

TITAN SWIMMERS MEDAL AT BRITISH GAS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

At the recent British Gas National Swimming Championships and Commonwealth Games Trials, Ellesmere College Titan swimmers Stacey Tadd age 21, Darren Mew age 30 and James Faure age 21 put Ellesmere College and Shropshire swimming well and truly on the sporting map.

The Championships which were held at Ponds Forge in Sheffield from the 29th March to the 3rd April, doubled up as the Trials for this autumn's Commonwealth Games which are being held in Delhi, India. The best very swimmers from all over the UK, including world record holders and Beijing Olympic medallists Rebecca Adlington, Jo Jackson and Gemma Spofforth competed against each other to be crowned as British Champions.

Ellesmere College Titan Stacey Tadd, who also represents Bath University won the gold medal in the 200m breaststroke in a personal best time of 2:29.66 – beating Olympic hero in Hannah Miley into second place, and securing herself a place at the Commonwealth Games.

Stacey also won the bronze medal in the 100m breaststroke in a time of 1:09.90 and came 7th in the final of the 200m Individual Medley (IM) in a time of 2:16.86 and 8th in the final of the 400m IM in 4:54.52.

Commenting upon her success Stacey said "It's just fantastic. I'm delighted to have gone under 2:30.00 for the first time in my life and selection for the Commonwealths is brilliant".

British record holder Darren Mew had to settle for the silver medal in the 50m breaststroke having been pipped to gold by just 1/100th of a second. His time in the final of 0:28.74 was 35/100ths of a second slower than he had achieved in the semi final. In the 100th breaststroke he was disappointed to finish 4th in 1:01.51.

James Faure returning from illness and a week off training faced an uphill battle in the 200m butterfly and had to settle for 12th place in a time of 2:02.84.

James and Darren will get a second chance of securing Commonwealth Games selection at this summer's ASA Championships.

Titan head coach Jon Pardoe commented "I'm truly delighted for Stacey and I'm confident that both Darren and James will seize their Commonwealth opportunity at the ASA Championships in August. All three of them are incredibly positive role models for our young swimmers".

Further details about joining the Ellesmere College Titans can be found on their website www.ellesmerecollegetitans.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.

Photo: 1) Stacey Tadd; 2) Darren Mew at start of 100m breaststroke final.

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 40 - 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.

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

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