

Collings charges make golden start

Royals take two more golds in regionals

RUSHMOOR Royals swimmers earned two new national qualifying times and another two gold medals in days three and four of the South East Regional Age Group Swimming Finals this weekend. This brings the Royal medal tally to seven golds, three silvers and a bronze in the regional event.

Against stiff competition from the top clubs in the South East, Nicole Ryan took gold in the U12 1500m freestyle.

But it was in the 200m freestyle heats, where she placed second, that she achieved a new national qualifying time.

Ryan was disappointed not to match her time in the final, where she came fourth.

Ryan also won silver in the 200m Backstroke.

Twelve year old Angharad Eburne swam a brilliant 200m breaststroke to take the gold.

George Emmins, 13, swam a personal best in the 200m Butterfly and although he took the bronze medal, he achieved a national qualifying time.

Team-mate Alice Lim, 13, attempted a 100m national time on both heat and final 200m freestyle swim. She narrowly missed it both times, placing second in her heat and narrowly missing the bronze medal in the final.

Newly appointed Head Coach, Emma Collings, said "She showed fantastic grit and determination by carrying on the swims to maximum effort."

The event saw 14 personal best times for the Royals' elite swimmers.

Collings said: "I was so pleased to see our elite age group swimmers swim so well. It has been a difficult few months and their results were a true testament to their dedication and commitment to their sport."