

## DASC at Derwentside Sixty Five Roses Gala Stanley, 24 & 25 April 2010

DASC were out in force at the Derwentside ASC 'Sixty Five Roses Swim' held at Stanley on 24 and 25 April. Some DASC swimmers were also swimming for the club at the Diddy League in Middlesbrough on Saturday lunchtime, so they and their taxi services had a busy weekend. The proceeds of the gala were donated to the Cystic Fibrosis Trust. Its patron, the actress Jenny Agutter, had been due to attend to receive a cheque on behalf of the Trust, but was unable to do so because of travel disruption caused by the Icelandic volcanic ash.

8 boys and 14 girls from DASC swam in this Level 3 gala and yet again provided their supporters with lots to cheer about. Out of 90 swims they produced an excellent tally of 48 Personal Best times. The team spirit amongst them was evident, with swimmers noisily supporting their teammates.

### BOYS

**Christian Brown**, competing in only his second gala away from the Dolphin Centre, swam PBs in all 5 of his swims, knocking a massive 32 seconds off his 200m Free time. **Michael Cole-Robinson** won a bronze in the 15 & over 100m Fly. **Richard Coxon** did 3 PBs, including edging closer to the 1.10 barrier for 100m Free. **David Hookway** continued to improve with 2 PBs, and managed to break through the 30-second mark for the first time on 50m Free. Despite being delayed in Rome on a school trip affected by the volcanic ash and not having trained for 3 weeks, **Alex Park** swam surprisingly well, setting 3 new PBs on 50m Free and Back and 100m IM. **Michael Patan** was the busiest DASC swimmer at the gala with 8 events, which left him shattered, but with another 4 PBs to his name, as well as all his other events being consistently close to previous best times. **Jonathan Teague** made a brief appearance in his first external gala for almost 18 months, and produced 2 big PBs in sprint events. **John van Mourik** lowered his 200m Free time by 14 seconds.

### GIRLS

The most successful competitor for DASC was the irrepressible **Elizabeth Fenby**, who continues to improve with every gala, winning 4 Gold medals in impressive style and trying her first ever 200m Fly race. The other very notable achievement was **Kate Troy's** determined 200m Back, where she achieved her NER Qualifying Time to go with the 100m Back time she swam recently.

**Emily Bell** was on good form with another 4 PB swims from 4 races. Big sister **Lauren Bell** clocked up PBs in 100m IM and 200m Breast. **Hannah Briggs** swam a great 100m IM at her first attempt. **Jade Cook** swam fastest times on 100m IM and 200m Breast, which was awarded swim of the day by the Head Coach. **Catherine Fenby** had a super weekend of sprinting with 5 PBs in 6 swims and a Silver medal on 50m Fly. **Victoria Fenby** lowered her 200m Fly PB for a third successive time with a well-paced, smooth swim. **Abbie and Samatha Hawkes** gained more gala experience with Abbie swimming PBs in 100m IM and 100m Back. **Lucy Proctor** swam a great 200m Back, keeping Kate on her toes, but just failed again to go under 1.10 in 100m Free – keep trying. **Chloe Shearing** was busy with 7 events and lowered her previous best times in 50m and 200m Back with a Bronze medal in the 50m Back. **Bridget Upton** made huge progress this weekend with 3 PBs out of 3 swims, knocking 9 seconds off her 50m Back and 22 seconds off her 100m IM. It was **Robyn Wilkinson's** first gala for some time and she was pleased with great swims on 50m Fly and 100m IM with new best times.

DASC Head Coach, Glen Fenby, said, 'I was extremely happy throughout both days of the competition. I was pleased the event raised a lot of money for a good cause. Darlington's team spirit was second to none. I was also overjoyed that our swimmers produced some fantastic swims that no doubt they and their parents thoroughly enjoyed. Now I am looking forward to our next gala at Wear Valley on 15,16 May where our journey continues.....'