

Barracudas show big improvement

BLYTHE Barracudas members proved once again on Saturday how the club continues to progress as they made their return to Smethwick Swimming Centre to take part in Warley Wasps Annual Gala.

The team has improved enormously in strength and depth over the past year as proved by the number of personal best times and first places achieved.

There was a win for the boys ten years medley team of William Rigg, Ben Austin, James Lee and Calum Davies, while Caitlin Gordon, Charlotte Pugh, Natasha Yates and Sophie Thompson won the freestyle relay for the fourteen years girls.

James Lee, ten, and Maria Thompson, 11, won their backstroke events while there was also victories for Charlotte Davies, Ellie Berwick and Katie Berwick in

Swimming

their breaststroke races for the ten, eleven and twelve year age groups respectively.

Special mention must go to Lucy Rigg, Helen Pindar, Jonathan Davies and Mark Thompson who excelled themselves and romped to convincing victories in all three Masters events.

An exciting gala saw Barracudas lying in second position for most of the evening but eventually being edged into a well deserved third by the final event.

Blythe Barracudas were recently invited to join the Mercian Summer League which caters for competitive swimmers from ten through to adult swimmers.

They travelled to Nuneaton last weekend to compete at senior league level for

the first time and there were personal best times for ten-year-olds James Lee, Ben Austin and Mollie Lewis, twelve-year-olds Katie Berwick and Ruby Turriff and fourteen-year-olds Sophie Thompson and Natasha Yates. Open age group swimmers Hollie Joyce and Lucy Rigg also bettered their times.

Unfortunately, due to the late entry to the League, many key swimmers were unable to attend but those who did rose to the occasion admirably helping the team to finish in a very respectable fourth slot.

Blythe Barracudas are always on the lookout for new members ranging from seven through to adults. If you are interested in finding out more about a local competitive swimming club with a welcoming atmosphere contact the club membership secretary Laura Farquhar on 01564 770197.