

Jubbly 659

18th December 2008

Awards for Tom and Andy

Junior Sportsperson and Top Coach of the Year 2008!!

Plymouth Diving were a force to be reckoned with at the recent Plymouth Herald Sports Personality awards at the Pavillions.

Tom Daley was nominated in the Junior Sports Personality, Champagne Moment of the Year and Sports Personality categories, Andy Banks was nominated in Top Coach category and Tonia Couch was nominated in the Champagne Moment of the Year and Sports Personality categories.

Another stalwart of the club, Karen Graddon (yes, Brooke's mum!) was also nominated in the Services to Sport category because of her staunch support of Plymouth Diving over the years, helping to raise the profile of the sport in Plymouth and her campaigning for our new pool.

Taking over five tables at the prestigious awards ceremony, the Plymouth Diving supporters made their presence felt as the nominees were celebrated with their individual videos on screen. Another reason to be excited was the presence of Dame Kelly Holmes, double Olympic Champion who was speaking and presenting the awards.

Tom's category was up first and he dominated the other nominees in terms of success this year, although I'm sure others will headline in years to come. Tom was duly awarded Junior Sports Personality due to his outstanding results: Bronze medal at the World Cup, Olympic finalists and double World Junior Silver medalist.

Then Andy came up against two other coaches, Robin Brew one of Olympic silver medalists Heather Fell (Modern Pentathlon) coaches and Gary Stronach, Plymouth Raiders Basketball coach. Stiff competition!! Andy's efforts in getting two divers to the Olympics and have both of them make their respective finals was what ultimately made him stand out and he was awarded Top Coach 2008.

In the Sports Personality and Champagne moment of the year categories, the guys came up against two Olympic Medalists unfortunately and had to take a back seat although they were awarded short list awards to celebrate their achievements. Heather took the Sports Personality award and Olympic bronze medalist Cassie Patten (Open Water Swimming) took the champagne moment for her efforts in swimming 10 kilometres!!!!

Christmas Development Competitions 2008

There was a great turn out for our Christmas Flip n Fun and Development Competitions, including the current British Platform Champion, Brooke Graddon.

It was a great way for the parents and families to see the children in action as well as for the coaches to see who responded well to the pressures of competition. And our coaches and older divers also got some judging practice in! Many thanks to our recording team of Carolyn Glover, Caroline Norfolk, Sarah Elver, Angela King and John Allan!

See below for the winners and a big well done to everyone for taking part – this is the first rung on the ladder of diving competition and everyone dealt with their nerves well! Full results should be available on the website soon!

Winners:

Noah Gargett (Skills B Boys) Emily Deakin (Skills B Girls) Dominic Street (Skills A Boys) Jessie Hawker (Skills A Girls)
Harry Smith (C squad) Joanne Cowen (Club A) Brooke Graddon (Platform)

Following the competitions Plymouth Diving hosted its' Christmas Party up at the Far Post Club at Plymouth Argyle. Amongst some non-stop disco dancing (*and that was just the mum's!*), some interesting karaoke (*Charlie Cooke don't give up the day job!*) and a fantastic buffet provided by yourselves (*thanks!*) there were some awards for the divers. *Thanks to Becky Lidstone who arranged the party!*

Most Improved Girl: Shanice Lobb Most Improved Boy: Ashley Hendrick Best Attitude Girl: Jenny Bunsell
Best Attitude Boy: Charlie Wood Wooden Spoon: Harry Smith

Dinner & Dance 2009

The Friends of Plymouth Diving have arranged a Winter Dinner & Dance for Saturday 31st January 2009. This will allow everyone enough recovery time from the festive period and will also include a raffle with some fantastic prizes!!

If you are interested in attending please email us in the office with number of tickets required – please note this event is an adult's only one.

Armada Cup 2009

Yes it's that time of year again! We are now focusing on our Armada Cup competition which is scheduled for 19-22 Feb 09. As ever we are looking for volunteers to help with recording, marshalling, selling programmes etc. If you would be able to help for a portion of the weekend (or all of it!) then please let us know at plymouthdiving@aol.com. Thanks everyone!

CHRISTMAS SHUTDOWN: SUNDAY 21ST DEC – FRIDAY 2ND JANUARY 2009

HAVE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND WE'LL SEE YOU IN THE NEW YEAR!