

From the Chair.....

We are very proud of our community swimming pool, very few like it are left, less than 100 in the whole of the UK. It provides a safe, accessible and local recreation and social facility. It provides a place for local young people to work and volunteer and for new skills to be learned. To keep this great facility going requires the dedication of a large committee and we are fortunate in having, at this time, a group of Trustees with a very wide range of skills and experience representing all parts of our village communities

The Pool Committee's work is year round. In the winter, we are updating policies, fundraising and carrying out maintenance. In the season we have to constantly monitor health and safety, child protection, Lifeguard and volunteer rotas and training as well as financial management and stock control.

Our Pool is a Charity and Registered as a Company, we are not a profit making organisation. All money we raise from admissions to the pool, the refreshment kiosk and campsite fees are immediately ploughed back into running costs. We have a constant financial shortfall for repairs and maintenance which has to be made up by fundraising and applying for grants.

This year, again, a huge voluntary effort in March and April ensured the Pool opened in time for the brilliant Easter holiday weather however, once again, the weather in July and August was poor and, although we opened every day, business was very variable.

Recognising the extremely difficult financial climate, we have tried to keep running costs down and prices for customers as low as possible. **We feel that our key role as a place for the local community to meet, for children to have safe outdoor exercise and for families and individuals to enjoy swimming requires us to keep charges affordable.** Rising costs of utilities, electricity in particular, chemicals, paint, insurance etc are the main threat to the Pools existence. The committee is working on a programme of Grant applications and fundraising ideas to address key needs, but the continued involvement of the villagers as supporters and customers has *never* been more important. Without good sales of season tickets in particular we face severe financial problems.

For nearly 50 years, our communities have supported and run the Pool through voluntary effort. We hope this tradition will continue. All villagers are welcome at any committee meeting and we welcome and support anyone wishing to volunteer.

Volunteers and Lifeguards

Volunteers of all ages have given many, many hours of their time. In the kiosk, during the holidays, well over 50 volunteer hours are worked each week. Others work on repairs, painting, publicity, fundraising, adminthe list is long, we have around 60 volunteers giving time to the pool. We are so grateful to people who are part of this effort, however much or little time they can afford to give, it keeps the Pool open and at the heart of our community social life.

We were fortunate to have a great team of lifeguards again this year, led by Jo. And including now 3 parents and members of the Committee.

Our other lifeguards are all local young people, who we train in an arrangement with other small pools to a nationally recognised qualification..They all bring a totally professional attitude to the work.



Using the Pool to the full.....

Swimming and canoeing lessons again proved successful as have water polo and children's games sessions. Private swimming lessons were also available.

Our adult sessions have grown in number and some early mornings have become almost crowded! 'Breakfast swims, hosted by a rota of volunteer 'bacon butty' chefs were a popular feature this year. Three after dark events were a huge success: the 24 hour Midsummer Night swim, the Hawaiian Night and the Closing Party.

The Gala was highly successful, we welcomed the Deputy Chief Constable to present the prizes and also to get thrown in to raise funds!

Lazonby School again used the pool over 2 weeks for swimming lessons for all the children and hosted an Inter Schools Gala. We are very grateful to the school for our continued use of the school field. This extra space makes a huge difference to the enjoyment of families visiting the pool.



We hosted more private parties this year from local families and various youth organisations and Arragon's Triathlon Club held a training session one evening.

Sustainability

The state of the pool plant and the pool itself continue to be a major concern. The heat pump, now 29 years old, managed to complete the season with a couple of minor problems. Its replacement has now become a priority.

With grant aid, we replaced the pool cover in April, this immediately reduced loss of heat, water and chemicals by evaporation as well as being much easier to use.

The pool still has a leak, which by process of elimination must lie in the underground pipes between the pool and the filters. This is under investigation.

We have started work to replace cracked drainage pipes to the rear of the pool and will install a washing up sink for campers as part of this. The chlorinator was replaced in April.

We still have issues with the paint in the pool bed which is subject to discussion between ourselves and the supplier/painter

New signage for the Pool, campsite and Community Park is now in place. The new playground opened in February creating another great selling point for the area. Longer term, we are looking to upgrade the changing rooms.



Campsite

Our small, riverside campsite is a **vital** source of income for the Pool and is good for businesses in the village. *Our thanks are due, once again, to David and Jenny at 'The Midland' for taking bookings and collecting fees. We wish them well in their new home in 2012.*



Getting better known.....

This year we have continued to develop a marketing and publicity strategy. Our website has raised our profile on search engines and is a major benefit to the Pool. We now have a Facebook page and also had some great TV and Radio coverage for the 24 hour swim.

Lazonby Pool gratefully acknowledges support from the following organisations:

**The Midland Hotel*

**Lace's Garage*

**Lazonby Parish*

Council

**Kirkoswald Parish Council*

**Cumbria Youth Alliance*

**Cumbria Tourism*

**Carlisle Canoe Club*

**Lazonby CofE School*

**John Judson, Plumber*

**Graham Dent & Co.*

**The Methodist Youth Guild*

**Hather Financial Services*

**James Fruit & Veg *Cranstons*

**Bells of Lazonby*

**County Councillor Hilary Carrick
on behalf of Cumbria County Council*



and also the very generous support of individuals, families and other local businesses.

The Committee:2010-2011

Chris Hill (Chair)

Sandra Taylor (Secretary)

Don Scott (Treasurer)

Sally Frost

Jane Orr

Becky Farndon

Stuart St.

John Stuart Harper Eileen Jackson

John Judson (Lazonby Parish Council)

Yvonne Hu Ken Adams

Emma Robinson

Jo Metcalfe

(lifeguard) Yvonne Hunt (Lazonby School)

Other volunteers attended Committee meetings and made a great contribution to the administration of the Pool.

We would like to thank Fiona Potter, who resigned this year, for all her hard work especially on our Child Protection Policy.

Highlights of the Year!

**The Lifeguard Team:*

Jo, Katie, Lizzie, Matt, Stuart, Eileen, Becky, Tasha, Charlotte, Johnny, Tom, Jackson, Megan, Beth, Nicky.

**Swimming lessons*



**24 Hour Swim*

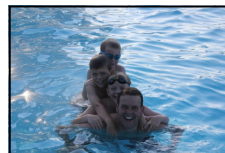
**The Gala*

**The New Pool Cover*



**Home made cakes*

** Being on TV and Radio*



**Sunny Days*

**Breakfast Swims*

**Hawaiian Night and other BBQ's*

** Schools Gala*

**Canoeing*



** The
Playground*

** The Midland*



**Triathlon Training Night*

But most of all...The Volunteer Team****

Lazonby & District Swimming Pool Association Ltd



Annual Report 2011

Company No. 6553636

Charity No. 1123849

www.lazonbypool.co.uk