

Parker and Dempster Make Midlands Finals

Well done to all the Leamington swimmers competing as part of Team Mercia in Coventry in the Midlands Age Group Championships. Superb performances from all the age groupers earned a total of 23 PB's, two finalists' places and the possibility of the boys, medley relay team, competing in the National Championships in July.

Twelve year old Teigan Parker's magnificent form saw her set new personal bests in all eight of her races and with a fantastic display in the 200m breaststroke Teigan was rewarded with a well-deserved place in the final.

A late swim on the Saturday night saw Felicity Dempster,13, racing in the 800m freestyle recording 9.46.57. Returning to the pool the following day, Felicity swam in the 200m freestyle heats, cutting over a second from her best time to 2.15.09, causing Felicity to make a quick 'U' turn from home, back to the pool, following a late call up for the final. Felicity also secured further pb's in the 400m free and 200m individual medley.

Fellow team mate Georgia Kidd,14, had a superb performance in the 400m free slashing four seconds off her entry time and nipping over a second off her 200m freestyle. Both Felicity and Georgia made up half the 'A' team in the 4 x 200m and 4 x 100m freestyle relays. The girls also had blistering final legs in the 100m medley team, Felicity again for the 'A' team and Georgia representing the 'B', both recording 1.04.

Megan Stanton,11, qualified for three events gaining new times in both the 100m free and 200m backstroke while Kieran Curran,12, took to the long course pool swimming in the 100m backstroke for the first time in over a year in the 100m backstroke logging a great 1.16.78.

A Storming display from fourteen year olds Finn Linton and Harry Manship in the 200 Individual Medley drove both lads pbs down, Finn ripped 4 seconds off his to 2.28.66 and Harry tore three seconds from his to 2.30.21. Finn also lowered his 100m backstroke time and Harry registered new times in the 100m free and the 200m free with 2.12.96.

The dynamic duo also played vital parts in the relay teams, swimming in the 100m freestyle Harry helped the 'A' team to eighth place, while Finn was joined by Jack Dennis supporting the 'B' team. Jack also helped the 'B' team in the medley relay.

Finn and Harry both had exceptional legs in the 4 x 100m medley relay which could see them representing Team Mercia in Sheffield at the National Championships. At the moment the team are lying as first reserves. If they don't quite make it, then blind folds to the ready, as Head Coach Terry Freeman, was so convinced the boys would reach the Nationals he bet, if they didn't, he would strip off at the next Team Mercia training session and swim a length of the pool! You had better start on the press ups Terry, just in case.