



World short course 100m backstroke
champion, Liam Tancock

Cover - Rebecca Adlington won gold
in the 800m freestyle at the 9th FINA
world swimming championships (25m)
in Manchester

100m backstroke



Chairman's report

Last year, I wrote that British Swimming's primary focus had been to set in place the plans that would underpin our drive for success in 2012, and this year I can record that significant progress has been made in creating the structure to achieve this.

Bill Sweetenham was appointed National Performance Director for Swimming in 2001 when British success was at a low ebb. The Olympic results in Sydney 2000 were the poorest since 1936; the team failed to win any medals and our swimmers achieved only five final positions. Bill's brief was to transform the performance of British swimmers and coaches and he set about this role with a single-minded passion that was to become the hallmark of his tenure.

Bill made it clear from the outset that the British programme had to be radically changed if it was to become competitive, and over the next six years he overhauled training and coaching methods, setting in place a tough work ethic and demanding professional standards.

From 2001 to 2006, British swimmers recorded their best ever results at a World Championships in 2003, a record number of medals at the European Championships in 2006, outstanding medal hauls at the 2002 and 2006 Commonwealth Games where they matched Australia, and achieved a much more consistent performance at the top of the medal table at European Junior Championships. While the results in the Olympic Games in Athens did not quite reach expectations, the pace of change quickened again when London was awarded the 2012 Olympic Games in 2005 and the administrative burden of supporting an ambitious and expanding performance programme increased markedly. Bill's family meanwhile continued to live in Australia, and faced with juggling all these very different pressures he requested and the Board agreed to release him from his contract.

I would like to pay tribute to Bill, and to his chief coach Ian Turner, who left for a post in New Zealand. Bill Sweetenham's legacy will be built on the changes he introduced and Ian supported. They laid the foundations for

success in 2012 when a generation of young swimmers who began their journey under Bill's direction will reach maturity. Michael Scott was appointed National Performance Director to replace Bill Sweetenham in September 2007. A former swimmer and coach, he is best known for his role as a former Director of the New South Wales and then subsequently, the Australian Institute of Sport. Most recently, he was Director of the World Swimming Championships in Melbourne in 2007. He brings excellent strategic experience to a role that is expected to include the formation of a network of Intensive Training Centres throughout the home countries after Beijing. He will be joined after Beijing by a new head coach and together they will plan the programme and the structure that will sustain the Olympic campaign and the development of swimming well beyond 2012.

Only minor changes were made to Bill Sweetenham's plans for the preparations for Beijing. This meant that a young team was sent to December's European Short Course Championships in Debrecen, Hungary where our success was limited, and in light of the close proximity of the European Championships (Eindhoven), the Olympic Trials (Sheffield) and the 9th FINA world swimming championships (25m) in Manchester which were all held within a four week period in March and early April 2008, only a small team competed at the Europeans in order to ensure strong performances in the Trials at Sheffield and the subsequent World Championships. This was the first World Championships to be held in the UK, and a major opportunity for British swimmers to compete in front of a home crowd.

The Olympic Trials demonstrated, with a series of national and Commonwealth records, that despite the changes in leadership there was potentially much to look forward to in Beijing later this year. This was confirmed the following week in Manchester, and while a full reflection on the Short Course World Championships belongs properly in next year's report, the success of both the swimmers who won more medals >>



Chris Baillieu - Chairman

than any other nation, and the quality of the event presentation which attracted more than 40,000 spectators should be included in order to give a overall picture of the swimmers' achievements during this critical period.

Earlier in the year the VISA Paralympic World Cup and the LEN European Nations Water Polo Championships were held in Manchester, while the inaugural round of the FINA World Diving Series took place in Sheffield. All resulted in sound performances by our competitors and the management of all three events, backed by funding from UK Sport, was taken to a new level. The selection of Charlotte O'Neill who leads the Events team to manage the Olympic Aquatics centre in 2012 is a reflection not just of her ability but the quality of the team she leads.

I would like to thank John Crowther, formerly Chief Executive of the Lawn Tennis Association for his leadership as Director in establishing the diving event, and Melanie Beck, Chair of the Technical Diving Committee, who was subsequently appointed by FINA to direct the series worldwide on their behalf.

Synchronised Swimming continued to make progress under the guidance of Biz Price with the steadily improving duet aiming for Olympic selection. Thanks to support from Simon Clegg at the British Olympic Association and the Ministry of Defence, the programme moved to the Army's excellent 50m pool at Aldershot where the English Institute of Sport is offering full support to the swimmers.

Further steps were taken to add two new independent members to the Board of British Swimming. Craig Hunter was the Swimming Team Manager at the Commonwealth Games, World Championships and Olympic Games from 2000-2006 and has a wealth of knowledge about the sport at the highest level. Craig is a graduate of UK Sport's International leadership programme and his work as a professional company secretary brings valuable expertise of commercial governance which is essential to any business growing as rapidly as ours.

Mike Power has recently stepped down from his role as Chief Operating Officer at the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games (LOCOG), a post he held from the beginning of the London bid process, and this followed a very distinguished career that culminated in a similar role at Procter and Gamble. Both his links with LOCOG and his international business experience are very valuable additions to the Board's collective knowledge.

During the year, the Chief Executive David Sparkes and Operations Director Ian Mason, ably backed by their staff, have been working closely with UK Sport to ensure that their investment in the aquatic disciplines is well spent against clear budgets established by our National Performance Directors. The Mission 2012 appraisal system which has been introduced in order for UK Sport and the national governing bodies to monitor their progress towards 2012 is proving a useful tool and we continue to enjoy a close working relationship with UK Sport on all matters relating to performance, events and international representation.

I would also like to add my congratulations to Alan Clarkson who received the first British Swimming Fellowship this year.

Finally, we had good news on the development of additional 50m pools and we can reasonably anticipate that by 2012 there will be more than 30 50m pools in place. This would amount to approximately a 40 per cent increase in pool stock over a six year period.

Continuing the style successfully initiated last year, the tables indicate the strategies and targets that are part of British Swimming's corporate planning document 'Building on Change', whilst the narrative provides an update of where the Federation currently stands in terms of achieving those targets.

The financial information covers the period from April 1 2007 to March 31 2008. However, so as not to be too retrospective, much of the narrative under the tables is based on information available up to July 31 2008.

Event reports offer a flavour of Britain's successes.

Section one	Athlete Development - achieving individual potential
VISION	To ensure everyone can achieve his or her personal goals and to ensure that we achieve gold medal success. The development of swimmers to their full individual potential is an important factor and we will achieve this by ensuring that all swimmers have a quality coaching and training environment at each stage of their development.
WINNING ATHLETES	Swimming will: Ensure there are sufficient coaches at all levels, accessing a comprehensive coach education programme, in line with UKCC standards.
	30 coaches on the Select Programmes for all disciplines.

Section 1 - athlete development

Twenty one coaches are on the Swimming Select programme gaining 'fast track' information via seminars and workshops. Other disciplines do not have a select coach programme.

British Swimming aims to provide a comprehensive long term coach development (LTCD) structure in line with the UK Coaching Framework. This will include qualifications that meet the new UK Coaching Certificate standards, a quality assured CPD seminar programme, and support for new and up and coming coaches through a coach mentoring programme. British Swimming will work with the Institute of Swimming in England, Swim Wales and Scottish Swimming to provide world class training and support for its coaches. The new programme will be built around LTAD principles and will ensure that each coach can work with swimmers from any strand of LTAD.



200m butterfly

Jess Dickons takes bronze in the 200m fly at the world short course championships in Manchester

Section two

Excellence - swimming to win

VISION

To ensure that we achieve gold medal success. Swimming remains focused on the achievement of success at Olympic and Paralympic level.

WINNING ATHLETES

Swimming will:
Provide a comprehensive, co-ordinated elite training programme based on LTAD.
Provide a comprehensive, national competition framework leading to selection for major international events.

336 competitors on elite programmes - all disciplines.
116 elite coaches - all disciplines.
16 Performance Centres / University based programmes - all disciplines.
1 national competition framework per discipline.

Section 2 - excellence, swimming to win

Since the announcement that London will host the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, there has been a significant expansion in terms of activity and resources directed towards this event. Some £600 million will be invested into British sport between now and the London Olympics.

This provides significant opportunity for all aspects of British Swimming but does also bring considerable responsibilities. In relation to British Swimming, Synchronised Swimming and Water Polo have been included into the Lottery funded World Class (WC) Programmes since September 2006. In addition, Swimming, Diving and Disability Swimming, which were previously within the World Class Programme have received large uplifts in funding. Over the current Olympic cycle, April 2005 to March 2009, there will be a total investment in British Swimming of £38.25 million. Not all of this is direct cash funding but it includes Athlete Personal Awards and Sport Science and Sports Medicine monies. However, by any standards this is a huge investment and therefore brings with it high expectation.

In the last 18 months in particular there has been an expansion of professional technical and administrative posts across all disciplines. The total number of employees working in World Class (WC) is currently 63.

Athlete numbers have increased on most of the WC Programmes. Swimming now has 36 athletes on the WC Podium Programme

and 54 athletes on the WC Development programme compared to 28 and 49 last year. Diving now has 14 athletes on Podium and 15 on Development compared to 9 and 17 last year. Disability Swimming has 38 athletes on Podium and 10 on Development compared to 27 and 17 in 2007. Synchronised Swimming has increased from 10 athletes in 2007 to 11 athletes and Water polo has 41 athletes on the WC Development Programme.

All disciplines are coming to the end of their existing four year plan and are beginning to turn their thoughts to the creation of a four year plan for the next Olympic and Paralympic cycle. We believe that the key to the success of the various disciplines is the establishment of new performance centres and the development of current performance centres. There are performance centres in a variety of disciplines in Sheffield, Southampton, Plymouth, Manchester, Loughborough, Swansea, Stirling and Aldershot. There will be a further expansion in swimming performance centres that will be called 'Intensive Training Centres' in the next six months and consequently new technical positions recruited to run the centres.

All disciplines have to submit quarterly reports to UK Sport for comment as part of the Mission 2012 initiative. This initiative is based on the analysis of each sport's progress against three aspects – Athletes, Systems and Climate. A traffic light system of Red,

Amber, Green and Gold is used to identify where a sport is in relation to each of these three aspects. A profiling tool consisting of 32 indicators is available to assist sports in a self-analysis of their current status. Particular attention is given to any aspect that is showing Red or Amber and requires that sports have a clear action plan to move these areas forward.

World rankings

As at April 30 2008, Britain had 36 athletes in the world rankings, top 16 list.



9th FINA world swimming championships (25m) April 9-13, Manchester

The total number of world records set over the five days of the 9th FINA world swimming championships (25m) was 18. Many swimmers found themselves inside an old world record yet still not winning the gold medal – including Britain's silver-winning Hannah Miley, Lizzie Simmonds and the women's 4x200m freestyle team. What would have happened if the likes of Michael Phelps, Libby Trickett and Leisel Jones had turned up, we can only imagine. We can also only speculate on the extent to which the Speedo LZR Racer suit contributed to the performances. Almost all the record-breakers were wearing them and a percentage improvement of 2 per cent has been suggested.

From a British perspective, this must, by most yardsticks, rate as one of our most successful international competitions. More British records were set than the number of events in the five-day programme – 44 to 41. Seven were also European records and nine were Commonwealth records. British swimmers also won 24 medals, their best-ever tally at a world event and more than any other nation competing in Manchester (Australia won 19 and the US 17). Only three of those 24 medals were gold, however, so Britain ended up fifth in the medals table behind the US with 10 golds, Australia (8), Netherlands (4) and Zimbabwe (4). Ryan Lochte of the US and Kirsty Coventry of Zimbabwe, who broke four and three world records respectively, won the awards for the top male and female swimmers, with the US taking the trophy for the top team in points terms.

Chris Nesbit, Britain's head coach for the championships, was delighted with the overall performance and the atmosphere within the team. 'It's a fantastic result,' he said. 'Coming out of the Olympic trials, everyone was on a high and all we wanted to do was carry that forward. We came here and probably exceeded people's expectations. I have been on a lot of teams and I would say that everybody is gelling – the coaches, the support staff, the management and the swimmers. It's the

energy of the whole team. What we have got to do now is take that energy and that confidence forward.'

But he also warned people not to get carried away in the run-up to Beijing. 'You can't totally prepare people who have not been to an Olympics because the Olympics is like nothing else,' he said. 'Hopefully Manchester will go part-way to giving our swimmers an insight. How often do swimmers go in front of a crowd like this? Footballers and rugby stars are used to this type of environment. There are people here (in the crowd) who have walked in off the street. How often do you get that in swimming? The public will expect because people do. We all do. But we as professionals have to temper that. People are going away thinking that Liam Tancock is going to stand on the gold medal rostrum in Beijing. But it's not as easy as that. The only thing that is similar between long and short course is water – because of the turns factor. So I will tell all the swimmers, "Well done and enjoy it – and now let's focus on the long pool and the Olympics".'

The championships were a British triumph out of the water as well as in it. James Hickman and his organising team made good use of the MEN Arena's sound and lighting facilities to give the event a showbiz dimension the like of which has probably not been seen in swimming before. The introduction of the semi-finalists and finalists as they emerged one-by-one through the doors behind the starting blocks was particularly dramatic – and the roar whenever a British swimmer appeared was spine-tingling, especially during the Saturday and Sunday evening sessions, when the 7,000-capacity auditorium was 80 or 90 per cent full. Fran Halsall likened it to 'being on the catwalk'.



4x100m relay

Britain's European record-breaking 4x100m medley relay team of (l-r) Fran Halsall, Jemma Lowe, Kate Haywood and Lizzie Simmonds with their bronze medals from the 9th FINA world swimming championships (25m) in Manchester

British medallists

Gold (3)

100m Backstroke - Liam Tancock 50.14
200m Breaststroke - Kris Gilchrist 2:06.18
800m Freestyle - Rebecca Adlington 8:08.25

Silver (10)

50m Freestyle - Mark Foster 21.31
1500m Freestyle - David Davies 14:36.30
50m Backstroke - Liam Tancock 23.53
200m IM - Liam Tancock 1:53.10
4 x 200m Free relay
Robbie Renwick, David Carry, Andrew Hunter, Ross Davenport 6:56.52
100m Freestyle - Fran Halsall 52.79
200m Backstroke - Lizzie Simmonds 2:02.60
50m Breaststroke - Kate Haywood 30.35
400m IM - Hannah Miley - 4:27.27
4 x 200m Free relay
Joanne Jackson, Mel Marshall, Caitlin McClatchey, Rebecca Adlington 7:38.96

Bronze (11)

400m Freestyle - Robbie Renwick 3:40.22
100m IM - Liam Tancock 52.22
200m IM - James Goddard 1:55.15
50m Freestyle - Fran Halsall 24.11
200m Freestyle - Caitlin McClatchey 1:55.15
400m Freestyle - Joanne Jackson 4:01.11
100m Butterfly - Jemma Lowe 56.84
200m Butterfly - Jessica Dickons 2:05.09
200m IM - Hannah Miley 2:08.79
4 x 100m Free relay
Fran Halsall, Caitlin McClatchey, Julia Beckett, Mel Marshall 3:32.88
4 x 100m Medley relay
Lizzie Simmonds, Kate Haywood, Jemma Lowe, Fran Halsall 3:53.02

European championships 2008

Teenagers gave Britain a golden glow at the European Championships in Eindhoven, with a European record from a women's relay team with an average age of 18 and an historic men's title for 13-year-old diver Tom Daley.

SWIMMING

Britain's 'new generation' of medley relay girls became the first European team to break four minutes to provide a glorious finale in the final session – and raise hopes of more success in Beijing. The team of Lizzie Simmonds, Kate Haywood, Jemma Lowe and Fran Halsall recorded a time of 3:59.33 to set a European record – and retain the title that Britain won two years earlier. Simmonds, 17, had a good start, precisely matching her PB with a backstroke time of 1:01.20 to hand over in fourth place to fellow world finalist and Lincoln Vulcans product Kate Haywood who, at 20, was the senior member of the British quartet by three years. Haywood proved herself the fastest breaststroker in the pool and her impressive split of 1:07.11 saw her storm past Spain and Hungary and close the gap on Russia. British record-holder Jemma Lowe, a few days short of her 18th birthday, produced another dazzling split of 58.00 to ease 0.3sec closer to the leaders. Britain were still a second down on a Russian team who were themselves on target for a European record. But Fran Halsall, also nearing her 18th birthday, is already an old hand on the anchor leg and the only survivor of the team that won in Hungary in 2006. This time she was attacking the Russian Daria Belyakina. It was no less a challenge but the British record-holder was instantly on the case, turning in the only sub 25-second split of the race (24.99) and already in the lead. She completed her freestyle leg in 53.02, more than a second ahead of the Russians (4:00.47) with the Netherlands third (4:04.41). Britain's time took over two seconds off the German-held European record.

A completely different quartet of British girls set a new Commonwealth record as they claimed silver in the women's 4x200m freestyle relay. Jo Jackson, Mel Marshall, Ellen Gandy and Caitlin McClatchey all swam

significantly under two minutes to stop the clock on 7:52.36, five seconds quicker than the previous British best and 1.7sec inside Australia's Commonwealth record.

David Davies added a European silver medal to his impressive collection of international trophies – yet only a week earlier, he was lying in a hospital bed. The world and Olympic bronze medallist came second in the 1500m freestyle despite having undergone an intensive course of intravenous antibiotics the previous weekend following the early identification of a foot infection.

Due to the proximity of the Olympic trials and World Short Course Championships, only Britain's three pre-selected Olympic swimmers were selected to swim individual events in Eindhoven. In the women's 200m breaststroke, Kirsty Balfour lost her European title as she finished fifth in 2:28.06 but did not rest at all for Eindhoven.

Liam Tancock had a similar problem and paid the price when he narrowly missed a place in the 100m backstroke final after clocking 55.11 in the semi-final – although he did record 54.98 in the morning heat.

The youthful men's 4x100m freestyle team which won silver for Britain at last year's European Junior Championships tested their talents at senior level as part of their development on the road to London 2012. Chris Fox, Adam Brown, Ryan Bennett and Grant Turner finished seventh in a best time for the team of 3:20.96.

DIVING

Tom Daley's amazing journey into the sporting stratosphere took another remarkable twist when he defeated several of the world's best divers to become a European champion at 13. His scalps as he won the men's 10m platform title in Eindhoven included in-form World Cup



David Davies with the silver medal he won in the 1500m free at the 2008 European championships

champion Sascha Klein, world champion Gleb Galperin, Dmitriy Dobroskok of Russia and the experienced Ukrainian Kostyantyn Milyayev.

The title also made the diminutive Daley Britain's:

- youngest-ever international diving gold medallist
- first European platform champion since 1958, when Brian Phelps won gold aged 14
- first European champion on any board since Tony Ally (then Toni Ali) in 1999

It also presented the unusual scenario of a European senior title going to a competitor who was too young to compete in the most recent European Junior Championships last summer. Elsewhere results were not as good as expected after very encouraging performances at the World Cup.

SYNCHRO

Britain's Jenna Randall went into the solo free final needing to ignore any fatigue she may have had after competing in both the duet and solo preliminaries. She immediately looked strong and confident and maintained a good body position in spins while her power through the water also showed signs of improvement. The 19-year-old kept up the high pace of the routine and secured five 8.9s to improve her international standing and secure her place as ninth in Europe with a total score of 87.900 points.

Meanwhile, Jenna and Olivia Allison achieved their aim of improving their standing on the European circuit by finishing ninth in the duet free final. In the free routine preliminary, they had struggled with their synchronisation in places and, going into the final, they knew they had to pull out a strong performance in order to place higher in the final. They had to put any nerves they may have had to one side as they entered the final looking confident and, from the moment they dived in, the routine looked more powerful, they executed their

lifts better and kept the pace high through the swim. This led to them getting more high 8s to secure ninth place in Europe and the best result at a European Championships for nine years with a total score of 87.300 points.

WATER POLO

Women

BRITISH Water Polo's national performance director Nick Hume saluted his women's team after they fought their way to a set of silver medals in the 2007 European B tournament in Prague. 'The girls did very well. They only lost one game, which was the final,' he said. 'They beat the other teams fairly convincingly. We started rebuilding the squad three years ago and they have started to come through. Our girls were pretty consistent with a good defence. The shooting has improved a lot except in the final. They are working as a team, as a better unit.' Britain got off to a flying start with a 27-3 victory over Turkey. They then recovered from an 8-3 deficit to draw 11-11 with France before beating Slovakia 7-5 to reach the semi-finals. They then beat the Ukraine 9-6 to move into the final against the experienced French team, where they went down 2-6.

Men

Great Britain won a place at the European Championship qualification tournament in January 2008 with a sixth-place finish in the LEN European Nations Trophy – formerly known as the European B Championship – at the Manchester Aquatics Centre in July 2007. The LEN European Nations Trophy was targeted as an indicator ahead of the Olympic Games – falling five years before London 2012 – and the result indicates the rapid progression since the inception of the high performance centre in Manchester.

So, the host nation achieved more than they had anticipated prior to the competition, but can they continue to progress at the same rate?

Britain are aiming to emulate the likes of France and Montenegro, who were making their debut in the event, and make the step



elegance

Jenna Randall enacts her solo routine at the European championships where she finished ninth

up to the A-grade competition, competing alongside Europe's – and, therefore, the world's – elite, including Hungary, the Olympic champions, and Croatia, the world champions.

National performance director Nick Hume summed up the present state of affairs. 'We want to be the oak tree but we're growing from the acorn at the moment,' he said, referring to the side's youth and limited experience. However, neither the men's or women's teams qualified for the 2008 European A championships after the qualification tournaments in January 2008.

Section three

Facilities - providing access to all

VISION

The provision of suitable and appropriate facilities for the needs of the sport is fundamental to achieve all of Swimming's Mission. There is a need to ensure that the individual and collective needs of the community and the different, specific needs of aquatic disciplines are addressed, including the need to ensure adequate training facilities and the facility requirements for major events.

The National Facilities Strategy will continue to provide much needed guidance material for the provision of adequate facilities for all aquatic disciplines.

WINNING ATHLETES

Swimming will:

Work closely with all agencies providing the leadership to ensure that there is a comprehensive, affordable and hierarchical network of facilities developed to service the future demands of the community and the sport.

Encourage those involved in the building of new facilities to ensure that they are designed in such a way that there are no barriers to access for religious, cultural, financial or mobility reasons.

Continue to lobby for facilities to be affordable with appropriate access for all programmes and lobby to ensure that existing facilities are kept well maintained and up to date to service the needs of the sport.

34 x 50m pools.
63 x 25m 8 lane pools.
8 x international standard diving facilities.

Section 3 - facilities, providing access to all

Last year's report focussed upon the considerable increase in the number of 50m pools since 2000 and the increase continues. By the time the Olympics and the Paralympics are over the number of indoor 50m pools in England, Scotland and Wales should have increased to 34, a figure which was undreamt of in the late nineties when even a target of 21 seemed to be almost unreachable.

However, the figure of 34 is no cause for celebration when we compare the figures in some other leading European swimming nations as the table illustrates.

Nevertheless, this figure shows a recognition of the willingness of local authorities and universities to consider 50m pools and that the message that this type of pool is not just about elitism is getting across. Additionally there are further schemes which have political commitment but are struggling to secure the necessary capital and it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that by 2014 the figure could reach 40 or more.

Country	Population	No 50m Pools	Ration Pop/Pool
France	61.0m	90	0.67m
Germany	82.5m	92	0.90m
Holland	16.5m	14	1.18m
England	51.5m	27	1.91m
Scotland	5.1m	5	1.02m
Wales	3.0m	2	1.50m

50m Pools

In England the situation is that during the year under review:

- The 50m pool and diving facilities in the John Charles Centre for Sport, which was the long awaited replacement for the Leeds International Pool, opened in October
- The Liverpool Aquatic Centre opened its doors in March
- The Sunderland Aquatic Centre was in the final stages of preparation for opening in April
- The Corby Pool was under construction with completion early in 2009
- The Portsmouth Pool was under construction with completion in July 2009
- The Hillingdon indoor and outdoor pools were under construction with completion in November 2009
- In Bristol negotiations were almost complete on the selection of the contractors to design, build and manage the 50m pool with completion of the project in April 2010

- Negotiations were ongoing on construction of a new indoor and outdoor Sports Complex which includes a 50m pool to be built in Guildford by the University of Surrey with construction work due to start in July 2008 with completion of the facility in December 2010
- The Basildon Sports Village, which includes a 50m pool, received outline planning permission and negotiations are ongoing on the appointment of a consortium to design, construct and manage the scheme with the opening in 2011
- The Plymouth Life Centre, which includes a 50m pool and diving is confirmed and an appointment of architects is imminent with a hoped for completion in 2011

Lastly, following prolonged negotiations, the contract for the construction of the London Aquatic Centre was signed and the building is scheduled to be completed in February 2011 ready for handing over to the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games to add the Olympic overlay.

It should also be said that there are a number of ongoing 50m proposals in England which, subject to funding, could see pools developed as follows:

- Birmingham, the largest city in Europe without an indoor 50m pool, where the City Council is again considering a proposal
- Ipswich, where a development on land adjacent to the Ipswich FC ground will include a 50m pool
- Luton, where a feasibility study is ongoing into a 50m pool plus diving to replace the Wardown Pool
- Milton Keynes, where a 50m pool is being considered for the Wolverton area of the city
- Newcastle upon Tyne, where a 50m by 6 lane training tank is proposed
- The Universities of Birmingham, Cambridge, Manchester Metropolitan, at its Crewe Campus, and Warwick all have ambitions to replace existing pools with 50m pools whilst Hertfordshire University have a plan for a 50m pool to supplement its existing 25m pool

It should not be forgotten that three of the existing 50m pools, namely Crystal Palace, Coventry and Wigan are over 40 years old whilst the High Wycombe pool is over 30 years old. However, work has commenced on the refurbishment of the changing rooms, repairs to the heating and ventilation and replacement of the water treatment plant at Crystal Palace as well as a survey of the diving facilities that should ensure its fitness as a training centre for the Olympics and beyond, whilst there is a promise of its replacement. The Coventry pool also features in the plans for the redevelopment of the Coventry City Centre which should take place by 2014 and the High Wycombe Council has given a promise that the 50m pool which was under threat of closure will either be refurbished or replaced. On the debit side the Wigan pool, which opened in 1965, is to close once a 25m pool as its replacement has been built.

In Scotland, the winning by Glasgow of the 2014 Commonwealth Games has put swimming facilities into the spotlight and there will now be progress on the proposals for alterations to Tollcross in Glasgow including a second 50m pool and an increase in the spectator seating.

Similarly it should now be possible to progress the refurbishment of the Edinburgh Royal Commonwealth Pool which will include the 50m pool being deepened and provided with a moveable bulkhead and floor, the diving facilities being brought up to full international standard and the provision of dry-land training areas for swimming and diving.

One of the problems which will now result from the alterations to Tollcross and the refurbishment of the Commonwealth Pool is the loss of these facilities and the effect on training during work and this makes it urgent that all the work is properly programmed and that alternative facilities are considered with the possible use of temporary pools which might be purchased and made available for relocation elsewhere in Scotland when work is completed.

The possibility of a 50m pool in Aberdeen appears to have become a reality following a statement by the Scottish Government of a £5m grant towards its cost and support from Aberdeen University.

In Wales, the 50m pool incorporated into the Cardiff International Sports Village opened in January. The pool has 10 lanes and seating for 1,000 spectators.

25m by 8 lane pools

All of the 50m pools being built include moveable bulkheads and floors and each will provide a 25m by 8 or 10 lane pool.

In England, new pools opened in Braintree, Eltham (London) and Solihull whilst pools in Stafford and Watford are nearing completion. Work has started on pools in Darwen and Milton Keynes whilst Southend has received planning approval for an 8 lane pool to replace Warrior Square. In Scotland and Wales respectively, new 25m by 8 lane pools in Dumfries and in Llandudno are very near to completion.

International Diving Facilities

The opening of the John Charles Centre for Sport in Leeds sees a further diving facility that conforms to FINA Rules in all respects and also provides dry-land training which is so essential if our divers are to be able to compete on equal terms with divers from other parts of the world.

Also the planning approval for the new pool in Southend includes diving facilities to international standard and the feasibility work ongoing in Luton around swimming facilities includes international diving.

Lastly, the Plymouth Life Centre will include international standard diving and together with the other developments mentioned and the work to be carried out on the Edinburgh Royal Commonwealth Pool is illustrative of the effect that comes from some success in international competition over recent years.

Finally 2011, will see the completion of a further international standard diving facility complete with a dry-land training facility in the London Aquatic Centre.

Section four

International Influence

VISION

To ensure that we achieve gold medal success. British Swimming acknowledges the significant role it plays in providing skilled and knowledgeable administrators who, where appropriate, can influence the sport at an international level.

WINNING ATHLETES

Swimming will:
Influence world swimming strategy and politics through representation on European and world decision-making bodies.
Influence world swimming by staging major international events.

2 representatives at FINA level.
1 representative at IPC level.
6 representatives at LEN level.
3 bids submitted for world and European events.

Section 4 - international influence

Alan Clarkson is a member of FINA's (world governing body) Technical Open Water Swimming Committee, whilst David Sparkes is a member of the FINA Disciplinary Panel.

At LEN (European) level, Alan Clarkson is a member of the LEN Bureau and the LEN Award Commission and he is Bureau Liaison to the LEN Technical Swimming Committee. Kim White is a member of the Technical Diving Committee, Jenny Gray is a member of the Technical Synchronised Swimming Committee, Simon Rothwell is chairman of the Masters Committee, Ian Gordon is a member of the Medical Committee, whilst Sam Greetham is secretary of the Technical Open Water Committee.

Britain has 47 people able to officiate at world (FINA) level split: swimming 11, diving 6, synchro 5, water polo 3, open water 2 and masters 20. This is a small reduction of the previous year due to two people coming off the diving list.

At European level, the total is 54 made up of swimming 11, diving 9, synchro 6, water polo 6, open water 2 and masters 20.



Kris Gilchrist won the gold in the 200m breaststroke at the 2008 European Championships

World and European events

Events delivered were:

FINA 10km Marathon Swimming World Cup, Royal Albert Docks, London - June 07

LEN 5km Open Water Swimming Cup, Royal Albert Docks, London - June 07

LEN European Nations Trophy, Manchester 2007 (Water Polo) - July 2007

FINA Diving World Series, Sheffield - September 2007

9th FINA World Swimming Championships (25m), Manchester - April 2008

Events bidded for and secured for the future:

LEN European B Water Polo Championships (Women) 2009 - we were awarded the event in December 07 and will stage it in July 2009. These will be held at Manchester Aquatics Centre.

LEN European Junior Synchronised Swimming Championships 2009 - These were awarded in March 08 and will be staged in April 2009 at GL1, Gloucester.

The FINA Diving World Series is also to be staged in Britain in 2008 and 2009.

European junior championships

SWIMMING

Antwerp 2007 was the most successful show for a British junior squad offshore: six golds, seven silvers and three bronze. Five out of six relays won medals. Only Russia claimed more gold. Behind Britain, the likes of Poland, Italy and Germany.

Junior results, of course, should be taken with a healthy slug of caution when gazing into crystal balls, so many are the potential pitfalls twixt youth and sporting maturity. Yet Antwerp is not a solitary success, rather it provided the latest heartening news: the four most successful European junior championships ever for Britain have all been since 2003, the year of a home event at which 20 medals were won.

Lizzie Simmonds won four golds and two silvers (one of those for a freestyle relay heats swim) and was the most successful girl at the championships, whilst Marco Loughran returned home with a gold and three silvers over 50, 100 and 200m backstroke and 4x100m medley relay. But no fewer than 16 British swimmers went home with at least one medal (see table right).

SYNCHRO

The British junior synchro team competed in three finals at the 2007 junior Europeans in Calella, Spain.

Britain competed in the four routine events after spending just five weeks training together at the National High Performance Centre under head junior coach Loredana Montico and assistant coaches Jessica Chase and Kate Coupar.

Britain competed for the first time in the combination routine and it proved the squad's most successful event. They finished eighth with a score of 80.500.

The combination involves a maximum of 10 athletes combining all routines such as solos, duets, trios and team parts in one five-minute routine.

The new pairing of Helen Morris and Asha Randall, Jenna's younger sister, came 11th in a controversial duet final. Despite being selected to swim the duet only four weeks beforehand, they performed strongly to finish with a majority of scores breaking the 8 range. The event was won by Greece for the first time after Russia suffered a one-point penalty for deliberate use of the pool floor during an assisted lift.

Jazmine Stansbury competed in her first international solo and finished a creditable 14th, just missing out on the finals. Russia won the gold with Greece second and Spain third.

The team finals – the last event – took place before a packed crowd with lots of atmosphere. Britain opened the competition, then had to wait for their rivals Germany to take to the pool. Germany had finished just 0.2 marks behind Britain in the team prelim and had the better draw. The British athletes performed a great routine and finished ninth, beating the Germans by 0.3. Russia won the team event closely followed by Spain with Greece third. It proved a successful meet for the British team and demonstrated how Britain is moving forward.

DIVING

No medals for Britain in the diving although in the boys' B group 1m event, Oliver Dingley, of Harrogate, the first diver from his club to compete at this level, got off to a fantastic start, finishing fourth in the preliminary. He was unlucky to miss a bronze medal in the final by six points – but a good start to his international diving career! In the 3m event, Chris Mears from Southampton was second in the preliminary with plenty of room for improvement and team-mate Max Brick was very steady in sixth. However, a dropped twist dive by Chris meant he threw away his medal chance, which was a great shame, as he has certainly put in the hard work and deserved this success. Max was right behind him in eighth place but did not have the tariff to compete for a medal.

British swimming medallists

Gold Boys

M Loughran - 100m Backstroke 55.63

Gold Girls

E Simmonds - 100m Backstroke 1:01.37

E Simmonds - 200m Backstroke 2:12.36

E Simmonds - 200M IM 2:14.44

GBR - 4 x 200m Freestyle Relay 8:11.46

(S Matthews 2:04.84, E Gandy 2:00.62;

R Turner 2:02.20, L Collins 2:03.80)

GBR - 4 x 100m Medley Relay 4:09.29

(E Simmonds 1:01.33, A Warren 1:11.35,

E Gandy 59.89, L Collins 56.72)

Silver Boys

M Loughran - 50m Backstroke 26.46

M Loughran - 200m Backstroke 2:00.50

GBR - 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay 3:22.36

(C Fox 50.83, A Brown 50.33,

R Bennett 51.12, G Turner 50.08)

GBR - 4 x 100m Medley Relay 3:44.29

(M Loughran 55.97, M Partridge 1:03.42;

J Doolan 54.65, A Brown 50.25)

Silver Girls

L Collins - 200m Freestyle 2:03.26

E Simmonds - 50m Backstroke 29.24

GBR - 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay 3:48.99

(R Turner 57.46, E Gandy 57.20,

J Turner 57.59, L Collins 65.74)

Bronze Boys

P Thompson - 200m Butterfly 2:00.69

Bronze Girls

S Matthews - 400m Freestyle 4:16.45

E Gandy - 100m Butterfly 1:00.59

synchro

The British junior team
in action in Calella, Spain



In the platform competition, it was Max's turn to kick himself, as he also had a medal chance but dropped his most comfortable dive, which relegated him to fifth. After a prelim finish of third again, Chris had put himself right in the mix but he lacked the competition experience needed to hold it together in finals.

With no British entries in the springboard events, it was up to the two girls from Leeds, Suzanne Collins and Aimee Walker, to challenge in the A platform event. Suzanne got off to a flyer and finished fifth in the preliminary with Aimee a little further down in 10th after a shaky armstand dive. This gave both girls a place in the final. It was a shaky final and both girls badly dropped a dive and finished down in 10th (Walker) and 11th (Collins).

In girls' B group, Emily Alderman from Southampton was 17th on the 3m. In her favoured platform, she made the final in

10th place and moved up to eighth place, which was more pleasing.

In the boys' A category, Charles Calvert from Leeds was unlucky not to reach the final, dropping his last dive down to 4s, which cost him dearly. It was unfortunate that he didn't compete in the 3m event, as this is undoubtedly his better board.

In the platform, his team-mate Callum Johnstone was in good form and looked likely to feature, finishing fifth in the prelim. However, he elected to change a dive for the final and it proved a bad decision, as he dropped it and dropped two places to seventh when fourth or fifth could have been his.

In the synchronised 3m, Johnstone and Calvert teamed up yet again and their synchronicity was great, although some inconsistency in their dives meant they could not challenge for a medal and finished in sixth place.

WATER POLO Girls

GREAT Britain twice survived the pressures of a penalty shoot-out to finish ninth at the LEN European girls' youth water polo championships in Chania, Greece.

The under 18 team qualified for the play-offs for ninth to 15th places after losing 3-12 and 3-13 to European big guns Greece and Hungary. In the next round they drew 10-10 with the Czech Republic before winning a shoot-out to bring the scores to 13-11.

There was a similar story in the final match against Serbia, which ended 11-11 after extra time and 3-1 to Britain on penalties.

National performance director Nick Hume said: 'The team put in some strong performances and have started to close the gap to the top teams compared to previous years. A top eight finish was not realistic so to finish the best of the rest is a great result.'

Boys

Britain came within two or three goals of qualifying for the European youth championships after a good showing at the qualifying competition in Slovenia. The squad aged 17 and 18 recorded convincing wins against Portugal (25-2), Belgium (11-4)

and Austria (18-4) but lost 6-8 to France and 7-10 to Slovenia with only the first two in each group qualifying.

OPEN WATER

Richard Charlesworth underlined his credentials as a contender for Britain's 2008 Olympic team when he became European junior champion in only his first season of open water swimming.

The 18-year-old from Hatfield proved to be in a class of his own as he led from start to finish to complete the 5km course in Milan in 57min 55.6sec. The time put him 25 seconds ahead of the chasing pack, led by Russia's silver and bronze medallists, Sergey Bolshakov and Artem Podyakov. Only 12 seconds covered second to ninth places, underlining the extent of the Briton's authority.

Charlesworth, coached by Chris Nesbit at Britain's offshore centre in Queensland, took up open water swimming earlier this year because he was too old for the European Junior Championships in the pool. This was only his fifth race following a low-key 10km event in Queensland, 10km World Cup races in Seville and London and the 5km European Cup race, also in London. 'It was a great race and I can't remember a single moment when I did not enjoy it,' said Charlesworth. 'I was confident going into the race as my previous open water events had all been against senior competition and this was a chance for me to shine as a junior. It was a great feeling leading from the start as the adrenalin rush of being in the lead lasted for almost an hour.'

In the girls' race, Wigan BEST's Alice McCall, also in her first international season, missed a medal by one place and eight seconds as she led home the chasing pack in 1hr 3min 5.7sec.

Rachel Jack (City of Leeds) was 19 seconds behind McCall in 14th place (1:03:24.7). GB coach Mark Perry said: 'This was a fantastic result. Britain has never won a medal at the European juniors before, so to come away with a gold in the boys' event and a top four finish in the girls' race is a real achievement.'

Section five

Equity and ethics – ensuring a level playing field for all

VISION

Swimming believes in the principle of sports equity and fair play to deliver the Mission.

WINNING ATHLETES

Swimming will:
 Ensure there is a mechanism in place to overcome cultural barriers to achieving excellence by minority groups.
 Ensure selection policies are objective, well communicated and clear.
 Provide a framework of athlete friendly procedures that deal with doping infractions in a timely and just manner.

Team and board members will reflect the community in Great Britain.
 Selection policies will be published three months prior to each event.
 A minimum of 60 'out of competition' dope tests per year will be carried out.
 A minimum of 10 dope tests per event will be carried out.
 All athletes on the elite programmes will be educated on doping protocols and regulations.

Section 5 - equity and ethics

British Swimming last year underlined its commitment to achieving equality by becoming the first British governing body to gain the Intermediate level of the Equality Standard for Sport following a joint submission with the asa.

British Swimming will continue to consolidate its position regarding the Intermediate level and will work towards the Advanced level.

Of the 10 members of the GB Board, (chair, three English representatives, one from Scotland and Wales, and four specialist members), seven are men though the athlete representative is female swimmer Kathryn Evans. We recognise that the diversification of the Board is important for the future of British Swimming.

All Selection Policies are published three months prior to each event. All British Swimming staff and senior coaches undergo equality training and briefing sessions as part of their induction.

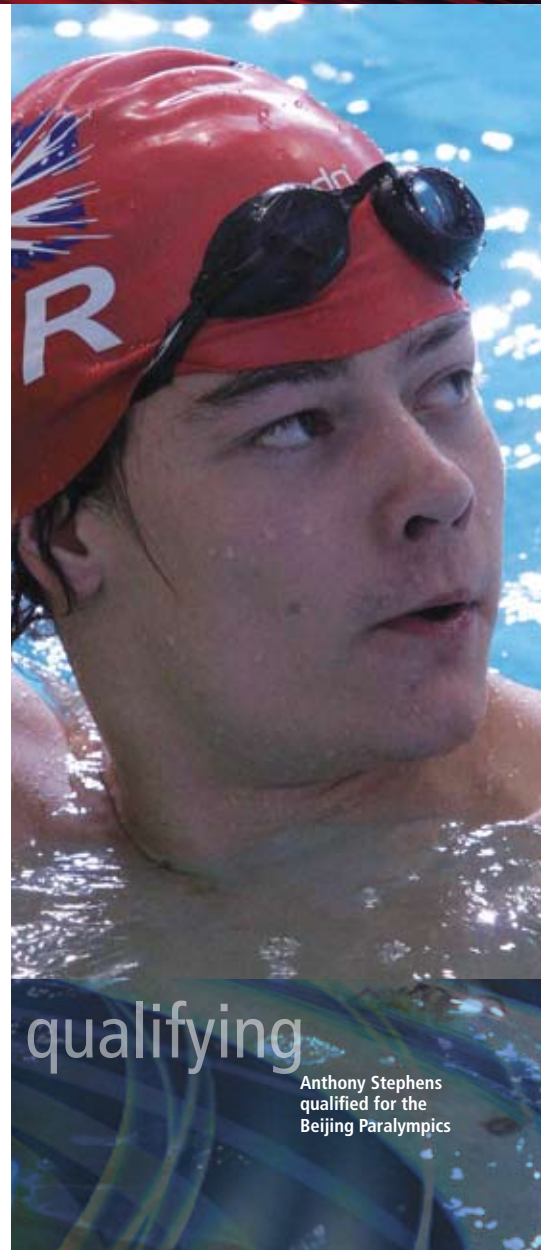
Comprehensive drug testing programme

Two hundred and five samples were collected by UK Sport through the out of competition dope testing programme, of which 10 were second samples, whilst 34 tests were also taken from the extensive in-competition programme.

British Swimming has its own anti-doping rules. These rules are adopted and implemented in compliance with British Swimming's responsibilities to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), FINA and UK sport.

In May 2007, we launched our Education Model Guidelines through UK Sport to enable us to implement strategies and plans for the delivery of education and information programmes. Swimming was one of the first sports to complete these and they can be downloaded from: www.100percentme.co.uk.

British Swimming has: 58 swimmers, 15 divers, 38 elite disabled athletes and two synchro swimmers (a total of 113) on the out of competition testing programme. Out of competition testing is also done at water polo training for senior and junior men and women at the high performance centre in Manchester.



qualifying

Anthony Stephens
 qualified for the
 Beijing Paralympics

Section six	Governance, structures and partnerships - delivering the sport with integrity
VISION	Swimming, as a major sport, recognises the importance of ensuring that business activities follow best practice in corporate governance and that clear lines of responsibility, accountability and reporting are in place.
WINNING ATHLETES	Swimming will: Ensure all board members are aware of their corporate responsibility. Develop strong partnerships to ensure swimming has a voice at all critical levels of sports governance. Ensure there is a comprehensive communication strategy in place. Ensure there is a solid infrastructure, providing the platform for the technical experts to work.
	Key members of the Federation will represent swimming on policy-making forums. Comprehensive communications strategy developed and implemented. All board members trained on good corporate governance and best practice. Solid infrastructure and technical tools in place.

Section 6 - policy making

British Swimming continues to place members in policy-making roles in the international arena and also recognises the value of their international influence and involvement in leadership programmes.

Representatives on policy making forums include Chris Holmes, member of the UK Sport Board, Tim Reddish, Chairman of the International Paralympic Committee Swimming (IPC), Yvette Heywood, member of the Youth Committee of the European Non-Governmental Sport Organisations (ENGSO.)

Craig Hunter is an alumni member of the UK Sport International Leadership Programme, Charlotte O'Neill is currently participating on the programme and Melanie Beck is participating on the UK Sport Women and Leadership Programme.

Communications

As reported last year, a review and restructure of the communications department was undertaken in 2008 and we now have separate PR and Media Managers for British Swimming and the *asa*, who report into the Communications Director.

Both managers have an executive to support them, and this restructure will allow for a more focussed and clearer approach to British Swimming and the *asa* communications activities.

TV

Gaining TV coverage and exposure continues to be a challenge. However, through the financial support of our event funding partners UK Sport, Manchester City Council and Sheffield City Council we have been able to gain TV coverage of 2008 international events. For the FINA World Diving Series in Sheffield, a live international feed was provided and a highlights package shown on Channel 4 and Sky Sports. For the 9th FINA World Swimming Championships (25m), there was extensive BBC coverage.

This is excellent exposure for our sport and we hope that with continued dialogue with the BBC, further engaging with Sky and through building relationships with other domestic broadcasters, we can build upon this for the future although it will remain challenging to secure airtime.

Athlete Exposure

Recently retired and current athletes have been used whenever possible to promote the sport through attendance at PR events and programmes such as the *asa* Awards Scheme presentation days, Get Safe 4 Summer, Kellogg's Swim Active and hosting VIPs at international events hosted by British Swimming. For example at the World Swimming Championships in Manchester, retired athletes helped host guests of all championship sponsors.

Corporate

A review of Board performance has been undertaken using a process developed by the Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations (ACEVO). An action plan for the development of the Board has been developed following the review and individual training plans for Board members will be developed as appropriate.

The induction programme for Board members has been reviewed and enhanced and is tailored to the individual needs of new Board members.

A review of risk management has been undertaken and a new Risk Strategy and Management Group set up to ensure all risks are identified and appropriate control measures are in place. Risks are now recorded on an interactive on-line database which provides comprehensive reports.

Policies are reviewed on an annual basis. A full review of financial policies was undertaken during the year and all financial policies and procedures added to the Policy Manual.

The Audit and Probity Committee have found both British Swimming and HPS Limited fit for purpose and will continue to undertake internal audits on the processes and systems.

Paralympic world cup

The Paralympic World Cup is an invitation only showcase event that pulls in some of the finest disabled swimmers from around the world. It is raced over a limited part of the programme with the sponsors aiming to provide exciting race after exciting race. With every seat in the Manchester Aquatics Centre full, the crowd were not disappointed.

The multi-disability (MD) events started and concluded the swimming programme - male and female 100m freestyle at the front end and 50m freestyle at the back end. Even to an educated audience, it is a difficult spectacle to understand, although the advent of a points system similar to that used in decathlon has made it easier to quickly decipher who has won. The points are calculated on the time posted in relation to the world record, with 1000 points equalling the record and a new record obviously worth more than 1000 points.

The MD 100m men's event was won by Sweden's Anders Olsson, an S6 swimmer, in a time of 1:06.43 (984 points). The silver went to Sebastian Rodriguez (S5) of Spain with 1:14.93 (940) and bronze to Britain's David Roberts. He was the fastest of the medallists but S7 has a faster world record so his time of 1:03.03 provided him with 936 points.

The MD 50m freestyle at the end of the schedule produced a win for Matt Walker, although earlier in the day in the S7 50m freestyle he had come unstuck (literally) and fallen off the block. This left the single length race clear for David Roberts, with Lantz Lamback (USA) taking silver and Jonathon Fox, the young Briton, the bronze. The women's MD 50m freestyle produced one of many wins for Natalie Du Toit of South Africa. Britain's Claire Cashmore missed the bronze by just two points with Louise Watkin picking up sixth place. The men's S6 200m IM produced a near carbon-copy of the final result from the world championships in Durban last year. It was gold, silver and bronze to Great Britain, with Sascha Kindred, Matt Whorwood and Gareth Duke coming up with the goods once again. Determined not to be outdone, the British girls also produced a medal hat-trick in the S6 200 IM. Gold went to Natalie Jones, silver to Nyree Lewis and bronze to Elizabeth Johnson.

James Crisp's form was as good as ever as he recorded 1:04.92 in the S9 100m backstroke. But it wasn't good enough to beat Jarrett Perry of the US, who won in 1:04.33. Kenny Cairns has won lots of medals for Britain but this time, sadly, the S3 50 freestyle produced only a fourth place for the man from Glasgow.

Emma Cattle, the emerging young British swimmer, swam well in the S10 100m backstroke to finish sixth.

Fran Williamson came through in fine style in the final of the female S3 50m backstroke. She won in a time of 1:06.89, seeing off both the German Annke Conradi and Amaia Zuazua of Spain.

One of the most interesting starts to watch in disability swimming is that of Anthony Stephens. Born without legs, he sits on the block holding the lip and, on hearing the starting signal, launches himself into the air, rotating his arms in time to create a streamlined entry. He took silver in the final of the S5 100 freestyle.

In the S9 100 backstroke, Great Britain secured another silver and bronze courtesy of Claire Cashmore and Louise Watkin. Another gold went to the amazing Natalie Du Toit. Between the two British ladies, it was the older Cashmore who managed to stay mentally cooler with the second place only secure in the final 15 metres. Swansea based Gareth Duke won the S6 100 breaststroke, beating the two Russians, Formenkov and Zaharov.



disability

British hat-trick in the S6 200 IM at the Paralympic World Cup. Gold to Natalie Jones (centre), silver to Nyree Lewis (left) and bronze to Elizabeth Johnson

Section seven

Monitoring and evaluation

VISION

Swimming recognises that there is a need to establish clear lines of responsibility, accountability and reporting.

WINNING ATHLETES

Swimming will:

Ensure that the progress of athletes, coaches, teachers, officials and clubs can be tracked so that the implementation of development programmes continues to be effective.

Put in place a system that can monitor and evaluate the progress and achievements of programmes and initiatives, delivered by the network of strategic partners.

Centralised tracking system implemented.

Standardised monitoring and evaluation system in place.

Section 7 - monitoring and evaluation

During the past 12 months, the Sports Science and Sports Medicine (SSSM) team have continued to expand the number of support staff working with our World Class swimmers and focussed on key areas as outlined below.

The physiotherapy support in Loughborough expanded with the part-time employment of Emma Deakin who has been working closely with the head physiotherapist, Pat Dunleavy. Emma has taken a lead with the open water swimmers and has attended the majority of their camps and competitions over the previous year.

Blood profiling has resumed using a selection of Podium athletes to determine baseline levels for themselves as well as swimming as a group. Dr. Mike Peyrebrune who took the majority of the samples, and then worked closely with Dr. Ian Gordon to interpret the results, has led this project. Gavin Atkins at UK Sport has assisted with the logistics of these tests and has taken feedback from Mike in order to improve the online system that is being used.

In October 2007 we employed a full time nutritionist through the EIS Intern programme. Alex Pople has been working with the athletes to develop individual eating plans as well as an overall recovery strategy to be used in training and competitions.



Great Britain captain Craig Figes shoots for goal against Ukraine in the LEN European Nations Trophy in July 2007. Britain finished sixth.

An overhead-tracking camera has continued development through the work of Jodi Cossor with Andreas Wallbaum and UK Sport. It is anticipated that the system will be installed at one of the ITCs shortly and will be unique to the world of swimming. This will further enhance the biomechanical feedback to coaches and athletes on their technique and add to the current systems.

Tim Kerrison has continued to improve his race analysis software with more accurate data now possible after his data-mining project. He has also continued to train

more staff within the HCSI system to enable accurate analysis at more competitions. The database currently stands at more than 20,000 swims with input from staff in the UK and Australia.

Under the direction of Michael Scott, Sarah Rowell has been reviewing the SSSM structure in order to ensure that it sits within Michael's vision for the future of British Swimming. This will see exciting changes taking place over the coming year with SSSM support being based around the ITCs as well as some centrally based services.

British Swimming Limited Abbreviated Accounts (A company limited by guarantee)

Independent Auditors' Report to British Swimming Limited under section 247B of the Companies Act 1985

We have examined the abbreviated accounts of British Swimming Limited for the year ended 31 March 2008 set out on pages 20 to 21, together with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2008 prepared under section 226 of the Companies Act 1985.

This report is made solely to the company in accordance with section 247B of the Companies Act 1985. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company those matters we are required to state to it in a special auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company, for our work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

The Directors are responsible for preparing the abbreviated accounts in accordance with section 246 of the Companies Act 1985. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion as to whether the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts prepared in accordance with sections 246 (5) and (6) of the Act to the Registrar of Companies and whether the abbreviated accounts have been properly prepared in accordance with those provisions and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 2006/3 'The special auditors' report on abbreviated accounts in the United Kingdom' issued by the Auditing Practices Board. In accordance with that Bulletin we have carried out the procedures we consider necessary to confirm, by reference to the financial statements, that the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts and that the abbreviated accounts to be delivered are properly prepared.

Opinion

In our opinion the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts prepared in accordance with section 246(5) and (6) of the Companies Act 1985, and the abbreviated accounts on pages 20 to 21 have been properly prepared in accordance with those provisions.

haysmacintyre

Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors
Fairfax House
15 Fulwood Place
London
WC1V 6AY

September 2008

Abbreviated balance sheet as at 31 March 2008

	Note	2008 £	2008 £	2007 £	2007 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible fixed assets	2		343		-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors		257,657		281,365	
Cash at bank		296,998		215,886	
		554,655		497,251	
CREDITORS					
amounts falling due within one year		(394,342)		(186,463)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
			160,313		310,788
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
			160,656		310,788
CREDITORS					
amounts falling due after more than one year			-		(143,519)
NET ASSETS					
			160,656		167,269
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Profit and loss account			160,656		167,269
			160,656		167,269

The abbreviated accounts, which have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 applicable to small companies, were approved and authorised for issue by the board on September 20 and were signed on its behalf by:

C L Baillieu Director R M K J James Director

The notes on page 21 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Abbreviated Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2008

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The full financial statements, from which these abbreviated accounts have been extracted, have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007).

1.2 Revenue grants

Revenue grant, received in respect of expenditure charged to the Profit and Loss Account during the year. Unspent amounts are carried forward within deferred income to be offset against future expenditure.

1.3 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Office equipment	25% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line

1.4 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

2. Tangible fixed assets

	£
COST	
At 1 April 2007	91,274
Additions	429
At 31 March 2008	91,703
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 April 2007	91,274
Charge for the year	86
At 31 March 2008	91,360
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2008	343
At 31 March 2007	-

3. Company status

The company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £Nil (2007: £Nil) towards the assets of the company in the event of liquidation.

High Performance Swimming Limited Abbreviated Accounts (A company limited by guarantee)

Independent Auditors' Report to High Performance Swimming Limited under section 247B of the Companies Act 1985

We have examined the abbreviated accounts of High Performance Swimming Limited for the year ended 31 March 2008 set out on pages 23 to 25, together with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2008 prepared under section 226 of the Companies Act 1985.

Respective Responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

The Directors are responsible for preparing the abbreviated accounts in accordance with section 246 of the Companies Act 1985. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion as to whether the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts prepared in accordance with sections 246 (5) and (6) of the Act to the Registrar of Companies and whether the abbreviated accounts have been properly prepared in accordance with those provisions and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 2006/3 'The special auditors' report on abbreviated accounts in the United Kingdom' issued by the Auditing Practices Board. In accordance with that Bulletin we have carried out the procedures we consider necessary to confirm, by reference to the financial statements, that the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts and that the abbreviated accounts to be delivered are properly prepared.

Opinion

In our opinion the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts prepared in accordance with section 246(5) and (6) of the Companies Act 1985, and the abbreviated accounts on pages 23 to 25 have been properly prepared in accordance with those provisions.

haysmacintyre
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors
Fairfax House
15 Fulwood Place
London
WC1V 6AY

September 2008

Abbreviated balance sheet as at 31 March 2008

	Note	2008 £	2008 £	2007 £	2007 £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	4	342,563		363,269	
Cash at bank and in hand		911,669		1,764,650	
		<u>1,254,232</u>		<u>2,127,919</u>	
CREDITORS					
amounts falling due within one year		<u>(1,254,232)</u>		<u>(2,127,919)</u>	
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
			<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
			<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>

The abbreviated accounts, which have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 applicable to small Companies, were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf by:

C L Baillieu Director **R M K J James** Director

The notes on pages 24 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Abbreviated Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2008

1. Statement of accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The full financial statements, from which these abbreviated accounts have been extracted, have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007).

1.2 Cash flow

The financial statements do not include a cash flow statement because the company, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement under the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007).

1.3 Revenue grants

Revenue grants, received in respect of expenditure charged to the Profit and Loss Account during the year, have been included in income for the year. Unspent amounts are carried forward within deferred income to be offset against future expenditure.

1.4 Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate ruling on the date of purchase of the foreign currency.

Exchange gains and losses are recognised in the profit and loss account.

2. Operating loss

	2008 £	2007 £
Operating result is stated after charging	-	-
Auditors' remuneration (VAT inclusive)	6,463	2,350
TOTAL	<u>6,463</u>	<u>2,350</u>

Central overheads are incurred by Amateur Swimming Association and are recharged to the Company by means of a management charge.

3. Staff costs

	2008 £	2007 £
Wages and Salaries	2,096,587	1,454,197
Social security costs	209,884	151,792
Pension costs	111,914	53,232
TOTAL	<u><u>2,418,385</u></u>	<u><u>1,659,221</u></u>

Directors emoluments £Nil (2007: Nil)

	2008 No.	2007 No.
The average monthly number of employees, including the Directors, during the year was as follows:	<u><u>61</u></u>	<u><u>50</u></u>

4. Debtors

All amounts fall due for payment within one year.

Trade debtors include £2,500 (2007: £Nil) due from British Swimming Limited.

Other debtors include £4,873 (2007: £Nil) due from British Swimming Limited.

5. Share capital

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have any share capital.

6. Asset additions

During the year asset additions through UK Sport Funding amounted to £168,777 (2007: £135,676). These assets were written off to the Profit and Loss Account in accordance with UK Sport guidance.

Thank you

British Swimming would like to place on record its sincere appreciation to all the volunteers and professional staff in the three constituent countries who contributed to both domestic and international programmes for the good of the sport.

Thank you to all contributors to this report

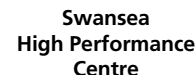
Chris Baillieu	British Swimming Chairman
David Sparkes	British Swimming Chief Executive
Anne Adams-King	Director of English Programmes
Sylvia Armiger	World Class Programmes Manager
Katie Brazier	Sponsorship and Events Director
Wendy Coles	Athlete Support
Jodi Cossor	Sports Science Manager
Wendy Lockton	World Class Operations Manager
Spencer Moore	Head of Workforce Development
Jane Nickerson	Director of Operations
Charlotte O'Neill	Events Manager
Noel Winter	Facilities Manager

For production and editing

Peter Hassall	Editor Swimming Times magazine
SWpix	Official photographers to British Swimming

Partners and sponsors

British Swimming wishes to express its thanks to the following companies and organisations for their support during the past 12 months.



Tom Daley became European champion at the age of 13





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