

# BIRTLEY COMMUNITY POOL

NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER  
ISSUE 20



## What's Inside ?

### Half Term Halloween Fun!

Spooky swims, inflatable and slide sessions, and family fun for our October half-term week!

### Pool Etiquette

Let's keep our pool a clean, safe, and welcoming space for everyone. Take a moment to read our reminders on good pool habits and safe lane sharing.

### Meet the Team

Get to know our dedicated trustees and staff – this month we feature the chair of the trustee board, treasurer, Senior Operations Manager and Business Support Manager.

### Volunteers Needed

We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help at the pool. If you're interested in supporting our community, get in touch – we'd love to have you on board!

## HALF TERM & HALLOWEEN FUN!

Get ready for a spook-tacular October half term at Birtley Community Pool!  

We'll be hosting inflatable and slide sessions— perfect for families looking to make a splash this autumn.

Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page or see the timetable below for full event times – you won't want to miss it!

# Meet The Team



Yvonne Probert



Matthew Grant

## Chair of the board

Yvonne grew up swimming at Birtley Pool and has been passionate about its community ever since. With over 20 years' experience in the voluntary sector, she brings leadership, dedication, and a love of swimming to her role as Chair.



Lewis Herbertson

## Senior Operations Manager

Lewis Herbertson – Manages the pool, easily spotted in a blue shirt. Lewis oversees the entire facility, ensuring everything runs smoothly day to day.

## Treasurer

A competitive swimmer and experienced accountant, Matthew played a key role in bringing the pool back to life. His work on business planning and fundraising helped secure the funding needed to reopen and his priority now is to ensure the pool is financially sustainable for the future.



Amber Barry

## Business Support Manager

Amber Barry – Handles all things administrative, communications, and social media. Look for her in a navy shirt—she keeps the behind-the-scenes work flowing smoothly.

# Become a Trustee

We're looking for new Trustees to join our board – especially individuals with experience in marketing or volunteer management. If you're passionate about community projects and want to help shape the future of Birtley Community Pool, we'd love to hear from you!

> Email:

[info@birtleycommunitypool.org.uk](mailto:info@birtleycommunitypool.org.uk)



## Volunteers Needed

Whether you have a few spare hours or can commit to a regular schedule, your support will help us continue providing excellent services to the community.

We are currently recruiting for the following volunteer roles:

- Practical Tasks Volunteers
- Administration & Reception Volunteers
- Fundraising & Income Generation Volunteers

If you'd like to get involved, please email us at  
[info@birtleycommunitypool.org.uk](mailto:info@birtleycommunitypool.org.uk)

Your time and effort will be invaluable in supporting the pool's success!

# Pool Rules & Etiquette



## Pool Rules

To help keep everyone safe and happy, please remember:

- Shower before swimming – it helps keep our water sparkling clean.
- Skip the swim if you feel unwell or have an open wound.
- Babies must wear swim nappies at all times.
- Be respectful to our coaches, lifeguards, and fellow swimmers.
- Avoid swimming on a full or empty stomach.
- Walk, don't run! The poolside can be slippery.
- No mobile phones or photography – for everyone's privacy and safety, please do not use phones or take photos/videos in the changing areas, poolside, or around the pool. This rule helps protect and safeguard all our swimmers, especially children.

## Lane Etiquette

- Choose a lane that matches your speed.
- Take care when entering an occupied lane – Sit at the side and hang your legs in the water to signal your intention to join, and wait for swimmers to complete two laps before starting to swim.
- Split the lane for two swimmers; circle swim when there are three or more.
- Rest in the corner of the lane so others can turn easily.
- Avoid wide strokes like butterfly when lanes are busy.
- Use equipment (e.g. training floats) safely and be considerate of others.



# Timetable Updates



## Oct Half Term

### Slide Sessions

- Mon to Sun - 10-11:30am
- Tue, Wed & Fri 2:30-4pm

### Inflatable & Slide Sessions

- Mon, Thu, Sat & Sun - 1:30-2:30pm & 2:45-3:45pm

### Aquafit Classes

- Tue 12pm
- Wed 9:15am
- Aquantrio Thu at 7pm

### Lane & General Swimming

- Mon to Fri - 6:15am-9:30pm
- Sat & Sun - 7am-1pm

## Nov-Dec Timetable

### Aquafit Classes

- AquaSocial Mon 10:30-11:30am  
Gentle exercise with complementary tea/coffee
- Tue 5:15pm class suspended

### Slide Sessions

- Mon, Wed & Fri 11:30am-12:45pm
- Tue evening session suspended

### Lane Swimming

- Mon 2:45-6pm - Medium & Fast
- Mon to Thu 1-8pm - Medium & Fast
- Sat 7am-1pm - Medium & Fast
- Sun 9am-1pm - Medium & Fast

### Improver pool

- Open during public swimming times



# October Half-Term Timetable

**Running from Monday 27th Oct to Sunday 2nd Nov**



# November Term Timetable

**Running from Monday 3rd Nov to Monday 22nd Dec**

# Birtley Community Pool Timetable

Term Time - 3rd November to 22nd December 2025

\* Please Note - pool closure due to private event on Tuesday 2nd December 09:30 - 11:30 \*

		Organised Public Activities												Swimming Club															
		Available for Pool Parties or Hire												Public Swimming - No Lanes															
		Swim City Lessons												Lane F - Fast Swimmers															
		School Swimming Lessons												Lane M - Medium Swimmers															
		Lane S - Slower Swimmers																											
MONDAY		06:00	07:00	08:00	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	00	15	30	45	00	15	30	45	00	15	30	45
Main Pool		Lane S												Lane M															
6 Lanes 0.9m - 2.0m 29°C		Lane M												Lane F															
Improver Pool		Lane F												Derwentside & Gateshead Swimming Club															
1m - 29°C		Public Swimming												SwimCity BIRTLEY LESSONS															
Small Pool		Water Slide & Public Swim 11:30 - 12:45												SwimCity BIRTLEY LESSONS															
0.7m - 31°C		Schools Lessons 13:00 - 14:45												SwimCity BIRTLEY LESSONS															
TUESDAY		06:00	07:00	08:00	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	00	15	30	45	00	15	30	45	00	15	30	45
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1m - 29°C		Lane S												SwimCity BIRTLEY LESSONS															
Small Pool		Open												Walking in Water															
0.7m - 31°C		Family Fun												SwimCity BIRTLEY LESSONS															
WEDNESDAY		06:00	07:00	08:00	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	00	15	30	45	00	15	30	45	00	15	30	45
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0.7m - 31°C		Public Swimming												Public Swim															
THURSDAY		06:00	07:00	08:00	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	00	15	30	45	00	15	30	45	00	15	30	45
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FRIDAY		06:00	07:00	08:00	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	00	15	30	45	00	15	30	45	00	15	30	45
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SATURDAY		06:00	07:00	08:00	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	00	15	30	45	00	15	30	45	00	15	30	45
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Small Pool																													



# Donations

Help Us Make a Splash! 

We're still fundraising for exciting new inflatable obstacle course sections, and your support can make a big difference! Donations are gratefully received via our GoFundMe page:

👉 [gofundme.com/new-obstacle-course-inflatables-for-birtley-community-pool](https://gofundme.com/new-obstacle-course-inflatables-for-birtley-community-pool)



**Birtley Community Pool**



**On behalf of the Birtley Community Aquatic Centre  
CIO trustee board**

Yvonne Probert  
Chair

Matthew Grant  
Treasurer



**Funded by  
UK Government**



## Contact Us



Durham Road, Birtley, DH3 2PA



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[www.birtleycommunitypool.org.uk](http://www.birtleycommunitypool.org.uk)



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