

## SPORT ROUND-UP

## INSHORT

**BOWLS:** Sutton Park Bowls Club beat Water Orton by 14 shots in the East Birmingham League with Jim Caldwell (21-5), Dave Perry (21-5) and Danny Wigg (21-16) in dominant form. The Erdington League side beat Ward End Cons by 39 shots thanks to dynamic bowling by Dan Green (21-3), Carl Green (21-6), Rick Green (21-11) and Andy Nuttall (21-7). The Sutton League side beat Erdington Cons by 45 shots with Rick Green (21-9), Alan Middleton (21-9), Caldwell (21-10) and Colin Porter starring. They then demolished the Towers thanks to superb bowling by Steve Yarrington (21-12), Porter (21-2), Rick Green (21-7) and Ron Handsaker (21-16).

**CRICKET:** Elephant Wanderers played Aston Unity in the first match of the AUCC 15x15 League and emerged victorious by 81 runs. Batting first Elephants scored steadily through Chadderton (28no), Shah (16), Graham (18), O'Reilly (16) and Dee (25no), amassing 146-8 off 15 eight-ball overs. In reply, Aston Unity's young side fell for 65 to the accurate bowling of Ware (3-9) and Shah (3-17).

**FOOTBALL:** Mere Green FC secured the Help the Heroes cup at Sutton Coldfield Town FC recently. They defeated Four Oaks FC 5-1 with goals from Jamie Barley (2), John Conway, Kieran Clarke and Matt Mason. The game raised £265 for the charity.

## INSHORT

**CELTIC CALL:** Pype Hayes Celtic FC under-11s are looking for players in all positions. Trials start on Sunday, June 22. Call Kevin on 07919 966897 for more details on how to book a place.

**SUTTON SEARCH:** Sutton Coldfield Town under-15s are currently trialling players for the NERF Junior Premier League on Saturdays next season. Any players interested can email scfcsmf@gmail.com or call Mel Freeman on 07758 083558.

**FALCONS PLEA:** Boldmere Falcons Girls are looking for players for their new teams. Anyone with a child currently in years 4 and 5 who is interested in joining the club can call Nick Lowe on 07585 775598 for further details.

**STARLANDS HUNT:** Starlands St Annes are looking to start a new under-11s girls team, as well as seeking players for the club's ladies, under-18s, under-16s and under-15s sides too. For more details, call Jason on 01922 860079 or 07806 545973 or email jason-barrow@live.com

**ANNES QUEST:** Starlands St Annes are looking for new players at under 7s, under-8s and under-9s levels. Anyone with a child interested in joining should call Matthew Ely on 07976 263180 for more details.



A team from Sutton Coldfield Special Olympics Club put in an outstanding performance at the Alexander Stadium at last Sunday's West Midlands Athletics Event as many personal bests were achieved and medals won. The club's Brian Tolley said: "New members are always welcome to join us - we are a friendly bunch and have a wide range of activities which cater for all abilities. We meet each Friday evening at John Wilmott School 6-8pm. Call me for further information on 07939 093043."



Teenage Walmley race ace James Faultless has lived up to his name by speeding to three trophies in as many race meetings. The stock car racer, 14, had his first win last month at Stoke where he placed first and proved he can be fast on a shale surface. Three weeks later, Faultless raced at his local track Birmingham Wheels raceway, this time a tarmac surface, and his success continued as he came second in heat one, fourth in heat two and then went on to win the final. And just a few days ago, Faultless was again on top form at Coventry, finishing third in race one and winning heat two.



**HOCKEY:** Four Sutton Coldfield Hockey Club players returned with medals from the Masters World Cup held in Rotterdam last week. Tess Guest and Paula Maxwell (pictured) won silver medals in the Over-60s age group, losing out to the Aussies in the final, while Helen Whalley and Charlotte Cross came away with bronze medals in the Over-40s section after beating Russia in the play-offs.

# Leo is in seventh heaven as Boldmere make some waves

## Swimming

By STEVE HARLOW  
Swimming correspondent

SEVEN Boldmere Swimming Club aces competed at the recent British Gas ASA Midland 2014 Age Group Championships at Coventry.

There were two championships debutants - 10-year-old Oliver Carless and 14-year-old Lauren Wilson - along with previous qualifiers Ben Smith (11), Any Mee (12), Megan Holder (13), Georgina Dolan (14) and Leo Karski (12). The standout performance over the four days of the championships came from Karski who not only competed in 11 events (10/12 age group) but also won seven medals, setting personal bests in all but one event - and that miss was only by 0.06 seconds.

His first medal came in the 200m IM final where he finished second with a two-second personal best of 2.28.17mins.

This was followed the next day with a three-second personal best of 2.12.54mins in the 200m freestyle to take the bronze.

Prior to this final, he had knocked five seconds off his 100m backstroke time with a 1.13.00 to place fifth in the heats.

In the afternoon, he knocked a massive 11 seconds off his 200m fly time in setting a time of 2.26.54 for second spot in the final.

At the start of the second

weekend, the personal bests continued with a four-second 200m breaststroke new best time which preceded a bronze medal in the 100m fly in a time of 1.07.85mins.

In the afternoon session, Karski's 200m backstroke best time tumbled by six seconds to 2.30.91mins in the heats to qualify fourth fastest for the final.

He then went faster still to take the silver in a time of 2.28.68mins, both times notching him his first National Qualifying Time in this event.

Later in the evening, he

slashed 20 seconds off his best time in the 1,500m freestyle to come home in 18.04.22mins for another silver medal.

On the final Sunday morning, Karski picked up his fourth silver medal of the champs with a seven-second personal best of 4.35.81mins in the 400m freestyle.

His star performance, though, came in his penultimate event, the 400m IM, where he set yet another 20-second PB in 5.04.28mins to take the gold medal.

Neck-and-neck all the way with the second-placed finisher they were some 15 seconds

ahead of the rest of the field. Finally, in the 100m freestyle, Karski placed fourth, just outside his personal best.

For his fantastic efforts, Karski came second in the 12-year-old BAGCATS (British Age Group Category) awards.

Smith also had a busy championships, competing in seven events - 100 and 200m breast, 100 fly, 200 back, 200 free and 100m backstroke and freestyle - setting two-second personal bests in both the latter races.

Competing in five events, Holder set three new best times. The first came in the 200m backstroke where she was seeded 29th and slowest but with her personal best time of 2.36.91, she placed in a much-improved 10th spot.

Holder also bagged a personal best in the 100m backstroke with a 1.12.93mins swim, as well as knocking three seconds off her 200m free time in 2.28.21mins.

Championship first-timer Carless swam an impressive and solid 100m backstroke, trimming three seconds off his personal bests, touching the pads in a time of 1.23.15mins.

Wilson competed in both 200 and 400m and was only just outside her personal best in the longer distance but sliced four seconds off her 200m fly time in 2.28.21mins.

Mee improved her 100m backstroke best time down to 1.20.76 while Georgina Dolan competed in the 200m freestyle. Both teamed up with Wilson and Holder to finish 14th of 30 teams in the 10/14 age 4x100m freestyle relay.



Leo Karski with his collection of medals from the British Gas ASA Midland 2014 Age Group Championships. Picture by Steve Harlow.

## Water woe proves too costly for Rock

## Golf

WATER woes left Rob Rock crying a river last week as he made the wrong sort of splash to derail his bid for glory at the Irish Open.

Rock was in the thick of the hunt for the title in Cork, a shot behind leader and eventual champion Mikko Ilonen, when he found water on the 10th hole of his third round.

It cost him a double bogey and his tournament unravelled from there as he tumbled from second place on 10-under-par to finish tied for 29th spot on five-under.

Despite the blow, Rock, who led the tournament during round two, was upbeat about his weekend's work with only that third-round 74 spoiling other efforts of 68, 66 and 71.

He said: "I made one little error on that 10th hole that just pushed me in the wrong direction and I never really recovered.

"I didn't study the course planner quite carefully enough, aimed slightly in the wrong place and the ball ended up in the water which cost me a double bogey on a hole that most players were birdieing.

"I had just birdied the ninth as well to move a shot behind and it was all going well - I was on 10-under and a 13-under has ended up winning.

"It was a shame as, in general, I played really well and I'd had a lot of issues with my putting that I had managed to resolve so I was quite happy even though I was obviously disappointed not to have finished higher. I was right in amongst it with 27 holes to go but it wasn't to be. I've just got to try to take the form that I showed in the first half of the tournament into the next few weeks."

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