

Middlesbrough Halloween Gala (Level 2)

Well, we didn't have any witches or wizards at the meet. However, we did have Aimee Wilmott an Olympic Swimmer competing. I am sure it was a great thrill for those competing in Aimee's heats to have swum against an Olympian. I am sure all the members of Middlesbrough Swimming Club would like to thank her for supporting their gala.

Overall, the support for the gala was influenced by the close proximity to the short course championships at the beginning of November and a number of the age categories had fewer swimmers than on previous occasions. However, the Middlesbrough swimmers certainly supported the meet with sixty three members of the club taking part and ALL were a credit to the club.

106 gold medals, 71 silver medals and 64 bronze medals were won together with 172 PBs. The medals won may be slightly biased owing to a number of the races only having a single Middlesbrough swimmer, but irrespective of this, I find it incredible the number of PBs that are regularly set at each of the galas. I often wondered how you ALL did it until I saw you training. I now know, you are continuously reaping the benefit from all the dedication and hard work you put in, together with the encouragement and first class coaching you receive. Continue the hard work.

The following were gold medal winners:

Abigail Blundell-Stephenson, Adam Williams, Bethan Palfreeman, Cade Darby, Chase Darby, Daniel Andrews, Elisha Rhodes, Ellie Baister, Emma Bell, Emma Muirhead, Evie Dilley, Isobel Keetley, Jack Baister, James Wood, Joseph Micklewright), Lewis Horner, Louise-Emma Williams, Millie Bozbayir, Molly Dorsi, Olivia Mc Avoy, Pearl Lightwood, Rachel Bradley, Rachel Maguire, Rebecca Keetley, Rebekah Worthy, Scott Jenkinson, Thomas Mc Dermott, Toma Saha, Violet Hearfield and William Morris.

As you will appreciate with sixty three members of the club taking part there were some hotly competitive heats between the Middlesbrough swimmers that resulted in some great spectacles for the spectators.

The closest was the clash between Emma Muirhead and Georgia Stockdale in the 50m freestyle with Emma winning by 0.08 seconds. This was closely followed by Daniel Andrews and Mohammed Hai in the 50m breaststroke with Daniel prevailing by 0.09 seconds, great racing.

As I mentioned above I am always staggered by the number of PBs and of the sixty three swimmers taking part 56 of the swimmers had at least one PB. It is a credit to ALL of you KEEP UP THE HARD WORK, CONTINUE TO ENJOY YOURSELVES AND YOU WILL SUCCEED.

On a special note I would personally like to congratulate James Blott for two outstanding PBs, James is a credit to the sport and his courage and determination should be an inspiration to you all, VERY WELL DONE YOUNG MAN.