

Swim & Save E-zine - October 2023





Inaugural 2-Day Conference Format With Awards Proves Huge Success

May we start this month's issue by saying a huge thank you to everyone who joined us at conference earlier this month in Leicester, it was a fantastic turnout on both days (and night) and we heard from some incredible speakers in and out of the pool, including Marc Woods who delivered a fantastically inspiring and funny keynote on the first day. Thanks also to our host Mike Goody, all our sponsors and exhibitors – and our conference team who worked tirelessly around the clock for three days to deliver a successful event, as agreed by everyone who completed our conference survey.

CHECK OUT ALL PHOTOS HERE



SAVE THE DATE

While we are all still buzzing from this year's event, we have also set the date for our 2024 national conference, which will be taking place at the Radisson Blu Hotel at East Midlands Airport on Friday 11th – Saturday 12th October.

Add event to calendar















Celebrating STAr Achievements

At STA's inaugural Aquatic Excellence Awards on Friday 13th October, which were sponsored by Konfidence, we celebrated and showcased the achievements of all those who have been involved in delivering learn to swim programmes and aquatics training over the last 12 months, in line with STA's charity objectives. Friday the 13th turned out to be lucky for our ten STAr winners, which included awards being presented for STAr Approved Training Centre, STAr Swimming Teacher and STAr Swim School Provider of the year.

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Traditional Members Awards



Sir Henry Pike Award - Emma Holden



Cross of Merit – awarded posthumously to Dave Bushen



STA Ross Eagle Award - Lisa Bousted



Night Of Celebrations at the ukactive Awards

This month, we were proud headline sponsors of the 2023 ukactive Awards. It was fantastic to celebrate all the industry's achievements at the awards ceremony, which this year was held in Leeds. Dave Candler, STA's CEO said: "We saw outstanding examples of leadership, creativity, innovation, diversity, and excellence from all the finalists and winners, proving how amazingly talented and resilient the physical activity sector is. All the winning individuals, teams, and organisations have made such a significantly positive impact on people's health and well-being over the last 12 months."

The STA team were also pleased to be highly commended in both the Supplier of the Year and Diversity and Inclusion award categories for STAnd Up for Swimming.



FAB-U-LOUS News – Double Finalists

Keeping with the awards theme, we also received some fab-u-lous news this month from the Federation of Awarding Bodies (FAB) who have named STA as 2023 finalists in not one but two award categories: Innovation of the Year, and AO of the Year for delivering real impact on equity, diversity and inclusion.

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Join Us In 2024 And Swim To The Beat

To mark Restart a Heart Day (16th October), we announced that we will once again be partnering with the British Heart Foundation (BHF) to promote the 'Swim to the Beat' campaign in February 2024. Registration is now live, and STA is inviting all swim schools, clubs, leisure facilities or individuals to get involved to raise vital funds for the BHF during Heart Month next year. All monies raised from the campaign will be used by BHF to fund vital scientific research that can save and improve the lives of people affected by heart and circulatory diseases.

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FREE Webinars Coming Up In November



The first one will take place on Monday 13th November 2023 between 11-11.45 am with Kayle Brightwell, STA's Director of Education, and Zac Cheek, STA's Head of Apprenticeships discussing 'Understanding Apprenticeship Standards and End-Point Assessments'.

REGISTER HERE



On Thursday 16th November between 12-1pm, we will be joined by The Well HQ who will be delivering a free webinar on female anatomy, physiology, and psychology. In this hour-long webinar, The Well HQ's Baz Moffat will discuss the importance of female health, why this information is needed, and the benefits it has - ideal for anyone who works with and interacts with girls and women, across all disciplines.

REGISTER HERE



First Impressions Smooth transitions from Bath to Pool



Then on Thursday 30th November 2023 at 10am, Jo Wilson, the Founder of Aqua Sensory and an STA International Aquatic Tutor will host a free new webinar titled Baby Swimming: First Impressions. The webinar's focus will be to share early water experiences from a sensory perspective. Babies' brains are born immature and can be often overwhelmed by new sensory experiences. Jo will guide you on how to create smoother transitions and provide you with ideas and inspirations to link supporting parents at home, and then the pool.

REGISTER HERE



And Finally ...

To support swim schools with their safeguarding requirements we have released a new policy guidance document and a range of policy templates this month.

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