Croatia Swim Camp First instalment.

Passports, boarding tickets, money. Check. If Dana had checked the boarding passes once she’d checked a hundred times since leaving home. Luckily this year no one had forgotten their passports so another tick and panic over. Although the early morning start wasn’t to everyone’s liking. One of the swimmers decided to maximise his beauty sleep to the very last minute. Not even the phone calls to his hotel room stirred him from his sweet dreams.

Eventually surfacing and tying his shoelaces whilst hopping down to reception looking dapper as usual (I was however referred to as looking like Michael Macintyre and I’d had time for a shower!) Anyway no harm done and there was still time for a quick photo shoot before the emotional goodbyes as another one had tears and didn’t want to go but with a bit of coaxing Dana realised she didn’t have a choice as she was the chaperone.

All the planning was about to pay off, Ian and Graham had a weekend to Croatia in April to iron out any possible problems ensuring the trip could run like clockwork…… what could possibly go wrong….

A very busy Bank Holiday airport at 5 in the morning, Ryanair and Security took so long that there was no time for any casual shopping or a bite to eat. Time had run out. The last call for the flight had been and gone. The only words echoing from Graham’s quivering lips was ‘MAX EFFORT!’ as the group sprinted their way across the airport terminal towards the departure gate, rugby tackling holidaymakers out of the way and hurdling over luggage and sprawling people like Colin Jackson in the Olympics. Ryanair feeling compassionate or the fact that Dana wouldn’t let go of the boarding staff ankles, reopened the gate allowing the group to sheepishly take their seats… no harm done really, they only caused the flight to be slightly delayed, but at least Graham had stopped crying. Oh how I wish the website address wasn’t printed on the back of the jackets!!

Anyway they have arrived in Croatia safe and mostly well, the minibus journey didn’t agree with everyone putting Dana’s nursing skills to the test. Mental note for next year must pack travel pills and sick bags in first aid kit!