



# Southampton Invitational

## Media release for Southampton Diving Academy

Spectators at the Quays were treated to an outstanding display of diving by a total of 12 clubs from all over the country during the three-day Southampton Invitational Competition which started on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October.

The home club fielded a team of 25 divers, taking the team trophy with double the number of points against their nearest rivals (282 against Plymouth's 141).

Altogether Southampton Diving Academy scooped 49 medals - 17 gold, 16 silver and 16 bronze, dominating both the open and closed events in most age groups.

Particularly successful in the Open Competition were Gary Hunt (19), Robert Appleby (17), Natalie Hill (15), Jack Clewlow (13), Ellie Steel (12) and Emily Alderman (11) who all took 3 medals apiece. Emily did especially well to take her gold and 2 silvers diving in a group above her own age.

"This was an impressive haul at a competition of this standard," said coach, Steve Gladding, who has recently joined the club after acting as National Coach for Scotland. "These youngsters are showing some very promising potential."

Both Ellie and Emily are members of the prestigious World Class Start Programme, which fast tracks youngsters showing outstanding potential.

Eligibility for the Closed Competition rested on entrants not having been placed in the top six at the National Age Group Competitions in June. Those achieving 3 medals in this category were Stephen Appleby (13), Max Brick (11), Devin Reilly (14) and Tom Owens (17).

In addition, Jack Howsham (10) put in a particularly impressive performance to take bronze in the closed event on highboard. Both his forward dive tucked and inward dive tucked were especially outstanding and he finished the event with a very creditable score of 101.5. His coach, Ellie Clewlow, was justifiably delighted with his performance. "He really managed to show what he can do today," she said. "His hard work in training paid off and I think we can expect to see some really good results from him during the coming year."

Tom Owens, Robert Appleby and Max Brick all came away with 5 medals apiece, having taken top positions in both open and closed events. Tom's result was particularly outstanding, taking gold in both the open and closed events of the highboard after only 4 months in the sport. Max also did spectacularly well to take a bronze and 2 gold medals in the closed events and 2 bronze medals in the open events after only 6 months in the sport. Unsurprisingly Max has recently been selected to join Ellie and Emily on the World Class Start Programme. His coach, Charly Tomkys, was full of praise for his performance. "At the moment he is showing every sign of fulfilling the potential they have identified," she said. "This sort of progress can only be made by a lot of dedication to training. He is a delight to coach."

In the 16 years + age group, Charly Tomkys did well herself in the 1m event to take gold ahead of the National Champion.

Director of Coaching, Lindsey Fraser, was delighted with the outcome. "It has been a fantastic weekend," she enthused. "Apart from the divers having done us proud we have had the most wonderful team of people putting the weekend together, everyone has worked incredibly hard to make it a very successful event."



## Full results:

### Open Competition:

#### 1m board

Jack Clewlow, bronze  
Stephen Appleby, 6<sup>th</sup>  
Adam Purkis, 7<sup>th</sup>  
Ciaran O'Reilly, 5<sup>th</sup>  
Dayne Mulford, 7<sup>th</sup>  
Devin Reilly, 9<sup>th</sup>  
Ellie Steel, gold  
Emily Alderman, silver  
Natalie Hill, gold  
Anna Bennett-Britton, 7<sup>th</sup>  
Kim Purkis, 10<sup>th</sup>  
Melissa Harley, 12<sup>th</sup>

Stephen Lingard, bronze  
Ciaran Allen, 4<sup>th</sup>  
Chris Farrow, gold  
Max Brick, 6<sup>th</sup>  
Jack Howsham, 8<sup>th</sup>  
Georgia Wingrove, 6<sup>th</sup>  
Kate Hicks, 4<sup>th</sup>  
Charly Tomkys, gold  
Robert Appleby, silver  
Patrick O'Reilly, bronze  
Tom Owens, 5<sup>th</sup>  
Gary Hunt, gold

#### 3m board

Kate Hicks, 4<sup>th</sup>  
Stephen Lingard, 4<sup>th</sup>  
Max Brick, bronze  
Chris Farrow, 6<sup>th</sup>  
Jack Clewlow, silver  
Stephen Appleby, 5<sup>th</sup>  
Adam Purkis, 6<sup>th</sup>  
Ciaran O'Reilly, 4<sup>th</sup>  
Devin Reilly, 8<sup>th</sup>  
Dayne Mulford, 10<sup>th</sup>

Charly Tomkys, silver  
Robert Appleby, silver  
Tom Owens, bronze  
Patrick O'Reilly, 4<sup>th</sup>  
Gary Hunt, gold  
Emily Alderman, gold  
Ellie Steel, silver  
Natalie Hill, gold  
Anna Bennett-Britton, 7<sup>th</sup>  
Melissa Harley, 10<sup>th</sup>

#### Platform

Monique McCarroll, gold  
Tom Owens, gold  
Patrick O'Reilly, silver  
Robert Appleby, bronze  
Gary Hunt, gold  
Kate Hicks, bronze  
Ellie Steel, gold  
Emily Alderman, silver  
Natalie Hill, silver  
Melissa Harley, 5<sup>th</sup>  
Anna Bennett-Britton, 8<sup>th</sup>

Stephen Lingard, silver  
Max Brick, bronze  
Chris Farrow, 4<sup>th</sup>  
Jack Howsham, 7<sup>th</sup>  
Jack Clewlow, silver  
Adam Purkis, 4<sup>th</sup>  
Stephen Appleby, 5<sup>th</sup>  
Ciaran O'Reilly, 4<sup>th</sup>  
Devin Reilly, 7<sup>th</sup>  
Dayne Mulford, 8<sup>th</sup>

### Closed Competition:

#### 1m board

Stephen Appleby, bronze  
Dayne Mulford, silver  
Devin Reilly, bronze  
Kim Purkis, 4<sup>th</sup>  
Melissa Harley, 6<sup>th</sup>

Max Brick, bronze  
Jack Howsham, 5<sup>th</sup>  
Charly Tomkys, gold  
Robert Appleby, gold  
Tom Owens, bronze



**3m board**

Max Brick, gold  
Stephen Appleby, silver  
Adam Purkis, bronze  
Devin Reilly, bronze  
Dayne Mulford, 5<sup>th</sup>

Charly Tomkys, gold  
Tom Owens, gold  
Patrick O'Reilly, silver  
Melissa Harley, 4<sup>th</sup>

**Platform**

Tom Owens, gold  
Robert Appleby, silver  
Melissa Harley, gold  
Max Brick, gold  
Jack Howsham, bronze

Adam Purkis, gold  
Stephen Appleby, silver  
Ciaran O'Reilly, gold  
Devin Reilly, bronze  
Dayne Mulford, 4<sup>th</sup>.

**ENDS**

**For further details call the Publicity Officer: Anne Clewlow on 023 8022 1707.**

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