



VOLUNTEERING NEWS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

ISSUE 13 | JUNE 2014

WELCOME TO THE SPECIAL EDITION OF VOLUNTEERING NEWS

This week we are celebrating Volunteers' Week, an annual event which takes place every year from 1st – 7th June. Volunteers' Week celebrates the contribution made by millions of volunteers across the UK and is run by the NCVO (National Council for Voluntary Organisations) in partnership with Volunteer Development Scotland, Volunteer Now and Wales Council for Voluntary Action.

Like many sports, aquatics relies on the hard work of thousands of dedicated volunteers. From teaching children to swim, to running national events – volunteers are at the heart of it all. The ASA are celebrating the fantastic contribution of our volunteer workforce, as well as supporting clubs and swim schools to recruit new volunteers.

In recognition of Volunteers' Week, the ASA will be providing you with support guides and information on how to find and hold onto the best volunteers, including holding taster sessions and 'taking a buddy to work' with you. There will also be competitions with some amazing prizes on offer.

We would like to encourage all ASA clubs to get involved in Volunteers' Week, whether that is by taking the time to say thank you to your volunteers, downloading the volunteer certificate, nominating someone for an Aquaforce Award or just encouraging other members of the club to say thank you to the people who make the sport happen.

We want to hear all about how you are celebrating Volunteers' Week, so make sure you get in touch via Twitter or Facebook, or email volunteering@swimming.org. Send through your pictures or stories and all those we receive will be sent a limited edition volunteering pin badge.

To keep up to date with what is happening during Volunteers' Week, visit www.swimming.org/asa/volunteering

On behalf of the Volunteer Engagement Team – Thank you!

The Volunteer Engagement Team



Steph Elliott
Volunteer Engagement
Manager



Becky Milnes
Volunteer
Engagement Officer

IT'S COMPETITION TIME!

Do you want to win yourself or your club some fun prizes throughout Volunteers' Week? Well now you can! We are running two exciting competitions which will give you the chance to win either an underwater MP3 player or an underwater hand held camera.

Send us your Volunteer Selfie

As selfie-mania takes over the world, we would like to invite you to send us your best selfie in a fun place, including an item that you utilise in your volunteering role. This could be as simple as a selfie of you at the pool with your stopwatch, or on a beach somewhere exotic with your laptop editing the club website.

The best entries will be displayed on the website and the most creative selfie will win a Speedo Aquabeat 2.0 4GB underwater MP3 Player. Entries will be judged by The National Volunteer Forum.

Remember to include your name and the name of your club. Closing date for entries is 7th June 2014.



Creative Clubs

We want to give you the chance to get creative and win a Kodak PlaySport Full HD hand held video camera for your club!

Send us your most inspired image of the people that give their time to your club. Your picture will be judged on creativity, originality and effort. There are no rules on the number of people, the setting or the equipment you can use.

So get creative – we can't wait to see the results! The best entries will be shown on the website. Remember to include the name of your club.

The closing date is 7th June 2014 and the winner will be selected by the National Volunteer Forum.

Send your entries for both competitions to volunteering@swimming.org

LAUNCH OF THE 2014 AQUAFORCE AWARDS

It is no secret that volunteers are the lifeblood of our aquatic clubs, whether it is the volunteer who enthusiastically manages the front desk, or the volunteer coach who tirelessly runs training sessions. No volunteer contribution should go unnoticed!

Take a moment to stop and think about that special volunteer within your aquatic community, the one who always goes the extra mile – why not nominate them for an Aquaforce Award.

EVERYONE can nominate and ANYONE can be nominated! Start thinking about who you would like to nominate, how have they made a difference to you or the people around you? Now is your chance to make someone's day.

Nominations are now open, and will remain open until 21st July. Late entries will not be accepted.

The 2014 awards are in seven different categories.

Award Categories

1. Club Volunteer of the Year
2. Outstanding Contribution by a Young Volunteer
3. Outstanding Contribution to Swimming in the Community
4. Outstanding County or Regional Contribution
5. Services to Officials' Development
6. Volunteer Teacher/Coach of the Year

Club Award

7. Celebrating Excellence in Club Volunteering

Nomination forms are available to download from the ASA website. All unsuccessful nominees will receive a special edition Aquaforce pin badge.



The nominated group or individual must be a member of the ASA and belong to an ASA club which is swim21 accredited or working towards. The individual must still be acting in the role for which s/he is being nominated for and individuals who receive payment in return for their services are not eligible.

Please direct all queries to aquaforceawards@swimming.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SWIM SAFE



The ASA and the RNLI are working together on a beach safety project called Swim Safe and are looking for volunteers for the 2014 programme.

The 2013 pilot took place in Bude and was a fantastic success with more than 2,300 children taking part in the programme.

In 2014 the programme will be expanding to three locations across the country between Monday 28th July and Tuesday 26th August. We are looking for volunteers in Bude, Bournemouth and South Shields.

The programme offers free improver swimming lessons and beach safety advice for children aged 7-14. Most young people learn to swim in an indoor pool which is a safe and familiar

environment. Swim Safe gives young people the opportunity to test and improve their swimming ability in a different aquatic environment. Children are being offered the opportunity to attend the free 40 minute sessions which will include beach safety advice from RNLI lifeguards and up to 30 minutes in-water tuition with ASA accredited teachers.

Click here for more information on how to volunteer and to download an application form. All queries should be directed to helen.kellett@swimming.org

30 YEARS AGO AT THE ASA

The Volunteers' Week campaign is turning 30 years old this year, and in order to celebrate it we thought we would take a look back at the ASA 30 years ago to see how far we have come.

Here are 10 fun facts about the ASA in 1984:

1. The ASA head office was based at Harold Fern House, Loughborough – we moved to SportPark at Loughborough University in 2010
2. Mrs Stella Margetts from Torquay was ASA President
3. Alf Turner was ASA Treasurer (this was a voluntary role)
4. The only paid position was the Secretary, who was Harold Hassall DPE DMS (Rec) FBIM – father of the current Swimming Times editor Peter Hassall!
5. All coaches, event organisers and officials were volunteers – there were no paid roles
6. The country was split into five districts – each with its own committee, and two representatives from each district sat on a central committee
7. The awards scheme was the only source of income for the organisation – and this was run by a volunteer out of her garage!
8. Olympic Trials were held in May 1984 at Coventry, and a team of 33 swimmers were selected to travel to Los Angeles, along with five divers and three synchronised swimmers
9. Team GB returned from the Olympics with four bronze medals and one silver medal, and had 20 finalists
10. A single copy of the Swimming Times could be yours for the small cost of 45p – what a bargain!

Did you also know...?

- Swimming **30** minutes of slow front crawl burns around 250 calories!
- Michael Phelps's birthday is on **30th** June
- A water polo team can only have possession of the ball for **30** seconds before they have to either shoot or lose possession
- The longest Olympic pool swimming event is 1500 metres – that's **30** lengths of a 50 metre pool
- The world record for 100m Butterfly in a 50 metre pool was broken twice in 1984 (**30** years ago). Once on June 26th by Paulo Morales from 53.44 to 53.38, and then again by Michael Groß one month later on **30th** July to 53.08
- To this day GBR have won a total of **30** Olympic bronze medals



1. Mr Roy Garforth (Left) the ASA President elect for 1985 with Mr Norman Sarsfield OBE, MC, Past President and Past Secretary of the ASA.
2. Sun Life Assurance present another sponsorship cheque to the ASA, this time being given by Mr Ken Slaytor, Marketing Manager of Sun Life.
3. One of the pleasant duties of a President, receiving a sponsorship cheque from Mr Peter Pummell, Marketing Executive of Sun Life Assurance.
4. Mr and Mrs Ed Dean, Secretary of the Western Counties. receive a token of appreciation for the hard work they put into the organisation of the Council at Torquay.
5. ASA trophies being presented at the Council Dinner. Paddy Garratt on behalf of Millfield School receives the Harold Fern Award from the President.
6. The President of the ASA, Mrs Stella Margretts, with the President of the Western Counties ASA, Mr G. Cutting, the Mayo of Torbay, Councillor K. J. Selley and their Ladies.



THANK YOU CORNER!



Boldmere Swimming Club in the West Midlands is no different to any sporting club, the lifeline of the club comes from its hundreds of volunteers who give their time, experience and knowledge for the benefit of others. Volunteers' Week is a time that clubs should say a huge 'Thank You' to their many volunteers. At Boldmere, volunteers come in many guises to enable the swimmers to fulfil their potential including teachers, coaches, lifeguards, the many parents who act as poolside chaperones at galas, staff that organise and run open meets, the list is endless. We would also like to recognise all of the Technical Officials who enable galas to go ahead. We should never take our volunteers for granted, from young to old everyone is welcome and considered a very valued member of the club. Take time out this Volunteers' Week and beyond to say 'Thank You'.



The British Swimming/ASA Events Team would like to say a huge thank you to all of our event volunteers and officials. Far too many to be named, but you know who you are! Without you our national events simply would not be possible.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your hard work, dedication and enthusiasm that you bring to events, it certainly doesn't go unnoticed and is very much appreciated.

The British Swimming/ASA Events Team



Melinda Lucas has been with Rushmoor Synchronised Swimming Club for 12 years. Melinda is an integral part of the committee, keeping infinite records of all competition medallists since taking over the records in 1992, organising trophies and documenting all our competition costumes.

Melinda's daughter Victoria swam for Rushmoor from the age of eight and for GB in the 2012 London Olympics.

Thank you Melinda!



I would like to thank they dynamic duo of Nottingham – sometimes known as Little and Large, Roy Crampton and Terry Taylor, stalwart workers for our county.

At their County Championships they 'banter' with each other, giving all of the officials a good laugh. Roy is our Volunteer Co-ordinator, always willing to help a club that asks for it, he is also involved in the training of officials within his own club. He is our Trophy Control and boy does he control them, all signed for in triplicate and always presented with a shine that makes the trophy a delight to win!

Terry is our Swimming Secretary and has worked hard to master the equipment of the 21st century (computers and mobile phones) but our agendas and minutes are now typed up and sent electronically. Our county championships are his pride and joy.

Both of these volunteers are near or in their early 70s but they (almost) never moan and what would we do without them. Two great guys, two fantastic volunteers and very much appreciated.

Wendy Coles from Nottinghamshire

In addition to being a licensed swimming referee, David Greenaway wears many other hats - all in the pursuit of encouraging volunteers to take part in the running of swimming meets. David is a long standing tutor of aspiring officials and steers them through the mandatory workshops or ensures that they get the best mentoring poolside as they work towards their all important qualification.

If that was not enough, David also acts as Officials Appointments Co-ordinator for the County Championships and Development Meets. This entails sourcing and allocating officials for a total of 18 sessions - a mean feat in itself. David also dovetails in candidates who are in need of their final assessment in order to become qualified officials and trainee officials who are seeking mentoring.

David does not just go that extra mile - he goes much further.

Graham Stanley, Hampshire County ASA



Dedication, Determination and Desire

I would like to thank the whole of Stocksbridge Pentaqua committee for their tireless efforts to ensure the club's survival after the closure of the leisure centre at Stocksbridge.

Obtaining training time at two venues, reassuring club members that the club wouldn't fold, negotiating with other clubs to hold galas at their venue because our new venues have insufficient spectator space, organising fundraising activities to keep training fees down, organising another Spring Sprints, amending the format to attract swimmers to enter the event, and negotiating with the new venues to create a pathway for new members to join the club, all this whilst maintaining the day-to-day running of the club. This has been no small feat, and I am very proud of what has been achieved.

David Wright, Head Coach, Stocksbridge Pentaqua



The below letter was sent to all officials and volunteers who helped at the County Championships this year. We would like to recognise this acknowledgement of thanks, and congratulate the officials and volunteers involved.

Northumberland and Durham Counties
2014 Championships

I would like to pass on my personal thanks as Northumberland and Durham Championship Administrator and that of the N/D Management Board for the help you provided at the County Championships this year. There is no doubt that from any perspective, the championships were a success and this was due, in no small way, to the enthusiasm and expertise brought to the event by the volunteers.

Our job was to provide the right environment for our swimmers to perform to their potential, we certainly played our part.

Thank you most sincerely for your contribution to the success of the championships. No individual can make a championships a success but a cohesive team of enthusiastic volunteers can and I was proud to be part of the team.

Yours sincerely

Kath Smith

N/D Championship Administrator



Volunteering is a major part of the Rushmoor Royals Swimming Club success, there are plenty of opportunities to get involved. A major goal each year is to host opportunities for our swimmers to measure their progress by competing, and to raise valuable funds for the club, helping to cover some of our costs. We achieve this by running Open Meets, Club Championships and 'mini-meets' and these events would not be possible without the help of our parents contributing something to their success during the swim season.

We constantly need to cross train and replace our 'graduating' parents so actively encourage all new parents to get involved as it's a great way to meet people and is a lot of fun, as you can tell from the photo!

The list of volunteers is too long to mention, well done and thank you to you all for all your efforts, it makes a huge difference to our swimmers.

A special thank you also to all those officials from visiting clubs who have contributed to the success of our open meets throughout the year, and all those volunteers who run meets and championships we have attended, a big round of applause for you all.

Gilbert Cunningham, Chair of Rushmoor Royals Swimming Club



Our special thanks go to our young volunteers who have been busy taking part in Somerset Young Volunteers Programme. Their commitment and enthusiasm breathes new life into the club and is something to celebrate.

The five candidates Hannah, Katie, Maisie, Millie and Kate have attended Level 1 Team Manager and Aquatic Event Organiser courses and are near to completing the required 25 hours of volunteering within club and county. Hannah and Maisie did a great job announcing at the

Somerset Championships. The club mentor appointed to provide support said the girls have become a welcome addition to the poolside team. It has been a privilege to witness their confidence grow.

The girls helped to run the Spring Annual Club Sprint Gala and raised money for CLIC Sergeant, a young person's cancer charity by holding a raffle and selling limited edition club hats bearing the charity's logo. CLIC Sergeant provided valuable support to Mille and her brother Ross whilst he was receiving treatment. Ross has made a full recovery, returned to training and is competing for the squad.

Nicky Vause, Norton Radstock Swimming Club



I would like to thank all of those who organise the officials within the club, not just the county and regional organisers, but those within clubs who support their own officials.

Susan Dewar, Havant and Waterlooville Swimming Club