Colne A.S.C. Est. 1912
www.colne-asc.co.uk
Swim England Affiliated Club
Shark Bytes
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Issue 208 February 2026

Pool Closed - Temporary Sessions

Due to boiler issues the Pendle Leisure Centre pool was closed on Thursday, 19th February. We were informed that they intended to re-open the pool on Monday, 9th March. This meant for two weeks there would be no club sessions.

After negotiations with the West Craven manager, we have some sessions for the next two weeks. Bear in mind that these sessions will be busy, if everyone turns up, as there are only four lanes.

We have the whole pool on a Thursday from 7pm until 8pm, then a single lane from 8pm until 9:30pm, plus another lane on a Sunday from 12pm until 3pm, but this will only be for the training groups.

Group	Date	Time
Training	Sunday, 22nd February	12pm - 3pm
Learners	Thursday, 26th February	7pm - 7:30pm
Teaching	Thursday, 26th February	7pm - 8pm
Training	Thursday, 26th February	7:30pm - 9:30pm
Training	Sunday, 1st March	12pm - 3pm
Learners	Thursday, 5th March	7pm - 7:30pm
Teaching	Thursday, 5th March	7pm - 8pm
Training	Thursday, 5th March	7:30pm - 9:30pm
Training	Sunday, 8th March	12pm - 3pm

Most Improved

The Most Improved Swimmers from June 2025 to February 2026 are **George Marks** with an 11.49% improvement and **Emma Mitchell** with a 15.15% improvement. They were presented with their trophies on the poolside by Club Coach Andrew Croxall.

There were 9 boys and 10 girls who qualified for the Most Improved Swimmer Awards from June 2025 until February 2026.

In order to qualify for the Most Improved Swimmer award the swimmer must do all four strokes in both the January/February and June Age Group Galas.





January Age Group Gala

The Cherry Wilkinson Memorial Age Group for February took place on Thursday, 5th February.

There was a low turnout for the first gala of the year as only 23 boys and 26 girls took part. There were more boys doing 2 lengths in the 10 and 11 year age groups than the girls.

This meant that only 9 boys and 10 girls qualified for the most improved swimmer award.

The full results can be found on the Club website and Notice Board.

http://www.colne-asc.co.uk/age-times-feb26.php

Annual General Meeting

The Club's Annual General Meeting will take place on **Wednesday, 4th March**. It will be held on-line using Zoom from 7:30pm.

Any matters for the meeting must be submitted in writing to the Secretary no later than Wednesday, 25th February.

Helpers for Schools Galas

On Tuesday, 10th and 17th March the primary school galas will be taking place at the Pendle Leisure Centre. These galas will be starting at 7pm and last about 90 minutes.

The Club has been asked to provide helpers to run the gala. We will be providing timekeepers and officials. We have clipboards and stopwatches, **we just need volunteers**.

If anyone can help out, especially children aged 12 to 16 years of age, then please contact Club Chairman Philip Croxall on a Club night.

It will be a great experience for any children who volunteer, as they will learn how to do basic timekeeping.

Birthdays

February 2026

3rd Elliott Shilton
4th Ollie Farrow
7th Phoebe Foulkes
8th Scarlett Smith
11th Belle Tattersall
14th Luke Dawson
21st Roux Glass and Jack Haydock
22nd Betsy Townsend
24th Orla Burnett

March 2026

1st Afie Weston
3rd Andrew Croxall
7th Philippa Kenyon
11th Chloe Haythornthwaite
14th Betsy Rider
15th Alexander McGregor
23rd Nell Norman
26th Oliver Blackadder and Rosie Farrow
27th Edward Scanlan
28th Tilly Feeney
30th Bronte Gray

Forthcoming Events:

4th March
Annual General Meeting Online at 7:30pm

9th March
PLC pool reopens

10th March
Schools Galas. 7:00pm

11th March
Local Towns Gala away to Accrington. Warmup 7:15pm

12th March
Swimming Club Trials
Learners 6:00pm
Large Pool 7:30pm

17th March
Schools Galas. 7:00pm

29th March
Harrogate Spar Town Gala

3rd April
Good Friday

Contents:

Pool Closed
See at Temporary Schedule

Most Improved
Emma and George starred!

AGM
Join the committee

Local Towns Galas
Details of the fixtures.

Schools Galas
Can you help?

Would parents please note that once your child's swimming lesson has finished and they are off the pool side. Colne Swimming Club is no longer responsible for their welfare.

Would all Members please note that Colne Swimming Club will not be held responsible for any injury caused to a swimmer failing to turn up on time for their lesson, and thus missing the vital warm-up part of the session.

Could anybody changing their address or telephone number please inform the Secretary.

If anybody has any stories, items of interest, or anything they think will be suitable for the newsletter, then you can email me at the following address: **press@colne-asc.co.uk**

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Local Towns Galas

Representatives from Colne, Accrington and Great Harwood met at the Pendle Leisure Centre on Tuesday, 20th January, to discuss the fixtures for the forthcoming season. As no one else had indicated that they wished to join, then it was agreed that the current format would continue.

An indication to hold an end of season gala with all three teams was proposed, but no date was agreed.

All fixtures would have a warn-up time of 7:15pm for a 7:30pm start.

Fixtures

Wed. 11th March	Away	Accrington Hyndburn Leisure Centre
Mon. 20th April	Away	Great Harwood Accrington Academy
Thur. 9th July	Home	Accrington Pendle Leisure Centre
Mon. 5th October	Home	Great Harwood Pendle Leisure Centre

Details of the Team Sheet will be published on website, and swimmers will be contacted by email.

Teachers Required

We are currently running on minimum staffing levels on the poolside, as a result we would like people to volunteer and help with the teaching of the children.

Anyone who is interested, then please contact a member of the Committee on a Club night.

If anyone knows someone who has teaching qualifications, who you think could help, then please ask them to contact the Club's Secretary for more details.

We actually require level 1 and level 2 teachers in order to teach the children properly, using helpers does kind of work, but bad habits can result from these situations. A fully qualified teacher would be able to spot poor technique and correct it accordingly.

The Club will pay for any courses that are required, either paying direct or reimbursing the individual after they have paid for a course. Any teaching courses paid for by the Club does require a 12 month commitment to teach.

Team Ethics

If you have been selected to represent Colne ASC in competition, then certain standards are expected.

If you are unable to attend any of the fixtures, then please let the Team Manager Kevin Critchley or Club Coach Andrew Croxall know as soon as possible. Do not leave it until the day or the day before to notify us. It is not fair on the other swimmers.

If you are ill or injured, then inform us straight away rather than not turning up.

Whilst the gala is in progress all swimmers must remain on the poolside cheering on the swimmers in the water. If you wish to leave the poolside, then inform the Team Manager.

All swimmers should remain until the competition has finished, rather then disappearing once all yours swims have finished. If you need to leave early, then please ask the Team Manager on poolside. This goes for any parent who wishes to remove their child early. There is nothing worse, than looking for swimmers who have disappeared.

During the competition, respect the opposition. Once your race has finished, then shake hands with the opposition swimmer.

Remember there is no 'I' in teamwork.

Colne ASC has a competition policy on the website, please read.

http://colne-asc.co.uk/forms/CompetitionPolicy.pdf

Thank you.

Harrogate Spar Town Gala

We have a team of 16 swimmers that will attending the Harrogate Spar Town Gala on Sunday, 29th March.

Good luck to all who are participating.

T-Shirts

Anyone who ordered a new t-shirt before Christmas and has not collected them. Unfortunately, you will have to wait until at least Monday, 9th March, as they are in our cupboard at the Pendle Leisure Centre.

Adult sizes: £15
Children sizes: £10

easyfundraising

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising a free donation for **Colne ASC**? There are over 8,000 brands including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's, who will donate a percentage of the amount you spend to **Colne ASC** to say thank you for shopping with them.

It's really simple, and doesn't cost you anything.

All you have to do is:

1. Go to **http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/casc/**
2. Sign up for free
3. Get shopping – your donations will be collected by easyfundraising and automatically sent to Colne ASC. It couldn't be easier!

There are no catches or hidden charges and the Club will be really grateful for your donations.

Over the years we have managed to have **35** people sign up, and between them, they have raised **£2,019.08**, with **£133.22** over the past 12 months. We would like to increase this, so if more of you join up and support the Club it would be hugely appreciated.

Thank you to all those who have supported the Club using Easy Fundraising.

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