

GODALMING TOWN COUNCIL



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RECEPTION TO HONOUR GODALMING'S CENTENARIAN SWIMMER – MR JOHN HARRISON

The Mayor of Godalming, Councillor Andrew Wilson, invited John, along with his family and friends to a reception on Thursday, 12 February 2015 to celebrate John's aquatic achievements.

John has been swimming for 93 years and in July last year marked his 100th birthday with a swim at Godalming Leisure Centre. He was regularly scuba diving at sea until he was 78, but gave that up because his other half thought it was too dangerous. This prompted John to take up Masters Swimming and he has become a regular swimmer in Godalming with the Godalming Amateur Swimming Club. John has set some incredible World and European records in his age group and these include the world short course 50m backstroke record; the European record in the 100m freestyle and the world long course back stroke record. John was recently awarded Sport Godalming's Sports Personality of the Year Award and representatives of Sport Godalming were present at the reception alongside members of Godalming Swimming Club. The Surrey County ASA was represented by its President, Paul Finch.

Councillor Andrew Wilson said "It is a remarkable record of achievement and an inspiration; an example to all of us of the benefits of leading an active and healthy lifestyle." The Mayor presented Mr Harrison with a small badge with the Town Crest on it, saying he hoped that when he wore it would remember this evening and how proud we all are of his achievements.

In case of query please contact:

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