



Hythe Aqua Masters Success at 2015 National Masters Championships

“Hythe Masters swimmers Paul Fakely (45 – 49 year age group) and David Staveley (70 – 74 year age group) travelled to Sheffield recently to compete in the annual national championships where they were facing a tough job to repeat last year’s successes. Both had moved further up their age groups allowing younger swimmers, including a couple of British record holders, to compete against them. However, they were equally successful in bringing back a total of nine medals – one gold, four silver and four bronze as well as some minor placings.

Paul, in particular, was involved in some very close finishes - measured in just a few hundredths of a second. However, he just managed to ‘out-touch’ his rivals to gain 3rd in the 100 metre Individual Medley and 3rd in the 50 metre Freestyle as well as 4th in the 50 metre Butterfly and 50 metre Breaststroke. His best results were in the Backstroke where he was second in the 100 metres and third in the 50 metres.

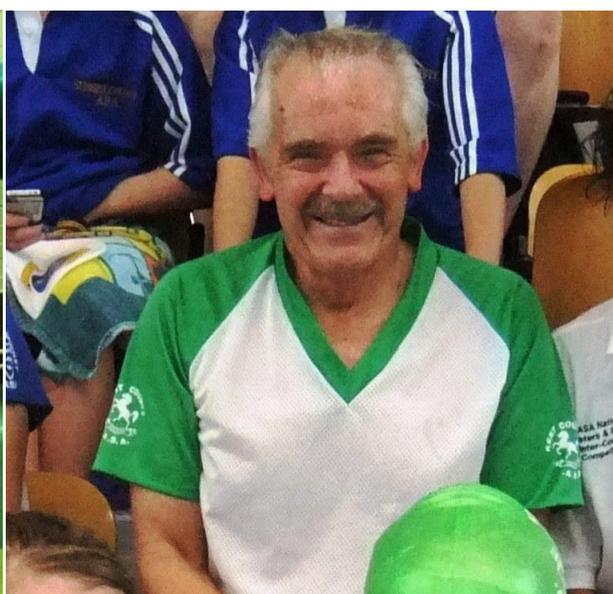
David also enjoyed his best results in the Backstroke with a first in the 200 metres, second in the 100 metres and third in the 50 metres. However, in the Individual Medley events he finished well behind the winner in the 200 metres despite beating his own Kent record by over four seconds. In the 100 metre event he was still level with this same eventual winner after the first two sections of Butterfly and Backstroke but was then unable to maintain this on his weaker strokes – the Breaststroke and Freestyle - and had to be content with another second place.

These annual championships are a popular event with over 1200 competitors including several from overseas. A number of world records were broken during the three days of competition showing that the UK is well to the fore in international Masters Swimming”

Hythe Masters train twice a week as part of the Hythe Aqua Adult Swimming Section, check out the club website for more information: www.hytheaqua.org.uk



Paul Fakely



David Staveley