



Whitworth Swimming Club



## **Chairman's report**

**Hello everyone and welcome to the Whitworth Swimming Club AGM  
November 10<sup>th</sup> 2014 at Whitworth Riverside 6.30pm.**

### **Acknowledgements**

As Chair person of Whitworth Swimming Club I would like to formally thank all the Swimming Teachers, Assistants, Volunteers, Pool Staff, Children and Parents and Community Leisure Association of Whitworth (CLAW) for making this a fantastic 2014 during our forty-second year birthday anniversary.

Your hard work and dedication throughout the year has been much appreciated by the current committee and the club members.

Extra special thanks to Michelle Ashcroft, Kim Blezard, Sam Keiley and Andrea Barlow for going the extra miles in organising and delivering a fantastic Kandel Exchange in August 2014 and for their support in making events and activities happen.

An extra special thank you to Ian Barker for his sterling work on the tuck shop and his monthly reconciliations which make it easy to produce the accounts.

A special thank you to Hayden, Chris, Rachael and the team at Whitworth Leisure Centre who have been a fantastic help this year with events / standing orders and many other issues.

### **Some Key Headlines are:**

The swimming club has been working hard to increase our core offer and now we cover: Swimming, Water Polo, Badges, Fun Sessions, Lanes sessions, Distance nights and Galas offering a broad and diverse range of activities to keep the width and lane swimmers interested.

#### **Remembrance Sunday 10.11.13**

At remembrance Sunday, Whitworth Swimming Club teacher Kim Blezard and some of the swimmers from the club laid a wreath at the Whitworth Remembrance Sunday service.

<http://www.whitworthvalley.com/#/remembrance-sunday-2013/4581046208>

#### **Christmas Party and Medal Celebration 2013**

The official "**Swimming Club Party**" and medal celebration was held at the Riverside on the 3<sup>th</sup> November 2013. The party was well attended and every child / participant in the gala received a certificate. Feedback from children and families is that they really enjoyed the event.

<http://www.whitworthswimmingclub.com/#/medals-2013/4580903719>

### **Christmas Holidays**

Before finishing for the Christmas Holidays, each child received a selection box from the club. We also received a number of boxes of chocolates which were shared amongst the teachers. The club also donated 4 memberships to the local primary schools as raffle prizes for Christmas Raffles.

The club also presented teaching assistants with a £10 cinema voucher as a thank you for volunteering and showing dedicated support over the year.

### **Teachers Christmas Party January 2013**

In February 2014 the swimming teachers had a belated Christmas Party at the Cock and Magpie Inn. A good time was had by all.

### **The Annual Distance Night 2014**

Due to capacity constraints we have deferred the distance night from 2014 to February 2015 and will make it a sponsorship event to raise club and charity funds.

### **The Junior Splash n Dash – Part of Whitworth Sports Festival 2014**

Whitworth Swimming Club held the Junior Splash n Dash on 15 June 2014 as part of the Whitworth Sports Festival 2014 with over 40 entries. Entrants were presented with certificates for participation with medals for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in various age groups

<http://wsf2014.whitworth-sports-council.co.uk/#!album-26>

### **Kandel Exchange 29<sup>th</sup> July 2014 to 5<sup>th</sup> August 2014**

On 29th July, Whitworth Swimming Club welcomed 25 children and 4 adults on the annual Exchange to Whitworth's twin town, Kandel in Germany.

The fun and activities kicked off on Tuesday evening with:

Welcome Party

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10204278962271174.1073742040.1141972093&type=1&l=3b022b2038>

Wednesday: Crocky Trail and Fun-night and photo-booth

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10204279351000892.1073742041.1141972093&type=1&l=5185897eca>

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10204294078329066.1073742042.1141972093&type=1&l=fe2de8e1c3>

Thursday – Ferry on the Mersey and Messy Night

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10204298807927303.1073742044.1141972093&type=1&l=22e6357783>

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10204339101534618.1073742047.1141972093&type=1&l=6b32fac28d>

Friday - Lytham St. Anne's and Blackpool

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10204235362901217.1073742030.1141972093&type=1&l=0070076979>

Saturday was family day.

Sunday – Cowm Reservoir and then Cowm Leisure

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10204243325700282.1073742034.1141972093&type=1&l=897a0ffb6b>

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10204241311809936.1073742032.1141972093&type=1&l=ccf99b9064>

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10204278068288825.1073742037.1141972093&type=1&l=1d60ab03ed>

Monday – Walk around Whitworth, Leaving Party and Tuesday wave off.

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10204244397527077.1073742035.1141972093&type=1&l=460a2ebac6>

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10204237026462805.1073742031.1141972093&type=1&l=397b68e711>

### **Annual Swimming Gala Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

The Swimming Gala was a fantastic success on the We held over 75 events including a special race for non-swimmers and favourite mum's and dad's race. A range of feedback from parents and kids indicated that it was a long afternoon but they really enjoyed the races and the cheering on of young swimmers.

### **Swimming Club Leavers 2013 to 2014**

During the year we had a number of leavers from Swimming Club who were presented with either flowers or a gift to show our appreciation.

- Rebecca O'Loughlan left at Christmas 2013
- Mel Charmer left at Summer 2014
- Alicia Senelle left at Summer 2014
- Jess Smithies left at Christmas 2013

### **New teachers qualifying at STA (A) level**

Well done to the following teachers who qualified:

- Krista Siemens
- Faye Beasley
- Olivia Mawdsley
- Robbie Blezard
- Sian O'Dell
- Sue Jubb
- Simon Dews

### **We have welcomed a range of teaching Assistants**

We have a range of dedicated volunteer teaching assistants who give up their free time each week to assist at Whitworth Swimming Club.

We developed and introduced a new leaflet to support them in their development.

### **Other areas of Interest**

- New Activities Calendar for 2015
- Capturing email addresses of new members in 2015
- Continuing with the 3 strike rule

## **So what else has the club achieved over the past 12 months?**

### **Communications and Marketing**

- Quarterly updates in Whitworth News Magazine
- Continued with the success of our Swimming Club newsletter  
<http://www.whitworthswimmingclub.com/#/downloads/4544525909>
- Extended the arm of friendship with CLAW who will have a small section in the newsletter
- Updated Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/253308758086422/>
- Website going from strength to strength: <http://www.whitworthswimmingclub.com/>
- Some great press releases in the Rochdale Observer and local news items
- More leaflets on display and posters

### **Systems and Processes**

- We will continue with the activities calendar for 2015 at the request of parents.
- New Constitution pending for Whitworth Swimming Club
- New leaflet for Assistants and Teachers
- Pending new JD for Swimming Teachers
- We will be increasing the annual membership at £17.50
- We have begun to get a grip and purchase of the standing order procedure and processes
- We are continuing to capture email addresses for marketing to parents and guardians
- We have new teacher rota's

**Finally we have taught 100s of children and teenagers to swim, swim safe, develop their strokes, life save, play water-polo, compete, have fun, improve fitness, develop confidence, and respect and listen to teachers.**

**We have also supported teaching assistants to complete their Duke of Edinburgh and secure college studies and supported our qualified teachers via references into employment.**

**Working as a volunteer in our great team and achieving the above is what makes me come and do this every week to support the club.**

Signed:



**Mike Burgess  
Chair Person  
Whitworth Swimming Club  
10<sup>th</sup> November 2014**