

TITANS WIN SILVER AT MIDLAND SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2008 Midland Age Group Swimming Championships took place over the first two weekends in June at Coventry's international Olympic size pool. By the end of a long and exhausting 10 sessions Titan swimmers had secured numerous personal bests, reached a multitude of finals and had won a silver medal. Most importantly they had put the Titans well and truly on the swimming map.

The Midland Championships includes swimmers from both West and East Midland Districts – stretching from Northampton in the South – right up to Chesterfield in the North. The very best young swimmers from 11 counties descend on Coventry to do battle in the pool.

The high-light of the Championships for the Titans was Alfie Pardoe's silver medal performance in the 10/u boys 200m backstroke final – where he smashed his previous Personal Best and Shropshire County record time by a magnificent 6.32 seconds finishing in second place and only 1 second behind the gold medal winner. Alfie is now ranked 12th in this event amongst all 10/u boys in the UK..

Alfie also came 4th in the 100m backstroke in 1:23.76; 5th in the 400m freestyle in 5:27.73 – a full 15 seconds off his previous personal best time; 10th in the 200m freestyle in 2:39.27; 8th in the 100m breaststroke in 1:36.82; 7th in the 200m IM in 3:00.41; and reached the finals of the 200m breaststroke in which he clocked a Personal Best time of 3:28.51.

As overall recognition of his performance over the two weekends of competition, Alfie received an award for coming 7th and is now ranked in the top 40 swimmers for his age in the UK in most events.

Hannah Greene knocked 1.7 seconds off her Shropshire County Championships gold medal winning performance in the 11/u 200m freestyle – coming 24th in a time of 2:35.44. Earlier in the Championships she had secured 22nd place in the 100m freestyle in a time of 1:11.73. In the 400m freestyle Hannah came 18th in a time of 5:28.41.

Elliot Hughes came 22nd in the boys 11/u 200m freestyle in 2:39.00. In the 100m freestyle he finished a fantastic 7th in a new personal best time of 1:11.73.

Titans head coach Jon Pardoe said “It is impossible to overestimate the impact we are beginning to have on swimming in Shropshire. Many Shropshire clubs fail to get any swimmers to even qualify for these Championships – and achieving medal success is a rarity. In our first month since the clubs formation we have well and truly put the Ellesmere College Titans in pole position in the development of young swimmers in this area.”

Ellesmere College Headmaster Brendan Wignall commented “I am delighted at the impact that the Ellesmere College Titans have had in such a short period of time. Success breeds success and these performance send out a clear signal of ambitious intent.’

Further details about joining the Ellesmere Titans can be found on their website www.ellesmeretitans.co.uk or by telephoning Jon Pardoe on 07903 641668. Further details on scholarships and places at Ellesmere College can be obtained from the College Admissions Secretary on 01691 622321 or by email at admissions.secretary@ellesmere.com.

Notes to Editor

The Ellesmere College Titans Swimming Club was established in 2008, as a meeting of minds, between Ellesmere College – a school with a great sporting heritage and the parents of some of the top young swimmers in Shropshire, united in their desire to create an ambitious, positive and competitive swimming club.

The result: A centre of swimming excellence in the heart of the North Shropshire countryside.

To maintain this standard the Club adopts and implements a selective membership policy, to ensure that all swimmers share the same goal of achieving swimming success at the highest level. The emphasis is on quality not quantity of swimmers, with the Club limiting its total swimming membership to 28 - ranging from children as young as 8 upwards.

In such an environment a great deal of one to one coaching can be given to individual swimmers, and productive use can be made of underwater video analysis and specialist training equipment.

Ellesmere College was founded in 1884 and is part of the Woodard Group – the largest grouping of public schools in the UK. Over the years it has been responsible for producing some of the British sporting greats including ex-England Rugby captain Bill Beaumont. It is hoped that it will produce the next generation of British swimming greats.

Photos:

- 1) Alfie Pardoe with Midland Championship 10/u boys 200m backstroke silver medal.
- 2) Alfie Pardoe (with Midland Championship 10/u boys 200m backstroke silver medal) & Hannah Greene and Elliot Hughes..

Issued on behalf of Ellesmere College Titans Swimming Club (The Titans). For further details please contact Jon Pardoe on 07903 641668 or email jonpardoe@hotmail.co.uk. Further details on scholarships and places at Ellesmere College can be obtained from the College Admissions Secretary on 01691 622321 or by email at admissions.secretary@ellesmere.com

www.ellesmeretitans.co.uk