



Turtles Newsletter

FOR MEMBERS OF THE RUISLIP TURTLES
SWIMMING CLUB

JUNE 2011

Potters Bar Gala
Saturday 25th June

Committee Meeting
Tuesday 28th June

Harrow Gala
Saturday 9th July

Summer Lunch
Outing
Sunday 10th July

Annual Outing
Sunday 4th
September

Turtles Invitation
Gala
Saturday 17th
September (tbc)

NASCH Region I
Gala
Saturday 17th
September (tbc)

NASCH
Championships
Leamington Spa
Saturday 5th
November

The Turtles
Swimming Club
is a registered
charity number
01055585



2011 AGM & AWARDS

AGM Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence
2. To Approve the 2010 AGM Minute
3. Any Matters Arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. To Receive & Approve the Annual Accounts and Treasurer's Report
6. Secretary's Report
7. Election of Officers & Committee:

Chairman
Vice Chair
Treasurer
Secretary
Assistant Secretary
Competition Secretary
Chief Instructor
6 Committee Members
8. Appointment of Auditors
9. Any Other Business



Central Middlesex Skills
Centre,
Wiltshire Lane,
Northwood Hills
Saturday 4th June
19.45

2011 Awards

Presentations will be made to:

1. Beginners Champion
2. Junior Champion
3. Ladies Champion
4. Mens Champion
5. Junior Improver
(Charles Newman Trophy)
6. Senior Improver
(Rose Bowl)
7. Volunteer of the Year
(Pitman Moore Trophy)

We are a swimming club for anyone with a physical, mental health or learning difficulty. The Turtles Swimming Club is based at Highgrove Pool, Ruislip and meets every Saturday between 5pm and 6 pm.
Turtles website: <http://www.ruislipturtles.org.uk/> Turtles email: turtlesswimming@yahoo.co.uk

Chair (Dave): 07730 047500

Secretary (Marion) 0208 866 8606

Chairman's Summary



**Chairman
Dave Lee**

It has been another good year for the Turtles Swimming Club and I would like to thank the committee, volunteers and members for the help and support they have given me in my 3rd year as Chairman of the club.

The Treasurer, Rosemary Noyes, will explain in detail the financial situation in detail, but suffice to say

that we are just coming to the end of a two year period of successful fund raising, but the current political climate does not bode well for the future. We are of course, very grateful to all the organisations that have supported us over the last 12 months:

Grass Roots; Hillingdon Sports Council; Hasbro

Ltd and Hillindon Youth and Connexions.

It has been a very successful year for the gala team and the pool training sessions have been very positive this year.

As we move into the new financial year we face a number of challenges and a few uncertainties about the future, but we remain positive and confident.



**Treasurer
Rosemary
Noyes**

Treasurer's Report

I am pleased to report that we end the financial year with a healthy balance sheet.

This is in part due to the grants that we obtained during the year which contributed to the cost of transport for our outings and enabled us to buy dedicated 'I.T.' equipment. This is important for the club as it means that members no longer have to use their own equipment when working for the club and when

members leave, the equipment will be returned so that other members may have the use of it.

We are very grateful to all of our sponsors (listed below) for their financial support.

Regretfully our current sources of funding have now come to an end and we are seeking new sources of funding for the future.

As always we are grateful to those who run and support the raffles and for

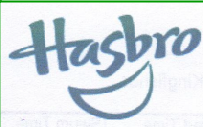
donations that have been received.

As a consequence of our potential funding shortfall, the committee have reviewed and recommended an increase to the current annual subscription levels (see next page) from April 2012.

Overall, income and expenditure for the past year was much in keeping with what was expected.

We look forward to another successful year ahead.

**Thank you to all our
2010/11 sponsors!**



**London Borough of
Hillingdon Youth &
Connexions Service**



Thank you to the Volunteers

Big thank you to those volunteers that do so much to help the club. In particular, the help that we receive at our home gala.

A special thank you goes to Peter and Judy Jones for all the work they do for not just our own gala

events but also the NASCH Championships.

As ever, Patricia Bonney continues to raise essential money for the club through the raffle. Thank you again Patricia

It is very pleasing that we now have a number of

younger volunteers helping at poolside on a Saturday delivering tremendous results and we shall certainly miss Pippa Haggit when she leaves us for University later this year.

Fundraising & Subscriptions

Our quest for new contacts or sources of funds is ongoing so please let the committee know if you hear of any potential opportunities for us to follow up. We have made a number of new applications in 2011 but so far without success.

We are very grateful for the 2 personal donations that we have received and for the financial support that we have received in the past.

The last time that membership subscriptions were changed was 5 years ago but unfortunately we need to increase the annual subscriptions to:

Disabled £8 (currently £7)

Family members / Carers £16 (currently £14)

The new subscriptions come into effect from 01/04/2012

I T Equipment

Following the receipt from Grass Roots (managed locally by North West London Community Foundation) our club has now purchased 3 laptop computers (taking our total to 4); a PC projector; a projector screen and 2 printers (1 for the newsletters, the other for mobile use at galas). The use of dedicated equipment will make it easier to transfer official records and facilities to new officers in the future.

Presentations

Following our presentation on June 8th 2010 to the Ruislip branch of Lions International the organisation is currently considering making a donation to the Turtles. The Lions are also considering an additional Invitation Swimming Gala in the next financial year.

More recently, we were requested to present to the Rotary Club of Uxbridge who have expressed an interest in the Turtles activities.

Sylvia Smith OBE and Dave Lee represented the club at the opening of the new Botwell Green Swimming Pool in Hayes in July 2010.

Long Distance Swims

11 members participated in this year's Postal swim and won 6 national medals (including 3 Gold medals).

Special thanks go to Peter Jones for managing this event.

Communication

The website, email updates and Newsletters continue to keep the membership informed about what is happening with the club. We have also introduced a larger font version of the Newsletters for those with impaired vision. The website has been visited 3000 times since the launch in 2009.

We are up to date with all our reporting to the Charities Commission that can be viewed at: www.charitycommission.gov.uk.

Outings

The Grass Roots Funding had to be fully expended by the end of our financial year and so we organised an earlier outing in March to Cadbury World. The trip was very popular with the party of 43 and followed another well attended successful trip to Longleat in September.

We also organised a Summer lunch outing in August to The Beehive in White Waltham and an evening meal in February to the Black Horse at Iver Heath.

Community Minibuses were hired for both of the above outings and the cost of the transport for these two outings together with the coach trips above were all financed through a grant from Grass Roots managed by the North West London Community Foundation for which we are very grateful.

The Grass Roots facility has now ended but due to an anonymous donation, we will be able to run another outing in September 2011.

Galas

We took part in 9 competitive events in 2010 - winning 4 of the events in a row!

In total we won 113 medals (47 Gold, 21 Silver and 43 Bronze plus 2 special awards).

12 competitors represented the Turtles during 2010 but star performer was Jeannette Prentice who won a total of 15 medals.

It is particularly pleasing that we have so many juniors interested in taking part again.

10 of our swimmers represented the region at the Annual Championships in November winning 7 national medals with Neil Dew winning the 25 metres Mens Championship.

The full results can be viewed on the Turtles Website, but congratulations to the team for another great season.

Turtles - Aims and Objectives

The aims of the club are to provide a safe, friendly, family atmosphere where the art of swimming can be taught to disabled persons and where disabled persons can enjoy swimming for pleasure, exercise, and if desired, can participate in competitive swimming. Help and tuition is available in the pool but this cannot be guaranteed on a one to one basis for the entire session in the pool.

The competitive instincts of many members are catered for by several annual swimming galas. These are mainly run under the auspices of the National Association of Swimming Clubs for the Handicapped (NASCH) and include the Annual Club Championships, invitation galas against other clubs in the local region as well as the National Championships Gala usually held in November at Leamington Spa. Badges for distance swimming are also available and every year the club participates in the British Long Distance Swimming Association 'postal swim' involving other swimming clubs throughout the country.

Highgrove Refurbishment and Pool Closure

We now have the outline plans for the Highgrove Refurbishment that can be viewed on request (at the AGM or at the pool).

Dates are still to be confirmed but at present a September start date looks likely with a 3–4 months of pool closure.

We are in discussion with Hillingson Sports Council about the disabled facilities for the new changing rooms and about an alternative venue for our Saturday sessions.

Sylvia Smith OBE

We were also saddened to learn that club matriarch Sylvia Smith OBE suffered a stroke during October 2010. Sylvia has decided to stand down from her role as Competitions Secretary.

Sylvia has made steady progress and hopes to be present for the AGM meeting having put in a brief appearance at the pool on the 21st May. We all miss her and wish her well on her road to recovery.

Departed Friends - Peter Burchell

We were very saddened to learn that Peter had recently passed away after suffering a stroke.

A club member for over 40 years and a member of the gala team for 30 years, Peter was a larger than life character who will be sadly missed. Peter particularly enjoyed the social outings and loved the annual NASCH Woodlarks Camp.

Our thoughts go out to his mother Olive and to Peter's family.



Committee and Officer Elections

All of the Officers and Committee Members photographed below wish to stand for re-election for 2011 – 2012. Anyone wishing to join the Committee or stand for one of the Officer positions should inform the Chairman. In the unlikely event that we have a large number of nominations for Committee members then we will hold a ballot after the AGM, but Officer positions will be decided by a show of hands at the meeting.

Retiring Committee — standing for re-election



Dave Lee
Chairman



Linda Clarke
Chief Instructor



Rosemary Noyes
Vice Chair & Treasurer



Marion Beckwith
Secretary



Lynn Thomson



Anne Rourke



Sylvia Smith



Ann Chivers



Erica Beckwith



Patricia Bonney



Elisabeth Richards

Committee Members

Retiring Committee — Malcolm Yates

Malcolm Yates is not standing for re-election to the Committee. Malcolm has been a tremendous servant of the Turtles since joining the club as a young boy with disabilities some 45 years ago. Malcolm has been a committee member for many years and has also held the office of Chairman and Vice Chairman and under Malcolm's stewardship the club became a registered charity. We are indebted to his vast knowledge and experience of people with disabilities and the committee would like to express their sincere gratitude to Malcolm for all that he has achieved for the club over the years. We are delighted that Malcolm intends to continue as a member of the club and we hope we can talk him into presenting the medals and trophies at our galas in the future as it is a task that he has personally managed for a number of years.



Potters Bar Gala Team Sheet

Junior 1 Length	Ian Andrew Horne
Mens 1 Length	Neil Dew
Ladies 1 Length	Anne Rourke
Junior 2 Lengths	Tom Regan
Mens 2 Lengths	Jack Locket
Ladies 2 Lengths	Jeannette Prentice
Junior 3 Lengths	Sophie Grey
Mens 3 lengths	Gary Lee
Ladies 3 Lengths	Jeannette Prentice
Junior Relay	Ian Andrew, Sophie, Hamish Moreton and Oliver Regan
Mens Relay	Gary, Jack (2) and Neil
Ladies Relay	Jeannette (2) & Anne (2)
Diving	Neil Dew

Barracuda Invitation Gala
Furzeffield Centre,
Mutton Lane, Potters Bar
EN6 3BW

25th June 2011
18.30 for 19.00 start

33 Metres Pool

Halliwick Rules Apply
i.e. no percentage
repositioning allowed



Distance Badge Awards

Congratulations to the following swimmers:

Jo Crockford 10 metres
 Harsh Ganesh 25 metres
 Geraldine Leong 25 & 50 metres
 Oliver Regan 100 metres

Summer Lunch Outing—Sunday 10th July

This years we will be going to **THE GREAT HOUSE,** Thames Street, **Sonning on Thames,** W Berks RG4 6UT
12.30 for 1.00

2 courses for £14.75 and 3 courses for £18.50 inc. service. Tea and coffee is extra.



If you would like to join us, please give your name and a deposit of **£10.00 per person** to Marion **by 2nd July latest.**

Mini-bus transport at a cost of £3.00 per person will be available, if you need transport, with pick up points at: Highgrove; Ruislip Manor Station; Ickenham and Hillingdon Station. Please book early for the mini-bus to avoid disappointment.



The Great House has good disabled facilities, lovely gardens and is situated by the River Thames. Walks can be taken in the grounds or by the river or you can wander over the bridge to the Mill.



Please visit the **NASCH website** if you wish to read about the **NASCH AGM** that took place on the **17th April 2011**

<http://www.nasch.org.uk>