



# SAFFRON SEALS

SAFFRON WALDEN AMATEUR SWIMMING Club

Newsletter June 2011



## Hello again ...

This is a shorter Newsletter than the norm, to keep you up-to-date with arrangements for the forthcoming Carnival, and any other Club news that may interest you. Please read on, take note, join in, and we look forward to meeting you either on our Carnival float, on the procession route, or poolside with your team competing in the Fun Relay Gala.

*Jan Bright*



## From your Chairman

Great progress on two areas of Club Strategy (available to peruse on the Club website)!

### Galas

As you will have read in the local newspapers (and highlighted in more detail below) the Club made significant progress with our aim to move up the points and positions in our first of the season Essex Mini league gala at Witham scoring 125 points. Well done to "the squad" who took part especially all those PB's (personal best times).

### Swim 21

On Tuesday 24th May 2011 our Swim 21 sub committee led by Alex Pain met with Becky Grace, Aquatic Officer, ASA East Region, to assess our progress with our S21 accreditation.

You may recall we were attempting to go for four modules as part of the accreditation being:- Compliance, Workforce, Training and Skills. However following advice from Becky we have agreed to focus on the first three leaving Skills for a future date.

The good news is Becky was complimentary about what she could see in our files, and this good news is due to the massive amount of effort put in by Alex, our Swim 21 Coordinator. We have some areas which require a light touch to complete, mostly associated with Club governance. Becky was pleased to see our Club Strategy which she has asked to be formulated into a Club Development Plan.

### Growing the Club

According to our latest Club membership record we now have 137 members v our target of 150.

### Increased pool time

Members are being encouraged (in agreement with Head Coach) to make use of the new early morning sessions.

## New diving blocks

We are getting close now to placing the order to provide five new diving blocks (c£3000) using the moneys collected by Club Fundraising and Sponsorship Manager Mark Sanders. It is our intention to have them "formally unveiled" at the Centenary Gala on 12th November.



*Neil Pottrill  
Chairman*



Saffron Walden Round Table

## Carnival

**Carnival Day  
Saturday,  
2<sup>nd</sup> July 2011**

1<sup>st</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> July 2011

The Centenary Sub Committee has been working behind the scenes to source bunting, balloons and banners to illustrate 'Swimming Heroes, Past and Present'. The lorry has been booked and Dame Johanne Bradbury School has kindly agreed that we can dress the float on their car park on Carnival Day morning.

We have a number of children and parents who have asked to be on the float (or walking beside) but there are still places available for those who have yet to make up their mind. Do let us know if you want to join in this fun, but very tiring, day by contacting Jan Bright, through the web site.

To those of you who are already involved, we will be in touch within the next few days regarding costumes. We are currently checking out a way that will, hopefully, reduce the amount of sewing that will be required! To those parents who have offered to dismantle the float after the procession – thank you very much! Again, we will be in touch.





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## Fun Relay Gala Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> July 2011

Have you entered a team yet? Each team entered should consist of 6 swimmers, one of who must be an adult. With a maximum number of 15 teams places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. All swimmers must be over 9 years of age and be able to swim 1 length confidently (25m). There is an entry fee for each swimmer of £1.00.

The number of events will be dependent upon the number of teams entered, therefore once all entries have been received details of the races and preparation for the gala will be sent out by e-mail. Please arrive at 7pm for a 7.15pm start.

Please complete and return the Entry Form (attached to email with this newsletter) by Tuesday 21st June along with your entry fee for the whole team. Cheques should be made payable to 'SWASC'.

We have been promised a visit by the Carnival Queen and her Attendants, the Mayor (possibly) and Jack Peasgood, our local Triathlon star, will be with us all evening. It promises to be a really fun evening, with lots of silly swimming races – so we look forward to seeing you there.

If you would like to take part in the Fun Relay Gala but don't think you can raise a team of six, please let us know that you are interested and we will try to find other swimmers and an adult to make up a team. There will be a clipboard beside the Registers. Put your name down, and we will do what we can to help.

## Essex Mini League Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2011

Did you see the write-up in the local papers about Gareth's first mini league fixture, which was a great success with a very impressive showing from all the swimmers. For the first time in many fixtures Seals fielded a full squad and many PB times were gained (98% of the squad) some by more than 3 seconds!

Every swimmer competed hard in every event, loudly cheered on by their team mates and travelling parents, but this huge improvement is due to Gareth's hard work and the dedication of the lane coaches working with him, and

we are proud of them all.

The next mini league fixture is Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> June, away at Rochford. At the time of writing we have a full squad, and we wish them all well, with good results and a safe journey home afterwards.

*\*\*Results from this fixture were very good, with more PBs achieved. Look out for the report in the local newspapers*

## Lake Windermere Open Water Swim

On Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> June, two of our intrepid open water swimming families will be donning wet suits to undertake the 10.5 mile swim down the length of Windermere in the Lake District. Mark Sanders (who celebrates his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday on the day) and Neil Green, with daughters Ella and Rebecca providing occasional support, have set themselves this task to raise money for the St. Clare's Hospice, our Club's chosen charity for 2011. If you would like to support their venture please contact Mark or Neil via the Club web site or through <http://www.justgiving.com/Mark-and-Ella-Sanders>.

## Message from Secretary

**You will all be aware that individual members must now all have their own email addresses if they are to be able to view the members' part of our web-site. Accordingly, I have amended my records and as of now members email addresses will be used for newsletters and other notifications. If for any reason you want this changing in my records - by all means let me know. (eg if you are a parent and would like an individual record).**

**Please email me at  
[sealssecretary@btinternet.com](mailto:sealssecretary@btinternet.com)**