

# BUNTINGFORD SWIMMING CLUB

## RIPPLES IN THE POOL

### CHRISTMAS 2005

**WHERE DO I START ?** COMPLETELY UNDERWHELMED AGAIN WITH INFORMATION FOR THE NEWSLETTER. NEVER MIND, I WILL CONTINUE AND TRY TO UPDATE YOU WITH WHAT HAS GONE ON SINCE THE SUMMER EDITION. THERE IS STILL NO NEWS REGARDING THE RETURN SWIMMING GALA AGAINST BOTTISHAM SC, BUT DAVE HAS TRIED AGAIN & AGAIN TO CONTACT THEM. HE FINALLY SUCCEEDED AND ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE FOR THEIR COACH TO COME OVER TO FIX A DATE. HE DIDN'T TURN UP !!!!! NEVER MIND – WE WILL KEEP IT IN MIND AND TRY TO FIX A RETURN MATCH AS AND WHEN IT HAPPENS.

OUR SWIMMERS ENTERED A FEW 'OPEN' MEETS DURING THE SUMMER/AUTUMN AND DID QUITE WELL. AT LEIGHTON BUZZARD, MATT COOTE BAGGED A GOLD FOR 50 METRES FREESTYLE AND A BRONZE FOR THE 50 METRES BREASTSTROKE. CHARLOTTE JOHNSONS 5 SWIMS YIELDED A SILVER MEDAL FOR HER 50 METRES BACKSTROKE AND 3 SPEEDING TICKETS. HER BROTHER BEN GAINED A SILVER FOR HIS FREESTYLE SWIM AND A 5<sup>TH</sup> AND 6<sup>TH</sup> FOR OTHER EVENTS. NICHOLAS DICKENS ; TOM CARR AND JOSH YARRIEN ALL SWAM VERY WELL INDEED - IN FACT THEY ALL GOT SPEEDING TICKETS FOR GOING TO FAST!!!

IN THE PEANUTS COMPETITION, WE WERE IN THE SECOND DIVISION FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER. IN THE FIRST ROUND, WE CAME LAST, BUT NOT BY VERY MANY POINTS, SO THINGS WERE NOT AS BAD AS WE THOUGHT. WE SWAM VERY WELL INDEED IN THE SECOND ROUND AND FINISHED IN FOURTH PLACE, AHEAD OF BOTH WARE AND BROXBOURNE SWIMMING CLUBS. THIS WAS WITH A DEPLETED SQUAD OF SWIMMERS. IN THE FINAL ROUND, WE WERE AGAINST BROXBOURNE ; WARE ; WELWYN G.C. ; LETCHWORTH & BUSHEY. WITH A VERY LOUD , VERY BIG GROUP OF PARENTS CHEERING ON THE SWIMMERS, WE FINISHED IN THIRD PLACE, WELL AHEAD OF BROXBOURNE ; LETCHWORTH & WELWYN G.C. IN OUR FIRST YEAR AGAINST MUCH BIGGER CLUBS WHO HAVE MUCH MORE WATER TIME THAN US , WE FINISHED IN NINTH PLACE OVERALL, ONLY A FEW POINTS BEHIND THE CLUB IN SEVENTH PLACE. A TERRIFIC EFFORT BY ALL CONCERNED. I HAVE SET A TARGET OF 'TOP SIX' FOR 2006, SO EVERYBODY WILL HAVE TO WORK VERY HARD IN THE NEW YEAR !!!!!

WE ENTERED VARIOUS GALAS DURING THE PERIOD. WE FINISHED THIRD IN THE 'BROCKS' TROPHY GALA IN SEPTEMBER, AND SECOND IN THE WARBURTONS INVITATION GALA AT BOREHAMWOOD. IT WAS A SUPER GALA AND WE WERE ONLY 7 POINTS BEHIND THE WINNERS.

THE CLUB WERE AWARDED THE 'SWIM 21' ACCOLADE IN AUGUST, AND THIS MEANS THAT WE CAN USE THE 'SWIM 21' LOGO, TOGETHER WITH THE SPORT ENGLAND CLUB MARK. THIS WAS THE REWARD FOR OVER 12 MONTHS OF VERY HARD WORK BY THE COMMITTEE, BEING BULLIED; KICKED AND THUMPED ALONG THE WAY BY STEVE COOTE, OUR SWIM 21 LIASON OFFICER.

THE NUMBER OF COURSES WE HAD TO ATTEND WAS HUGE. WE MANAGED TO GET A GREAT PHOTO IN THE MERCURY AND WE EVEN MADE THE 'SWIMMING TIMES', WHICH IS THE SPORTS NATIONAL MAGAZINE. A COPY OF THE PHOTO IS ON DISPLAY IN THE SHOWCASE IN THE FOYER.

THE CLUB ENTERED A GROUP OF SWIMMERS INTO THE 'DAPLYN' TROPHY GALA FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER IN DECEMBER. THEY FINISHED IN 13<sup>TH</sup> PLACE AGAINST ALL THE OTHER CLUBS IN HERTFORDSHIRE, WHICH WAS A TERRIFIC EFFORT ONCE AGAIN. THERE WERE A COUPLE OF DISQUALIFICATIONS, WHICH DIDN'T HELP OUR FINAL POINTS SCORE – IF THAT HADN'T HAPPENED, WE WOULD HAVE BEEN HIGHER UP THE LIST. PUT IT DOWN TO GETTING SOME EXPERIENCE!!!!

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WAS, ONCE AGAIN, VERY WELL ATTENDED. WE HAD WELL OVER 100 PARENTS AND CHILDREN IN THE 'BURY'. THE VARIOUS REPORTS WERE GIVEN, VARIOUS RULES WERE CHANGED BECAUSE WE ARE NOW PART OF THE A.S.A. EAST REGION BECAUSE THE SOUTHERN COUNTIES NO LONGER EXISTS. EVERYTHING WENT VERY WELL AND THE TROPHIES WERE PRESENTED BY THE CLUB CHAIRMAN, KEN CAIN. TROPHIES WERE AWARDED TO THE FIRST THREE IN EVERY EVENT, PLUS THE PARENT & CHILD EVENTS. WE WERE VERY LUCKY THIS YEAR, BECAUSE THE CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES PLUS ALL THE ENGRAVING WERE SPONSORED BY A LOCAL BUILDING COMPANY. WITH WELL OVER 100 TROPHIES BEING PRESENTED, THIS WAS A VERY GENEROUS OFFER. WE ALSO RECEIVED ANOTHER VERY GENEROUS DONATION FROM A FURNITURE COMPANY IN ORDER THAT WE CAN BUY SOME NEW EQUIPMENT. OVERALL AGE GROUP WINNERS WERE PRESENTED WITH THE AGE GROUP WINNERS TROPHIES CHAMPIONS FOR 2005 WERE.....

GIRLS U/10 GEMMA CARR...U/12 GEORGIA MAKIN...U/14 SOPHIE ROBINSON...U/16 EMILY BURNS...OPEN CHRISTINA BRANCH.

BOYS WINNERS WERE...U/10...MATTHEW COOTE U/12...MATT PERKINS & JAMES HOOPER...U/14 TOM CARR...U/16 SAM GRIEG...OPEN...OLIVER SHARPE. THERE WERE 4 SPECIAL AWARDS PRESENTED...THE GLOBAL TRAVEL AWARD WAS PRESENTED TO MILLIE FARMER FOR HER CONTINUING HARD WORK AND IMPROVEMENT OVERALL. THE HARPENDON KITCHENS AWARD WAS PRESENTED TO NICHOLAS DICKENS TO MARK HIS VERY HARD EFFORTS DURING THE YEAR. THE SOCIAL CLUB AWARD WENT TO MELISSA GRIESON FOR HER GENERAL GOOD CLUB ATTITUDE AND THE MAYORS TROPHY WENT TO STEVE COOTE FOR HIS TREMENDOUS WORK ON THE SWIM 21 PROJECT..

AFTER THE PRESENTATIONS HAD BEEN MADE, A COUPLE OF DADS COME UP WITH OFFERS OF HELP---- ONE WITH PRINTING AND ONE WHO WANTED TO HELP SET UP OUR OWN WEBSITE. BOTH OFFERS WERE GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED IMMEDIATELY. WE ARE OK AT THE MOMENT REGARDING PRINTING AND OUR WEBSITE HAS NOW BEEN SET UP, ALTHOUGH WE ARE STILL EXPERIMENTING WITH THE SITE AT THE MOMENT

**WHY NOT PAY A VISIT TO.....**

**[WWW.BUNTINGFORDSWIMMINGCLUB.CO.UK](http://WWW.BUNTINGFORDSWIMMINGCLUB.CO.UK)**

**OR**

**[WWW.BUNTINGFORDSC.CO.UK](http://WWW.BUNTINGFORDSC.CO.UK)**

**IF ANYBODY THINKS THEY MAY BE ABLE TO HELP THE CLUB IN ANY WAY, PLEASE SPEAK WITH ANY COMMITTEE MEMBER. IF YOU KNOW OF ANYBODY WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A CLUB, PLEASE PASS ON OUR NAME.**

**2006. WHAT IS IN STORE?**

WE HAVE CURRENTLY ACCEPTED INVITATIONS TO 6 GALAS COVERING ALL AGE GROUPS. THESE GALAS ARE IN JANUARY ; FEBRUARY ; APRIL ; SEPTEMBER ; OCTOBER & NOVEMBER. WE WILL BE TAKING PART IN THE PEANUT SWIMMING LEAGUE DIVISION 2 IN MAY ; JUNE & JULY , AND WE HAVE PROVISIONALLY BOOKED **SUNDAY JULY 9<sup>TH</sup>** AS OUR TRIATHLON DAY. THIS YEAR WE HAVE CONTACTED A COUPLE OF OTHER CLUBS [BROXBORNE AND ROYSTON] TO SEE IF THEY WANT TO TAKE PART, SO IT SHOULD BE A VERY GOOD DAY. OUR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS WILL; BE HELD DURING OCTOBER, WITH THE PRESENTATION PROBABLY IN NOVEMBER.

WE MIGHT ALSO TRY TO ARRANGE AN OUTING SOMEWHERE, SOMETIME DURING THE YEAR. COULD BE A BUSY YEAR. WE WILL BE ENTERING OTHER COMPETITIONS AS AND WHEN WE FEEL IT WOULD BENEFIT OUR SWIMMERS

WE HOPE TO PURCHASE A LOT OF NEW EQUIPMENT VERY EARLY IN THE NEW YEAR, USING SOME OF THE SPONSOR MONEY WE HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED. WE HAVE ALREADY SPOKEN WITH THE POOL MANAGER, AND A MEETING WILL BE HELD EARLY IN JANUARY, TO SORT OUT DETAILS SUCH AS WHERE WE MIGHT HAVE A STORE, ETC. WE HOPE TO BE GETTING THINGS LIKE FINS ; HAND PADDLES ; FINGER PADDLES ; TRAINING CLOCKS ; ETC.

WATCH THE NOTICE BOARD. **ALL GOOD THINGS TO PROGRESS THE CLUB FURTHER.**

**FINALLY...**I DID ACTUALLY HEAR ABOUT ONE OF OUR MEMBERS WHO DID SOMETHING QUITE BRAVE DURING THE SUMMER. THIS MEMBER WENT INTO THE SEA AND 'RESCUED' 2 PEOPLE WHO WERE IN DIFFICULTIES. FUNNY OLD WORLD THOUGH, BECAUSE ALL THE MAN COULD SAY WHEN HE GOT BACK TO THE BEACH WAS....'THANK YOU VERY MUCH' . HE WAS PROBABLY SO SHAKEN, ETC. THAT HE COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE TO SAY.

**FINAL FINALLY....**PLEASE LET ME HAVE SOMETHING TO WRITE IN THE NEXT COPY OF 'RIPPLES IN THE POOL'. YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN ENOUGH WARNING, AND THERE MUST BE A MUM OR DAD OR SWIMMER WITH SOME LITTLE STORY TO HELP FILL THE PAGES.

**FINAL, FINAL FINALLY** HAVE A SUPER CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR. SEE YOU ALL ON JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> WHEN THE REAL WORK WILL START ONCE AGAIN.