



# CHECK OUT ALL THE LOCAL FOOTBALL ACTION

## Page 155

# Observer Sport

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WEEK one of the Warwickshire Championships saw two Boldmere swimmers crowned county champions.

Boldmere bagged 38 championship age group and relay medals – 14 gold, 14 silver and 10 bronze – producing six finalists.

Joey Stanger, 20, retained his 50m freestyle title for the fifth straight year, ahead of Ben Stanford in second. Stanger also won age group (15+) bronze in the 1,500m freestyle.

It was a clean sweep of Boldmere gold in the boys' 50m freestyle as Acer Woolley won the 9/10 age group and Leo Karski the 11/12 group.

The second county title went to Luke Davies in the 100m butterfly, while Josh Winnicott won 15yr+ gold in the same event.

Once again, it was a clean sweep of the age groups as Karski won the 10/12 section ahead of Roan Griffiths in second while Stanford won the 13/14 100m fly gold.

Alex Dolan took silver in the girls' 200m breaststroke final and also silver in the 15+ age group, while Kate Davies took 13/14 bronze.

Erin Davies won the 9/10 group by 16 seconds and Lily Wood smashed her personal best by 22 seconds for 11/12yr bronze.

Wood won 100m butterfly silver, as did Rachel Wilson in the 15+ age group, while in the girls' 400m medley Katie Richardson took silver and Morgan Harlow bronze.

Acer Woolley won age group gold in the 200m backstroke, while Stanford took another gold in the 13/14 group and Archie Langston took bronze.

Roan Griffiths won the 11/12yr 100m breaststroke with Leighton Palmer-Whyte second, while Stanford took 13/14yr bronze.

Davies claimed a second gold in the 9/10 200m freestyle, while Megan Holder claimed bronze in the 13/14 50m backstroke.

In the relays, the 9/10 girls' 5x50m freestyle squad of Tess Ward, Lowri Bevan, Davies and Nadya Sterling took silver, as did the boys' team of Sol Langston, William Cooper, Woolley and Oliver Carless in the 4x50m medley relay.

The 11-16 girls' 4x50m medley quartet of Charlotte Smith, Dolan, Wilson and Harlow notched bronze and the men's 4x100m freestyle foursome of Stanford, Steve Wilson, Stanger and Winnicott stormed to gold, setting a new club record.



The successful Boldmere squad. Picture by Steve Harlow

# 'It's like I'm starting over' admits the Don

## BOXING

By MATT BOZEAT  
Sports reporter

DON Broadhurst says he is ready to make headlines again.

His amateur contemporaries include Frankie Gavin and James DeGale – and both are expected to challenge for world titles this summer.

Broadhurst's immediate ambitions are more modest – he meets Stoke journeyman Brett Fidoe for the vacant Midlands Area super-flyweight title at Villa Park next Friday (March 14).

Erdington's Broadhurst is a former Commonwealth champion – and is now rebuilding his career away from the cameras after an 18-month break.

"Boxing's a very fickle sport," said the 30-year-old. "When you're winning, everyone loves you, but when you're not, you're just somebody else walking down the street.



Don Broadhurst says he is ready to work his way back up the boxing ladder

"New people come along and they forget all about you.

"Now I have to work my way up the ladder again. I feel as though I'm starting again."

## Truman back in action too

ERDINGTON welterweight Chris Truman will also be on the Villa Park bill as he returns to action for the first time since his decision to take a break from boxing.

The 29-year-old has not fought since his draw with Sean Lewis for the vacant International Bronze Masters Belt back in September 2013.

Had he beaten Lee Haskins four-and-a-half years ago, Broadhurst would have been close to a world-title fight.

But he was outpointed over 12 messy rounds in Newport.

"I was told that if I beat Haskins, I would have a couple more fights, then go for a world title," said Broadhurst.

"I had a bad night against Lee. I over-trained for the fight and when I got in the ring I felt so

flat. I couldn't get into a groove. But I can't change the past."

The past also includes a four-round points win over Fidoe last November that left the Potteries camp screaming robbery.

"He had a moral victory in our first fight," said Broadhurst, "but there was no way he won. It was like a world title fight for him and maybe I struggled to get up for it. I know I'm going to win again."

All the incentives are there for Broadhurst to claim the 16th win of his 19-fight ring career.

Paul Butler has announced his intention to ditch the British and Commonwealth super-flyweight belts to target a shot at world bantamweight honours – and beating Fidoe would put Broadhurst in the mix to box for the vacant belts.

But he may decide to drop down to flyweight instead, saying: "I would be unstoppable at eight stones."



Chris Truman is returning to the ring after an absence of six months

Truman will be looking to improve his 9-4-2 record as he takes on durable journeyman Dan Carr.

## World silver for cool hand Luke

### ATHLETICS

SUTTON sprinter Luke Lennon-Ford helped Team GB secure silver in the men's 4x400m relay at the IAAF World Indoor Championships in Sopot.

The quartet of Conrad Williams, Jamie Bowie, Lennon-Ford and Nigel Levine were only denied gold by the United States but it took a world indoor record to stop them.

Lennon-Ford said: "Ob-



Luke Lennon-Ford is the proud owner of a World silver medal

viously we're going to be a little disappointed. 2010 bronze, 2012 silver – it was the aim to get gold.

"But if it takes a world record to beat you, then what can you say? We ran two-tenths off the British record and every single person on the team ran their heart out. I can't ask for anything more."

## Acre men target national glory

### FOOTBALL

HUNDRED Acre FC head to Hartlepool United for the semi-final of the FA National Sunday Cup this weekend.

Roy Rencher's side face Sunderland's Humbledon Plains Farm FC for a place in the final against Oyster Martens (Liverpool) or play The Plough from Wellington.

Rencher said: "We can't wait for the game. We are taking a coach of fans although we will be massively outnumbered in terms of support.

"But we are quietly confident. Our opponents have been doing a lot of talking in the build-up and fancy their chances.

"We are just going quietly about our business and we will just focus on us.

"We have a good side with a lot of firepower up front and a lot of experienced players so hopefully we won't be fazed by the occasion and can earn a positive result."

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