

Dextro Energy Triathlon World Championships - Budapest

Andover Triathlon club members Nikki Fleming and Shaun Green travelled to Budapest on the weekend of September 12th to represent Great Britain and compete in the ITU Dextro Energy Triathlon Age Group World Championships. Both triathletes earned their places in the Great Britain age group squad for successfully qualifying earlier in the season at races selected by the British Triathlon Federation. Nikki took part in the Shropshire Triathlon, in June, to qualify for a place in the womens 30-34 age group and Shaun raced in the Dambuster Triathlon in Leicestershire, also in June, to take a place in the 40-44 age group. The race was an Olympic distance triathlon which consisted of a 1500m open water swim in the River Danube, a 40km cycle which was a multi lap affair around the city on closed roads, followed by a 10km run made up of 3 laps along the banks of the Danube and across the city's famous Chain Bridge. Preparations for this important race could'nt have gone worse for Nikki who suffered a broken toe 6 weeks prior to the event and a serious knee injury only a matter of weeks before, putting doubts in her mind as to whether she would actually race or not. However, after plenty of rest and rehab she made the start line and raced well to complete the race in a personal best time of 2 hours 30 mins and 05 seconds, placing 351st out of 499 women and 54th in her age group out of 64 finishers. Shaun's race started shortly after and his intent was made clear from the start posting a 22 minute swim time and exiting the water in 39th position. After an equally impressive cycle he went on to produce a 40 minute 10km run to finish in an outstanding overall time of 1 hour 58 minutes and 01 second, placing 172nd overall out of 963 in the mens race and 24th in his age group out of 133 finishers. Everyone at Andover Triathlon club would like to congratulate both athletes for doing both club and country proud, rounding off a highly successful season of racing which has seen the club continue to grow in both new members and good reputation on the British Triathlon circuit.

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