

## **More Para Success for Local Swimmer Leo**

Leo Pellow, whose hopes to represent GB at the Down Syndrome World Championships in Canada later this year were [controversially] dashed recently due to non-selection, has certainly not let the sad news affect his latest performances.

Competing over the Easter weekend, Leo (15) represented St Ives Bay Swim Club at the Millfield TYR Invitational Graded Meet where he began by breaking the Down Syndrome Junior Long Course World record for 200m Breaststroke and backed this up by beating his own European record for the 100m Backstroke just a few minutes later! To Leo's total surprise and delight, meet promoter Millfield School made a presentation in recognition of all his recent achievements and records during the gala; a gesture much appreciated by Leo and his family for whom the last few months have been extremely emotive.

Fast forward a fortnight to Southampton, where Leo represented St Ives Bay at the 2018 National Junior Para Championships. Organised by the English Federation of Disability Sport in partnership with Swim England, this was a fantastic event with some incredible swimmers featuring in Leo's S14 classification. Leo was the sole male S14 swimmer with Down Syndrome in his category and it was a great achievement just to be part of it. He swam exceptionally well, taking another three personal best times from five races entered and four S14 regional qualifying times away from yet another highly successful meet.

Congratulations Leo – everyone at St Ives Bay are behind 'Team Pellow' every stroke of the way!