

One swim, four records

Simon Griffiths | H2Open Editor | Tuesday 19 August 2014

An international team of six swimmers has just fallen short in an attempt to complete the longest ever freshwater relay but set four other records along the way.

Julie Bradshaw MBE (UK), Bridgette Hobart (USA), Georgina Tuffin (UK), Lisa Auchinvole (UK), Andrew Koval (Australia) and Danny Bryson (UK) were attempting to swim 14 lengths of Windermere, England's longest lake, in standard one-hour rotation relay format to cover a total distance of 147 miles. The current record is 12 lengths.

Unfortunately the relay had to be aborted during the 11th leg when one member of the team collapsed from exhaustion.



"Obviously we are disappointed not to have completed a new 14 way record but the health and safety of the team is paramount," says Bradshaw, adding that the swimmer later fully recovered.

Despite not reaching their ultimate goal, the team were the fastest to swim 7, 8, 9 and 10 ways of the lake.

The attempt was not just about the record books though but was a fund-raising venture for Rainbows Children's Hospice in memory of Susan Taylor, who died while attempting to swim the English Channel in July 2013. She had originally hoped to be part of the team. The swimmers have so far raised more than £2,000.

The team was also supported by swim brand Aqua Sphere.

"I always use Aqua Sphere goggles which give me unbeatable 180 degree vision and superb no-fiddle comfort, even in the roughest water," says Bradshaw. "I'm also delighted with Aqua Sphere's Pamela swimsuit which is extremely comfortable and held up so well."

To support see: <https://www.justgiving.com/relayworldrecordswim/>



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