



SETTLE AREA SWIMMING POOL

NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2023

ALL CHANGE AT SETTLE POOL



The 2023 annual meeting

There have been lots of changes at Settle Pool in the year since we re-opened following major redevelopment work.

We now have lots of new exciting sessions. We have a new centre manager in Tash Ward and more recently a new lead on the fitSpace dryside activities in Aaron Guy.

We've also made great progress over the past few months in teaching more children to swim, cutting the long waiting list that had built up during the redevelopment work and the covid closures.

The popular sessions with our giant inflatable now run every weekend. and for the tiny tots there are regular children's discos.

As the leaflets that we distributed around the local tourist venues say – *there is something for everyone at Settle Pool.*

If you have not done so recently, check out our website for details of all the current sessions. You can find the timetable at <https://www.settleswimmingpool.co.uk/swimming/timetable/>

TASH WARD IS NEW CENTRE MANAGER



Tash Ward was appointed as Centre Manager at Settle Area Swimming Pool earlier this year.

This new role brings together responsibility for the whole building including both the pool itself and the new fitSpace area which was created following last year's major re-development.

Tash had been acting as interim manager since May. She joined the pool team in August last year, initially in the role of business development manager.

The creation of the new post is part of wider changes to the staffing structure to reflect the major developments at the pool and the new opportunities for use of the facilities.

Formerly club manager of Anytime Fitness in Ilkley, Tash has a sports management degree

from Leeds Beckett University. She is also a qualified fitness instructor and personal trainer.

Growing up in Thailand and going to an International School, Tash was involved in a variety of sports from an early age. She was particularly attracted to karate, becoming a black belt and world champion at the age of 14.

In September 2020 Tash and her partner moved to Settle. They have a baby boy now nearing two years old.

Tash said: "Over the past year I have come to appreciate just how much the people of this area love their pool. It is the support given by the staff, the customers, the trustees and the multitude of volunteers who work tirelessly to raise funds that keeps the pool going.

"We now have great facilities. The challenge is to make the best use of them for the benefit of the whole community. We made a great start this summer with our intensive swimming classes. And I am delighted to see the building is being used by people of all ages and abilities. But there is more that needs to be done to reach out to the whole community and to make sure that people know there is something for everyone here at Settle pool."

AARON'S CLASS ACT

Aaron Guy joined the pool team this summer and immediately revamped our range of fitness classes.

Aaron writes: " I am excited to be working at Settle Pool. I joined the pool in early August and currently reside in Clitheroe. With 10 years of experience in the leisure industry and six years of management expertise, I bring my knowledge to my new role. I hold a Diploma in Leisure Management and am a qualified lifeguard as well as a Level 3 personal trainer.

"In addition to my responsibilities at the pool itself, I will be conducting fitness classes in



fitSpace throughout the week such as Bootcamps, Circuits, Abs Blast and Legs Bums and Tums.

“Outside of work, I actively contribute to my community as an on-call firefighter in Clitheroe. I am eager to introduce fresh and innovative ideas to the pool, aiming to enhance its growth and generate more revenue for the centre. I am thrilled to be a part of this team and look forward to making a positive impact at Settle Pool.”

OUR AMAZING POP UP SHOP

Our new pop-up shop in the centre of Settle opened at the start of October.

You can find it next to the Royal Oak, in the former framing shop. The new premises, which are operating alongside the existing shop in nearby Duke Street, will be used for the sale of larger items – mainly worth more than £5.

We needed the new shop to show the many generous and exciting donations that our supporters have brought to the containers in the pool carpark on Tuesday and Friday mornings.

To date many of the items that cannot be accommodated in the Duke Street shop have been sold on line. But as time has gone on our ‘on-line sales team’ of Jean Lonsdale and

Heather Collins have been stretched to the limit, as has space in the containers, hence the need for new premises to show off the amazing donations.

Initially the shop will open on Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays for a six month period. But where we go from there depends on how successful our new venture proves to be. But you can be sure of two things: you will be getting bargains and whatever we make will help keep the pool afloat.



MEET THE NEW TRUSTEES

Over the past few months we have said farewell to some of the trustees who have helped us through the major redevelopment work over the past few years and welcomed new trustees to help shape our future direction.

In addition to the departure of former chair Pat Taylor, and building expert Bryan Atkinson earlier in the year, Kath Mason stepped down this summer, though Kath continues to help with the publicity group and works at the container on Tuesday mornings.

Cynthia Moorhead joined the trustees earlier in the year and is playing a big role in helping Anne Galloway on staff liaison. She has now been joined by Elaine Owen whose valuable experience in the insurance business is proving a

real boon for the pool and more recently Helen Brocklehurst has become our newest trustee.

FLOWERPOT GRAND FINALE

Settle went flowerpotty last summer as the town's popular flowerpot festival celebrated its tenth anniversary with more flowerpot creations than ever before.

The pool played its part with our flowerpot swimmer in the pool foyer and an octopus in the Duke Street shop window.

At the grand finale at Watershed Mill on September 17 we joined other local organisations with a fun hoopla game 'ring-a-tin-tin' as the flowerpots gathered together for one last appearance before going into hibernation for the winter.



Flowerpot festival 2023

STINGRAYS ARE BACK

Welcome back to the Stingrays – Settle's own swimming club, who have now returned to the pool for their regular training sessions. The swimmers put on a special display for the pool's first annual meeting to be held in the building following the 2021-2022 re development (see *photo page one*).

B4RN FOR US

Settle pool is due to be connected to the B4RN internet service provider this autumn, meaning world-class internet speeds for staff and

customers alike. The physical connection via a trench from the hamlet of Stackhouse was scheduled for late October with the technical work following soon after that. Watch social media and the pool website for more information.

FIFTY YEARS YOUNG

2024 marks the 50th anniversary of the opening of Settle Pool, following many years of campaigning and fund-raising. As one long-time Settle resident pointed out you can tell how old local people are by whether they learned to swim as a youngster. Those born before the 1970s are almost invariably non-swimmers and those born after the opening of the pool will usually have had swimming lessons there.

We are now looking at how to mark this major anniversary in a fitting way. Got some good ideas or memories of the pool's early days? Then pool your memories with us.

KEEP IN TOUCH

For the latest information about sessions at Settle Pool visit the timetable section of our website at <http://www.settleswimmingpool.co.uk>

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