

Rec report



By now many people have had the opportunity to view the roof over the pool. Thankfully everyone seems to be duly impressed with how it looks. Certainly the lifting of the arches on to the poolside drew a large number of photographers to witness this event for posterity.

Over the next few months there may well be an appearance that not much is happening. However the site will be busy with the testing of the pool basin with 100,000 gallons of water. If it passes the test, then the pool will need to be drained, dried and then tiled. The tiling process will take about one month. In addition the ventilation and lighting system will be installed. The new diving boards will be installed along with new automated pool covers. Finally the link area between the pool and the changing rooms will be built.

The pool programme is in its final stage of its production. Already a waiting list is being drawn up at Reception of those who will be interested in swimming lessons. Very shortly the additional staff required to operate the pool will be recruited.

The big question everyone is asking is when will the pool open? At the moment it is not possible to give a definite date as it all depends on the outcome of the pool tests! However it is getting nearer by the day – so watch this space for news of the date!

Phil Baker
Chair Executive Committee

Introducing Sam Hobbs – Assistant Manager

I first came to The Rec when I was 15. I then did work experience at The Rec whilst I was at college and also gained my NPLQ so I could work as a casual lifeguard. Then I qualified as a trampoline coach. My main responsibilities now are the programming for the centre and personnel.

I also teach fitness classes: Body Attack, Body Balance, Body Step, Body Conditioning, Abdominal Conditioning and Fitness Pilates. I really enjoy

teaching fitness and gain a real sense of achievement seeing the improvements my class participants make

Sam's customers are full of praise. Louise Slater says: "At the end of a hard working day I just feel like slumping in the armchair in front of the television, but I always feel so much better for having gone to a class at the Rec instead. An extra bonus is that I've made a few more friends too.

"I have been going to the Rec for over 6 years. I started by trying the one month cross trainer pass and found that the classes were so enjoyable I was hooked. The instructors, Sam and Lorraine, are friendly, really energetic and full of fun, and are dedicated to helping you get fitter. Sam devises her own exercise program for the conditioning classes and actively seeks feedback so that she can enhance the program to suit our needs. I have an injury now, so I do lower impact exercises and Sam has devised a gym program for me so that I can still maintain my fitness level, which I really appreciated."

Sue Murkin adds: "For me, The Highworth Rec is a great centre offering first class tuition and facilities. I have been a regular attendee for over 8 years and in that time have witnessed its evolution from a mediocre sports centre to a centre where professionalism and dedication are uppermost for all the staff."

Pop along to The Rec for details of our fitness classes, or online at www.swindon.gov.uk/leisuresport/highworth.



(from left) Louise Slater, Sam Hobbs and Sue Murkin

Trustees Required

When we re-open the Pool, our turnover will double. We are very keen to recruit more Trustees to ensure that we have people with the necessary business skills to help guide the decision making process.

It is a particularly exciting time to join The Rec as we are in the process of turning it into a Private Company with Charitable Status. This means that the liability of the Trustees is limited to just £1. If you are interested in becoming a Trustee, please contact Phil Baker via The Rec.