

PRESS RELEASE



5th October 2021

Blue Fins Shine with a Sensational Start to Season

Maxwell Swim Club played host to a Level 3 Open Meet at Aquavale Swimming Pool in Aylesbury on the 2nd and 3rd of October. Over the course of the weekend 54 Blue Fins athletes attended and put in some sensational swims against Abingdon Vale, Aylesbury, Maxwell, Thame, Wantage, Wycombe and 4 Shires swim clubs.

For many it was their first Meet and nine-year-old **Kelly Ng** and **Evie Scrivener** didn't disappoint, both putting in superb performance and taking medals in all their swims! Kelly took three golds (100 backstroke, 100 freestyle, 200 freestyle) and three silvers (50 backstroke, 50 butterfly and 100 breaststroke) whilst Evie took four silvers (50, 100 and 200 freestyle and 50 breaststroke) and three bronze medals (50 butterfly, 50 backstroke and 100 breaststroke). For the older girls **Holly McLellan** (14) impressed in the 50 and 100m breaststroke taking bronze medals and **Megan Beeney** (14) had strong swims in the 50 and 100m butterfly also taking two bronze medals. **Tia Falkner** (17) also took gold in the 200 butterfly and bronze in the 200m IM and 200m breaststroke.

Flying the flag for the younger Blue Fins boys was ten-year-old **Oliver Snelgrove** with six golds in the 50, 100 and 200 freestyle and 50, 100 and 200 breaststroke. For the older boys **William Jones** (15) bagged gold with a PB in the 50m freestyle ((25.93) and gold in the 100m freestyle. **Jacob Pillinger** (15) took gold in the 50m breaststroke with a PB and silver in the 400m freestyle, whilst **Seb Gomm** (15) put in two fantastic swims taking silvers and securing PB's in the 100 and 200m backstroke.

One of the standout swims came from 12-year-old **Josh Scrivener** in the 50m freestyle with Josh putting in an electrifying performance and a big personal best to take gold and a club record with a time of 28.97. An elated Josh said "I am really pleased with all my swims but particularly of the 50m freestyle time. I hadn't gone sub 30 seconds before today! I am really trying to work on what my coaches are telling me to do and change up. There is still much more I can work on, but I am really proud of taking a seven-year club record". Josh took three gold (50 freestyle, 50 butterfly, 100 backstroke) four silvers (100 and 200 freestyle, 100 and 200 butterfly) and a bronze (50 backstroke) from his eight swims at the event.

Other medals went to Imogen Blowes (14), Izzie Carter (14), William Cleaver (9), Tia Falkner (17), Charlotte Gore (14), George Hide (10), Eleanor Illes (13), Grace Kemp (10), Corabelle Lancaster (10) and Beth Wakefield (11).

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Head Coach Craig Oliver was proud of his team's performance saying "The ability to compete this weekend was far from taken for granted by our swimmers. There was a fantastic number of leaps forward in personal bests across-the -board with a brilliant display of skills and technique evidently at the root. It was a most enjoyable time for all the team".

-Ends-

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Notes to editors:

Bicester Blue Fins Amateur Swimming Club was established in 1950 and has been based at Bicester Leisure Centre since 1971. The Club aims to deliver a comprehensive teaching and training programme to maximise the potential of all swimmers and help them to achieve success at local, county, regional and national levels. Programmes are designed by the club's head coaching team and delivered by trained coaching / teaching staff assisted by a team of volunteer helpers who have either been swimmers themselves or who have children who are or have been swimmers.

Bicester Blue Fins is 'SWIM 21' accredited and affiliated to the ASA South East Region and the Oxfordshire & North Buckinghamshire ASA