

President's Report 2015/16

Paul Finch

I am pleased to present my report which I hope provides an interesting summary of my second year in office. It has been a very interesting and rewarding year during which I travelled all round our County, and I will share this with you over the next few pages.



It started with our Surrey County A.C.M at Friends Life H.Q, Dorking on 23rd June. 2015, where I was very pleased to honour two County Life Vice Presidents including Mr Dennis Griffiths (left) and Mr Richard Garfield.

Four days later I was at the Surrey Masters Championships, at Surrey Sport Park, having a great time on poolside working as one of the many Officials and then handing out County trophies to the winning teams, including the lovely ladies from Godalming SC (right), and the Victor Ludorum winners.





The SER Open Water Championship kindly includes our Surrey OW event and took place on 11th July at Westhampnett, West Sussex. Guildford's Daniel Donovan achieved a 1st place for in the 12 years old 1500m and club-mate Eleanor Rixon (left,centre) also achieved a 1st place in the 15 years old 3000m



On 26th September the Surrey Schools, 3m and Platform diving championships, were held at the Guildford Spectrum.



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The London Region Internal Synchro Competition was held on 10th October at Morden Park pool.

On the 11th October, I visited the Surrey Age Group Team as they finalised preparations at Guildford Spectrum one week before we all travelled up to Ponds Forge, Sheffield, for ASA National Intercounty Team championships. We were delighted to see our Surrey team finish 11th in Division 1.





Your County was represented by Hon. Secretary Jim Boucher and me at the ASA ACM in the Leicester Marriott Hotel, on 17th October.

The following month I officiated and presented at the Dorking Open Meet on 8th November.





President's Report 2015/16 Paul Finch



Five days later I represented our County at the Essex County ASA 2015 Dinner & Dance.



Next I was at the Diving Skills 2016 competition at Guildford Spectrum on on 30th January, 2016.



The 2016 Age Group Championships started one week later. Our Vice President, Mrs Carole Chaplin and I were both at Surrey Sports Park for the first weekend of 6th and 7th February.

The following weekend continued at Guildford Spectrum. Presentations were shared with London Region ASA President Mr Colin Robson. I was also assisted by Surrey County Team Coach, Mr Vince Ayling.





The final session of the 2016 Championships took place on 27th and 28th February at Crystal Palace. Thanks to Mrs Diane Gamble, our Officials Co-ordinator, for her help with the presentations and Julie Burvill for the photographs.



The Surrey County ASA 1m Age Groups and County 1m Championships were held at Guildford Spectrum on 12th March.







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Finally, I could not finish my two years in office without saying a BIG MASSIVE THANK YOU to all the Volunteers and Swimming Officials who help keep our County galas running. They give so much of their time to make these events go smoothly and never receive any acknowledgement.





With this, I hand over to Carole Chaplin who I hope will have as much fun as I have in her year of Office.

Thanks

Paul Finch

Surrey County ASA President 2014-2016



Age Group Swimming Report 2015/16

2015/2016 has been a busy year for the Surrey Age Group swimming as Leander's Martin Jurco handed over the two-year role of Surrey County Coach to Vince Ayling, Woking SC

With the overwhelming demand in our County Championships, June



2015, saw an expanded the Surrey Development Meet take place over two weekends. It proved hugely popular and we had a record number of entries. Team scores resulted in Woking SC's points placed them Top Team followed by Leander in 2nd place and Guildford City in 3rd place. This new extended format was deemed so popular that the coaches and committee have decided this event will now become the Surrey Summer Meet to be held in June 2016.

Another successful National County Championships took place at Ponds Forge in Sheffield in October 2015. This is reported separately.

2016 was the second year of the new "county window", and the Surrey County Age Group Championships took place over 3 weekends in February 2016. The usual head-scratching took place as we attempt to balance the number of anticipated entries with some of the toughest county qualifying times in the country and fit it all into our allocated pool time. Surrey has superb talent across the County with many swimmers exceeding expectations year on year and swimming faster than ever. The pools are under constant pressure to remain open to the public and so this year the Age Group Championships saw a reduction in the pool time at Crystal Palace, allowing entry only from 1pm each day of hire. This meant the overall swim time was reduced, and with a growing number of swimmers, the decision via a majority vote was to eliminate the finals. This was a very tough decision to make, especially with swimmers trying to



Age Group Swimming Report 2015/16

obtain British Championship times with this being our Olympic year. Hopefully next year the finals will be back.

Both Surrey Seniors and Juniors performed exceptionally well with special mentions to Sophia Wilson of Guildford City SC who won nine Junior Trophies and Nathan McCleave who won seven Junior trophies, and Lucy Bean, Joseph Clarke & Rubens King of Guildford City Swimming Club, all of whom won four Senior trophies each. Top club was taken for the 13th consecutive year by Guildford City SC. 2nd place Dulwich Dolphins, 3rd place Woking SC.

Congratulations go to Guildford City SC for an historical double in winning both Junior and Senior National Arena Swimming Leagues – a truly amazing achievement.



Congratulations also to

Tatiana Belonogoff who not only was awarded most improved 15/yr old girl of the meet, but also took the meet record in 100m breaststroke, and took her own Junior county record at the same time!

The County Records saw lots of movement this year just proving that the talent in Surrey is ever growing. Congratulations to Anna Maine of Woking SC broke two British Junior Records in the short course 50m Backstroke and 100m Backstroke and has recently been selected to represent GB in the European Juniors this year in Hungary.

Surrey County ASA is proud to have been able to support the following swimmers with a financial reward in recognition of their



Age Group Swimming Report 2015/16

qualification to this year's British Championships and Olympic Trials, and British International Para Championships and Olympic Trials.

Joseph Clark Rubens King Marco Loughran Charlie Pullan Lucy Bean Tatiana Belonogoff Guildford City SC Anna Pang

Guildford City SC Ellen Thomas Guildford City SC Alicia Wilson Guildford City SC Sophia Wilson Guildford City SC Emma Day Guildford City SC Owen Morgan Woking SC Andrew Roy Woking SC Hannah Burvill Woking SC

Hazel Ferguson Anna Maine Hannah Russell Zara Mullooly Connor Lockwood Woking SC Oludaisi Adefisan Croyden Ambhibians Madaline Harris

Woking SC Woking SC Woking SC Woking SC Embridge SC

Vince Ayling County Coach



National County Team Championships Sheffield 18th October



On Saturday 17th October, the Surrey County team left the Guildford Spectrum in high spirits and headed to Sheffield in readiness for competing against the Nation's best swimmers in the 2015 National County Team Championships, Sunday 18th October.

There are 40 counties that take part with Division 1 and Division 2 Championships running concurrently in each half of Sheffield's Ponds Forge Pool on the same day and at the same time! After arriving at the hotel the swimmers were allocated their rooms and sent off for a bit of well-deserved R&R followed by re-fuelling and an





National County Team Championships Sheffield 18th October

early night. An early start the following morning with a brisk walk to the pool in "Fancy Dress" where the Surrey team stopped the traffic and the view of blue and yellow jester hats and tutu skirts!



The opening parade took place Captains with Team Katie Hodgson and Andrew Roy sporting the Surrey Banner and flying it proudly when our County was introduced. The team put out an enormous cheer and a great days' racing commenced. We had two top 2 finishes; Anna

Maine, 100m Back (1st) and Tatiana Belonogoff, 100m Breaststroke

(2nd) and really strong performances from all of the team with many personal bests. County Coach, Vince Ayling was delighted by the superb swimming of all the of team, it was great to see everyone having such a fun time and enjoying themselves, the team spirit was incredible with laughter smiles, and fast swimming all day.



The Surrey Team came 11th overall, a very impressive performance and well done to the team, comprising:-

Anna Maine Ella Windle Georgia Smith Isabella Fakkel Jessica Rowlands Jocelyn Cosmatos Kasia Proctor Katie Hodgson Maia Dunleavy Tabitha McCormick Tatiana Belonogoff Tilly Hansen Hamilton Andrew Roy Charlie Pullen Charlie Trotman Dylan Conway Ewan Smith Henry Offin Joseph Leniham Michael Rees Noa Doest Oliver Zalaf Reiss Ormonde Cunningham Sergui Chete



Masters Report Jim Boucher

This report couldn't be completed without the results of the eagerly-awaited LEN European Masters, held 25th to 29th May at the London Aquatic Centre. And as a popular alcoholic beverage advertisement says, "Good things come to those who wait."

It would be fair to say our County's Masters' successes in recent years, particularly on the international stage, were largely confined to our more senior age-groups. However the end of year 2015 FINA Top Ten Rankings gave us something to be proud of as the evergreen Jane Asher was joined by younger stars Michelle Ware and Mike Hodgson (both Guildford City) on these prestigious lists. Hopes were therefore high that all three would make podium appearances in London and they duly delivered.

Jane took three individual Golds and added a further with Kings Cormorants' Freestyle Relay. Michelle took two silver and one bronze, including two British Records while Mike's silver and two bronze also saw him lower his own 100& 200m British Records. Guildford City clubmate David Bryant has also made his mark on the British and European rankings and broke British Records for his two bronze and one silver medal swims. Elizabeth Savidge (Kings Cormorants) also took bronze in the 400m Freestyle. Other Surrey swimmers came close with top ten finishes.

Reverting to a chronological account of the Masters' year, the first major meet of the year was the GB LC Masters at Manchester where Guildford City and Kings Cormorants provided most of the representation on the podium as Jane Asher and Michelle Ware each landed six wins from six swims with Mike Hodgson also in record-breaking form with four wins.

A couple of weeks later we were back at Surrey Sports Park for the Surrey Masters with a record entry of 176 swimmers With 25/50/100m on each stroke, plus 200 Free and 100 IM, there was something for everyone, be they a Masters Record holder or a newcomer in their first Masters meet. Ages ranged from youthful 18 to evergreen 84 and the theme of the day was "Best in UK at being best Masters in the World" a fitting tribute to Surrey Masters providing 6 of the UK's 10 FINA World-ranked Swimmers.

Mike Hodgson, also Guildford City, only a few hours after his regular Saturday morning training session, lowered the GB Masters Record for his 45-49 Age group to 1:07.37. The Team Trophies were hotly contested and will be again this year. With their large team sizes Croydon and Godalming were always likely to be there in the mix at the end, and so it proved. Croydon's Men took the Mens Trophy with



Masters Report Jim Boucher

Godalming second and Guildford City third. Godalming's Ladies had a strong finish to the day to retain the Ladies Trophy ahead of Croydon and Dorking. With Croydon retaining the Relays Trophy, this was enough to see them retain their Top Club Trophy by the slim margin of 41 points from Godalming who no doubt will be waving a pair of speedos at John Harrison and pointing him towards the pool next year:

Surrey County ASA President Paul Finch presented trophies to the Teams and Victor Ludorum winners. Many thanks to all those who assisted in the Meet: -Surrey Officials, led by Di Gamble, Ben Smith for announcing, Denise Wheeler for doing the medals, SSP staff and all the swimmers and spectators for making it such a great day.

The Inter-County Masters never proves popular in Surrey and this year was no different. I am indebted to Christina Victor and Christine Goodair for helping press-gang swimmers into joining our team. We finished 6^{th} of 7 - our usual position as SER is a strong heat and when the results were consolidated we finished 20^{th} overall. Many thanks to all who attended and special shouts for Michelle Ware, Mike Hodgson and Ben Bradley who achieved top three positions nationally.

With the LEN European Masters in London in 2016, the year opened with yet more world class swims from Jane, Michelle and Mike, first at SER LC then GB LC as they prepare for their respective days of destiny at the London Aquatic Centre. We can only hope that the organisation of the event will turn out better than expected and that all swimmers are able to perform at their best on the day. As the LEN event will have been completed by the time of our ACM, I will report verbally at the ACM on any updates and expected successes!

I'd like to congratulate Surrey Masters swimmers on yet another brilliant year and for providing such a great turn out and atmosphere at our own Championships

Jim Boucher



Diving Report 2015/16

Francisco Diaz

Our year began with the 3m and Platform Championships at Guildford Spectrum on Saturday 26th September. Thirty divers took part across both championships, some competing in the junior and senior categories of each. Good time management also allowed us to run the Surrey Schools Diving Championships during the same afternoon.

Star Diving Club was the dominant county club in both championships, winning all the Surrey titles in the junior/senior and female/male categories. Guest entries from London/Kent club Crystal Palace helped boost numbers and provide better competition.

The third 'Surrey Skills' competition was held at Guildford Spectrum on Saturday 30th January. The format, involving six rounds over poolside, 1m and 3m, proved popular with 59 grassroots divers taking part. Friendly competition from outside the county came from Albatross, Crystal Palace and Maidstone. The Surrey medallists were all from Star Diving Club.

The 1m Age Groups and 1m Championships took place at Guildford Spectrum on Saturday 12th March. There were 40 entries in the age groups and 10 in the championships. Here county divers were joined by guests from Albatross, Amersham and Crystal Palace. Star Diving Club was the triumphant Surrey club, winning the Jimmy Aldous trophy for accumulative points in the Age Groups.

Nationally there have been some notable successes over the past 12 months. At the National Skills Finals in Manchester last July, Star Diving Club's team of nine divers came away with five top-10 finishes and bronze, silver and gold.

At the Elite Junior Championships in Plymouth in March, Star Diving Club's Alfie Brown won bronze on 1m and fourth on 3m. The following month, representing GBR at a junior international in Dresden, Germany, he took bronze on 1m and eighth on 3m.



Diving Report 2015/16 Francisco Diaz

Earlier this year the 14-year-old relocated to Plymouth to train full time at its high-performance centre with Andy Banks (Tom Daley's former coach). Last year he won the Young Sports Personality of the Year at the Sport Guildford Awards. His coach, Stephen Hewat, was runner-up Coach of the Year.

Needless to say that none of the above could have happened without coach education. At the time of writing this report I am delighted that two coaches in the county are about to start their Level 3 coaching qualification. No doubt the knowledge they gain from this experience will help to improve standards over time.

Our annual competition programme continues to run smoothly thanks to our small army of regular volunteers who give up their time freely to make it all happen. The county JPads, hand-held judging devices, and the more recent addition of a multi-media projector for use as a scoreboard ensure the spectator experience is as enhanced as can be.

Discussions are now underway about investing in some speakers and a microphone, which other disciplines could also make use of, rather than rely on sometimes temperamental third-party equipment.

On behalf of our discipline I would like to thank county members for their continued support and look forward to another dive-tastic year!

Francisco Diaz



Synchro Report Collette Crow

I am delighted to report that synchro in Surrey continues to thrive. Kingston Ladies Swimming Club remains the sole ASA affiliated club within the County with membership @ full capacity and a waiting list to join.

It was a slow start to the competitive year with KLSC's usual entry into the London Regional Open Championships not feasible due to short term repairs taking place at one of our main training pools. We were however delighted to have Surrey County ASA President Paul Finch in attendance at the competition. Despite the initial setback for the club, training continued with focus on our younger swimmers working hard to achieve their Skill Level Examinations.

Our next focus turned towards the National Masters Championships in November 2015. This event saw our sport welcome male competitors competing alongside females for the first time at National level - a welcome sight to see! Whilst the club currently has no male swimmers on its team, we were able to field our largest entry to a national competition ensuring we could enter a team event for the first time. The competition was a success with Laura Gee & Rachael Stevens placing 4th in the 25-29yr Duet whilst Chloe Fletcher and Sophie Hampton had a brilliant introduction to Master's synchro by winning a silver medal in their 20-24yr Duet section. Louise Chambers, Laura Gee, Harriet Mutlow and Rachael Stevens walked away with the coveted gold medal in the 25-34 Free Team Routine following a fantastic swim. All 6 swimmers combined to enter the 25-39yr Combination Team event to place 4th, just narrowly missing out on the bronze medal.

2016 saw the club enter the Middlesex Championships in February with 20 swimmers entering. This enabled us to field three separate teams in the Skill 1 & 2 Combination Team, 19 & Under Combination Team and the Masters Free Team sections - we were delighted to achieve gold medals in all three events! Mentionable successes were also achieved by Eliza Bell, Olivia Farr, Amelia Farr and Phillipa Nowikow who all took individual medals for figures in their respective age groups.

Focus then turned towards the long awaited LEN European Masters, held 25^{th} to 29^{th} May at the London Aquatic Centre. Podium appearances were never on the cards, however the club fielded two teams in the closely fought competition. Our Free Routine entry in the 25-34yr age group placed a respectable 10^{th} the only entry from a GB Club, whilst our 25+ Combination Team placed a brilliant 14^{th} scoring a personal best for their marks received.



Synchro Report Collette Crow

Whilst our swimmers have been busy training and competing, our fantastic volunteer coaches and officials have been busy taking courses and gaining qualifications. Over the year we have increased our amount of qualified Assessors from 1 to 4 and also now have 3 more qualified Basic Judges available to judge at competitions.

I am also delighted to report that with some financial help from Surrey ASA we now have 3 newly qualified Level 2 Coaches in Emily Hampton, Harriet Mutlow and myself. We are all eager to disseminate our knowledge and experience!

All in all, the clubs focus and direction are setting them in good stead to ensure they are on track to re-apply for Swim 21 status in August later this year. With several of our masters swimmers taking up coaching and committee roles - the future for KLSC and synchro looks positive. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our hard working swimmers and valued volunteer workforce who work tirelessly to ensure that synchro continues to thrive and improve within Surrey.

Collette Crow



Officials and Volunteers Report

Ann van Beukelen & Diane Gamble

Meet Officials & Volunteers

All of our meets, including the 2016 Surrey Championships, ran very smoothly, thanks in no small part to those officials who turned out in force. Though we continue to rely on the small group of stalwart officials who no longer have swimmers, this is now being supplemented by a new cohort of officials who happily give their time for the benefit of Surrey swimmers.

All sessions were staffed to license requirements and we were able to offer training opportunities to all trainees who attended. I would like to extend a personal "Thank You" to all of those officials who regularly respond to my requests for help. Your support is very much appreciated. Surrey events just would not be able to run without you! Please continue to respond to my calls for volunteers by the cut off date wherever possible.

Once again, we must highlight the unstinting support and efforts of Julie Burvill in recruiting the 'non-tech' volunteers. This team covers a wide range of roles at every meet and is every bit as important in the running of the County events. If being an official doesn't float your boat, then please speak to Julie and volunteer as a 'Non-Tech'! A special thank you to Julie for all her hard work.

Sadly we have a small number of clubs who do not provide technical or nontechnical assistance at Surrey events. We cannot continue to run the County Championships, Summer Meet and Masters Championships without qualified officials and it is unfair of those clubs to take advantage of the excellent competitions we run whilst not providing help of one sort or the other. I continue to hope that these clubs will make more of an effort to recruit people to help on poolside.



Officials and Volunteers Report

Ann van Beukelen & Diane Gamble

Officials Training

Ann van Beukelen, Christina Victor (SER) and Diane Gamble (London) continue to run training sessions across the County, for all levels of official. Please contact any of us if you want us to run courses for your clubs, or if you need any technical advice. We are happy to travel to your club if this is required. It is disappointing that less than half of those attending Judge 1 courses go on to complete their training.

This year sees Ann van Beukelen mark a very special birthday! I would like to wish her a very happy day in July and extend more thanks for her support throughout the year. Ann has done sterling work again for us this year and has four Referee Trainees who will take their exam in November as well as another who has redone the exam and is awaiting the result. With an ongoing reorganisation of Officials representatives on ASA Committees, Ann is no longer a member of the ASA London Region Officials Committee. Like London, Surrey is grateful to Ann for her many years' support and hard work on this Committee.

And finally..

Please don't forget that we have Surrey Officials Shirts (£11.00 each) for sale and few Clipboards left for Officials officiating at County Championships – please contact Ann if you need one.

Thanks also to the Management Committee and Age Group Sub-committee for all their hard work during the year.

Diane Gamble