



# The Killerwhales Swim Club of Havering

## Killerwhales Gala Report

### Essex Swimming League Gala –19<sup>th</sup> November 2011 – Division 2

Newly promoted Killerwhales had their first outing in division 2 of the Essex Swimming League at Braintree on Saturday evening and sent a strong team to compete against teams from Newham, Witham, Halstead and Hornchurch.

The evening started with the 11 and under freestyle relay. Both the girls team of Frances Peterson, Keely Kennedy, Lucie Davis and Sumayah Chabani and the boys, Charlie Rouse, Harry Whyman, Billy Fox and Oscar Martin gave us a great start with both teams finishing 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The individual events saw Julia Braybrooke on fantastic form in the butterfly finishing way in front of the rest of the field. James Roome followed in the same event finishing a creditable second.

Megan Palmer and Harry Fox in the 13 and under backstroke finished very strongly and both won their races.

In the 15 and under breaststroke, Ellie Davis and Kieran Goodwin, both earned valuable points with Ellie finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> and Kieran 2<sup>nd</sup> and two more good swims and 2<sup>nd</sup> places went to Frances Peterson and Charlie Rouse in the 11 and under freestyle.

The girls open medley relay saw Molly Sparks getting the team ahead in the backstroke leg, Amy Statham taking the team further in front in the breaststroke, and Julia Braybrooke and Georgia Porter both increasing the lead even further.

The boys relay team began with George Crow leading from the start, and Lewis Clifford-Stephenson taking the team even further in front in the breaststroke and James Roome (fly) and Toby Andrews (free) both storming through to win impressively.

It was then the turn of the 13 and under freestyle relay teams. The girls started with Jessie Statham putting the girls in 1<sup>st</sup> place, and Chloe Cornhill, Renae Dawes and Gabby Connell all increasing on the lead to finish almost half a 10m clear of the opposition. The boys' team also saw Harry Fox make sure his team started off in front and Mitchell Keep, Jonathan Cox and Daniel Robinson were also not letting anyone past them.

Further individual events saw the freestylers swimming well with Lisa Murphy leading from start to finish and Jake Marshall finishing in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, gaining more points for Killerwhales. In the 11 and under butterfly Frances Peterson swam an amazing race finishing 1<sup>st</sup> and Oscar Martin was just being beaten into 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

Killerwhales then took a succession of 1<sup>st</sup> places with Molly Sparks and George Crow in the backstroke, both finishing a good distance ahead of the field and Briony Hagger and Kieran Goodwin also dominating in the breaststroke. The 15 and under medley relay teams also won comfortably with Claudia Stratford, Ellie Davis, Miki Kennedy and Lisa Murphy for the girls and Jake Marshall, Kieran Goodwin, Charlie Fox, Sam Bishop for the boys.

The younger medley teams again swam well with Lucie Davis, Sumayah Chabani, Keely Kennedy and Frances Peterson finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> and Billy Fox, Charlie Rouse, Oscar Martin and Harry Whyman finishing 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Another run of 1<sup>st</sup> places came with Amy Statham and Lewis C-S easily winning their breaststroke races and Gabby Connell and Jonathan Cox swimming their freestyle races in very fast times, finishing way ahead of the rest. Abbie Hill and Alex Merchan also followed with impressive wins in their butterfly events.

The 11 and under backstroke saw Lucie Davis unlucky to be beaten to 2<sup>nd</sup> place but Oscar Martin claimed another 6 points for Killerwhales in his race.

The 13 and under medley relays followed with Megan Palmer, Briony Hagger, Jessie Statham and Renae Dawes teaming up to win effortlessly and Tobi Okeshola joined Mitchell Keep, Harry Fox and Jonathan Cox to win their race in style.

The 15 and under freestyle relay was very closely fought with Lisa Murphy, Claudia Stratford, Abbie Hill and Miki Kennedy coming through to win by a fingertip. The boys team of Charlie Fox, Matt Alexander, Alex Merchan and Sam Bishop finished a very creditable 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Becky Green then had her turn in the girls open freestyle and it was worth waiting for with her winning in impressive style. Toby Andrews was also untouchable in the boy's event.

The final run of individual events saw Sumayah Chabani finish 5<sup>th</sup> in the breaststroke and Charlie Rouse finish 3<sup>rd</sup>. Jessie Statham dominated in the 13 and under fly, leading all the way, gaining a further 6 points and Tobi Okeshola just being beaten to 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The 15 and under backstroke saw Miki Kennedy earn another valuable 5 points for Killerwhales and Matt Alexander win his race by a huge distance.

The open freestyle relay saw Julia Braybrooke start impressively, Georgia Porter take the team into the lead and Molly Sparks and Amy Statham both made sure the lead was kept. The boys team of James Roome, George Crow, Toby Andrews and Lewis C-S had a close fought race but made sure Killerwhales picked up another 6 points.

The final event of the evening was the freestyle mixed squadron relay with one swimmer from each age group taking part. Our team of Frances, Charlie R, Gabby, Daniel, Miki, Jake, Becky and Lewis finished the evening in impressive style claiming a further 6 points for Killerwhales.

A clear win on the night for Killerwhales with the final results being:

5 <sup>th</sup> place Hornchurch	87 points
4 <sup>th</sup> place Witham	123 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> place Newham	134 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> place Halstead	167 points
<b>1<sup>st</sup> place Killerwhales</b>	<b>221 points</b>

Well done to all our swimmers and thank you to our officials

Report by Linda Hill