

The final round of the autumn swimming leagues saw both Harborough teams finish the calendar year off in fine style, despite having to battle against a series of illnesses and injuries. Harborough A completed an impressive gala victory away at Tamworth in their Arena league fixture, whilst Harborough B performed well above expectations to take a deserved second place at local rivals Corby in the Leicester League.

The A team recorded 13 individual wins, backed up by a superb team performance in the relays where they clinched a further 8 victories. In the ladies events Harborough dominated. Recently crowned Harborough Mail sportswoman of the year Candice Hall won all three of her open races to make it a perfect season winning all 9 races over the 3 gala's. Kirsty Haynes was back on top form winning the freestyle and Olivia Weller took the honours in the breaststroke. The trio of open ladies were supported by Lauren Bekavac to win their medley relay and additionally Crissie Hall and Maria Radoja making up the team that won the freestyle relay. In the 15/u the story was almost repeated with Weller winning both the breaststroke and fly, Bekavac the free and both relays were won with the help of Crisse Hall and Radoja. The younger 11/u and 13/u girls competed well in their individual events with the highlight coming with a victory from the 11/u medley quartet of Betty To, Rebecca Samandi, Georgia Weller and Mia Poole.

In the Boys it was the younger competitors who claimed the majority of the top spots. Jay Newman took a brace of wins in the 11/u free and fly, Ben Wellicome winning the back and despite a massive personal best Frankie Aldridge was narrowly beaten into second spot in the fly. Ben Bekavac, who suffered an arm injury, managed to swim the medley relay, which the quartet won by a handsome margin. In the 13/u the solitary individual win came from Newman, swimming up an age group in the breaststroke and a freestyle relay victory from Newman, Wellicome, Charlie Poole and Sonny To. The 15/u boys freestyle team of Josh Bott, Kieran Flint, Oliver Tremlett and To, showed real grit and determination to win one of the closest races of the evening. In the open men's Theo Brogan took victory in the breaststroke with a new personal best time.

Harborough B collectively showed some fantastic teamwork and fighting spirit to claim a second place finish out of the eight teams competing at Corby. With a number of swimmers missing due to illness the team rallied round, with many of the younger swimmers having to swim in older age groups to make up the relay teams. The gala started in the best possible fashion with a win from the 10/u girls freestyle team of Ebony Goddard, Lydia Bell, Freya Johnson and Lexi Moakes. The very next race saw the boys quartet of Joel Murphy, Adam Stewart, Mikey Colyer and John Green repeat the victory. Murphy and Goddard then went on to win their individual freestyle and breaststrokes races respectively. Two further wins came from Josh Wellicome in the 14/u back and George Robinson in the open free, both victories came with personal best times.

Gala Results:-

Arena League; Harborough 'A' 222, Eckington 186, Haden Hill 186, Dove Valley 183, Tamworth 136 and Warley Wasps 123

Leicester League; Corby 345, Harborough 'B' 237, Kettering B 212, Loughborough B 210, Shepshed 195, Daventry B 184, Oadby & Wigston 181 and Leicester Neptune B 164.