

Virtually a century of bests for swimmers

MEMBERS of Yeovil & District Swimming Club were recently in action at the City of Bristol Swimming Club Early Bird Meet at Hengrove Leisure Centre, with 24 swimmers aged 9-17 competing in 123 events.

The swimmers clocked up 97 personal best times and collected a large haul of medals. Imogen Whitehead, Daisy Locke and Anya Evans all won their events, adding three gold medals to the club's overall tally, which included 14 silver and nine bronze.

It was the first event of the season for many of the swimmers and head coach Rebecca Richards said: "It was great to see our well-rounded training programme paying dividends already so early in the season,

with an 80-per cent PB rate from our team. A great foundation for the rest of the year."

Three senior swimmers from the Performance Squad qualified and also competed at the ASA South West Winter Regional Championships at Millfield in the 50m long course pool.

First to take to the water with the finest swimmers in the region was 15-year-old Jake Mowbray, who attends Gillingham School. He entered the 1,500m event, which is a feat of stamina and tactics.

This was followed by Jasmine Moore, aged 15, of the Gryphon School and Aaron Bartlett (17) of Yeovil College. Moore competed in five events, reaching the final eight in the

200m back stroke. Bartlett also competed in five events, reaching the finals in the 50m and 100m breaststroke. He finished fifth overall in the 50m breaststroke and was also the fastest 17-year-old.

The club have also been celebrating the success of former head coach Alex Pinniger, who was at the helm from 2006 until 2010, when he took up the position of head coach at City of Norwich Swimming Club.

He was voted Para Swimming Coach of the Year at the recent prestigious British Swimming Awards alongside Adam Peaty, who was voted Athlete of the Year.

For more information on joining YDSC go to www.ydsc.co.uk.



Members of Yeovil Swimming Club get together for a photo opportunity