

### **West Midlands Speedo League Round 3, Leamington Spa - Saturday 9th December**

Swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club travelled to Leamington Spa for the final round of the 2006 Division 1 West Midlands Speedo League in the knowledge that any position higher than Leamington and Luton would secure 1st Division status into 2007. The team opened strongly and lay in second spot after the opening relay events but it took until the halfway mark for matters to settle down with Halesowen lying safely in third place - well ahead of the relegation rivals. The team finished the gala with a real flourish by winning all four of the final relays in some style to end the evening in third place and comfortably retaining their 1st Division place.

Individual first places came from Stephanie Hackett in the Backstroke and Breaststroke, Hannah Cuthbert and Louise Williams in the Butterfly and Harry Cowley and Michael Edmonds in the Freestyle. Both girls and boys age 15 and under relay teams proved unbeatable in both the Freestyle and Medley events with team members Josie Evans, Kimberley Mack, Roxanne Taylor, Laurence Hickin, Adam Jackson and Robert Smith. Members of the final Open Freestyle relay teams were Leanne Taylor, Matt Cherry, Greg George, Anthony Hackett, Jamie Roome and Jack Watts.

Final points scores were City of Derby A 207, Walsall 202, Halesowen 186, Leamington Spa 169, Camphill Edwardians 153 and Luton A 132.

### **West Midlands Speedo League Round 2, Stetchford - Saturday 11th November Ron Hooper Inter-County Trophy Gala, Wolverhampton – Sunday 12th November**

Swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club enjoyed a busy and successful two days over the weekend of 11th and 12th November. On Saturday the team were at Stetchford for the second round of the West Midlands Speedo League and finished in a close second place to Camphill Edwardians in a tight gala. Early contentious disqualifications proved costly putting the team 13 points behind by event 15 which came into play again at the halfway mark to leave the team 14 points behind in third spot. However, the team fought back magnificently to win half of the final dozen events to narrowly miss out on top spot by just 5 points.

Individual first places came from Emily Homer and Michael Edmonds in the Backstroke, Hannah Cuthbert in the Butterfly, Louise Williams, Harry Cowley and Laurence Hickin in the Freestyle, Stephanie Hackett and Robert Smith in the Breaststroke and Leanne Taylor in the Individual Medley. Both 15 and under girls and boys team pulled off Freestyle and Medley double wins with team members Josie Evans, Kimberley Mack, Roxanne Taylor and Conor Carey. The final mens Freestyle relay event was won in fine style by Matt Cherry, Nigel Gaskin, Greg George, Anthony Hackett, Andy Papworth and Jack Watts.

Final points scores were Camphill Edwardians A 199, Halesowen 194, Leamington Spa 185, Luton A 179, Bromsgrove 165 and Bilston 113.

The following day saw 4 swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club represent Worcester County and 1 represent Staffordshire at the Ron Hooper Inter-County Trophy gala at Wolverhampton and all produced good performances for the team. Competing swimmers were Hannah Cuthbert, Josie Evans, Stephanie Hackett, Michael Edmonds, Laurence Hickin.

### **The Midland Long Course Championships, Coventry - Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th November**

Thirteen swimmers took part in the Midland Long Course Championships at a cold Coventry and competed in a total of 52 events. The swimmers produced 8 top 8 junior placings, 1 top 8 Open place and took part in four finals. Congratulations go to Hannah Cuthbert 7th place in the Junior 200m Butterfly, Stephanie Hackett 4th place in the Junior 50m Butterfly and 6th place in the 50m Breaststroke, Michael Edmonds 2nd place in the junior 50m Backstroke and Jack Watts 8th place in the Open 1500m Freestyle.

### **West Midlands Speedo League Round 1, Worcester - Saturday 14th October**

Senior swimmers travelled to Worcester for the first round of the 2006 Speedo League with a tough night in prospect. This proved to be the case with international swimmers in attendance leading to precious few wins during the evening. At the halfway mark the team found themselves in bottom spot by the slenderest of margins but slipped further as the gala progressed and ended the evening in sixth place.

Individual event winner was Laurence Hickin in the Butterfly with the double event winning relay team of Michael Edmonds, Laurence Hickin, Adam Jackson and Robert Smith. Second places came from Leanne Taylor in the Individual Medley, Stephanie Hackett in the Breaststroke and Laurence Hickin in the Freestyle.

Final point scores were Boldmere 199, Worcester 197, Chase 194.5, Trident 173.5, Braunstone 150 and Halesowen 133.

### **Worcester County Youth & Masters Sprints, Wolverhampton - Sunday 8th October**

17 swimmers aged 14 and over travelled to Wolverhampton on Sunday 8th October to take part in the Worcester County Sprints competition and, like their 13 and under counterparts in September, enjoyed a very successful day. Swimmers completed 72 events with 37 of these in a top 3 placing. Quadruple event winners were Stephanie Hackett and Leanne Taylor, triple event winners Louise Williams and Laurence Hickin, double event winners Fraser Pressdee and Robert Smith and Backstroke winner Michael Edmonds. Particular mention goes to Michael Edmonds in the Backstroke and Fraser Pressdee in the Individual Medley for both producing competition best performances and 'B skins' winner Laurence Hickin.

### **Braunstone Sports Trophy Gala, Braunstone - Saturday 23rd September**

Senior swimmers travelled to Braunstone via the scenic route for the Braunstone Sports Trophy Gala on Saturday 23rd September. The swimmers were in fine form and produced numerous PBs and tremendous wins in some very closely fought races. The team finished the gala in 4th place overall and look forward to the first round of the Speedo League at Worcester on 14th October.

Individual event winners were Leanne Taylor in the Individual Medley and Backstroke, Hannah Cuthbert and Laurence Hickin in the Butterfly and Rob Smith in the Breaststroke. The relay teams were in fine form with the girls 15 and under team of Hannah Cuthbert, Josie Evans, Stephanie Hackett and Roxanne Taylor running out as close winners with the boys 15 and under team of Michael Edmonds, Laurence Hickin, Adam Jackson and Rob Smith winning by an even closer margin. Both Open relay teams finished the gala in fine style with convincing wins from team-mates Louise Williams, Greg George, Anthony Hackett, Jamie Roome and Jack Watts.

Final points scores were Leicester Penguins 319, Walsall A 309, Braunstone A 301, Halesowen 285, Camp Hill 190, Market Harborough 177, Walsall B 127, Braunstone B 71.

### **Worcester County Junior Sprints, Wolverhampton - Sunday 17th September**

28 swimmers aged 13 and under travelled to Wolverhampton on Sunday 17th September to take part in the Worcester County Sprints competition and enjoyed a very successful day. Swimmers completed 105 races with over half achieved in personal best times. Triple age group event winner was Hannah Cuthbert in the 4x1 Individual Medley, Butterfly and Backstroke with other event winners Bethany Jackson in the Freestyle and Richard Phillips in the Butterfly. Halesowen swimmers also produced five 2nd places and four 3rd places. Particular congratulations go to the girls "Skins" event winner Hannah Cuthbert.

## **World Biathle Championships, Salford Quays - Sunday 3rd September 2006**

Stuart Geggie finished in 4th place at the World Biathle Championships. The event was held at Salford Quays Watersports Centre in Manchester on Sunday September 3rd. The event attracted entries from many countries including France, Holland, Czechoslovakia, and a strong team from South Africa. The race comprises a continuous run, swim, run and is organised into age groups from 11years to Masters 60 years and over. Stuart trains with Halesowen Swimming Club and Halesowen Athletic Club and was competing in the Masters A event. Stuart finished the first run in fifth place, moved up to fourth place during the swim, but was unable to improve further through the last run. France took first place, South Africa second, Sean Kinsey from the British team was third just ahead of team mate Stuart.

## **Halesowen Swimming Club Fun Biathlon – Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2006**

Nearly seventy family members, friends and local schools took part in the eighth Halesowen Swimming Club Fun Biathlon on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. The event started early on Sunday morning with the fun run taking place at the Earls High School with many participants entering into the spirit of the occasion by taking part in fancy dress. All kinds of outfits were on display from 'superheroes' to 'three blind mice' with 'meet the grandparents' and 'Bill & Ben the flower pot men' taking the fancy dress award later in the day. All participants enjoyed the good weather with a picnic lunch and games and then made the short journey to the pool for the swimming event. All teams competed well in the swimming relay event which was followed by a fun three-man boat relay event.

The family trophy went to 'The Phillip Fliers Mark II', the HalesMix & Friends top team was 'The Superheroes' and the Schools trophy went to 'The Tenter Tigers' of Aaron Birch, Luke Owen and Reiss Vaughan who were representing Tenterfields. The Club is grateful to all the people who made the Fun Biathlon possible and Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council for supporting the event as part of the Dudley Summer Events programme.

## **Worcester County 4x1IM and Inter-Club Relay Championships - Sunday 2nd July**

Swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club were in action on Sunday 2nd July at a blisteringly hot Worcester in the County 4x1IM and Inter-Club Relay Championships.

31 swimmers from Halesowen took part in the 4x1IM County Championships with Hannah Cuthbert and Laurence Hickin winning their age groups, Beth Jackson and Adam Jackson second in their age groups and third placed Josie Evans, Louise Williams, Michael Edmonds, Robert Smith and Jack Watts. Particular mention goes to Leanne Taylor for her second place in both her age group and the County final which she swam in identical times.

The relay teams put on an excellent display in the annual Inter-Club Championships and amassed a total of 58 points to finish the event in overall third spot. The boys 13/14 boys medley relay team would have broken the competition best performance by two seconds were it not for a disqualification. However, not to be denied, the same boys team of Conor Carey, Laurence Hickin, Oliver Jackson and Robert Smith went on to win the freestyle relay final by over four seconds having already broken that record by over two seconds in the heats! Not to be outdone the boys 15/16 freestyle team of Michael Edmonds, Adam Jackson, Jamie Roome and Jack Watts also won in an impressive competition best time. The girls Open team of Hannah Cuthbert, Josie Evans, Leanne Taylor and Louise Williams were also on great form to win their Freestyle Relay. Final positions of the top five teams were Worcester 96, Stourbridge 64, Halesowen 58, Haden Hill 40 and Ledbury 35.

### **Mercian League Round 3 – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2006**

Swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club travelled to Leamington Spa for the final round of the Mercian League on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July. The team had been weakened with a number of swimmers missing for the final round and despite a battling performance were unable to compete with the strong opposition on display. Although the team battled hard with Walsall they were unable to claw their way off the bottom spot and finished sixth in the gala and overall in the League.

Individual event winners were Conor Carey in the Backstroke and Freestyle, Daniel Johnson in the Freestyle and Richard Phillips in the Butterfly. Second placed individuals were Jack Slattery in the Backstroke and Breaststroke and Chloe Robbins in the Butterfly, with members of the second placed 10 and under Freestyle relay team Ryan Spoor and Thomas Taylor.

Final points scores were: Solihull 200, Leamington Spa 198, Perry Beeches SSS 175, Stratford Sharks A 166, Walsall 160 and Halesowen 147 (and England lost to Portugal on penalties!)

### **Nuneaton Junior League Round 3 – 17<sup>th</sup> June 2006**

Junior swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club were in action at home for the third time the final round of the Nuneaton Junior League on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June. The team were looking to secure first division status for 2007 and achieved this goal through a deserved third place finish. An impressive City of Coventry team were well ahead after the early events with Halesowen leading the other teams by just three points. By the halfway mark Chase had closed the gap for second spot to just one point. Chase continued to improve but Halesowen, after falling behind with 10 events to go, edged back into second place with just the final 3 events remaining. Second place was decided on the final event with Halesowen just missing out by three points.

Individual winners on the night were Beth Jackson in the Butterfly and Freestyle, Sian Carey in the Breaststroke, Megan Willetts in the Backstroke and Thomas Fenton in the Butterfly. The 12 years relay team including Pria Rai, Chloe Robbins and Rebecca Spoor proved unbeatable again in both Freestyle and Medley events.

Final point scores were City of Coventry 272, Chase 194, Halesowen 191, Cam Hill 159, Redditch 122 and Wolverhampton 113.

### **Mercian League Round 2 – Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2006**

Swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club travelled to Wombourne for the second round of the Mercian Summer League on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June and were involved in yet another nail-biting finish. The team had fallen behind by 2 points after the open relays events to Solihull but pulled out an impressive lead on the individual events to lead the gala by 12 points at the halfway mark. Halesowen maintained the same margin going into the final round of relay events but 2 disqualifications lead to a very tight finish with Solihull running out eventual winners by a slender 2 point gap.

Individual double event winners were Verity Emms in the Individual Medley and Backstroke, Rebecca Spoor in the Backstroke and Freestyle, Conor Carey in the Backstroke and Freestyle and Daniel Johnson in the Freestyle and Butterfly. First placed individual swimmers were Lilian Parsons, Chloe Robbins, Richard Phillips and Fraser Pressdee in the Butterfly, Sarah Watts in the Backstroke, Nikki Bainbridge in the Breaststroke and Aaron Smith in the Freestyle. Members of the 12 and under winning Freestyle and Medley relay team were Pria Rai and Lauren Garbett and the Open Medley team including James Bainbridge and Richard Ruston.

Final points scores were: Solihull 224, Halesowen 222, Brierley Hill 192, Wombourne 184, Rugby 154 and Stratford Sharks B 58.

## **Nuneaton Junior League Round 2 – 13<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

Junior swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club were in action at home again in the second round of the Nuneaton Junior League on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May. The team faced an incredibly tough draw with three of the opponents winning on their first round outing and another finishing second. The level of competition did not disappoint with the top four teams fighting it out right from the first event leaving Halesowen and Solihull to do battle for fifth and sixth places. Halesowen were behind Solihull right the way through to event 41 when an run of excellent results saw the tables turn gradually in favour of the home side. The final ten events saw places change hand several times with Halesowen finally grabbing the all-important fifth spot and two vital League points.

Individual winners on the night were Beth Jackson in the Butterfly and Freestyle and Megan Willetts in the Backstroke. The 12 years relay team including Pria Rai, Chloe Robbins and Rebecca Spoor proved unbeatable again in both Freestyle and Medley events.

Final point scores were City of Coventry 229, Boldmere A 204, Leicester Penguins 203, Leamington Spa 189, Halesowen 116 and Solihull A 109.

## **Mercian League Round 1 – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

Swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club travelled to Bromsgrove for the first round of the Mercian Summer League on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April. The team was involved in another close gala and did battle with Stratford Sharks throughout the evening. Halesowen were rarely more than 10 point adrift from the lead and despite some fine performances finished a close second overall.

Individual double event winners were Nikki Bainbridge in the Individual Medley and Breaststroke and Conor Carey in the Backstroke and Freestyle. First placed individual swimmers were Rebecca Spoor and Jack Slattery in the Freestyle and Fraser Pressdee in Butterfly. Members of the 12 and under winning Freestyle relay team were Emily Homer, Pria Rai and Chloe Robbins.

Final points scores were: Stratford Sharks A 206, Halesowen 195, Haden Hill 181, Bromsgrove 165, Broadway 158 and Warley Wasps 129.

## **Worcester Winter League Round 3 – Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2006**

Senior swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club were in action in the 'A' final in the last round of the Worcester Winter League at Droitwich. In a closely fought competition the teams from Halesowen, Stourbridge and Worcester were locked in battle from the very first race and the three teams were never separated by more than ten-points. At the halfway mark Halesowen nudged into a five-point lead but saw this position reversed in favour of Worcester with just ten events to go. Unbelievably, all three teams were level with just the final four relay events to go and could only be separated by three-points at the finish with Halesowen running out the winners by one-point.

Individual winners were Hannah Cuthbert, Bethany Jackson, Louise Williams and Laurence Hickin all double event winners in Freestyle and Butterfly, Adam Jackson in the Butterfly, Richard Spoor in the Breaststroke and Michael Edmonds in the Backstroke. The 13 and under relay team including Maria Goodwin, Kimberly Mack, Conor Carey and Oliver Jackson proved unbeatable and the 15 and under team including Josie Evans, Jess Northall Roxanne Taylor and Jack Watts were impressive Freestyle relay winners.

Final points scores were Halesowen 172, Stourbridge A 171, Worcester A 169, Bromsgrove 126, Redditch 102 and Worcester B 97.

## Sponsored World Record Attempt at Halesowen Leisure Centre

On Good Friday 14th April Andy Papworth, Matt Cherry, Greg George and Nigel Gaskin set out to break the 400m Freestyle World Record. This record is currently held by Ian "Thorpedo" Thorpe in a time of 3.40.08.

The guys attempted this challenge as a 4 man relay team at Halesowen Leisure Centre in front of team mates and a large contingent of supporters in the spectator gallery. Beating the record was always going to be tough with the guys needing to beat 18.19 seconds for each and every one of the 12 lengths. The event got underway with tremendous support and by the halfway mark the team achieved the unexpected bonus of beating the 200m world record time of 1.42.96 in an unbelievably quick 1.40.73 - that's under 16.79 for every length! The team tired towards the end but surpassed the intended target with an incredible 12 seconds to spare.

This was a sponsored event and all money raised will be donated to the "Susan Kathleen Wright" fund. Susan is Andy's Aunt who is suffering from colon cancer and the treatment she requires is not available on the NHS. Over £450 was raised on the night with at least as much again to follow through pledges made. Particular thanks go to Network SI (UK) Ltd for their £100 donation. Any further donations or continuing sponsorship will be much appreciated. Andy is keen to pass on his thanks to all that supported this event.



## **Nuneaton Junior League Round 1 – 8<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

Junior swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club were in action at home in the first round of the Nuneaton Junior League on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April. The team produced an excellent performance which resulted in a fourth place finish to match the achievement of last year's team. There were some great individual performances with 20 personal best times achieved. The gala quickly settled down after the opening events and found Halesowen in fourth spot but unable to make a dent in the lead of the first three teams.

Individual winners on the night were Beth Jackson in the Butterfly and Harry Cowley in the Breaststroke. Relay wins came from the Freestyle team of Sam Bainbridge, Harry Cowley, Dan Johnson and George Turton and the Freestyle and Medley star team of the night, Beth Jackson, Pria Rai, Chloe Robbins and Rebecca Spoor.

Special mention goes to Natasha Bird, Abbie Harvey, Sarah Turton, Megan Willetts, Victoria Homer, Jamie House, Chandan Johal, Jonathan Rizzo, Matthew Scrivens, Aaron Smith and Jordan Thacker who were representing the Club for the first time in League competition.

Final point scores were Nuneaton & Bedworth A 232, Leamington Spa 201, Chase 196, Halesowen 171, Hinckley 151 and Wolverhampton 96.

## **West Midlands Biathlon - 2nd April**

Swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club swapped their flippers for running shoes to compete in the regional biathlon trials at Wombourne. This competition combines running and swimming events in which the entrants try to amass the greatest points total.

In the Youth C class Roxanne Taylor had an excellent run but was just pipped in the swim to finish second overall. Hannah Cuthbert recorded the fastest swim on her way to fifth position and a creditable eighth place for Grace Emms secured second place for Halesowen in the girls team competition.

Sarah Turton swam a personal best to win the swim in the Mini Girls event. In her first biathlon she found the run harder work but still achieved fifth place overall.

Harry Cowley led the way in the Boys Youth D class with a superb swim but was just beaten in the run to accumulate 1944 points overall. This put Harry into second place overall, just 4 points behind the event winner. George Turton and Daniel Johnson both had fine swims to finish seventh and ninth overall. This secured the Halesowen Boys second place in the team competition.

## **Worcester County Championships - February & March 2006**

During the course of four weekends in February and March 38 swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club took part in the Worcester County Championships and continued the success of recent years.

The swimmers took part in 310 events with almost three-quarters of these completed in personal best times and well over half resulting in a top 6 age-group finish. A total of 44 first places were achieved by swimmers who set an impressive 14 Championship records in the process – beating some dating back to 1989.

Leanne Taylor and Louise Williams enjoyed a successful Championships with Leanne taking the 100m Butterfly, 100m Backstroke and 400m Individual Medley Senior titles and Louise taking both the Senior and Junior titles in the 200m Freestyle and 200m Butterfly and the Junior crown in the 100m Butterfly.

Special mention also goes to Hannah Cuthbert and Michael Edmonds for winning the overall award for their age group. Age group winners were Louise Williams (9 wins), Leanne Taylor (7 wins), Josie Evans (6 wins), Michael Edmonds (5 wins), Bethany Jackson (4 wins), Hannah Cuthbert and Laurence Hickin (3 wins) and Nigel Gaskin (1 win).

Championship records were set by Hannah Cuthbert (50m and 100m Butterfly), Leanne Taylor (200m Freestyle, 100m Butterfly, 50m Breaststroke, 100m Backstroke and 400m Individual Medley), Louise Williams (200m Freestyle), Michael Edmonds (50m, 100m and 200m Backstroke) and Laurence Hickin (50m, 100m and 200m Freestyle).

A measure of the quality of the performances from swimmers at the Club is that 72 times achieved by swimmers at the Championships were at the higher Midland Region standard with Roxanne Taylor, Greg George, Adam Jackson, Andrew Papworth and Jack Watts joining their winning team-mates in achieving this mark.

If you are interested in joining Halesowen Swimming Club you can see us in action on our Club night on Friday evenings at Halesowen Leisure Centre.

## **World Firefighters Games - 22nd & 23rd February 2006**

If you think that swimmers are often asked to travel long distances to compete then think again! In February Nikki and James Bainbridge travelled all the way to Hong Kong to compete in the swimming championships of the World Firefighters Games. Nikki and James took part in a total of 13 events in the 50m pool at Kowloon and were placed no lower than 5<sup>th</sup> in any event. Well done in particular to Nikki for her 1<sup>st</sup> place in the 100m Butterfly and to both for six 3<sup>rd</sup> places, four 4<sup>th</sup> places and two fifth places – congratulations to both on their terrific haul of medals.

## **Worcester Winter League Round 2 – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2006**

Senior swimmers from Halesowen were in action at home in the second round of the Worcester Winter League with the team finishing the gala in third place. The gala was closely fought throughout by the teams from Stourbridge, Bromsgrove and Halesowen with Stourbridge opening up and maintaining a ten-point lead by event 25. The narrowest of finishes saw Bromsgrove edge out Halesowen by just two points in the final event of the evening. Third place was enough to see the team go through to the A final of the League on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at Droitwich.

Individual winners were Louise Williams in the Butterfly, Richard Spoor in the Breaststroke, Michael Edmonds in the Backstroke and Laurence Hickin in the Freestyle. Members of the winning 13/U Medley Relay team were Maria Goodwin, Kimberley Mack, Sarah Watts and Conor Carey and the 15/U Freestyle Relay team Josie Evans, Jess Northall, Roxanne Taylor, Adam Jackson and Jack Watts.

Final points scores were Stourbridge A 169, Bromsgrove 160, Halesowen 158, Haden Hill 142, Perry Beeches & SSS 106 and Wyre Forest 102.

### **Warley Wasps Trophy Gala – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2006**

On Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February our junior team were in action for the first time in 2006 at the Warley Wasps Junior Trophy Gala at Thimblemill. The team were defending the trophy from 2005 and fought hard all evening to fend off a determined Camp Hill team. The teams were neck and neck throughout with Camp Hill narrowly winning the gala by just five points.

Double individual event winners were Lilian Parsons in the Freestyle and Butterfly, Emily Homer and Jack Slattery in the Freestyle and Backstroke and Sian Carey in the Backstroke and Breaststroke. Other individual event winners were Lauren Garbett in the Breaststroke, Jamie House in the Freestyle and Macaulay Swingler in the Backstroke. The girls relay teams were also on form with the age ten, eleven, and twelve years teams all pulling off the Freestyle and Medley double. Members of the teams were Sophie Bowser, Isobel Hughes, Elizabeth McAleenan, Abigail Hughes, Kathryn Smithson, Bethany Jackson, Chloe Robbins and Rebecca Spoor,

Final point scores were Camp Hill Edwardians 137, Halesowen 132, Warley Wasps 129 and Oldbury 87.

### **Staffordshire ASA Inter County Invitation Gala - Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2006**

Congratulations go to our 10 swimmers who represented Worcester County at the Inter-County Gala at Wolverhampton on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February. Halesowen Swimming Club had the largest contingent of swimmers from any Club within the County for this gala – well done to all swimmers, in particular Graham Harrington who produced the only first place for Worcester County.

Swimmers selected were: Hannah Cuthbert, Josie Evans, Beth Jackson, Kimberley Mack, Sarah Watts, Conor Carey, Michael Edmonds, Graham Harrington, Laurence Hickin and Richard Spoor.

### **Worcester Winter League Round 1 – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2006 Brierley Hill Open Meet – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2006**

Senior swimmers from Halesowen were in action at Worcester in the first round of the Worcester Winter League on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January. The team was weakened by the absence of a considerable number of swimmers who were in action at the Brierley Hill Open Meet which was taking place at Wolverhampton over the same weekend. Some swimmers bravely made the journey from Wolverhampton to Worcester and the team put up a spirited performance to finish the night in a creditable fourth spot.

Wins were hard to come by on the night with very tough competition in attendance. Individual winners were Andy Papworth and Richard Spoor in the Breaststroke. Individual second placed swimmers were, Matt Cherry in the Freestyle, Dan Summerfield in the Breaststroke, Abigail Henderson and Greg George in the Butterfly and Richard Spoor in the Backstroke. Second place relay team members were 13/u Medley Grace Emms, Maria Goodwin, Kimberley Mack, Richard Phillips and Daniel Thomas, 15/u Freestyle Josie Evans, Jess Northall and Richard Phillips and Open Medley Verity Emms and Charlotte Northall.

Final Point scores were Worcester A 210, Bromsgrove 185, Haden Hill 164 and Halesowen 151.

Over the same weekend as the Worcester Winter League 25 swimmers were in action at the Brierley Hill Open Meet at Wolverhampton and completed 117 events and 26 finals. Swimmers came away from Meet with a total of 27 Regional Qualifying Times and the Club finished in an impressive overall 2<sup>nd</sup> spot for the weekend to Walsall.