

Alice diving for glory

■ Rachelle Stewart

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Wellington diver Alice Wylie van Eerd (pictured) is about to take on the best divers in the world.

Alice, 18, was recently selected to represent New Zealand at the prestigious FINA World Junior Diving Championships in Germany next month.

She says being selected was a huge surprise and a great reward for all her hard work.

“I was very happy,” she says.

“Pleased that the effort I was putting into my training was having a positive effect.”

Alice, Brooklyn, has trained with Wellington High Performance Aquatics since she was 14 and says she enjoys as much as ever.

“I feel good when I dive well,”

she says.

“The rush from learning a new dive - it’s terrifying but once you’ve done it, it feels great.”

In preparation for the World Junior Championships Alice is training nine times a week, working on her dives to ensure

they are at a good standard by September.

“I try to fit in other things around training,” she says.

“Training and competing are the most important things to me so they will always come first.”

And while Alice is unsure

what the competition will be like in Germany, she says at the least it will be a great experience.

“I honestly don’t know what to expect,” she says.

“I’ll be able to get a feel for international competitions and the standards and know what to expect in the future.”

Alice has her mind set firmly on what she wants to achieve in the future.

“Diving is something I want to continue with throughout my whole life, because I love it,” she says.

“I want to take it as far as I can.”



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For more info on the FINA World Junior Diving Championships or Wellington High Performance Aquatics visit www.whpa.co.nz Photo: supplied