

Dave Hume Swimming Pool Trust  
Chairperson's Report  
25 August 2020

**An extraordinary year**

We all know that 2020 is a year that we will not forget in a hurry. This signalled a slightly earlier than usual closure of the pool with repercussions in all segments of the Community.

20 March 2020 was the last day that I swam at the pool as Covid-19 closed the doors far sooner than we all hoped or planned. Despite this, 2020 saw nearly 20,000 (19,784) swimmers through the doors. We always enjoy the wide range of activity at the pool with the general public continuing to be the greatest user with 10,738 swims. Our local schools (primarily Katikati College and Katikati Primary School) are next with 4,334 swims. Programmes run by other groups have also been well attended - Waihi Beach SLC 980, Masters 809; Aquafit, Learn to Swim and the Katikati Community Centre 2923. The annual report for council is included at the end of my report which will be filed with WBOPDC.

We continue to work hard to achieve our objective of increasing the number of people who are able to swim and to improve the health and wellbeing of our local community. An Aquatic facility open all year round will only build on this objective.

**Swim Teaching/Training/Coaching**

Katikati College have worked with the Trust to improve public access to the pool as we work together within their five-day timetable. This has been encouraged by regular advertising through the email newsletter sent to all current pool users who have signed up for this communication. The Trust continues to enjoy a good relationship with our Schools.

The Masters Swim Club enjoys regular participation at the pool.

Aquafit is well supported in the community under the stewardship of Kate. Sessions are always well attended and this group are keen to keep going for as long as they possibly can every season.

We are delighted to have completed our second season with the Evolution "Learn to Swim" team. Their sessions were well attended and we're looking forward to working with them throughout this coming season. One good thing to come out of Covid-19 was an excellent response to recent advertising for new coaches for the coming season.

The Waihi Beach Surf Club held regular sessions at the pool last season and these continue to be a popular activity. We're keen to see them operate in the same way as last season.

**Staffing**

Thank you, Peter, for the many hours you put in to making the pool what it is, a credit to our town. The pool itself always looks great and we're looking forward to a resolution of the pool painting scenario in coming the months. Hopefully, this will be achieved at a time with the least disruption to pool users.

Our crew of life guards had all sessions at the pool running very smoothly, the ratio of one adult staff member with each student lifeguard works extremely well and, as far as I am aware, the crew for this coming season is already confirmed. Uniforms make all staff highly recognisable - they look smart and appear to be quite comfortable.

### **WBOPDC and Katikati Community Board**

After the elections last October, we were delighted to welcome Neil Harray to the Trust as our Community Board representative. We have also enjoyed the active participation of councillors Anne Henry, Christina Humphries and James Denyer.

We are all aware of the efforts of the Trust in recent times towards the development of the pool. Frustrations aside, we feel that progress is now being made with WBOPDC in the development of a much-needed Aquatic Strategy. The engagement of Cheryl Steiner in a consultancy role has meant a thorough investigation of all things aquatic within the district has been completed.

We know that much consultation within the community is yet to be undertaken but we are confident that the council is heading in the right direction.

That recent reviews are correctly aligned with that of our community who will benefit from their planning in the not too distant future.

Thank you to Scott Parker and the WBOPDC for their continued support of the pool. Scott works very closely with Peter to ensure that standards are maintained and future planning meets council requirements.

### **Financial Status**

The current process of financial reporting has worked well over the last twelve months with Viv Proffitt continuing to provide accurate reports under the Charitable Trusts Performance Report structure without having to attend meetings. We thank Viv for her attention to detail and also Peter for his presentation of all matters financial at our monthly meetings.

Peter will have presented the annual financial report this evening and the Trust is, once again, in a good position to start the new season.

### **Pool Maintenance**

I'm sure all pool users will agree that the pool continues to be maintained to a very high standard. It is rewarding to hear the unsolicited positive feedback from our swimmers and we're looking forward to opening the pool on the weekend of Daylight Saving which is September 26 this year – weather and pool painting dependent!

### **Promotion of the Dave Hume Pool Facility**

It is important to the members of the Trust that the pool is promoted as much as possible. If we want to see an improved Aquatic facility in our area, the pool needs to be seen and used! To this end there are a number of measures that have taken place over the last season. You may have noticed signage around the town in prime positions. Outside the Countdown supermarket and opposite the entrance to the Moore Park fields. Letting consumers know that there is an awesome heated pool “just around the corner”. Although we are wanting to attract non-residents to the pool, we also need to ensure that locals know what is on their doorstep.

Peter promotes pool activities through the email newsletter and this is a great avenue for getting the message circulated to pool users.

We enjoyed huge success with the Swim the Cook Strait and Swim the English Channel challenges and we're looking forward to adding similar challenges to the repertoire this coming season.

We have continued with regular promotion in the Katikati Advertiser and after a few glitches, hope to run the Business House competition this coming season so dust off your speedos. This is all about branding and getting our image out in front of the community. And not just ours. Any future pool needs to be for the Western Bay of Plenty region not just the township of Katikati.

We will open on September 26 as already stated, there is no debate about that, but in order to keep the pool open for the longest possible period in autumn 2021, considerable promotion will be required. Anything would be considered to encourage and increase use of our pool.

### **The Trust**

My thanks to all members of the Trust. We have representatives from all groups around the table and a good team on board. I hope to see all members continuing in their roles and would be happy to make myself available for the coming season.

Barbara Martin  
CHAIRPERSON