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## The future starts to become a concern

The day to day continues, but the question of where we will be training in 2012 starts to become an issue that we urgently need to progress and finalise. The consultation on the future of Dialstone has started and the centre is due to close in February 2012. There will be temporary sports facilities provided for 18 months and then the new centre will open. The current plans show only a traditional 4 badminton court size sports hall, so maybe there will no place for us to train?

We shouldn't leave this to chance. The consultation is being organised by the Sports Trust with an online survey which is linked from our web-



**Susan Roberts performs a ring leap on the floor at the Greater Manchester Open**

site or can be found at [http://s1.stockport.gov.uk/council/surveys/blackstone\\_development/blackstone\\_development.htm](http://s1.stockport.gov.uk/council/surveys/blackstone_development/blackstone_development.htm)

(Easier to go on our website!)

We must all take the survey and suggest that a dedicated gymnastics facility should be considered.

As for our new gym at Melford Rd? Not really progressing, too expensive still and little car parking.

To end on a high note, great results at the GM Open and some excellent fund raising activities to help pay for the Lilleshall trip.

### July Events

This is a short month for club gymnasts as we are not in on the weekends of 9th/10th July, 16th/17th July and 30th/31st July

2nd/3rd July

Greater Manchester Floor and Vault at Fit City Ordsall.

2nd July

Trials day 1 for the NWGA Teams

9th/10th July

The British Open

16th/17th July

The Frank Williams Comp

29th/31st July

The SSoG training camp

## The SSoG Calendar for 2011

2nd/3rd July

Greater Manchester Floor and Vault at Fit City Ordsall. This is a new venue for some and home of Salford Gym Club.

2nd July

Trials day 1 for the NWGA Teams

9th/10th July

The British Open at the Echo Arena, Liverpool. **THE GYM WILL BE CLOSED THAT WEEKEND SO THAT EVERYONE GETS A CHANCE TO GO.**

16th/17th July

The Frank Williams Competition. Venue: Dialstone. The biggest competition that the club organises. Note the change of date. Training started in June. There will be no club gym on this weekend.

29th/31st July

The 2011 SSoG training camp in Lilleshall. Attendance is by invitation only. The Gym is closed for that weekend for Club gymnasts. Recreational sessions and 2 piece will be operating as normal.

3rd August

National Playday in Torkington Park. We will be there weather permitting. Look out in the July newsletter for details.

13th August

Trials day 2 for the NWGA Teams

17th/18th September

NW Age Groups, Teams, Individual Apparatus Competition. I'd like to see SSoG teams in Pre-Novice, Novice and Level 4. Venue Birchwood.

15th/16th October

Greater Manchester 4 Piece Competition. Venue to be confirmed, probably Copley.

12th/13th November

NW Out of Age Individuals Competition. Important competition for the club. Venue Birchwood.

Nov/Dec

NW Inter County Teams Competition (TBC) It would be good to have some representatives from the club in this competition.

# The Greater Manchester Open

The GM Open was held at Birchwood on the weekend of 9th/10th June and we were represented by 6 gymnasts, who returned with 6 medals and some flowers. Once again this year a good performance from our novice gymnasts.

The day started with Chloe Astley competing in the Novice aged 10 competition. Chloe won a bronze on Floor and was a whisker off a medal on the Vault.

In the next round it was the turn of our Novice aged 11. Top placed gymnast was Susan Roberts who came 3rd overall, only 0.1 short of winning the competition. Susan also

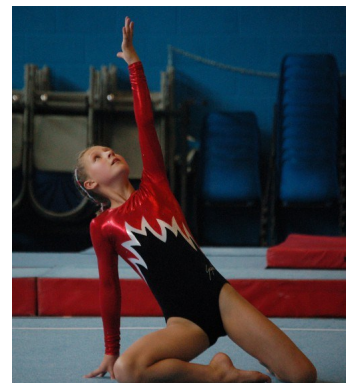
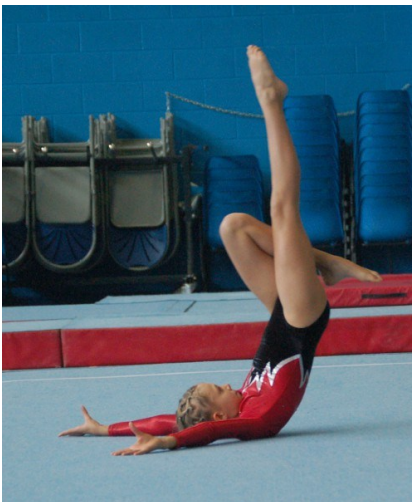
came 2nd on the Vault and 3rd on the beam.

Ella McKie Crane won the floor, great artistry and finishing the moves. Ella also won bronze on the bars.

Nearly medals included 4th for Susan on Bars, 4th for Ella on Vault, 4th for Becky Shard on Floor

This was a very pleasing result for the club and a big well done to Chloe, Sophie, Susan, Becky and Ella.

The next competition is the Teams and Voluntary 4 in September. Trials in July and August, be ready.



## SSoG Development Plan

The development plan was last issued in 2009 when we started a new club structure, which explained how we wanted to move from a club in decline with poor results into a competitive club. The key to this was the Performance Pathway, which explained diagrammatically how gymnasts enter the club and progress from rec to elite.

The 2011 plan updates the 2009 plan and adds performance standards that are necessary for competitive gymnastics. The Performance Pathway is unchanged, but there is a reminder that being in the club

and training for all 4 sessions must be backed up by continued progress with competitions and profiles. There is little point in a gymnast training for 12 hours a week and not entering competitions.

There are copies of the 2011 Development Plan in the gym. Do ask any coach to explain if you are unsure of the contents

The upshot of this is that there will be a rearrangement of the groups and training times which will be launched during July. Again there are letters in the gym explaining what we have done. Once again do talk to your coach.

## What happens in February?

The time line for the new Dialstone shows that the current centre is demolished in February 2012 and then there will be 18 months of temporary accommodation provided, before the new sports facilities are ready. This gap is because they want to build the houses on Dialstone first before they get on with the Blackstone Park side. It looks like it is to help with cash flow.

So where do we train for 18 months?

Plan A would be that we have our own premises by Feb 2012 and don't have to worry about

any temporary facilities. However progress has been slow and maybe we won't be ready in time.

Plan B is already in place with myself and Phil talking to the Sports Trust about our specific needs. It is early days yet with the talks, but we do hope that we will not have to store equipment in containers and carry beams from outside a building to the sports hall.

It looks unlikely that the temporary facility will be near to Dialstone as there will be a lot of building activity and no sports hall. When we find out we will let all know.



## Mat Shifting Rota

The new rota is out, but I don't have an electronic copy of it available at the moment. Julie has put a copy on the notice board in the gym and there is a copy for all parents, which you will be given by Julie. I will hopefully get a copy to publish in the August newsletter. This is a heavy holiday period so please do a swap, see Julie.

## Frank Williams Help

The Frank Williams is on the weekend of 16th/17th July and is generally treated as a week-end off for gymnasts. Don't take both days off as we are doing the beam display on the Saturday and we need help all weekend to ensure that all goes smoothly. If everybody helps then we will not have to attend for very long, so please see Julie and sign up for one of the sessions.

## The Curry night



The Red Rose Indian restaurant in Hazel Grove was not a good place to be when SSoG went out for a curry if you were not connected with the club. For the casual visitor the gymnasts were excited and sometimes a little loud. Still they all entered into the spirit of it all, even buying tickets and winning the raffle. This was another Jayne and Penny production and was reasonably well attended. It was good fun and the staff were very tolerant and helpful. There was even some colouring books to quieten them down before going home.

The gymnasts generally chose anything but curry and finished the meal off with ice cream. The parents, although shown on the right with empty plates, ate traditional Indian meals.

There are some more pictures on the website as with all SSoG events.

A big thanks to Penny and Jayne for organising and for all those who attended.

## 25 Years of SSoG



The year is 2001 and we go back to a competition called Gymlinx. This was a competition for a number of gymnastic disciplines, Womens Artistic, Trampoline, Rhythmic, Special and Sports Acro. Each team consisted of 2 gymnasts from each discipline, marked on their specialist pieces, by their own judges. We ran it for 3 successful years, then it all faded away. Time to restart I think.



## More Cash

We applied for a rent rebate for our booking at Dialstone which is more than £10,000 per annum. We were turned down in April. However in June, quite unexpectedly, we had a letter from the council saying that we had been awarded £250. Excellent, it all helps. I wonder if we will get another letter in July.....!

## Melford Road

This premises seems to be fading away, for 2 reasons. The rent is too much and our requests to have the ground rent waived by the council has been turned down making the property a little expensive.

In addition it only has 14 car parking places and as you know there are many more cars parked at Dialstone at weekends when our peak training happens. We had had some encouraging talks with Carpet World who had offered us 28 spaces, but they had gone quiet for a while. This week they announced a fall in profits and that they were looking at more store closures. I guess that Hazel Grove must be under consideration.

This looks like a low probability of going ahead. It's a shame as the building is ideal.

We will have to look elsewhere and this may be a good time as the economy is not helping any property to be sold quickly and most owners are keen to do a deal at a realistic price. Fingers crossed.



**After eating it is a tradition for the waiters to bring round hot towels for diners to clean their hands. At SSoG there are other uses for these towels**

# Disco at Dialstone



DJ James was our host for the first Disco run at Dialstone. The gym was blacked out to get the full benefit of the lights, there were refreshments and all gymnasts got an orange SSoG wristband as a memento of the evening.

This was the latest event organ-

ised by our fund raising duo, Penny Green and Jayne Mooney, with all proceeds going to the Lilleshall trip. The event was well attended by parents and gymnasts from all sections of the club.

There was a guess the coach quiz, with picture of coaches

when they were much younger. The winner was Leandra Brennan.

It was also Martha Yates birthday and all sang happy birthday as a cake, complete with candles, was brought into the hall.

The fund raising now stands at over £1,000 which will help with keeping the costs down for gymnasts going to Lilleshall. The sponsored run raised over £200 and the curry night £145. With the teas and coffees and the rec leotards it all adds up.

We have only one event left, a pub crawl through Hazel Grove on 23rd July. Fancy Dress is encouraged and we have a licence form the council to collect in the pubs. One last drive and we will be there. See Jayne and Penny for more details.



# Dialstone Consultation

The consultation has started on Dialstone and the plans that the developer and the Council have to replace the current buildings. It is in 2 parts and we are only

interested in the second part. Part 1 is being organised by the developer and is looking at the overall development, the hous-

es, the care home etc.

Part 2 is being organised by the Council through the Sports Trust and is all about the com-



## GM Floor and Vault

The Greater Manchester Floor and Vault Championship is to be held at Fit City in Ordsall on the weekend of 2nd/3rd June. We have a big entry this year 23 in all as follows:

### Pre-Novice

Ruby Hewitt, Brodie Tideswell, Charlotte Cleaver, Charlotte Wells, Tia Albert, Anna Marsh, Hayleigh Blissett, Emily Barber, Maisie Leonard, Grace Wheeler, Lilliana Ashton, Georgia Mullany and Katherine Roberts

### Novice

Martha Yates, Rebecca Roberts, Kate Martin, India Roderick, Suzanne Thorn-dyke, Fern Evans and Lizzie Vearnals

### Intermediate

Eleri MacLeod, Phoebe Hulme, Laura Hallworth

The rotations and timings for the competition are all on the board in the gym, along with directions. This is the first competition for the members of the development group, their first time outside the comfort of Dialstone and their own gym.

Good luck to all SSoG gymnasts.

community facilities, which includes the Sports Facilities. Go to our website and take the survey on the Council Website. It is linked but move NOW!