

Great Results for Tenby Swimmers at Urdd National Championships.

On Saturday 27th January, a large group of swimmers from various Pembrokeshire schools made their way to the National Pool in Swansea to compete in the 2006-2007 National Urdd Swimming Gala. Both the Senior School and Junior School swimmers produced some excellent results, with the Tenby Dolphins contingent bringing home the lions share of the medals for their various schools.

The previous weekend we had a small representation at the Swansea Valley Sprint Meet at Pontadawe, and on 29th January there was a Pembrokeshire Junior league meet at Tenby.

Competition Results.

The Wales National Pool was the venue for the Urdd Finals on 27th January. The day was split so that the Senior Schools swam in the morning, and the Junior Schools took to the water in the afternoon and early evening.

Representing their various schools, the Dolphins swimmers who were individual medal winners on the day for the senior schools were:

Daniel Brown, 1st Yr 9/10 Freestyle, 3rd Yr 9/10 Butterfly; Jack Lear, 3rd Yr 7/8 Breaststroke; Andrew James, 1st Yr 9/10 Breaststroke, 2nd Yr 9/10 200m IM; Lewys Canton, 1st Yr 9/10 Backstroke; Coral Lewis, 3rd Yr 9/10 Butterfly.

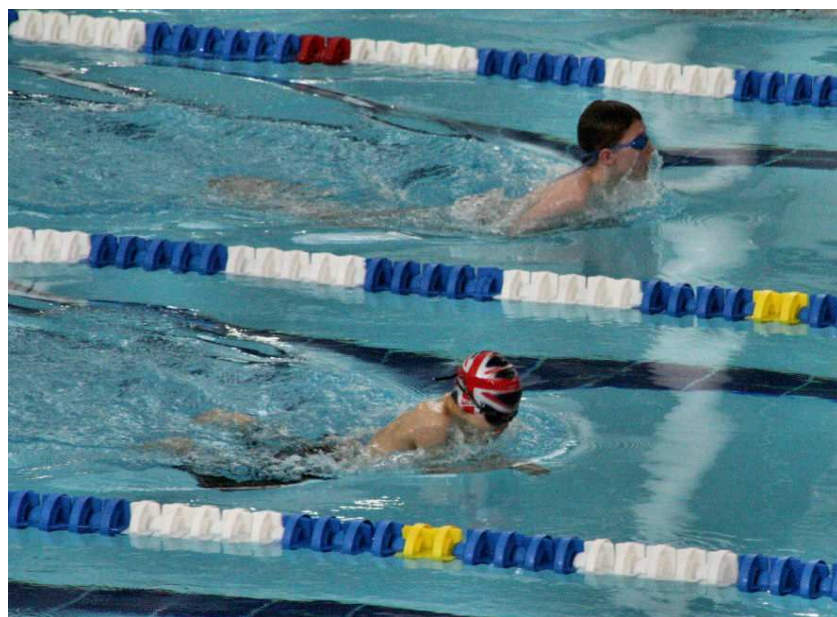


Andrew James representing Greenhill (not Bristol!) on his way Gold in the Urdd National Swimming Championship Finals.

A large number of our other swimmers picked up medals in the various relay events, where Greenhill had a very successful outing. A special mention for Ex-Dolphin Meg Lear, who stepping in at the last minute set the fastest time of any of the Tenby swimmers in her Freestyle relay race despite not having been in training for a couple of years! A bit of a wasted talent there Meg. Come out of retirement we need you!

The Junior Schools swimmers also had a good day. The individual medal winners from Dolphins in this category were:

Daniel Davies, 1st Yr 3/4 Breaststroke; Madison Vickery, 1st Yr 3/4 Breaststroke; Hannah Saunders, 1st Yr 3/4 Backstroke; Bethan Davie, 1st Yr 5/6 Breaststroke.



Daniel Davies (nearest camera) powering to Gold in the Year 3/4 Boys 50m Breaststroke at the Urdd National Swimming Championship Finals.



Hannah Saunders, Madison Vickery, Molly Spencer and Lydia Dilks who won a Year 3/4 relay Gold at the Urdd National Finals in Swansea.

As with the Senior Schools, well done to our other swimmers who made it to the finals as part of relay teams, many of whom came away with a collection of medals.

For those parents who suffered as a consequence of the massive turnout of swimmers and spectators in the afternoon, you will be pleased to learn that the program has been rearranged for next year to ease the crowding. The event will start with Year 3/4 swimmers, followed by Yr 5/6 and then the senior schools. The other difference being that the Yr 5/6 competitors will swim Long Course 50m races which should make things interesting!

The previous weekend, Gemma Amos and Elliot Hoad flew-the-flag for Tenby at the Swansea Valley Sprint meet at Pontadawe. Both of them were rewarded for their efforts with Elliot picking up a silver medal in the boys 10yrs 50m Breaststroke, and Gemma winning silver medals in the girls 14yrs 50m Butterfly, 50m Freestyle and 200m Individual Medley. The results also show that they set a few new PB's as well. Nice one!

Our younger competitive swimmers have also been in action representing the club at a Pembrokeshire Junior Gala against Haverfordwest which was held in Tenby on 29th January.

This was just a one hour local gala, and the ideal opportunity for the youngsters to hone their skills early in the season. Those selected for the event were:

Ffion Davies, Gareth Davie, Talia Merriman, Luke Dedoncker, Jade Rowell, Myles Johnson, Sofia Scrivens, Billy Kinnear, Kiera Slack, Billy Truman, Rebecca James, Nicholas Allen, Madison Vickery, Daniel Davies, Jessica Wainwright, Edward Hurle, Hannah Saunders, Tom Kinnear, Jacob Knox, Ross Scrivens, Sarah Davies, Adam Muskett, Georgia Poole, Daniel Evans, Chloe Rees, Niamh Slack, Hari Truman.

We are pleased to report that Tenby won this gala, as indeed they did on 3rd February, when the first round of the 2007 Dyfed League was held at Tenby.

This time our full squad was up against strong teams from Carmarthen, Aberaeron and Haverfordwest. Aberaeron and Carmarthen have some Regional Squad standard swimmers in their teams, and Haverfordwest also have some very accomplished individuals. Consequently there was some prodigious swimming talent on display. Tenby had a ding-dong battle with Carmarthen all the way through the evening but eventually, after a thrilling competition we won by just 10 points. Well done everyone!

Our squad for the evening comprised:

Daniel Davies, Jessica Wainwright, Madison Vickery, Billy Truman, Ffion Davies, Nicholas Allen, Kiera Slack, Gareth Davie, Niamh Slack, Elliot Hoad, Hari Truman, Henrik Jaakola, Elinor Wainwright, Daniel Evans, Casie Paxton, Alex Thomas, Rebekah Gwyther, Edward James, Jade Thomas, Sydney Vickery, Lloyd Delahunty, Bethan Davie, Samu Jaakola,

Eleri Canton, Sam Lewis, Eleanor Brown, Henry Whittaker, Josh Thomas, Dominic Ciccotti, Gemma Amos, Jack Lear, Elena Ciccotti, Nathan Clarke, Heather Whittaker, Matt Davie, Lewys Canton, Coral Lewis, Carl Amos, Sophie Stanford, Mike Nicholas, Holly Watkin Rees, Matthew Brown, Sophie Arthur, Matthew Veale, Andrew James, Daniel Brown.

(Apologies if your name does not appear in the above lists. There were a few late changes).

Head Coach John Amos was delighted with the teams performance at both the local galas. It was noted that Carmarthen turned up with a stronger team than usual on the 3rd, with only a few of their "star" swimmers not making the trip. Lets hope we can repeat the performance at the finals in March.

We are pleased with the swimmers response to our request that they get back into wearing the club kit at representative galas. Just about everyone remembered to bring their club hats on Saturday. You all looked very smart! This is going to be the norm for all club galas in future, so please don't forget.

Forthcoming Events

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| 15-18 th Feb. | West Wales Champs. Penlan, Swansea. |
| 24-25 th Feb. | West Wales Champs. Penlan, Swansea. Entries closed.
Good luck everyone! |
| 10-11 th March | Llanelli Open Meet. Good quality event suitable for many of our swimmers. (Entries now closed). |
| 17 th March | Dyfed Senior League Round 2 ages 9+ |
| 31 st March | Dyfed Senior League Final ages 9+, Llanelli |

Club News

We have a good sized entry for the West Wales Championships. For those of you who have not made the trip previously, please ask if you need any advice regarding travel, what to do when you get there, etc., etc..

If you have been selected for relay at West Wales, please remember to wear your club hats. The spectators need to know who to cheer for!