



Jo's April Blog

It has been a while since my last monthly blog that I have posted with a review of the Club's news and achievements and updates on projects & developments so here is my one for April.

On the Coaching front we have welcomed on board Ben Jelley who has taken on the coaching of the Blue Achievers Squad. Ben took these for a month whilst he was home from University over the Easter Period but is currently back in Loughborough finishing off his degree before returning to Coventry to continue on a permanent basis with the Blues. I wish Ben all the success with this group and hope the swimmers are looking forward to his return in June.

On the competition front April has been a busy month for all levels of the club. Club members have been competing at the Birmingham & Rugby Open Meet where the Club won the Top Visiting Club Awards. Congratulations to the huge amount of swimmers who swam to life time personal best times and to those who swam Regional & National Times. April has also seen the start of the Junior League season and, although both teams were not as strong as they could have been both has started off strongly with the Nuneaton team finishing in Second and the Leicester Team finishing in fourth. Please can I ask that you check the notice board and tick/cross off your names for the next round. The big news for the club on the International Level is the news of confirmation of James Burden's selection to the GB European Junior Team that will compete in Prague in July. James will be joined by Cameron Brodie who trains with us through the holidays when he is home from Kelly College. Congratulations to James & Cameron on this selection. James also attended an English Development Level 3 Camp in Greece for the week of Easter and received his first experiences of racing outdoors & in a foreign Country with foreign Starters!

On the club front this month I have attended a West Midlands Regional Meeting and been involved in discussions at Regional Level, I have also met with the Sports Trust & Region and helped to develop and evolve the Pathways group and also met with the Trust to finalise venues for land work which I can now say are all sorted. The School's project that I have reported on before which I was working was successful in securing funding and this is due to start in September.

Jo Deakins
Director of Coaching
City of Coventry Swimming Club

April Gala Reports

Nuneaton Junior League

Report by Ruth Jelley

The Nuneaton Junior League Team had their first round gala at Walsall on April 25th. Despite being down a few swimmers due to the holidays, the team managed to come a creditable second with 204 points just in front of Wyre Forest who obtained 191 points. Leicester Penguins won the round with 259 points. There were some impressive individual and relays swims topped off with an excellent team spirit. Special mention goes to Zoe Wilson, Fay Wilson, Madeleine Harper, Abbi Cameron, Bailey Connell, Rihon Scullion, Luke Wyman, Kyle Palmer, Taylor Connell, Kelton Aldridge and Connor Connell who were all swimming their first Diddy League gala for Coventry.

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Midland Youth Qualifying Times

Congratulations to the following swimmers who have all achieved the qualifying times for entry into the Midland Youth Championships being held at Coventry on the 2nd and 3rd May. Well done and good luck to them all.

Alex Hammond
Lauren Hawthorn
Matt Wolstenholme
Bethany Hammond
Grace Williams-Brown
Shane Faul
Charlotte Cheshire
Kathryn Bilic
Ben Ryder
Jennifer Todd
Adam Brear
Meredith Lynn
Sean Asher
Emma Sansby
Zachary Jelley
John Ayde
Lucy Hall
Ryan Morris
Abbie Brown
Mark Branch
James Burden
Charlotte Graham
Sam Wallen
Christopher Young
Daniel Rossiter
Rikki Morris
Joseph Jelley

Competitive Start Awards

The following swimmers all attained their Start Awards in April. Well done.

Michael Gough
Eva Vicary
George Phillips
Jonathan Howard
Libby Bird
Ammer Kandola
Abbey Jobling
Jake Munroe
Paige Newbury
Luke Wyman
Kyle Palmer
Amber Purpaggia

Leicester Junior League

Report by Daren Timbrell

The Leicester Team travelled to Wellingborough where they gained an impressive 150 points to finish in 4th place, a clear 49 points ahead of Daventry who were placed 5th and only 8 points behind 3rd placed Corby. The round was won by Kettering with 202 points. The team showed tremendous team spirit and effort with many personal best times achieved. The Coventry youngsters came in the top three for 22 events. Representing Coventry for the first time in the Diddy events, were 9 year olds; Luke Timbrell, Sam Harris, Andrew Smith, Cameron Greenaway, James Garland, Madeline Harper, Lucy Mangan, Eva Vicary, Abbey Jobling and Shannon Austin

What are Midland Times?

You will have probably heard a lot of talk about Midland Qualifying Times. Everybody seems to be aiming to achieve them. But what are they and where do they come from? Well, the country is divided into different ASA (Amateur Swimming Association) Regions. City of Coventry Swimming Club falls under the West Midlands ASA Region. The West Midlands Region joins with the East Midlands Region for the Midland Championships. At the start of each new competitive season, the ASA (by way of calculations based on times achieved over the last season), issue National Qualifying Times. Each Region then calculates a set of times based on the National Times, these times are the Midland Qualifying Times. The times are issued mid to late October in each year and can be found on the West Midlands ASA web site. Swimmers then try to reach the times set for their age (age as at the last day of the Midland Age Group Championships). Times are only valid if achieved at a licensed meet held between October and April of that season. Once the times are achieved this qualifies the swimmer for entry into either the Midland Age Group Championships or the Midland Youth Championships for boys aged from 15 and girls aged from 14.

This is your Newsletter. If you would like to contribute or have any suggestions; please contact: -
gayle.page@coventry-swimming.org.uk



James Burden on the blocks at Sheffield

James Burden, has been selected to represent Great Britain at the European Junior Championships to be held in Prague at the beginning of July.

James achieved selection at the British Gas Championships held in Sheffield earlier this month. He needed to attain the automatic qualification time for the 50m freestyle of 23.46, in fact, James achieved 23.37 which also made him the holder of a new Senior County Record, a Coventry Club Record and the British & English Age Group Record. He was the only 16 year old to achieve the selection time and the only 16 year old to make the senior final in which he came 7th. He also achieved a life-time personal best in the 100 freestyle

Over Easter James attended the Grand Prix Meet in Thessalonika, Greece, with the England Talent Squad, coming 5th in the 50m freestyle event in 24.05.

James trains in the Elite1 squad and is coached by Jo Deakins. He began his swimming career with City of Coventry at the age of 9, training in Blue Achievers, High Achievers, Junior Performance, Elite 2 and Elite 1. His coaches over the years have been Rodney Smith, Jane Wilkinson, Dave McCormick and Steve Burke. He has also taken part in the annual Devon Tour on two occasions.

Fundraising saves training fees!

Walkathon

The annual Coventry Walkathon is being held in the Memorial Park on 10th May. The walk will start at 11.00am and closes at 3.30pm. The walk is a 1.75 mile lap around the park which can be walked as many times as you like. Funds raised by the City of Coventry walkers will be donated to the Club.

Information is on the Notice Board at Central or contact caroline.linney@coventry-swimming.org.uk. Entry forms need to be handed into the Club desk by Friday 1st May.

Plant Sale

After the success of last year's event, the Club are again holding a sale of summer plants and hanging baskets. Colour illustrations can be found at www.cdbell.co.uk. Order forms are available from your Parent Representative. Completed order forms and remittances should be returned to the Club Shop or Parent Rep. by Friday 8th May. Please telephone Mandy Wooltorton on 07968 370195 for further details. Please note that every order will benefit the Club.

Book Sale

The Club are holding used book sales at forthcoming open meets. Please bring along any unwanted books in good condition to the Club Night desk. Children's, adult, fiction and non-fiction would all be gratefully received. The next meet is being held on the 9th May, so please let us have your books as quickly as possible.



Club 500

This Club was set up to raise funds for City of Coventry Swimming Club and started in March 2004. It is a chance to win something for yourself and is cheaper and the odds better than the National Lottery whilst at the same time helping the club to develop young swimmers to their full potential. The cost is £12 per number per year, payable in advance. Half of the money collected will be used as prize money for the monthly draws. The monthly draw will take place on the last Friday of each month and the first 3 numbers drawn will receive a cash prize. The amounts depend on how many of the numbers are purchased but if all 500 numbers are sold you could win £125, £75 or £50.

If you wish to join / renew please contact sarah.betteley@coventry-swimming.org.uk

Parent Representatives

Elite 1	Ruth Jelley
Elite 2	Cath Sansby & John Carr
SP1	Paula Donovan
SP2	Caroline Linney
JP1	Heather Price
JP2	Jackie Fairchild
HA1	Bridie McSorley
HA2	Mandy Wooltorton
Green Ach.	Pam Lowe
Blue Ach.	Ingrid Scullion

NB: There will shortly be available a contact email address for all parent representatives. Details will be in the May Newsletter. For now please use the contact email for Caroline Linney.

Happy Birthday's in May to the following:-

James Garland	Joseph Powell
Megan Price	Lauren Carr
Alexander Hammond	Graham Reynolds
Brandon Hamilton	Fay Price
Matthew Meaton	Kate McFeely
Sonia Greenwood	Chloe Way
Rory Winters	Evelyn Rotolo
Emily Kelly	James Burden
Chloe Smith	Luke Wyman
James Williscroft	Paul Williams
Hugh Williams	Thomas Grainger
Jeremy Barnes	Jonathan Porter
Casey McKernan	Katherine Boulton
Helen Bingley	

APOLOGIES IF THERE ARE ANY OMISSIONS. IF YOU HAVE BEEN OMITTED, PLEASE LET US KNOW AND YOU WILL GET A SPECIAL MENTION NEXT MONTH.

Vacancies

There are Parent Rep vacancies for both **Red Achievers** and **Reception Achievers**. If anyone is interested in taking up one of these positions, please contact Caroline Linney who will be happy to discuss with you the requirements. caroline.linney@coventry-swimming.org.uk