

I found myself extremely busy in February and March, organising District & National Short Course Championships, so, although there was plenty to write about, I could not find time for it. Things are a little quieter now, and I will attempt, briefly, to cover the events of the past 2½ months.

The replaying of the U/16 Water Polo Tournament frustrating although it was, did, in fact, work to our advantage, and our win has done much for the prestige of the Club. Well done coach and players.

Equally frustrating, although I look forward to an equally successful outcome, is the lack of progress on the School Pool - when you grumble about it, however, spare a thought for me: I go past it every day !

Belated thanks to everyone, and there were many of you, who was concerned with the Jumble Sale. This gave a much appreciated boost of £87-71 to Club funds. We have regular demands on these funds, so the occasional money-raising event is a great help. This month we have paid out to cover the losses of certain coach trips, for the hiring of pools, including Monument Rd. for six weeks @ £6-30 (less admission); affiliations to the Birmingham Association, Midland District, Warwickshire A.S.A. and the Water Polo League; and the entry fees for the County Team races, so our money is being used to good purpose.

THANKS: Mr.Varney asks me to convey his thanks to Mr.Sheasby and to Mr.Atkins for their help following his accident at Walsall.

F.G.T.

PLANNING TO WIN !

The Camp Hill planning and preparation was at its peak to meet the needs of the awaited National Finals of the U/16 Water Polo Teams; the disappointment of earlier postponements were now past memories and the "Big" occasion had arrived.

Ray Shimell and myself had been given concise details well in advance, concerning travel and other arrangements for the day, Gordon had left nothing to chance, apart from a change of personal clothing for use after an unexpected dip taken later in the day.

Session 1 commenced at 11 a.m. with Camp Hill in action against Halifax, a keen hard game from which Camp Hill emerged victors with a score of 5-4. This was followed by the Sutton & Cheam v. Cheltenham match, the score being 6-9.

After a steady walk around the Town the Team returned for the afternoon session which commenced at 2.30 p.m. Camp Hill were in action against Cheltenham and a fine close match returned a score of 5-5. The second match between Halifax and Sutton produced some stimulating moves by Halifax, and a final score of 14 - 3. At this stage the position was:

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	PTS.
Cheltenham.	2.	1.	1.	0.	14.	11.	3.
Camp Hill.	2.	1.	1.	0.	10.	9.	3.
Halifax.	2.	1.	0.	1.	18.	8.	2.
Sutton.	2.	0.	0.	2.	9.	23.	0.

After Session 2. the Team and drivers were kindly invited to the home of Mr.& Mrs.Atkins where an excellent meal and rest was enjoyed by all concerned

It was obvious at this stage that any of the first three teams could win the competition and there were numerous permutations for the final result, however, the most calm, confident and dry person, at this stage, was Gordon our Team Manager. Session 3, commenced at 6.30 p.m. with a good sprinkling of Camp Hill supporters prepared for strong verbal support and advice.

The first match saw Halifax and Cheltenham in battle with Halifax turning on some powerful play which led one to think they would defeat Cheltenham, but the tide turned and the final score was 7-10. For Camp Hill supporters the tension was now terrific and a look at the first two places in the table shows why:-

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	G.Av.
Cheltenham.	3.	2.	1.	0.	24.	18.	1.33.
Camp Hill.	2.	1.	1.	0.	10.	9.	1.11.

At this stage we were runners-up with our last match to play; we needed a good win with a high score and a low against, "and we got it"! Our attack was rampant, and our defence was tight, a perfect combination for the requirements which produced a final result of 11-3 and a final table:

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Av.
Camp Hill.	3.	2.	1.	0.	21.	12.	1.75.
Cheltenham.	3.	2.	1.	0.	24.	18.	1.33.
Halifax.	3.	1.	0.	2.	25.	18.	1.39.
Gutton.	3.	0.	0.	3.	12.	34.	0.35.

The announcement of the final result was loudly cheered by all concerned and our team produced an assorted mode of entry into the pool complete with shirts, however, the best entry was Gordon's swallow dive fully clothed "even though somewhat forced!"

In all a most exciting tense successful and well planned day, congratulations to all concerned.

K.B.

Editor's Note: Tonight, we play Cheltenham in the 3rd round of the 1972 Tournament. The winners of this match could well go on to win the Tournament, so please stay and support our boys.

#### SWIMMING LEAGUE.

On 5/2/72, we finished 3rd in our second round gala: Southampton 225; Reading 193; C/H. 175; Granta 160; Southwark 139; Harringey 90. Consequently we missed the 'Top Gala' but, nevertheless, met some keen competition in our third round on 11/3/72.

Result: C/H. 191; Kingsbury 189; Ilford 179; Watford 139; Redbridge 132; Heston 123.

There were some good F/S swims here (Richard Sheasby 62.8; Tim Welch 22.3; Nigel Baker 46.0).

Our final position in the League was 8th out of the 24 1/2 clubs in Division.1. This was a good placing, and due, in no small measure, to the contribution of our girls to the team effort.

#### MOTORWAY LEAGUE.

Two rounds remain to be swum, and they are likely to be held on Sundays in May or June; the dates have not yet been announced.

Cont'd.

## MATCH RESULTS.

22.1.72. 'B' Team v. Mansfield (a). We had an easy win here, and apparently the gala, or rather, the venue was quite an unusual one.

29.1.72. Relay Gala. C/H.66. Orion.61½. Derby 33½. The additional 220 yds. events gave Lyn Deeley (3.14.9) and Nicky Green (2.39.9) a chance to show their improvement over that distance.

26.2.72. Midland Short Course Championships. We did quite well, but I would still like to see more of our members qualifying for District Championships. Martin Edwards (FLY 61.6. 1st & 2.16.8-2nd) Andrew Wolf (I.M. 2.23.9-2nd, and 5.03.3-2nd). -Nicky Green (FLY 70.5 & 2.37.5). Steve Rogers (1500m. 19.26.6); Anne Priestley (FLY.2.42.8-2nd. I.M. 5.49. 4-3rd); Helen Rowson.(200m.F/S.2.24.4-3rd) Lyn Deeley (BR.3.10.5 & 88.9).

28.3.72. Southampton 337. C/H. 237. Brighton.199. It was unfortunate that this match clashed with other events. Good performances; F/S.Helen Rowson. 68.5.; Richard Sheasby 63.2; Diane Wakeling 48.8; Sue Cooke.71.4; BR. Mark Varney 89.7; FLY. Sue Cooke 82.0; Philip Baker 73.9;.

On the same day, Martin Edwards was winning the Intermediate FLY (61.4) in a Schools' Interhational at the Isle of Man.

ALSO, we had 9 swimmers in the County Team for the age group match v. Staffs & Worcs. (Paul Rogers F/S. 45.0. & I.M. 1.48.8; Jackie Sheasby F/S.46.7).

25/3/72. A Seven Club Match at Cardiff. St Athans.B.P. Llandarcy. Soundwell. Ma indee. Swansea. Cardiff Otters. I think we won, but I'm not sure, however, I am sure of the following: Jackie Shea aby 76.5; Nicky Green 70.9; Helen Rowson.BR.90.8. Richard Sheasby BK.72.0.

1/4/72. Swansea.233. Swansea Otters.203. C/H.207. Cardiff Otters. 149. B.P.Llandarcy 148. Meath 139.  
(Martin Hubbard BR. 71.0; Mark Varney 78.4.; Mike Fearon 56.6. Robin Cull 60.8).

Meanwhile, at the A.S.A. Short Course Championships, at Grimsby Martin Edwards was finishing 5th in the two FLY.events- 61.1 & 2.17.0, and Anne Priestley recorded a respectable time 2.41.9 and 73.5.

8/4/72. 'B' Team Match. Mode rnians 378; C/H. 325; Cambridge 217; Richard-Sheasby BR !! 78.5; Anne Hardman FLY. 27.3.; Helen Franklin BK. 25.5.; Debbie Baker F/S 22.7.

14/4/72 Our U/17 & U/15 Team was rather badly mauled by Northfield. 107-70. and I hop e our U/13 & U/11. group will restore the balance this Friday. !

15/4/72 The Club had 7 swimmers in the Eight Towns Gala at Coventry, and they all gave a good account of themselves, with pride of place going to Mark Varney for his 86.8. in the Breaststroke.

MEANWHILE the Club competed at Cambridge: Luton 160.Granta 158. C/H. 129. Wolverhampton.128. Corby 74 (Alan Deeley FLY. 84.5).

AND ! a depleted 'B' Team sallied forth to Northampton, where, despite finishing 4th, they were by no means disgraced. Paul Atkins BK. 71.0; Anne Hardman FLY. 27.0. Roger Green BR. 29.2.)

On reviewing these matches it is noticeable, that, in several cases, we have had deple ted teams through representative calls or holidays yet have still managed to do quite well, so I hope the 2nd strings will keep hard at it.

CONGRATULATIONS to Martin Hubbard on his inclusion in the G.B. U/20. Water Polo Squad - it had to come. Incidentally, Martin & Iain Hutchison & Clive Rogers were in the London University Team that won the British Universities Water Polo Championship.

TOMORROW. HOME GALA - STECHFORD - SATURDAY. 22nd APRIL.

There has been little time to do any publicity for this -  
can we have support please.

Doors open 5.00 v. Coventry & Neath.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS & AGE GROUP.

These are on 29th April & 6th, 13th May, so let's have plenty of  
winners. I have entered Teams for the Junior & Senior F/S &  
Medley Relays. In order that swimmers can qualify for District  
Age Group & Championships in events not covered in the above,  
there will be Time Trials at Coventry on 7th & 14th May -  
details from F.G.T.

FIXTURES.

May 20th Soundwell. (A).

May 27th. Gloucester.(A).