



# Senior Nationals Success

## Media release for Southampton Diving Academy

Four of the most senior elite divers in the club represented Southampton Diving Academy at the Amateur Swimming Association's English National Diving Championships held in Manchester from 30<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June.

Despite heavy pressures from exams and injury, the team came back with 2 bronze, 1 silver and 3 gold medals between them.

Peter Waterfield headed the team and achieved the greatest success, including scoring a clean sweep of seven perfects tens with his reverse three and a half somersaults with tuck on the 10m board, the first British diver ever to achieve a perfect score in top competition.

The other gold medalist was eighteen year old Charly Tomkys who was taking a break from revising for her 'A' levels to attend the meet. Diving with partner Hayley Sage from Beaumont Diving Academy based at Hatfield, Hertfordshire, she took gold in the Junior 3m Synchro event.

"We were really thrilled to get the gold," she enthused. "We don't get to train together very often and we had to fit in extra traveling just before exams began, so I'm really pleased that it was all worth it."

Gary Hunt (19), also preparing for 'A' levels, had success in the 19/20 years age group, taking bronze medals on both 1m and 3m boards, scoring a personal best on the 1m board. The thumb injury which had hampered his performance in the Hampshire Championships the previous weekend prevented him from competing on platform, but he was able to take part in the 3m Synchro event, partnered by Peter Harrison from Leeds. Despite the limited amount of training time they have recently spent together the pair took 4<sup>th</sup> place in the mens' senior event.

Robert Appleby (17), currently sitting his AS level exams, was taken by surprise by his place in the finals of the 1m event. Having returned to the changing room to dress he had to be called back to the pool to complete the extra dives for the final when the positions were announced following the preliminary rounds.

Director of Coaching, Lindsey Fraser, was delighted with the success of the group. "It is very pleasing to come back with so many medals when we are entering such a small team," she explained. "All our divers won places in finals, which is a considerable achievement."

Full results were as follows:

### Senior Events

Peter Waterfield, 1m gold, 3m 4<sup>th</sup>, platform silver, synchro platform gold; Gary Hunt, 1m 9<sup>th</sup>, 3m 14<sup>th</sup>, synchro 3m 4<sup>th</sup>; Charly Tomkys, 1m 9<sup>th</sup>; Robert Appleby, 1m 12<sup>th</sup>.

### 19/20years Events

Gary Hunt, 1m bronze, 3m bronze.

### Junior Events

Charly Tomkys, 1m 5<sup>th</sup>, synchro 3m gold; Robert Appleby, 1m 5<sup>th</sup>.

**ENDS**

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

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