



# Las Palmas

## Media release for Southampton Diving Academy

Six of the most senior elite divers at the Southampton Diving Academy concluded a two week trip to Gran Canaria by competing in the Pepsi Diving Cup Competition, held at the Club Nationale Metropole in Las Palmas.

In all around 70 divers from seven countries took part in the contest. The countries represented included Egypt, Holland, France, Spain, England, Germany and Sweden, some of whom had sent their national team. Amongst the competitors were several Junior European and World Champions, setting a very high standard particularly in the upper age groups.

The most successful member of the Southampton team was Anna Bennett-Britton (14) who took a gold medal in the Highboard event and the trophy for the highest score for an individual dive in the Girls' Group B with her inward two and a half somersaults with tuck from the 5m board.

Also coming home with a medal was Ciaran O'Reilly (15) who took silver in the Boys' Group B Highboard event.

Director of Coaching, Lindsey Fraser, was delighted with the outcome. "They were competing against some of the best young divers in the world at this event and were able to give a very good account of themselves," she said.

The competition came at the end of a two week training camp in Las Palmas, which had been designed to give the youngsters an opportunity to train at an outdoor venue. Richard Steele, Managing Director of Hampshire Funeral Services, the company which had sponsored the trip, was confident about the value of the initiative. "We are delighted to have been able to contribute to the success of this venture," he explained. "There is no doubt that if we want our youngsters to have a real chance of success on the international scene having the experience of diving outdoors is going to be crucial."

### Full results from the Pepsi Cup were as follows:

**1m springboard:** Ciaran O'Reilly, 4<sup>th</sup>; Luke De Ste Croix, 6<sup>th</sup>; Patrick O'Reilly, 9<sup>th</sup>; Gary Hunt, 8<sup>th</sup>; Robert Appleby, 8<sup>th</sup>; Anna Bennett-Britton, 5<sup>th</sup>

**3m springboard:** Anna Bennett-Britton, 4<sup>th</sup>; Ciaran O'Reilly, 4<sup>th</sup>; Luke De Ste Croix, 6<sup>th</sup>; Gary Hunt, 12<sup>th</sup>; Robert Appleby, 10<sup>th</sup>; Patrick O'Reilly, 11<sup>th</sup>

**Platform:** Ciaran O'Reilly, silver; Luke De Ste Croix, 5<sup>th</sup>; Gary Hunt, 7<sup>th</sup>; Patrick O'Reilly, 8<sup>th</sup>; Anna Bennett-Britton, gold

**ENDS**

**For further details call the Director of Coaching, Lindsey Fraser: 023 8072 0922.**

**Please note photo opportunities can be arranged.**