

## **Media release for Southampton Diving Academy**

# **Junior Nationals**

The Junior Elite Squad from the Southampton Diving Academy made a significant impact at the National ASA Diving Championships held at their home pool, the Quays in June.

Coming away with a gold, two silver and 6 bronze medals between them, the 9-strong team put in some excellent performances in events which included many international divers.

All the medals came in synchronised diving events, where the team showed their greatest proficiency.

The most successful member of the group was Chris Mears (12) who took gold in the synchronised platform event with partner Sam Hydes from Sheffield. In their first competitive showing together the pair demonstrated considerable skill in performing a set of challenging dives with remarkable synchronicity.

Dayne Mulford (16) and Patrick O'Reilly (17) also did well to take the silver position on platform.

Representing the girls Emily Alderman and Ellie Steel (both 13) were successful on 3m springboard and platform, taking bronze medals in both events.

In the individual events despite failing to win medals there were some very good performances, with several of the divers achieving scores which will qualify them to take part in the Senior National Championships next year.

Director of Coaching, Lindsey Fraser, was very pleased with the outcome. "I am more than happy with the way the team acquitted themselves this weekend," she said. "They were diving at a very prestigious meet, where the pressures are enormous, but they rose to the occasion and gave a good account of themselves. I'm sure we will be seeing an increasing success at the National level for a number of these youngsters."

In the Age Group events for the 19/20 year olds both Charly Tomkys (20) and Tom Owens (19) took gold medals on 1m springboard and highboard respectively. Both have made their debut representing Great Britain this year.

Full results:

**1m:** Anna Bennett-Britton, 6<sup>th</sup>; Ellie Steel, 9<sup>th</sup>; Melissa Harley, 10<sup>th</sup>; Jack Clewlow, 6<sup>th</sup>; Chris Mears, 8<sup>th</sup>; Dayne Mulford, 8<sup>th</sup>

**3m:** Chris Mears, 9<sup>th</sup>

**Platform:** Anna Bennett-Britton, 6<sup>th</sup>; Ellie Steel, 9<sup>th</sup>; Jack Clewlow, 6<sup>th</sup>; Dayne Mulford, 8<sup>th</sup>; Emily Alderman, 8<sup>th</sup>; Patrick O'Reilly, 9<sup>th</sup>

**Synchronised 3m:** Emily Alderman & Ellie Steel, bronze; Luke Hazelton & Jack Clewlow, bronze; Dayne Mulford & Patrick O'Reilly, 4<sup>th</sup>; Max Brick & Chris Mears, 5<sup>th</sup>

**Synchronised platform:** Emily Alderman & Ellie Steel, bronze; Dayne Mulford & Patrick O'Reilly, silver; Sam Hydes ( ) & Chris Mears, gold

**ENDS**

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

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