

Fraser heads Carnegie challenge at Otters

18 young swimmers aged between 7 and 11 from the Carnegie Swimming Club's Development squads took part in the 35th Falkirk Otters mini-gala held at Larkhall Leisure Centre on Saturday 25th April 2009. The youngsters competed against swimmers representing 27 swimming clubs from throughout Central Scotland. A testament to the quality of the field was that the meet was hugely oversubscribed so only the fastest swimmers gained entry.

The young Carnegie swimmers put in some excellent performances led by 9 year old Fraser Beeby who won two gold medals in the 50m backstroke and 50m freestyle, together with silver in the 50m breaststroke and bronze in the 50m butterfly. For the third meet in a row, Fraser won the best boy trophy for the 9 year olds, a remarkable achievement. He was also part of the Carnegie A team that won gold in the 9 year olds mixed 4x25m freestyle relay. Competing against 12 other strong teams, Fraser and teammates Hamish Neil, Sophie Ross and Megan McGhee posted a time of 1:11.31, less than 0.5 sec outside the meet record. The Carnegie B team of Aidan Mitchell, Andrew Waterworth, Claire Lee and Lucy Hallam also put in a good swim in finishing in 6th position.

There was another fine performance from 11 year old Aimee Adam who won gold in the 50m butterfly, together with a 4th place in the 50m freestyle and two 5th place finishes in the 50m backstroke and 50m breaststroke. Sophie Ross, competing in the 9 year old girls category, won two silvers in the 50m butterfly and 50m freestyle.

Three swimmers just missed out on a top six position, finishing 7th. All competing in the 50m breaststroke event, Megan McGhee, Hamish Neil (both nine) and 10 year old Brooke Gillies produced excellent lifetime best swims.

All of the young Carnegie swimmers who took part achieved at least one lifetime best.



The Carnegie gold medal winning relay team of L-R Sophie Ross, Megan McGhee, Fraser Beeby and Hamish Neil, pictured outside Larkhall Leisure Centre.