



Dear Membership.

I do hope this Chairman's Report finds you all well and given the time of year ready for Christmas. It has been another frustrating Year for us all not being able to have our Annual Championship or Autumn Training weekend. I had hoped to be able to organise the latter, but it proved to be more difficult than I could have imagined with so many venues still imposing restrictions and others full of Swim Club's all looking to make up for lost time. I can only apologise for any disappointment.

Despite our downtime as a Club, the membership remains healthy. The current number of members is circa 37 but we do have several coming up on an age where they may look to move on, so it is very important that we all do our best to promote GBDSC and replenish the ranks. The decision has been made to yet again role over the membership fees we had previously received and put towards next year's membership. Early in the new year I will look to send out the forms for 2022, so please look out for it and return asap.

As illuded to above, as long as no restrictions prevent us from doing so, we will be looking to bring back our Annual Gala and Autumn Training weekends. The Gala is likely to be at the end of April after Easter and we are looking to return to Loughborough. Although other venues may potentially offer a cheaper package, we feel Loughborough will provide us with some familiarity which is important after the enforced break. We have approached York Sport for the Autumn training camp around October but will provide further details on both venues once we have them official booked.

Finances are healthy as you can see from the Treasurers report, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lucy Milton for her work in keeping on top of all everything to ensure the club kept it's expenditure to a minimum over the last couple of years with us unable to generate any additional funds.

Martin Lee remains as Head Coach for GBDSC, and I know is keen to resume his role in a more active capacity on Poolside where he will continue to be assisted by Gina. My thanks also go to Martin for all his support as he is also a key figure in the Club's dealings with UKDS and recently attended the UKDS AGM on my behalf. Please remember even though you have your local Coaches – Martin is always available to offer support & advice as part of his GBDSC role. If you would like to get in touch with him, please do at [gbdeafswimming.headcoach@gmail.com](mailto:gbdeafswimming.headcoach@gmail.com)

Congratulations to Nathan Young on his strong performances at the 1<sup>st</sup> World Deaf Swimming Championships in Poland recently. Multiple finals were reached where Nathan

was extremely competitive & GB records were broken showing just how well Nathan swam over the course of the Championships which is a fantastic achievement. Unfortunately, Nathan was flying the GB flag alone but with superb performances like the ones shown, I am hopeful he will have inspired others so we may have a greater representation both in the near and distant futures. And mentioning Records, please don't forget to let Jim Joyce know if you have recently raised the bar further in any event and broken a GB Deaf Record. Jim is still the man in charge of updating the these for us and would love to hear of any such achievements.

My last item on this report is regarding the Committee. Sue Criddle has now stepped down as our secretary and as such I would like to thank her for her work over the last couple of years. Also, Paul Gotta has stepped down as Vice Chair but having served on the committee for many years in different roles, his presence will be missed but deserves tremendous praise for his work with Jim and also staying on to assist myself. Thank-you Paul for all you have done for GBDSC over the years!! Although this has left us light in the ranks it does present the opportunity to put together a new committee to help us move forward over the coming years. I am currently covering the Secretary role as Chair so all correspondence does need to come to myself at present until such times, we can fill the various roles. I am looking to put together an active committee to make life easier for all of us. Although we don't need a big committee it is vital that we fill the key roles so please let me know if you can offer something back to the club.

So, on that note I would like to reiterate my thanks to all those who have helped keep GBDSC ticking over and look forward to hopefully seeing you all soon. Stay safe everyone and for those of you that are not able to make the upcoming AGM – have a lovely Christmas and lets hope for a great 2022!!

Kind Regards

Dave Carrington

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DC' followed by a long horizontal line.

GBDSC Chairman