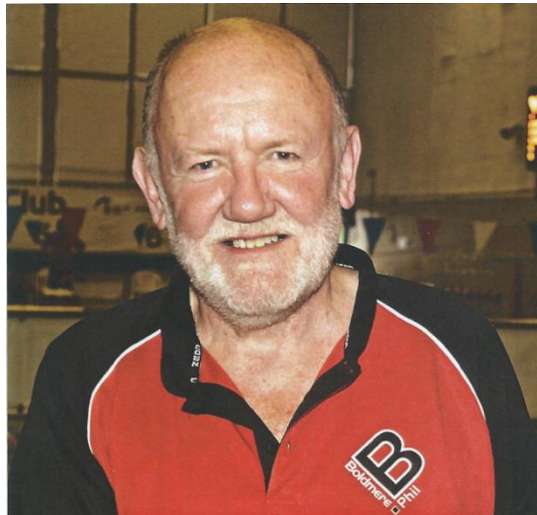


Dear Boldmere Swimming Club members of past and present.

It is with sadness that we inform you of the passing of ex-Boldmere swimming club chair and life member of the club, **Phil Littler**. He passed away peacefully on Saturday 25th January, aged 75.

Husband to Diane and Father to Chris, Phil was a devoted volunteer to Boldmere swimming club for over a decade, throughout the 2000s. He supported the club in many roles through the years; records secretary, press officer, meet organiser and club chair 2010-2012.

His influence runs deep within Boldmere swimming club with him founding the club's PB charts, the Boldmere JIM and Boldmere Water Carnival.



Phil Littler
1949-2025

The main service of celebration of Phil's life will be:

Date: Friday 28th March 2025

Time: 12.30pm

Venue: St Peter's Church, Maney Hill Road, Sutton Coldfield, B72 1JJ

Should anyone be interested in attending the wake afterwards, at the earliest convenience, please send an email to Chris Littler for details:

Chrislittler23@gmail.com

Written below are memories of Phil, from the family and some of those who knew him best during his time at Boldmere:

Chris Littler - son

“Boldmere was an incredibly special place for us as a family over the years. As a father, he supported me throughout my 17 years at Boldmere, both in my journey as a competitive swimmer and as a swimming coach. Throughout that time, we met many amazing people and families, a considerable number of whom were incredible in support of Phil within his various roles. We had close connections with so many and are extremely fortunate to have retained some of those friendships to this day.

Phil’s super strengths were his organisation skills; his work ethic and attention to detail. More than anything else though, he was a master at leading and delegation. His ability to identify good people, get them onboard, feel valued and empower them to use their skills/expertise for the benefit of the club. It truly was a team effort. A huge thank you to everyone who supported my dad and gave us so many happy memories....you know who you are.


Love Chris and Di.”

Ashley Cox - Head Coach/Director of swimming (2000-2020)

“Phil was a truly wonderful man who supported me in my role as head coach for so many years. I learned so much from him, his incredible work ethic, boundless passion, and unwavering enthusiasm.

As chair, Phil had a unique ability to connect with the swimmers, his energy and dedication left a lasting impact on countless Boldmere teams over the years.

One of my fondest memories is from a trip to a national final. As we boarded the coach, Phil was particularly taken with a song he felt perfectly captured the occasion, 'Reach' by Gloria Estefan. He played it through the speakers before we set off, lifting everyone’s spirits and inspiring the team. That moment, for me, sums up who Phil was.

I will miss him deeply. Rest in peace 

Del Stanger - Membership secretary, Records officer (Current)

“Phil was a true gentleman who, during his time as communications officer and then chairman, improved the club in many ways.

Many hours were spent poolside, watching Chris and Joey train and compete for Boldmere.

Phil was always busy with many club projects and I asked him if he needed help with anything. He encouraged me to take on the PB charts, which I agreed to do and still do so now, 15 years later, using the same format that he had first introduced. The club also has the ‘Phil Littler 400 Individual Medley trophy’, awarded at the club championships, along with the ‘PGL Cup’ for 16-year-old swimmers, ensuring his legacy lives on.”

In 2009 when the club reached the Arena League National B final, at Sheffield, Phil brought along a huge drum to make lots of noise as the spectators cheered on their teams.

Steve Harlow

“Phil was just simply a wonderful human being. Always willing to help anyone in the club, not a bad bone in his body and always wearing a big SMILE.

When my two daughters joined the club back in 2007 Phil seemed to be everywhere and wearing just so many Boldmere hats. My earliest memory of Phil was his huge club involvement in all Boldmere Opens, Club Champs, County and Midland championships. His organisational skills and attention to detail were just simply inspiring as a parent.

One of his many roles was Press Officer, which he handed over to myself, to his relief. But he always had time to cast an eye over my initial press reports in my early days, before letting the local press loose with them. I knew Phil would know if I had missed anybody out or an important record or fact. When Phil eventually became the club chairman the club couldn't have been in better hands, he was just a pleasure to work with and along side.

My lasting memory of Phil was seeing him up in the stands at Ponds Forge, at Boldmere's first National League Final, proudly waving one of the many Black & Red chequered flags he helped make. Always going the extra mile to put Boldmere on the swimming map and which helped the club win the Best

Supporters prize on the day. He was 'Mr. Boldmere' through and through, a remarkable volunteer and the club is truly indebted to him. RIP Phil.”

Andy Youngman

on behalf of the family (Suzy, James, Jordan & Jemma)

“I’m writing this note with a number of hats on. I first met Phil as a pupil at John Wilmott back in the 70s and was lucky enough to have Phil as my geography teacher. Despite the obvious difference in years, he had the knack of relating to all pupils as a ‘peer’, was firm but extremely fair. Even now I have vivid memories of many field trips away. I also had the dubious pleasure of sitting at the front of the coach having pushed Phil’s patience to the limit - it was soon forgotten though. Ironically, I am convinced that Phil expected us to push things to the limit - all a case of Phil helping us to grow up! He was a fantastic teacher and all together good egg!

Move on a few years and our paths crossed again, when all 3 of the Youngman clan joined Boldmere Swimming Club. There isn’t enough space here to list the things that Phil did for that club. As a chairman, timekeeper, Open Meet organiser, confidant, supporter and much, much more, he contributed enormously to Boldmere progressing to the point whereby it became one of the top clubs in the country. He loved Boldmere and nothing was ever too much to ask.

Lastly, the whole family knew Phil as a real friend. A devoted family man, he was always a pleasure to be with and a true gentleman. We’ll certainly never forget Phil Littler and are very proud to call him a great friend. All our love goes out to Di & Chris.

The Youngmans xx”