

Halliwick AST

Newsletter

April 2002

c/o ADKC Centre, Whitstable House, Silchester Road, London W10 6SB Website: www.halliwick.org.uk

A message from the Chair

It was a great pleasure to meet up with 'old' friends at the **2002 Annual General Meeting** on Sunday 17th March in Birmingham and also at the National Executive Meeting which followed. Unfortunately, two of our stalwart members, Agnes Buttery and Ettie Broom, both in their 80's, where unable to attend for only the second time since our regular AGM's started in 1969. They were founder members of Crewe Seahorse SC in 1956 and reluctantly decided that with the state of our railways, it would be a difficult journey to travel the 60 miles from Crewe to Birmingham and guarantee arriving by 11 am!

A warning to all Clubs! On 1st February I was contacted by a club because, without any warning, the Manager of their Swimming Pool had withdrawn the use of certain facilities which they had enjoyed for over 30 years, which threatened to imperil the long term viability of the club. Of course they were extremely upset and concerned and asked what I could do to help them. They had already started to 'drum-up' support amongst local councillors etc, and were considering going to the Press!

Under Central Government's 'Best Value' policy, since 2000 every local authority has had to review the services they provide, one of which is Leisure Facilities. Included within this process is the need to consult with current users of the service. In November 2000, as a user of such facilities, I attended a Public Consultation Meeting at my local Leisure Centre, as both a regular user during the week and also as a member of my local club affiliated to Halliwick AST. The meeting discussed the future management options of the Leisure Facilities within the council area and It was made quite clear at this meeting that our local Club swim session would not be affected and would still be free, whatever management option was finally adopted.

As both these clubs were within the same council area, I immediately contacted my own local Pool Manager to find out what was the situation. I learnt that on 1st February the newly formed 'Leisure Trust' covering the previous council area had begun to operate and that as far as the newly styled 'Business Manager' was concerned, there would be no change to the swimming session for the local club at his pool and he expressed amazement at the apparent situation at the other pool. I conveyed this information to the affected club, only to find that they had not known about any such Public Consultation Meetings in their 'neck-of-the-woods'!

The matter now appears to be resolved, but not after much unnecessary heart-ache had been caused to the club. It seems that their local 'Business Manager' had been somewhat overzealous in his anticipation to make the facilities pay! Be on your guard! Make sure that you get involved in such Public Consultations early and get your right's preserved, so that you don't find yourself in the same boat!

As I have said before, please feel free to contact me direct about any article in this *Newsletter*.

I may not have the answer, but I feel sure that I can put you in contact with someone who does, though in the case above, I was able to help!

Patrick Hastings, Chairperson.

Contact me at: 18 Thamesdale, London Colney, St Albans, Herts AL2 1TB

Tel No: 01727-825 524 or E-mail: pmbhast@ukonline.co.uk

Our re-launched Website www.halliwick.org.uk is now up and running!

What is Halliwick? - Ten-point programme - Courses & Training - Affiliation Newsletters & Articles - Publications - Contact Us - Links

Please take the opportunity to visit it. Let us know what you think of it and what further information needs to be included. E-mail suggestions to the National Chairperson **pmbhast@ukonline.co.uk**. *Can I appeal to Clubs who have their <u>own</u> Website*, to let us know if they would like us to include it in ours, under the 'Links' page.

Congratulations to - **Ann Gresswell** for all her hard work in co-ordinating the information needed, to **Mark Saville** the person responsible for the redesign and creation of the Web pages, to both of whom we are especially indebted, as well as to all others involved in the project.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2002 / 2003

Sunday - 26 May National Executive Committee Meeting, Oxford

Saturday - 14 September National Management Committee Meeting, London

Saturday - 12 October 2002 National Swimming Championships to be held

at the new Southbury Leisure Centre, Enfield, North London

Sat/Sun - 19/20 October National Education Committee Meeting - Venue to be advised

Sunday - 3 November National Executive Committee Meeting, Oxford

Saturday - 18 January, 2003 National Management Committee Meeting, London

Congratulations to Liz Dendy MBE on the award of an OBE in the New Year's Honours List for Services to Sports for the Disabled. Now retired, for 15 years she was National Liaison Officer for the Sports Council and a member of the National Co-ordinating Committee. Liz has always supported the work of our association and wrote the 'Forward' to our publication, 'Swimming for People with Disabilities'.

OBITUARY

It is with great sadness that we have to report the death of Margaret Reid-Campion. By profession, Margaret was a Physio who trained in the Halliwick Concept whilst working at the FDR School at Swiss Cottage in the 1960's, later becoming a Halliwick Lecturer. In 1971 she went to work in Western Australia, where she continued to spread the word of Halliwick. After retiring, she returned to live in Cuckfield, West Sussex, where she died on March 1st. In the January 2000 edition of the *Newsletter*, we reported the fact that in the previous September, she had been made a Fellow of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy. A letter of condolence has been sent to her family.

E-mail message received recently:

"I just wanted to say that, after just a few months going to my local Halliwick club (Hull Optimists) I CAN SWIM!!!!! I could never learn by conventional means but this worked fine. I can only do a sort of backstroke as yet, but I'm determined to carry on. Thanks! Sarah McKnight"

Next Issue – July 2002

Copy to be received by the Editor by the *mid June* Send to: Dr Joan Martin, Flat 2 66 Kensington Church Street

LONDON W8 4BY

OR, direct to the Chairperson, if late!

Dates & Venues of future Halliwick AST Training Course(s) on The Halliwick Concept (formerly known as 'Method') appear on our Website.

If this Newsletter has not been sent to the correct Club contact, it is important that you write to Eric Dilley at the ADKC Office to give him the correct contact so that our records can be updated.