

French swimmers join in twin celebration



■ Youngsters from Dourdan and Dunmow.

Youngsters from the twin towns of Dunmow and Dourdan in France spent the weekend together, swimming, playing football and enjoying a Scouts' barbecue.

The French youngsters were the guests of Dunmow Atlantis Swimming Club who visited the French town last April and now played host for the return visit. The entertainment for

the 24 French swimmers and the five adults with them included a picnic in Notley Park and a visit to the Discovery Centre. There was also a fun swimming gala with all the French youngsters receiving a medal and all the English ones given a Dourdan swimming cap.

There was also a Scouts' barbecue attended by the Mayor of Dunmow,

Councillor Barrie Easter, and an exchange of gifts and prizes.

Organiser Darren Dack said: "We think our guests had a good time, some of them had never been to England before. They enjoyed seeing London. Swimming is different in France, only the elite take part in galas so this was also an experience for them."



■ Henry Baddeley-Pertwee

Swim starlets take centre stage

SWIMMING

It's been a busy time across the board for Dunmow Atlantis with all the squads taking part in various competitions around the region.

Last weekend it was the turn of the younger swimmers who took part in the Harlow Penguins Development meet.

For many of the children it was the first time they had competed in a gala, but they were undaunted and did the club proud.

It was a golden opportunity to improve their times, and the personal bests flowed with 37 set.

The outstanding swims ensured

plenty of excitement for the Dunmow supporters in the crowd.

The determined display meant a clean sweep of medals including five gold, five silver and 11 bronze.

Those competing were: Scarlett Ellis, Lucy le Huquet, Millie Westcott, Eloise Ansell, Emily Green, Paige Marks, Oliver Smith, Toby Rayner, Will Smith, Vienne McPherson, Eliza Westcott, Amelia Barton, Megan Rees, Sophie Lloyd-Rossi, James Williams, Jack Rayner, Eliya McHugh, Harriet Smith, Samuel Hayden and Henry Baddeley-Pertwee. Henry was chosen by the coaches as Swimmer of the month. The winner of this month's award is Lauren Barker.