

BIRMINGHAM MASTERS

January 2014 Newsletter

Edited by Steve Langford (stevelangford@blueyonder.co.uk)

Coach's message

Hi all! It's been a good start to 2014 with lots of members turning up for sessions...I was a little disappointed with so many swimmers not turning up to sessions after the Nationals in Sheffield...so like I say, it's been a good start with most sessions having large numbers. There are also sessions that are on the quiet side, so if you fancy doing an extra session...?? come along! I would also like to see some of the club swimmers try entering some opens...?? I have been impressed with the level of training that all of you put in...Let's see how you get on in competitions - You never know, you may like it!

Keep up the good work

All the best...IAN

KE Pool Closures and Parking restrictions

There is no swimming session on the following dates:

- Tuesday 25th February - School event
- Friday 28th, Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th March
- Midlands targeted meet
- Friday 13th, Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th June
- Long Course Championships targeted meet
- Tuesday 1st July - School event
- Friday 4th July - School event
- Saturday 5th July - School event
- Friday 24th, Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th October
- Short Course Championships targeted meet

Parking on school site

The school has confirmed that members are once again welcome to park on the Parade Ground, just by the swimming pool. This is accessed via Park Vale Drive, the entrance being on the Bristol Road. The gate closes on a timer at night and at weekends, so you may find yourself unable to get in on Tuesdays and on Saturdays and Sundays. However if you are on site and the gates then close, they will automatically open when approached by vehicles exiting the site.

Some members may nonetheless still prefer to park on the main school drive, and this is still acceptable, apart from certain dates set by the school.

There is no parking permitted on the main drive on the following dates:

- Friday 17th January
- Saturday 18th January
- Tuesday 21st January

Furthermore on the following dates, parking is not permitted on the main drive nor the Parade Ground:

- Friday 24th January
- Friday 31st January
- Tuesday 4th February
- Wednesday 12th February
- Friday 28th March

The Chief Master has specifically stated that under no circumstances should any person park their vehicle on the double yellow lines throughout the site, at the Ruddock Performing Arts Centre and most definitely not on the grass verges.

When no parking is allowed on the main school drive or the Parade Ground, club members may park at:

- Sports hall
- Parking bays leading up the Chief Master's drive (but not in front of the CM's house and garage)
- Playing field off Bristol Road (please remember although it may look like the gate is closed, it is not)
- Birmingham University car park, Edgbaston Park Road, Saturdays and Sundays and after 4pm Monday to Friday

Forthcoming Meets

The Club is targeting the following meets next year. As they are targeted meets, there will be no training on those days:

Midlands Championships (Leamington) - Friday 28th to Sunday 30th March 2014

Closing date: 3rd March 2014

Website for entries:

<http://www.swimming.org/britishswimming/calendar/midland-open-masters-seniors-championships-2014>

Long Course Nationals (Swansea) - Friday 13th to Sunday 15th June 2014

Closing date: To be announced

Website for entries: To be announced

Short Course Nationals (Sheffield) – Friday 24th to Sunday 26th October
2014

Closing date: To be announced

Website for entries: To be announced

Other galas, that many BMSC members may be interested in, are:

Staffordshire Masters Meet (Wolverhampton) – Saturday 8th February 2014

Closing date: 26th January 2014 – **get your entry in now!**

Website for entries: <http://www.icklepeoplesoftware.co.uk/>

Bracknell Masters Meet (Bracknell) – Saturday 1st March 2014

Closing date: 5th February 2014

Website for entries: http://www.bwsc.org.uk/bwsc_mastersOpen.php

Royal Navy Meet (Millfield School, Somerset) – Sunday 30th March 2014

Closing date: Friday 14th March 2014

Website for entries:

<http://www.swimming.org/britishswimming/calendar/royal-open-masters-2014>

Gloucester Masters Open Meet (Gloucester) – Sunday 13th April 2014

Closing date: Saturday 15th March 2014

Website for entries: To be announced

Details of meets around the country are available at:

<http://www.swimming.org/britishswimming/calendar/> . The calendar has recently been redesigned – good luck finding your way around it!

Open Water events can be found at the website of the Long Distance Swimming Association, at www.bldsa.org.uk/ and there are further details on the “Great Swim” series of events at www.greatswim.org/.

If you are entering a meet, please inform Luke Swain (swainl@pbworld.com) or Claire Potter (claire_j_potter@yahoo.com), who will arrange relays if there are enough swimmers available.

Christmas Party

A great time was had by all at this season's Xmas party – so we're looking forward already to the next one! The venue has already been booked, and we've secured again the Edgbaston Golf Club. The Christmas Dinner, Awards Ceremony and Disco will take place on Saturday 29th November 2014. Reserve the date now!

ASA Survey

You are strongly encouraged to take part in the ASA's National Data Collection Project. The ASA are keen to learn more about swimmers of all ages, to provide a better service. We Masters swimmers often feel a little overlooked by the ASA, so it's important that we make a significant contribution to this survey.

Go to www.surveymonkey.com/s/Clubs13_Members - it should only take about 10 minutes to complete.

I wonder how many people will tick "Over 26hrs" for question 17?

Kit

We are currently making the final decisions on new kit. The material and design have been chosen for the new shirts – but we now need your opinions on the colour. There will be example shirts on the poolside for the next couple of weeks – please take a look and share your thoughts!

The ASA T30 Challenge – 1st December 2013 – a report from Pauline Cooke

Only 14 swimmers (7 men and 7 ladies) took part in the T30 Challenge held on Sunday 1st December, compared to 22 swimmers last year.

Well done to all the swimmers who took part and the others that came down and helped with the lap recording. There were some good distances achieved and these and the lap times can be seen on the sheet at the pool side.

Entry to the **National Competition** costs £5 and **closes on 4th February** and all swimmers must enter individually online (British Swimming/Masters/T30 Challenge/to enter). When entering it asks for the name of the lap recorder and their phone number, please put in **Luke Swain 07736 321804**

The National Results will be available on the British Swimming website at the end of February.

Meet the Members

A regular feature in the Club's newsletter, where we give brief profiles on some of our members. Send us your details if you'd like to be included in future issues... This week, another husband and wife swimming team - we give you the Underys...

Name: Harriet "Harry" Undery
Age-group: B (30 - 34)
Swimming origins: Chalfont Otters Swimming Club, but never seriously!
Proudest moment: Enjoying my first swimming masters race...Usually I am too terrified, I forget to enjoy it! A 200m Free at the Midlands three years ago.
Sporting Hero: Dame Ellen MacArthur - a formidable sailor, who is even shorter than me!
Favourite Drink: You just can't beat a cup of tea (or a cold glass of Sauvignon Blanc, if I am allowed!)
Claim to fame: I was on the telly for climbing Everest! (Well, sort of...)
3 words: Slowly...getting...bigger!

Name: Pete "Pants" Undery
Age-group: C (35 - 39)
Swimming origins: Cardiff Swimming Club
Proudest moment: Winning "Swimmer of the Year" - Birmingham Masters, 2005!
Sporting Hero: Daley Thompson
Favourite Drink: Flaming Sambuca
Fun fact: Claims to be Welsh, but actually was born in the same hospital as my wife in High Wycombe.
3 words: Smells of chlorine