

Dave Hume Swimming Pool Trust
Chairperson's Report
30 September 2021

The Dave Hume Pool Trust is delighted to have finally seen the realisation of a dream. That is, to see the Western Bay of Plenty District Council sign off, in its Long-Term Plan, the development of aquatic facilities in our region. For the Dave Hume Pool, this means a cover and upgrades necessary as part of a project to extend the life of the existing pool for another 20 years, with a view to a new facility being underway sometime after 2040.

The Trust will be approaching interested parties and organisations to help with funding in order to achieve a Whole of Life solution for our pool. We hope you will agree that, supporting this project will have a considerable and positive affect on our community and surrounds. Several options are on the table and much work needs to be done.

Unfortunately, with lockdown and the cancellation of our AGM, the opportunity to share our fundraising plans with the community have been thwarted. Members of the Trust have not been idle though. Investigations are underway, preliminary conversations have been held and interest in this project determined. We are feeling very positive that the dream will be achieved.

The Katikati Dave Hume Pool first opened in 1973 and has largely remained unchanged, other than ongoing maintenance. The land and pool facilities are owned by the Council and, since 1992, have been managed by the Trust under a Service Level Agreement. The Trust consists of community volunteers, representatives appointed by user groups and the Facility Manager.

The complex is close to reaching a 50-year milestone and serves the wider district well. This has been achieved by a high ongoing level of pool management and maintenance.

Thank you to Peter Allsop, for the many hours he puts into making the pool what it is, a credit to our town. The pool itself always looks great. 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.

The outdoor pool is great but with a cover, so much more could be achieved for the community, enabling swimming all year round.

Our Vision is to provide year-round access to water-based activity for all of the community, in a safe environment, thus increasing the health and wellbeing of all pool users. The benefits of a covered swimming complex are many:

- Provides the community with a year-round facility, for swim training/coaching, for recreation/leisure, for water safety and other health related activities.
- Encourages year-round patronage to a wider cross-section of the community.

- Enables Learn to Swim and Swim Coaching programmes to take place for a greater number of swimmers.
- Offers year-round training options for Waihi Beach Surf Lifeguards.
- Meets the needs of an increasing older generation, with lane swimming or walking.
- Future proofs the community's water sports requirements for a projected 20 years.
- Ensures greater participation in Aqua Fit classes.
- Allows local schools to build more water education into their curriculums when they're not limited to just two terms.

Splash! This season, we are very excited to see the launch of our own "Learn to Swim" school, SPLASH, with up to 3 coaching staff. This program has been designed by the trust for the community in response to a clear need for this development. Our vision is to develop growth, appreciation and skill in an aquatic environment, thus embracing the love to swim. Our mission is to provide a quality swim school education program to the Katikati and surrounding community in a safe environment for all who participate, to develop confidence and importantly learn to swim.

Last but not least, thanks to all members of the Trust. We have a good team on board and I hope to see all members continuing in their roles. We have a busy time ahead as we work towards our goal of a covered pool by Christmas 2023. Not for the faint-hearted but the end result will be worth all the effort!

Barbara Martin
CHAIRPERSON