

## **Welcome to the Carnforth Otters Annual General Meeting 2011**

As you are aware there has not been a Chairperson for the last 10 months and as a result I was co-opted into a stand-in role during the summer.

This report is therefore an overview for 2011.

I would like to record the clubs thanks to Peter Thompson for his period in office.

We are currently undertaking a review of the clubs constitution which states that the main objective of the club shall be the teaching, development and practice of swimming, for its members and shall where appropriate, be to compete in competitions and championships at Local, County, Regional, National and International level. I thank Sue Goodfellow for updating the constitution at short notice.

After receiving Mark Smith's 2011 Swimming Achievements report I can report that the club is certainly achieving that objective and to the credit of everybody involved we are exceeding in many areas.

Mark's report reads as follows:

### **2011 SWIMMERS ACHIEVEMENTS**

#### **JAN**

##### **NORTH LANCS AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIPS**

70 swimmers in the first major competition of the year a total of 63 podium places  
12 swimmers selected for the North Lancs team.

#### **FEB**

##### **BRITISH DISABILITY SPORT ENGLAND NATIONAL CHAMPS**

Joe Barton 5 gold medals selected for the British Talent programme

#### **APRIL**

##### **4 SWIMMERS QUALIFY FOR THE SCOTTISH NATIONALS**

Josh Thompson	silver	100fr
Sam Timpany	14 <sup>th</sup>	100 fr
Alasdair Fairhurst	4 <sup>th</sup>	100fr
Rachel Ritchie	silver	100 br

##### **LANCASHIRE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS BEST EVER**

## 26 SWIMMERS QUALIFIED

Alex Livingstone	Tom Horner
Aimee Banks	Max Gleadow
Amy Turner	Matthew Brown
Isabella Brown	Josh Banks
Ellena Clarkson	Toa Smith
Shannon Nicholson	Josh Hillis
Olivia Clinton	Fredie Carter
Becky Townend	Michael Bellamy
Sophie Walker	Sam Timpany
Kirsty Fairhurst	William Ritchie
Rachel Ritchie	Josh Thompson
Steph Spencer	Sam Tomlinson
	Alisdair Fairhurst

Aimee Banks and Aimee Turner selected for the Lancashire Talent programme.

12 gold 10 silver 15 bronze medals

## MAY

### **NORTH WEST REGIONAL YOUTHS CHAMPS**

Steph Spencer Sophie Walker Rachel Ritchie Becky Townend Alisdair Fairhurst

Put in some excellent performances against the best youth swimmers in the North of England

### **MANCHESTER OPEN**

Josh Thompson and Alisdair Fairhurst smash the National Qualifying time in the 100br

### **CLUB GALA ONE**

4 New Records

Rachel Ritchie qualified for the British Open Championships 50 100 200 br

## JUNE

Sam Timpany selected for captain of the North Lancs Inter Association team  
Also selected for the team

Josh Hillis Eleanor Clarkson

Danny Davies  
Josh Thompson  
Josh Banks

Paige Clinton  
Lydia Westbury  
Kirsty Fairhurst  
Isabella Brown  
Aimee Banks

## **JULY**

### **BRITISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Rachel Ritchie becomes the fastest 15 yr old girl on the 50 br in the country

### **CLUB GALA TWO**

4 new records

## **AUG**

### **NATIONAL AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Josh Thompson	4 <sup>TH</sup>	100br
Sam Timpany	11 <sup>th</sup>	100br
Alisdair Fairhurst	19 <sup>th</sup>	100br
Rachel Ritchie	4 <sup>th</sup>	100br 7 th 200br

Josh and Rachel selected for the British talent programme

## **SEP**

Rachel Ritchie qualifies for the Olympic trials.

Josh Thompson selected for Lancashire. Josh also swims the second fastest time ever for a 13yr old boy on the 50 br

## **NOV**

### **CLUB GALA THREE**

6 new records

Excellent results from Blackpool level 3 meet

## **TEAM EVENTS**

Micro team missed the div one final by 10 points to finish 5<sup>th</sup>

North Lancs Team finished 3<sup>rd</sup>

Arena team has made the premier league A final

## **CONCLUSION**

An outstanding year for the otters excellent progress all round, we are a small club but once again we have proven we can compete against the giants of the North West. We have many swimmers who now have established themselves as some of the best in the county.

Several swimmers who have established themselves as some of the best in Great Britain and one or two swimmers who are establishing themselves as the best of all time.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank every one who has helped out on pool side our team managers and the committee for their continued support..

Quite simply 2011 our best year ever.

## **2012**

We compete in the most talented region in Britain .Lancashire County have been County champions for the last 11years.

Once again 2011 has seen several clubs and squads join to form swim teams with 400 plus members.

We are a small team who punch well above our weight our goal for 2012 is to once again prove we can compete with the best of the North West region, provide a safe and constructive environment for all our swimmers to achieve their full potential.

Mark

I thank Mark for his report.

I would also like to record the clubs thanks to Patrick Blain for undertaking the Secretary's role. Patrick is stepping down and we wish Patrick all the very best now he has moved onto University. The whole committee have commented on Patrick's hard work and in recognition Patrick has been nominated in becoming a Honary member of the club.

The Committee have also decided to nominate two other club members, Vicky Smith and Joe Barton, for Honary membership. This too is in recognition for their contributions to the club and achievements in the pool.

On behalf of the Committee I would also like to thank the following:

- Neil Harvey who is stepping down from the Committee. Neil has certainly developed the club during his time on the committee, as chairperson which from records clearly shows was a testing period and also on poolside as a coach.
- Kirsty Banks Lyon who is also stepping down from the committee. As Child Welfare officer Kirsty has ensured that the club has the correct policies and procedures in place which certainly greatly contributed to the club attaining the Club 21 accreditation.
- Andy Timpany who will concentrate his efforts as the Club 21 Co-Ordinator, Coach, North Lancs Manager, Arena League Manager and represent the club with the North Lancs Committee.
- Vivien Denby who is stepping down as Registration Secretary although she is staying on the Committee.
- All the members of the current committee
- Our coaches and teachers, officials (time keepers, life guards) who all contribute to maintaining a superb atmosphere in the club
- All those who contribute in their own way

Looking ahead into the New Year a further requirement from the constitution is that the committee is responsible for the management of the club. In early 2012 the club will need to submit an Improvement Plan for that year to Club 21 and thereafter we will be applying for re-accreditation in 2013.

As a result I am keen that the committee will support Andy Timpany with reviewing all our current policies and procedures during the year and I will be looking to allocate work accordingly.

My intention is to give allow all of our coaches, teachers and poolside helpers the time to develop the potential of all of our swimmers without being further burdened with administration.

We are also looking to improve communication within the club and I am grateful to Rick in his development of the club website.

Finally a couple of requests:-

1) We always need more volunteers to assist in the running of the club. Too much reliance is placed on too few individuals.

Volunteer coaches and teachers - we need to keep refreshing these numbers as young people leave us, moving on to university and elsewhere, and we lose their skills. We welcome Sophie Casson back on a regular basis and as a result the club has already benefitted from her input to the land training and lane drills.

Thank you

Ian Hillis