

History of Tyldesley Swimming and Water Polo Club



International Water Polo Honours

Paul Cowburn, Michael Cowburn and Philip Stout represented the England U17s Water Polo Team in an International Tournament in Denmark against Finland, Sweden, Poland and Denmark.

Jennifer Fairhurst as a member of Stretford represented England Ladies.

Paul Cowburn, Michael Cowburn, Philip Stout, Andrew Rigby and Jonathan Stafford were invited to England training.

International Swimming Honours



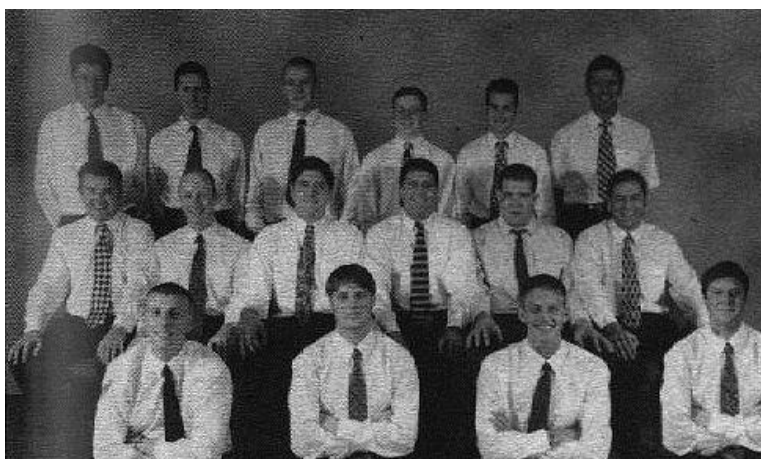
Leanne Stafford
(Photograph by Mr. John Davidson)

Leanne Stafford broke a Welsh record in the 200 m backstroke in the Welsh Age Group competitions. This was a record that had stood since 1990 and Leanne broke the record by two seconds. Later in the year Leanne achieved her first full International Cap for Wales when she competed in Swansea in an International Invitation Gala.

National Age Groups

In the National Age Group competition held at Crystal palace, Richard Hampson won a silver medal in the 200 m butterfly, was eighth in the 100 m butterfly and tenth in the 400 m freestyle. Philip Stout finished fifth in the 200 m butterfly, seventh in the 400 m IM, tenth in the 100 m butterfly and 200 m backstroke and was fifteenth in the 100 m backstroke. Matthew Hampson finished in twelve place in the 200 m butterfly. Kate Ward and Jonathan Stafford both finished in the top twenty five swimmers in the country.

National League & Northern League



Senior Polo Team 1996 (Photograph by Mr. John Davidson)

The Senior Water Polo team maintained their positions in the National League Division 2 and 1st Division Northern League.

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Inter Counties Gala

In the ASA Inter Counties Gala at Sheffield Ponds Forge, Lancashire were represented by Tyldesley swimmers Leanne Stafford, Richard Hampson and Philip Stout and the team finished in fifth place.

Inter Counties Water Polo

Gregg Stott (captain), Paul Cowburn, Philip Stout, Jonathan Stafford, Andrew Rigby, Matthew Cutt and Michael Cowburn represented Lancashire in the ASA U18s Inter Counties tournament.

ESSA Schools Swimming

Richard and Matthew Hampson were selected for the Division 7 Schools team for the ESSA Schools finals.

Northern Counties Honours

Two Tyldesley players represented Northern Counties in the ASA Inter District U20s competition.

Philip Stout (captain), Jonathan Stafford, Andrew Rigby, Michael Cowburn and Matthew Cutt represented Northern Counties in the ASA Inter District U16s competition at Sheffield Ponds Forge and the team won the event.

Northern Counties Long Course

Several Tyldesley swimmers competed in the Northern Counties Long Course in Wigan. Medal winners or final placings went to Kelly Banner, Khalid Jhugroo, Stuart Carlisle, Matthew Hampson, Kate Ward, Richard Hampson, Jonathan Stafford, Philip Stout and Leanne Stafford.

Northern Counties Water Polo

The U18s Water Polo team entered the Northern Counties U18s competition for the 1st time and won it.



Junior Polo Team 1996

(Photograph by Mr. John Davidson)

The U16s Water polo team won the Northern Counties U16s competition for the second year in succession, remaining undefeated and scoring a total of 186 goals in ten matches. The team also reached the semi final of the ASA Youth competition but were beaten by Bristol.

Association Swimming Honours

Michelle Todd, Kate Ward, Kelly Banner, Samantha Greensmith, Stuart Carlisle, Andrew Hurst, Khalid Jhugroo and Christopher Osborne represented Central Lancashire at the Northern Counties Inter Association Gala at Everton Park.

Samantha Greensmith, Kate Ward and Khalid Jhugroo represented Central Lancashire in the Triad Trophy competition against North Lancs and Cumbria.

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Association Water Polo Honours

Gregg Stott (captain), Paul Cowburn, Philip Stout, Jonathan Stafford, Andrew Rigby, Matthew Cutt and Adam Summers represented Manchester & District in the Northern Counties U19s Inter Association tournament.

Michael Cowburn (captain), Robert Bond, Andrew Grime, Richard Harrison and Dominic Derbyshire represented Manchester & District in the Northern Counties U15s Inter Association tournament and the team won the event.

Association Swimming Competitions



Senior Swim Team 1996

(Photograph by Mr. John Davidson)

For the second year in succession the Senior Swim Team finished in first place in the Central Lancashire Senior Swim League. The individual teams achieved some excellent results and first places went to the following teams: gents freestyle, gents medley team, junior gents freestyle, junior gents medley, gents intermediate freestyle, gents intermediate medley and ladies intermediate medley.

Individual winners in the Senior Swim League were Andrew Rigby junior breaststroke, Philip Stout junior butterfly, Jonathan Stafford junior freestyle, Paul Bailey gents butterfly, Michelle Todd junior butterfly and Leanne Stafford senior backstroke. Individual runners up were Richard Hampson junior backstroke, Lee Toone senior freestyle, Polly Derbyshire junior breaststroke, Melanie Fairhurst senior breaststroke and Rachel Giles senior butterfly.

Runners-up medals were received by Lee Toone in the gents senior freestyle, Richard Hampson in the junior gents backstroke, Rachel Giles in the senior butterfly and Polly Derbyshire in the junior breaststroke.



Junior Swim Team 1996

(Photograph by Mr. John Davidson)

The swimming section had a very successful year. In the Junior Swim League the team were champions and were successful in the following age groups - winners: 10 year girls, 10 year mixed, 14 year boys, 16 year boys, 16 year mixed; runners up: 12 year boys, 12 year mixed.

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For the second year in succession the club entered the Central Lancashire Intermediate League to enable its second string swimmers the chance to compete. The swimmers competed well and eventually finished in third position only just missing out on promotion to the first division by one point. A good standard was achieved and the experience was extremely useful for the younger swimmers.

In the Central Lancashire Age Group Knockout competition following an extremely close and competitive gala Tyldesley won in the final against Urmston.

During the course of the year Tyldesley swam in the Central Lancashire Junior Jubilee competition with a series of galas culminating in a final which was held at Urmston Sports Centre. In the A Final the team swam against Howe Bridge Aces, Urmston and Trafford and came out clear winners against some of the strongest teams in the area.

Association Water Polo

In the Manchester & District Shield the U14s finished 3rd.

Tyldesley 120th Anniversary Water Polo Tournament

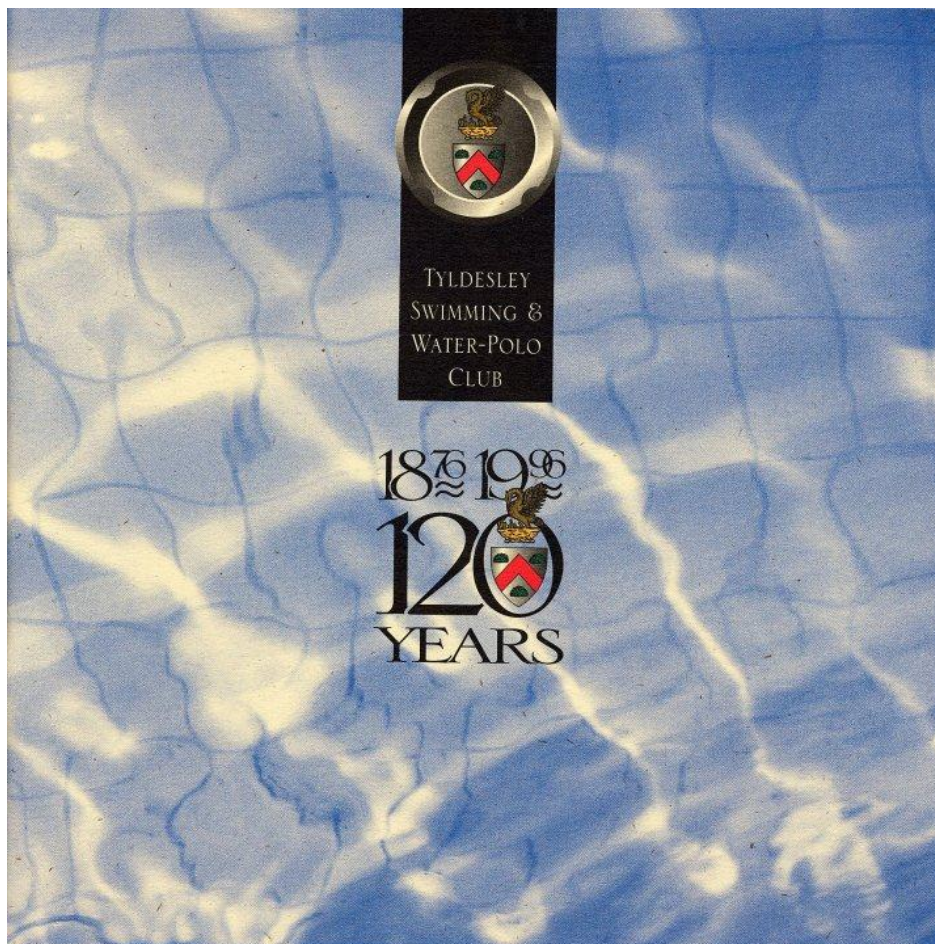
The juniors hosted and won a tournament against Portabello and Stretford. The Scottish visitors stayed overnight at the homes of the Tyldesley players and a buffet was provided after the tournament. The conduct of the Portabello players during the weekend was a credit to their club.

Dennis Topping

For many years Dennis Topping could be seen on poolside coaching first the senior water polo squad and then the junior water polo squad. Dennis was the founder of the junior water polo at Tyldesley when the old senior squad disbanded and over the years gained invaluable experience and expertise in coaching. During the latter part of 1996 Dennis was forced to retire as junior polo coach due to ill health but continued to attend the sessions as a spectator and adviser.

At the AGM in November he also retired as President and was replaced by Mavis Bent. At the Presentation Evening in January 1997 he was awarded the 1996 Northern Counties Fred Moorhouse Water Polo Award for services to water polo. Dennis was the first ever recipient of the award and there was not a dry eye in the house during this tribute. Dennis and Jennie Chadwick were presented with a cut glass decanter for their years of service as Club President.

120th Anniversary



The Forgotten Years booklet

History of Tyldesley Swimming and Water Polo Club



To celebrate the Clubs 120th Anniversary in 1996 a Dinner Dance was organised at the Wendover Hotel, Eccles attended by approx. 230 people. To commemorate the occasion all guests received a boxed Royal Doulton plate with the Tyldesley crest and a specially designed booklet "The Forgotten Years". Throughout the week various events took place including a disco at the Formby Hall which included a buffet, disco and a live band called The Soul Men.

Social Scene

In addition to the 120th Anniversary celebrations other social events included the Presentation Evening, the club holiday to Dolfrig Hall, Wales, a Bavarian night with Willie Messerschmidt and his Oompah Band at Paddys, an Italian Night with a 3 course Italian meal again at Paddys, a barbecue at the Comfortable Gill and the Christmas Party. A Sports sale rounded off the fund raising.