

Jubiltation as swim club scoops double

MEMBERS of Hoddesdon Swimming Club are cock-a-hoop after scooping a memorable double in one of the county's most prestigious competitions The Bob Daplyn trophy.

On Saturday evening at Hemel Hempstead pool five girls and five boys representing Hoddesdon showed the rest of Herts just how good they are.

The Bob Daplyn trophies has been contested since 1960 and consists of five individual events and two relays for girls and boys contested by clubs from all over Hertfordshire.

This year there were 18 girls teams and 17 boys teams taking part in one of the most exciting galas of the year.

Each swimmer has one individual race and then they swim the two relays, scoring points for where they finish to sort out the overall girls' and boys' winning teams.

Hoddesdon made their mark from the outset when Molly Rolls swam a new personal best in the 100m individual medley to secure fourth place.

This was followed by John Ayres, who touched home second with a PB.

The excitement was building as each swimmer wanted to match these performances and keep the teams in contention for first place.

Kerris Munns was next up in the 50m backstroke, finishing third overall with another superb swim.

Josh Arnold registered a new PB, finishing second in the 50m backstroke. Emma Warrington again showed the county how good at breaststroke she is by winning her 50m event as did Mitchell Holmes with a new PB in the boys' race.

The teams were really flying at this point with all 10 cheering on each other to what they hoped would be the top spot.

Holly Gannon took gold in her 50m butterfly with another PB and Callum Bedding pulled out all the stops with a fine second place and



MAKING WAVES: Hoddesdon Swimming Club's boys' and girls' teams proudly show off the Bob Daplyn trophies.

new PB in his butterfly race. Lucy Charles secured another first place for Hoddesdon with a PB in her 50m freestyle event, and this was backed up by Anthony Hodges who was runner-up in his freestyle race, also with a PB.

This all led into the final four relays where the club excelled—winning three and coming second in the other.

The girls' team of Charles,

Gannon, Rolls, Warrington and Munns won both their freestyle and medley relays by big margins.

Not to be outdone the boys team of Ayres, Arnold, Bedding, Holmes and Hodges took gold in their medley relay and were a very close second in the freestyle.

As the points were added up Hoddesdon coach Janet Warrington could at last relax.

"I'm very happy with their

superb efforts," she told *Mercury*.

"It feels like I almost swam a race with my 10 stars!"

The overall results were read and as their performances proved both the girls and boys finished in first place.

The teams were presented the Bob Daplyn Trophies to a fantastic night for the club Warrington.