



PRESS RELEASE

Deepings Swimming Club cross-channel challenge tops £12,000

Deepings Swimming Club has raised more than £12,000 after completing a sponsored cross-channel swimming challenge last night (Sunday, April 2).

The money from the challenge, which took place at Deepings Leisure Centre, will enable the club to buy a new electronic timing board. The board is essential to hosting its Rob Welbourn Open Meet and local swimming galas, a vital source of club revenue.

More than 100 swimmers, aged eight to 60, took part in the challenge, completing a distance equivalent to crossing the English Channel and back - or 2,832 lengths of the 25-metre pool - in just over two hours.

The challenge was started by former Deepings swimmer and two-time Paralympic gold medallist Rob Welbourn while the final length was swum by Alex Thurston, a teaching fellow in sport at Nottingham University and Life member of the Deepings Swimming Club. Alex was also part of a Nottingham Masters team which achieved a new world mark in the 120+yrs age group 4x200m mixed freestyle relay in 2015.

The evening, which was arranged by committee member Steve Tappern, included a raffle and cake sale and a special appearance by club mascot 'Sydney the Seahorse'. The viewing gallery was packed with parents cheering on the swimmers, helping to create a memorable evening for the club.

The money taken on the night was added to the sponsorship raised by the swimmers, company match funding and Crowdfunding donations and reached an impressive £12,115, exceeding the club's original target by more than £2,000.

Lynn Chapman, Deepings Swimming Club head coach, said: "We had a wonderful evening and the swimmers did a magnificent job raising the money. They should be very proud of their efforts."

Club chairman Martyn Reynolds added: "My thanks go to everyone who helped us put on the cross-channel challenge, including the swimmers themselves and their parents, whose support helps us to achieve great things at the club."