

## **Continuity, Consolidation and Creativity on show at Haden Hill's Swim21 presentation**

Haden Hill Swimming Club members were proud to be presented with their Swim21 Re-accreditation by the Worshipful, The Mayor of Sandwell, Councillor Gurcharan Singh Sidhu at Haden Hill Leisure Centre in the presence of Debbie Deane, Regional Development Officer, West Midland Swimming.

The evening of celebration also saw Carol Sidaway, who has recently retired as Junior coach, receive life membership of the Club from Martyn Ruckwood a fellow life member. Debbie Deane delighted Carol further by unexpectedly presenting her with an ASA Long Service award. Awards were also made to: Alice Dearing, Lydia New, Connor Oates, Josh Quinton, Harriet Sadler, Michael Sekula, Hayley Bagley, Gary Beatrup, Hayley Bird, Bethany Mason, Alison Peakman, Michael Robins, Brian Steatham, Joe Watkins and Kate Weaver who all achieved qualified to swim at the 2007 Regional Competitions.

The club is proud of it's achievement in retaining it's Swim21 status and is one of the few clubs in the country to hold this award for teaching and skill development as a result of it's body of enthusiastic volunteers. The swimmers continue to progress under the direction of Steve Hickman, lead coach, and on this evening the swimmers were inspired by sessions led by Ros Brett who has represented GB in the senior swimming team over the past 10 years. Ros followed in the tradition of significant international swimmers: Steve Parry, Adam Whitehead, Nick Gillingham and Sarah Price by leading sessions for the swimmers and swimming in the pool at Haden Hill. Inspirational models to the swimmers at Haden Hill.

The Club had new junior coach, Lucy Walters, working on the side of the pool with Ros and this was a further opportunity for her to see the talent and enthusiasm of the swimmers. In line with Swim21 there is a clear swimmer development programme in place at Haden Hill and at the moment there are a limited number of places available in the squads. Interested athletes should in the first instance contact Rob Bowden on 07816824145.

During this evening there was lots of evidence of successful planning and inspirational work, which was acknowledged and rewarded. Haden Hill sets itself high standards and demonstrates through Swim21 a committed athletic community with the aim of improving swimming opportunities and standards in Sandwell.