



Sheffield Star Ellie Sullivan

Young Ellie defends her British title

CYCLE SPEEDWAY

Ellie Sullivan, of the Sheffield Stars Cycle Speedway Club, successfully defended her British Girls Under 13 Individual title at Swindon's Oasis Centre raceway.

Sullivan won all four of her races, as she did last year, to finish with a superb 16 point maximum score.

As one of the top girl racers in the country she has now shown she is going to be a serious contender for the Under 16 title, to be staged in Coventry in August.

Sheffield's other finalists where just out of luck on the day.

Billie Owen could not repeat the bronze medal won last year as she finished one point shy of the podium in fourth place. Niamh Morton finished in seventh place with 10 points.

The Swindon Raceway was also the venue for the Boys Under 13 Championship.

Stars representatives Ed Morton and James Bunting came through the pre-qualifiers to line up in the final with fourteen of the countries top racers.

Bunting, who is in his first season of racing, finished in joint seventh place with 14 points, five behind the winner Will Tidball from Exeter.

Morton was just outside the top 10 places with 9 points. The five then went onto Exeter on Holiday Monday to compete in the Under 13 British Team Championship.

The team easily qualified from their semi-final, securing the required second place by six points, but fifteen behind winners Exeter.

The host club would go on to take the title while Sheffield claimed an excellent bronze medal after finishing one point ahead of Poole.

■ Sheffield scorers: James Bunting 11, Ellie Sullivan 10, Ed Morton 8, Billie Owen 3, Niamh Morton 1.

GREEN UN /DAIWA CLUB MATCH ANGLER CHAMPIONSHIP

Lucky 13 break the ton in our big semi-finals



BOB ROBERTS



Clockwise from far left, top row: Sunday's winner Mel Barker with part of his winning catch; our oldest contender 79-year-old Pete Rockliff; Ian Ward with another cracking carp - despite netting more than 104 lb of fish he failed to win his section and therefore doesn't qualify for the final; Monday's winner Pete Gosney with part of his catch; Lee Nemeth battles with a carp at close quarters; Steve Foster with a magnificent ghost carp; Sunday's winners left to right are P Dawson (2nd), Mel Barker (winner), Andy Hawkins (3rd); the scales of justice as Hayfield owner Dave Taylor weighs in Malcolm Saxton's catch



ANGLING

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Our 2013 Daiwa/Green Un Club Match Championship semi-final will be remembered as the most sensational since the competition began nearly 50 years ago.

Hayfield Fisheries was glorious in the sunshine and venue owner Dave Taylor used his knowledge of the swims to ensure the pegging suited

an event of this magnitude. No fewer than 13 anglers smashed the 'ton' barrier topped off by Pete Gosney's cracking 127lb 4oz.

In all 20 contestants weighed more than 90lb and a staggering 47 anglers returned over 60lbs each. This was competitive match fishing at its finest with the added bonus of a cash prize fund topping £2,500.

Twenty section winners now progress to the final at Westwoodside Fisheries on Saturday May 18 and battle it out for £3,000 worth of Daiwa-sponsored tackle prizes

plus optional pools. With anglers of this calibre competing it's set to be a fantastic match and spectators are more than welcome.

The final venue will be pegged to ensure every angler can cast to an island but the temptation of targeting carp will have to be weighed off against the huge weights of ide Westwoodside is capable of producing. It's an interesting tactical conundrum and weather conditions on the day will undoubtedly play a part but those who get their tactics wrong in the early stages might well be playing a diffi-

cult game of catch-up.

■ **Semi Final One, Sunday:** After a grim spring the promise of warm sunshine combined with a pleasant south westerly breeze gave everyone a confidence boost at the draw and they weren't to be disappointed.

Fish were showing on the surface in both lakes but the majority of the winner Mel Barker's catch fell to red luncheon meat fished at full depth in the margins over a bed of groundbait and diced meat.

Mel, a building company director from Rotherham

qualified with the Half Moon. He put over 50 pounds of carp to 10lbs in his net in the first two hours before resting the line, switching to pellet waggler and steadily building his weight before reverting to the margin line in the final hour.

It was to be a tremendously tight finish on a venue renowned for its big carp and the margin between first and sixth was down to landing or losing one big fish.

Result - 1. M Barker 113-8; 2. P Dawson 108-6; 3. A Hawkins 105-13; 4. V Molyneux 105-12; 5. J Turton 103-8; 6. R Wardell 100-6.

Section winners (who qualify for the final): W Loosemore, G Proffitt, L Nemeth, A Hawkins, S Bradshaw, M Barker, R Wardell, P Dawson, V Molyneux, J Turton.

■ **Semi Final Two, Monday:** Blue skies and soaring temperatures saw the fish feeding even better than the previous day and once again the result couldn't have been much tighter.

Matt Oldfield suffered a catastrophe in the last half hour when the elastic in his pole snapped whilst playing a big carp. By the time he'd swapped top sections and

replaced the rig he'd lost his catching rhythm and this let in Pete Gosney, who pipped him for top spot by less than a pound. Gosney, who qualified with the Noah's Ark club, had a roller coaster of a match. He had 40lb of carp in the first hour alone on pole and pellet fished shallow but from there on the fish would drift away for long periods only allowing him to catch in bursts.

Result - 1. P Gosney 127-4; 2. M Oldfield 126-5; 3. D Patrickson 124-11; 4. J White 116-10; 5. B Murray 113-10; 6. R Turton 107-12.

Section winners (who

qualify for the final): M Bows, A Marsden, L Jones, S Foster, M Oldfield, F Munaser, D Patrickson, J White, R Turton, P Gosney.

Thanks go to Dave Taylor for allowing us to use Hayfield Fisheries and to Pauline and Geoff Hurt who did their usual brilliant job of organising and running the match.

FOLLOW GRASSROOTS

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✉ Email: thebobroberts@sky.com

First place for Westbourne youngsters

ATHLETICS

WESTBOURNE School's Year 8 and 9 relay team took first place in the Sheffield Federation for School Sport's relay championship at the Don Valley Stadium.

The team of 12 to 14-year-olds from the Broomhill independent school beat strong opposition, with Meadowhead coming in second and Silverdale third.

The Westbourne relay team was made up of school athletics captain Georgia Oldfield, Maddie Pearce, Jemima Board, Daina Ali and Sophie Eaton.

Athletics coordinator Jon Lawrie said: "It was always going to be a tough task to build on the team's achievements from last season, but this is the perfect start and shows the great spirit there is for athletics in the school."

The girls are now looking forward to the forthcoming English Schools Track and Field Cup competition.

CYCLING

Taylor is fastest Wheeler in Matlock

Last Saturday, Birdwell Wheeler Dan Taylor rode the Matlock CC 10 mile time trial and finished 10th in a time of 23m 10s, bettering his last year's time by just 4 seconds. On Monday, four Wheelers took part in the gruelling 33 mile Buxton Mountain TT at Longnor. Fastest Wheeler was Trevor Mayne in 1h 35m 54s, which was enough to gain third place in the road bike category.

ROLLER HOCKEY

Players unite to raise charity cash

Players from Sheffield Steeldogs, Manchester Phoenix and Milton Keynes Lightning will join forces this weekend to raise money for charity. A charity hockey game, held on Sunday at Simply Skate, Eastwood Trading Estate (4pm) will raise money for Marie Curie. This is the second year of the event - last year, a total of £1265 was raised for Sheffield Hallamshire Hospital. Entrv is £2.50.