

## County Championships continue for Street swimmers



The penultimate weekend of the ASA Somerset 2018 county championships saw Street & District continue to show their strength in depth.

First up was the gruelling 400m individual medley, a test of sprint-endurance and technique in all four strokes. Erica Varney bravely took on the event and agonisingly just missed out on a medal, with new long course PB placing her 4<sup>th</sup>.

The boys then took on the 200m freestyle, and there were superb swims from Harvey Pike who won another superb gold, by a whisker, and Fin Hunter-Clarke and Jake Fouracres who both made their respective finals. It was also a fine event for Alfie Hawkins and George Pester who both claimed new PBs. Will Bale, Rob Hall, Bobby Clark and Sean Robinson also competed well.

A large contingent swam the 100m breaststroke, with finals for Eve Chagger-Goode (5<sup>th</sup>), Tegan Lawton (8<sup>th</sup>), Ruby Varney (4<sup>th</sup>), Annabel Drudge (6<sup>th</sup> & PB), Cora Lanham (5<sup>th</sup> & PB), Kayleigh Parker and Georgia Hill (4<sup>th</sup>). There were also PBs for Varney, Lanham and Katie Waters. Strong efforts came from Isabel Waller, Niamh Robinson, Amy Lawton, Emily Trotman, Yasmin Mahey, Erica Varney, Jess Edwards, Chloe Manser and Ellie Strudwick.

Harvey Pike then made the final for the 100m butterfly, where he took bronze to add to his medal haul, whilst Ethan Difford just missed out on a final, but gained a new PB. Albert Tidball-Zapp, Rob Hall, Sam Bonds and Rob White also put in fine efforts.

The girls then took on the fly, over the 50m sprint. Ruby made the Final and took a stunning silver, with Tegan a fine 7<sup>th</sup> in her final. There was a clutch of PBs for Kayla Pike, Chloe M. and Jess Gerrard. Strong Street performances also came from Isabel, Lois Engelbrecht, Eve, Lydia Presdee, Annabel, Chloe Bott, Cora, Amy, Emily, Jess E., Yasmin, Erica, Georgia and Imogen.

It was oh so close for the two mixed medley teams, both finishing 4<sup>th</sup>, so Toby, Cora, Ruby and Ethan (U-14s) and Joanna, Rob, Sam and Jess E (15 & O) all just missing out on a podium spot.

Day 5 started with a big turn out for Street in the 200m breaststroke. Leading the charge and continuing her superb counties, was Ruby – picking up a silver medal in the afternoons final. Other finalists included Beth Dallimore, who just missed out on a medal in 4<sup>th</sup> – a feat equalled by Georgia in the Open category. Annabel (5<sup>th</sup>), Tegan (6<sup>th</sup>) and Erica (8<sup>th</sup>) all swam to final spots in tough competition. PBs fell to young Mckenzie Finn, Isabel, Emily, and there were good swims from Eve, Niamh, Amy, Yasmin, Katie, Chloe M and Ellie.

The boys then took on the 200m backstroke, with Alfie hitting a big PB to make 7<sup>th</sup> place in the final. Alex Rendall also bagged a final spot, whilst Fin just missed out on increasing his medal haul, with 4<sup>th</sup>. Toby, Will, Ethan and Sean all put in good swims.

The girls 100m freestyle provided another final spot for Ruby, whilst Lois led the charge for PBs – along with Tegan, Isabel, Annabel, Kaylee, Kayla and Jess H. Eve, Jess E, Erica, Chloe M, Imogen, Georgia and Joanna were all just off their best times.

Fin sped through the field to claim silver in the 50m backstroke, with team mate Harvey also amongst the medals again, with bronze. In his last competitive swim for the club Alex also made the final, a fine swansong to his time with Street whilst Alfie achieved another PB. Ethan finished top 10, whilst Toby, Will, Albert, Sam, Rob H and Rob W also swam well.

Harvey continued his gold rush, this time with a huge PB in the 400m freestyle, whilst team mates Charlie C (6<sup>th</sup>), Bobby (11<sup>th</sup>) and Sean (12<sup>th</sup>) were all able to put in strong swims.

There was agony for the over 15s mixed freestyle relay (Herbie, Georgia, Rob H and Joanna), as they finished in 4<sup>th</sup> spot. 5<sup>th</sup> place was achieved by the under 14s squad (Ethan, Kayla, Ruby and Toby) in a strong field.

A spokesperson for the club said, “It is the youngsters who are leading the medal haul for Street, but it is also very encouraging to see all the swimmers competing so well across all the strokes and age groups. Special mention must go to the relays this week, who all came so close to medals and to our departing swimmer, Alex, who has been with the club since he was about 4 years old. We wish him all the best in the future and he is welcome to come back anytime.”

Street swimmers are back in action at the final weekend of the County Championships next weekend.

**Photos:** Dynamic duo of Harvey and Fin, amongst the medals again at the Somerset ASA County Championships 2018