

SWIMMING ROUND-UP

Plethora of podiums as Orcas shine again

BOLDMERE Swimming Club's A team triumphed in a nail-biting second Nuneaton and District Junior League meet of the year at Redditch.

They won on 253 points, ahead of Redditch on 245. Boldmere took 47 top three places in the 51 events, with 17 wins and 24 personal bests.

The 9-year boys did well with podiums for Jamie Dark (25m breaststroke silver) Acer Woolley (25m fly gold) and Ben Smith (gold in 25m freestyle and backstroke).

The 9-year girls also swam strongly - Mollie Goldstone (25m breaststroke bronze), girls' gala star Abbey Turnbull (25m fly silver and 25m freestyle gold) and Holly Bloor (25m backstroke gold).

In the 10-year group, Lilly Wood won the 50m free and came second in the breaststroke. Alexandra Bartley was third in the 50m backstroke and second in the fly.

Boys' gala star James Goodwin took silvers in 50m fly and free while Toby Chiles was third in the 50m breaststroke and Jack Bateman was second in the 50m back.

The 11-year-old girls gave another sterling effort with

Stella-Anne O'Hehir taking silver in the 50m fly and freestyle, while Aristeia Knight took 50m breaststroke silver.

The boys did well too - via Roan Griffiths (50m backstroke silver), Leo Karski (50m fly bronze), Leighton Palmer-Whyte (50m breaststroke silver) and Taleb Givans (50m freestyle silver).

The 12-year girls shone too. Lauren Wall was third in both 50m backstroke and freestyle while Kate Davies was third in the 50m breaststroke.

For the boys, Matt Price won both the 50m backstroke and freestyle, while Tom Bloor claimed silver in both the 50m fly and breaststroke.

Also in Div One, Boldmere B finished sixth at Halesowen against A squads from Wyre Forest, Braunstone, Chase, Leicester and the hosts.

Tom Sherriff (9-yr breaststroke), Chloe Weideman (12-yr back) and Stephanie Detheridge (10-yr breaststroke) picked up third places as did Ryan Andrews (12-yr fly) and Jack Dobson (11-year back).

Archie Langston won the 12-year boys' backstroke and then joined Dobson, Andrews and Sam Morris to claim

third in the 12-year boys' freestyle and medley relays.

Gala stars Matthew Green and Madeline Van Loan both made strong contributions in the relays.

In Division 3, Boldmere C were on home turf at Wyndley with 25 personal bests, three wins and eight second places to finish fourth overall.

The individual wins came from Cesca Goode in the 10-yr 25m fly and Gibbsa Bah in the boys' 12-yr 50m breaststroke.

The girls' 12-yr medley relay foursome of Zoe Kempson, Bonita Deathridge, Jemma Youngman and Jessica Millington got the other win.

Second places came from Youngman (12-yr 50m fly), Cenk Balu (12-yr 50m butterfly and freestyle), Zara Chatfield (11-yr 50m backstroke), Deathridge (12-yr 50m breaststroke), Lewis Myers (11-yr 50m breaststroke) and Charlotte Fellows (11-yr 50m free).

Also with a second place were the 9-yr boys' freestyle relay squad of Kieran Hassan, Matthias Johnson, Charlie Giblin and Jayden Reid.

Stars of the Gala awards went to 10-year-olds Niamh Rooney and Ross Walker.

Perry Beeches and Sutton Swim Squad's Diddy Team were in formidable form last Saturday night. The team secured a string of victories in the second round Diddy gala at Nuneaton's Pingles Pool. Jessica Deans won the 50m freestyle for the 10-and-under age group. The 11-and-under

girls relay team won both the freestyle and medley relays. Danya Gaddu won the 11-and-under 50m backstroke, Eloise Duce won both the 11 and 12-year 50m breaststroke races and Pia Tonks won the 11 and under butterfly. Other winners were the girls 12-and-under freestyle and medley relays

and Sancha Tonks who won the 11-and-under 50m freestyle race. Finally, the girls 8x1 relay team won their race convincingly. For more details about joining Perry Beeches, call Mandy Blizzard on 07793 560698. Pictured (l-r) are Danya, Pia, Eloise and Sancha.



Hasna's happy with School Games gold

By **JAMIE HOLT**
Sports reporter

SUTTON Coldfield swimmer Hasna Hakim insists her gold at the Sainsbury's School Games is the latest milestone on the road to being a future Paralympian.

The 13-year-old won the girls' multi-disability 100m freestyle with a time of 1:16.76 minutes in a gruelling day of events at the London Aquatics Centre that she admits almost got the better of her.

With the likes of Rebecca Adlington and Ellie Simmonds set to shine at the London 2012 venue in less than three months the pressure of performing on the big stage is something Hakim is still getting used to.

But the Holyhead School pupil, who also swam a bronze in the 100m breaststroke, believes she can take



Perry Beeches and Sutton Swim Squad's Hasna Hakim won gold

confidence from her gold medal success.

"I was very, very surprised but I feel like I'm getting a bit more used to it now," said Hakim.

"Every time I go to a competition it seems to just get better. I was falling asleep before the race and I was saying to myself 'please don't sleep', and when they wanted us to go out to race I was dreading it.

"I just thought I'd give it my best shot and it was great to come out and win, but I was very surprised with how well I did."

Having already competed at the Aquatics Centre in the

British Swimming Championships in March Hakim now has some vital experience under her belt.

The Perry Beeches & Sutton Swim Club member swam a personal best in the 100m freestyle in her last visit to London and admits her form has taken her aback.

"I wasn't really expecting a lot from the competition," she added. "I have been getting quite a lot of personal bests so I thought maybe this time it won't happen."

"But I was very prepared but quite nervous. During the day I wasn't that nervous though."

The Sainsbury's 2012 School Games was held at the Olympic Park and other venues from 6-9 May with school-aged elite athletes competing across 12 sports. Visit www.2012schoolgames.com for details.



Gala stars Niamh Rooney, Abbey Turnbull, Madeleine van Loan, Matthew Green, James Goodwin and Ross Walker. Pic by Steve Harlow

Vesey double dreams dashed

RUGBY UNION

VESEYANS RFC 16 DROITWICH 27

North Midlands Shield Final

VESEYANS' dreams of a league and cup double were shattered by Droitwich on Sunday.

The Midlands Three West North champions battled valiantly but were unable to take home the trophy as Droitwich defended their title at Dudley, winning 27-16.

After a nail-biting opening 15 minutes, where both teams battled for dominance, a penalty offence in the ruck by Droitwich gave the Vs the first opportunity to put points on the scoreboard.

Full back Matt Poulton stepped up and kicked the three points giving the Veseyans a slender lead.

The Vs continued to apply attacking pressure playing all of the rugby in the opposition half but Droitwich defended solidly and managed to score a breakaway try.

The score was converted and Droitwich added a penalty to move into a 10-3 lead.

The Vs kept their cool and continued to apply pressure which paid off shortly before half time as expansive backs play found lightning quick winger Ryan Brunnsden who beat his man and set up Poulton to crash over the line to make it 10-8 at half time.

The second half started with end to end action as both teams threatened to score.

Both managed to kick penalties, meaning Droitwich maintained their two point lead.

Droitwich were then awarded a penalty try for a technical infringement.

This marked the start of a period of dominance for Droitwich and they finally added another try to move 27-10 ahead with ten minutes left.

Vs fought back with their typical quick rugby and slick handling from winger Rob Cooper put Matt Hipkiss over for an outstanding try to bag his side a consolation.

Talented trio make a splash at national championships

SAILING

SUTTON sailors have enjoyed a busy schedule of competitive sailing in recent weeks.

The Pwhelli Yacht Club was host to the 2012 Royal Yachting Association Youth National Championships with Callum Healey and brothers Matt and

Dan Venables competing in the 73 boat 29er fleet.

The talented trio enjoyed some exciting racing in the very changeable conditions.



Matt Venables, from Fairfax School, sailing with Will Alloway, qualified for Gold Fleet after a two day qualification series

The pair, who are members of the 29er National squad, sailed an impressive race series, winning one race in the Gold Fleet.

Going into the last day, they were lying seventh but climbed the leader board to finish fourth overall.

Healey, alongside Andrew Kilburn, also had a good championship, finishing 24th overall with a top five result in the qualification series.

Dan Venables, aged 14, from Bishop Vesey qualified for the Silver Fleet and recorded a race win to finish 49th overall.

Dan who is still concentrating on his junior Topper sailing will be transferring into Youth sailing at the end of the season.

Left: Sutton sailor Matt Venables qualified for the Gold Fleet at Pwhelli.