

Yorkshire Winter Swimming Championships

10-11th October 2009

Ponds Forge Sheffield

Bridlington swimmers, Yasmin Brown, Grace Dennis, William Dennis and Joe Harvey have just returned from Sheffield after a very successful weekend at the Winter Yorkshire Swimming Championships.

Yasmin Brown (9) attending her first major championships, was entered in the first event and was understandably a little nervous. This did not show in her swimming and 34.08secs later she had a hard earned silver medal in the 50m Freestyle. She followed this up with a 4th place in the 100m Medley and 18th in the 50m Breaststroke, a very pleasing return for day one. Yasmin backed this up with very impressive swims in the 50m Backstroke and Butterfly where she won a bronze and silver medal respectively. Well done Yasmin.

Grace Dennis (12) entered the 100m Backstroke as one of the favourites but after some very imposing times swum in earlier heats, the pressure was really on. Grace stood tall however and swam superbly to take the gold. Grace's most notable performance came on day two in the 100m Freestyle where she went head to head with one of the country's stars of the future. The two competed hard and left the rest of the field behind and were neck and neck throughout until a photo finish saw Grace pipped to the wall. However, because the heat was a mixed age group, both swimmers picked up a comfortable gold each.

William Dennis (11) was also a favourite going into the 100m Backstroke and this brings with it a great deal of expectation and pressure, with other swimmers from around the whole of Yorkshire targeting previously successful swimmers. William showed great maturity and courage to win the gold in a time that remarkably would also have won the 12 year old event. William's all round ability showed through with excellent placings in all his other events including silver in the 100m Freestyle.

Joe Harvey (14) has promised much over the years and his potential has really started to come through in recent months as he has posted some great PBs. His first race saw him win his heat of the 100m Backstroke in an impressive 1.06secs. Other great swims followed, all in PBs, with the 100m Freestyle being the most notable where Joe was a fraction off going under the one min barrier for the first time.

3 golds, 3 silvers and a bronze placed Bridlington high up in the team rankings, with only the heavily represented clubs being more successful, quite remarkable and testimony to the coaching staff at Bridlington Swimming Club.

Grace is now part of the ASA's England Talent Programme in recognition of her consistent performance at these high level meets, including the National Championships this year in July where she came 7th in the 100m Freestyle and 14th in the 200m Freestyle.