

## OLYMPIC TRIALS AND NATIONAL QUALIFYING TIMES FOR LOCAL SWIMMERS

A great team performance from a group of 30 Maxwell swimmers, ranging from 9 to 26 years old, who competed at the Hillingdon SC Level 1 Open Meet on Saturday and Sunday 17/18 December. This was a meet with some tough entry times and many of the best clubs in the South East attended but an invigorate Maxwell squad produced some great performances with the majority of swimmers achieving PB's and achieving early season goals or better.

Liam O'Brien (15) qualified for the National Youth Championships and the Olympic Trials in the 50m freestyle with a time of 24.97s and gaining a county record also. Joining him is Craig Gibbons (26) who improved on his entry time, winning his 100m freestyle in 50.4s.

Billy Martin (11) made huge improvements in his 200m butterfly achieving 2:36.60s and a national qualifying time.

Many other swimmers were within seconds or even tenths away from also qualifying for the National Championships - David Witham (13) made big improvements in his 100m and 200m backstroke along with good freestyle times and Tom Elgar (16) knocked just over 2 seconds off his entry time to now be only 0.5s outside of his National time.

David Godridge (18) swam a new PB in the 100m butterfly, whilst also setting his fastest 200m freestyle time in 3 years! Godridge also just missed out on his ASA Senior National Time of 52.65s by 0.07 seconds, a time he hopes to beat this month.

Abbie Haward (15) continued with what has been an incredible start to the season setting a new long course pb in the 100m breaststroke 1:19.00s, 2 seconds outside of her National Time, a 3 second improvement on her previous pb set only a couple of weeks earlier.

Emily Martin (14) and Anna Evison (17) both found themselves within 2-3 seconds of their Nationals Times for 100m freestyle. Being so early on in the season this gives them a great training focus for the County Championships and Regional's.

Ronan Denton (15) made big improvements in all his events, particularly the 200m backstroke, 50m & 100m freestyle. Ronan is also within 3 seconds of what could be his first National time!

Alfie Bones (15) stormed his 400m Medley producing a great pb leaving him well inside his ASA Zonal qualification time and Rhys Hylands (15) had a storming 100m freestyle and butterfly setting new PB's in both events.

Our youngest swimmers; James Eddy (11), Sebastian Nichols (11) and Ciara Connick-Linley (9) had an awesome meet. With James improving on many of his entry times, Sebastian having a good 50m freestyle and Ciara gaining good times in her 50m & 200m butterfly events. All setting new PB's whilst gaining some much needed long course experience alongside the clubs senior swimmers!

Zoe Hancock (13) had a great meet setting new pb's, Harry Maishman (12) stormed the 50m freestyle in a time of 28.25s along with great times in his 50m butterfly and 50m backstroke.

Some good swims were also achieved by the rest of the squad: Owain Spencer (13), Matthew Eddy (13), Luke Scales (14), Jake Scales (15), Kenny Cliffe (16), Jack Rowland (16), Emma White (13), Louise Brunt (13), Caitlin Wheatley (14), Katie Willis (14), Ruth Bridgman (14), Sophie Bateman (16), Corinne James (17),

Maxwell now have four swimmers on their way to the Olympic Trials.

- Ends -

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**Notes for editors:**

Maxwell Swim Club is based in Aylesbury and Buckingham. We are Aylesbury Vale's Performance Swim Team and more information can be found on: <http://www.maxwellswimclub.org/>

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