

Second Club Gala

A packed balcony bubbled with excitement as the tension mounted for the second club gala of 2014.

Two events were on offer for the younger age groups. Eight and nine year olds competing in 1 length backstroke and either 1 length free for the eight's or butterfly for the nine's.

Josephine Rathbone and Lottie Jordan produced a double one two in the girls races with third place in the freestyle going to Amelia Wiggin. In the backstroke three swimmers battled for a place on the podium, separated by only a few tenths but Grace Lee snatched bronze by her fingertips.

An evenly matched George Gloster, Isaac Morison and Charlie MacKenzie produced a gripping finish with just three tenths splitting the three. George just having the advantage touching first, with Isaac nicking second from Charlie. Charlie gained another bronze in the backstroke but this time Isaac claimed first place just ahead of George.

Emily Newton took gold in the backstroke with the closest of margins between Francesca Marshall in second and Mia Eatwell for third. Francesca edged ahead of Emily in the butterfly with Mia collecting another bronze. Jason Herbert cruised to victory in both events gaining a three second lead in the backstroke. James Selley in second with Tom Wilkinson hot on his heels for third place. In the fly Joseph Deavall claimed second with Tom taking another third.

The longer fifty metre races for the 10 ten category worked in Harrison's favour earning him gold in both events with George Hughes taking two silvers. Tom Lee-Brown came third in the back and Louis McAuliffe third in the fly.

Nothing separated the girls, the top three all needed to dig deep producing new personal bests. Imogen Hodge clinched first place in the backstroke with a five second pb squeezing Maddison into second followed by Natasha Selley. Another exciting finish in the butterfly, Natasha clung on for gold with Maddison spookily recording 41.6 in both races for silver and Fiona Hall taking third.

A touch of Deja vu in the 11-12 age group as Ronnie Harvey, Freddie Quelch and Adam Gray finishing in first second and third in both events.

The girls event wasn't so clear cut, all three top places recorded a great time of 34 point, Carys Eadon just pinching gold from Molly Quelch (2nd) and Abby Jolley (3rd). Carys claimed her another gold in the backstroke event with Abby finishing just ahead of Molly in third place.

The older age groups 13/14 and 15/16 contend with the 100m breast, 100m free and the 200mIM. Teigan Parker made light work of the 100m breaststroke cruising into first place some six seconds ahead of second placed Mollie Dibb. Bronze was snatched on the touch by two hundredths of a second for Lily O'Brien confirming her present good form before securing silver in both the IM and freestyle events with Sarah Chapman gaining both bronze places. Teigan took gold in all events for a clean sweep.

Kieran Curran's decision to enter just two events that were on offer paid dividends with two golds in the 200m IM and 100m freestyle. Aran Shuttlewood secured silver in both adding gold in the breaststroke ahead of Luke Williams in second and Edward Jolly for third. Edward also took third place in the IM.

Cruising to victory and making the distances look easy in the 200m breaststroke and IM was fifteen year old Harry Manship. A fast and furious 50m freestyle saw the three top boys all tucking under the minute mark with Harry taking his third gold, Phillip Warren second and Nick Payne in third. Nick

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went onto to secure silver in the IM and BR with Taylor Connell taking third in the IM and Phillip claimed bronze for the breaststroke.

Ruby O'Brien kept a tight rein on her races clinching a hat trick of gold, Jessica Nash following closely behind in both the 200m IM and 100m free. Georgia claimed third place in both the free and 200m IM but went one better in the breaststroke event earning silver.

No surprising that Ellen Stone was number one in the breaststroke, the Warwickshire and Midland Champion gave the younger members of the club a master class in technique and speed. Ellen also dominated the IM with an impressive twenty second lead over second place Hannah Pickett and another gold in the freestyle with Hannah gaining a further silver.

Husband and wife duo were the only master's swimmer brave enough to take on the 100m freestyle. A great performance from the older age group confirming swimming is a skill for life.