

SPORT

SWIMMING - Mole Valley Clubs at the Surrey Championships

Leonard shines for BHSC

ANOTHER successful weekend for Box Hill swimmers at the penultimate round of the Surrey County Swimming Championships was capped off when Oliver Leonard picked up the prestigious award of second place overall in the Boys 11 Year Age Group.

Leonard, 11, continued his gold rush by taking first place in 100m Individual Medley (IM), silver in 400m IM and fourth in 400m free.

The boys success continued with Max Peterson, 12, securing fifth place in 100m breaststroke and gaining a three second PB in 100m IM.

Brother Leo, 10, also kept to form with a three second PB of his own in the same event with Nick Long, 9, managing to slash an incredible nine seconds off his 100m IM previous best time.

Katrina Rushmer, 11, also ended her championships with a flurry of metal with a silver in 100m fly, bronze in 100m IM, and narrowly missed out on medal positions in 100m freestyle and breaststroke, securing seventh place in 400m IM and a PB in the 400m free.

With 65 girls competing in this age group Rushmer did well to finish in fourth place.

Gaby Read-Cayton, 12, added to the Box Hill SC medal tally with silver in the 100m backstroke and an impressive five second lifetime best in the 100m IM, and completed her weekend with another PB in 100m free.

Celia Byatt swimming in the same age group also gained best times in 400m IM and free, 100m back, free, IM and secured eighth place in the 100m breast.

Felicity Skilton, 12, collected a complete set of best times with an impressive 12 second PB in her 400m IM, and continued her good form in 100m back, free and breaststroke and rounded this up with another powerful display and lifetime best in the 400m free.

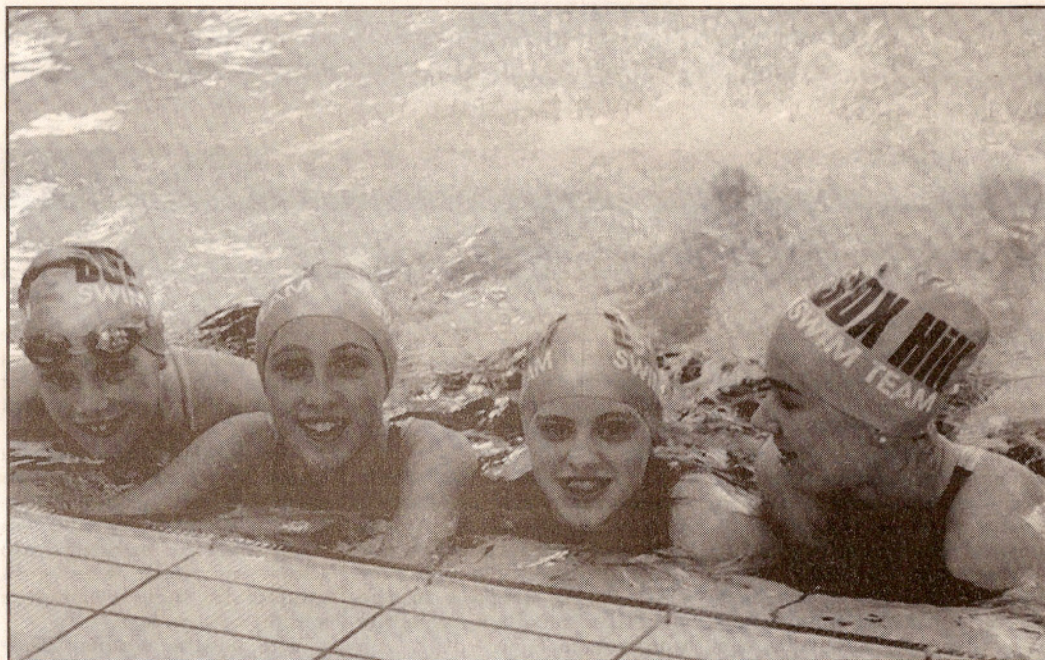
Matilda Houston, 10, was in inspiring form storming to secure fifth place in 400m free and eighth in 100m IM, while Chloe Smale, 11, managed a three second PB in the 100m back, and four second PB in 100m IM.

Eloise Smith, 12, completed her championships with a superb 1:08.51 in the 100m free giving her a two second lifetime best and great swims in 100m IM, breaststroke and back.

Viki Knight, 14, was placed ninth in 400m IM, with Chelsea Wilby, 14, also putting in good swims in 100m IM and free with Abbie Regelous showing great improvement in her 100m breaststroke.

The younger swimmers joined the rest of the team for the 100m IM with Zoe Lyon, 9, gaining a seven second PB, followed by Josie Truelove, 9, who also managed a five second PB of her own.

Coach Conrad Cawley was understandably very proud of his small club's amazing achieve-



Four of the best: Box Hill's young girls performed admirably at the third round of the Surrey Championships this weekend

ments at only their third County Championships.

"We are currently in ninth place out of 22 competing clubs at these championships," he said.

"We are leading clubs much bigger than ourselves, and this shows that we have to be doing something right.

"I am excited about the future for Box Hill SC. And it is with the

future very much in the forefront of my mind as I move ahead with the new Box Hill Swim Academy.

"I will coach youngsters to swim to the ASA National Teaching Plan concentrating on teaching correct stroke technique from an early age, and ultimately being able to feed the Swim Team with the next generation of talented young swimmers.

"I've been coaching for 30 years but I've never been as motivated or excited about this sport than I am now."

For further information about Box Hill Swim Academy or to book a place on the free assessment lesson on April 21 visit www.boxhillswimteam.com or contact Conrad Cawley on 01483 232627.