

Dave Hume Pool Trust
Chairperson's Report
26 September 2023

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the Dave Hume Pool Trust, which covers the spring to autumn season from early September 2022 to early April 2023. With the pool opening on Saturday (23 September), just in time for daylight saving, we look forward to enjoying our last season totally outdoors.

Our grand total of pool users has seen another increase from 17,300 to over 18,000 participants. With the cover going on the pool, this will rise significantly. Our goal is now within reach and we are delighted to welcome Janine Fields tonight from the Western BOP District Council to give us a taste of the exciting new developments that are about to happen.

Good things take time as we all know. Reading through some archived articles from the Katikati Advertiser (all available online, should you wish to read them yourselves), I read that the original committee for the Katikati Swimming Pool Project met in July 1969. The project began in March 1971, was completed in 1973 and cost \$26,000, creating an asset worth considerably more than \$50,000. The "Katikati Swimming Bath" was named in honour of Mr DR Hume who gathered the local flock together to work on the project and organised them to complete it. The Dave Hume Pool was officially opened by Prime Minister of the day, Norman Kirk, on March 24th 1973.

With this March date being so late in the 22/23 season, the Trust made the decision to celebrate 50 years of our spectacular pool in the Katikati Community, this season. With the pool being open for the next six months at least, watch out for walking and swimming events that will be run to cater for all levels of swimming ability.

The current project comes at a far greater cost than that undertaken by the community back in the day. The numbers are huge now, the journey has been long and the Trust is certainly most grateful for the support of the Council, Bay Trust and TECT for ensuring that the pool cover will become a reality. Although we have not reached our total goal, yet, we are well down the track with other options to consider. Throughout the past year, the Trust's energies, especially those of Peter Allsop and Graeme Thomson, have been firmly on continuing to keep the project ball rolling, working closely with council and their consultants. Many voluntary hours have been spent behind the scenes as you can imagine.

All things going according to plan, we hope to see work begin at the pool upon the completion of this season, in the autumn of 2024. It will include not just a cover but linings for both pools and a bulkhead in the main pool, to cater for participants learning to swim in particular. The whole development is so important to our community - for swim training & coaching, for recreation & leisure, for water safety & other health related activities, enabling all ages and abilities to undertake safe water-based activity at some level.

Splash has had another great season with almost 200 learner swimmers taking part in our swim school. As a Trust, we are committed to providing a quality swim programme that encourages all swimmers to achieve their swimming goals and to learn to swim successfully. We provide a safe and supportive aquatic learning environment where individual needs are catered for and most importantly understood. We look forward to the growth that will undoubtedly happen in the learn to swim arena.

The Dave Hume Pool Trust consists of community volunteers, representatives appointed by user groups and the Facility Manager, Peter Allsop who, after many years, steps down from this role and we accept his resignation formally at this meeting. Peter was a great find by the then Manager, Richard Evans. He stepped into the role and has never looked back. As a result of his stewardship, we have the pool that we do. Even though it is now 50 years old, the facility is in tremendous condition and that is largely due to the conscientious nature of Peter's management. Peter has been a significant part of the pool cover journey too. His commitment to this project is commendable and although we hate to lose him as manager, we are delighted that he will continue as a Trust member. His knowledge will be an invaluable support to our new Manager, Dan Wilks, who began his first season with us earlier this month. Thank you, Peter for all that you have done as Manager and for the Dave Hume Pool Community and welcome onboard, Dan!

Although Scott Parker is no longer our main contact at council, we would like to acknowledge the long connection that he has had with the Trust. This has been a very successful partnership, particularly, between Peter and Scott. We now thank you, Janine, and the WBOPDC for their continued support of the pool. Excuse the pun, but Janine found the deep end quite quickly but has shown that she is equal to the task. I am sure that Janine and Dan will continue to work closely to develop the pool to the next level as the cover goes on.

And to finish, 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. There's more hard work ahead but the end result will be worth the effort. A covered pool by Christmas 2024? Let's make it happen!

Barbara Martin
CHAIRPERSON