



Newsletter January 2026!

THE LATEST NEWS & UPDATES

UP & COMING MEETS

March 14 - Stepping Stones Gala 2

March 28/14 - Harrogate Spa Town

June 13 - Stepping Stones Gala 3

July 5 - Skipton Club Gala

FOR MORE INFO

[CLICK HERE](#)

Small Club, Big Talent!

Lots going on this month and next month, including, more outstanding results this time at the Harrogate Janus Meet, Message from our Club Captains, more swim meets & more.....

January Highlights



SSC Win Big Again

Top performance at the Harrogate Janus Meet saw Skipton dominate the medal table across ALL age groups

Read more



Development Camp

Tim Redfern leads the Yorkshire County Swimming Development Camp as head coach

Read more



What's On

Club Captain welcome, SS2, raffle update & 120 year anniversary....we need your help!

Read more





1ST CLUB MEET OF THE YEAR SAW SKIPTON DOMINATE THE MEDAL TABLE!

Our amazing swimmers delivered another outstanding performance... this time at the Harrogate Janus Meet. So many amazing PBs & medals achieved!

Fantastic seeing many of our younger members competing. You all swam brilliantly!

THANK YOU to all coaches and volunteers who provided poolside and behind-the-scenes support, making these achievements possible and reinforcing Skipton's reputation as a club where small size meets big talent.

Congratulations to:

In the 9 yrs age group **Christopher Gunkel** took silver in the 100m free & Gold in the 200m breaststroke

In the 11 yrs age group **Una O'Carroll** took Gold in the 400m Free and **Ben Colledge** took the Silver in the 200m Breaststroke & Bronze in the 50m Breaststroke.

In the 12 yrs age group **Ada Baker** took Gold in the 400m IM & 200m Free, Silver in the 200m Backstroke & 200m IM and Bronze in the 50m Backstroke.

In the 13 yrs age group **Nancy Lawn** took Bronze in the 200m Backstroke and **Sebastian Oliver** took Silver in the 100m Backstroke.

In the 14 yrs age group, **Betsy Rider** took the Silver in the 200m Free & 400m free and Bronze in the 50m fly, & 100m free.

In the 15 yrs age group **Stanley Dunne** took Gold in the 400m IM, **Olivia Batty** took Silver in the 200m IM & 100m Free. **Matilda Critchley** achieving Silver in the 200m fly and **Ciara O'Carroll** took the Gold in the 200m Free & 400m IM. **Poppy Dunne** took the Silver in the 400m free

Special WELL DONE to Sebastian Oliver & Matilda Critchley who also achieve yorkshire qualifying times



YORKSHIRE COUNTY SWIMMING DEVELOPMENT CAMP 2026

Well done to our very own coach Tim Redfearn.....who was the head coach at the Yorkshire County Swimming Development Camp . Held in York early this month.

36 selected swimmers form across the county attended a face to face camp at York Sports Village on Sunday 18th January 2026

The camp forms part of the County Swimming Development Programme for 2025/26 which includes a variety of different opportunities to help support the development of swimmers and coaches.



You can read more here -
<https://asaner.org.uk/york-shire-county-swimming-development-camp-2026/>

STEPPING STONES GALA 2 COMING UP - 14TH MARCH

Have you entered our Stepping Stones Gala 2 yet? No?, make sure you get entered!

It is a great event for the whole club with races of 50m Freestyle, Backstroke and Breaststroke and 25m Butterfly plus a whole club relay.....with medals!

This is such a great way for our younger swimmers to have a go at their first competition and at their own pool.

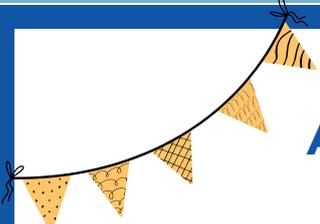
The atmosphere is great and fun is had by all.

Let's eat
CAKE!

Our amazing Cake Stall will be in action at the gala so please come & support us.

All cake donations welcome - please email Claire on fundraising@skiptonsc.co.uk





A WELCOME FROM OUR CLUB CAPTAINS



Poppy Dunne

My name is Poppy Dunne, and I joined the club in 2019. Since then, I've developed significantly not only as a swimmer but also as a person thanks to the constant support of my coaches, teammates and parents.

I'm a friendly, approachable, bubbly person and in the pool I train hard which has helped me progress to competing national level.

I first competed at national level at the age of 13, giving me valuable experience over the years, especially when it comes to handling nerves and pressure. I hope to use this experience to support younger swimmers and help them get the best out of themselves.

I'm currently in sixth form studying A-levels including PE, Psychology and English Language, and I hope to inspire more young swimmers to compete, enjoy the sport and be the best version of themselves at Skipton Swimming Club.

As I move on to university in the next couple of years and continue swimming there, I want to leave behind a positive example and be a good role model for the swimmers coming through the club.



Stanley Dunne

My name is Stanley Dunne, I am a kind, polite, competitive and hard working person and I am very happy to say that I am the new club captain of Skipton Swimming Club.

I have been swimming ever since I can remember, but began competing at 7 years old.

Since then I have competed at National level galas and trained all around the country. I train 8 session a week and this motivates me both in the pool and outside of it to achieve great things.

I have enjoyed swimming as it began as a hobby, which was taken further with the help of my parents and sibling competitiveness.

Competing is most definitely my favourite part about swimming and the most rewarding when you have beaten your PB.



We're so pleased to have been selected as the Skipton Swimming Club Captain for the 2025-2026 season.



UP & COMING MEETS:

February

- 7** **Yorkshire Long Course Championships Gala 1 & 2 - CLOSED**
John Charles, Leeds
Qualifiers will be contacted
- 21** **Yorkshire Long Course Championships Gala 3 & 4 - CLOSED**
Ponds Forge, Sheffield
Qualifiers will be contacted



March

- 13** **City of Sheffield Level 1 Premier Meet - CLOSED**
Ponds Forge, Sheffield
Qualifiers will be contacted
- 14** **Stepping Stone 2 - All Club - Registration OPEN**
Skipton Pool
This is a perfect meet for all club swimmers
- 28** **Harrogate Spa Town - All Club - CLOSED**
Harrogate Leisure & Wellness Centre, Harrogate
This is a perfect meet for all club swimmers

April

- 10** **City of Leeds National Qualifier 2026 - Squad Only**
John Charles, Leeds
Qualifiers will be contacted

June

- 13** **Stepping Stone 3 - All Club - Registration OPEN**
Skipton Pool
This is a perfect meet for all club swimmers

July

- 5** **Skipton Swimming Club - All Club - COMING UP**
Skipton Pool
This is a perfect meet for all club swimmers





WHAT'S COMING UP & OTHER NEWS



Total Raised - £1,620

THANK YOU to the members that helped support our Xmas Raffle.....your continued support means the world and is going to enable us to be able to fund some really cool things this year!

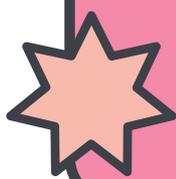
Watch This Space 👁️

Help!

**Message from Claire Gatenby
(Fundraising & Press Officer) -**

“The next raffles will be at our Club Gala in July followed by our Big Xmas Raffle in December. We need your help to make these raffles a success and help us to be able to continue to invest back into the club.....so I am asking all members to look to see if they have anything they can donate.

Please come and grab me at the club, i'm there Monday, Wednesday & thursday evenings! Thank you, your support really means the world.



Don't Forget to get entered into Steppings Stone Gala 2





OTHER NEWS & SUPPORT

SWIM CAMP 2026

Thank you to those that attending the Camp Information Session. It was great chatting to you all and hopefully answering your questions.

More information will following shortly.

*Together
We Can!*

**WHAT EVENTS or MAYBE MERCHANDISE
DO YOU WANT THE CLUB TO BE DOING?**

**We'd love to know - give Claire a shout &
lets have a chat!**



FUNDRAISING IDEAS

Claire would love to hear from you all on your ideas on how we can fundraise more for the club. Some of the ideas we've thought of are:

- Open Water Swim Events
- Black Tie Awards Night
- Celebrity Swimmer Sessions
- Additional branded merchandise
- At event sticker transfer printing



What do you think?

Email me at fundraising@skiptonsc.co.uk with your ideas....lets all do this together!



120 Year Anniversary

This year is the club's 120 year anniversary....a legacy like that is something that we should all be incredibly proud to be a part of.

We think we should be shouting this from the rooftops....so.....what about a year of events to celebrate?

We're looking at running a series of events & press releases around the theme of Skipton Swims the World (as we reckon the total distance swum over the last 120 years by club members would go round the world a few times).

We have some initial ideas but we need your help so we're putting together an informal group to help with ideas, research, planning, events and everything in between.

Can you help support the Club?

Do you have some ideas? Or fancy helping with some research?

Please come and grab Claire at a training session or drop her an email at fundraising@skiptonsc.co.uk

