

Last weekend 5 swimmers from Copeland Swimming Club represented Cumbria at the inter-association championships in Macclesfield. These swimmers, Isaac Hinde, 10, Alex Messenger, 10, Chloe Carr, 12, Becky Walley, 14 and Scott Bailey, 14 were chosen to swim in the event against some of the best swimmers in the north west on the 28th/29th May.

Another 14 year old in action was Scott Bailey who swam in 5 events as well. Scott recorded top 6 finishes in the 200 breast, 200 IM and 100 free with times of 2:53.56 for his breaststroke, 2:34.76 for his IM and 1:00.76 for his free. He also produced good swims in the 400 free with a time of 4:42.68 and the 100 breaststroke in a time of 1:20.16, finishing seventh in both events.

The first of Copeland's swimmers to compete for Cumbria was Becky Walley who kicked things off in style for Cumbria winning the 200 free in a time of 2:13.42. Becky also produced brilliant swims in the 200 breaststroke and the 400 free, coming second in both of these events in times of 2:51.04 for her breaststroke and 4:40.06 for her free. Becky completed a good weekend by finishing fifth in the 100 free and the 100 breaststroke in times of 1:03.68 and 1:22.84.

In the 12 year old girls category Chloe Carr produced excellent swims in her 2 events, the 100 backstroke and the 200 IM. She recorded times of 2:49.91 for her IM and 1:18.93 for her backstroke, finishing eleventh in both of her events.

For 10 year old Isaac Hinde, it was his first inter-association competition and like all the other swimmers produced some brilliant swims, none less than his 200 fly, where he came third in a brilliant time of 3:05.79. That wasn't his only swim however as he also recorded times of 5:22.11 in his 400 free, 2:36.05 in his 200 free, 33.02 for his 50 free and 37.62 for his 50 fly finishing in the top 8 for each of these events.

Another swimmer who was at this event for the first time was 10 year old Alex Messenger. Alex swam in the 200 fly, 200 free and the 400 free recording brilliant times of 5:54.38 for her 400 free, 2:52.45 for her 200 free and 3:38.30 for her fly finishing in respectable positions for each of these events (10th in 400 free, 11th in 200 free and 8th in 200 fly).

Overall the Cumbrian team finished 3rd in the event equalling last year's position and with a higher points total than last year. These 5 swimmers were each an important part of Cumbria's success this year and as well as all the other swimmers in the county who took part, they did themselves and the county proud.