

# ARENA LEAGUE ROUND 3 REPORT

12<sup>th</sup> December 2015

Shepway swimmer **Levi Atwell** breaks two more Club Records at the Arena League Gala on Saturday.

Shepway Swimming Club had two teams competing at the weekend in the final round of the Arena League. The A team were at Horsham and the B team at Gillingham.

The third and Final round of the Arena League is always a nail biter for all clubs concerned and this was no exception, as final placing across the three galas from September to December decide which Clubs remain in their Divisions, are Promoted or Relegated.

Shepway A needed to finish in the top 4 to avoid relegation the Division 2, unfortunately, throughout most of the gala due to some tough competition from Ashford Town, East Grinstead, Dover Lifeguards, Redhill and Reigate and South Croydon, the team were placed in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place, despite some incredible swims from Lucy Howes, Evelyne Carter, Levi Atwell and Ben Walker.

However, three quarters of the way through Shepway team spirit lifted, determined not to be beaten with the quality of swimming lifting too. The last 7 events are relays from ages 9/11 through to Open, the performances from these and only 1 disqualification throughout the evening changed things for the better.

The Girls 15 years and Under Medley finished 1<sup>st</sup> with Hannah Wain on Backstroke, Sophie McDonnell on Breaststroke, Neve Deal on Butterfly and Eliza Cloake on Freestyle. The Boys 15 years and Under Medley also finished 1<sup>st</sup> with Finn Wood on Backstroke, Levi Atwell on Breaststroke, Josh Bungay on Butterfly and Saul Owen on Freestyle. The Ladies Open Freestyle Relay then also went on the finish 1<sup>st</sup> consisting of Lucy Howes, Vanessa McDowell, Sophie McDonnell, Eliza Cloake, Hannah Wain and Grace Walker.

These results moved Shepway A from 6<sup>th</sup> place to 4<sup>th</sup> at this particular gala and with the final results from across all 3 galas being published 10 minutes later, unfortunately left Shepway A beaten into 4<sup>th</sup> place by Redhill and Reigate. It has to be noted, there were only 10 points between the 1<sup>st</sup> place Club and 6<sup>th</sup> place, what an amazing atmosphere.

The full team were age 9/11: Bailey Bertram, Ben Mills, Conrad Keller, Ty Saunders, Amelia Priestley, Ema Calvo, Claudio De Vivo and Ruby Miller. Age 13 Years and Under: Eileen Keller, Evelyne Carter, Keleece Bull, Eleanor Scott, Casey O'Connor, Thomas Edwards, Tristan Calvo and Leon Santer. Age 15 years and Under: Neve Deal, Eliza Cloake, Sophie McDonnell, Hannah Wain, Josh Bungay, Saul Owen, Finn Wood and Levi Atwell and the Open age group: Lucy Howes, Grace Walker, Ben Walker and Luke Whiting.