

DASC at Northumberland & Durham Autumn Graded Series Gala 1 25, 26 September 2010 at Tynemouth

The first of three galas in the very popular N&D Autumn Graded Series was held at Tynemouth on 25,26 September and DASC was represented by 30 swimmers from Top, A and B squads competing in 77 swims.

Emilia Jones (9), Hannah Coates (9), Rebekah Hickman (10) and Michael Cousins (10) were all competing in a licensed gala for the first time and should all be proud of their debut performances. In 200m Backstroke Emilia and Hannah both swam PBs not only for the 200m but also at the 50m and 100m split times. Rebekah knocked 22 seconds off her 100m IM time and Michael lowered his PBs in 50m Breaststroke and Freestyle.

Swimmers who achieved Top 3 placings and are to be congratulated were:

Jade Cook (10)	2 nd	100m IM
	3 rd	50m Freestyle
Alice Eynon (10)	2 nd	50m Freestyle
Catherine Fenby (16)	1 st	50m Butterfly
	2 nd	50m Backstroke
Aaron Morton (11)	1 st	200m Butterfly
Richard Murray (10)	3 rd	400m Freestyle
Michael Patan (17)	2 nd	400m Freestyle
	3 rd	50m Freestyle

In the BAGCAT scores, where competing in the full range of events is important, our best results so far in their respective agegroups at the end of the first gala were:

Jade Cook	1 st
Michael Patan	4 th
Richard Murray	5 th

Other highlights included:

- **Kate Troy (14)** and **Lucy Proctor (15)** braved their first ever 1500m swims
- **Alex Park (15)** and **Richard Murray (10)** made their first attempts at 400m freestyle
- **Michael Patan (17)** swam an excellent 400m freestyle following some very hard training for this event.
- The quartet of 15 and over boys were fiercely competitive in the 50m Freestyle, with **Michael Patan** coming out on top this time, **Alex Park** only narrowly missing out on his first NER qualifying time and **David**

- Hookway** (16) breaking 29 seconds for the first time. **Joe Walsh** (16) will have to wait for the starting signal if he wants to record a time!
- There was more excellent swimming from our talented 10 year old girls with three of them – **Alice Eynon, Jade Cook and Alana Prior** finishing in the Top 6 in 50m freestyle, which augurs especially well for future relay events in this agegroup. **Hannah Briggs** was also on excellent form in all 3 of her races including her first 200m Backstroke.
 - The most successful event in terms of PBs was 200m Breaststroke with all 5 of our entrants – **David Hookway, John van Mourik (12), Anna Brewster (14), Victoria Fenby (13) and Fern Turner (13)** swimming PBs, several of them by enormous margins
 - **Lauren Bell** (14) had a busy weekend with 4 swims, 3 of them in PB times
 - There were also PBs for **Lauren Allinson (11), Anna Troy (11), Elizabeth Fenby (11) and Victoria Pinner (12)**.

Head Coach, Glen Fenby, and A squad coach, Emma Hughes, both were delighted with the performance and efforts from their swimmers so early in the season.

The second gala in the series is on 23,24 October at Stanley.