South West Regional Committee

The South West Region would like to introduce the new South West Regional Committee.

Each of the new Regional Committee members are keen triathletes, with many of them competing and coaching at regional and national level. They are all excited to get started within their new roles and can't wait to develop triathlon across the South West.

For more information on your new South West Regional Committee check out their bios below:



Chairman - Ashley Hutchinson

"I'm a Father of two teenagers, Husband to Sophie and run my own small business. I am entering my fifth year in triathlon competing up to 70.3 distance. In 2018 my 'A' race will be Challenge Almere, Amsterdam. I've served two years on the committee as Treasurer and look forward to representing the region as Chairman. I have been inspired by the volunteers, and especially Derek's, incredible work before me on committee and my main goal is to increase communication between committee and the region's membership."



I have been involved in triathlon for over twelve years at local, regional and national levels. I am a member of Cheltenham Triathlon Club, where I train and coach, in addition to being a member of the Executive Committee as Membership Secretary.

In the region, I have been Secretary to the South West Regional Committee for the last four years, and am delighted to have recently been appointed as Vice-Chair.

I was a member of the GB Age Group Sprint team for the 2008 World Triathlon Championships in Vancouver, I have also enjoyed some long-distance swimming and more recently, aquabike. My current ambition is to compete in Age Group Middle Distance Aquabike. All this with the support, patience and understanding of my other half, who would never describe themselves as a sportsperson but recognises the big part triathlon now plays in my life.

Treasurer - Rachel Hepworth

"I live with my partner, Mike, who is a keen cyclist and triathlete. I am a qualified accountant specialising in the public sector. I volunteered as treasurer to use my work skills for the benefit of the sport I love. I competed in triathlon as a junior some years ago, and returned to the sport in 2014 to complete Ironman in aid of charity. I will have a go at any distance from sprint upwards, and look forward to serving on the regional branch committee."

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Communications Officer - Kathryn Blackie-Taylor

"I'm a triathlon and cycle coach and yoga teacher, married to another triathlon and cycle coach and yoga teacher. I have been involved in triathlon since I met my husband 5 years ago. He has 30 years history of involvement in the sport. His enthusiasm has greatly influenced me. In 2018 I hope to qualify again for the XTERRA World Championships in Maui. I qualified in 2017 but had to withdraw due to a family illness and subsequent bereavement. My goal is to get a second chance at that experience and will start working towards that by competing in XTERRA Malta in April. I am very happy to contribute to triathlon in the south-west region by acting as Communications Officer. If you

have a story or image you wish to share then do please send it to me."



Officials Coordinator - Lorraine Ferris

Lorraine competed in triathlon from 1986 and organised races with 220 Magazine from 1988 to 1999, including National Triathlon Championships, Ironman distance events and several National Duathlon Championships and was Race Director of the 220 Swindon Triathlon in 1995 with a field of 950 competitors. She worked for 220 magazine between 1989 and 2000 in a variety of roles including being editor for a while. Organiser/Owner of The Cotswold Triathlons since 2000, a technical official at the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester, the only Female Field Of Play Manager at the 2012 London Olympic Triathlon, helped to set up a system of draftbusters in the UK in early

90's, has been on BTF South West committee for several years and is the current Triathlon England South West Technical Officer coordinator.

Inclusivity Officer - Rachel Bown

"I am the PE Inclusion Lead for Wiltshire & Wesport (Bath/Bristol) based at Fairfield Farm College, Dilton Marsh & Fosseway Special School, Radstock. I am also an Age Group triathlete. I have represented Team GB 15 times & have won two European medals. In my professional role I work with children with learning difficulties and disabilities and I have a strongly held passion to help the sport of Triathlon become even more available to those that would find it difficult to participate traditionally."



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Academy Coach - Andy Bullock

Andy is the Head Coach for the <u>South West Regional Academy</u>. He has worked with the academy since 2007 and took on the Head Coach role in 2012 since when the academy has assisted in the development of athletes so that they progress onto the national talent squad (2013 - 1 athlete on national squad; 2014 - 2 athletes; 2015 - 3 athletes; 2016 - 8 athletes 2017 - TBC). Elsewhere, Andy is a full-time triathlon coach with experience working with British Paratriathlon including 4 years as the National Talent Squad Lead coach, Bristol and Bath Universities and local club development as well as being Head Coach with BAD Tri for over 13 years. His personal mantras include 'Never turn down an opportunity to learn' which he regularly uses to encourage athletes he works with to explore and develop themselves in the entirety not just as an athlete.



Skills School Lead - Juliet Paterson

I am currently British Triathlon's Skills School South West Lead, which is British Triathlon's first CPD program developed specifically to support coaches working with young athletes. I work across the region developing coaches' knowledge of how to implement the new Skills School Framework and Coaches' Playbook, which were designed to supplement and support children's triathlon coaches across the country.

I feel privileged to work on such an initiative that recognises the value in supporting specialised children's coaches. That such excellent children's coaches are critical in providing children with positive, high quality early learning experiences which encourage children to go onto lead healthy, confident and happy lives.

I bring to children's triathlon my past experiences, which include: triathlon coaching; swimming teaching/coaching; athletics coaching; rowing, hockey, netball, tag instructing and my experiences as a former Primary School Teacher and PE Lead.

If you are interested in finding out more about this or future days feel free to contact me, Juliet Paterson, Skills School South West Lead on: skillsschoolsouthwest@britishtriathlon.org or see: https://www.britishtriathlon.org/gb-teams/talent/english-talent/skills-school/coaches

Adult Series Coordinator - Roger Wakeling

The first triathlon I organised was in Winchester in 1984 and many more followed all over our region during the next 30 years. I have hosted World Championship Qualifiers in Triathlon in Bournemouth and Duathlon at Goodwood Motor Racing Circuit and personally represented GB in Duathlon in the World Championships in Rimini Italy. I was briefly on the Board of Directors of British Triathlon in the early 1990's and I have twice been the lead technical officer at the National Club Relays Championships in Nottingham. I have been on the South West British Triathlon committee for most of the last 30 years, serving as treasurer/secretary for 7/8 years before there was much of a grant to deal with and I still act as a technical officer at South West Regional events.

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Junior Series Coordinator - Melanie Cumberland

I'm married to Michael, have 4 Sons who are all keen triathletes. I am the Head Coach of Vale Tridents Junior Triathlon Club organising their Annual Triathlon for the last 4 years. I'm a keen runner although my time is now taken up coaching triathlon, athletics and swimming and transporting the boy's to various triathlons, swim meets and athletic competitions. For the last 3 years I have assumed the role of Triathlon England South West Junior Series Officer.

The South West Region are still looking to fill the position of Secretary. If you would be interested in this role please contact Jane Wild at wildhuson@gmail.com for more information on this role.

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