

Report from Sheffield Teaspoon Gala – Sunday 19th September 2010.

Having arrived in the nick of time, a mere two minutes before the warm up, we were greeted with the wonderfully warm swimming pool in which we were to swelter for the next 10 hours! The warm up granted nice solace to the swimmers who were able to cool off in a pool with a nicely regulated temperature.

The first race featured both Katie and Becky Deakin swimming in the girls 11 years 50m breaststroke. Both girls did very well with Katie achieving a time of 48:21 and Becky will 49:48.

What followed was a nice wait in the humid and sticky pool with coach Louise making sure we drank ourselves silly until Rob and Rich were due to swim 50m backstroke in event 11. Rich pulled his usual 'Mr Consistency' trick and came away with the first PB of the meet, a whopping 0.01 faster than his entered time, and Rob came in slightly off PB at 33:46.

Event 16 would see the Deakin twins take to the water for the second time for their 50m backstroke. Shortly before half past ten they began their race, yet again another brilliant swim for the girls, Katie came second in her heat and Becky fourth with a PB of 2 seconds coming in with a time of 44:41. Katie secured a place in the final with Becky making 1st reserve! In an interview with our high class reporter Becky was adamant that next time she will beat Katie!!

Then it was time for the older boys to come out and swim, when Daniel took to the pool in his 50m breaststroke, there was some serious competition in this event but in the end it didn't matter with Dan flying home in 1st place in his heat and naturally securing a place in the final.

Then Katie managed to pull it out of the bag in the final of the girls 11 years 50m back and swam an even faster time than in her heat. Daniel just missed out on first place in his final coming a very close second.

What followed was rumored to be the best relay by the over 15 boys, Rich, Dan, Rob and Jack.

The afternoon kicked off after a colossal lunch break and saw the Deakin girls once again take to the water, this time for 50 fly. Both girls did fantastically and Becky got a good PB and Katie getting a place in the final.

The next event was Sophie's 1st ever open-meet debut and she came out with a cracking time of 31:87 for 50m free. Her brilliant swim was followed by a mad dash from Rob, Rich, and Daniel to swim 50m free with Daniel getting a brilliant PB and secured a place in the final.

Yet again the busy Deakins were back in the water for their 50m free, both Becky (39:40) and Katie (35:08) came away with good PB's, and yet again Katie getting a place in the final.

In the never ending desert like heat we sat through the treacherous conditions in the afternoon to see Sophie swim 50 fly, which she protested in doing claiming she just couldn't swim 50m fly! In the end she came away with a cracking 2 second PB with a new time of 33:07. Jack and Dan swiftly followed Sophie in the boys 15 and over 50m fly with Jack's swim making the final with a time of 29:59 and Dan bagging yet another PB.

All the finalists, Dan Sophie and Katie did brilliantly racing hard after a very long and warm day starting which started at 6 o'clock for most!

We had the joys of waiting for the last heat of the last event for the boys medley relay in which Rich, Dan, Jack and Rob came flying home in 3rd place with yet more Sheffield steel teaspoons to add to their collection.

A good day in all for the 8 swimmers who went and thanks must be go to Louise for standing on poolside in the heat for 10 hours and for the parents who came and dutifully watched us all from the gallery.

Richard Grindrod, Vice Captain.