

PRESS RELEASE

June 2018

Tabby's on point at England Fencing Youth Championships

Local teenager Tabitha De N'Yeurt has recently fought her way to a top-eight finish at the England Youth Championships.

After finishing in the top 16 at the British Youth Championships in March, fourteen-year-old Tabitha was determined to finish higher at the Championships, which were held at Hertfordshire Sports Village on June 16th.

Despite putting on a great show for spectators, Tabitha was knocked out at the quarter-finals by Bronwen Hyde, a fellow England fencer and good friend who went on to be crowned England U15 Champion. Consequently, Tabitha finished the tournament in 7th place.

Her performance at the England Youth Championships completes a remarkable season for Tabitha, who has continued to compete across five different age ranges, from U14 to senior level. The season has been a big step up and thanks to her efforts, Tabitha has won a number of titles.

Tabitha trains five times a week at Thornbury Active Lifestyle Centre, making use of the gym and swimming pool facilities for endurance training. It's her belief that the Centre's continued support over the past three years has significantly accelerated her progress.

Reflecting on her recent performance and looking forward to the future, Tabitha said: "While I was disappointed to lose to my friend Bronwen at the quarter-finals, I'm really pleased with my performance throughout the tournament. I'd set myself several goals which were exceeded and this focus rewarded me with the best national championship result I've ever achieved!

"I was extremely lucky to have my coach Mike Cleary with me and am looking forward to pushing myself when training with him at the Centre again this week. I'd like to thank the local Thornbury companies and charity organisations, including Thornbury Active Lifestyle Centre, who've helped or sponsored me along the way and have made this all possible."

Centre Manager at Thornbury Active Lifestyle Centre, Andy Robinson, said: "It's great to hear that Tabitha is achieving her goals and delivering new personal bests thanks to all of her hard work and determination. She is a great inspiration to all of us here at the centre and we have no doubt that she'll soon be one of the best fencers in the UK.

"We always keen to discover and nurture new talent, so I'd encourage anyone interested in any level of sport to come along and give it a go, you never know where talent and determination can take you!"

Tabitha's results have now earned her a call up to the prestigious Cadet Winton Cup, a competition for young fencers from across the UK, in December. She'll will spend the rest of the summer training at summer camps across the UK and Europe, ready for the start of the Cadet season in September.

When the season does eventually start, it'll be a tense time for Tabitha as she finds out whether she's been selected to represent Great Britain in upcoming competitions. Things are looking promising for the Thornbury fencer, as Tabitha has been invited by the GB Pathway Team to start training with the Cadet (U17) and Junior (U20) squads.

Thornbury Active Lifestyle Centre is one of five lifestyle Centres and a dual-use Sports Centres operated across South Gloucestershire by the not for profit organisation Circadian Trust.

To find out more about the Thornbury Lifestyle Centre, please visit:

<https://www.activecentres.org/centres/thornbury/>

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Photo caption: Tabitha De N'Yeurt and her coach Mike Cleary celebrating her 7th place finish.

Notes to editor:

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About Circadian Trust

- Circadian Trust operates five leisure centre sites and a dual-use sports centre across South Gloucestershire in Bradley Stoke, Downend, Kingswood, Longwell Green, Thornbury and Yate and is a company and charity. Working in partnership with South Gloucestershire Council, the community strategy and overall shared philosophy is to contribute to the improved health, cultural and social wellbeing of the local community improving quality of life.
- Any profit made by the Trust is reinvested to improve facilities, equipment and services for its customers.
- For more information, visit: www.circadiantrust.org