

Scottish Short Course Nationals

Morpeth ASC was represented by Rosie Smith, Erin Atchison, Niamh Atchison, Libby Freeman and Hannah Seymour at this meet. This meet is an 'open' meet meaning no age groups and attracts some of the best swimmers in the world each year. Those in attendance included World Champion and Olympic Medallist Duncan Scott and 2018 Commonwealth champion Aimee Willmott.

Despite limited training prior to the meet Hannah Seymour performed well in all of her events swimming just outside her best times in 50, 100 Back, 50, 100 Fly and 100 IM. Hannah has competed at this meet for a number of years and her experience was very valuable to the rest of the team who were competing at this level for the first time. Niamh Atchison (14) swam in all 3 Breaststroke events recording personal bests in all 3. Niamh showed much improved race plan in her 200 which resulted in an improvement of over 4 seconds and new PB of 2:45.19. Sister Erin Atchison (17) also competed in the 3 Breaststroke. Erin recorded a PB in 50 Breaststroke and was just outside her 100 best. Erin's best swim however came in 200 Breaststroke. After watching her teammates win the 2 previous heats Erin made it 3 heat wins in a row for Morpeth swimming a new PB of 2:42.59. This time qualified Erin as a 2nd reserve for the evening finals. Unfortunately she didn't get a swim but an excellent way to finish her weekend. Rosie Smith (14) was also competing in her first National event. Despite her nerves Rosie swam and excellent 50 back, her first event, taking over 1.5 seconds off her previous best. Rosie competed in both the 100 & 200 Fly and recorded another two excellent PB's of 1:06.80 and 2:28.97. Libby Freeman (12) was one of the youngest competitors at the meet. Libby swam well in her first event 200 fly recording a PB before two solid swims in 100 IM & 400 Free. Libby's best swim came in 200 Back where she swam over 3 seconds faster than her previous best recording a time of 2:17.09. This time was fast enough to qualify Libby for the B Final (Senior meet, no age groups!) during the evening session. It was great to see Erin and Niamh come back and support Libby, who couldn't quite match her time from earlier in the day but gained valuable experience of competing alongside senior athletes. On the final day Libby had two very good swims, recording a PB of almost 3 seconds in the 100 Back and 5 seconds in 200 Brst. Libby's 100 Back qualified her as a reserve for the evening finals but she did not get a second swim. Most importantly though she was the winner of a 'hot heat' which meant she won a pair of TYR goggles.....

English Winter Nationals

Following straight on from Scottish Short Course Nationals, Libby Freeman went onto to swim at Swim England Winter Nationals. Libby qualified in 4 events but competed in just 2. Libby was the youngest competitor at the meet and swam just outside her best times in 200 & 400 IM. She gained valuable experience warming up, swimming down, being in marshalling and the lunch que with some of the worlds very best!

Blyth Xmas Cracker

Morpeth ASC took a strong team of over 50 swimmers to this meet, ranging from Performance swimmers to those just starting out in SD1/2. The team swam well and picked up too many medals to mention every one. They also successfully claimed over 40 chocolate Santa's throughout the day for winning their heats. The gala included team events as well which Morpeth were well represented in winning 6 of the 8 events. Well done to everyone who competed and thanks to Valda, Lindsay and Michelle for their help poolside!

Newcastle Shrimp Meet

Like the Blyth Xmas Cracker Shrimp meets offer an excellent opportunity for our younger swimmers to gain competition experience. Morpeth ASC took a smaller team to this meet who were supported by Lindsay, Michele and Mal. Another day filled with PB times and 30 chocolate Santa's for heat wins.

Well done to everyone who competed at both of the above meets, especially those who were competing at an external gala for the first time!

Fun Night

Very well attended, big thanks to Jess, Ethan and Kay for organising! Also thanks to Becky Freeman for organising the secret santa event for almost 100 kids!!

Xmas Training

Was ran for the first time. This was well attended. Swimmers in higher squads should continue to train over the festive period in 2019.

In January

Derwentside/Peterlee New Year

Junior League

Burns Meet – N&D Youth/Seniors