

Carnegie welcomes Botswana swimmers to Mini Meet

Carnegie hosted its annual Carnegie Mini Sprint held at FIPRE, Glenrothes on Sunday 30 August 2009. Many swimming clubs from throughout Central Scotland were represented, with young swimmers aged between 8 and 11 years old, together with two swimmers from the southern African Republic of Botswana. For the Carnegie team, there were 32 swimmers who took part in what was only the second gala of the season and there were some fine performances from the youngsters.

Swimming in the 9 year old category, Fraser Beeby won 3 gold medals in the 50m breaststroke, butterfly and freestyle adding a silver medal in the 50m backstroke to be named top 9 year old boy. Team mate Megan McGhee picked up a bronze medal in the 50m breaststroke together with two 4th place finishes in the backstroke and freestyle and a 5th place finish in the butterfly. Other top six finishes were recorded by Aidan Mitchell and Kyle Tibbs.

For the 10 year olds Sally Christie won 2 silver medals (50m backstroke and breaststroke), 1 bronze (freestyle) and a 4th place finish in the butterfly. Greig Reid amassed 3 bronze medals in the 50m butterfly, freestyle and backstroke and a 4th place finish in the breaststroke. Other top six finishes were achieved by Sophie Ross, Sarah Carstairs and Jordan McKilligan.

For the 11 year olds Robbie Carmichael won silver in the 50m freestyle and 4 top six finishes were recorded by Megan Hill.

The relays as usual provided some exciting finishes. The mixed 8-9 year old team of Megan McGhee, Lucy Hallam, Aidan Mitchell and Fraser Beeby had to settle for silver, being pipped for the gold medal by less than 0.3 of a second by Kelso ASC. In the mixed 10-11 year olds the Carnegie team of Megan Hill, Robbie Carmichael, Greig Reid and Lucy Bedborough won bronze in another close finish. Carnegie finished in 3rd position in the overall team event.

Carnegie's two new friends from Botswana (Sean and Connor Price) were pleased with their experience of swimming in Scotland. Their mother said, "they entered the gala when they realised it coincided with their holiday in Scotland. Back home in Botswana, they swim at school and at the Darrell Morton Swimming Club. The gala has been a great experience and has given them the chance to lower their personal best times. It is well organised and efficiently run, and it has been good to witness the high standard of Scottish swimming."



The Carnegie team pictured with Sean and Connor Price from Botswana.