

## **East Grinstead Puffin Trophy Gala**

25 swimmers from the junior gala squad travelled to Horsham for the East Grinstead Puffin Trophy Gala on the same day as the Sussex League. This competition catered for the younger and less experienced swimmers. The age groups were restricted to 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Worthing's Team was true to the spirit of the gala by using swimmers who do not feature regularly in the gala squad. For some swimmers it was their first gala representing the club: Page Lucas, Amy Blower, Samuel MacDonald, Chole Mans, Oscar Silk, Issac Taylor-Clark, Isabel Gee and Lauryn Nicks.

After 52 individual and relay events, Worthing came sixth out of eight clubs: Beacon 469, East Grinstead 410, Marlins 382, Atlantis 366.5, Redhill & Reigate 315, Worthing 259, Bognor 173.5 and TASS 162.

We knew we were spreading rather thin with two team competitions on the same day, the other being the Sussex League at Hailsham. Our less experienced swimmers did well, with 21 personal bests out of 32 individual events. The gala results reflects the fact that some of the other clubs used their main gala squad swimmers.

Worthing's swimmers all appeared to enjoy the event and hopefully this will encourage further involvement and improvement. Thanks to all who took part and gave up their time to support, referee, time keep etc.