; Graham Killingbeck

Hans Belay Trophy; Philip Hodges

Fred Slater Trophy; Adrian Rotchell

Tom Butcher Trophy; Ellie Jane Knight

Elise Brook Encouragement & Perseverance Trophy; Maisie Bell

The Breaststroke Trophy; Philip Yorke

The Avril & Alan Mitchell Trophy; Janet Wilson

The William Keating Trophy; Linda Breen

The Captain Webb Centenary Relay Trophy; Chillimcillies

Team members; Colleen Blair, Jackie Ecclestone, Judith Campbell & Carol Lord

Ladies Masters, Brierley Law Cup; 1st Janet Wilson, 2nd Annie Stafford, 3rd Jean Wilkin Oxley

Gent's Masters, Willy van RysellIMSHof Trophy; 1st David Randall, 2nd Peter Hawksworth, 3rd Frank Kilgannon

18. Long Service Awards: nil for 2017

19. Alterations to Constitutional Rules:

Current Rules

Rules for recognition of Individual Swims and Records

8 All courses must be in open water and not less than 5 miles for seniors and 3 miles for juniors by the shortest possible route – or not less than 3 miles from the start to the turn for a 2 way course

10 The swimmer must not receive support from any floating or fixed object and shall not use any aids to swimming other than a standard costume, cap and goggles

Recognition of Relay Swims & Record Rules

10 The minimum distance for which a Relay Certificate will be issued shall be 20 miles for a one way swim or 10 miles each way in the case of a multiple way attempt

Conditions of Entry

A4 Under no circumstances shall any entry be accepted after the official closing date indicated on the entry form. Such date to be decided by the appropriate sub-committee.

Amended and Added Rules

Rules for recognition of Individual Swims and Records

8 All courses must be in open water and not less than 3 miles/ 5km by the shortest possible route – or not less than 3 miles/ 5km from the start to the turn for a 2 way course

10 The swimmer must not receive support from any floating or fixed object and shall not use any aids to swimming other than a standard costume, cap and goggles. A wetsuit may be worn if notified in advance to the recorder and this will be recorded and certified as a wetsuit swim.

Recognition of Relay Swims & Record Rules

10 The minimum distance for which a Relay Certificate will be issued shall be 10 miles/16km for a one way swim or 5 miles/ 8km each way in the case of a multiple way attempt.

15 The swimmers must not receive support from any floating or fixed object and shall not use any aids to swimming other than a standard costume, cap and goggles. A wetsuit may be worn by one or more swimmers if notified in advance to the recorder; this will mean that the whole swim will be recorded and certified as a wetsuit relay swim.

Conditions of Entry

A4 Entries after the closing date may be accepted at the discretion of the Championship Secretary. The swimmer will not be in the Championship Placings or get Grand Prix points but will get safety cover and other benefits.

Proposed accepted by Martyn Coates, seconded by Steve Smith, Agreed by all.

20. Subscriptions:

Annual Membership Fee

It is proposed that the Membership Fee for the 2019 season should be set at £45 for senior swimmers and £10 for junior and non-swimming members.

The Executive Committee asked for opinions on introducing a 16 – 21 age group into the membership categories, who would compete as seniors in events; with an annual fee of £20 from the 2019 season. After much discussions it was agreed that a new level of Membership fee for those Seniors who have not reached their 25th Birthday would be £25. This to be introduced for the 2019 season as per rule.

Proposed accepted by Vince Classen, seconded by Jacky Classen, Agreed by all.

21. Appointment of 2 tellers: not required.

22. Installation of President: President Mark Sheridan handed over the Chain of Office to Philip Yorke and wished him well in his year in Office. As his first official duty President Philip presented Mark Sheridan with his Past President's Badge.

23. Elections

23a. Election of Officers: The election of Officers took place, all Officers had been checked as volunteering, they were correctly proposed and seconded and appeared on the Nomination Form.

Hon General Secretary; Vince Classen
Hon Treasurer; Michelle Hardy
Hon. Minutes Secretary; No nominee
Hon Publicity Officer; André Roberts
Hon Safety Officer; Richard Hardy
Hon Recorder; No nominee (Hon Gen Sec to act until a volunteer is found.)
Hon. Trophies' Secretary; Jacky Classen (volunteered from the floor)
Hon Membership Secretary; Vince Classen
Hon Insignia Secretary; Jane Bell
Hon Child & Vulnerable Adult Protection Officer; Annie Stafford
Hon Rescue Boat Co-ordinator; Chris Hickling
It was agreed to take the above positions en-bloc. All in favour.

23b. Election of Executive Committee: all nominees had been checked as volunteering, had been correctly proposed and seconded and appeared on the Nomination Form. Pen pictures had been provided for the two new nominees as per rule.

Returning Members elected unanimously:

Margaret Smith
Janet Wilson
Francis Zielinski
Steve Price
Caroline Lewis
Liane Hickling

Gill Stables. Voted in with; 22 For, 5 Against, 2 Abstentions

New Members elected unanimously

Amanda Bell
Hazel Killingbeck

23c. Past Presidents: Past Presidents Mark Sheridan & Graham McIntyre will serve on the Executive committee as per rule.

23d. Championship Honorary Secretaries for election:

Champion of Champions (South); Mark Sheridan
Champion of Champions (North); Amanda Bell
Colwick Park; Patrick Smith
Coniston Senior/Junior; Patrick Smith
Coniston Veterans; Patrick Smith
Derwentwater; Annie Stafford
Llyn Tegid (Bala); Philip Yorke
Loch Lomond; Janet Wilson
Lynn Regis; Jane Bell
St Mary's Loch; Janet Wilson
Torbay; André Roberts
Windermere; Chris Malpass
Windermere 2 way; David Randall
Wykeham; Erin Hope
Ullswater; Richard Davidson
Postal Swim; Warrington Dolphins
Distance Weekend; Mark Sheridan
It was agreed to take the above positions en-bloc. All in favour.

24. Election of Honorary Vice Presidents: no nominations were proposed by the Executive committee.

25. Venue of Annual Dinner & AGM 2019: Jane Bell confirmed this will take place on the weekend 9th - 10th Mar 2019 at The Royal Hotel, Scarborough.

There being no other competent business, the President closed the meeting.

The above minutes will be subject to ratification at the next Annual General Meeting and are subject to prior amendment.

Attendees: Amanda Bell, Jane Bell, Vince Classen, Jacky Classen, Martyn Coates, Sue Coates, Leslie Du Cane, Michelle Hardy, Richard Hardy, Liane Hickling, Chris Hickling, Hazel Killingbeck, Chris Malpass, Graham McIntyre, Kevin Murphy, Louise Orgill, Robert Orgill, Val Parsons, David Randall, Adrian Rotchell, Mark Sheridan, Stephen Smith, Patrick Smith, Annie Stafford, Alex White, Jean Wilkin Oxley, Philip Yorke.

Non-voting attendees: Adam Bell & Sarah Weldon

NOTES



British Long Distance Swimming Association

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