

BATH DOLPHIN

1899



1999

SWIMMING CLUB

*BATH DOLPHIN SWIMMING CLUB*

*CENTENARY  
BOOK*

*ONE HUNDRED YEARS*

*1899 - 1999*

# *BATH DOLPHIN SWIMMING CLUB*

## *PRESIDENTS*

1899 - 1920	The Rt Hon Lord de Blaquiere	
1920 - 1926	Major F C Moore	
1926 - 1949	Mr J C Richardson	
1949 - 1967	Mr G E Allan	
1967 - 1970	Mr J E Derrick	
1970 - 1973	Mr R Preston Jones	
1973 - 1976	Mr C H E Groves	
1976 - 1979	Mr C L Jenkin	
1979 - 1982	Mrs B M Cutting	
1982 - 1985	Mr J E Derrick	
1985 - 1988	Mr P E White	
1988 - 1991	Mr W Derrick	
1991 - 1994	Mr D T O'Brien	
1994 - 1997	Mr M Deacon	
1997 - 1999	Mr D V Toogood FCA	) Joint
		) Centenary
1999	Mr G A F Cutting QPM	) Presidents

# *ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF BATH DOLPHIN SWIMMING CLUB*

## *1899 - 1999*

1899 was the year which saw the start of the Boer War, a year in which the age of motoring had barely begun and the sixty-second year of Queen Victoria's remarkable reign. Locally, as indeed in other parts of the country, times were hard and nationally life for millions was one of abject poverty. In Bath there were no less than half a dozen soup kitchens and a variety of charities ranging from the 'Deaf and Dumb Industrial Home' and the 'Home for Cripples' to the 'Bath Preventive Mission and Ladies Association for the Care of Friendless Girls'.

1899 was also the year in which Bath Dolphin Swimming Club was born. The fledgling club was not, however, the first local organisation to promote swimming as a structured activity. That distinction belongs to the YMCA whose own club started life some four years earlier.

Swimming was a latecomer to the city's sporting scene. Athletics, archery, tennis, golf, cricket, soccer, rugby, cycling and rowing were among sports established at varying times in the years preceding 1899. Cycling was enormously popular, with enthusiasts having two clubs from which to choose and the sport with which swimming had a particular affinity - rowing - since neither could operate without water, also had two clubs in addition to a boating club.

Be that as it may the infant club had arrived and set itself up in the 'New Royal Baths' where the actual swimming pool formed only a part of the complex, albeit a relatively large one. The rest of the building was devoted to the spa treatments so vital to the city's economy at the time. Construction was completed in 1870 at a cost of £10,000, a huge sum in those days. It was to be the home of Bath Dolphin for twenty-four years.

Was the Royal Bath the first purpose-built competitive indoor pool in the city? Certainly the Cleveland Baths at Bathwick, the oldest in the country, had been in existence since 1815 (duly recorded in the recently published history of the Amateur Swimming Association) but they were open-air. Many swimmers will testify as to the coldness of the water, but at the same time recall many happy and inexpensive times spent there. Another query is posed. Did the club's 'River Bathing Station' at the Cleveland Baths exist from the club's inception (running in tandem with the Royal)? The answer is probably yes although those who could have provided the details have, of course, long since passed on. What is definitely known is that on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1901, the Mayor dedicated the Cleveland Baths to the public use as a free bathing place! Can one imagine such an act of generosity being made today? Imagine also the queues that would form at the Sports & Leisure Centre and the delight expressed by the Hon Treasurer of Bath Dolphin Swimming Club!

# *THE FIRST PRESIDENT*

At some point in 1899 the group of people responsible for the launch of Bath Dolphin would have given much consideration to the appointment of a president, a procedure which has been followed to the present day. In the event an invitation was extended to a leading citizen, The Rt Hon Lord de Blaquiere (6<sup>th</sup> Baron of Ardkill) who was born in 1856 and who thus became president at the relatively early age of 43. Lord and Lady de Blaquiere had two sons, John and Alan, the family living at 3 Circus, Bath and Brockworth Manor, Gloucestershire.

A double tragedy struck the family in the Great War of 1914-1918. John, heir to the title, a lieutenant in the Scottish Rifles, was killed in action in France in 1915 and two years later his younger brother, Alan, serving with the Royal Navy, was lost at sea. Lord de Blaquiere himself did not survive the war for long, his death occurring in 1920. His widow died in March 1942.

It may well have been that both sons were amongst the original members of Bath Dolphin and that one or both could conceivably have followed their father as president in happier circumstances. Lord and Lady de Blaquiere are buried in the Abbey Cemetery.

## *POST OFFICE DIRECTORY 1902*

### Dolphin Swimming Club

Affiliated to the Southern Counties Diving & Swimming Association and Life Saving Society

President - Rt Hon Lord de Blaquiere Hon Secs - A R Belcher and F Crook, 22 High Street

Ladies Section - Secs - Miss A M Pointing, 13 Alfred Street and

Miss M S Bryant, 15 Argyle Street

Headquarters - New Royal Baths

River Bathing Station - Cleveland Bridge

For its first thirty-one years the administration of Bath Dolphin was in the hands of hon secretary Mr F Crook (based in High Street) and a succession of assistant hon secretaries elected annually starting with Mr A R Belcher. The loyalty of Mr Crook can be judged by his length of service (1899-1930). To this day he remains the longest serving hon secretary. The practice of appointing assistant hon secretaries ended with Mr Crook's retirement in 1930 when Mr G E Allan took over as hon secretary, a post he was to hold until the Second World War.

On 7 November 1900, what was possibly the first club gala was held at the Royal Baths under the title of 'Swimming Sports'. There followed three important developments. A ladies section, with its own administration, was formed in 1901 in which year also the Western Counties ASA was founded followed in 1902 by the start of the Somerset County ASA. The national body, the Amateur Swimming Association, was established in 1869.

The Western Counties ASA was born out of much argument and discussion. Prior to 1901 there were only three districts of the ASA - North, Midlands and South, the latter embracing the West as well as the Southern Counties region. Two prominent members of the infant Bath Dolphin club, Mr J C Richardson and the aforementioned Mr Crook played their part with colleagues from all over the West to ensure that the Western Counties were elected a separate entity. The battle for independence from the South was won convincingly and, together with a new North-East district provided the five-district format which exists today.

## 'A LOCAL SWIMMING CHAMPION'

There can be few clubs, of whatever sport, which does not or has not had a 'star' performer and in this respect the early Dolphin SC was no exception, the outstanding contributor to its initial success being Samuel William Crisp. A tribute to this swimmer's prowess could hardly be bettered than quoting in full the following report which appeared in 1902 in the long since defunct 'Bath and County Graphic'.

*Samuel William Crisp, the well-known Bath Dolphin swimmer, who in July last at Taunton won from Davey, of Weston, the hundred yards championship of Somerset - which event the same two rivals finished almost a dead heat last year at Bath - might be described as one of the most natural swimmers we have in the West. He is a loyal native of Bath, having been born some 26 years ago, and from early days took kindly to the water, his elementary experiences at swimming being attended with much less discomfort than was the case with the majority, who have vivid recollections of many shivering moments spent on the brink ere venturing into the water. From the very outset he quickly became an adept swimmer, and although opportunities for trying his skill at racing were in those days at Bath few and far between, he lost no chances that came his way, and soon became a force to be reckoned with amongst local swimmers. The Somerset champion will probably not go much higher than his present rank as a champion. Nevertheless he holds a record of which any athlete might be proud, and which does him infinite credit. His prizes at swimming, running, hurdling, and jumping run well into the second hundred, and it is hoped that many years will elapse ere he ceases to add to his store.*



*S. W. Crisp, Club Champion, early 1900's*

*It will be remembered that Mr Crisp was one of the several Bath swimmers who earned the half-mile certificate of the W.C.A.S.A, whilst at Rugby football he has represented Bath against many of the leading teams in the West, and will always be remembered as a sterling three-quarter, full of dash and daring. His most recent performance was third in the Avon Championship.*

The observation that 'the Somerset champion will probably not go much higher than his present rank as a champion' was, however, disproved when Crisp won the Western Counties 440 yards freestyle title on two occasions - in 1903 and 1905. It was in 1905 also that the 'Bath United' squad triumphed in the men's freestyle team swim, a feat repeated in 1908. Bath United was a combination of Bath Dolphin and the YMCA (until 1908) who also linked to form a strong water polo team. The captain, B Wakefield represented both the Western Counties and Somerset whilst H W Dudfield and T Higson each gained Somerset recognition. Another member of the Crook family, H Crook, was also in the team. The Crisp swimming tradition was revived by F G Crisp who took first place in the Western Counties boys' 100 yards freestyle in 1912.

Two years previously, in 1910, J C Richardson became the first Dolphin to be elected to the presidency of the Western Counties ASA. Another forty years were to elapse before another member of the club was to be similarly honoured, namely G E Allan. It is interesting to note that several members of the city's business sector were attracted to the club from its earliest days, a feature maintained in the years which followed.

It was inevitable that with the onset of the First World War club activities would be drastically curtailed. So many members had been called up to serve in the armed forces that the centre pages of the 1915 handbook were devoted to listing their names. Shortly after the handbook's publication all those actively involved in hostilities were made honorary members for the duration of the war.

How many lost their lives and how many actually returned to rejoin the club is not known.

A public meeting held some five months after the armistice decided that the club's activities 'be resumed' and this was the signal for an influx of new members. Details were duly recorded in the minutes of the day. The increase in membership was such that the committee considered applying for an extra club night in the following



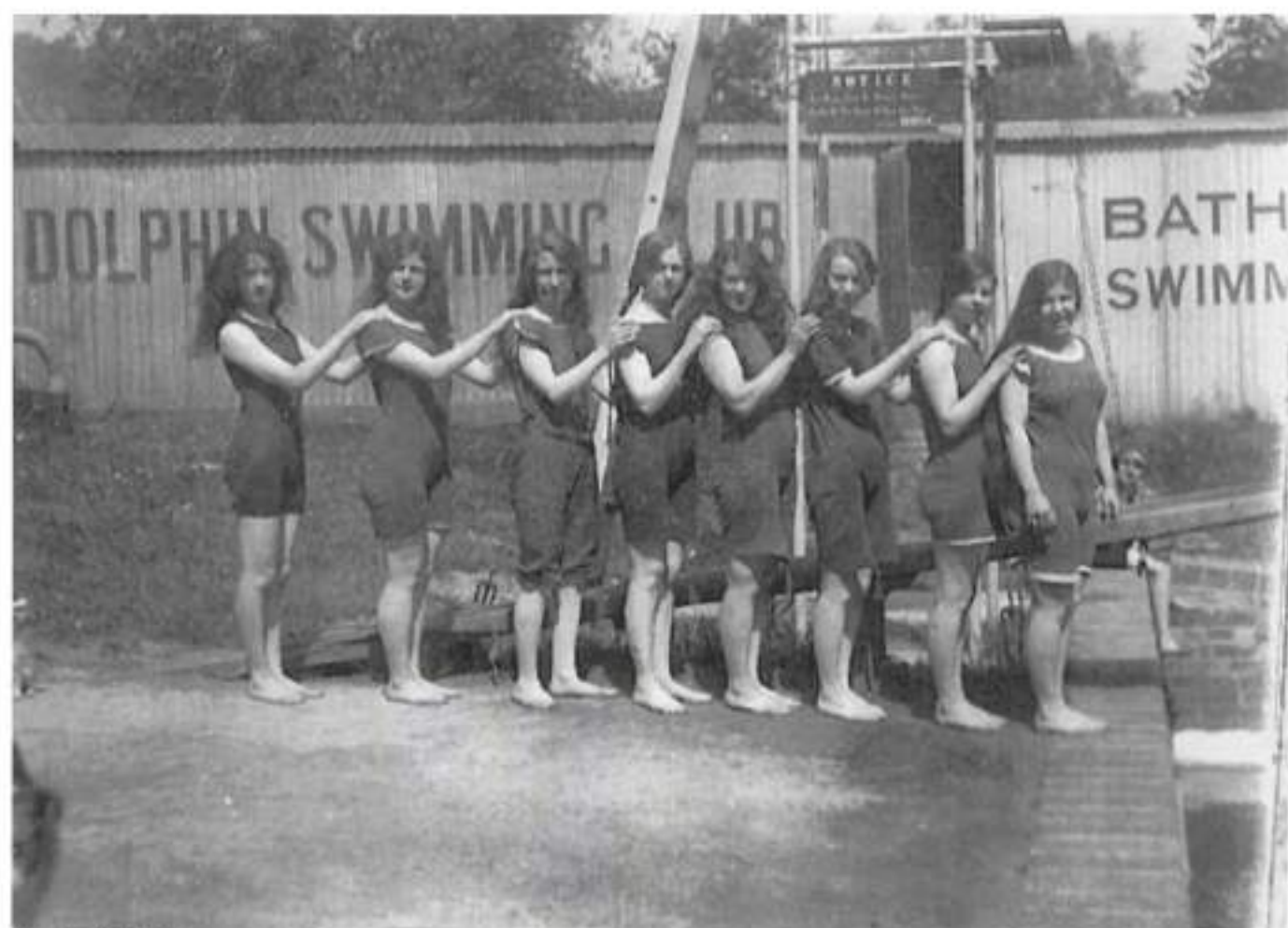
*Bath United Water Polo Team, 1904 L-R Back T Higgin Somerset 1904, F J Crook, F C Phillips and H Harding  
Front H W Dudgefield Somerset 1904, B Wakefield Somerset & W C A S A 1904 & W Waterson*



*Bath Dolphin Swimming Club, 1910*



*Lady Dolphin Members at the Cleveland Swimming Baths, 1913*



*Lady Dolphin Members at the Cleveland Swimming Baths, 1913 Mabel Lowell, Second Left*





*Cleaning out the Cleveland Swimming Baths which were alongside the River Arno at Bathwick.*



*R. Preston-Jones, 1905*



*R. Preston-Jones 1996*

year. If nothing else it proves that today's requests for 'extra water time' are nothing new!

In 1921, following the death of Lord de Blaquiere, a new president was elected. He was Major F C Moore who, like his distinguished predecessor, took a keen interest in the progress and welfare of the club. He remained president until 1926 when he was succeeded by Mr J C Richardson who had made and continued to make an outstanding contribution to Bath Dolphin.

The year 1921 was notable also for the enrolment into membership of Robert Preston Jones. Preston was to enjoy the distinction of being the longest serving Dolphin although he could hardly have envisaged that his connection with the club would extend to 75 years.

As with Samuel Crisp from an earlier era Preston was an all-round sportsman and participated in rugby and rowing in addition to swimming and water polo. His finest swimming achievement was the winning of the Western Counties 440 yards free-style title in 1925 and his skill at water polo earned him Somerset selection.

A jovial and kindly man, Preston put much effort back into swimming after his retirement from the water, serving on the committee, acting as water polo secretary in the years following the second world war and becoming the second president to serve a maximum of three years under a new club rule (1970-73). Shortly after his term of office ended he was deservedly created a life member. He died in 1996, a memorial service being held in the Abbey. In 1922 the committee appointed to the club's list of vice-presidents Mr Paul Radmilovic, one of the all time greats of swimming and water polo. A member of the Weston-Super-Mare club (founded 1880), Mr Radmilovic won three Olympic Gold Medals at water polo (London 1908, Stockholm 1912, Antwerp 1920) and a further Gold Medal as a member of the British 4 x 200 relay team (London 1908).

1923 saw the opening of the 'New Baths' in Beau Street on March 1<sup>st</sup> of that year with Bath Dolphin playing the predominant role in the proceedings as their successors were to do at the launch of the pool at Bath Sports and Leisure Centre over fifty years later in 1975.

Up until that time the club not only swam in the Royal Baths but made ample use of the open air Cleveland Baths in Bathwick not just for training purposes but also for what may seem today the rather quaintly named



*W (Bill) Cornish, Club Diving Champion 1923, and Robert Preston-Jones, Club Swimming Champion 1923*



*Bath Dolphin Swimming Club 1910, Whitlock Cup, For the best Juvenile Learner Won by W Cornish Aged 10 years*



*A BDSC Group of Swimmers at Bathampton Weir, 1923, W<sup>r</sup> (Bill) Cornish seated front right*



*Bath Dolphin Swimming Club Diving Trophy  
1923 W<sup>r</sup> Cornish  
1924 W<sup>r</sup> Cornish  
1925 W<sup>r</sup> Cornish*



*W<sup>r</sup> (Bill) Cornish - a champion diver for Somerset in action 1925*



*Diving Championship of Bath  
Presented by Major F. C. Moore  
1927 W. Cornish  
1928 W. Cornish  
1929 W. Cornish*



*Diving Championship of Bath  
Presented by Major F. C. Moore  
1930 B. Brooks 1931 B. Syme  
1932 W. Cornish 1933 W. Cornish  
1934 B. W. Brooks 1935 W. Cornish*



*The English Diving Championship at Coate Reservoir, Nr. Swindon  
W (Bill) Cornish of Bath Dolphin diving at Coate for his Amateur Diving Association badge which he succeeded in winning.*



*Bath Dolphin having fun 1926 W (Bill) Cornish facing left of picture with cap & saucer in right hand*



*Bath Dolphin Junior Ladies Team with the Humane Society's Shield,  
From left to right P. Hayes, P. Haggerty, J. Kelland and B. Wiltshire. 1935*



*The Bath Dolphin Ladies Water Polo Team, 1935. From Left to Right: P. Hayes, B. Christy, R. Walwin, B. Wiltshire, Not Known, C. Fortt and G. Frost*



*Diving Champion Joan Endicott being congratulated by Phyllis Hayes*



*Members of the Bath Dolphin S. C. parading along Bean Street in the 1930s*



*The Water Babies Lifesaving Display Team. Second Left Pamela White and Thelma Sheppard on the right, June 1935*

'swimming sports'. From the hot water of the Royal to the cold of the Cleveland and the adjoining river must have been a harsh transition. What hardy souls they were in those far off days! There followed in 1924 one of swimming's most important innovations - the introduction of the crawl stroke. Such was the interest engendered that in Bristol classes were held to teach what must have appeared to be something of a revolution in the sport. Some members of Bath Dolphin were quick to avail themselves of this facility but initially were refused expenses by the committee as the instruction was deemed to be 'for the members' own benefit'. Happily this decision was soon reversed and rightly so.

The Western Counties 100 yards free-style championship was won for the first time by a Bath Dolphin in 1929 by V K Miller, the club's outstanding swimmer of his time during the inter-war years. He was destined to win the same championship again in 1931. His accomplishments were not confined to sprint swimming. He took part in the ASA 880 yards event in 1930 and was the top competitor in the popular 'Weir to Weir' swims in the thirties.

The weir contests were revived in the late fifties but did not survive for long due to an outbreak of polio nationwide when swimmers were strongly advised to avoid river bathing. The last winner of the swim was John Walker who has thus retained his title for some forty years following the club's decision to enforce an immediate ban on river swimming under its jurisdiction.

Miller was not alone in bringing Western Counties honours to Bath Dolphin Swimming Club. The Ladies Section had a splendid champion of their own in Miss Joan K Endicott, winner of the 50 yards free-style (1930-31) followed by the 100 yards free-style championship from 1932-35. Her successes will be recalled by many of the older generation.

The Annual Report of the Men's Section dated 1935 includes some interesting details, the names contained therein reviving memories of the Dolphins of that period. In some cases sons had followed fathers into membership. One such was Roland N Shackell who excelled as a swimmer, diver and 'plunge expert'. The plunge has long since vanished from club gala programmes but it had the effect of ensuring complete silence from the watching gallery audience at Beau Street Baths which was only broken when a competitor finished his effort. In later years Roland Shackell gave style demonstrations of both swimming and diving at galas. An auctioneer by profession, he became the Somerset County ASA official responsible for the auction of championships to member clubs. These arrangements preceded the 'block' system employed today, its best attribute enabling a club to bid for a particular championship/s when one of its own members could compete before a supportive home crowd always assuming, of course, that the club won the bidding.



*Members of Bath Dolphin known as the Blackbirds. From top to bottom W. Cornish, B. Brooks, R. Shackell, L. Dyke and R. Adams. 1935.*



# ***BATH DOLPHIN SWIMMING CLUB***

*President: J C Richardson Esq*

## ***ANNUAL REPORT AND TREASURER'S STATEMENT FOR 1935***

Dear Sir,

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Club will be held in the Cooling Room Royal Baths, on Thursday, 23 January, when you are asked to make every effort to be present.

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE. E. ALLAN,

Honorary Secretary.

### **AGENDA**

- 1 To read and confirm Minutes of Last Annual General Meeting.
- 2 To adopt Honorary Secretary's Report.
- 3 To adopt Honorary Treasurer's Statement.
- 4 Mr C Groves' proposition to reduce Committee to 12 Members.
- 5 To elect Officers and Committee for ensuing year.
- 6 Any other competent business.

### **Report for 1935**

In presenting the Thirty Seventh Annual Report and my eighth as your Honorary Secretary, it is very gratifying to record that the activities of the Club are being well maintained, and an increasing effort being shown to adopt fresh ones.

Our thanks are again due to you, Mr President, for giving us your valuable assistance throughout another Season.

Mr Moon, the Hon Handicapper, has again produced some very creditable results and exciting finishes. Three Series of Point Races have been held and the following are the results:-

#### Spring Series

- 1 B W Brooks
- 2 L G Dyke
- 2 R N Shackell
- 3 K Langley

#### Summer Series

- 1 D Byles
- 2 L G Dyke
- 3 J Hicks

#### Autumn Series

- 1 R N Shackell
- 2 L Finch
- 3 D Byles

In the Spring Series 48 members took part, an average of 19 for each event. In the Summer Series 16 with an average of 9, and in the Autumn Series 17 with an average of 8 for each event.

The aggregate for the Season reads 1) D Byles 62, 2) R N Shackell 59, 3) L G Dyke 57, 4) B W Brooks 47, 5) Laurie Finch 45, 6) J Hicks 35. Total competitors for the season 57. The highest aggregate in the Junior Section for the 'RFS' Perpetual trophy is gained by Laurie Finch. Congratulations Laurie.

Owing to weather and floods the Mile Handicap in the river unfortunately had to be cancelled.

The result of the 1/2 mile swim was as follows: E Toms 13.45, R N Shackell 13.57, D Byles 14.00, L G Dyke 14.41, J Hicks 16.30, J Francis 18.30, J Hunt 24.16.

Douglas Byles followed up his success in winning the Junior Aggregate Cup 2 years in succession by winning the Senior Aggregate Cup, and it is especially pleasing to see that he is also doing well at the longer distances.

Two members have been successful in gaining the Amateur Diving Association's Bronze Medal issued in connection with a Diving Competition for Club Members. Senior Section B W Brooks, Junior Section B Kilminster.

B W Brooks has again secured the 150 yards Somerset County Backstroke Championship. J Hicks (16 yrs) after an exciting tussle just lost third place by a touch. Better luck next time!

The trophies for the 100 yards Senior Championship of Bath and the Senior Diving Championship of Bath have been won outright (three times), Roland N Shackell winning the former and W Cornish the latter.

I would here like to congratulate Mr A E Meyer on swimming weir to weir on August 4<sup>th</sup> in 2 hours, 15 minutes, also Messrs Brooks, Shackell, Langley and Miller on competing at Weymouth Regatta and winning all events entered and bringing home a useful crop of cups and prizes, including the Odeon Cup, very useful propaganda for the Club.

In the 2 lengths Boys' SCASA Championship Laurie Finch was successful in gaining third place, in fact after a hard race only lost second place by the touch.

Roland N Shackell has broken the plunging record 50'9" held by S W Crisp for about 25 years, by 1'11" holding the new record at 51'10", a very useful plunge.

The Junior Hon Secretary has again worked in his indefatigable manner with his juniors. Amongst many other results has passed three of his first year members in the 50 yards test, Monty Dayman 48 secs, John Ponting 48 secs, Alec Moody 43 secs.

Seventy five members have been admitted to Membership 20 having been taught to swim.

Two galas have again been held during the Season and I am pleased to say both were financial successes and I would like to thank all those who assisted on these occasions.

On behalf of the Club I would like you, Mr Treasurer, to accept our grateful thanks for your services in again looking after the exchequer. We are too often apt to overlook the work this office entails, also Mr Ruddock for so willingly auditing the accounts every year.

The attendances at Committee Meetings have been as follows: A E Avery 10, D Byles 10, J E Derrick 10, B W Brooks 10, R N Shackell 10, G E Allan 10, P Morris 9, R H Moon 9, F Care 8, K Langley 8, C L Jenkin 8, P J Dyke 8, L G Dyke 7, F Bird 6, R Raward 5, A E Sadler 5, C H Groves 4, R P Lucas 4, J Davis 3, G Fear 2, R P Jones 1.

Our thanks are again due to Mrs Shackell for placing the Committee Room at our disposal throughout the year.

I would also like to ask Mr T Ashworth to accept our sincere thanks for the wonderful work he has put in the cause of Lifesaving, the results have been the best we have ever had, the awards are as follows:

Elementary Certificates 16, Intermediate Certificates 16, Bronze Medallions 16, First Bar to Bronze Medallion 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Instructors' Certificates 4, 1<sup>st</sup> Class Instructors' Certificates 4, Award of Merit 16.

On behalf of the Club I would like to express our thanks to John Hatton Esq, A A Lewis Esq, and the Baths Officials for the help they have given us during the past Season, without this co-operation it would be difficult to carry on.

I would like all members to note that we are having a Supper and Social Evening at Furze's Restaurant, Southgate Street, on Thursday, 30 January at 7.30pm, tickets can be had from Members of the Committee, the prices being 13 years, and under 1/6, over 18 years, 2/6 each. Please come along and have a pleasant evening, we shall be showing the European Games Film during the evening.

In conclusion I take this opportunity of thanking all members of the Committee for their attendance at the meetings and any member who throughout the year has helped me in any way. May I extend to you all my best wishes for a very happy and prosperous New Year.

GEORGE E ALLAN,

Honorary Secretary

December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1935

# ***BATH DOLPHIN SWIMMING CLUB***

## ***STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, 1935***

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Balance from 1934	13. 4. 11	Subscriptions to Amateur Diving Association	1. 0. 0
Donations, Subscriptions etc	29. 16. 9	“ “ Royal Life Saving Soc	10. 6
Profit from Xmas Draw	23. 7. 7	“ “ SCASA	218. 0
Collections at Polo Matches	1. 0. 1	Loss on Dance (half share)	19. 9
Payment of Members for Polo Matches	4. 0. 9	Delegates' expenses	218.10
Ladies' share of badges bought	2. 6. 3	Printing & Stationery	7. 7. 0
Sale of badges	1. 14. 0	Postages	3. 11. 9
Interest on War Stock	11. 0	Various prizes etc purchased	10. 11. 2
From SCASA for hire of Baths, Teachers' Exam	15. 4	Costume badges bought	5. 13. 2
“ “ towards Teachers' Exam	2. 12. 6	Polo Teams admission to Baths	1. 12.10
Profit on Mixed Gala	2. 14. 2	Admission Tickets for Teachers' Exam	15. 4
Profit on Annual Gala	2. 7. 8	Rent for Cleveland Baths	10. 0
Special Donations, etc	7. 8. 6	Polo Team travelling expenses	15.11.6
From Bathforum Association		Hire of Boats for river swims	6. 0
Re Prosser Cup	19. 9	Paint bought for Cleveland Baths	12.9
Donations towards National Trust Jubilee Fund	1. 1. 0	Somerset Back Stroke Champ	2. 5. 0
		Entry fees for Championships etc	1.16.6
		Donation to Jubilee Fund	1. 1. 0
		Hire of film for Annual Supper	12. 0
		Cash at Bank, in hand, etc	32.9.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>£94.0.3</u></b>		<b><u>£94.0.3</u></b>

Club Assets:

River Bath station, De Blaquiére Vase; President's Trophy; Anandale Trophy; Silver "Diving Championship" Trophy; Richardson Cup; BDSC Trophy; Norman Cottell Trophy; Warleigh Cup; W J Prosser Cup; RFS Trophy; Polo Balls and caps; Stop watches; costumes and badges; Lapel Badges; Conversion Stock; National Savings Certificates.

Audited & found correct:

Signed C RUDDOCK,  
31 December 1935

Liabilities: Nil.



*Pamela White, Under 13 Diving Champion, 1939*



*Pamela White, Left, and Thelma Sheppard in 1939 at the Cleveland Swimming Baths*



*Roy Shackell*



*Vin Butcher, Winner of the Lord de Blaquiere Vase 1937 & 1941*

**WESTERN COUNTIES AMATEUR  
SWIMMING ASSOCIATION - FOUNDED 1901  
DISTRICT ROLL OF HONOUR - BATH  
DOLPHIN SWIMMING CLUB 1901-1939**

**1903 AND 1905**

**S. W. Crisp WCASA 440yards Championship and Half Mile District Test Certificate**

**1906**

**TIME TEST CERTIFICATES GRANTED**

C. Cleverly	½ Mile	Canal	17 Minutes	35 Seconds	Certificate 202
W. Whippley	½ Mile	Canal	17	47	203
A. Avery	½ Mile	Canal	17	50	204
F. Pow	½ Mile	Canal	17	21	205
S. W. Crisp	1mile	Canal	28	01.5	206
T. Crisp	1mile	Canal	36	42	207

**1907**

**Miss M. Toogood WCASA 50yards Ladies Championship Placed 46secs 251**

**TIME TEST CERTIFICATES GRANTED**

S. R. Bence	½ Mile	Canal	17 Minutes	04 Seconds	Certificate 256
S. R. Bence	1 Mile	Canal	35	44	257
R. Lovett	½ Mile	Canal	17	33	258
T. Crisp	½ Mile	Canal	16	46	259
T. Crisp	1 Mile	Canal	35	03	260
E. F. Pow	½ Mile	Canal	17	54	261

**1908**

**S. Pugsley: WCASA 440yards Championship 6mins 52secs 309**

**Bath Dolphin Team: WCASA Team Championship Certificate 312**

**H. Dudfield WCASA Team Championship 327**

**R.H. Shackell WCASA Team Championship 328**

**S. Pugsley WCASA Team Championship 329**

**S. W. Crisp WCASA Team Championship 330**

## 1909\*

### TIME TEST CERTIFICATES GRANTED

Miss M. Day	½ Mile	23 Minutes	42 Seconds	Certificate 357
Miss D. Hague	½ Mile	24	45	358
Miss H. Millard	½ Mile	25	26	359
Miss B. Davis	½ Mile	21	16	364
Miss M. Toogood	½ Mile	21	28	365
Miss L. Byrt	½ Mile	21	40	366
Miss M. Barnes	½ Mile	23	30	367
Miss G. Brown	½ Mile	24	02	368
Miss D. Long	½ Mile	23	50	369
Miss D. Martin	½ Mile	23	52	370
Miss G. Hart	½ Mile	24	13	371
Miss D. Hague	1 Mile	51	38	360
Miss B. Davis	1 Mile	44	41	361
Miss M. Toogood	1 Mile	45	30	362
Miss M. Barnes	1 Mile	49	44	363

\*The WCASA annual report for 1909 states that the District Executive: "Note with pleasure that the Bath Dolphin Ladies have gained 15 test certificates during the past year, and trust that this will stimulate other ladies clubs to do the same."

## 1910

### TIME TEST CERTIFICATES GRANTED

A. E. Avery	1 Mile	37 Minutes	38 Seconds	Certificate 372
Doris Harrison	½ Mile	25	10	54
Mrs M. Fisher	½ Mile	22	41	55
Janet M. Huntley	½ Mile	23	10	56
Marie Candy	½ Mile	23	15	57
Mrs R. Fisher	1 Mile	45	36	58
Janet M. Huntley	1 Mile	46	26	59

## 1912

### JULY 25<sup>TH</sup> TIME TEST CERTIFICATES GRANTED

WM.G.Dyke	1 Mile	36 Minutes	36.60 Secs	Certificate 64
Fred Harvey	½ Mile	16	45.60	65

### AUGUST 27<sup>TH</sup> WCASA JUNIOR WATER POLO CHAMPIONSHIP

W. Hamlin	Certificate 79
H. Pepperall	80
E. Bush	81
F. Bush	82
A. Brinton	83
E.J. Hicks	84
G. Prigg	85

SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>

F. G. Crisp:

WCASA Boys 50yard Championship

33.20secs

115

DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> - TIME TEST CERTIFICATES GRANTED

Hilda Mendum	½ Mile		22 Minutes	09 Seconds	Certificate 118
Lilian Senior	½ Mile		22	58	119

### 1913

TIME TEST CERTIFICATES GRANTED

Miss G. Davies	½ Mile		22 Minutes	18 Seconds	Certificate 170
Miss Harford	½ Mile		22	32	171

### 1914

NOVEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup> - TIME TEST CERTIFICATES GRANTED

Lilian Senior	1 Mile	Royal Baths	41 Minutes	15 Seconds	Certificate 173
F.E. Frampton	1 Mile	Royal Baths	47	10	174
M.K. Harford	1 Mile	Royal Baths	47	15	175
Freda M. Barnes	½ Mile	Royal Baths	22	15	176
B.J. Ross-Davies	½ Mile	Royal Baths	22	20	177
Neta Barnes	½ Mile	Royal Baths	22	35	178
Gladys M Shutter	½ Mile	Royal Baths	22	45	179

DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

Marjorie B Knight	½ Mile	Royal Baths	21 Minutes	34 Seconds	Certificate 180
Mabel Lovell	½ Mile	Royal Baths	21	42	181
Elsie M Humphries	½ Mile	Royal Baths	22	16	182
Nellie M James	½ Mile	Royal Baths	22	53	183

### 1916

TIME TEST CERTIFICATES GRANTED

Miss Gladys Davies	1 Mile		42 Minutes	50 Seconds	Certificate 185
Miss Elsie May Humphries	1 Mile		43	48	186
Miss Mabel Lovell	1 Mile		44	51	187

### 1919

TIME TEST CERTIFICATES GRANTED

Margaret Heinrich	½ Mile		19 Minutes	55 Seconds	Certificate 191
Dorothy Harrison	½ Mile		22	41	192

### 1920

DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> - TIME TEST CERTIFICATES GRANTED

Miss J. Snelgrove  
 Miss D. Harrison  
 Miss M. Harrison  
 Miss Barnes  
 Miss F. Heinrich



<b>1925</b>			
R Preston - Jones	WCASA 440yards Championship	6mins	54.60secs
<b>1929</b>			
V. K. Miller	WCASA 100yards Championship(Men)	1min	2.80secs
V. K. Miller	WCASA 220yards Championship(Men)	2mins	47.60secs
Miss J. Endicott	WCASA Girls Diving Championship		
<b>1930</b>			
V. K. Miller	WCASA 220 Yards Championship	2mins	48.40secs
Miss J Endicott	WCASA Girls 50yards Championship		
<b>1931</b>			
V. K. Miller	WCASA 100yards Championship	1min	1.40secs
Miss J. Endicott	WCASA Ladies 100yards Championship	Record	75.80secs
<b>1932</b>			
Miss J. Endicott	WCASA Ladies 100yards Championship		71.40secs
<b>1933</b>			
Miss J. Endicott	WCASA Ladies 100yards Championship		70.00secs
<b>1934</b>			
Miss J. Endicott	WCASA Ladies 100yards Championship		72.00secs
Miss J. Selby	WCASA Girls Diving Championship		
<b>1935</b>			
Miss J. Endicott	WCASA Ladies 100yards Championship		68.80secs
<b>1938</b>			
Miss P. Skillman (Mrs. Pat. Salter)	WCASA Girls Diving Championship		

## ***JIM DERRICK***

**James Edward (Jim) Derrick** provided a superb example of dedication to swimming and to Bath Dolphin Swimming Club in particular. Joining the club in 1928 at the same time as his brother William (Bill), he was destined to play a hugely significant role in the fortunes of the club.

To describe him as a 'general factorum' would not do justice to his wide range of abilities be it swimming coach, water polo trainer, committee man and for twenty six years until his death in 1986 Hon Treasurer. Amazingly he never had a coaching lesson in his life but this did not prevent him from producing a clutch of Western Counties and Somerset County Champions and one of the most successful intermediate water polo teams in the West (Somerset League champions four times in the fifties and finalists in the Western Counties intermediate competition in 1952).

He was a man of forthright opinions and such was his knowledge he won well merited respect from his colleagues on the committee and beyond. So far as his 'charges' in the water were concerned praise from him was praise indeed. He was well known throughout the region's swimming circles and it came as no surprise when he became Somerset president in 1967. He also completed two three year spells as club president having succeeded George E Allan for the first of those terms. He also held a unique record in that he was the only member of the club to go on every swimming trip to the city's twin-towns in Europe in the post-war years.

Outside of swimming he was a national authority on airedale terriers and judged at shows as far away as Australia.

By contrast, **William (Bill) Derrick** maintained a much lower profile but this did not prevent him from serving the club in a variety of ways whether in life-saving, water polo, transport of swimmers and teaching in the roofless Cross Bath (the 'Tuppenny Hot') in summer and winter. It was not unknown for him and his fellow instructors such as Peter White, Victor Sawyer, Ron Adams, Eddie Tooze and others to teach with the snow falling on exposed mineral water! He emulated Jim by becoming club president in 1988 having been elected a life member some years earlier. He passed away in 1996.

The legacy of the Derricks lives on in the form of trophies generously donated including those given by Jim and Bill's father Charles and brother Thomas.



*Jim and Bill Derrick. Jim was a breeder of Airedale dogs.*



*Jim Derrick with Sally Gray, left, and Ann Newman, right.*



*David Young, Winner of the Boys Freestyle Club Championship 1967 & 1968, with Jim Derrick.*



*Mr 'Bath Dolphin' Jim Derrick.*



*Mr 'Bath Dolphin' Jim Derrick presenting certificates in 1967 at Beau Street Baths*



*George Allan, Former President and Secretary of Bath Dolphin S. C. with Jim Derrick*



*Western Counties Champions Graham Cutting, left, and Dennis Brookstone, right, with Jim Derrick.*



*Bath Dolphin Life Members. From left to right - Charles Grassie, Ron Adams, Bill Derrick, Jim Derrick, Mantix Doacon, Vic Sawyer and Robert Preston Jones. 1982*



*Bath Dolphin Water Polo Team in 1948. From left to right, Vic Batcher, Frank Andrews, Ron Gray, John Sheppard, Len Hughes, Ken Hughes, Tony Wytb and Monty Dayman. Taken at the Cleveland Baths.*



*Bath Dolphin Lady Members at a Gala in 1949*



*Eleven year old Gillian Pow. Winner of the 50 yards Junior Club Championship and 50 yards Schoolgirl Championship of Bath.*



*Susan Forge, on the left, with the Diving Trophy for under 13's and Gillian Pow with the Schoolgirl Championship of Bath Trophy in 1951.*



*Bath Dolphin Gala Winners. From left to right, Front, J. Pratt, E. Hocking. Back, B. Williams and G. Pow. Right is Tony Wynth, Winner of the Bath Diving Championship.*





*Junior Members of the Bath Dolphin Club at the New Baths.*



*Members of Bath Dolphin S. C. enjoying a day at the seaside*





*Golden Jubilee Dinner at the Christopher Hotel, 1st March 1951. Seated on the left from the back, Wilf Cook, Ernie Flemmings, Bob Cook, Fred Tandy, Maurice Deacon, Ken Hughes, Thebna Hughes (nee Sheppard), Bryony Williams, Dennis Wicks and Tony Wyth. Seated on the far right from the front, Bill Rennie, Angela Rennie, Ken Langley, Mrs. Langley, Jim Derrick, Reg Lucas, Bill Weston, Albert Avery, Unknown, Bill Salter, Pat Salter, Roly Shackell. Standing from the back, Phil Banks (nee Hayes), Mrs. Pratt, Ann Wilmington, Jean Pratt, Les Dyke, Mary Sheppard and Eise Hocking.*



*Dennis Twogood receiving the Lord de Blaquiére Vase from George Allau, President of Bath Dolphin S. C. - 1958.*

It was not long before the shadows of war loomed again and less than twenty one years after the ending of the Great War of 1914-18 the Second World War began on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1939.

'Senior Championships: These are suspended for duration of war'. Such was the sombre note contained within the club membership card issued in 1943. Swimming enjoyed tremendous popularity during those anxious times. Long queues regularly formed for public sessions in Beau Street Baths (still officially known as the 'New Swimming Baths'), stretching from the entrance to around the corner to 'The Hot Bath' - all for a half hour dip.

The swimming pools in Bath were extraordinarily fortunate during the bombing of the city in April, 1942 and emerged virtually unscathed. This, in spite of the fact that a direct hit almost destroyed the historic Abbey Church House - a mere stone's throw from Beau Street - and even closer to the Cross Bath. The Royal Baths had a 'near-miss', an unexploded bomb landing in a shop doorway in Westgate Street. The rear of the shop ran parallel to the side of the 'Royal', the site of which now forms part of the BHS department store. The bomb was duly dealt with before any further damage was caused. Destruction at the northern end of St James Parade was also perilously close, numbers 1-5 being so badly damaged that demolition was the only option.

As with food, clothing was also in short supply, its purchase limited by the issue of coupons. Certainly in the second half of the war it was impossible to obtain new swimming kit whether someone had coupons to spare (unlikely!) or not. One recruit to the Dolphins was lucky enough to buy a second hand costume which his mother rapidly reduced to a pair of trunks. The transition from costumes to trunks for male swimmers could well have been accelerated as a result of shortages of materials in wartime.

Two fine stalwarts who helped keep Bath Dolphin afloat during the war years were Percy E Morris and Reginald H Moon. Both men were accorded great respect by the boys in their charge who always addressed them as 'Mr Morris' and 'Mr Moon'. Percy taught hundreds of boys to swim from pre World War One and in World War Two he was assisted on occasions at the Cross Bath by members on leave from the forces. Reg, never without his cloth cap on the poolside, was the club's handicapper who also arranged distance swims of up to a mile (72 lengths). Those members who achieved the required target became the proud recipients of a certificate signed by the club president, the afore-mentioned J C Richardson.

Handicap racing was held on club nights throughout the summer months and continued into the post-war years until 1959. Points were awarded and the overall winners received the Lord de Blaquiére Vase (seniors) and the RFS Trophy (juniors). Occasionally the first competitor into the water had almost completed a length of Beau Street before the final contestant made his entry. In theory all swimmers should have finished together but things rarely, if ever, worked out that way.

The first recorded winner of the trophy was V K Miller in 1928, the last in 1958, D V Toogood. The demise of handicap racing transferred the trophies to Best Performance Senior and Junior respectively. The first recorded senior winner was in 1960 - Miss S Probert.

# ***THE DUTCH CONNECTION - ALKMAAR, NORTH HOLLAND ALSO TWINNING WITH BRAUNSCHWEIG, GERMANY AND AIX-EN-PROVENCE, FRANCE***

The war having finally come to an end in the summer of 1945, the Dolphins could not possibly have imagined that as a result they would embark on a friendship with a faraway club on the continent for fifty years and would continue to do so.

Europe was in chaos at the war's end and Holland was certainly no exception. Occupied by Germany in 1940, the Dutch people suffered dreadfully for five years before the long awaited liberation. The town of Alkmaar in North Holland was typical of the country's plight and it was at this time that Bath Rotary Club stepped in to assist its recovery. Bath Rotary's initiative in 'adopting' Alkmaar was the first such twinning arrangement in the world. Cash raised and clothing and shoes donated by Bath citizens for the people of Alkmaar was followed by the arrival in the city in October 1945 of fifty malnourished children who stayed for three months with Bath families. This was the first of many exchange visits. Amongst the pioneers of sporting contact was Bath Dolphin Swimming Club who, together with Bath City Football Club, travelled to Holland in 1948 to meet their Dutch counterparts for the first time. Perhaps surprisingly, this was to be the only meeting between the Dolphin club and the Alkmaar swimmers for thirteen years. A revival of the link appeared possible in early 1954 when a visit from Alkmaar to participate in a gala to include the Dolphin Ladies Section and the Admiralty (Bath) Swimming Club was mooted. The event was to be held in aid of the 'Bath Cinder Track Appeal' but never got beyond the 'suggestion stage' and was ultimately abandoned. Incidentally, the cinder track was eventually laid at Claverton Down on the site of the present university. Two years earlier a proposed visit from the swimmers of Hanover in West Germany had also foundered.

Eventually the Dolphin/Alkmaar swimming contests were resumed in 1961 in Bath followed by a return meeting in Holland the following year and then again in 1963 when Dolphins achieved their first victory over the 'Water Rats' at Beau Street.

In 1965 the Dolphins entertained the swimmers from Bath's second twin-town, Brunswick (West Germany) and in the same year (during the August Bank Holiday



*The Bath Bridge, Alkmaar, North Holland.*

weekend) resumed their link with Alkmaar travelling with representatives of other sporting bodies necessitating the use of two coaches.

1967 saw the club on its travels again, this time to Brunswick whose swimmers paid a reciprocal visit to Bath the following year. Alkmaar also came to Bath in 1968 and in 1969 it was the Dolphins' turn to go on the road. There had thus been no less than nine meetings from 1961 onwards between Bath Dolphin and their continental counterparts. What a contrast to the barren decade which had gone before!

Into 1970 and there was to be no let-up. Brunswick was visited by Bath Dolphin that year and Alkmaar returned to Bath in 1971. 'Next stop' for Bath was Aix-en-Provence in the South of France, at that time the newest of the twin cities in Europe. Such was the distance involved that for the first and only time the Bath swimmers went by rail to their destination.



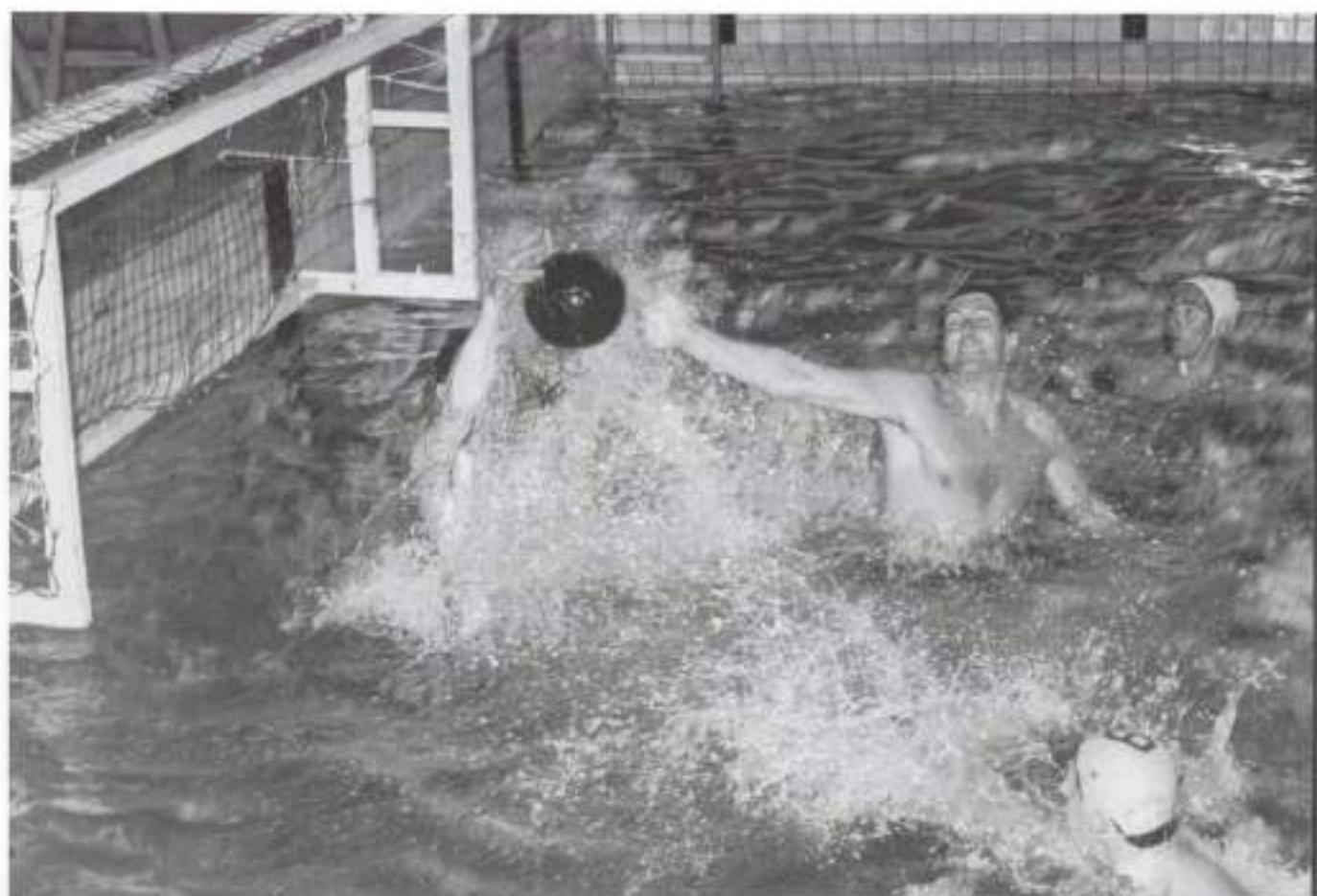
*Members of Bath Dolphin S. C. and Bath City Football Club off to Alkmaar in 1948.*



*Members of Bath Dolphin S. C. on their way to Alkmaar in 1962. From left to right, R. Horsfall, B. Newport, S. Gray, C. Eagle, D. Toogood, D. Raff and G. Cutting.*



*Zomerbad, Alkmaar, June 1962. From left to right, Brian Norton, Dennis Toogood, Hans Van Bekkum, Herman Wick, Bob Van Bekkum, Taco Riet and Cees Witte.*



*Dolphin goalkeeper Maurice Duason (left) saves during a water polo match in the former Canadolphin pool in Alkmaar, 1965*



*Dennis Toogood and Jaap Vriesman congratulating each other at an Alkmaar Gala.*



*An Alkmaar exchange. Graham Cutting, Barbara Cutting, Maurice Deacon, Dennis Toogood, Dennis O'Brien, Phil Garner, Fred Tandy. Seated, Marius Prins, Jim Derrick and Puck Ooyenaar.*



*Phil Brabe, Coach, with Han Masde, Chairman of Alkmaar Swimming Club, in Holland, 1997.*



*In the Alkmaar Club Room. Maurice Deacon, Barbara Cutting, Han Masée, Dennis Toogood, Philip Brake*



*Bath Dolphin Swimming Team in Alkmaar, Holland 1997.*





*Chairman Dennis Toggood and Secretary Maurice Deacon standing beside the original Barrel Organ which was first used on the streets of Bath after the Second World War to collect money for the Citizens of Alkmaar. This now stands in the Town Hall of Alkmaar.*



*Bath Dolphin Swimming Club Members off to Braunschweig in April 1967.*



*Bath Dolphin and Braunschweig members at a social at Smith's Assembly Rooms in 1968.*



*St. Victoire (3000 feet) Near-Aix in Provence, France. April 1972. Jim Derrick presenting gifts to Assistant Leader, Mark Toogood in the foreground, Kevin Gibbs (W'SM) with dark glasses.*



*Aix in Provence. David Young, Martin Russell, Sue Russell, Jeff Nott, Paul Hobbs, Mark Toogood and Dennis Toogood halfway up a French Mountain.*

The responsibility for continuing the Alkmaar link had moved from the Rotary Club to the City Council in the mid-sixties with much of the organisation for that and the Brunswick arrangements being taken up by the council's Youth Service Officer, Mr Philip Garner with whom the club enjoyed a close spirit of co-operation in the years to follow. In recognition of his work in that direction Mr Garner was invited to become a vice-president of Bath Dolphin Swimming Club and remains so in this centenary year as does Mr Klaas Van de Pol of Alkmaar who was honoured by his appointment as manager of the Dutch team at the Mexico Olympic Games of 1968.

The co-operation between the Dolphins and Mr Garner was exemplified in 1973 when the clubs of Alkmaar and Aix-en-Provence along with the Lower Saxony regional squad from Germany (replacing Brunswick) arrived in the city for the 'Monarchy 1000' gala. This event formed part of the city's celebrations for one thousand years of monarchy, the first King of all England, Edgar, having been crowned in AD 973 in the Saxon Abbey of Bath the site of which is now occupied by the present Abbey.

The biggest problem of this meeting was that of accommodation for the visitors but thanks to Mr Garner's contacts at the Royal Air Force, Colerne (now an army base) - and with various citizens, the difficulties were overcome. As for the gala itself, this was won, not surprisingly, by Lower Saxony but by only five points from Bath Dolphin in runners-up position.

In the summer of 1973, Dolphins went over to Alkmaar and in the following year met Brunswick for the last time when a small group of the German club's swimmers visited Bath. The team was woefully under-strength, however, and did not bring anything like the number of competitors required to participate in a meaningful contest.

Local Government reorganisation in 1974 resulted in the Dolphins having to withdraw an invitation to Alkmaar to visit Bath in 1975 and for themselves to cancel a proposed trip to Aix-en-Provence later that year but in 1978 the exchange was revived with Alkmaar receiving Bath and then reciprocating in 1979. A similar pattern ensued in 1980 and 1981. An invitation to Bath from Alkmaar in 1982 was, to everyone's regret, turned down by Dolphins whose standard of swimming fell considerably below that of Alkmaar. Two years later Alkmaar returned to Bath but in 1985 Dolphins again had to turn down a visit to Holland because on this occasion, although their standards had improved, they could not raise a team sufficient in numbers.

Five years passed before BDSC and DAW met again (in Holland) and in 1991 the Alkmaar club returned to Bath. At this point it was decided that the clubs would meet every two years at alternate venues so that in 1993 Bath went to Alkmaar and in 1995 Alkmaar returned to Bath. Dolphins went back to Holland in 1997 and, following the agreement in 1991 'Proface DAW Alkmaar' (the club's title now incorporating the name of its sponsors) joined Bath Dolphin for the club's centenary in 1999. The bond of friendship begun in the aftermath of World War II can truly be said to have reached historic maturity. May it long continue!



1948. A young Dolphin, Dennis Toogood standing on the diving stage, facing downstream over the River Avon, at the rear of the Club changing facilities at the Cleveland Swimming Baths at Bathwick.



Lady Dolphin members parading along Bean Street in 1950. From left to right, Jean Pratt, Mary Sheppard, Elsie Hocking and Jean Fielding.

## ***GOLDEN JUBILEE***

From the club's viewpoint it was particularly appropriate that its Golden Jubilee in 1949-1950 should coincide with the appointment of George E Allan as president of the Western Counties ASA. Mr Allan was only the second member to be so honoured since J C Richardson in 1910 (as previously stated) and sterling service at club, county and district level was, therefore, deservedly recognised. Three years later in 1953 he was elected president of Somerset County ASA, unusual, perhaps, in that the county presidency normally preceded that of the district. A 'Jubilee Dinner' was arranged for 1<sup>st</sup> March 1951 at the Christopher Hotel in High Street (now revamped as the 'All-Bar-One') towards which the Ladies Section made an equal contribution. The price of a ticket was 8s 6d (42½ pence!) which covered the cost of the meal and the services of semi-professional entertainers. Of those attending only two members of Bath Dolphin retain any connection with the club today - the current Hon secretary (Maurice Deacon) and a vice-president (Ann Wilmington).

Meanwhile in the pool the club made an impressive start to its second half-century with two members, John Sheppard and Monty Dayman having won the Somerset county senior championships at 100 yards breaststroke and 100 yards backstroke respectively. Both swimmers had joined Bath Dolphin as pre-war juniors and played prominent roles in the club's water polo successes, which were to follow. Sheppard, in fact, enjoyed the distinction of being the only player outside of Weston-Super-Mare to represent Somerset in the majority of the county's fixtures.

Water Polo formed an important part of the club's activities, matches being played in the Western Counties ASA Intermediate KO Competition (and later in the senior section), the Somerset County League and in friendlies. Water polo provided a rousing finale to galas and 'splash nights' the latter being staged on club nights for which

no charge for admission was made. Spectators (a loyal following) were invited to make a contribution to club funds by means of a collection box, suitably inscribed with the Dolphin name, passed around the gallery at Beau Street Baths. The programme usually comprised two water polo encounters (first and reserve teams) supported by team swims.

With National Service conscription still in force the club was able to recruit occasional temporary members, notably from RAF bases in Wiltshire. They were experienced players to the extent that the Bath squad with, say, matches at Gloucester, would divert to RAF Melksham (rather than travel directly up the A46) to pick up a player at the station's gates and repeat the process on the return journey.

In 1952 the club welcomed into membership Detective-Inspector T J (Tom) Coles of the Bath City Police Force. A leading figure in police swimming and in life saving he proved a great asset to Bath Dolphin until his death in 1973. He was president of Somerset County ASA as far back as 1933 and then in 1956 became the third club member to become president of the Western Counties ASA.



*The Lady Dolphin Water Polo team in 1950, from left to right at the front, Phil Banks (nee Hayer), Bryony Williams, Jean Pratt. Back, Left to right, Mary Dale (nee Sheppard), Jean Fielding, Ann Wallbroon, Eve Wyth (nee Hooking).*

Eventful though the fifties were there was no disguising the club's financial problems. Public dances were organised in an attempt to raise funds and although successful in a social sense did little to alleviate rising costs, principally those relating to baths hire. Deficits would inevitably occur during school holidays when the attendance on club nights would fall drastically. Members were required to pay admission fees only on the actual sessions they attended, a state of affairs which survived for years to come until the move to the Bath Sports Centre. At that point the committee deemed it necessary to impose payment of entry fees a year in advance thus ensuring a regular, sustained income. In retrospect it might well be asked why was the new system not adopted twenty years before? The answer is simple. Money was far tighter then and sponsorship had not even been thought of, not just for swimming but for other sports as well. As an example of those relatively more difficult times compared with today, if a younger member had announced that he intended buying a car (even an older model) the reaction would have been one of incredulity. It follows that it would have been virtually impossible to persuade members to pay their fees a year in advance.

With expenditure continuing to rise it was obvious that the club would have to take remedial action and so it was that on Thursday, 22 August 1957 an Extraordinary General Meeting decided to open membership to female swimmers. This, of itself, would not necessarily resolve all the club's troubles, accommodating the hoped-for new members on club nights being one aspect to be immediately addressed.

Fortunately, there was an encouraging response, a number of ladies section members availing themselves of the opportunity to gain more water time while still retaining loyalty to their original club. Less than a month after the EGM the newcomers elected two of their colleagues - Miss P Mercer and Miss J Ricketts - to serve on the committee.

The decision to admit females was the most significant step taken by the club since its inception. Subsequent events in the years to follow proved that it was the right one.

Revised rules, amendments to club nights and galas and efforts to acquire new trophies all served to concentrate the minds of the committee.



*Tony Wjth admiring his Diving Cap which he won on 18th September 1951.*



*Annual Dinner at the Angel Hotel, Bath 1954*

***EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING  
OF THE BDSC  
HELD AT THE YMCA BROAD STREET ON  
THURSDAY, 22 AUGUST 57  
COMMENCING AT 7.15PM***

Following much corresponding and debate within the Committee arising out of the Spa Department's proposals to increase the hire charges for the baths during club nights, it was decided to call an extraordinary general meeting of members and all and sundry who were generally interested in the welfare of swimming and the club in particular, to decide upon the future policy and commitments of the aforesaid.

Mr G E Allan the club president took the chair, and opened the meeting by giving the assembly the general facts which comprised:

- The primary notification from the Spa Department that due to increased wages and maintenance etc, they would be compelled to charge clubs more for the time in which the baths were in hire to them - this charge to be £1/1/0 per hour.

The repercussions forthcoming from this announcement had seen a deputation as selected from the two sections of the BDSC (Womens and Men) meet the Chairman of the Spa Committee Mr Adrian Hopkins, the Spa Director Mr L J P Bedford and the Spa Department's Chief Clerk Mr Midgely in consultation together to see if there were any possibilities of this increased charge not coming into being. That the outcome of which, this club deputation reported back to a combined meeting of the two sections committees that no possible solution to aid the finance of the BDSC was forthcoming but instead that charges would probably be increased to £1/11/6, this was met with despair.

It was then suggested that in a hope of consolidating our finances we merge sections - however the ladies had decided at a premature meeting not to accept this proposal, so this suggestion was passed over.

Consequently a Committee Meeting of the Mens Section decided that this Extraordinary Meeting be called and suggestions which might render a solution to the problem invited at the same time, the meeting was to receive a proposal from the Committee that the club membership be thrown open to members of the opposite sex.

However before this proposal was to be considered the meeting was requested to have a general debate on the subject.

Much suggestion being forthcoming, some with promising and sound meaning, it was still generally decided that nothing concrete could be assured.

The Chairman then requested a proposal to the Committee's recommendation that the club throw open its membership to the opposite sex and this was proposed Mr R P Lucas the club treasurer being seconded by Mr Rogers. There being no abstainer the proposition was carried unanimously.

It was pointed out that even though this action might be a way to preventing immediate disaster to the club, time would still have to be cut down on, and combining the proposition came an amendment to the club night hours as reads 7-9pm which would be supplemented by the use of the Cross Bath for tuition to non-swimmers - this of course being subject to the approval of the Spa Department.

On closing the meeting the Chairman requested that the Secretary call an early Committee Meeting (the club Committee as elected at the Annual General Meeting to complete its term of office until the end of the year).

There being no further business the meeting was called to a close at 9.50pm.

There were 21 members in attendance.

Signed.....

Date.....

## COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 1957 HELD AT THE HORSE & JOCKEY HOTEL, BEAU ST

Present: G E Allan, R Cook, J Derrick, M Deacon, F Tandy, T J Coles, G E Sheppard,  
D Toogood

At a special meeting called on the evening of Tuesday, 17 September 57 it was the unanimous decision of those present that the two personages as put forward by the new lady members of the club to serve on the Committee for the remainder of the 1957 Season, namely Miss P Mercer and Miss J Ricketts be duly elected as from this date.

Signed.....

Date.....





*Roman re-creations days with members of Bath Dolphin S. C. in the Roman Baths.*



*Pauline Rawling, a member of Bath Dolphin S. C. teaching adults to swim at the Royal Baths. Some of those being taught are Mrs. Mabel Grace, Miss Joan Mathew and Reg Payne.*



*Dennis Toogood, winner of the men's freestyle championship cup with, left, John Walker and right, Jim Cairney - 1957*



*Dennis Toogood, Mens 100 Freestyle 1957 - 1959, Pauline Banks, 100 Freestyle 1958 - 1960, and Fred Tandy, Diving Championship 1958*



*Western Counties Barton Hall Training Course, Torquay. From left to right, Pauline Rawlings, Margaret Griener, Fiona Sierer, Graham Cutting and Ruth Parsons, 1960*



*Western Counties Barton Hall Training Course, Torquay. From left to right, Back, Eddie Tooby, Chris Ware, Graham Cutting, Front, Ruth Parsons, Barbara Chandler and Juliet King, 1961.*

## *RECORD BREAKERS*

1959 was a memorable year for Bath swimming when Miss Pauline Banks and Miss Sylvia Probert each won Western Counties ASA championships in record times, Pauline capturing the Women's 100 yards freestyle and Sylvia the Girls 100 yards backstroke. In the following year Sylvia became the first Bath swimmer to win a national title - the Girls 100 yards backstroke - an outstanding achievement which brought honour not just to the city but to Somerset and the West of England.

1960 also saw the emergence of a boy swimmer who was destined to make his mark for many years to come. Competing in the Somerset ASA boys 100 yards freestyle Graham Cutting won the championship and thus became the first Bath entrant to do so for ten years. Twelve months later he went one better and claimed the Western Counties title. In 1962 he swam the fastest ever time over 100 yards by a Bath swimmer, clocking 55 seconds to break V K Miller's twenty one year club record of 59.2 seconds. Even more notable was the fact that a new Somerset record was set. The dawn of age group championships had yet to arrive which made these successes all the more commendable in that, as far as junior competition was concerned, the sole age group was up to 16 years making the winning of a championship that much more challenging.

In 1960 life saving instruction again featured in the club's curriculum under the direction of John Dagger, the Dolphin representative to the Royal Life Saving Society. The quality of instruction in that year was borne out by the number of passes in the RLSS examinations (17) ranging from a bar to the Award of Merit to five bronze medallions. John himself gained the Royal Life Saving Society's highest qualification - the Diploma - in 1962. It is appropriate at this point to acknowledge the co-operation he, as baths superintendent and his predecessors together with their staff gave the Dolphin club during its tenure at Beau Street. The 'uniform' the attendants wore in those days was in stark contrast to that worn by the staff at the Sports Centre today. The men were attired in lightweight white jackets and grey trousers and the ladies in simple white overalls. Their duties were by no means easy especially when the pool was crowded but their contribution to safety, particularly when the diving stage was operational, cannot be underestimated.

The original diving stage was of wooden construction but age inevitably took its toll and it was replaced by a steel framework. Nevertheless, when related to the depth of the water (5'6") immediately beneath the platforms it was obvious that there was an inherent danger to divers. There was also a strong possibility that, unless great caution was exercised, a collision between a diver and swimmer could occur. Eventually, with the exception of a one metre board, the rest of the stage was deemed out of bounds.

Diving had formed an integral part of the club's activities and right up to its demise had provided some keen contests, not least when the likes of A O (Tony) Wyth and R F (Fred) Tandy took part. Both members were ideally built for diving but their abilities were equally good when swimming and at water polo with each gaining county recognition. Both men were committee members for several years Fred fulfilling the duties of Hon Secretary from 1960-1972.

It was a sad day when regular water polo suffered the same fate as diving but the club had lost so many players over a short space of time that it was found impossible to continue. What happy memories the surviving old players have!

The mid-sixties produced some excellent performances from club members notably those of Christopher Nott and Dennis Brackstone who won the Western Counties Junior 100 yards freestyle and Western Counties Junior 100 yards breaststroke titles respectively on the same afternoon at Exmouth in 1965. Both Chris and Dennis were already Somerset champions in the same events when they took the district honours.



*Mai Lee, Winner of the Western Counties 11-years Breaststroke Competition pictured with George Allan and Jim Derrick*

1964 saw the start of the Somerset County Age-Group Competitions in which the pioneering young Dolphin representatives played a prominent role. Two years later eleven members represented Somerset in the West finals and of this number four went on to swim for the district in the national finals. Only five other swimmers were selected from the rest of Somerset.

Outstanding amongst age group competitors during this period was Mai Lee, winner of the Western Counties 11 years breaststroke competition. It was a proud moment for Mai and for her club when she subsequently proved herself to be one of the top age group contestants in the country. Certainly she was one of the best swimmers ever produced by Bath Dolphin.

Another innovation, the formation of the Western Swimming League, made its debut in 1967. Bath Dolphin were founder-members and acquitted themselves well finishing eighth out of fifteen clubs in the only division at the time.



*Members of Bath Dolphin taking part in the Bath Carnival in the 1960s*



*Graham Cutting receiving the Lord De Blaquiere's Vase from Mrs. Cookson, President of Somerset A.S.A. 1964*



*Graham Cutting and Sylvia Probert, Sylvia was National Champion in the Girl's 100 yards Backstroke*



*Rath Parsons, a well known Bath diver being congratulated by Albert Avery  
(See Roll of Honour 1910 at page 22)*



*Bath Dolphin Swimming Club Annual Social at Smith's Assembly Rooms, Bath in the 60s.*



*Club Members at a Social at Smith's Assembly Rooms in the 1960s. From left to right, Corinne Fearn, Dennis Brackstone, Deborah Lloyd, Graham Cutting, Lorraine Larcombe and Chris Nott.*





*From left to right, Jim Derrick, Tom Coles, Dennis O'Brien, George Allan and Reg Lucas, 1965.*



*Jim Derrick's installation as President of Somerset at Pratts Hotel, Bath, 1967.*



*Swimmers at a Gala in Beau Street in 1968, from left to right, Jeff Nott, Hamilton McKee, Dennis Tosgood, Lindsey Roberts, Rosie Lucas, Jim Derrick, Councillor R. F. Emmerson Mayor of Bath, Louise Coomfort and Sally Sawyer*



*Annual Club Dinner at Pratts Hotel in 1970*



*Club Members making a toast to the Club at an Annual Dinner at Pratts Hotel. From left to right, D. Toogood, Mrs. D. Toogood, Jim Derrick, S. Lane, G. Cutting, Mrs. B. Cutting, and F. Tandy*



*Men's 100 yard Backstroke Championship, 1969. Graham Cutting, Martin Russell and Dennis Toogood, Competitors in a Club Gala at Beau Street Baths*

## *CITY'S NEW POOL*

The prospect of a new large pool for the city had long occupied the thoughts of interested parties but it was not until 1970 that a concerted effort was made to help bring hopes to fruition, Dolphin treasurer Jim Derrick organising a petition which attracted no less than 2700 signatories. In 1956 the Royal Swimming Bath had undergone a complete transformation which included a 'dry dock' at the shallow end for treatment of hospital patients the work having been part funded by the National Health Service. Many figures from the medical world attended the re-opening ceremony performed by a famous channel swimmer of the day, Tom Blower. The Dolphins were invited to give a demonstration of swimming techniques embracing the relatively new butterfly stroke and water polo training. So much glass surrounded the pool that care with the ball was the watchword. The absence of spectator accommodation necessitated a small platform being placed over the deep end for the benefit of the watching guests.

The improvements to the Royal Bath were welcome but there was no denying the need for a major new facility in the city. With recovery from the war still proceeding it was, perhaps, a shade optimistic to expect such a pool during the fifties. However, with the advent of the seventies positive steps were taken to realise the dreams of club members and the wider public alike. Initially, the move towards a building devoted entirely to swimming was considered. One site suggested was at the river end of Avon Street (now occupied by the coach park) but it was decided instead to incorporate a pool within a centre which would accommodate a variety of sports (the 'dry-side'). The chosen area was at the southern boundary of the Recreation Ground and included part of the pavilion forecourt. A pool 25 metres in length was a strong option but Bath Dolphin successfully advocated one of 33 1/3rd metres - similar to those being built by authorities elsewhere. The wheel has now come full circle and in line with ASA recommendations the length was reduced to 25 metres in 1996. At the same time a 'fun-pool' replaced the the small pool which had been added to the sports centre a few years after its opening.

A large gathering assembled at the Bath Sports & Leisure Centre on the morning of Thursday, 30th October 1975 to witness HRH The Princess Anne formally declare the building open.

It was a touch ironic that Bath Dolphin Swimming Club which had campaigned ceaselessly for a new pool had to wait before transferring its activities from Beau Street Baths which continued to be used. Finally, on July 10th, 1976 the club 'dipped its collective toes' in the pool when it was allowed to use the sports centre for its summer gala. So successful was the event that the autumn and winter galas were also moved from Beau Street. Then on Tuesday, 7 February 1978 the club was granted one year's trial for club sessions at the sports centre and has, of course remained ever since. During the interim the two Dolphin clubs discussed the possibility of amalgamation (shades of 1957?) the object being to help offset the anticipated higher booking fees. It was not to be and, sadly Bath Dolphin Women's Swimming Club (as it had become) came to an end. The splendid club trophies for whom generations of swimmers had competed over the years were subsequently donated to the Western Counties Amateur Swimming Association and Somerset County ASA. The cash at bank was shared between the clubs in Somerset supporting swimmers with disabilities.



*In recognition of his achievements at Moscow, Olympic Gold Medalist Duncan Goodbue is presented with a silver salver from Dennis Toogood, President of Somerset County A.S.A., at Bath Sports Centre. John Dogger, our RLSS representative is seated.*



*Jim Derrick, Debbie Toogood, Dennis Toogood President of S.C.A.S.A., Dennis O'Brien, Graham Cutting, Barbara Cutting President of Bath Dolphin S.C. 1980*



*Presidents Four, pictured at Annual Dinner in 1984 held at the Civil Service Club. From left to right, Geoff Heyland President of Somerset, Stella Margetta A.S.A. National President, Graham Cotting Western Counties President and Jim Derrick Bath Dolphin President.*



*Julian Clark, Men's 4X1 Individual Medley, Men's 100m Backstroke, Men's 100m Breaststroke, Rachel Clark, Women's 100m Freestyle, Women's 100m Backstroke, Women's 4X1 Individual Medley, 1984 Championships*



*1984 Championships, Ian Wilkins, Boy's 100m Freestyle, Boy's 4X1 Individual Medley, Boy's 100m Backstroke, Boy's 100m Breaststroke, Boy's 100m Butterfly*



*Dennis Toogood, Winner of a medal at the ASA Masters Championships held in Weymouth in 1985*



*Jubilant Bath Dolphin celebrate their victory in the Inter-club swimming gala at Bath Sports Centre 1989*

Following the successes of the previous decade competitive fortunes took a downturn in the early seventies with the female members proving themselves the mainstay of the club. The situation was such that it was decided to re-organise the training programme at the Tuesday club nights. This action appeared to produce the desired effect especially for the junior swimmers who, after all, represented the future as did the young learners who flocked to the Cross Bath where it was necessary to institute a waiting list.

Matters improved to the extent that county badges (awarded after three appearances for Somerset) were again being won. Then in 1973 two leading members; David Young and Jane Lewis gained a rare honour for the club in that both qualified for the National Life Saving Competition Finals at Coventry.

A year earlier another Bath Dolphin, Helen Clare, temporarily left her skills in the water to international selection on land by being chosen to play for the England under 18 volleyball team.

1979/80 marked the beginning of a long association between Bath Dolphin and Prior Park College where both squad swimmers and learners / improvers benefited from the indoor pool under the direction of Eric Tompkinson who had secured the facility for Bath Dolphin. The pool really came into its own in 1983 when the Sports Centre pool was closed down for eight months for extensive repairs. As a result all three club championship galas scheduled for that year were cancelled and competitive swimming had to be conducted entirely on an away basis but at least the club had a headquarters from which to operate.

1979 also saw the appointment of the first woman president of Bath Dolphin Swimming Club when Mrs Barbara Cutting succeeded C L (Laurie) Jenkin who in 1976 had followed in the footsteps of his contemporaries who had become members in the twenties - Jim Derrick, Preston Jones and Charles Groves. Barbara completed a unique 'double' in 1990 when she was elected the first female life-member of the club. In the second year of her presidency membership soared to an unprecedented 500-plus. Following the death of Jim Derrick she took over the duties of Hon Treasurer having already served as competition secretary for nineteen years and, having relinquished that post, has held the financial reins for thirteen years.

In 1984/85 Dolphins commissioned locally based ASA Principal Tutor Rick Cross to prepare a comprehensive report on the swimming, teaching and coaching aspects of the club. The course of action recommended was to lay the foundations of the system employed today.

The early eighties had not been particularly happy including a fall in membership in 1982. Paradoxically, the financial statement for that year revealed a healthy profit. It was also a year notable for the club chairman Dennis Toogood for his efforts in the Western Counties ASA Masters Tournament at Tiverton. A first place in his division of the 100 metres backstroke and runners-up spot in the 100 metres freestyle won for Dennis the club's Lord de Blaquiere Vase for the best performance by a senior in 1982.

A new post - that of Head Teacher - was created in 1983, Dennis O'Brien assuming the responsibility which he continues to exercise today.

In 1986 the competition squad enjoyed a welcome revival and had genuine prospects of a brighter future. One year later Paul Sartain was elected as coach, a position he retains in 1999. His appointment followed another seemingly interminable closure of the main Sports Centre Pool. It was a problem overcome by the use of the centre's small pool on Tuesdays, four nights a week at Prior Park and co-operation of the Keynsham Swimming Club.



# *Bath Dolphin Swimming Club*

## *Colour Section*



*Jon Marshall at an open meet.*



*Jon Marshall and Paul Sartain (Club Coach), National Age Groups Crystal Palace 1989*



*Shawn Justice, 12, at the National Age Group Championships, Leeds, 1990*



*A presentation to Lucy Marshall at the Somerset Age Groups in 1990 by Reg Holman, a member of Bath Dolphin and President Somerset ASA.*



*Members of Bath Dolphin who represented the club at the National Age Group Championships in 1995. From left to right front, Oliver Lutken, Daniel Rawlings, Daniel Turner. Back, Chris Hilliard, Oliver Marshall, Caroline Streatfield and Jon Sagers.*



*Bath Dolphin Junior Squad with trophies won at Bristol North Diddy Gala 1997 including Top Club trophy*



*Dixie Brake, Junior Squad Coach, with James Kelly, Bristol North Diddy Gala 1997*



*Oliver Marshall, Club Representative at National Age Group Championships at Leeds 1997.*



*Marion McNab, Jacqui Bath (nee Liddiard), Phil Brake, coach, Matt McNab in Sheffield for the VT World Masters, June 1996.*



*Boys 14/15 years relay team at the National Age Group Championships at Coventry in 1997.*



*Marion McNab at Milfield with Graham Cutting, Hon. Secretary WCAASA, (right) Dennis Toogood Hon. Treasurer, WCAASA*

The outstanding feat by a Bath Dolphin in 1989 was that of Jon Marshall who took 7th place in the final of the boys 100 metres breaststroke (12 years) at the National Age-Group Championships staged at London's Crystal Palace. Jon also took the gold medal in the corresponding event at the Western Counties Age-Group Championships. His sister Lucy won the bronze in the girls 100 metres breaststroke (11 years) and Shaun Justice the bronze in the boys 100 metres breaststroke (11 years). Jon's achievements at national and district level won for him the title 'Bath Sportsman of the Year' and thereby becoming the first ever winner of the accompanying trophy. 1990 saw Lucy Marshall winning two silvers and Shaun Justice one silver at the district age-groups. Both swimmers qualified for the ASA 'Nationals' at Leeds for the second successive year.

One year on Lucy not only reached the final in the ASA National Championships but captured third place and with it the bronze medal. Competing in the Western Counties Age-Groups in the same year Lucy won a silver and a bronze, Jon three silvers and Shaun a silver. Not to be outdone, the boys teams (10 years) won silver medals at the 1992 Western Counties district age-groups in the freestyle and medley events. Team (both events): Philip Blake, David Butler, Oliver Marshall and Stuart Moore. The club was again represented at the national finals in 1995 and 1996 by Daniel Turner and Caroline Streatfield respectively.

The 1997 Western Counties championships resulted in a gold for the boys 13/14 years team consisting of Daniel Rawlings, Jon Sayers, Chris Hilleard and Daniel Turner.

In 1998 Daniel Rawlings and Oliver Marshall (brother of Jon and Lucy) travelled to the National Age-Groups as did the boys 15/16 years freestyle team comprising Oliver Marshall, Daniel Rawlings, Daniel Turner and Oliver Laken. Oliver Marshall also qualified for the Winter Short Course Nationals. Not surprisingly, the club also made its mark in the Somerset championships in both team and individual contests during this period.

Having enjoyed increasing popularity for several years Masters competition culminated, so far as Great Britain was concerned, in the staging of the World Masters Championships at Ponds Forge, Sheffield. Three Dolphins, Matt McNab, Marion McNab and Jacqui Bath (nee Liddiard) took part to thus become the first members to appear in World Masters competition. Marion took fifth place in the 100 metres freestyle, sixth in the 100 metres butterfly-stroke and seventh in the 50 metres freestyle and butterfly in her section - a superb return.

Members, headed by Graham Cutting as Director of Swimming, assisted in the swimming events at the European Youth Olympics held in Bath in 1995. As in the main Olympic Games, swimming played a major role. A temporary boom was placed across the Sports Centre pool in order to reduce the length from 33 1/3rd metres to 25 metres.

Paul Sartain, his coaching colleagues Philip and Dilys Brake and the team of qualified teachers headed by Dennis O'Brien have accomplished much since the first of the surveys by Rick Cross. Prospects, dare it be said, look highly promising for the start of Bath Dolphin Swimming Club's second one hundred years.

Following its temporary reduction in length for the 1995 European Youth Olympics the Bath Sports and Leisure Centre pool was permanently reduced to 25 metres in 1996 and at the beginning of 1999 Omega Electronic Timing Equipment was installed.

The construction of a 50 metres 8-lane pool at the University of Bath was completed in 1997 - one of only a handful of indoor Olympic size pools in the country - and one used as a training base by Great Britain's elite squad swimmers. Representatives from local clubs, including Bath Dolphin SC, have been able to take advantage of this facility which was undreamed of not so very long ago. In 1993 the club's link with Prior Park College came to an end and activities transferred to Kingswood School where a limited operation had been functioning since 1991.

Of the pools so familiar to earlier generations only the excavated site of the Beau Street Baths remain, the Royal Bath, as stated, has vanished completely and the venerable Cleveland Open-Air Baths long since closed but remains as part of a private household. Only the Cross Bath, the oldest of all, is still as it was with the exception of a roof since the founding of the club one hundred years ago. However, the land on which Beau Street Baths was built will form a part of the new 'Bath Spa' for which funding from the National Lottery was granted in 1997.

During the nineties consistent progress has been made through the Speedo (Western) League, the galas for which take place in the late autumn each year. It was not always so, the club resigning its membership at one point in the early seventies in addition to which a decision was taken by the committee not to arrange or travel to inter-club contests. Records show that this action was considered necessary due to 'a lack of co-operation from swimmers and officials'. Fortunately, the problems were resolved and before long Bath Dolphin once again competed against fellow clubs. Promotion to higher echelons in the league became something of a habit for the club in the nineties - from Division Three through to Divisions Two and One followed by a prized place in the 1998 Premier Division, a status preserved for 1999. The younger members swimming in the Southern Junior League (9-12 years) reached a creditable ninth position in 1998, the highest the club has attained in the competition's short history.



*The Floral Tableau in the Royal Victoria Park 1999*

## ***PRESIDENTS THREE***

Up to and including 1956 only three members - J C Richardson 1910, G E Allan 1950 and T J Coles 1956 had been honoured with the presidency of the Western Counties ASA and twenty years were to elapse before another member, Dennis O'Brien, was elected in 1976. Graham Cutting followed in 1984 and Dennis Toogood in 1995.

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Of the present club membership, Dennis O'Brien has had the longest connection with swimming.

He joined the Gillingham (Kent) club in 1939 and during his time there served as captain, fixture secretary and finally as general secretary. He moved to Bath with the Admiralty in December 1951 and shortly after his arrival was persuaded to become the secretary of the Admiralty (Bath) SC. In 1965 he became the first Somerset County ASA President to be appointed from the Navy Department in Bath.

It was Dennis Toogood, the Somerset County ASA Hon Treasurer, who 'invited' him to become the county Hon Secretary. Little could he have realised that he would occupy the post of secretary for a quarter of a century (1966-1991). Following the dissolution of his own club, consequent upon the closure of Beau Street Baths, he joined Bath Dolphin and quickly established himself. There followed a second term as county president in 1992 and club president from 1991-1994. He is currently the county's facilities officer.



*Dennis O'Brien, President, Western Counties ASA 1976*



*What a good year for Richard Toogood 1988*



Occupying the pivotal position of chairman Dennis Toogood has worked tirelessly for the club for over forty years. His first contact came as a result of a cub scout gala where he was spotted by Jim Derrick who encouraged him to join Bath Dolphin. He left Bath at the age of 14 to enter Nottingham's Trent College which embraced exceptional sports facilities which included a 25-yard pool. Hardly surprising that as a sporting all-rounder he took full advantage and gained athletics, rugby and swimming colours as well as the Award of Merit of the RLSS.

Although absent from Bath for much of the year he maintained holiday contact with the club and, upon resuming as a permanent member developed quickly into a competitive swimmer and water polo player. He was duly recognised by Somerset and swam for the county in the backstroke. In 1980 he was appointed Somerset County ASA President.

A chartered accountant by profession his expertise has proved invaluable to those swimming organisations with which he has been associated. He is Hon Treasurer of the Western Counties ASA and has been since 1976 following a similar assignment with Somerset County ASA in the early 1960s. In 1994 he was presented with the ASA Gold Pin Award for services to swimming. At the Western Counties ASA November Executive 1999 Dennis was chosen to become President - Elect of the Amateur Swimming Association from February 2000. This will lead to the post of President of the Governing Body of swimming as from February 2001. Apart from being club chairman he is a trustee and has dutifully audited the club's books for more years than he cares to remember. He took Bath Dolphin Swimming Club into its Centenary as President.



*Dennis Toogood, President WC-ASA 1995 and his wife, Debbie Toogood*

**WEST**  
**Graham Cutting**

It is with great sadness that we have to report the sudden death on June 17th of our District Secretary, Graham Cutting. Graham, aged 54 years, loved our sport and put so much into it at all levels. A member of Bath Dolphin Swimming Club, he became President of Somerset ASA in 1977, President of Western Counties in 1984 and District Secretary in 1994, since when

he was one of our representatives on the ASA Committee. An excellent administrator, Graham's professionalism shone through in all that he did and his approachable nature endeared him to all who knew him.

It was only three months ago that Graham retired after a very successful career in the Avon and Somerset Constabulary, and many will recall that he was awarded the Queen's Police Medal in the New Year's Honours List. Graham will be greatly missed!



■ Graham smiles after winning the 50m freestyle at last year's Western Counties Masters Championships. (DSOM)

*Extract from The Swimming Times August 1999*

# **GRAHAM CUTTING**

## **QPM**

### **1945 - 1999**

The sudden and totally unexpected passing of Graham Cutting cast a deep shadow over the Centenary Year. Graham died within days of his anticipated succession to the club presidency due at the Annual General Meeting of June 25<sup>th</sup>. The great esteem in which he was held was exemplified at his funeral at the Parish Church of St. John in Keynsham. Every seat in the building was occupied for what was a moving and dignified service.

Graham, a former Chief Superintendent in the Avon and Somerset Constabulary made a great contribution to swimming and to life-saving both competitively and in administration.



*Graham Cutting, President, Western Counties ASA 1984*

As a member of the executive board of the Amateur Swimming Federation of Great Britain he attended meetings as a representative to the European Swimming Union Congress in Athens, Dusseldorf and Cyprus and was a representative to the world governing body of swimming (FINA) at the Masters Championships held in Casablanca in 1998.

As secretary of the Western Counties ASA he had a place on the national committee of the Amateur Swimming Association and the Amateur Swimming Federation of Great Britain and officiated at all levels from club to international competition.

For twelve years he was the Honorary Secretary for the West Region of the Royal Life Saving Society before retiring in 1992.

He achieved success as a swimmer at both district and county championships and captained the Western Counties on a number of occasions. During the sixties he was appointed county swimming coach and in 1977 was elected president of Somerset County ASA.

Early tribute from the club to Graham was paid when the Centenary 50 metre sprint gala on July 9<sup>th</sup> was renamed 'The Graham Cutting Memorial Gala'. This event will become an annual event sponsored by Bath and North East Somerset Council. In addition they have also sponsored 'The Graham Cutting Memorial Trophy' to be presented annually to a volunteer worker in the membership of Bath Dolphin Swimming Club.

It was entirely appropriate that Graham's wife, Barbara, should assume the mantle of president of Bath Dolphin for the foreseeable future.

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**Members of Bath Dolphin Swimming Club who have held the office of  
President of Western Counties Amateur Swimming Association**

1910 J. C. RICHARDSON

1950 G. E. ALLAN

1956 T. J. COLE

1976 D. T. O'BRIEN

1984 G. A. F. CUTTING

1995 D. V. TOOGOOD

And what became of the wartime schoolboy 'who was lucky enough to buy a second-hand costume'? A late starter, he was not to know when he had his first lesson in the 'Tuppenny-Hot' that one day he would be the longest-serving member of the club covering fifty-six years.

In this Centenary Year of 1999 Maurice Deacon has recorded twenty-seven years as Hon Secretary (still four short of Mr Crook's record) and thirteen as one of the trustees of Bath Dolphin having first joined the committee in 1951. He was one of that happy band of water polo players who paid a half-crown (12 1/2p) for the privilege of playing a match when the club's finances were in a parlous state. He had first played the game whilst doing National Service with the Army in the Far East and made his debut for the club at Taunton in 1950. Running parallel with his 'exploits' in the water he wrote a weekly swimming/water polo column in the sports edition of the 'Chronicle'.

Perhaps Jim Derrick should have the last word. Turning to his latest water polo recruit he said 'You've got prospects - but you must improve your swimming'. The newest arrival in the squad never did improve his swimming but was content to serve the club in other directions for the next forty-nine years which included the presidency from 1994-1997.

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**Members of Bath Dolphin Swimming Club who have held the office of  
President of Somerset County Amateur Swimming Association**

1921 F. G. WARWICK

1928 A. E. MEYER

1937 F. CARE

1947 MISS D. HARRISON - LADIES SECTION

1953 G. E. ALLAN

1965 D. T. O'BRIEN

1967 J. E. DERRICK

1971 MRS P. F. SALTER - LADIES SECTION

1977 G. A. F. CUTTING

1980 D. V. TOOGOOD

1989 R. V. HOLMAN

1992 D. T. O'BRIEN

2000 P. F. BRAKE

## ***THE CENTENARY YEAR - 1999***

The first event of Bath Dolphin Swimming Club's Centenary Year was a disco held on Saturday 9th January 1999 at Bath Cricket Club with which organisation Bath Dolphin has established a happy relationship in recent years. Annual Dinners and other social events now take place within the cricket club's pavilion which has proved itself an ideal venue.

The visit of the Alkmaar Swimming Club (De Alkmaarse Waterratten) from Holland between April 1st and 6th was particularly welcome (see 'The Dutch Connection' in the main text). The four-year cycle could not have worked in a more appropriate way. The bi-annual contest, won by Bath Dolphin, was honoured by the presence of the Mayor of Bath (Councillor Ray Cliffe, MBE) and the Mayoress. All concerned, officials, hosts and visitors alike will have many happy memories - only one of which caused a problem. Returning from a day trip around Somerset on Easter Sunday the Alkmaar coach broke down at High Littleton on the homeward journey to Bath. A rescue operation was put into effect and all the passengers returned safely thanks to a convoy of Dolphin members' cars. There followed a race against time to make the coach roadworthy for the Alkmaar contingent's return home on Easter Tuesday. All went well and the party proceeded through the Channel Tunnel en route for North Holland after a farewell party the evening before.

As a result of the Mayor's presence at the Alkmaar gala the Management Committee were invited to a reception at the Mayor's Parlour on the 19<sup>th</sup> May and all were made most welcome.

The Dolphin club championship galas for 1999 were held on June 11th and November 19th and had the added distinction of being 'Centenary Galas'. In addition, a BDSC Short Course Centenary Sprint Championships Meet was staged on 9th July under the title of 'The Graham Cutting Memorial Gala', sponsored by Bath and North East Somerset Council.

A civic reception was held at the Roman Baths on 5th September at the invitation of the Mayor.

**A listing of all the members and friends who attended is at the end of the book.**

Bath and North East Somerset Council acknowledged the Dolphin contribution to Bath's many activities in the form of a floral tableau of three Dolphins in the Parade Gardens. Its first public viewing was at the Bath Spring Flower Show in the Royal Victoria Park during the May Bank Holiday weekend, subsequently the tableau was situated in the Parade Gardens for the duration of summer.

The Annual Dinner on October 22nd became the 'Centenary Dinner' and invitations to attend were accepted by the presidents of the Western Counties ASA (Mr. R Margetts from Torquay) and of Somerset County ASA (Mr J. Merritt from Clevedon) and their partners. Also invited were Mr. and Mrs. D. Littlewood. (Mr Littlewood had been the driving force behind the floral tableau in the Parade Gardens). During the evening the new 'Graham Cutting QPM Memorial Trophy for Volunteers in Swimming' was presented to Mrs. Ann Hancock in recognition of her many years of loyal service to Bath Dolphin. The trophy was also sponsored by Bath and North East Somerset Council.

On 6<sup>th</sup> November Mr. Philip Brake of Bath Dolphin became President of Somerset County ASA.

Philip was installed at the Somerset County AGM which was held in Bath. Not to be outdone, the club Chairman Mr. Dennis Toogood, secured on 10<sup>th</sup> November confirmation, by the Western Counties ASA Executive Committee, of his appointment as ASA President elect for the year 2000 leading to the Presidency of the governing body of the sport of swimming in the year 2001.

Polo shirts with a 'Centenary Logo' were also made available to members during the year. Finally on December 11<sup>th</sup> a closing centenary celebration was held at the University of Bath Senior Common Room, the theme was - Socialising - Entertaining - Music and Buffet.



*Bath Dolphin Swimming Club Trustees with the Mayor of Bath, Councillor John Bailey and the Mayoress, at the Civic Reception given by the Mayor in the Roman Baths on September 5th 1999 in honour of the club Centenary.*



*Bath Dolphin Centenary Flower Arrangements in the Parade Gardens, Bath, courtesy of Bath Parks Department*



*The Bath Dolphin Squad for the Centenary Year 1999 at Bath Sports & Leisure Centre.*



*Club Coach, Paul Sartain (Left) with fellow teachers and coaches - October 1999. Philip Brake, Joan Maynard, Steve Villiard, Dennis O'Brien (Head Teacher), Dilyr Brake and Joan Moore.*



*Centenary Dinner October 1999. Robert Margetts WFC-ASA, Barbara Cutting BDSC, John Merritt SC-ASA.*



*Philip Brake after his installation as President of Somerset County ASA on Saturday 6th November 1999 at the Civil Service Club, Bath.*



*Centenary Dinner October 1999. Left to right, Mrs. Jill Deacon, Mr. Maurice Deacon, Mrs D. Littlewood, Mr. David Littlewood, Mrs Christine Margetts, Mr Robert Margetts (President WFC-ASA)*



*Catenary Dinner October 1999. (Right to left) Mr. John Merritt (President Somerset County ASA), Mrs. Judy Merritt, Mr. Neil Cutting, Mrs. Barbara Cutting (President Bath Dolphin).*



*David Littlewood making a presentation of "Floral Tableaux" picture to Barbara Cutting at Catenary Dinner*





*Club Members at the Centenary Dinner - Past President Peter White (far left)*



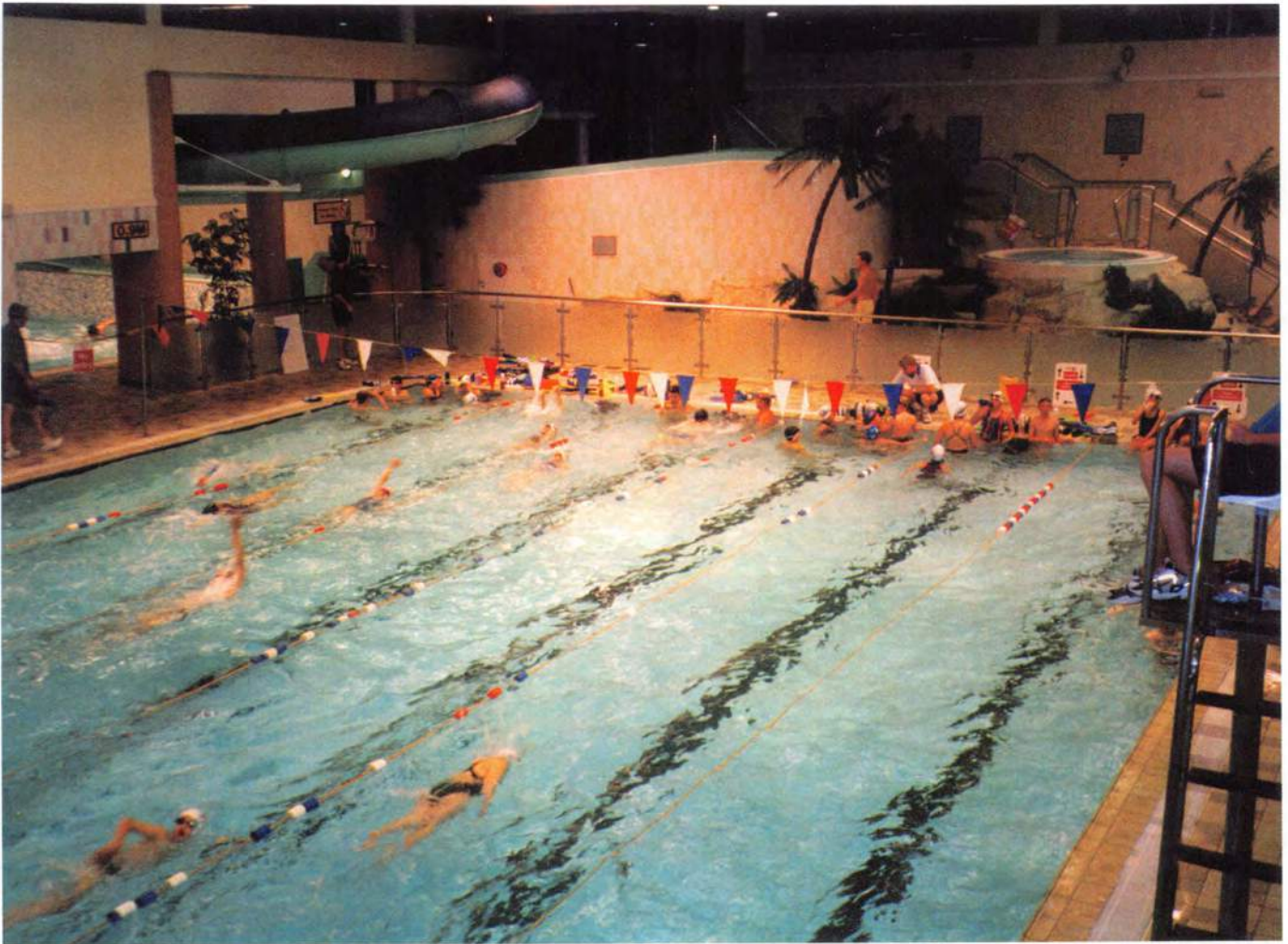
*Mrs. Ann Hancock receiving the Grabau Cutting Memorial Trophy for many years service to Bath Dolphin. The presentation by Barbara Cutting.*



*Volunteers at Work in reception area of Bath Sports & Leisure Centre - November 1999, Left to Right, Ann Hancock, Jacqui Hilliard, Sue Woolley and Dilyr Brake*



*Volunteers relax after Work. Steve Hilliard (blind) Dennis O'Brien, Jacqui Hilliard, Dennis Toogood, Philip Brake, Sue Woolley, Dilyr Brake and Joan Maynard*



*Bath Sports & Leisure Centre, November 1999. 'Bath Dolphin in Action'*



*The VLH Toogood Esq. Vice Presidents Trophy*

# ***BATH DOLPHIN SWIMMING CLUB***

## ***TROPHIES 1999***

<u>Item No</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Goblet engraved Bath Dolphin Swimming Club. Band engraved The President's Trophy Men's Medley Championship.
2	Cup engraved the Ian Montgomery Perpetual Cup 100 yards Backstroke Championship of Bath Dolphin Swimming Club presented by J M Montgomery Esq.
3	Cup engraved The Suliston Cup 100 yards Breaststroke Championship of Bath presented by J E Derrick Esq.
4	Bath Dolphin Swimming Club Founders Trophy 1899 J C Richardson Esq, Men's Freestyle Championship.
5	Cup engraved Bath Dolphin Swimming Club. Band engraved The Spahton Cup Mens Butterfly Championship of Club.
6	Cup engraved Bath Dolphin Swimming Club the Dudfield Trophy Ladies Freestyle Club Championship.
7	The Morton Perpetual Cup 100 yards Ladies Backstroke Championship of Bath presented by F V Morton Esq.
8	The Pickwick Perpetual Bowl 100 yards Ladies Breaststroke Championship of Bath presented by C Derrick Esq.
9	The Monarchy 1000 Trophy Ladies Butterfly Club Championship presented by BDSC
10	The R P Lucas Cup Ladies Senior Medley Championship presented by M R Quartley.
11	Cup engraved The Richardson Challenge Cup 50 yards Junior Championship of Bath presented by the Rev A Richardson, Vicar of Combe Down, Bath.
12	The Crescent Bowl 100 yards Boys Medley Championship presented by T W Derrick .
13	Bowl engraved Bath Dolphin Swimming Club. Band engraved The BDSC Trophy Boys Backstroke Championship.
14	Cup engraved Bath Dolphin Swimming Club. Band engraved The Avon Challenge Cup 1974 Boys Breaststroke Championship.
15	Cup engraved Bath Dolphin Swimming Club. Band engraved The Beau Streer Cup Boys Butterfly Stroke Championship.
16	The Derrick Cup Junior Girls Medley Championship of Bath presented by C Derrick.
17	Cup engraved The Lyndale Trophy Junior Girls Backstroke Championship of the Club in Memory of the late G E Allan.
18	Goblet engraved Bath Dolphin Swimming Club Aquea Sulis Trophy Girls Breaststroke Championship of Bath presented by W C Derrick Esq

- 19 Goblet engraved BDSC The Crisp Memorial Trophy 100 yards Junior Girls Freestyle Championship.
- 20 Cup engraved Bath Dolphin Swimming Club. Band engraved The Anniversary Cup 75th Year Girls Butterfly Stroke Championship.
- 21 Cup engraved Bath Dolphin Swimming Club. Band engraved The Fred Tandy Trophy presented by C. I. Jenkin Esq under 12 years Girls Breaststroke Championships
- 22 The Norman Cottell Trophy.
- 23 The Frank Care Memorial Trophy presented by L. G. Dyke Esq.
- 24 The Percy Morris Memorial Cup presented by J. E. Derrick Esq.
- 25 The Marshall Cup presented by Mrs Marshall.
- 26 The Lord de Blaquiere Challenge Vase.
- 27 Cup engraved entwined cypher RFS Band presented by R. N. Shackell.
- 28 James E. Derrick Esq Memorial Cup 12 years and under 100m Backstroke for Boys.
- 29 Eric J. Tompkinson Esq Trophy 100m Butterfly stroke for Girls 12 years and under.
- 30 Presidential Medallion Ribbon and Bars.
- 31 Mr and Mrs D. T. O'Brien 13/14 years 100m Freestyle for Girls.
- 32 V. L. H. Toogood Esq - Vice President's Trophy 13/14 years 100m Backstroke - Girls.
- 33 V. L. H. Toogood Esq - Vice President's Trophy 13/14 years 100m Backstroke - Boys.
- 34 David Lloyd Memorial Trophy 13/14 years 100m Butterfly for Boys.
- 35 Mark C. S. Toogood Memorial Trophy 13/14 years 100m Breaststroke for Boys.
- 36 Charles Groves Esq Memorial Trophy 13/14 years 100m Breaststroke for Girls.
- 37 Peter White Esq Trophy 13/14 years 100m Butterfly stroke for Girls.
- 38 Charles Groves Esq Memorial Trophy Girls 13/14 years 4 x 1 1M.
- 39 Charles Groves Esq Memorial Trophy Boys 13/14 years 4 x 1 1M.
- 40 Charles Groves Esq Memorial Trophy 100m Freestyle for Boys.
- 41 Charles Groves Esq Memorial Trophy 11/12 4 x 1 1M for Girls.
- 42 Charles Groves Esq Memorial Trophy 11/12 4 x 1 1M for Boys.
- 43 Graham Cutting QPM Memorial Trophy for 'Volunteers' in swimming.

# *Bath Dolphin Swimming Club*

TAKE NOTICE that the 100th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the BATH DOLPHIN SWIMMING CLUB will be held in the Creche at the BATH SPORTS & LEISURE CENTRE on FRIDAY, 25th JUNE, 1999 commencing at 7pm.

## AGENDA

- 1 Appointment of Chairman for the meeting.
- 2 Apologies for absence.
- 3 To read and confirm the minutes of the AGM dated 10th June, 1998.
- 4 To receive:
  - a) The Annual Report - Annex A
  - b) The Coach's Report - Annex B
  - c) The Team Manager's Report - Annex C.
- 5 To receive the Hon. Treasurer's Report and Accounts - Annex D.
- 6 To elect for the ensuing year:
  - The President
  - The Officers
  - The Committee (3 men and 3 women).
- 7 To elect representatives to the Somerset County ASA Executive Committee (2).
- 8 To elect additional representatives to the Somerset County ASA Annual General Meeting (2).
- 9 To elect representatives to the Western Counties ASA Annual General Meeting (3).
- 10 Any other business applicable to the Annual General Meeting.

M DEACON  
Hon Secretary  
Bath Dolphin Swimming Club  
25th May 1999

**BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET SPORTS  
DEVELOPMENT AND MOBIL**

**SUPPORT BATH DOLPHIN SWIMMING CLUB**

## *ANNUAL REPORT - 1998/1999*

Welcome to the 100th Annual General meeting of Bath Dolphin SC - truly a landmark in our club's history.

Unfortunately, no record is available of the inaugural meeting held in 1899 or that of the first annual meeting a year later although the names of some of the original members and their successors can be recalled by the older generation. What is remarkable is that some of the people involved in the early days, if not from the beginning, then at least the pre-First World War era were known to some current members.

One hundred years is a long time but that small piece of information tends to put such a period into perspective. As an example, Mr H W Dudfield (one of the first-ever members) and the present hon secretary actually knew each other. We hasten to add that the latter has a long way to go to reach his personal century - if ever! What an invaluable role Mr Dudfield would have played in the preparation of the Centenary Handbook due to be published shortly.

It is, of course, not possible to review the centenary activities until next year. Suffice to say that events unique to 1999 are ongoing.

As ever, the Annual Dinner in October again proved to be one of the highspots of the year. The respective presidents of the Western Counties and Somerset County ASAs (Mr John Hamblett and Mr Graeme Lock) and their ladies were principal guests. Mr Hamblett was a guest at the club dinner in 1973 when he was county president.

This year's function, to be held on Friday, 22 October, will assume greater significance in that it will be the Centenary Dinner and is expected, therefore, to attract a higher than average attendance.

It is with much regret that we record the death of one of our vice-presidents, Mr C G Babington whose name was synonymous with schools swimming. It is no co-incidence that post-war schools galas at Beau Street Baths flourished from the fifties to the seventies during Mr Babington's active connection with swimming. A former deputy headmaster of Westhill School (Culverhay's predecessor) Mr Babington was in a position to encourage many of his pupils to join Bath Dolphin to the mutual advantage of school and club. He will be remembered by many citizens, not least by those he encouraged to take up swimming.

CONGRATULATIONS and thanks to Anne Hancock for services rendered to the club since 1973 when she was appointed Administration Officer (Cross Bath) and who is better known now as Membership Secretary. She reached the 25-years mark at the beginning of 1998 - an omission from last year's annual report which we are happy to rectify.....

.....to Phil Brake following his election as President-elect of Somerset County ASA. He will thus follow many members who have occupied the county's presidential chair including Dennis Toogood, Graham Cutting, Dennis O'Brien and Reg Holman.

.....to Paul Sartain who was elected as a team coach to the England West team which met in Luxembourg.

.....to Steve Hilleard who was appointed West representative for the BT 'Swimathon'.

.....to Graham Cutting on his award of the Queen's Police Medal at an investiture in Buckingham Palace prior to his retirement from his post of Chief Superintendent in the Avon & Somerset Constabulary.

.....and finally to the members of the competitive squad on the retention of their Premier Division status in the Speedo League 'Western'.

**The schedule of trophy holders in respect of the club championships for 1998 is attached as Annex 'E'.**

## ***COACH'S REPORT - 1998/1999***

### ***1998 WESTERN COUNTIES ASA AGE GROUP COMPETITIONS***

- 1 Another record breaking year with 21 swimmers competing in 83 events, an increase of 5 and 3 respectively on 1997. 33 Top 8 Age Group placings were achieved (8 down on 1997) - this included 2 x 1st, 3 x 2nd and 4 x 3rd. The names of those who took part are detailed below:

Caroline Streatfield	Hannah Wiltshire	Kirby Littlewood
Chris Hilleard	Ian Moore	Nicola Milne
Chrystelle Harris	James Kelly	Oliver Laken
Daniel Rawlings	James Mangecolles	Oliver Marshall
Daniel Turner	Jo Woolley	Paul Robinson
Esther Evans	John Mortimer	Ross Sutton
Francesca Heaven	Jon Sayers	Sophie Shaw

- 2 We had success in the team events by making 5 out of possible 12 finals. A total of 6 new BDSC Western Counties team records were set. For the 2nd year we had a team which qualified for the National Age Group competitions when they came 3rd and posted a time of 1:46.20 in the boys 15/16 years 4x50m Freestyle team - Oliver Laken, Oliver Marshall, Daniel Rawlings and Jon Sayers.

### ***1998 NATIONAL AGE GROUP COMPETITIONS - LEEDS***

- 3 This year we had 2 swimmers who qualified for individual events. Oliver Marshall 100m Backstroke and Daniel Rawlings 50m Freestyle and the boy's 15/16 years 4x50m Freestyle team. Oliver achieved a new personal best time for a 50m pool and Daniel was just 0.3 secs slower than his personal best. Oliver Laken and Daniel Turner joined Oliver and Daniel for the team event. The team was a different configuration to the one that qualified due to Jon Sayers being on holiday and achieved a time of 1:47.27. It is my view that this competition is now approximately 2 weeks too late. It is extremely difficult for swimmers (and coaches come to that!) to stay motivated until early August after a long and tiring season.

### ***1998 WESTERN COUNTIES ASA CHAMPIONSHIPS***

- 4 In 1997, 7 swimmers qualified and competed. In 1998 12 qualified but 9 competed in 25 events - Esther Evans, Chris Hilleard, Kirby Littlewood, Oliver Laken, Oliver Marshall, Sophie Shaw, Daniel Turner, Hannah Wiltshire and Jo Woolley. Particular mention must go to Oliver Marshall for achieving a Silver medal in the junior boys 50m Backstroke in a new Club record (16 years age group) of 28.98 seconds.

### ***1998 SOMERSET COUNTY ASA LONG COURSE SPRINT MEET***

- 5 50 Swimmers competed resulting in 43 Top 8 placings. This included 2 Gold, 9 Silver and 5 Bronze.



# **1999 SOMERSET COUNTY ASA AGE GROUP COMPETITIONS AND CHAMPIONSHIP**

- 6 As reported in the last couple of AGM reports, BDSC has had continuing and improving success in this event. 1999 was another good year despite not having the same level of success in overall terms as recent years. 44 swimmers competed in 235 events (198 events in 1998). For the first time we also competed in every team event (maximum of 16) and made 16 finals. Particular mention must go to the men's 4x50 freestyle team of John Brown, Oliver Marshall, David Maynard and Steve Powell who came 5th by only 3/100ths of a second and set a BDSC Somerset team record in the process - as the old age adage goes "that was a close one!" I would love to list the full results to give each swimmer his/her rightful place but space does not permit, so a precis of achievements is detailed below:
- \* 69% PB success rate - 8% decrease on 1998.
  - \* 75 Top 8 Age Group placings - 9 less than 1998.
  - \* 14 Senior Championship placings - same as 1998.
  - \* 3 Junior Championships placings - improvement of 1 on 1998.
  - \* 2 National Age Group qualifying times - improvement of 1 on 1998.
  - \* 29 and 31 WCASA Age Group and Championship qualifying times respectively.
  - \* 10 Club records.
  - \* 3 BDSC Somerset team records.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

- 7 Education has been, and still is one of the foundations for BDSC improvement and we must ensure that it continues. It has been cemented (there's that pun from last year's report repeated!) again this year with BDSC members successfully completing the following ASA qualifications:

<b>ASA Assistant Teacher</b>	<b>ASA Teacher</b>	<b>ASA Lane Coach</b>	<b>ASA Coach</b>
Julie Barter	Steve Pittard	Steve Hilleard	Phil Brake
Lynn Peer		Steve Powell	Paul Sartain
Steve Powell		Carol Reynolds	
Hannah Rawlings			

## **SQUAD DEVELOPMENT AND THE FUTURE**

- 8 As a result of an identified need, and financial support from B&NES sports development, a Development Squad has been established. Its aim is to cater for swimmers who show potential for consideration for the Squad but do not possess the necessary Squad Consideration times. Although it is still in its infancy it has already proved a valuable and worthwhile venture.
- 9 Looking forward to the new membership year there are plans for a revised Teaching Group and Squad structure. This is essential for BDSC to maintain and improve the level of service it provides its members and ultimately competitive status.
- 10 Finally a big thank you to all the swimmers for their continuing dedication to training and competition and everybody, especially on the Squad side, for their help and support over the past year. Best wishes for 1999/2000.

Paul Sartain  
Club Coach

May 1999

## ***TEAM MANAGER'S REPORT - 1998/1999***

The last year has seen some tremendous performances from our swimmers, in the Speedo League, National, District, County, Junior League competitions as well as Open Meets and Inter-Club galas.

### ***SPEEDO LEAGUE 'WESTERN'***

Due to one of the teams leaving the Speedo league, Bath Dolphin were promoted to the premier division, the first time in the history of the club, the goal the club has been aiming for, for many years.

The first round on October 10th was nerve racking, swimming in our home pool against Cardiff City, Port of Plymouth, Thornlow Tornadoes, Plymouth Leander & Gloucester, the swimmers rose to the challenge, with everyone putting in 100% effort we managed to take fifth place, this however put us in an extremely tough second round draw, along with Millfield School Squad, Swindon Dolphins, Maxwell, Cardiff City & Exeter City. Once again the swimmers pulled out all the stops, with some brilliant swims, we once again managed to hold onto fifth position, taking us into gala three for the third and final round, this time we were up against Maxwell, Swindon Dolphin, North Devon & Caerphilly County Swim Squad, again at our home Pool, and just as before the swimmers did us proud, and we secured fourth place, well away from demotion, we finally finished in 14th position in the league.

### ***SOUTHERN JUNIOR LEAGUE***

Despite the usual problems with team selection and swimmer availability, after three rounds we gained 480 points, more than last year, but due to a tough second round, we finished in 10th position just one place lower than last year.

### ***OPEN MEETS***

The Junior Squad entered the Bristol North Junior Open Meet. Where once again our swimmers were very successful, winning seven gold medals, eight silver medals and five bronze medals. Overall the Club finished in second place.

While the juniors were competing at Bristol North our older swimmers were competing in the Thornbury Fast Water Open Meet at the Millfield School Pool, here we came away with five gold medals, one silver and one bronze which was a brilliant result from just a few swimmers.

A small number of swimmers entered the Swindon Dolphin A & B grade Open Meet the team finished a very creditable second, just one point behind Tigersharks.

### ***INTER-CLUB GALAS***

In September we hosted a gala between ourselves Stroud, Weston Super Mare, Bradford On Avon & Backwell. We had a comfortable win eighteen points ahead of second placed Bradford On Avon. Here we also entered a B team this proved successful.

A team of junior swimmers competed in the Keynsham Junior Gala on October 17th. With 100m swims for the ten year olds and over and 50m swims for the nine year olds (the first time many of them had competed at these distances) the swimmers acquitted themselves well, finishing in third place.

We hosted our first gala of 1999 on January 30<sup>th</sup>, this time we finished in second place, just eight points behind Cardiff City.

The introduction of a development group, for swimmers just outside the squad qualifying times, has also been quite successful, with some of the swimmers from this group finally gaining entry to the squad, and some being selected for galas.

All credit must go to the swimmers and their coaches, for their commitment.

Thank you to them and to the parents for their support.

Steve Hilleard  
Team Manager



*The Eric J Tompkinson Esq Trophy*

# ***BATH DOLPHIN SWIMMING CLUB***

## ***INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT -***

### ***YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1999***

Subscriptions - 270 Members		21852.50
Casual Swimming		1021.60
University of Bath		1365.45
Gala Programmes & Admission (Net)		2104.48
Donations		34.60
		26378.63
Championship Awards & Insurances		390.45
ASA - Kelloggs Awards Scheme		236.90
Donations		140.00
ASA Membership Fees		1292.00
ASA Education Fees for Courses		485.00
WCASA Affiliation Fees		125.50
SCASA Affiliation Fees		337.50
SCASA Handbooks		33.00
League Entries		468.53
General Administration		711.53
Annual Dinner & Socials		-58.61
Kingswood School		535.80
Bath & NE Somerset - Pool Hire		16257.15
University of Bath - Pool Hire		3090.00
Open Meets, Entry Fees & Coaches Costs		2480.80
Coach Hire & Travel Costs		1472.00
BANES Squad		250.00
		28247.55
Equipment Purchases	2885.89	
Equipment Sales	-3564.12	-678.23
		27569.32
Excess of Expenditure over Income		1190.69
SCASA Education Grants		173.75
BANES Action Plan Grant 1998/99 - No. 1		1700.00
BANES Action Plan Grant 1998/99 - No. 2		437.50
Excess of Income over Expenditure		1120.56

I have prepared the above Income & Expenditure Account for the year to 31st March 1999 from the records supplied to me by the Honorary Treasurer of Bath Dolphin Swimming Club.

Dennis V Toogood FCA

25th May 1999

# BATH DOLPHIN SWIMMING CLUB

## CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY

### HOLDERS 1998

TROPHY NUMBER	MALE (M) FEMALE (F)	AGE GROUP	DISTANCE	STROKE	HOLDER
SUMMER GALA (20)					
1	M	17 & over	4x1L	Indiv Medley	D Maynard
3	M	17 & over	100m	Breaststroke	D Maynard
4	M	17 & over	100m	Freestyle	D Maynard
6	F	17 & over	100m	Freestyle	E Evans
8	F	17 & over	100m	Breaststroke	K Harris
10	F	17 & over	4x1L	Indiv Medley	E Evans
13	M	15/16 yrs	100m	Backstroke	O Marshall
15	M	15/16 yrs	100m	Butterfly	O Marshall
17	F	15/16 yrs	100m	Backstroke	C Harris
20	F	15/16 yrs	100m	Butterfly	C Harris
22	M	12 yrs & over	100m	Butterfly	R Sutton
23	F	12 yrs & over	100m	Backstroke	A Travers
27	M	12 yrs & over	100m	Backstroke	P Robinson
29	F	12 yrs & over	100m	Butterfly	A Travers
31	F	13/14 yrs	100m	Freestyle	J Woolley
35	M	13/14 yrs	100m	Breaststroke	C Hilleard
36	F	13/14 yrs	100m	Breaststroke	H Wiltshire
38	F	13/14 yrs	4x1L	Indiv Medley	H Wiltshire
39	M	13/14 yrs	4x1L	Indiv Medley	C Hilleard
40	M	13/14 yrs	100m	Freestyle	C Hilleard
WINTER GALA (20)					
2	M	17 & over	100m	Backstroke	D Maynard
5	M	17 & over	100m	Butterfly	D Maynard
7	F	17 & over	100m	Backstroke	E Evans
9	F	17 & over	100m	Butterfly	E Evans
11	M	15/16 yrs	100m	Freestyle	O Marshall
12	M	15/16 yrs	4x1L	Indiv Medley	O Marshall
14	M	15/16 yrs	100m	Breaststroke	O Marshall
16	F	15/16 yrs	4x1L	Indiv Medley	C Harris
18	F	15/16 yrs	100m	Breaststroke	S Shaw
19	F	15/16 yrs	100m	Freestyle	C Harris
21	F	12 yrs & under	100m	Breaststroke	F Heaven
24	M	12 yrs & under	100m	Freestyle	R Sutton
25	F	12 yrs & under	100m	Freestyle	M Peer
28	M	12 yrs & under	100m	Breaststroke	J Mortimer
32	F	13/14 yrs	100m	Backstroke	H Wiltshire
33	M	13/14 yrs	100m	Backstroke	C Hilleard
34	M	13/14 yrs	100m	Butterfly	C Hilleard
37	F	13/14 yrs	100m	Butterfly	J Woolley
41	F	12 yrs & under	4x1L	Indiv Medley	F Heaven
42	M	12 yrs & under	4x1L	Indiv Medley	R Sutton
OTHER PRESENTATIONS (2)					
26	M/F	Lord De Blaquiere			O Marshall
30	M/F	Presidential Chain			D V Toogood
43	M/F	Graham Cutting QPM Memorial Trophy			

TOTAL NUMBER OF TROPHIES - 43

# *ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS*

**BATH DOLPHIN SWIMMING CLUB** wish to thank the following people for their help and contributions towards the creation of this book.

Bath Central Library

Bath Y.M.C.A.

The Bath Chronicle

The Estate of William ( Bill ) Thomas Cornish - Miss Kathleen Melsom Smith (Niece) of Bath

Kathryn Baber

Mrs. G. Brimble

Mrs. P. Burgess

Mr. V. Butcher

Mrs. M. Dale

Mrs. J. Dawson

Mrs. N. Derrick

Mrs. P. Drew

Mrs. L. Parsons

Mr. W. Patterson

Mr. E. Percival

Mrs. P. Perry

Mrs. M. Smyth

Mr. E. Tooze

Mrs. E. Wyth




*The David Lloyd Memorial Trophy*

Whilst every effort has been made to print the photographs in a chronological order the number of prints offered by our members and friends means that some photographs may be out of sequence within the one hundred years of Bath Dolphin Swimming Club.

# ***MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF BATH DOLPHIN***

who attended the Civic Reception at the Roman Baths on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September 1999

Miss Kristy Barter	Mr Daniel Kennedy
Mrs Brenda Best	Mr Oliver Marshall
Mr Dennis Brackstone	Mr Ian Moore
Mr Philip Brake	Mrs Nicola Netto - Nee Wyth
Mrs Dilys Brake - Nee Hayward	Mr Christopher Nott
Mrs Bray	Mrs Frances Nott
Mr Colin Bush	Mr Trevor Perry
Mrs Sonia Bush - Nee Bray	Mrs Pamela Perry - Nee White
Mrs Gillian Brimble - Nee Pow	Mr Francis
Mr Vin Butcher	Mrs Jean Francis - Nee Pratt
Mr Peter Checketts	Mr Piers Rivington
Mrs Sally Checketts - Nee Sawyer	Mrs Jane Rivington - Nee Lewis
Mr Michael Craigan	Mr Martin Russell
Mrs Vivienne Craigan	Mrs Sue Russell
Miss Clare Craigan	Mr Paul Sartain
Mr Neil Cutting	Mr Steven Sawyer
Mrs Barbara Cutting - Nee Chandler	Mrs Jos Sawyer
Mrs D Cutting - Nee Ogden	Mrs Evelyn Selway - Nee Hayward
Mr John Dagger	Mr Ian Smith
Mrs Phyllis Dancey	Mrs Di Smith
Mr Jack Day	Mrs Mary (Sally) Smyth - Nee Dudfield
Mrs Sandra Day - Nee Lane	Mrs Ann Steedman
Mr Maurice Deacon	Miss Caroline Streatfield
Mrs Jill Deacon	Mr Dennis Toogood
Mr Gordon Denham	Mrs Deborah Toogood - Nee Lloyd
Mrs Alice Denham	Mr Eddie Tooze
Mrs Nina Derrick	Mr Peter White
Mrs Carolyn Grant - Nee Derrick	Mrs Judy White
Mr Royston Hancock	Mrs Ann Wilmington
Mrs Ann Hancock - Nee Chandler	Miss Emma Wise
Mr Christopher Hilleard	Miss Joanne Woolley
Mr Steven Hilleard	Mrs Sue Woolley
Mrs Jackie Hilleard	Miss Claire Worgan
Mr Reg Holman	Mr Nick Wright
Mrs Ruby Holman	Mrs Eve Wyth - Nee Hocking



**Bath Dolphin Swimming Club  
is awarded a grant of**

**£4,500**

**under the Millennium Festival  
Awards for All programme**

8 December 1999



Millennium Festival Awards for All is a joint scheme supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Arts Council of England, Sport England, National Lottery Charities Board, Millennium Commission, in Partnership with New Millennium Experience Company.





# SOMERSET

AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION



**BATH & NORTH EAST SOMERSET**

*Bath & North East Somerset Sports Development  
support Bath Dolphin Swimming Club*

Founded 1899

**BATH DOLPHIN**



**SWIMMING CLUB**

**(Affiliated to Somerset County A.S.A. and Western Counties A.S.A.)**



**BATH & NORTH EAST SOMERSET**