



# Surrey County ASA

## President's Report – ACM June 2018

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It was an honour to be elected as the 2017/18 Surrey County President, and while there has been a lot to learn, it has been a very interesting and enjoyable twelve months. During the past year, I have had the opportunity to attend at least one event for most of the various disciplines and as a result it has been my privilege to meet many enthusiastic and determined competitors supported by their hard working coaches.

Other commitments kept me away from the 2017 Surrey Masters Championships, so my first official function was a water polo event, the final of the Tom Dwyer Cup, a handicap match which anyone can win, which was held at the SSP in July. At the end of an enjoyable and competitive match I was able to present a very bent Tom Dwyer trophy to the winners, Avondale. Later in November, I also attended the over 40s Inter County water polo competition – involving Essex, Hampshire, Kent and Surrey – where, after a hard fought final against Kent, I was able present the trophy to Surrey, the worthy winners.

In October, I joined the Surrey County team for their expedition to Ponds Forge, Sheffield for the National County Team Championships. This is an entertaining event, effectively two simultaneous galas, involving up to 40 teams divided into two divisions. The Surrey team swam well, with a number of top three placings and one County record (Amy Davis in the 14/15 100m free) and finished a creditable 9th in Division 1. Credit must also be given to David Vine, County Coach and Julie Burvill, and her helpers, for their excellent organisation and management.

In January 2018 I represented Surrey at an interesting and worthwhile London Region away day, where representatives of each aquatic discipline reported on their plans etc. for the development of the sport in the Region. Jane Nickerson of Swim England CEO gave a talk. I also attended a second London Region away day on 2 June, when there were interesting sessions on safeguarding and GDPR (Data Protection). More on these subjects are being circulated (Swim England have distributed some advice on the latter).

January saw the arrival of the 2018 Surrey County Age Group Championships held over four weekends in January and February. In addition to using SSP and Crystal Palace, the County, for the first time, used the Olympic pool at the London Aquatic Centre (LAC), Stratford. The 50m sprints and relays were swum at the LAC and we had nearly 1000 swimmers taking part. Everything went very well, especially the sessions held at the London Aquatic Centre, we had a very successful Championships. The swimmers were eager and focused and there were some good swims and many achieved personal bests. The feedback I received indicated that we had some very happy swimmers, coaches and parents.

I would also like to take this opportunity to repeat my thanks to all those who were either a technical official, or meet volunteer, during the 2018 Surrey Age Group Championships. Without their help the County could not run the Championships. A vote of thanks must also go to Sharon Porter for organising



# Surrey County ASA

## President's Report – ACM June 2018

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the officials, Julie Burvill for organising the meet volunteers, and the Competition Committee headed by Alan Thurlow for planning and ensuring the smooth running of the Championships.

I attended all seven days of the Championships, officiating and presenting medals and trophies, at each session. I would also like to thank Richard Whitehead, President of Swim England, Eileen Adams, President of the South East Region and Diane Gamble, President of the London Region and David Vine, Surrey County Coach, who all joined me and helped in presenting the medals and trophies at different sessions of the Championships.

In March, I attended the Surrey 1m Age Group and 1m Diving Championships, my first diving competition at the Spectrum, Guildford to make the presentations to the young divers. There was some good diving and I enjoyed getting to understand what makes a good dive.

I was invited to the London Region Synchronised Swimming Routine Competition, held on 9 June, involving solos, duets and team routines. There were swimmers from within and outside the London area, with swimmers ranging from 8 years to adults. This was my first ever synchro event and while it took some time for me to comprehend what was happening I had a good time afternoon especially appreciated the competitors' skills and hard work. Kingston, Surrey's only synchro club, did well, with every swimmer coming away with a medal. It was pleasing to hear from the referee, afterwards, that she thought Kingston were on the rise again and had improved a lot.

My last official engagement was attend, on 15 June, an enjoyable Kent County dinner, where Diane Gamble and other London Region Presidents also attended.

Congratulations are due to:

Anna Maine (Woking) who was selected to swim for England at the Commonwealth Games;

Ewan Smith (Woking) who was selected to swim at the World School Summer Games in Moscow during May;

Mike Hodgson who set European and World records at the World Masters Championships;

Jodie Cox (Guildford) who won seven golds and set three individual records at the Transplant Games.

I wish my successor, Collette Crow as enjoyable a year I have had

Richard Willis  
Surrey County ASA President 2017/18



# Surrey County ASA

## Masters Report – ACM June 2018

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I think there are two ways to calibrate the health of Masters Swimming in the County. Firstly, there is the quantitative way and that is to admire the names of the greats who now appear regularly in FINA and LEN all-time rankings. At the time of writing this report the FINA data proved beyond the capability of the interweb but where once we had 2 or 3 names we now have 6. Jane Asher – always there and always dominant. John Harrison still up there even if the odd record is being chipped away. And then we have Mike Hodgson, Michelle Ware and “Russian” Dave Bryant. And we never forget the late Willy van Rysel.

Without doubt the achievements out in Budapest are something to savour. 5 medals and a world record for Mike was the stand-out individual performance, followed by Michelle’s fantastic silver in the 50 Back. However, when joined with Lynda Coggins and Dave Bryant, the mixed medley team won a cracking race in a new World Record.

Mike, Jane and Michelle led the medal charge at Sheffield with Mike’s 8 gold-medal winning clean sweep confirming his dominance of the sport. But others are taking medals – as individuals and in teams, and too numerous now for me to attempt to list without fear of omitting someone. But a brief skim through the results shows that Godalming, Guildford, Elmbridge, Epsom, Farnham, Kings Cormorants, Woking and Barnes all returned with medals of one colour or another.

The British Swimming LC event was way up north in Aberdeen but alongside Guildford we had Croydon, Elmbridge and Dorking on the podium too.

Our 5<sup>th</sup> place in the Inter County was a little disappointing given the talent we could mobilise. I am assured that Dave Bryant will be taking on the press-ganging role for the fixture in Haslemere in November.

The second way to determine health of Masters Swimming is to look at our own Championships which attracted a record 186 competitors and over 1000 individual swims and was splendidly handled by the best group of Officials and Volunteers in the land.

It has been another wonderful year for Surrey Masters and we look forward to more success at national and international level. If I may be a little self-indulgent for a fleeting second, I was pleased to be elected, for the first time by an election rather than an appointment, as Swim England’s Masters Representative. I look forward to representing our Masters at the highest levels in the National Governing Bodies.

Jim Boucher  
Masters Officer



# Surrey County ASA

## Diving Report – ACM June 2018

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Despite major roof repairs causing widespread disruption at Guildford Spectrum in the second half of last year, and a refurbishment overrun of the diving tower structure with the 3m springboard and 5m platform out of commission for more than three months, I am pleased to report that we were still able to run two out of three competitions in the accounting year.

The 3m and Platform Championships were the unfortunate casualties in September, although we did manage to tag the Surrey Schools' Diving Championships on to the 1m Age Groups and 1m Championships in March.

At the end of December, Stephen Hewat and Kirsteen Mitchell, head and assistant head coach respectively at Star Diving Club for six years, left for new jobs in Luton where they now run the diving programme at a 10m venue with full dry-land facilities and receive maximum Swim England diving development centre funding.

Stephen was succeeded at Star by Kirsty McMahon, a Brunel University London graduate last year and a former diver at the club. Since becoming head coach in January she has been doing wonders in developing the programme to ensure it continues to succeed at every level.

The fifth Surrey Skills diving competition took place at Guildford Spectrum on Saturday 27 January. The circuit-style format, involving six-rounds over poolside, 1m and 3m, proved popular once again with 85 grassroots divers competing. Friendly competition from outside the county came from Amersham, Barnet Copthall, Chelmsford, Crystal Palace and Tunbridge Wells. The Surrey medallists were all from Star Diving Club.

The 1m Age Groups and 1m Championships were held at Guildford Spectrum on Saturday 17 March. There were 27 entries in the age groups and nine in the championships. Here county divers from Star Diving Club and Merton School of Diving were joined by guests from Albatross, Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells. Star Diving Club was the triumphant Surrey club again, winning the Jimmy Aldous trophy for accumulative points in the age groups. Thanks to County President Richard Willis for coming along and presenting the medals that afternoon.

There have been some notable national successes over the past 12 months. At the National Skills Finals (Level 2) at the London Aquatics Centre last July, Star Diving Club's team of seven divers came away with a bronze and gold and two other top 10s.

At the National Age Group Championships (Level 3) in Sheffield several weekends earlier, Star Diving Club's Patrick Hanlon took bronze on 1m and silver on 3m; Freya Kelly won silver on 1m and bronze on 3m; and Anna Wilson



# Surrey County ASA

## Diving Report – ACM June 2018

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a bronze on 1m. Lily Chandler and Felicity Cronin both finished in the top 10 on 1m, 3m and platform.

At the Talent Games in Leeds in November – a two-day meet involving gymnastic-style routines on dry land and skills in the pool – Star Diving Club's Caitlin Maytham and Lily Chandler finished seventh and fourth overall in their age categories. Consequently, Lily was selected for the England Talent Z Squad in 2018-19. She is the seventh Star diver to have been selected onto the programme since it started in 2013.

The county 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 for the athletes. The county JPads, hand-held judging devices, the multi-media projector used as a scoreboard and the speaker, tripod and wireless microphone continue to ensure our spectator experience is as enhanced as can be.

That only leaves me on behalf of our discipline to thank county members for their continued support and I look forward to another dive-tastic year!

Francisco Diaz



# Surrey County ASA

## Synchro Report – ACM June 2018

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I am delighted to report that despite there still only being one synchro club in Surrey, the sport continues to thrive and progress, and our membership remains almost near to capacity.

At the FINA Congress in July 2017, members unanimously proposed to change the name of Synchro to Artistic Swimming following a request from the IOC in an attempt to rebrand the sport, boost popularity and to bring it line with similar events such as Gymnastics. This proposal was with met with outrage from the synchro community and to date – almost everyone still calls it synchro.

For Kingston Synchro, it's been a busy year to say the least. Given the progression of synchronised swimming towards becoming a gender neutral sport, and the fact that we now have male members within our club, Kingston Ladies Swimming Club decided to rename and rebrand. In September 2017 the vote was passed to officially change the name of the club from Kingston Ladies Swimming Club to Kingston Synchronised Swimming Club.

### Competitions

The year commenced with the Middlesex Open Championships for our Junior and Senior teams. KSSC had an incredibly successful competition with outstanding individual performances from Katie Wallace, Livy Crow, Amelia Farr and Esme Jones whilst our two competing teams both placed third.

In August 2017, our Masters swimmers entered the World Championships in Budapest. The competition was the toughest event the Club has ever entered with Rachael Stevens placing 27th in the solo and Louise Chambers/Laura Lindley placing 18th in the duet category. Our combination team placed a well-deserved 13th place overall.

In November we entered The National Masters Synchro Championships coming home with 3 National Champions and winning medals in all the events we entered – Gold for Rachael Stevens in the 25-29yr Solo, Gold for Louise Chambers/Laura Lindley in the 25-29yr Duet and Gold for Katie Holland/ Ciara Rooney in the 18-24yr Duet. Lucy Whatley also placed bronze in the 25-29yr Solo.

March 2018 saw our Masters Team visit Brussels to enter their Open International. Fab results all round with Louise Chambers/ Laura Lindley winning bronze and our soloist Lucy Whatley placing 5th. Our Combination team placed an encouraging 9th place overall.

May saw our Junior Team enter the Middlesex Figures Competition with Ellie Holland placing gold and Livy Crow placing silver.





# Surrey County ASA

## Synchro Report – ACM June 2018

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Last, but not least, our whole Club entered the London Open Routine Championships with all KSSC swimmers entered taking home medals. With four teams entered we were delighted to achieve gold with our Masters Team, silver with our two Junior Teams and bronze with our beginner's team. Our Junior duet of Carys Bruce-Caddick/Emily Watson won gold and our Masters duet of Louise Chambers and Laura Lindley won silver. Our Masters soloists of Rachael Stevens and Lucy Whatley placed 3rd and 4th respectively. Our Masters team won the coveted Dawn Zajac Trophy for highest placing team overall. We were delighted to have our President Richard Willis in attendance on the day who did an amazing job presenting all the medals!

### **Partnerships**

KSSC has teamed up with Kingston Royals SC creating a referral process to ensure that we capture local young talent. This has proved most successful and not only has it helped increase our membership, it has also enabled shared use of pool time at Wimbledon High School.

In September 2017 Swim England invited us to the Swim Serpentine event in Hyde Park, London to help promote the sport. Swimmers braved the 13 degrees water (without wetsuits) to show spectators some fantastic synchronised swimming routines. This partnership evolved to enable KSSC to run a 'pilot' Volunteer Coach Workshop for the sport which aimed at getting parents or young swimmer volunteers involved as an introduction to Coaching. This proved successful and will be rolled out nationally for other synchro clubs to benefit from.

I am also delighted to report that having received financial help through Swim England funding, we launched our Water Ninja Challenge which enabled us to implement specific outreach work within the local schools and community to encourage wider engagement and participation for boys and men in the sport. Off the back of this we now have two boy members within the Club.

### **Development**

Our fantastic volunteer workforce of Coaches/Officials/Officers have also been busy. Our coaching team has increased to include a newly qualified Level 1 Coach and a hugely experienced Level 2 Coach with paid coaching anticipated to be rolled out over the coming months for our most experienced coaches. Our Officer Volunteers have continued to engage and learn ensuring the club continues to improve and develop for the future. The clubs focus and direction continues to ensure that both athletes/coaches and volunteers continue to receive a structured progressive pathway.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our hard working athletes and valued volunteer workforce who work tirelessly to ensure that synchro continues to thrive within Surrey.

Collette Crow  
Surrey Synchro Rep 2018



# Surrey County ASA

## Schools Report – ACM June 2018

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Surrey Schools' Swimming Association has managed to recruit two more committee members this year to make our grand total up to six people now. We are three practising teachers, two retired teachers and a very willing volunteer from Woking swimming club, who strive to organise several school galas through the year.

Our season started when the academic year began, in September, with a secondary schools' team gala held at Guildford. Although essentially a Surrey Schools' event, schools that are within the counties of the ESSA South East region are also able to enter. The winning teams were considered for selection at the national round at the London Aquatic Centre on Saturday November 18th 2017. Ten Surrey Schools had teams that were selected to swim at this competition: St Teresa's, Guildford High, Tormead, Reigate Grammar, City of London Freeman's, Caterham, George Abbot, St Johns, Glynn and Godalming College.

Out of those, three teams were placed in the finals. St Teresa's did extremely well and were placed second in both the Junior Girls' F/S and Junior Girls' Medley, George Abbot were placed 5th in the Intermediate Boys' F/S and 6th in the Junior Boys' Medley and St Johns were placed 4th in the Senior Boys' F/S and 7th in the Senior Boys' Medley. Congratulations to all these teams.

In January the last of the competitions for secondary schools took place. This was the individual boys and girls galas. Winning swimmers are considered for selection to represent the ESSA South East region for the 68th ESSA Interdivisional gala held on home ground at Crawley during the weekend of the 24th and 25th March. South East region did impressively well in all age groups, coming first in the Junior Boys, joint first in the Senior Girls and first in the Senior Boys, second in the Intermediate Boys and fourth in Junior Girls and Intermediate Girls. They were the first overall out of eight divisions with their combined aggregate score. Swimmers were Leila Flower – Epsom, Mackenzie Russell, Jasmine Findlay, Jordan McPhail – all from Guildford, Kirstie Flynn – Leatherhead and Ewan Smith – Woking.

As a result of his success in the Interdivisional competition Ewan Smith was selected to represent England at the ISF World School Summer Games in Morocco in May where he competed in the 50m freestyle, 50m butterfly and 4x100m freestyle relay.

In March it was the annual diving competition, for both primary and secondary aged divers competently organised by Fran. Because there are such a small number of schools that take part in this competition, it is combined with the Surrey age group competition. All results are available on the Surrey County ASA website.

Thirty four schools attended the Surrey round in March. The South East region gala in May was a closely fought competition and we were able to send eight Surrey schools to the ESSA National Finals, held in Sheffield on June 16th



# Surrey County ASA

## Schools Report – ACM June 2018

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2018. They are Guildford High, Tormead, Rowen Prep, Lanesborough, Goldsworth Primary School, St Teresa's, St Hilary's and Oakhyrst Grange.

In addition to the racing, SSSA also organises a primary schools' annual lifesaving competition "It's a Fish Out" in March for years 5 and 6 at Dorking Leisure Centre. This year it was Cuddington Croft who took first and third place with both their teams and second place was awarded to the Raleigh School.

Finally, I must personally thank the committee, for continuing to support us by paying for the electronic timing at Guildford Spectrum which has lifted our competitions to another level for our swimmers. Thank you also to both Jim Boucher and Sam Tierney for attending our galas and giving willingly of their time to operate the system. Huge thanks must also go to the Surrey officials who support us, for without them, none of our schools' galas would take place.

All dates for next season will be found on the Surrey county ASA website shortly.

Carole Chaplin



## Surrey County ASA Age Group Report – ACM June 2018

**2017/2018 has been another busy year for Surrey County ASA.** Vince Ayling of Woking SC handed over the role of Surrey County Coach to me, David Vine, Leatherhead SC and this year I was excited to learn that England Talent pathways have asked each county to hold development camps for 11 year olds. We saw a very exciting Surrey County Age Group Championships which I will report upon and also this swim year has seen Surrey County Club swimming being at the platform of some stunning **selections**:

April 2017 saw Hannah Russell, Woking SC win Gold in 50m and 100m Freestyle S12 category at the British Para International Championships, and this was followed by Silver in 100m Backstroke. Zara Mullooly, Guildford City SC S10 also picking up some valuable experience competing for GB at this level of competition.

July 2017, Alicia Wilson, Guildford City SC was selected to compete for GB at the European Junior Championships in Israel and brought home Bronze in the 200m Individual Medley and a couple of weeks later, also representing GB at the Commonwealth Youth Games Alicia won Gold in the 200m Individual Medley, Silver in 50m Butterfly and Silver in 4 x 100m Freestyle relay.

August 2017, Anna Maine of Woking SC was selected to compete for GB at the World Junior Championships in Indianapolis, USA and reached two world junior finals placed eighth in 100m Backstroke and fifth on 50m backstroke.

February 2018, Swim England, South East selected two Surrey Swimmers, Alicia Wilson and Tatiana Bolonogoff both from Guildford City SC swimmers for the England Talent International competition in Marseille, Tatiana winning two Silvers in 50m and 100m Breaststroke and Alicia won Silver in 200m Individual Medley.



Also early 2018, Anna Maine of Woking SC was selected to compete for England at the 2018 Commonwealth Games in the Gold Coast in Australia. Her selection was as a result of her swims at the World Junior Championships in Indianapolis. This was Anna's first senior selection and saw her make two semi-finals in 50m & 100m Backstroke.

Well done to all swimmers above for their impressive selections, we are very proud of you all.

During October 2017 we took a team of 24 swimmers to compete in the **National County Team Championships** to Ponds Forge in Sheffield, to compete among 40 counties in a very noisy and exiting competition! If you have ever been to an Arena Gala, multiply the noise by 11(!) and you get somewhere close to the levels of excitement that is



drummed up at the National County Team Championships. Congratulations to all swimmers on their selection and swims, special mentions to those having top three finishes in amongst the nation's fastest competitors; Hendrik Van der Leest Woking SC, Joshua Shaw Guildford City SC, Amy Davies South Croydon, Luke Pullen Guildford City SC, Alicia Wilson Guildford City and Anna Maine Woking SC. Special thanks go to Captains Sam Nickson of Guildford City SC and Anna Maine of Woking SC and vice-captains Amy Hodgson Guildford City SC and

Michael Rees of Sutton & Cheam SC who lead the team to an impressive 9<sup>th</sup> place.

January 2018, saw the commencement of the **Surrey County Age groups Championships** which was all long course this year, starting off at the Surrey Sports Park and then moving over to the London Aquatic Centre, before returning to Crystal Palace International Sports Centre. It was the first year Surrey ASA has hosted the County Championships at the London Aquatics centre and we were thrilled that the weekend not only went to plan but surpassed all expectations that such an impressive venue would bring. We were very fortunate to have sufficient volunteers to handle double the amount of Technical Officials so we could alternative each official for each race to keep the programme running on time, and our Marshalls at one stage were managing to marshall 40 swimmers for relays every



## Surrey County ASA Age Group Report – ACM June 2018

1.5 minutes at the peak events. We saw lots of happy and excited swimmers, many of whom had never experienced competing at the London Aquatic Centre, home of the 2012 London Olympics!

The **Boys Surrey County Age Group Awards** went to 11 years, Fergus Thomson Guildford City SC, 12 years, Alex Williams Dulwich Dolphins, 13 years, Dominic Morgan Leatherhead SC & 14 years, Hendrik van der Leest Woking SC. Whilst the **Girls Age Group Awards** went to 11 years, Lexie Hughes Guildford City SC, 12 years, Louise Bressler Guildford City SC, 13 years Mila Jovanov Dulwich Dolphins SC and 14 years, Jasmine Findlay Guildford City SC.

**Most decorated swimmers at the County Championships from the trophy cupboard;** Senior Girls went to Alicia Wilson Guildford City SC and Phyllida Britton Wandsworth SC; Senior Boys went to James Wilks Leatherhead SC, Michael Rees Sutton & Cheam SC and Dylan Conway Guildford City SC. Whilst the Junior Girls went to Kirstie Flynn Leatherhead SC, with the Junior Boys went to Toby Stewart Guildford City SC.

The Tinlin Trophy was presented to Guildford City Swimming Club which is the 15<sup>th</sup> impressive consecutive year of their award and this year's runner up was Dulwich Dolphins swimming club.

Following on from the Surrey County Championships saw the Surrey selection of a number of the County's talented 11 year olds to participate in the this year's newly developed **County Development Camps**. County Development Camps are being held all over the country for this age group and consist of 3 x one day camps throughout April, June & October. Each day is filled with training both on land and in the pool, with additional focus on warm ups and warm downs along with lectures on nutrition and goal setting. Suffice to say the first swim camp has taken place and it was a pleasure to work with such a large group of young and talented swimmers. My thanks go to those supporting me on the camps; Coaches were Ciara Nutting Elmbridge Phoenix SC, David Brazil Woking SC and Hayley Moore, Epsom SC and Team Managers were; Olive Carroll, Catherine Ferguson & Jules Burvill, all Woking SC. More will follow in next year's report.



An age group report cannot go without mentioning our **County Records** which were broken this year: Rory Huggins, Guildford City SC; Mens Open 200m Freestyle, Tatiana Belonogoff, Guildford City SC; Ladies Open 100m Breaststroke, Alicia Wilson Guildford City SC; Ladies Open 200m Individual Medley and Amy Davies South Croydon SC; Girls 100m Freestyle.

Also congratulations goes to Guildford City who came runner up in the 2017 **National Arena Swimming League**.

It was been a very exciting year for Surrey, and I look forward to the year ahead.

David Vine  
Leatherhead SC  
County Coach – Surrey ASA