

## **PLYMOUTH DIVING END OF YEAR REPORT**

It's not just Plymouth Diving Fab Four who have been wowing the diving world in recent weeks.

Some up and coming young divers are aiming to follow in the footsteps of Thomas Daley, Tonia Couch, Brooke Graddon and Sarah Barrow and have brought home a haul of medals from the 3 final events of the year.

Jessica Taylor (17), was the team's top performer, competing at all 3 events and winning medals at all 3 events. She took a silver medal in the 16 & over 1m at the Luton Challenge in November and a silver medal at the National Schools Championships also in November. Her top performances however came at the end of October during the Southampton Invitational meeting where she picked up a well earned gold in the 16 & over 1m, silver in the 3m and bronze in the platform.

Emma Barrow (16), sister of International diver Sarah Barrow, brought home a gold and a silver medal from Southampton, in the Girls 16 & over Platform and 1m events.

One of the team's mainstays and performer at National Age Group level since 2000, Jenny McDonald was on top form in Southampton. She won the prelim of the girls 16 & over platform and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Final. Jenny also picked up a bronze medal in the 1m competition.

Former International performer Kyle Prior has had a difficult year, but seems to be coming through it now, with a superb performance in the National Schools Championships, earning him a silver medal, behind Senior International Charles Calvert from Leeds.

In Southampton, Jack Glover put in a sterling performance in the 12-13 boys platform to pick up a bronze medal. He also finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the 3m final.

In Southampton, Harry Glover made it a family double, picking up another medal to add to brother Jack's, in the 16 & over boys platform event. It was an excellent performance and a well deserved second place. Harry also finished 4<sup>th</sup> on 3m and 5<sup>th</sup> on 1m.

Aaron Walters was one of the team's most consistent performers at the Southampton meeting. He made all 3 of his finals in the 14-15 boys events, finished 3<sup>rd</sup> on 3m, 4<sup>th</sup> on 1m and 4<sup>th</sup> on platform. He was unlucky not to bring home more medals.

Yet more medals came by way of Elliott Hatherley, who picked up a bronze in the Platform, 4<sup>th</sup> on 1m and 5<sup>th</sup> on 3m, swapping order a few times with Harry Glover in their own personal battle.

Jenny Bunsell (10) is one of the team's youngest and least experienced performers. Her bronze medal in the Luton Challenge in November was therefore a superb achievement. Jenny was also 6<sup>th</sup> at the National Schools Championships, representing Hyde Park Juniors.

In Southampton, Charlotte Donoghue (12) put in a strong performance to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> in the final of the 12-13 girls 1m, she also made the finals on 3m and platform, where she finished 6<sup>th</sup>.

Ashley Hendrick (12), another rapidly rising young star, achieved a top 6 finals place in Luton in the 12-13 boys Platform event, where he finished 5<sup>th</sup>. The National Schools Championships, where Ashley was representing Ridgeway School, saw another strong performance, with an excellent fourth place finish. In Southampton, there was another finals place following a consistent performance, for 5<sup>th</sup> in the 12-13 boys platform event.

Adding to the tally of divers achieving finals places, Steve Glynn competed in Southampton and made the final of the Boys A 1m, 3m and platform, finishing 6<sup>th</sup> on each board.

Making an outing on the first rung of the competitive ladder, the Team's novice divers were also in action in Leeds in October with Laurence Coath picking up a well deserved gold medal in the 12-13 boys final, Shanice Lobb took silver in the 8-9 girls final and Milly Wood took bronze in the girls 14 & over final.

These were excellent performances, underpinning the great work which is being done by Thomas, Tonia, Brooke and Sarah internationally.