

Honorary Life Vice Presidents: Mr & Mrs Don & Eileen Harden, Kingston Ladies Swimming Club.

Don and Eileen's involvement in swimming in Surrey started back in 1972 when their daughter Sue joined Kingston Ladies Swimming Club. They immediately became involved with Don taking on timekeeping and referee roles, and Eileen taking the registers and running the front desk.

In 1978, the local pool closed, so Don and Eileen solely ran a weekly swim session for 11 years which enabled the club to continue and thrive. The club went from strength to strength with many swimmers gaining County recognition. Both went on to serve on the Committee.

In 1989, the Harden's (along with 6 other committee members) founded the synchro section of the club. This proved popular and viable being the only synchro club based in Surrey. Eventually the two disciplines merged into the Kingston Ladies Club that we know today - with KLSC celebrating 25 of years of synchro back in 2014. During this time, Don and Eileen have both actively been involved in the running of the club. They both took on various administrative and committee roles culminating with Don becoming Chairman for the Club, and Eileen Vice President, in 2007. Within these roles, they worked tirelessly to help the club progress and championed the club to Swim 21 status in 2010.

Beyond their administrative roles, Don's passion for the sport saw him Coach for the Club for many years. This passion was passed on down the family with their daughter Sue and grand-daughter becoming long standing coaches too.

The County is delighted to recognise their remarkable 44 years' service to the Club, County and sport of synchronised swimming and today we honour Don and Eileen as Honorary Life Vice Presidents.

