

SCUNTHORPE ANCHOR 50MTR CLUB SPRINTS NOV 2004.

Scunthorpe Anchor Swimming club held there 50 meter club sprints at the end of November 2004. with some very impressive results and new club records by some of the younger members of the club.

The first event was by the youngest of the boys with new swimmers taking to the blocks in the boys 6-9 year age group. Brothers Jan & Leeudert van den Berg-Slowey, Declan Hunt and Keiran Skinner all recording new times and showing no sign of nerves in this their first ever entry into the 50mtr Freestyle event. The boys 10-11 year freestyle was an exciting event with **Thomas Spencer** gaining a New Club Record of 32.35 seconds beating the previous record by 1.53 seconds which had stood since 2000 by G. Thompson. The most improved time in this age group was by Joshua Britcliffe who PB'd 5.77 seconds. Scott and Daniel Strong were a split second away from each other with Scott coming off better this time. The Boys 12-13 age group a Judges decision having to be made between Sam Green & David Ridgely with the decision going in Sams Favour it was a well swam race with all four swimmers together at the turn and just two seconds separated first and fourth. The Boys 14-15 age group saw Allan Snowden, Daniel Peacock and David Guest battle it out with all three swimmers sprinting for first place, Allan Snowden touching the wall first missing the club record by a split second. The Older end of the boys age group saw 17 yearold Shane Thackeray up against some of the Senior Squad members including club coach Steve Dale all four swimmers missing Pbs and Shane coming out on top.

Event two saw the club record for the Girls 6-9 years freestyle being broken it had been held by Fay Peal since 1996 but was taken by **Grace Conlon** one of three records taken by Grace over the course of the afternoon taking an impressive 1.60 seconds from the record. Eight of the 10 swimmers in this race all collecting new time and all being relatively new swimmers to anchor. The youngest of the swimmers Lauren Callaghan aged 7, showed gutsy determination in her 50mtr freestyle sprint. In the girls 10-11 years Sarah Dale achieved the first of her four first placed medal with Pbs obtained by all thirteen swimmers. Stephanie Warner -3.01 Pb & Sian Mitchell -4.09 Pb but the biggest Pb went to Rebecca Moore in this age group, Rebecca has only been swimming for Anchor since January 2004 and she achieved a massive 5.66 seconds off her previous time. The girls 12-13 age group also saw Claire Snowden take first place, her one of four first places in the afternoon. Of the seven swimmers in the race four Pbs were achieved, Clare took first but it was a close tight race between second Hayley Redmile and third & fourth place Olivia Minaudo & Samantha J Martin-Neale. The 14-15 age group saw a tight race between Sophie Moore, Amy Houldsworth and Rebecca Ridgely with all the swimmers together at the turn, but Sophie showing the stronger in the end to edge in front and take the first place and obtaining a Pb. Not to be out done sister Katie took first place in the 16 & over age group in a mirrored time to Sophies.

Butterfly isn't everyone's first choice stroke but the four swimmers in the boys 6-9 years all gave it their best with new times recorded for each, with Jan & Leeudert van den Berg-Slowey taking first & second. In the Boys 10-11 years Thomas Spencer took first place with a Pb and impressive Pbs were also gained by Ryan Holmes -5.82, Ben Foster -7.12 & Daniel Strong -7.58. The Boys 12-13 year age group saw a tough battle between all three boys turning level at the 25 meter mark and battling for the finish with Oliver Conlon taking first with a Pb -1.29 & David Ridgely an impressive 5.22 improvement on his previous time. The 14-15 age group and the 16 & over only saw an improved time for Daniel Peacock of -0.22, the seniors though had very little time between them and Shane Thackeray yet again showing that the younger man comes out on top.

It was the girls turn to show how butterfly is swam with Grace Conlon missing out by 0.08 of a second on what would have been her fourth club record. New comers Becky Wattam, Devon Hill & Alicia Snow all achieved new times and there was only a fingers touch between them all at the finish. The girls 10-11 age group saw Sara Dale take her second first place of the afternoon and all first three placed swimmers Sara Dale, Rhiannon Haber & Emma Wilkinson improved on their previous times. Pbs in this age group was also obtained by Stephanie Warner. As the age

groups increased the participating swimmers became less and the 12-13 age group only saw six swimmers taking part. A split second between first and second with Pbs for each swimmer Claire Snowden & Hayley Redmile but a new time for Kelly Cox and a third place for Kelly in this her first 50 mtr Butterfly Sprint, a new time was also recorded for Samantha J Martin-Neale & Laura Fletcher. The 14-15 age group saw the usual three participating swimmers of Sophie Moore, Amy Houldsworth and Rebecca Ridgely with a tight swim and impressive finish by Sophie and a Pb obtained by Rebecca of -3.33. Three swimmers also took part in the 16 & over age group with Katie Moore taking first and Pb for Lauren Pettit.

The Boys breast stroke was started with the 6-9 year old boys and the four swimmer entered all took new times with Jan & Leeudert van den Berg-Slowey taking first and second place again with Jan winning convincingly. 10-11 years saw William Dale take the first place on the podium 0.38 of a second in front of Thomas Spencer. New times recorded by Paul Georgiou, Rhys Skinner & Kristan Kafarski. Ryan Holmes achieved the best Pb with -3.48 seconds off his previous time. All three competitors in the boys 12-13 year age group swam a very tight a competitive race with hardly any distance between them at the 25 mtr mark but David Ridgely managed to edge that bit further in front to touch the wall first from Sam Green and Oliver Conlon each achieving Pbs. One second came between Allan Snowden and Daniel Peacock in their race with the one second advantage going to Allan to finish in first but there was literally nothing between them which added to this exciting & thrilling 50mtr race, and not to be out done Shane Thackeray & Paul Edwards made the time between them 0.10 of a second to add even more excitement to this eventful afternoon, with Shane just touching in front of Paul.

The girls 6-9 year saw six new recorded times with Lauren York taking the lead, and another club record recorded for **Grace Conlon** beating her own previous club record by 0.76 of a second this being the second club record taken by Grace in the afternoon so far. The 10-11 age group saw another first place for Sara Dale with Louisa Smith taking a worthy second place and a Pb with Jasmin Kirk in her favourite stroke coming in third place. New times being recorded for Jessica Doleman & Megan Fletcher. Claire Snowden took her third first place of the afternoon 0.05 of a second in front of Hayley Redmile & a third place for Olivia Minaudo with 1.91 seconds improvement on her previous time, Pbs also by Megan Haber -3.17 & Samantha Martin-Neale taking a massive 6.16 seconds from her previous time. The trio in the 14-15 age group saw Sophie take her third first place 0.51 seconds in front of Amy Houldsworth who gained a Pb as did Rebecca Ridgely. Chloe Willerton was the only competitor in the 16 & over age group and came in just under her seeded time.

The last races of the sprints was the backstroke with the boys in the 6-9 year age group to take to the water for the last time. Four swimmers in this age group Jan & Leeudert van den Berg-Slowey Declan Hunt & Keiran Skinner with the brothers coming in first and second, and all the swimmers recording new times. Thomas Spencer finished first in the 10-11 age group with Ryan Holmes & William Dale touching at exactly the same time and the judges had to make the final placing decision. The hardest battle of this race seemed to be between fourth and eighth place with Pbs set by all five swimmers Scott Strong -0.75, Ben Foster a massive -12.03 seconds off his previous best, Daniel Strong -1.09, Joshua Britcliffe -6.35, & -0.11 for Matthew Tasker. All the boys in this age group seem to be getting stronger and faster in this stroke. The 12-13 backstroke was an exciting and very close race with 3.4 seconds dividing first to fourth and four Pbs also achieved. All four boys turned together at the 25mtr mark with David Ridgely & Oliver Conlon neck & neck until the finish but David managed that one last push and touched the wall first with Oliver 0.41 of a second behind David closely followed by Sam Green & John Bell. Three competitors for the boys 14-15 age group saw Daniel Peacock achieve a Pb of -2.13 seconds to come in first place in front of Allan Snowden who also obtained a Pb of -1.89 in front of David Guest. Shane Thackeray & Steve Dale were the last two swimmers for the boys in the 16 & over backstroke with Shane putting in the stronger performance of the two swimmers, but Steve Dale was close on his heels at the turn on the 25 mtr mark, Shane turned up another speed and touched the wall in first place 2.36 seconds in front of his mentor to finish the afternoon with his fourth first place medal.

The last events for the girls was also the 50mtr backstroke with another club record taken by **Grace Conlon** which had been previously held by Jemma Ried since 2002 Grace taking 0.41 seconds from the previous record. and eight of the ten swimmers in this age group recorded new times. Sara Dale took her fourth first place of the afternoon in the girls 10-11 year age group and a Pb to complete a good afternoon for Sara. Louisa Smith also achieved a Pb to come in second and Emma Wilkinson third. Excellent Pb times were also obtained by Stephanie Warner, Jasmin Kirk & Rebecca Moore. New times recorded for Megan Fletcher & Jessica Sayers. Claire Snowden also finished the afternoon on a high note but not before an exciting close race finish in the girls 12-13 backstroke with all girls in the first three places turning together at the 25mtr stage, and only three seconds separating them at the finish and Pbs obtained by them all, Claire Snowden, Olivia Minaudo & Hayley Redmile. In the 14-15 age group it saw Rebecca Ridgley the only swimmer to take part and she completed the race within her own seeded time. As did Lauren Pettitt in the 16 & over Category.

A good afternoon in all with a majority of the swimmers improving on their previous times and many New Times recorded by the new members of the Scunthorpe Anchor Swimming Club ranging from the age of 7 to 10. Of 222 swims 91 swims achieved personal bests, 70 swims were recorded as new times and an impressive 4 club records were broken not bad for a Sunday afternoon.