



Reg'd Charity 250008

Halliwick AST Newsletter

May 2014

The Halliwick Association of Swimming Therapy in the UK

c/o ADKC Centre, Whitstable House, Silchester Road, London W10 6SB

Website: www.halliwick.org.uk



Message From the Chair



Well, here goes! My first "message" as your new Chair! I am both honoured and a little nervous about having been elected as the Chair of Halliwick AST at the recent AGM in April 2014.

I have a lot to live up to following on from Patrick Hastings, who did a sterling job as Chair for, I think, 13 or more years (and who is now, rightly so, President of the association). For his years of dedicated service, the consistent way he has guided us through, and developed the association, we owe him a huge debt of gratitude and I only hope that I can continue his fabulous work. I have a lot to learn so I hope that you will be patient with me!

I do realise that for many of you, reading this in clubs and other places where Halliwick is practised 'at ground level' so to speak, what we do here at national level may seem a bit removed and irrelevant but, all of us here, whether on the Executive Committee or as part of other committees, do all that we do to support you in your work with Halliwick, whether that's formulating and perfecting courses, organising a gala, developing teaching methods or creating and updating publications.

The list of what we do goes on and on, but it is really all to support those "on the ground" using Halliwick, and that is exactly what we are here for. If therefore, we can help, then do please get in contact with us. Our aim, all of us, is to use and develop Halliwick and we should, of course, support each other in that aim.

I have limited space here so, elsewhere in this newsletter, I have written a little bit about how I became involved in Halliwick so that you can get to know a little bit about me. I am hoping that in future editions of the newsletter, we can make this a regular feature, so that we get to know a bit about different people, how they became involved and what they do ... watch this space!

I hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter if not my photo (which I am putting here so that, for those of you that have not met me yet, you can at least recognise me if you see me in the street, and then run away!).

William Wyatt

Chair, Halliwick AST

Email : halliwickast.chair@gmail.com

See **page 2** for
**Dates for your
Diary - 2014/15
and new
publication**

See **page 3** for
**My Halliwick Story-
William Wyatt**

See **page 4** for
**Halliwick
Courses**

See **page 5** for a
**A tribute to
Mike Brimfield**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2014/15

Anyone is welcome to attend the AGM and meetings of the National Committees.

For venue details contact: halliwickast.chair@gmail.com

Sat. 20th September 2014

National Executive Committee Meeting—ADKC London, 11am

Sat. 18th October 2014

National Championships, hosted by Halliwick ASTRA 2

Sevenoaks Leisure Centre, Sevenoaks, Kent, 2pm for 2.30pm

Sun. 16th November 2014

National Executive Committee Meeting—ADKC London, 11am

Sat. 17th January 2015

National Executive Committee Meeting—ADKC London, 11am

Sun. 26th April 2015

National AGM followed by Executive Committee Meeting—ADKC London, 11am

Publication – “Swimming Songs”

For some time now, members have asked for the music to go with the booklet “Swimming Songs”. This has not been an easy task as not everybody knows every tune! However, Beryl Kelsey found a man who was willing to take on this task and, because there are so many songs, he has put together 2 CDs with just about all the tunes included to all the songs, with only 1 or 2 exceptions!! I know you will appreciate the work which has gone into the making of the CDs and I am sure you will find them a great asset to your music sessions.

Purchases of “Swimming Songs” will now include the 2 CDs and will cost £7 each set. An order form can be downloaded from the Halliwick AST Website: www.halliwick.org.uk

Pamela Wood
Chair, Publications Committee

Dates and venues of forthcoming Halliwick AST training courses on ‘The Halliwick Concept’ in the **UK** appear on page 4 of this *Newsletter* and **are also regularly updated on our website, which also lists any overseas courses.**

Next Issue - November 2014. Copy to be received by 15th Sept. 2014.
Send direct to the Chair by post or e-mail! (see page 1).



So, what is there to say about me, how I became involved in Halliwick and what I do?

Well, I first became involved in Halliwick in around 1982 when my foster parents brought my brother and me to Halliwick Penguins Swimming Club in Enfield and we joined as swimmers. I have not been able to escape since! If I remember rightly, my first “job” in the club was as a Swimmers’ Representative and then a few years later, as Minutes Secretary (why did I ever learn typing and shorthand?!). A few years later, our then club Chair, Paul O’Byrne, suggested that I might like to become Chair of the club. To be honest, at the time, I was rather hesitant as I thought everyone else on the committee had far more experience than I did, but luckily for me, they were all very kind to me (and still are!).

I have been Chair of the club ever since and I love every minute of it (mostly!). We have a great executive committee who all do a fantastic amount of work to keep the club going behind the scenes and at the weekly swimming sessions, and it is great to see swimmers come along each week and progress both in the water and as individuals. That, for me, is what Halliwick is all about. It teaches a swimmer how to be safe in the water and develops that, of course it does, but it does so much more as well—developing them as individuals, growing in confidence and identity.

As well as being Chair of my club, I have been involved in Halliwick in various other ways, regionally, nationally and internationally. I am your new Chair of Halliwick AST (the UK national association for Halliwick) and I am Secretary of Halliwick ASTRA One (our region, which covers Halliwick clubs in London north of the river Thames). From 2000 to 2011, I was also Secretary of the International Halliwick Association (IHA) which took me to many countries, helping to organise swimming competitions and conferences on Halliwick.

It is amazing to think that Halliwick, started over 60 years ago by James and Phyl McMillan in Enfield, now has users and practitioners, not only throughout the UK but, throughout the world. Whilst Halliwick in the UK is just a part of that, we should remember that this is where it all began and we are an important part of its history—we can and should be very proud of that!

It is my privilege to be a small part of Halliwick—a Concept that has changed for the better and enriched the lives of thousands of people. Oh! And the picture? Well, I love cake too! It comes a close second to Halliwick!



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HALLIWICK ASSOCIATION OF SWIMMING THERAPY

TEACHING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES TO SWIM

INAUGURATED 1952

Registered Charity Number 250008

'the HALLIWICK ASSOCIATION OF SWIMMING THERAPY LOGO is a registered trademark'

C/o ADKC Centre, Whitstable House, Silchester Road, LONDON W10 6SB

www.halliwick.org.uk

Affiliated to International Halliwick Association (IHA)

Courses 2014 - **Cost £280** for each 4 day course

Foundation Course - The Halliwick Concept - 4 days

accredited by the Open College Network - Yorkshire and Humberside Region (OCNYHR).

York	August 26 th - 29 th - 4 consecutive days, Tues to Friday
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Advanced Course Teaching and Applying Halliwick Skills - 4 days

'advancing Halliwick skills in different settings' - 'building upon your Foundation Course'

**A pre-requisite for attending any of the Advanced Skills Courses
is that you need to have attended a Halliwick Foundation Course.**

Hull - East Hull Pools	July 22 nd to 25 th 4 consecutive days, Tuesday to Friday
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Application forms and posters can be downloaded from the web site:

<http://www.halliwick.org.uk/courses-training/uk-course-dates-organisers-2011/>

or by email from the course organiser, see below

or send a S.A.E. to the course organiser below

Hull	Gill Wilkinson - 97 Mill Falls, Drifffield, East Yorkshire YO25 5AZ Tel: 01377 - 256 229 gill.will9x@btinternet.com
York	Philip Puckrin Tel: 01904 - 654 302 philpuckrin@tiscali.co.uk

Discounts **may** be given to people affiliated to Halliwick AST for a minimum of 2 years

**'In house' courses can be arranged at your venue. Also one-day introduction
or four-day accredited courses. Ask via the website for details.**

<http://www.halliwick.org.uk/contact-us/feedback-suggestions/>

In Loving Memory of Michael (Mike) Brimfield

It is with great sadness that we learned that Mike Brimfield passed away on 18th March 2014, aged 63 years. Here is a tribute to him written by Keith Beer, the Chair of Halliwick ASTRA 15. We will all miss you very much, Mike—RIP.

Although it was expected it was still with shock and great sadness that the members of the Halliwick Association of Swimming Therapy learnt of the death of Michael Brimfield.

Although he was a larger than life character, in some ways Mike was a contradiction, because he was also a very private person. Mike was not only the rock on which his own club, the Rhondda Polar-Bears, which is one of the largest and most successful clubs in the country, rested, but his work as Regional Vice-Chairman went far beyond that, he helped and guided the newer clubs and their committee members. Over the years I constantly tried to get Mike to take over as Regional Chairman, and he was also invited to stand as National Chairman, but he said he could do far more from the floor than he would be able to do if he was under the constraints of being a "Neutral" chairman. At Committee Meetings, Mike and I sat at opposite ends of the table and I would watch as after I had outlined the basics of an item on the agenda, all eyes would move from me down the table to find out what Mike thought about it, fortunately we usually agreed on most things and so he was able to put forward the arguments I couldn't.



As well as taking an active part in the organising of galas in the Region and Nationally, Mike was also a hard working member of the National Competitions Committee that co-ordinated and compiled the definitive guide to the running of Halliwick galas.

As I mentioned previously, Mike was also known and respected at a National level and I have received numerous messages of condolence from members of the National Executive Committee, including :- the President Dr. Joan Martin, the Chairman Patrick Hastings, the Acting Secretary Eric Dillely and members of the Education & Research Committee Anne Gresswell and Beryl Kelsey, as well as the former Secretary to the International Halliwick Association William Wyatt.

Mike will be greatly missed by many in the Region, since he was a born leader and quietly helped many over difficult times in their lives. As Chairman of the Region I will miss his help and support both as member of the Regional Committee and National Committee, but perhaps mostly as a good friend.

M. Keith Beer
Chair, Halliwick ASTRA 15