Swim England North East

Your monthly dive into Artistic Swimming in the North East. Insight, Inspiration & Innovation

RECENT EVENTS/ACHIEVEMENTS

North East Regional Summer Camp - Queen Ethelburgas

European Masters Championships - Slovakia

UPCOMING EVENTS

North East Regional Squad Trial

NE & NW Grade Days

Scottish National Championships - Oct 2026

MONTHLY WRITE UP:

What an incredible August it has been for artistic swimming!

The month was filled with training, competition, teamwork and unforgettable experiences, both at home and on the international stage.

We welcomed a record-breaking 70 swimmers and 13 staff to Queen Ethelburga's in York for our annual summer camp. Four days of swimming, specialist sessions, team challenges, talent shows and plenty of fun created memories that will last long after camp ended.

Meanwhile, City of Bradford swimmers represented the club at the European Masters Championships in Slovakia, competing alongside athletes from across Europe and showcasing their talent on the international stage.
From our camp swimmers taking on new challenges to our Masters athletes competing internationally, August was a fantastic celebration of dedication, achievement and the spirit of artistic swimming.

QUEEN ETHELBURGAS ARTISTIC SWIMMING SUMMER CAMP 2026



From 22nd–25th August, we welcomed 70 swimmers, our largest number of swimmers to date! To the prestigious Queen Ethelburga's School in York, alongside 13 members of staff, ready for four days and three nights of hard work, learning, making new friends and, of course, having lots of fun!

We were delighted to welcome swimmers from clubs across the country, including:

- Stockport Metro
- South Yorkshire Swans
- Gateshead Artistic Swimming Club
- City of Leeds Synchronised Swimming Club
- Trafford Artistic Swimming
- City of Salford Synchronised Swimming Club
- Cheltenham Artistic Swimming Club
- City of Bradford Artistic Swimming Club
- Borough of Kirklees Artistic Swimming Club
- Rugby Swimming Club Artistic Swimming

it was fantastic to bring so many swimmers and coaches together for an action-packed few days of artistic swimming, learning and developing - both in and out of the pool.



DAY 1:



Once everyone had arrived, swimmers were introduced to their main training groups: Red, Orange and Blue. These groups were carefully organised based on swimmers' ages and current grade levels, giving everyone the opportunity to train alongside athletes at a similar stage of their development.



After introductions, it was time to get settled in! Swimmers headed to their dorm rooms, unpacked their belongings and got themselves organised before exploring the site on a tour. We then attended a welcome meeting with the Queen Ethelburga's staff, who helped everyone get familiar with the facilities and what to expect over the next few days. Then it was time for lunch!



After lunch, the swimmers split back into their groups and got stuck straight into their first afternoon of training. Throughout the afternoon, the groups rotated through a variety of activities, including a land session, team-bonding challenges and a pool session.

The first afternoon was all about getting to know their new groups, building relationships and, of course, working hard in the pool! There was plenty of energy and enthusiasm as everyone got their camp training underway.

At 4:15pm, all 70 swimmers reconvened and were divided into their seven evening groups. These groups brought together swimmers of different ages and abilities, creating an opportunity for everyone to work with people they may not normally train alongside.

Each event group had a group leader and vice leader, who were given the exciting task of planning their choreography and choosing their music in preparation for the end-of-camp display for parents. The creative ideas were already beginning to flow! After all that activity, it was time for dinner at 6:00pm.



But the day wasn't over yet! Our first evening activity was the Camp Selfie Hunt. Swimmers were given a list of clues and had to explore the site to find each location, taking a team photo alongside every clue they discovered. There were prizes up for grabs for both the fastest team to return and the best photo!

Eventually, it was time to wind down after a busy first day. Pyjamas were on, hot drinks were enjoyed, and everyone settled into bed ready for another action-packed day.

With new friends made, groups established and plenty of training already under our belts, everyone was ready to see what Day 2 would bring!

DAY 2:







After a busy day 1, the swimmers were ready to get stuck into Day 2! The morning started early for our Orange Group, who headed to the pool for their early morning swim from 6:45–7:45am, before joining the rest of the camp for breakfast at 8:00am.

Once everyone had fuelled up, the swimmers split back into their Red, Orange and Blue training groups, rotating throughout the morning between pool sessions, land sessions and team-bonding activities.

One of the highlights of the morning was a specialist gymnastics session led by an external coach from Ilkley Gymnastics Club. Each group had an hour with the gymnastics coach, where swimmers were introduced to group balances involving two to four swimmers.

Swimmers focused on learning new skills safely while developing trust, communication and teamwork, preparing them for more complex balances later in the session. In the pool, sessions included grade work, speed swimming, routine creation and practice, combining hard work with plenty of creativity.
Before long, it was time to refuel... lunchtime!

The swimmers spent time with their Red, Orange and Blue groups practising their group routines, working on synchronisation, teamwork and performance. Alongside this, each group completed another land session, continuing to develop their strength, movement and skills outside of the pool. There was also some well-earned downtime in the common room, where swimmers took part in lower-intensity activities such as board games.

The groups then split into their seven evening groups to continue working on their swimmer-led routines. Each group was responsible for creating and developing their own routine ready for the Day 4 display for parents. With swimmers of different ages and abilities working together, there was plenty of creativity, teamwork and some fantastic ideas beginning to take shape!



After dinner, it was time for the evening activities - and things got competitive! The seven evening groups went head-to-head in a series of sports-day-style challenges, with teams battling it out to earn as many points as possible. The aim was simple, collect as many points as possible and win the prize for your group! The swimmers cheered each other on and worked together to help their team climb the leaderboard.



After an action-packed day of swimming, gymnastics, teamwork and competition, it was finally time to wind down and get ready for bed.



At the end of the day, while some staff stayed with the swimmers, serving hot chocolate, drying towels and preparing for Day 3, others made the most of the pool and headed in for an evening swim!

DAY 3:



Day 3 started early for our Blue Group, who completed their morning swim before joining everyone else for breakfast at 8:00am. The swimmers then split into their Red, Orange and Blue groups, rotating between pool sessions, land activities and well-earned breaks.



A highlight of the morning was a specialist session with an external Clubbercise instructor. Each group enjoyed an hour of high-energy dancing, moving along to their favourite songs while working up a sweat! It was a fantastic change from their usual training, with plenty of energy, laughter and smiles throughout. Alongside the dance sessions, swimmers continued working hard in the pool and on land, building on the skills and routines they had developed throughout camp





After lunch, swimmers returned to their Red, Orange and Blue groups to practise their routines ahead of the final Day 4 display. Groups also had the chance to rehearse for the camp talent show, taking place that evening in the King's Theatre as part of the evening activities!

Before dinner, swimmers split into their seven evening groups to continue preparing their swimmer-led routines. They worked on land drills in the dance studio and practised their choreography and music during their pool session.

After dinner, the whole camp headed to the King's Theatre for our much-anticipated Camp Talent Show! We had an amazing 13 acts take to the stage, showcasing a fantastic range of talents and entertaining the audience.

A huge congratulations to Rae Handley from BOK Artistic Swimming Club, who was crowned the Camp Talent Show 2026 winner with her brilliant acting performance and song from Matilda!🏆

1. Amelie - City of Leeds - Singing
2. Iris, Mieka, Emily - Borough of Kirklees - Dancing
3. Thea - Stockport Metro - Singing
4. Phoebe & Lily - Borough of Kirklees - Poem
5. Emily - City of Bradford - Singing
6. Victoria - City of Bradford - Magic
7. Rae - Borough of Kirklees - Acting & Singing
8. Poppy - Borough of Kirklees - Dancing
9. Akira - Borough of Kirklees - Singing
10. Peyton & Neveah - Comedy
11. Aya - Borough of Kirklees - Playing the Viola
12. Amelie, Eleanor, Katrina - City of Leeds - Dance
13. Ruby & Molly - City of Leeds (STAFF) - Dance



DAY 4:

The final day of camp came around far too quickly! Swimmers started the morning with their final routine practices in their Red, Orange and Blue groups, putting the finishing touches to their routines ready for the afternoon display. After lunch, it was time to pack up their rooms and bring everything they needed down to the pool for the final sessions.

But there was one final surprise in store...

The swimmers were treated to an inflatable pool session for their final swim before the display! It was the perfect way to finish the training side of camp - lots of fun, laughter and memories before everyone got ready for the final performance!







After each group had their turn on the inflatables, all 70 swimmers gathered poolside and eagerly awaited the arrival of their parents for the end-of-camp display.

All 70 swimmers performed two routines each, showcasing everything they had worked on throughout the camp. It was a fantastic way to finish four days of training, teamwork, friendship and fun — and a brilliant final performance for everyone to enjoy!

A huge and heartfelt thank you to Tracy Wyke, our North East Regional Artistic Swimming Manager, for everything she does to make this camp possible.

Long before our swimmers arrive, Tracy spends months behind the scenes liaising with Queen Ethelburga's, communicating with parents, clubs and staff, coordinating the many moving parts and planning every detail to ensure the camp runs smoothly.

So much of the hard work happens long before camp even begins, and we simply wouldn't be able to deliver such a fantastic experience for our swimmers without her time, dedication, organisation and commitment.

Tracy, thank you for everything you do, not just during camp, but throughout the months of preparation that make it all possible. We truly couldn't do it without you, and we are incredibly grateful for everything you put into making camp so special for our swimmers.



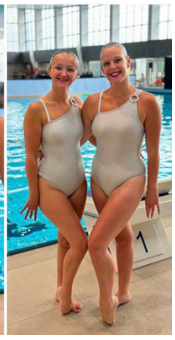
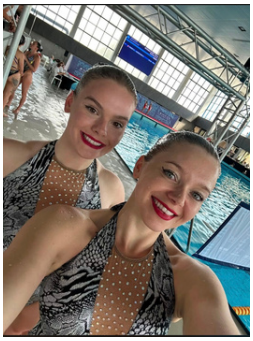
European Masters Championships – Slovakia 🇸🇰

August saw swimmers from City of Bradford Artistic Swimming Club take to the European stage at the 2026 European Masters Artistic Swimming Championships in Bratislava, Slovakia. The team produced some fantastic performances across Solo, Duet and Team events, with several swimmers bringing home medals and achieving excellent international results.

⭐Technical Solo - The championships got off to a brilliant start in the Technical Solo events:
Rosie Clarke – 30–39 Technical Solo: 🥈
Scarlet Garland – 20–25 Technical Solo: 🥉
Isobel Davies – 25–29 Technical Solo: 5th place

⭐Technical Duets - The success continued into the Technical Duet events.
Rosie Clarke & Isobel Davies – 25–29 Technical Duet: 🥇 Gold – European Masters Champions!
Charlotte Hughes & Emma Knight - 40-49 Technical Duet: 10th place
Janine Edwards & Ellen Limebear - 40-49 Technical Duet: 16th place

⭐Free Solo - The swimmers continued to represent City of Bradford strongly in the Free events.
Rosie Clarke – 30–39 Free Solo: 6th place

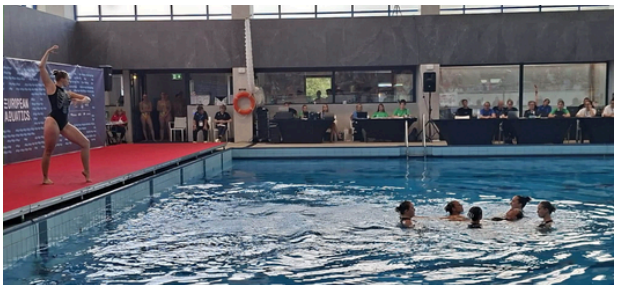
⭐Free Duets:
Rosie Clarke & Scarlet Garland – 25–29 Free Duet: 12th place
Charlotte Hughes & Emma Knight - 40-49 Free Duet: 6th place
Janine Edwards & Ellen Limebear - 40-49 Free Duet: 14th place

⭐Free Team
25-34 Age Group: 9th place



⭐Technical Team
25-35 Age Group: 11th place

⭐ Free combination Team
20-39 Age Group: 6th place








Upcoming Events:

North East Regional Squad Trial 2025-2026 *(invite only)*
John Charles Centre for Sport - September

North West Grade Day - Saturday 26th September

North East Grade Day - Sunday 18th October
Aquatic Centre, John Charles Centre for Sport, Leeds, LS11 5DJ

Scottish National Championships - Glasgow
24th - 25th October 2026