



# OXFORD & WITNEY

## ARTISTIC SWIMMING CLUB

### Treasurer's Report. For 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 to 31 December 2024

#### Balance Held In Club Account.

Balance in OWASC's Nat West Account as at 31 December 2023 - **£3,964.85**

Balance in OWASC's Nat West Account as at 31 December 2024 - **£9,216.43**

This is the report for Oxford and Witney Artistic Swimming Club for the period from the 1st of January 2024 to the 31st of December 2024. The figures speak for themselves and that you can see. what the club has brought in in terms of Income and how the club has spent that income. However, I give you a little context as follows:

#### Income

- In 2022, our **Income** was £26,652.54. **Expenditure** was £28,017.97. There was a **deficit** of **£1365.43**
- In 2023 **Income** was £27,915.71. **Expenditure** was £30,781.05. There was a **deficit** of £2865.34.
- In 2024 our income was **£30,722.67** . **Expenditure** was **£25,041.09**. There is a **surplus** of **£5,681.58**

Our income comes from three main sources, **swimmers' monthly subscriptions; introductory courses for members and regular adult sessions.**

I will take them one by one. **Swimmer sessions.** These are split into three levels depending upon the number of sessions and athlete swims. A bronze level swimmer pays £40 per month. A silver level swimmer pays £60 per month. A gold level swimmer pays £80 per month. At the end of 2024 we had 8 bronze swimmers, 18 silver swimmers and 6 gold swimmers, making 32 swimmers in total. This is one less than our number in 2023 when we finished the year with 33 swimmers. So, we are recruiting and maintaining numbers but the aim is to have more athletes.

**Adult sessions** In 2023 OWASC introduced regular adult courses and at the end of 2023 there were nine regular swimmers paying on average £8.50 per 45 minute session. However now we have increased the adult numbers and at the end of December 2024 we had 15 adult swimmers which is a welcome increase.

**Introductory courses** raised £160 over the course of the year We are currently working out how best to deploy our coaching resources which are very limited and run both taster session and maintain regular member session. This poses a logistical challenge, and we really need to recruit more coaches.

**Kit and merchandise sales** are also an income stream and were £181.60 in 2024. Whilst this is less than in 2023, from a practical point of view the system whereby we can purchase items 'on demand' rather than having to purchase an order of merchandise, has been welcomed and we may look to expand this area in 2025.

#### Expenditure

The biggest expense is of course **Pool hire.** We ensure, as far as possible we have a pool in Witney and also in Oxford to allow the widest possible catchment area for the club. We are always open to new suggestions for pool hire. Please tell one of the coaches if you think you know of a useful venue.

- In **2022** Pool hire cost the club **£23,813**
- In **2023** Pool hire cost the club **£26,401.**
- In **2024** Pool hire cost the club **£22,364.22**

Our pool costs have decreased, but this is not a reflection of a lowering in hire charges.



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In 2023 we paid for the entire Witney pool on an early Sunday morning. For a large part of 2024 we hired only two lanes for a much reduced cost. From a financial point of view this has been essential but we are now in the position of having to possibly limit the numbers who wish to attend this session.

There has also been a change to the Sunday afternoon session. The club moved part way through 2024 to the Marston Ferry Pool, with a reduction from 2 hours to 1.5 hours of water time. Further we no longer have a face to face land session because we no longer are able to hire the venue at Harcourt Hill for this. Indeed, we are currently investigating possible venues for land sessions.

So, our costs have reduced and this has put us on a more secure foundation but going forward we aim to increase both the pool time and reintroduce land sessions. As a Club, we are ever conscious of the need to maintain a reserve for contingencies, but we appreciate that this requirement to have a reserve must always be balanced with our ambition to offer our athletes more pool time and land opportunities.

Getting more coaches to help coach would be a great step forward as this aim is dependant not only on an adequate revenue stream but also more people coaching.

The Witney pool venue is at the Windrush Centre. GLL will increase their hire costs to us in April. Currently, the club swims at Marston Ferry Pool in Oxford. We expect Marston Ferry also to increase hire costs.

Witney and District Synchronised Swimming club which is now Oxford and Witney Artistic Swimming club has been in existence for 50 this year. We are the only Artistic Swimming Club in Oxfordshire and needs to continue to make determined efforts to remain part of the artistic swimming community. The club is very special and your athletes will have wonderful memories later in life. **How can you help?**

Well, I have listed eight things that you could do, so if everyone did at least two of the actions listed below I think we will be making progress.

1. you can do the simple course to be a Team Manager. This supports the swimmers in competitions.
2. When clubs enter competitions, they generally have to provide Pool side officials to help organise swimmers and
3. judges to judge the figures and routines. Full training for being an official or for being a judge is provided.
4. If your swimmer has just started and you can see quite a few poolside evenings before you, think about being a coach. It is not a full-time commitment and whatever you do is greatly appreciated.
5. You can also always join the Executive Committee and raise some funds, organise a disco or a social or something for the athletes to enjoy.
6. As we gain more members CROWD FUNDING becomes more possible. Perhaps you are skilled in this kind of fundraising.
7. Perhaps you know someone who could sponsor OWASC?
8. And of course, please do sign up to easy fundraising and support OWASC every time you shop online.

**Thank you very much.** Alison Stevenson. OWASC Treasurer. Dated. 14/03/2025