



Chapelton & District Amateur Swimming Club

Affiliated to ASA, NECSSA, YSA, S&D ASA, RLSS

Here is the latest Newsletter. Please do note that it is produced in simple text to keep the copying costs down, but we do try to then add some gloss, and often photos and colour, before putting a full version on the website and for emailing.

The website is coming along nicely now, and is, once again, worth regular visits because there is normally something new each time you look. Thanks to John Wincott for hard work on the site.

Galas and events – Competition Calendar for 2012 now available!

We now have a competition calendar to help you to plan out your year's activities (attached to printed version, on website and on noticeboard). You could also read again the 'guide to galas' document to help you. Also, Geoff (and Lynne) would be really pleased if you could ask for advice and details. Geoff carries a folder with the details of events and will help to select those that are suitable for you, personally.

Meanwhile, the next few days and weeks are crucial to get entries in for many events. The official closing dates for entries are important of course – but some galas are 'first come, first served' and we know from experience that if we leave it to the last minute, some popular ones are already 'full' and it is possible to be rejected. So we set our own 'internal' closing dates by which you should complete your entry forms and hand them in.

Assessments and interhouse galas

The next Assessments night for Teaching and Intermediate squads will be on 19 April at 7.30. Don't miss it!

This will be followed by the next club Interhouse Galas. These are on two nights to make sure we can fit in the longer, 100 yd trials as well as the shorter sprints. Don't miss them, they are good fun and good experience – 23 and 26 April, both at 7.30.

Hot off the blocks

The swimmers of the club have elected new Club Captains and Vice-Captains. For the boys, the new Captain is **Ben Hale** with **Ilia Zaiats** as Vice-Captain, and for the girls, it is **Laurie Monaghan** as Captain and **Billy Chapman** as Vice-Captain.

In other news, Sheffield swimmers have done well to qualify for the Olympics in the summer so I'm sure we can put any hint of inter-club rivalry aside and cheer them on. Perhaps we'll give them some newsletter space as things hot up.

Sam takes on the Swimathon

You might well have read about the efforts of Sam Bromley and his friend Luke Turner – in the local papers and also on the swimming pool noticeboards – to raise money for the Marie Curie Cancer Care charity. They are aiming at swimming around one and a half miles and hope to raise £400. Sam is joining Luke in this on 28 April. Sadly, Luke lost his mother, Joanne, some two years ago to cancer, and the two Lound Junior School boys would like to support the charity to help others in the future. These are two very young swimmers and, if you want to support them, please give donations to the swimming pool reception or sponsor them by going onto www.swimathon.org. (**open this link, click 'sponsor a swimmer', enter Sam's name, enter Chapeltown Baths and find Sam's message and how to sponsor**). Good swimming, Sam.



Sam Bromley, with his friend, Luke

Billy Chapman is also undertaking a sponsored swim which will be reported on next time around.

Top tip of the month

You have seen how birds of prey keep their heads still while beating their wings. Give it a try in your swimming.

Funds: please support your club

Look out on the noticeboard for the next Rags R Us collection. Also, see the noticeboard now for a list of items for sale at good prices.

Editor's corrections

Apologies to Ilia Zaiats for spelling his name wrong last time around. Sorry Ilia.

Dolphins at the races

- Four of our swimmers took part in the Rykneld Masters on 19 February. Bruce Dickinson and Lee Horsley did well, Bruce getting first place in the butterfly and Lee achieving three season's best times. Jessica (Munn) was first in all three races in the 19/24 age range while Lynne Dawson travelled home smiling broadly with no less than eight first places (in an older age group!).
- The BML team were again in action in the second round of the league and battled to improve on the snowy previous effort. They did indeed improve and avoided the bottom spot with a brave team effort all round. It is a shame to pick out individuals given the team performance but it might be noted that there were eight times that were below Yorkshire qualifying times – by the likes of Jack Anderson, Joshua Page, Megan Hobson, Bruce D, Billy Chapman, Vanessa Grayson and young Chloe Draper! Amongst our first place winners, we might shine the Super Trouper light on the boys relay team of J Wheeler, S Bromley, K Watkinson and J Anderson. Well done all team members – keep training hard for the next round in September.
- The quartet of swimmers who swam at County level in the Yorkshires did us proud. There was one finalist, Joshua Page, in the breaststroke, pretty much coming up through the ranks on the day. This is a proud achievement which will provide warm, diamond memories through life, right through to autumn days after hanging up the tools on the bar. The Yorkshires are tough. It is such a big county that the entry/qualifying times are set very fast compared with smaller counties to avoid being unmanageable. Even so, there are hundreds of entrants and the very fastest are swimming at national levels, so Ilia, Laurie and Billy can be equally proud even though they missed out on finals this year. For the club, the one downside is that Josh is now ineligible to swim breaststroke in the Barnsley Minors League. Time to brush up butterfly then!

With a bit of encouragement (no outright threats of extra press-ups required), Laurie has written up a piece about the Yorkshires from her own viewpoint, so the newsletter editor need not fuss with too much detail – although I was on poolside and can say that the swimmers were really behind one another in an impressive fashion. It is rumoured that some parents and supporters in the crowd were a bit worried about the poolside staff being less than timely in getting our swimmers to book in for their heats – but all went smoothly. The results from all the days, Leeds and Ponds Forge, are on the noticeboard but Laurie's account of the Ponds Forge day follows:

The Yorkshire Championships 2012

Getting up at 6 am is not my favourite thing in the world, in fact, it's probably my least favourite thing in the world to be honest, so having to get up at that time and have porridge ready for the Yorkshires didn't appeal to me. But when we got there, after a small nap in the car, I felt fine, just like a school day really. Ilia was already there and me and him received a bit of last minute advice from Marina before we went onto the poolside and got ready to warm up in the huge 50m long pool that is Ponds Forge, where the gala would be held. It was pretty exciting really, especially seeing the poolside totally full to the top with what seemed like millions of different clubs from all over Yorkshire, and

knowing that we (from Chapeltown) were part of it.

All the other clubs were much bigger, so finding a space for just the three of us - me, Ilia and Billy (Josh joined us later on in the afternoon) - was difficult. We ended up underneath a water polo net at the top of the pool under the diving boards.

Warm up was absolute chaos with so many people, but me and Billy got through it and Ilia managed it as well so we were all set for the challenge ahead, actually swimming in the races! I was set to do two races that day, 50m's freestyle and backstroke, and Billy was doing three, - which was very impressive! - 50m's freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke. I was actually really nervous for my races, even though I had no need to be, it was quite weird knowing I was swimming against the fastest people in Yorkshire! Sitting on the poolside at gala is always fun, it makes it much easier and less nerve-wracking because you can talk and laugh with your friends. At lunch, me, Billy and Ilia stood in the doorway and collected for the charity which was fun, and we raised quite a lot to!

I didn't do too well, but Billy did, and so did Ilia. Josh was amazing and turned out to be the only Yorkshire finalist from Chapeltown, and he came 8th!

Overall, it was a good day and Chapeltown got some good results, I just hope more swimmers will come to galas like this in the future!

-Laurie Monaghan



Chapeltown swimmers prepare for the Yorkshire Championships: Billy Chapman, Ilia Zaiats, Laurie Monaghan and, about to make the final in breaststroke, Joshua Page