

Wear Valley Amateur Swimming Club.

The first four weeks of the new swimming season has seen Wear Valley swimmers in action at four different galas.

On the 20th and 21st of September the first of the Northumberland and Durham Graded Galas took place at Tynemouth. Wear Valley had twelve swimmers competing over both days. The club started well with Hayley Bradley (13) taking gold in the first event the 400M Individual Medley. Further golds were taken by Amy Attle (10) in the 50M Breaststroke, William Angus (9) in the 50M Freestyle and Matthew Bradley (10) in the 50M Breaststroke and 400M Freestyle. Silver medals were also won by William Angus and Amy Attle and bronze medals by Karl Teasdale (11) and Roy Tulloch (12). Many of the other swimmers competing obtained personal bests. Other swimmers at the event were George Tindale (10), Ashlyn Bland (10), Bethany Briggs (12), Grace Dutchburn (10), Lauren Teasdale (14), Laura Bradshaw (13) and Ceara Best (10).

On the 28th and 29th of September Bethany Briggs (12) and Matthew Bradley (10) represented the club at South Tyneside ASC's annual gala at Heburn. Bethany had several swims and was unfortunate to just miss out on the medals against stiff competition. Matthew swam well in his four races taking gold in three events and silver in one.

Swimmers attended Darlington ASC's annual open gala on the 4th and 5th of October. There were many strong swims and more medals were won. Several swimmers reached event finals. Amy Attle swam a fantastic 100M Backstroke to take gold. Hayley Bradley swam in the 100M Breaststroke and beat strong competition to gain the gold in this event. Her brother Matthew Bradley obtained two silvers for the 100M Backstroke and the 100M Freestyle. Amy Brown secured a bronze in the 100M Breaststroke. All other swimmers obtained personal bests in various events. Swimmers attending were Amy Attle (10), Alex Attle (12), Megan Baker (12), Hayley Bradley (13), Matthew Bradley (10), Amy Brown (13), Lucy Holmes (12) and Lauren Teasdale (14).

A small number of Wear Valley Swimmers travelled to Leeds to attend the Borough of Stockton Swim Schemes first open gala on the 11th and 12th of October. This was Wear Valley's first long course gala of the season. The event saw some good success. Hayley Bradley (13) followed on from her success at N&D graded and Darlington by taking gold in the 200M Breaststroke and bronze in the 100M Breaststroke. Team mate Amy Brown (13) took silver in the 200M Breaststroke and further silvers followed with Roy Tulloch (12) in the 100M Backstroke and Amy Brown in the 100M and 50M Breaststroke. Matthew Bradley (10) competed strongly and gained silvers in the 50M, 100M and 200M Backstroke events. Matthew also took the bronze in the 200M Individual Medley. Megan Baker (12) secured a bronze in the 100M Freestyle and Hayley Bradley took bronze in the 100M Breaststroke.

Well done to all the swimmers taking part.