



## DECEMBER 2021 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 [communication@consett-asc.co.uk](mailto:communication@consett-asc.co.uk)*

### **Club President**

At our recent AGM, the club have appointed Martyn Cook as president of Consett ASC. Martyn has shown commitment to Consett ASC in various coaching roles for many years and continues to lead our master's division which continues to be in high demand.

We'd delighted to appoint Martyn to this role and look forward to continuing to work with Martyn for many years to come!

### **Chairman's Summary 2021**

The club has continued to be successful given what has happened in the last 12 months. The development swimmers have been back in the pool now for some time and we are progressing well, we have now invited our younger swimmers back as the small pool is available with the lifting of the restrictions. We continue to apply our core values to develop abilities in all our swimmers that will inspire and empower them to reach their potential in and out of the water.

#### **Galas**

We have now returned to competitive swimming in October which saw us participate in our first gala in 18 months. There were lots of PBs and Medal's won. It was great to see all the hours of training paying off with some great times across our swimmers. We now have a schedule of galas and look forward to competing in for the rest of the 2021/22 season.

#### **Coaches**

All credit to Ian, Adrian, Mark, Emily, Janice, and the rest of the team, they continue to bring out the best out of all our swimmers. It has been an incredibly hard year making sure we have enough coaches for all the sessions, and we are very grateful for all their hard work. We continue to offer our younger volunteers the opportunity to study for their Level 1 and 2 Teaching Qualification which will ensure our club is supported by brilliant teachers moving forward.

#### **Masters**

Our Masters section is in great shape under the leadership of Martyn. A special mention to them all for supporting our club over the last 12 months. It really has massively helped our club.



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### **Finances**

We are in a good health financially and I would like to thank our treasurer Phil for all his hard work throughout the pandemic keeping our books in order, but really our whole club in order! Amazing effort Phil.

### **Swim Mark**

I would like to thank Julie Tate for maintaining and keeping our Stronger Affiliation documents up to date. We know how much time you have spent making sure Consett ASC is fully affiliated with Swim Mark, it is really appreciated.

### **System**

We have subscribed to Love Admin which helps to bring our membership database and financial payment for both sessions and galas together. We are waiting for the next update that will allow our coaches and teachers to use tablets poolside to record our swimmer's progression.

### **Club President**

We have a new President and lifetime member Martyn Cook, a great addition to our club I am sure you will all agree.

I hope everyone has a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Dave Punton**  
**Chairman**

## **Club Update**

The club are pleased to be able to fully reopen for our teaching groups in addition to our coaching squads at Louisa Centre in Stanley. We have risen to the challenge to secure pool time at the Louisa Centre, as an alternate venue to Consett, for our teaching groups while adhering to Covid Guidance. Pool time at the Louisa Centre is in extremely high demand from various parties so we are very pleased.

## **Consett Pool Update**

The repairs to Consett Swimming pool are still ongoing. Durham County Council have completed a detailed technical assessment of the works required to repair the pool area and intend to rectify the defects. We have always been very clear that we are looking for the repair work to be completed ASAP



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so that we can return to our home pool, however the extensive nature of the work meant repairs need to be delivered by a specialist contractor, while we are all very keen to return to our home pool we must be patient. We will continue to request updates and keep you informed of progress.

According to Swim England, 206 pools have closed since the start of the pandemic, we are fortunate in that our pool is being repaired and will reopen in due course and until that happens we are grateful that we have pool time at the Louisa Centre. In the short term we will make this pool our home from home.

### **Membership Renewals**

Despite the restrictions due to the pandemic and not being at our home pool 75% of our swimmers have been able to return to active swimming. We now have sessions available in the small pool allowing us to resume our learn-to-swim sessions. Our Masters swimmers are also going from strength to strength with over 15 new swimmers welcomed into the club.

We have a new system in place, powered by LoveAdmin.com, which allows you to keep your membership information up-to-date and pay online. Thank you to everyone who signed up to renew their membership. By paying online you reduce the time spent administering the membership and as the club is run solely by volunteers your co-operation is warmly welcome! If you have any issues with your LoveAdmin account please contact Phil Stephenson at [treasurer@consett-asc.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@consett-asc.co.uk)

### **Mobile phone policy reminder**

We would like to remind all members and parents that the use of mobile phones or any other photography/recording equipment in the changing rooms, at poolside or in spectator areas is strictly prohibited.

The club and Swim England do not support the banning of mobile phones as children need them to contact parents, however during swimming sessions they should be left either in a locker or with a parent and not used until outside of the aforementioned areas.



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### Supporting the Club

Consett ASC is run completely by volunteers. As with any organization we do have overheads, including various training courses which volunteers attend including Safeguarding, Teacher and Coaching Courses, and administration costs.

If members would like to support the club at **no cost to them** they can do so by making purchases through Easyfundraising and selecting 'Consett Amateur Swimming Club' as the cause they would like to support. When making purchases through various retailers, start at the website (or download the app) and the club will receive a percentage of any spend. Details of how to set this up are on our website at [Fundraising – Consett-ASC \(consett-asc.co.uk\)](https://consett-asc.co.uk)

### Christmas Opening

Please find below detailing changes to sessions in December and over Christmas:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Big Pool</u>	<u>Small Pool</u>
<u>Saturday 11th December</u>	Closed for Sessions (Sponsored swim taking place)	Sessions as normal
<u>Saturday 18th December</u>	Closed for Sessions (Connor King Foundation Gala)	Sessions as normal
<u>Wednesday 22nd December</u>	Fun Session (Big Pool Inflatable)	Closed
<u>Saturday 25th December</u>	Closed	Closed
<u>Sunday 26th December</u>	Closed	Closed
<u>Tuesday 28th December</u>	Closed	Closed
<u>Wednesday 29th December</u>	Normal Sessions	Normal Sessions
<u>Saturday 1st January</u>	Closed	Closed
<u>Sunday 2nd January</u>	Closed	Closed
<u>Tuesday 4th January</u>	Normal Sessions	N/A



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### Head Coaches Summary of the Year

The year started with continued difficulty and uncertainty yet it slowly unraveled itself and we faced the new normal.

Competitively the club performed well in its first gala in 18 months and we had some qualification for the regionals with many more being close to qualifying. Swimming for Consett at the North East regionals Thomas Williams achieved heat wins and up to 3 second personal best times. Well done Thomas.

We have recently secured further alternative water time at Stanley in the small pool, to be able to bring back our younger members.

While our ongoing volunteer training has continued with Lucy Pearson achieving full teacher status and two others await their final assessment.

Hopefully if we continue to thrive moving forward the future is looking bright.

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**

### Galas

Consett ASC is back on the gala trail in October attending the Derwentside October Invitational Meet. The swimmers were all fantastic and as usual their behavior was exemplary both in and around the pool. We achieved **12 gold medals, 10 silver** and **15 bronze** with a massive **55 personal best times**, an amazing achievement for our first gala since the pandemic began. Credit to all the swimmers and coaches for the well-deserved achievements.

The entry date for the Christmas Cracker gala at Louisa Centre on 4-5<sup>th</sup> December has now passed. Good luck to the swimmers here's hoping you all win those selection boxes... and medals of course!

Entries for the New Year Meet on 8-9<sup>th</sup> January 2022 are now open. Your coaches are on hand to advise parents of squad swimmers on which events to enter. We must stress that there is no obligation for





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swimmers to enter galas if they do not wish to do so.

### Keeping in Touch

Our website [www.consett-asc.co.uk](http://www.consett-asc.co.uk) is packed with all the latest information including our training sessions, upcoming galas and Covid updates.

We are also on **Facebook**, search for 'Consett ASC (2020)' and follow us for important updates. As this is a 'Secret Group' please contact us on the website initially so we can invite you to join. 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.



**Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year**

**from all at  
Consett ASC**