

GOING SWIMMINGLY: Tameside youngsters (from front left) George Lythe, Bradley Thompson and Harry Thompson played in the Yorks u13 team.



Youngsters are in at the deep end

Underwater hockey players are certainly making waves in local competitions.

Players at the Xarifa UWH club, which is based at Dukinfield Pool, were picked to play for Lancashire and Yorkshire u13s and u16s, in a regional competition.

The tournament was held in Newport, South Wales, and attended by teams from eight regions around the UK.

The Dukinfield side had two players in the Lancashire u13s' team - brother and sister Daniel, 10 and Lauren Saville, 12.

The Lancashire u13s were a

much less experienced team and ended sixth, out of the eight regions that entered.

Xarifa's Harry Thompson, 12, was the top scorer in the u13s matches, scoring 15 goals for Yorkshire in seven matches.

Despite Harry's goals scoring triumph, Yorkshire u13s were pushed into second place by the Devon team.

Also playing for Yorkshire u13s' team were Bradley Thompson, 11 and George Lythe, 11, from Xarifa.

In the u16's competition, the Yorkshire team, assisted by Zoe Higham, 13, and Honor

Sangster, 14, from Xarifa, took bronze medals for third place.

They were beaten by Devon in first place and Wales in second.

Lancashire u16s included Harry's older sister Abby, 15, and Jacob Doodson, 15, who were pushed into fourth place.

The remaining team members were invited from Batley, Rochdale and York.

"Considering they don't play together regularly," said Phil Lawrence, Xarifa coach.

"They put on a good display of teamwork."