



DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Consett ASC Newsletter! This newsletter is from the club, about the club and for the club. Please do send any feedback, suggestions or ideas to newsletter@consett-asc.co.uk (even if it's just to let us know this is being read 😊).

Keeping in Touch

Facebook: 'Consett ASC (2020)' – Follow us for important updates – this is a 'Secret Group' so please contact us on the website initially so we can invite you to join

Website: www.consett-asc.co.uk

Email: The club will communicate with members via email. It is important to check emails regularly, and let us know if you change your email address

Club & Consett Pool Update

Following the latest lockdown, the club are pleased to be able to partially reopen for coaching squads at Louisa Centre in Stanley. Guidance from Government, Swim England and DCC sadly means that we are unable to bring back our teaching groups. We are in frequent communication with all governing bodies, and as soon as we can bring back teaching squads we will.

Please do however note, that this will be a challenge. As well as adhering to Covid Guidance, we will also need to source pool time at alternative venues to Consett, which is in extremely high demand from various parties. Other clubs have stated they will face similar challenges when teaching squads return, notably a north east club that was in the news this week as they can get no pool time at all for any squad.

At the time of writing, we do not have further update regarding Consett Pool re-opening, we are however continuing to request this. We have made very clear that we are looking for the repair work to be completed asap so that we can return to our home pool, however also mindful that the work is complex and needs to be done properly. A member did post a suggestion on the Facebook page, to contact Durham County Council in order request an update and request action. Should anyone wish to do so, the contact details of the Council are on a post in October on the Facebook page. The club will continue to work with our partners to gain update.

As a club, as well as not being able to train, we haven't been able to organize the various social events and activities we would for members. Again, as soon as we can do this we will.



DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Membership Renewals

We are approaching membership renewal time, and we appreciate that the club has been unavailable to most members for most of this year. Our membership secretary will be communicating with all members shortly regarding renewals.

SwimMark Accreditation

Consett ASC has recently gained accreditation as a SwimMark Essentials Club. SwimMark accreditation is Swim England's Quality Standard for Clubs, and in their words, it recognizes high standards of Governance, Sustainability and Effectiveness.

Our former Club Secretary, Julie Tait, took the lead on organizing the club's application for this accreditation. Julie put a lot of time and effort into working with various club personnel in order to complete the necessary steps and submit evidence that the Club comply with the 6 elements of stronger affiliation required in order to gain this accreditation, and thanks to her hard work the club were the first club to submit the evidence required.

A huge thank you to Julie for taking the lead on this key requirement for the Club and pulling together the relevant personnel to work with her in order to ensure the application was accepted.

Membership Secretary Role

Our current membership secretary, Ross Chapman, will unfortunately be stepping down from his role leading to the role becoming vacant. We'd like to thank Ross for all of the hard work he has put into the role.

As a club ran completely by volunteers, we recently advertised the role on Facebook and our website, and we would encourage anyone interested in this role to contact the club secretary. This is a crucial role at the club and one which we do need to be filled.

The role duties have been detailed on a Facebook Post, however if anyone would like further information then please get in touch. A full handover will be provided.



DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Christmas Opening Stanley

For those who have been able to return, sessions will run as normal except we will be closed on 26th and 27th December

Club Secretary

Emily Thornton has recently been appointed Club Secretary following Wendy Frame stepping down from the role. The committee would like to welcome Emily to the role, and a huge thanks to Wendy for the hard work and dedication she has shown whilst in role.

Chairman's Summary of the Year

Dear Parents, Carers and Swimmers

I think we can all agree 2020 was not the year any of us expected it to be. We as a club were looking forward to seeing all of our swimmer's progress to the best of their abilities throughout the season, sadly this has not been the case. With the imposed restrictions caused by COVID we have only been able to have a small number of our swimmers attend coaching sessions and to add that not even in our own pool! I know Consett Amateur Swimming Club (CASC) has faced difficult times over the years, but this has been an unprecedented year in every way.

It's down to the continued dedication and commitment from our Coaches, Committee Members, Parents and Swimmers that we are still here today. We all hope that we can invite more swimmers back to lessons in the new year and return to Consett pool as soon as possible.

On behalf of CASC committee we would like to wish all our members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Stay safe and see you all soon.

Dave Punton (CASC Chairman)



DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Head Coaches Summary of the Year

The year started well with all parts of the club buoyant and looking forward to the coming year.

Competitively the club performed well in the county championships and were looking forward to the regionals.

Then the life as we knew it was to change dramatically.

Lockdown 1 came, and swimming stopped. On exiting that lockdown, the club was hit with another bombshell – our pool was in need of serious repair work and would be shut for the foreseeable.

We have since secured alternative training time at Stanley, but lockdown 2 paused that, only returning recently, but only for under 18's.

We are still in difficult times, still no option for class teaching, and no pool to deliver it.

With possible solutions on the horizon, we patiently await news from the Government, Swim England and Durham County Council to help us get back to what we do best.

On Behalf of our Teaching and Coaching Team, we would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Safe, Happy and successful New Year.

Ian Frame

Head Coach

Consett Amateur Swimming Club

**The club would like to wish all members a
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
We look forward to seeing you back as soon as
is safe to do so**