



Halliwick AST Newsletter January 2025

**PROMOTING SWIMMING FOR DISABLED PEOPLE
USING THE HALLIWICK CONCEPT**

Message from the Chair ...

by Will Wyatt



Welcome to the January 2025 edition of the Halliwick AST Newsletter.

I cannot begin without saying how delighted I am to have received an Honour - Member of the British Empire (MBE) - in the King's New Year Honours List 2025.

The award is made for **Services to Disabled People**. I am very thankful for this award, and to have worked (and be working) with so many wonderful people, who all deserve thanks for the work that they do. Through what we do, as an association and within our clubs and groups throughout the UK, we bring so much to disabled swimmers, and it is wonderful to see the development and joy in those swimmers, at weekly swimming sessions, and at galas.

(You can read more about the award at <https://halliwick.org.uk/2024/12/31/william-wyatt-mbe/>)

There is a lot of information in this newsletter for you to read, and I hope you find it interesting and informative. I just want to highlight two things:

- Firstly, our **Annual General Meeting** is taking place on **27/04/2025** and is being held via Zoom. If you are a member of a UK Halliwick club or group, or a personal affiliate, you are welcome to attend and I ask that, if possible, you do ([read more on Page 5](#)).
- Secondly, on **18 and 19/06/2025**, **Halliwick AST will be at Elevate**, at Excel in London. We are planning lots of exciting things at the event, so please come and support us by visiting us at our stand!

I wish you the very best for the year ahead, which looks to be an exciting year for Halliwick AST and, I am sure, within your clubs and groups!

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My Halliwick Story ...

by Martyn Saville

Hi, I'm Martyn and I've been the Treasurer of Halliwick AST since 2019.

I work in financial services and also spent four years running my employer's staff disability network; when the role of Halliwick AST Treasurer came up, it was probably inevitable that I would get a tap on the shoulder! Many of you will have first-hand experience of how these things happen - if you know someone who is active in Halliwick, whether that is part of Halliwick AST, your regional Halliwick ASTRA or your local club, at some point you will be 'encouraged' to get involved.

My Halliwick AST Treasurer role is pretty straightforward - I take money in, pay our bills, check that publications orders have been paid for, prepare the annual accounts for Halliwick AST, apply for grants, keep the Charity Commission happy, that sort of thing. It is maybe not the most glamorous role, but if I do it properly it helps Halliwick AST to run smoothly, and to support the hundreds of Halliwick volunteers who provide disabled swimmers with such valuable experiences in the water. I also get to work with a great bunch of people on the Halliwick AST Executive Committee - all of them sharing their time, energy and experience to support, protect and build the Halliwick family and the activities it provides.

Alongside my role as Treasurer, I try to be a helpful pair of hands, ready to get stuck in where needed.



Sometimes that's driving duties (including a last-minute drive from London to Ebbw Vale for the National Gala when the coach company sent an inaccessible bus!), and other times it's helping poolside at Halliwick ASTRA 1 and at National Championships, putting out chairs and tables for Halliwick Penguins SC's AGM, ironing green tee-shirts for Halliwick gala officials and volunteers, hunting down trophies, and all those other tasks that so many of you do week in, week out.

If you take away one message from my ramblings above, it is that there are lots of ways to get involved in Halliwick, both in and out of the water - go on, get stuck in. I am really glad I did!

Applications for Small Grants Up to £500 Now Open

The National Coordinating Committee – Swimming for Disabled People is a charitable organisation, the main purpose of which is to promote and support swimming for disabled people. **Applications for small grants up to £500 are now open. The current cycle for applications closes on 01/03/2025.**

See <https://disability-swimming.org.uk/grants/> for more information.

National Championships 2024 ...

What a fun afternoon we had at the 2024 National Championships, hosted by Halliwick ASTRA 8 in Crewe, Cheshire, on 19/10/2024.

Four Halliwick ASTRAs (regions) took part: Halliwick ASTRA 1 (Greater London—North of the River Thames); Halliwick ASTRA 2 (Greater London—South of the River Thames, Kent Surrey and Sussex); Halliwick ASTRA 8 (Cheshire, Staffordshire and Shropshire); and Halliwick ASTRA 15 (Wales).

It was great to see so many people take part, and swim so well. Results by race are on the following page of this newsletter. Here are some photos (more can be viewed at <https://halliwick.org.uk/2024/10/24/national-championships-2024/>).



Results By Race, Showing Place, Name and Region ...

Girls' 1 Length (Di Leonard Trophy)			
1st—Eva Powell (15)	2nd—Holly Birkett (8)	3rd—Liza Mutabazi (1)	
Boys' 1 Length (Swimmers' Trophy)			
1st—Myles Sherry-Starkey (8)	2nd—Logan Lockett (15)	3rd—Evren Okanay (1)	
Ladies' 1 Length (Beryl Miller Trophy)			
1st—Catherine Samuel (15)	2nd—Sarah Galloway (2)	3rd—Sarah Galloway (2)	4th—Cheryl Blocksidge (8)
Men's 1 Length (London Transport Revenue Section Trophy)			
1st—Mark Norman (1)	2nd—Daniel Brodie (8)	3rd—Luke Powell (15)	4th—Derek Evans (2)
Girls' 2 Lengths (Halliwick ASTRA 15 Trophy)			
1st—Annabelle Marriott (8)	2nd—Brianna Roberts (15)	3rd—Liza Mutabazi (1)	
Boys' 2 Lengths (Keyhaven Trophy)			
1st—Jake Morgan-Hayes (15)	2nd—Raza Poswal (8)		
Ladies' 2 Lengths (Olive Lee Trophy)			
1st—Ann Crouch (1)	2nd—Sinead Dobbin (8)	3rd—Holly Willis (15)	4th—Sarah Galloway (2)
Men's 2 Lengths (George Lyons Trophy)			
1st—Andrew Knowles (15)	2nd—Darren Crouch (1)	3rd—Neil Jones (8)	
Girls' Championship (Halliwick Penguins Silver Jubilee Trophy)			
1st—Heidi Tomkinson (8)	2nd—Maddie Stuart (15)		
Boys' Championship (Phyl McMillan Trophy)			
1st—Evren Okanay (1)	2nd—Oliver Hughes (15)	3rd—Jasper Almond (8)	
Ladies' Championship (Derek Burnand Trophy)			
1st—Ann Crouch (1)	2nd—Nicola Evans (2)	3rd—Beverley Stoddart (8)	4th—Sharon Roberts (15)
Men's Championship (Halliwick Penguins SC Celebration Trophy)			
1st—Brad Kinsey (15)	2nd—Stephen Crouch (1)	3rd—Carson Bruce (8)	4th—Derek Evans (2)
Junior Relay (Halliwick AST National Trophy)			
1st—Logan, Eva, Tara, Jake (15)	2nd—Myles, Holly, Jasper, Raza (8)		
Senior Relay (Nellie Simms Trophy)			
1st—Emma, Sarah, Ailie, Sue (8)	2nd—Damon, Ann, Darren, Stephen (1)	3rd—Abby, Nick, Tom, Vincent (15)	
League Final 2024 (Arthur Gunton Trophy)			
1st—Damon, Stephen, Darren (1)	2nd—Sue, Sarah, Ailie (8)	3rd—Aaron, David, Andrew (15)	4th—Sarah, Nicola, Derek (2)

Final placing was as follows: **Halliwick ASTRA 1**- 33 points; **Halliwick ASTRA 2** – 6 points; **Halliwick ASTRA 8** – 39 points; and **Halliwick ASTRA 15** – 42 points. That means that this year's national champions are **Halliwick ASTRA 15**, and their team received the **Barnardo Trophy**. Congratulations to Halliwick ASTRA 15 in what was an exciting afternoon of swimming!

Well done everybody!

The [National Championships 2025](#) will be hosted by Halliwick ASTRA 15 on Saturday, 18/10/2025 in Wales (provisional date at time of publication, and venue to be confirmed). Please note the date.

Dates for Your Diary ...

11/02/2025 and 30/04/2025

- Halliwick AST Education Committee Meetings.

14/04/2025 - 17/04/2025

- Halliwick AST Foundation Course, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Wales. See <https://halliwick.org.uk/2024/07/31/halliwick-ast-foundation-course-wales-april-2025/> for details.

27/04/2025

- Halliwick AST Annual General Meeting 2025, Followed by Executive Committee Meeting, starting at 11 am (via Zoom). All members welcome. See below for further information.

18-19/06/2025

- Halliwick AST at Elevate 2025, Excel, London. Come and visit our stand!

21/07/2025 - 24/07/2025

- Halliwick AST Advanced Course, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Wales. See <https://halliwick.org.uk/2024/09/11/halliwick-ast-advanced-course-wales-july-2025/> for details.

18/10/2025

- Halliwick AST National Championships 2025, hosted by Halliwick ASTRA 15 in Wales (provisional date and venue to be confirmed).

Dates are regularly added and updated on our website at <https://halliwick.org.uk/upcoming-dates/> so remember to keep checking.



We'll be at Elevate 2025 on 18-19/06/2025 at Excel in London.

We're planning lots of exciting things, so visit us at our stand. Keep an eye on our website for more information in the coming weeks and months!

Halliwick AST Annual General Meeting 2025 ...

This is the opportunity for members of Halliwick AST to have their say in how the association is run and by whom. We would like to see as many members attend as possible, therefore, whether you are from an affiliated club or group, and whether you are a swimmer, helper or instructor.

The meeting will take place on Sunday, 27/04/2025, beginning at 11 am and will held via Zoom.

If you would like further details, please contact halliwickast.chair@gmail.com.

If you would like to nominate someone in your Halliwick club or group for an award from Halliwick AST ...

We have created a number of awards to recognise the work that people do up and down the UK – take a look at

www.halliwick.org.uk/affiliation/halliwick-ast-awards/

We Will Miss You

We were so sorry to hear of the passing of three Halliwick people recently:

Beryl Kelsey, Senior Halliwick Lecturer and IHA Emeritus Lecturer, sadly passed away on 18/08/2024. Beryl did an enormous amount for Halliwick, over many decades, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. Not least, Beryl was a key member of the Executive and Education Committees of Halliwick AST.

Tom Brown sadly passed away on 25/09/2024. Tom gave a huge amount to Halliwick as, amongst other things, one of the 'Custodians of Halliwick' and a founder member of the Education Committee, as well as being a Senior Halliwick Lecturer.

Glyn Harris sadly passed away on 22/11/2024. Glyn was one of the original founders of the Rhondda Polar Bears Disabled Swimming Club in Halliwick ASTRA 15 (Wales), and had, amongst other things, been the club coach for over 40 years.

They will all be greatly missed, and we send our sincere condolences to their respective families and friends, including many within Halliwick.

Newsletter January 2025

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Contact Us ...



- Email us at halliwickast.chair@gmail.com
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 - Follow us on X at [@HalliwickUK](https://twitter.com/HalliwickUK)
 - Visit us at www.halliwick.org.uk

The Halliwick Association of Swimming Therapy is a registered charity with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, charity number **250008**.