

# BIRMINGHAM MASTERS

July 2016 Newsletter

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## AGM news

This year's AGM took place on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June, at the slightly unusual setting of a curry house - Chairman Sue Cramb explained it was an idea put forward by the committee to encourage attendance from non-committee members.

Sue delivered her Chairman's report, in which she congratulated all the successful swimmers, including record-breakers this year, and everyone who had enjoyed special life events, such as babies or weddings, and she then thanked each member of the committee for their contributions this year. She gave a recap of the recent changes to training times, due to the decision of KES to end all sessions before 6:30pm weekdays, which knocked out two of our sessions. She thanked Pauline Cooke for her work in securing pool time in the Uni's new 50m pool, whose opening has now been postponed to December. Sue also wished speedy and full recoveries to Pauline and to Keith Ingram.

Sue observed that at the Europeans, members were not in matching club kit, and felt that it is important to do better for meets in future.

Sue felt that, in summary, with all the troubles over session times, it had nonetheless been a successful year.

Ian Parker submitted a Treasurer's Report, showing that 2015/16 was a good year for the club financially, being the first full year of Standing Order payments. He estimated an underlying profit, after stripping out the effects of the pool closure last Easter, of approximately £1,100 in the year.

Ed Salt, Coaching Co-ordinator, reported that the delay to the opening of the new 50m pool, which is now scheduled for December, has now pushed the planned BMSC gala there off into 2018.

Elections for the committee took place.

Finally, after the meeting was closed, large quantities of curry were eaten.

## Your committee

Chair	Sue Cramb	Secretary	Luke Swain
Treasurer	Ian Parker	Membership Secretary	Alison Peakman
Welfare Officer	Caroline Swain	SWIM21 Co-ordinator	Sue Cramb
Website	Pete Undery	Newsletter	Steve Langford
Kit	Jim Hunt		
Coaching Co-ordinator	Ed Salt		
Social Secretaries	Harriet Undery, Suzy Hurst		
Men's Team Captain	Vacancy		
Women's Team Captain	Katie Walker-Stabeler		
Committee member without portfolio	Joanna Cox		
Independent Examiner	Terri Halsted		

## Reminder of session times

### Current sessions:

Tuesday	20.30-21.30	KES Boys' pool
Wednesday	19.00-20.00	Munrow Pool, at University of Birmingham
Thursday	20.45-21.45	Harborne Pool
Saturday	08.30-10.00	KES Boys' pool
Sunday	17.00-18.30	KES Boys' pool
	(6 hours pool time)	

### From the opening of the new uni pool (December?):

Tuesday	20.30-21.30	KES Boys' pool
Wednesday	18.15-19.30	New Birmingham Uni pool @ 25m
Thursday	20.15-21.30	New Birmingham Uni pool @ 50m
Saturday	08.30-09.30	KES Boys' pool
Sunday	17.00-18.30	KES Boys' pool
	(6 hours pool time)	

## Forthcoming Meets

### Major Club Targeted Meets:

**Midlands Masters (Leamington Spa)** - Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> + Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2016

Closing date: tbc

Website for entries: <http://www.swimming.org/asa/calendar/midland-open-masters-seniors-championships-2016>

**National Short Course Championships (Sheffield)** - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Closing date: tbc

Website for entries: <http://www.swimming.org/asa/calendar/asa-national-masters-and-senior-age-group-championships-2016>

*Further details about booking accommodation coming out next week.*

### Local Club Targeted Meets:

**Etwall Eagles Meet (Derby)** - Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Closing date: tbc

Website for entries: tbc

Details of meets around the country are available at:

<http://www.swimming.org/britishswimming/calendar/> .

Open Water events can be found at the website of the Long Distance Swimming Association, at [www.bldsa.org.uk/](http://www.bldsa.org.uk/) and there are further details on the "Great Swim" series of events at [www.greatswim.org/](http://www.greatswim.org/).

## Records set in 2015/16 by BMSC members - compiled by Keith Ingram

BMSC members made their mark on a national, international and even global scale in 2015 and the first half of 2016, with records tumbling, thanks to Judy, Keith, Spyros, Arthur, Alan, Allen, John, Trevor, Frank and Bob.

### Short course:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Age-group</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Swimmer</u>	<u>Record</u>
25.03.15	Rennes	50 Fly	70-74	36.10	Judy Wilson	World
30.01.16	Espinal	100 Fly	70-74	1:24.03.	Judy Wilson	World
12.03.16	Vic le Compte	200 Fly	70-74	3:26.69.	Judy Wilson	World
25.10.15	Sheffield	50 Breast	75-79	41.39	Keith Ingram	British
28.02.15	Bracknell	100 Breast	75-79	1:31.97.	Keith Ingram	British
12.07.15	Barnet Copthall	200 Breast	75-79	3:27.53.	Keith Ingram	British
10.01.15	Shrewsbury	100 Fly	75-79	1:34.97.	Keith Ingram	British
16.05.15	Midland	200 Fly	75-79	3:52.27.	Keith Ingram	British
10.01.15	Shrewsbury	100 I.M.	75-79	1:26.63.	Keith Ingram	British
16.05.15	Midland	200 I.M.	75-79	3:18.18.	Keith Ingram	British
25.10.15	Sheffield	400 I.M.	75-79	7:21.68.	Keith Ingram	British

### Long Course:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Age-group</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Swimmer</u>	<u>Record</u>
10.08.15	World Kazan	50 Fly	50-54	27.87	Spyros Georgallides	British
13.06.15	Manchester	50 Breast	75-79	42.47	Keith Ingram	British
31.01.15	Crawley	200 I.M.	75-79	3:23.59.	Keith Ingram	British
28.05.16	Europeans	100 Free	80-84	1:26.63.	Arthur Lowe	British
27.05.16	Europeans	50 Back	80-84	44.68	Arthur Lowe	British

### Relays:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Age-group</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Swimmers</u>	<u>Record</u>
02.04.16	Sheffield	4x50m Free	320/359	2:33.08	Alan Jackson, Allen Miles, Arthur Lowe, John Tennant	European
29.05.16	Europeans	4x50 Medley	320/359	3:02.74	Arthur Lowe, Alan Jackson, John Tennant, Allen Miles	European
29.05.16	Europeans	4x50 Medley	240/279	2:12.89	Trevor Clark, Frank Stoney, Spyros Georgallides, Bob Cramb	British

About a year ago we started talking about the possibility of competing in the LEN European Aquatics Championships. It was a particularly enticing event as it was to be held in the iconic Aquatic Centre in London. Irresistible! Given half a chance, who wouldn't take the opportunity to swim in the same pool as Adam Peaty, Rebecca Adlington and Ellie Simmonds and co? And it is such a beautiful building designed by the recently deceased Zaha Hadid. So hotels were booked, holidays arranged around the dates and strict training regimes begun (poetic license for some). We all took the commitment seriously and were very quick to choose our events and pay up, delighted that we could make the qualifying times. Apparently the ASA warned LEN that this would be a very popular event beyond previous experience. Qualifying times could possibly be made more competitive? They decided to restrict the number of individual events to five and the total number of swims to 14,000. My entry number was 1,043 at 12.30pm (entries opened at 12 noon and I would have been even quicker if I had been more competent at photo uploading!) The site went into overdrive and all 14,000 swims were allocated within 50 hours of opening.

So, what of those poor souls all over Europe who had booked hotels, arranged transport including flights and been in training for months? To begin with a hard lines approach seemed to be the answer, but LEN were worn down. I don't know by whom. Swimmers were asked to reduce their entries to three and if they didn't do this by a certain date this would be done for them! Nearly everyone complied and the entries were opened up again. This meant that there were 10,000 swimmers, swimming up to three events each plus relays. That is a lot of people!

With all these extra swimmers it was clear that one 50m swimming pool was not going to cope. Building a temporary pool was suggested. This was done in three weeks for the Invictus games in Florida and for the Commonwealth Games in Manchester over a longer period. Precedents had been set. But it was decided that the eight lane warm up pool (to be called Pool 2) could be used instead, with warm ups timetabled in both pools throughout the day. Once it was published which events were to be swum in which pool, some people withdrew completely - the concrete warm up pool had no spectator area, no atmosphere and was certainly no substitute for the real thing. Both my individual events were in Pool 2! A temporary call room was built for Pool 2. This was a glorified tent and involved a short trip outside - at least it wasn't raining or particularly cold.

Apparently Day 1 on Wednesday went very well with compliments about the organisation. I didn't swim that day. On Thursday I had my two events. The warm up for the morning event began at 6.30am, so I was very keen and in the queue at 5.30. I was in the water at 6.30 after a bit of a fight for changing room and locker space. I swam at about 7.30 and was back in the hotel for breakfast at 8.30. I was quite pleased with the swim and all in all it was a pleasurable experience, despite the Eastern bloc feel of Pool 2.

I went back to start queuing for the afternoon session. What happened? Long queues, no organisation, bright sunshine with no shade, no information. Warm up times came

and went, drinking water was finally distributed in the intense heat, questions asked, frustration abounding, fainting narrowly averted, more questions and no answers. Finally access gained, no space in changing rooms, officials apologetic and equally frustrated, no warm up, rubbish swim! Not good. This continued until Saturday but with a steady improvement every day. There were unexplainable queues for spectators too. Social media was very useful in exposing the truth - security told us the place was full and postings showed the reality. Security guards said it was the worst organised event they had ever been involved in. At various times the LEN organisers did appear to apologise to the extremely patient swimmers, but too little too late in most opinions.

By Sunday it was great - queues controlled and organised, numbers manageable, officials less stressed and more jolly.

Considering the diminished experience for many, we made the most of it. We met up with old friends, made new ones, watched some inspirational swimming and enjoyed the ambience once we were in Pool 1. I did get to swim one length in Pool 1. All relays were held in there, even if they did take place at 11.45 at night!

Am I glad I went along? Yes. I did swim one competitive length in Pool 1 and it was great to share the experience with some BMSC members. The definite high light was watching the 320+ Men's Medley Relay set a new European record.

This report has been all about me, apologies. I think many of us did feel that we were swimming in isolation. It was difficult to watch events and even to meet up. I was really sorry not to even bump into some of our swimmers. Keith has compiled a list of our BMSC results - see below. We all have experiences and successes to report and some are still fighting for refunds.

Congratulations to everyone who trained hard for the event and had personal successes and even medals and records. If any of you feel motivated to compete again then that is a brilliant and worthwhile outcome. Here's to the next event on the Masters' calendar.

## Results for Birmingham swimmers at Europeans Masters Championships 2016

Swimmer	Year of Birth	Event	Time	Place
Alan Jackson	1939	100m Back	1:36.00	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Arthur Lowe	1935	50m Free	35.65	1 <sup>st</sup>
		100m Free	1:26.63	1 <sup>st</sup>
		50m Back	44.68	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Frank Stoney	1950	50m Breast	43.03	20 <sup>th</sup>
		100m Breast	1:39.61	18 <sup>th</sup>
John Tennant	1939	50m Free	34.82	4 <sup>th</sup>
		50m Fly	42.25	5 <sup>th</sup>
Bob Cramb	1953	50m Free	31.07	22 <sup>nd</sup>
		100m Free	1:12.61	27 <sup>th</sup>
		50m Fly	34.26	19 <sup>th</sup>
Spyros Georgallides	1965	50m Fly	28.51	9 <sup>th</sup>
		100m Fly	1:06.68	12 <sup>th</sup>
Lawrence Miller	1966	100m Fly	1:22.01	45 <sup>th</sup>
		200m Fly	DNF	
Steve Langford	1969	50m Free	28.36	58 <sup>th</sup>
		100m Back	1:15.69	28 <sup>th</sup>
		50m Fly	31.57	76 <sup>th</sup>
Elaine Bromwich	1942	50m Breast	52.90	6 <sup>th</sup>
		100m Breast	1:56.08	6 <sup>th</sup>
		200m Breast	4:14.80	7 <sup>th</sup>
Sue Cramb	1954	200m Free	3:22.66	24 <sup>th</sup>
		50m Breast	51.68	25 <sup>th</sup>
Hayley Bettinson	1963	50m Free	29.82	4 <sup>th</sup>
		100m Free	1:07.09	7 <sup>th</sup>
		50m Fly	32.53	8 <sup>th</sup>
Suzie Hurst	1974	100m Back	1:20.16	31 <sup>st</sup>
		200m Back	2:57.40	28 <sup>th</sup>
		200m IM	2:58.85	36 <sup>th</sup>
Emma Johnson	1977	200m Breast	3:06.81	15 <sup>th</sup>
Alison Peakman	1979	50m Back	33.50	10 <sup>th</sup>
		100m Back	1:11.67	7 <sup>th</sup>
		200m Back	2:41.67	5 <sup>th</sup>
Katie Walker-Stabeler	1989	200m Free	2:18.05	14 <sup>th</sup>
		800m Free	10:02.00	10 <sup>th</sup>
Claire Hotchkiss	1987	100m Free	1:05.54	82 <sup>nd</sup>
Anna McCall	1981	100m Free	1:05.45	20 <sup>th</sup>
		50m Fly	32.14	20 <sup>th</sup>
Anne Bourne	1954	200m Free	2:48.26	8 <sup>th</sup>
		400m Free	5:41.29	2 <sup>nd</sup>
		800m Free	11:55.41	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Sara Gamble	1988	50m Breast	37.38	26 <sup>th</sup>
		100m Breast	1:26.36	44 <sup>th</sup>
		200 IM	2:47.89	34 <sup>th</sup>
Kate Chase	1957	200m IM	3:18.45	9 <sup>th</sup>

## Relays

Male	4 x 50	240/279	Freestyle	Result =	7 <sup>th</sup>
Spyros	Georgallides	1965	51	26.96	
Robert	Cramb	1953	63	30.78	
Frank	Stoney	1950	66	34.57	
Trevor	Clark	1954	62	28.61	
				242	2:00.92

Mixed	4 x 50	200/239	Medley	Result =	5 <sup>th</sup>
Alison	Peakman	1979	37	33.87	
Trevor	Clark	1954	62	37.20	
Spyros	Georgallides	1965	51	27.58	
Hayley	Bettinson	1963	53	28.89	
				203	2:08.54

Mixed	4 x 50	280/319	Medley	Relay	DQ
Arthur	Lowe	1935	81		
Elaine	Bromwich	1942	74		
Frank	Stoney	1950	66		
Susan	Cramb	1954	62		
				283	

Mixed	4 x 50	200/239	Freestyle	Result =	7 <sup>th</sup>
Spyros	Georgallides	1965	51	27.24	
Hayley	Bettinson	1963	53	28.97	
Alison	Peakman	1979	37	29.78	
Trevor	Clark	1954	62	28.28	
				203	1:54.54.

Male	4 x 50	240/279	Medley	Result =	5 <sup>th</sup>
Trevor	Clark	1954	62	33.76	
Frank	Stoney	1950	66	41.34	
Spyros	Georgallides	1965	51	27.23	
Robert	Cramb	1953	63	30.56	
				242	2:12.89.

Male	4 x 50	320/359	Medley	Result =	1 <sup>st</sup>
Arthur	Lowe	1935	81	45.11	
Alan	Jackson	1939	77	50.88	
John	Tennant	1939	77	41.33	
Allen	Miles	1928	88	45.42	
(new European Record)				323	3:02.74.

Female	4 x 50	160/199	Medley	Result =	6 <sup>th</sup>
Alison	Peakman	1979	37	33.74	
Emma	Johnson	1977	39	38.76	
Hayley	Bettinson	1963	53	31.37	
Suzanne	Hurst	1974	42	30.78	
				171	2:14.65.