

# Jubbly 647

25 Feb 2008

## SENSATIONAL ARMADA CUP!

**A huge well done to all the divers who competed at the Brewin Dolphin Armada Cup from 15-17 February. We had some excellent results and some very, very encouraging debut performances.**

After a hugely successful weekend, Plymouth Diving can certainly lay claim to hosting the best diving event in the British calendar.

With over 170 divers from as far a field as Edinburgh and 16 teams in total, the popularity of the event was even greater than ever. The superb event management brings teams back year after year and has teams now calling for the event to be run over 4 days – claiming “Plymouth Diving have created a monster!!”

It was a real festival of diving and with the UK's leading divers (including four from Plymouth) in China at the World Cup, this year's event was all about the next generation and the talented youngsters that will be charged with leading Britain's success on a World stage from 2012 and beyond.

From Plymouth's point of view, there were mixed results, from a team with very mixed experience levels. Former Junior International Kyle Prior (17) called on all his experience to pick up gold in the 16 & over 1m and silver in the 16 & over 3m events.

National Junior medallist Jenny McDonald (18) showed the skill that won her a silver medal at last month's British Championships, picking up a silver in the Girls 16 & over platform event, behind new Senior International star Helen Galashan from Leeds.

In the same event, Emma Barrow picked up a bronze medal and with Jessica Taylor also in the final finishing

6<sup>th</sup>, the absence of Plymouth's top International Platform stars, Sarah Barrow, Brooke Graddon and Tonia Couch, was not felt by the team in this particular event.

There were also medals for Aaron Walters (15), who finalled in all 3 of his disciplines and won bronze in the 14-15 3m, Jenny Bunsell (11) who finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 11 & under platform and there were further finals places for Harry Glover (17) in the 16 & over platform, Jessica Taylor (18) in the 16 & over 1m and Ashley Hendrick (13) in the 12-13 boys platform.

However, it was Plymouth's newest divers that caught the attention of the Team's coaches with some superb debut performances. Matthew Dixon, the youngest member of the team at just 7, missed out on the final of the 11 & under boys 1m by just 7 points, despite competing against boys up to 3 years older than himself. He comfortably qualified for the forthcoming National Age Group Championships and showed immense character and determination, despite his young age.

His cousin Shanice Lobb and her friend Kayleigh Sinclair were all also competing for the first time at this level and they both also comfortably qualified for the National Age Groups. These three divers have only been diving for 13 months, so this is a remarkable achievement. Expect to hear a lot more from these three names in the future.

At the end of the weekend, it proved to be a walkover in the team event for the City of Sheffield, who won by a massive margin from the City of Leeds and Southampton a distant third. Plymouth Diving finished 4<sup>th</sup>, but with our less experienced divers beginning to find their feet at this level, it shouldn't be long before we get back into the fight for top spot.

This is always a massive occasion for us and the feedback from the other clubs would indicate that yet again, we hit the mark with a superbly organized event, which of course would not be possible without the support of our volunteers.

So thank you to everyone who helped out over the weekend and those who helped with preparation beforehand aswell. We could not do this without you.

Trish Walters would like to say a big thanks to all the little people who came to do the medal ceremonies. They did a great job as always.

A few parents have also asked to use the newsletter to say thank you to the coaches for all their support before and during the event – acting above and beyond the call of duty, with early morning starts and late night finishes.

Thank you, thank you, thank you & well done to the whole team, divers, volunteers and staff!!

What a great weekend of diving!

OBVIOUSLY THE NATIONAL PRESS HAS BEEN DOMINATED WITH THOMAS'S WORLD CUP SUCCESS  
WE'LL HAVE A FULL REPORT ON THIS FOR YOU NEXT WEEK  
INCLUDING SUCCESS FOR BROOKE AND SARAH TOO!

| MAIN PROGRAMME DATES        |   |   |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| 5-6 April                   | Dive Shows & dinner/dance – information out shortly   |   |
| 7-11 & 14-18 April          | Easter holiday courses – development days & private lessons available, plus crash courses for those who want to do awards |   |
| 26 April                    | Next Flip 'n' Fun competition – details soon  |   |
| 19-24 May                   | Next Intermediate/Advanced Group assessments  |   |
| 26 May                      | Bank holiday – no diving  |   |
| 27-30 May                   | Half term courses   |   |
|                             |   |   |
| COMPETITIVE PROGRAMME DATES |   |   |
| Weds 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb   | Shipleigh Novices<br>PARENTS MEETING, 7.30pm  | At least 1 parent from all Shipleigh team members |
| 29 Feb-2 Mar                | Shipleigh Novices – Bradford  | Notified divers                                   |
| 27-30 Mar                   | National Age Groups, Southampton  | Info out next week                                |
| 5-6 April                   | Dive Shows & dinner/dance – information out this week   |   |
| 10-11 May                   | Hydro Novices, Harrogate (confirmed date – apologies for the confusion)   | Team to be notified shortly                       |
| 26 May                      | Bank holiday – no diving  |   |
| 26-30 May                   | National Elite Juniors  | Selected divers                                   |
| STAFF ABSENCES              |   |   |
|                             |   |   |
|                             |   |   |

A successful Friends of Plymouth Diving meeting was held in February. We will send out information on the meeting and our next one, very shortly. Please have a think about how you would like to become involved & remember – this group is not for the benefit of the business or the coaches – it will be run by parents, for parents with the intention of providing a more close knit diving “family” for you and your child.

Regularly used terms: Intermediate Group - divers working towards Grade 5 & BS1 & 2. Advanced Group - divers that have passed Grade 5 & Board Skills 2. Squads competitive training groups. Novices - first rung of competitive ladder. Intermediate/Age Groups - next rung of competitive ladder. Elite Juniors - highest level domestic event for divers aged 9-18. Junior - 18 & under. Senior - all ages (where you will find our elite Olympic divers).

Diving balcony etiquette - Parents please do not coach your children or call them over during classes, Divers must be clothed and wearing shoes when on the balcony and if you are using still or video cameras, please sign the book at reception and ensure you only take footage of your own child.

Parent Liaison - Jayne Glynn, [jayne@plymouthdiving.com](mailto:jayne@plymouthdiving.com), 07944361424

Child Protection - Plymouth Diving's independent Welfare Officer, Kathy Hancock, [Kathy@plymouthdiving.com](mailto:Kathy@plymouthdiving.com), 07759266041, Plymouth City Sports Child Protection Officer, Sam Grevett 01752 607206, ASA Swimline 0808 100 401