

Whitworth Swimming Club News

Winter 2016, Issue: 11



Welcome to the eleventh issue of Whitworth Swimming Club

newsletter. If you would like to see additional features in this newsletter then speak to one of the qualified teachers or Mike Burgess. More information about the Swimming Club is also on our website www.whitworthswimmingclub.com

Dates for the Diary: Please add these dates to your diary, phone and calendar:

Christmas and New Year Holidays 2015/16

We are closed on the following dates:

27th and 28th December 2016 and 03rd and 04th January 2017

Whitworth Swimming Club Annual Gala Sunday 16th October 2.30pm

Gala results available to download from our website www.whitworthswimmingclub.com

Whitworth Remembrance Sunday 13th November 2016 10.20am from Tong Lane, Whitworth

The town's Remembrance Sunday commemorations will begin with the Remembrance Sunday procession, which will leave as usual from opposite the former Town Council Offices (just north of the corner of Market Street and Tong Lane) at 10.20am; the processional route will be the subject of a road closure order for this short period of time and drivers are advised to avoid the area. The procession will be led by Whitworth's Mayor, Councillor Mrs Madeline De Souza, who will be supported by the Whitworth Vale and Healey Brass Band, plus the local uniformed organisations, Town, Borough and County Councillors, representatives of the town's schools and places of worship, Lancashire Constabulary and members of the public. The procession will arrive at Whitworth's Memorial Gardens in Facit at approximately 10.40am, and will be followed immediately by a Service of Remembrance around the Cenotaph, including a two-minute silence at 11am. The service will be led by the Mayoral Chaplain, Rev Father Frank Thorpe of St Anselm's RC Church. Following the Service of Remembrance, everyone is invited to cross the road for light, warm refreshments at The Riverside (Civic Hall). Swimming Club will be in the procession and will lay a wreath at the memorial.

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.10156168361375366&type=3>

Whitworth Swimming Club AGM Monday 14th November 2016 7.00pm at the Riverside

Our annual general meeting will be held on the above date at either the council chamber / bar lounge area at 7.00pm. At the meeting we will agree our pricing policies for 2017 and nominate the new committee to take the club forward. Parents you are very welcome to join us and help shape the clubs future. We need more parents to get involved in running your club please. All the swimming teachers are in either full time employment or education and we really need your help to continue with the level of activities within the club.

Previous AGM minutes and reports are here

<http://www.whitworthswimmingclub.com/#/downloads/4587554813>

Whitworth Swimming Club Medal Celebration and Christmas Party Sunday 4th December 2016 1.00pm to 4.00pm at the Riverside.

Whitworth Riverside from 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm. Tickets on sale at £2.50 per person and aged 2 and under are free. Medal presentation, games and competitions, face-painting, glitter tattoos, photo-booth, badge making, Christmas card making and the super mega raffle and more.

If you would like to donate a raffle prize for the hampers of from the business where you work then please pass to Andrea and Linda on the tuck shop. Party tickets and raffle tickets will be on sale soon.

Please see some photographs from last year

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.901387093278582&type=3>

Whitworth Swimming Club – Fun Night Tuesday and Wednesday 20th and 21st December

The last sessions for club before Christmas will be the above dates

Width kids can join us 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm and lane kids from 8.00pm to 9.00pm

Annual Memberships 2017

The annual membership for Swimming Club will remain at £20 per year per child with a discount for multiples of 3 children at £55 per year. We have listened, heard and acted and you will have until the end of March 2017 to pay your membership. As most of us are parents we know the costs of Christmas and New Year and hence offering this extension to renew.

Standing Orders 2016/17

Please read the rules about standing orders for 2016/17 and please do not cancel over the Christmas Holidays or any other holidays.

Some parents are still cancelling their standing orders in holiday periods. The amount set is to cover a 12 month period and you are depleting club of essential funds. We are working through the lists and will ask you to recompense the club where payments have been cancelled without valid reason.

If your child wishes to leave the club then please let Mike, Michelle (Tue) or Sam (Wed) immediately and then you can cancel your standing order. [Please click here to download the important information on standing orders](#)

Whitworth Swimming said goodbye to a number of teachers during the summer 2016 that went off to University.

Congratulations and well done. Have a fantastic time.

Sian O'Dell, Robbie Blezard, Harry Haydn, Eve Williams, Olivia Mawdsely and Aurora Carroll

Speaking with Teachers

Very occasionally on Tuesday and Wednesday we have the minimum teachers to operate the club due to teachers on holidays, revising for exams or they are unwell.

If we don't get a chance to speak with you or make an assessment of your child then we apologise and will speak with you when get the earliest opportunity.

Our priority is the safety of your children whilst at club and ensuring the club runs with the teachers and helpers we have. We also strive to ensure your children develop and move through the groups, however on these odd occasions we all have to teach and assessments have to wait.

Thank you

Kandel Exchange visit to Whitworth 2016

On the 2nd August we welcomed 19 visitors from our twin-town in Kandel to stay with Whitworth swimming club families. A fantastic time was had by all with a welcome and closing party, visit to Rochdale Pioneer, Touchstones and Town Hall, a trip to Skipton Castle, a walk down Healey Dell and lunch at the tea-room, fun sessions at Whitworth Leisure Centre and Pendle Wavelengths, a walk around Hollingworth Lake and bowling and laser quest. A major thanks to the families who hosted and for the organisers who give so much behind the scenes and on the day to make all this happen. Please see a link to the photographs on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10210134407013633.1073742446.1141972093&type=1&l=b0a942ce7c>

Whitworth and Kandel town twinning 50th year celebration visit to Kandel 2016

At the end of August a small group of teachers and older kids from clubs went to Kandel to celebrate the 50th year of town twinning and join the twinning committee and Whitworth Vale and Healy Band who were there too. A great time was had by all and we thank Kandel for their excellent hospitality

Some photographs here:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10210047364437623.1073742437.1141972093&type=1&l=ceb5190137>

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10210058544197110.1073742438.1141972093&type=1&l=b5c8a6f38f>

Open Water Swimming by Clem Jones

Outdoor swimming can be hard to define, and it's not for me to pin it down. Perhaps the one shared element for all outdoor swimmers is that they swim under an open sky. Otherwise they are a very broad church, swimming lakes, lochs and lidos, salt and fresh, cool and cold, and of course very cold! They enjoy the sport of swimming as well as the art, and there are dawdlers and racers, poets and pacemakers. Some wear skins, some wear just their skin. Some are dolphins, some are pike, and some are frogs or swans. They don't see a right or wrong way to swim; it is taking the plunge that matters.

Outdoor swimmers

- Believe swimming enlarges and celebrates the beauty of each day.
- Believe in sharing the joy and adventure of swimming.
- Believe all have a right to swim under an open sky.
- Believe in open access to lakes and rivers and in keeping lidos open
- Believe clean water in our lakes and rivers is a fundamental right.
- Embrace the delight of cold (and colder) water and its rejuvenating effects.

For the community of Whitworth they are very blessed to have one of the most beautiful swimming locations in the U.K. This is Gaddings Dam or 'Tod Beach' to the local West Yorkshire folk!

The Dam is located less than 30 minutes from Whitworth Baths and is open 24hrs a day; 365 days a year. It boasts the highest beach in the UK and has stunning views across the Pennines and Calder Valley. The Dam has a dedicated team of volunteers that ensure that the reservoir (Dam) is fit for all those swimmers wishing to use the facilities. The only thing they cannot control is the temperature of the water!

The team have two useful websites which inform bathers of everything they need to know including location and directions.

<http://abelian.org/gaddings/> for the most up-to-date water temperature

<http://www.gaddingsdam.org/> this website provides all the information regarding the use of the dam and swimming there.

This year Whitworth's only Olympic Swimmer Richard Maden, Rochdale's ex-international swimmer Nigel Ali and a whole host of channel swimming record holders have been spotted in the water.

What are you waiting for? Well I'd wait for next spring / summer as it's a tad chilly already.....

If you need to know anything further then speak with me on the pool side during a Tuesday night session and whilst you are waiting for the water to warm up why don't you have a nosey this autumn or winter as it's a cracking place for a stroll around?

Kandel 2017 Exchange

Whitworth Swimming Club will be visiting Kandel from: 25th July 2017 – 1st August 2017

More details will be released shortly.

Parents we really need your help please.

Parents and guardians, as you are probably aware the swimming club is run completely by volunteers. Many of these have full time jobs, are in full time education and have families.

We now need some help running the club please. Activities include: helping on distance nights / gala / splash and dash, making phone calls, doing administrative tasks, helping us pull together newsletters, organising the Kandel Exchange, running the tuck-shop and much more.

We are also looking for adult assistants and potential swimming teachers.

If you feel that you can commit and give some time then please speak to Mike Burgess / Michelle Ashcroft / Sam Keiley in the first instance and we will compile a list.

Dates for the Diary

School Holiday Closures for 2017

We will post this early 2017 and on the website

Swimming Club Teachers Meeting

We will post teacher meetings on the website shortly



Whitworth Swimming Club Activities Calendar 2017

6.55pm and 7.25pm Width Sessions and 8.00pm onwards Length Sessions

Please see the activity calendar on the following link:

<http://www.whitworthswimmingclub.com/#/events/4561498877>

Other Bits and Bobs

Please see link <http://www.whitworthswimmingclub.com/#/downloads/4544525909>

Whitworth Swimming Club Volunteers

Whitworth Swimming Club Rules

Whitworth Swimming Three Strike Rule
