



# Wyre Forest Swimming Club

## Chairman's Christmas Update 2018

Well it's been a few months since I penned an update, so dare I say it's well over due!

I hope your festive preparations are well underway, but don't forget the Worcestershire County's are just around the corner.



Let's kick off with matters in the pool: what a period we have just encountered, success after success at every Open Meet the club has attended with Hereford seeing us again lifting the Best Club Trophy, TOP JOB.



Our club open meet was again a huge success, more about that later, but wasn't it great to see our swimmers going toe to toe with the best in the area at all ages and totally smashing it.

Now the Arena league, wow what a night! Promotion back to Division One (the promised land) as champions with one of the best performances I have ever seen by a Wyre Forest team, it was great to see so many happy smiling faces and the swimmers and coaches should enjoy basking in the glory! Now next year will see us stepping up a level and that's fantastic and just the challenge we need.



Our coaching staff deserve a massive thanks from us all, with quality showing at all levels we really are in a great position to drive forwards into the next year. Success however is I believe driven from the top and there can be no doubt at all that Brian's drive and passion for the club is having a massive effect all over.



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Considering the problems the pool at King Charles caused us, we think it's a credit to the Learn To Swim team that we have managed to maintain our numbers, there is no doubt that the standard of teaching at our club is vastly superior to other providers.



This was very evident when the section held its first Gala which was a massive success, thanks should go the Rowley family and the LTS team, there is no doubt that the future looks bright with the kind of quality that was on show that morning. If there is one thing we can all do to help this section is let all of our friends know just how good the ourLearn to Swim is and that prospective parents should contact Emma.



Now the dust has settled on our winter open meet I think it's only right to thank all of our volunteers, you were all a credit to the club - so many thanks to all. Now for those of you who were there you will recall just how long the days were, somewhere in the region of twelve hours each day, but the great news is it broke all financial records, so all of the hard work paid off.+ Why do we run two open meets? Other clubs don't, but the difference is the vision that our club has for the future and the standard of coaching we currently provide, the choices are very simple, to avoid increasing the fees massively we have to run two meets to increase our income, so I feel it's vital that we all help run the club by volunteering a little, that way it avoids the few doing the majority of the work. If you want to help a great place to start is the volunteers' page of the club's web site, have a look and feel free to get in touch.

In the New Year Carl will be running another J1 officials training course, so please look out for the flyer, again it's vital that we get more parents involved in this area, if we have no volunteers coming forward we cannot run Club Championships, yet alone our Open Meets, also its much better to be poolside helping than sitting in the hot sweaty stands and be a part of the team that makes our meets the best to be at.

On matters of finance we would be grateful if all outstanding gala and open meets fees can be cleared before Christmas, any problems please drop me an email and I will endeavour to assist.

Gift Aid - we are now claiming again after our recent challenges with HMRC, so as you can imagine it's **vital that you all go into Swim Manager and tick the gift aid box**, Stewart will put the tutorial on how to do this up on our Facebook page again to assist you.



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The new pool project has made steady progress throughout the year with several different locations and projects being investigated resulting in a few false dawns, but at last we appear to have found a location that works and a partner that wants the project to happen as much as we do. There will be a lot more to follow shortly but for the time being we have to keep the project under wraps.

Before you blink an eye it will be Presentation Night again, loads of awards to hand out and again memories for life to be built. Looking at swimming as I do, it's not all about the winning; yes its important, but for me it's about the life skills that are learnt along the way together with friendships and memories that are made as well.

I will finish by wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

***Nigel***



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