

Tenby Dolphins Continue Busy Schedule.

Since our last press report the swimmers of Tenby & District Swimming Club have continued their hectic schedule of swimming competitions.

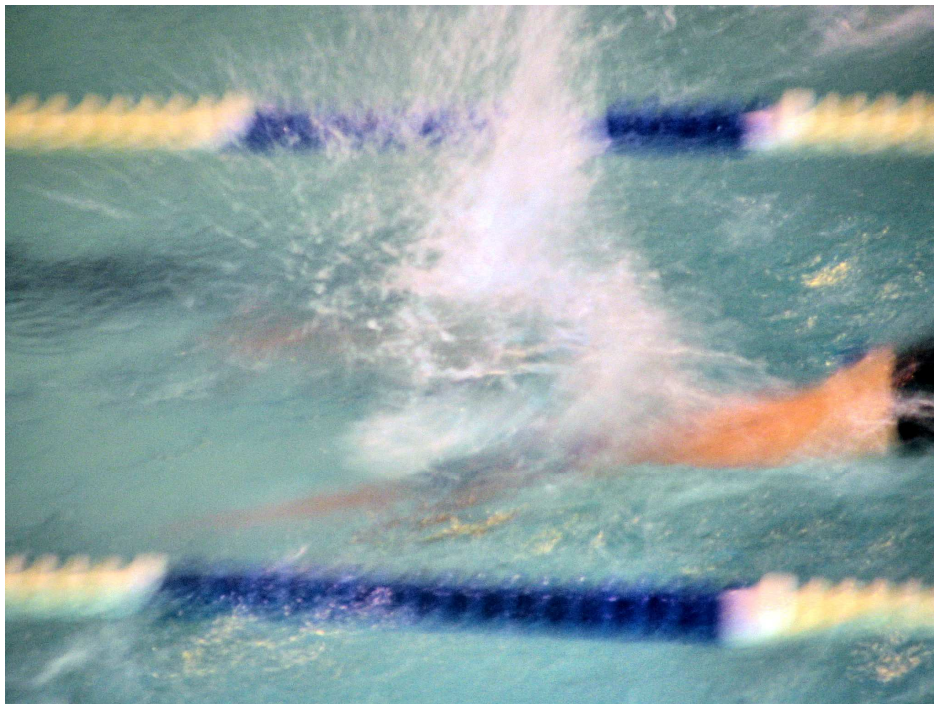
Over the past few weeks, we have had a mixture of club and school swimming events, and as we have come to expect the Tenby swimmers once again delivered a series of excellent results.

Competition Results.

The week after the Pembrokeshire Championships, on 4th November, a small group of swimmers headed to the Leisure Centre in Neath to take part in the inaugural Neath & Neath Valley Open Meet.

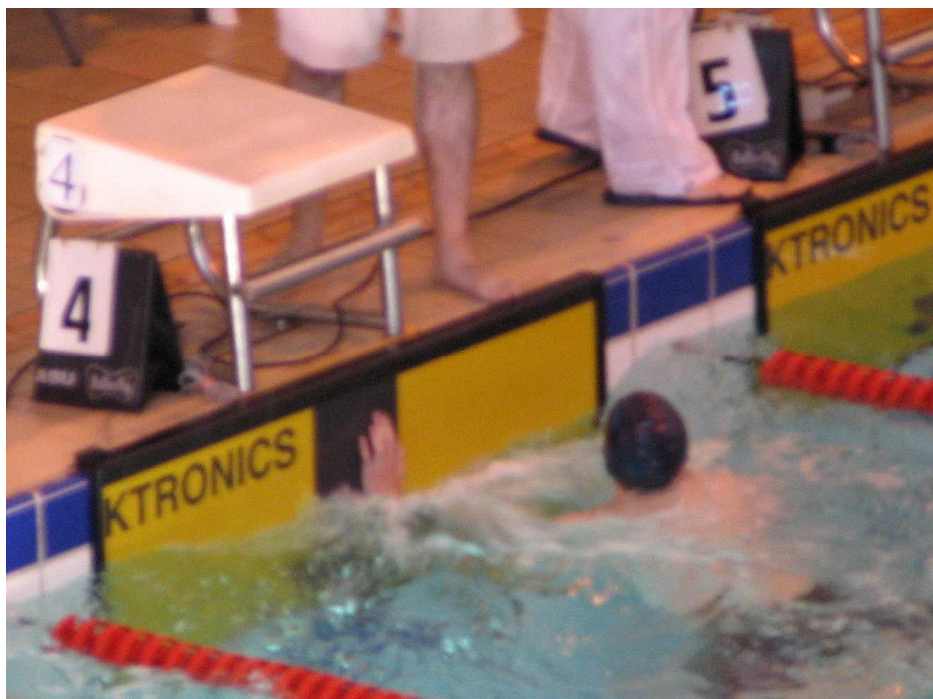
The Welsh Amateur Swimming Association is placing an emphasis on longer distance races for swimmers who have the potential to compete at a higher level, and this gala encompassed this new directive by including a series of age group 200m races for "development" swimmers, alongside a sprint competition and an Individual Medley final for 13 and under competitors.

Daniel Brown and Gemma Amos were out of age for the 13 and under sprint competition, so chose to concentrate on the longer races. Both produced some good results. Daniel had a very good day and won all four of the events he entered. i.e. 13-14yr 200m Freestyle, 100m Butterfly, 200m Backstroke and 200m Breaststroke. Gemma also picked up three silvers in the 14-15yr 100m Butterfly, 200m Backstroke and 200m Breaststroke.



Daniel Brown powering to victory in the 100m Butterfly at the Neath & Neath Valley Open Meeting.

Matt Davie and Eleri Canton competed in a mixture of 200m and sprint races. Eleri was up against some tough competition and finished just outside the medal positions setting three good new PB's along the way. Matt picked up a bronze in the 13-14yr 200m Backstroke, and 3 silver medals in the 13yr 50m Breaststroke, 50m Freestyle and 50m Butterfly. These together with a bronze in the 50m Backstroke gave him enough points to qualify for the 13yr boys IM final, where he had a great battle with eventual winner on his way to an overall silver medal.



Matt Davie touches in 2nd place at the end of the 100m IM Final at the Neath & Neath Valley Open Meeting.

The Neath open meeting was well supported by clubs from across the region and with the single day mixed event format is a good one to make a note of for next year.

At this time of year, the qualifying rounds for the annual Urdd swimming gala take place. There are county competitions for both Junior and Senior School swimmers where competitors represent their various schools in an attempt to qualify for the finals which take place at the WNP Swansea on January 27th 2007.

The Junior Schools competition took place at Pembroke Leisure Centre on 8th November, with the Year 5-6 pupils swimming in the morning session, and the Year 3-4 in the afternoon. This year the Pembrokeshire competition had a record entry of 337 swimmers, and the Tenby Club members represented their schools well.

The following club members will be going through to Swansea to compete for honours in individual events: Bethan Davie Yr 5-6 50m Breaststroke and 100m IM, Josh Thomas Yr 5-6 50m Freestyle, Hannah Saunders Yr 3-

4 25m Backstroke, Madison Vickery Yr 3-4 25m Breaststroke, Edward Hurlle Yr 3-4 25m Backstroke and Daniel Davies Yr 3-4 25m Breaststroke. Well done to all of you.

Those with individual success will not be alone in Swansea, because a whole host of our other members qualified as part of various school relay teams. Well done to you as well, and we look forward to reporting your progress in the finals in the New Year.

The senior schools Urdd final took place on 13th November at Fishguard, and Tenby was well represented. We do not have the results to hand at the time of going to press, but well done to all of you who made it through to the finals.

A Pembrokeshire Senior League gala was held in Tenby on the evening of 6th November, where teams from Tenby, Milford, Haverfordwest and Pembroke battled for honours. There were some good races throughout the evening, and despite not having it entirely their own way, Tenby were the overall winners.

Since 5th October a series of qualifying competitions have been taking place leading up to the Inter Area Welsh Secondary Schools swimming gala finals which were held in the WNP Swansea on Friday 17th November.

The competition started with a Pembrokeshire qualification round on 5th October, followed by a Dyfed team selection gala at Aberystwyth on 17th October. Many local swimmers competed, but due to the wide age bands it is a difficult competition in which to progress. The only Tenby members making it through to represent Dyfed at the finals this year were Andrew James and Johnnie Delahunty. Andrew finished 3rd in the Yr 10-11 100m Breaststroke and 4th in the open 200m Breaststroke against some tough competition, and Johnnie came home in 7th place in the Yr 7-9 Freestyle setting a good long course PB along the way.

On Sunday 19th November the annual relay gala for the Tudor Shield was held in Pembroke. Teams from Pembroke, Milford Haven, Haverfordwest and Tenby competed.

A wide variety of relay races were held across a spectrum of age ranges for boys, girls and mixed teams. Tenby had picked a strong team, and cruised to victory in 39 of the 41 events held. To be fair, the other clubs do not have the depth of talent across the age ranges that are available to Tenby, and despite having some very gifted swimmers they do find it difficult to put together genuinely competitive relay teams in every age group. Nevertheless, they battled hard and in some of the races the results were a close run thing. Senior Swimmers take note, as a matter of courtesy to the other clubs we expect you to put in 100% effort in the races you have been selected to take part in even though it may seem that the outcome is something of a foregone conclusion!

Forthcoming Events.

The year is drawing to an end, but we have a few more exciting events to squeeze in:

Sat 2nd / Sun 3rd Dec
Evening of Mon 4th.

Tenby Club Championships.
ALL SWIMMERS TO ENTER.

Saturday 9th Dec.

Speedo League Round Three. (The Finals) (University of Bath - 12:30pm). At the moment Pembrokeshire are joint leaders of the Western Region Division 1. It is going to be a major battle with 7 other teams including Barnstable, City of Newport, City of Cardiff B and West Dorset Warriors. If the Pembrokeshire team can finish in the top two places at this gala, they will gain promotion to the Premier Division which would be a major achievement. Ann Adams will be trying to select the strongest possible Pembrokeshire Squad, so please check notice board for selection info. Parents, friends, etc... please try to find time to go along and support the team this time as this is a very big occasion for Pembrokeshire swimming!!

Sat 16th /Sun 17th Dec.

Swim Wales Winter Open Meet. WNP Swansea. Entries closed. Good luck to those who have entered.

Friday 22nd Dec.

Dolphins Christmas Party and Prize Giving. (Saundersfoot Sports Club. 7:00pm)

Club News

All the recent galas have given our swimmers every opportunity to set many new PB's (personal best times).

As a result, we are pleased to report that Sophie Arthur achieved the Pembrokeshire Development Squad qualifying time at the recent Urdd Senior Gala in Fishguard. Well done Sophie!

Sydney Vickery had a fine 100m Backstroke race at the Pembrokeshire Championships and has also achieved the necessary time to join the Pembrokeshire Squad if she chooses. Well done to you too Syd! (Go on give it a go it's only an extra 4 hours a week!)