

Spectators were treated to some fantastic swimming at the first weekend of the Market Harborough swimming club championships. The championships are one of the first opportunities for some of the clubs younger swimmers to experience competitive races. In the 8/u age group Oliver Oxley found the whole experience very much to his liking. On his way to victory in the 25m back and fly Oxley set new club records of 21.65s and 24.72s. George Lowe's hard training over the past few months paid handsome dividends when he won the 11-12yr 50m back and fly. Also wading in with a brace of wins were Nathan Allen and the ever improving Alec Gibbs. Harry Waddington went one better by winning the open 100m free in addition to the 15/o back and fly in a new club record time of 53.99s.

The girl's events were dominated by Olivia Weller who managed to win all five of her races despite swimming earlier in the day at the City of Leicester open meet. Close on Weller's heels was Emily Kendall, in the 13-14yr age group, who secured three wins and also finished second in both the open 100m breast and free. Eloise Garner and Georgia Weller also picked up two wins each.

Winners of the age category events:-

Girls backstroke; Tilly Green (8/u), Harriet Oxley (9's), Freya Johnson (10's), Eve Pollard (11-12), Emily Kendall (13-14) & Olivia Weller (15/o).

Boys Backstroke; Oliver Oxley (8/u), Harry Taylor (9's), Nathan Allen (10's), George Lowe (11-12), Alec Gibbs (13-14) & Harry Waddington (15/o).

Girls Fly; Carys Pyne (8/u), Eloise Garner (9's), Freya Montgomerie (10's), Georgia Weller (11-12), Emily Kendall (13-14) & Olivia Weller (15/o).

Boys Fly; Oliver Oxley (8/u), Jack Burton (9's), Nathan Allen (10's), George Lowe (11-12), Alec Gibbs (13-14) & Harry Waddington (15/o).

Girls 100m individual medley; Eloise Garner (9's), Georgia Weller (11-12), Emily Kendall (13-14) & Olivia Weller (15/o).

Girls open; 100m free 1st Olivia Weller, 2nd Emily Kendall, 3rd Lauren Bekavac. 100m Breaststroke 1st Olivia Weller, 2nd Emily Kendall, 3rd Rebecca Samandi

Boys open; 100m free 1st Harry Waddington, 2nd Theo Brogan 3rd Oliver Tremlett. 100m Breaststroke 1st Theo Brogan, 2nd Henry Ingram, 3rd Oliver Tremlett.

Candice Hall was in superb form at the City of Leicester winter meet taking gold in the 200 free, two silvers and a bronze. This high quality event attracts International level swimmers so reaching any finals is a real achievement. Hattie Bates and Jay Newman both achieved a 5th place finish in the 100m fly and breast respectively, whilst Ewan Ronald made the 200m fly final as did Jessica Otter in the 100m free. Over the past few years it has become a bit of tradition for the Harborough based swimmers to break club records at this meet and this year was no exception. A stunning 26 new best times were set this year, leading the way was Hall with 10 followed by Jay Newman (6), Ewan Ronald (4), Nathan Allen (3), Charlie Poole (2) and Olivia Weller (1).