

## Streets' Swimmers Compete At National Summer Championships



An elite few of the Street and District swimming club took on the best of British over the last few weeks, with swimmers competing at British, English and Welsh championships.

Starting off with the British Summer Championships, Street duo Kayleigh Parker and Harriet Watts both swam storming PBs in their respective events and made finals.

First stop was Ponds Forge in Sheffield and Kayleigh was first up and smashed her PB in the 200m breaststroke, to qualify in 4<sup>th</sup> spot. Sadly she couldn't reproduce her performance but still claimed a creditable 8<sup>th</sup> spot in her age group. Harriet then replicated her clubmates performance by storming to a PB in the 100m backstroke heats and went through to the final where she too bagged an excellent 8<sup>th</sup> place, just half a second off the pace set by the winner.

The action then moved outside as Jessica Hudson took on the gruelling 3km race in the British Open water summer championships. Inclement weather postponed the event by a day but Jess battled her way to a creditable 20<sup>th</sup> out of the 43 swimmers, having recently clinched the Somerset county title this was a fine end to her season.

Back in the pool, the competition switched to the English national finals week, and Jake Mowbray swam a fine 200m butterfly but narrowly missed a top 10 spot.

Street also had a trio of swimmers competing at the Welsh Open meet in Swansea. Leading the way was young Ruby Varney, accompanied by Georgia Hill and Herbie Hallett. Ruby had a roller-coaster week, experiencing some highs and lows but her competition started with a superb PB in the 200m breaststroke, but then went one better by swimming a PB in the 100m breaststroke heats and then smashing the Club record in the final to claim a brilliant bronze medal. Ruby also competed well in the 50m butterfly and 200m backstroke. Saving the best for last by winning her second bronze of the week, Ruby showcased her endurance as well as speed and superb technique over all four competitive strokes by then getting a superb PB in the gruelling 400m individual medley, an event consisting of 100m of breaststroke, backstroke, butterfly and freestyle.

Georgia Hill made the journey across to Swansea to take part in her favoured 50m breaststroke. Seeded fourth, Georgia swam close to her PB to gain a spot in the final and agonisingly just missed out on her own medal, by finishing in fourth spot. Finally, Herbie Hallett took on the 100m freestyle event and just missed his PB by 0.05s, but finished in a creditable 10<sup>th</sup> place.

A club spokesperson said, "This has been a frantic couple of weeks to end a long season. Kayleigh and Harriet were racing at the pinnacle of the domestic competition level, and it was pleasing to see both PB on the big stage. Jessica swam a really good race in a very tough event and should look back at the race with great pride. Jake swam very well but the margins are so small at this level, so he can take great heart from his efforts. Both Georgia and Herbie were just off their best and again at this level, that is the difference between a medal or final or not. As for Ruby, well what a sensational few days for her, two superb medals to end a really progressive season for her. We all now look forward to a few weeks break before training resumes next month."

*Picture: Ruby showing off her bronze medal from the 400m individual medley.*