

They say that everything happens in threes and by a slight stretch of the imagination we could apply that adage to the Club since the publication of the last Newsletter. (All our news, I hasten to add, is good news !)

To begin with Martin Edwards gained warranted selection to the GB squad and has already swum in Dortmund and at the Crystal Palace. Richard Sheasby and Mike Fearon have been invited to attend a GB Under 20 Polo Training weekend at RAF Cosford (11-13 May) and Richard has also gained selection for the GB Under 20's Team playing in Holland from the 8th.-11th. June. Finally the Club as a whole had a very pleasing string of successes at the Warwickshire Championships.

Congratulations to you all and may the summer months continue to bring the Club 'glad tidings' - in threes of course !

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West Midland Swimming League.

The AGM of the above League was held at the Post House, Walsall (very pleasant) on Sunday afternoon, 5th. May. The meeting was well attended by delegates covering a large area of the Midlands and a lot of work was done. As far as Camp Hill SC was concerned this was a very important date and I was privileged and proud to receive the 2nd. Division Winners Pennant, which in our first season was a very good achievement. It means that we will move into the 1st. Division amongst the "big" boys (and girls !), which in turn means hard work, training and a lot of co-operation with the Coaches. The first Gala for the new season is at Walsall on October 6th.

Motorway League.

This League had its meeting at Coventry Baths on Sunday, 13th. May and a large number of proposals were put forward for the AGM in September - a copy of these will appear on the notice-board when they are received.

Due to our heavy commitments last season there is a very good chance we will be in the 2nd. Division. This, however, does not mean it is an easy Division and once again we will be working very hard to gain promotion.

A. Mac.D.

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Dortmund.

At the conclusion of the National Championships held at Chetenham the team selected to swim at Dortmund, West Germany in the Five Nations Contest met for a weeks preparation at Loughborough.

On Friday, 13th. we flew from Heathrow to Dusseldorf, then travelled by road to Dortmund and shortly after our arrival the team had a familiarity session in the Competition pool. The pool was a 50 metre one, which gave swimmers their first 'long course' swim of the year. Many British swimmers commented on finer details to enable fast times, like very low water, loose lane ropes, uncomfortable starting blocks - the first two points being rectified prior to the competition.

The meeting was held in three sessions, one on Saturday April 14th. and the remaining two on Sunday April 15th. My event - the 100m Fly - took place on Sunday morning, and my time of 59.7 placed me second behind West Germany's swimmer who did a time of 58.8. I was also in the Medley Relay and the GB was comprised of Colin Cunningham on BK, David Wilkie on BR, myself on Fly and Ray Terrell on FS. The team finished second to West Germany and my split was 60.9

All the team swam well without actually achieving their best times, but were pleased with the final result since this was our best performance in the competition since 1969. Final points were as follows: WG 158; GB 119; Sweden 116; Holland 111; Italy 72.

Coca-Cola International.

The Coca-Cola International held at Crystal Palace on the 21st. and 23rd. of April provided some spectacular swimming by 18 different nations, which brought together such personalities as Australians Shane Gould, Beverly Whitfield, Gail Neal and Brad Cooper (all Olympic Gold Medallists) plus American medallists Kenna Rothammer, Melisa Belote, Shirley Babashoff and Robin Bakhouse.

I was competing in both the 100m and 200m Fly. In the 200 I was second in my heat and 10th. overall in a time of 2m15.9, which is just over 2 secs. slower than my best time. In the 100m I finished 6th. in a time of 60.3 secs.

M.E.

MATCH REPORTS.

4/4/73.v.Bradsford Grammar School.

Bradford brought a strong team down for our annual match and underlined this strength by winning most of the relays after finishing the individual events with a small lead.

We had few outstanding performances, although there were many reasonable efforts. Pride of place goes to Andrew Wolf on becoming the second swimmer in the Club to beat the minute for the 100 F/S - 59.7. That's a start; reference my comment in the last 'News', but I still feel we should have 3 or 4 under that 60 secs. barrier. Girls? We'll settle for a 65 secs. target for the time being.

Our visitors appreciated their stay and have invited us to take a mixed team to Bradford in 1974.

F.G.T.

14/4/73."B" Team v.Mansfield S.C.

With several of our regular swimmers on holiday we fielded a somewhat weaker 'P' team than usual but still managed to overhaul Mansfield in the later stages of the Gala. This reflects the Clubs strength in depth which is steadily increasing all the time.

The match was well attended and the vociferous support of the spectators undoubtedly assisted our young swimmers to produce a number of good performances. In my opinion the best Camp Hill swims were:

Roger Green (BR.98.9) - what a pity he eased off on the 3rd. length after a good 50m split; Sam Chesetrough and Debbie Clark (Fly 86.7 - 87.5); R. Crutchley (F/S 80.2, BK 84.9); M. Shimell (BR 95.9); A. Cooper (FS 79.7) - I'm sure he can go out faster!; Caroline Brown and Helen Franklin (F/S 87.2 - 87.3); G. Tonks and S. Gatland (BK.91.1 - 92.8). There were good 50m. performances by: Charlotte Stone (BK 51.6); Duncan Wright (FS 42.0); Linda Browne (F/S 42.9), Katie Long (BK.49.6); Caroline Brown (BR.50.7); Tim Lawrence (Fly 41.5).

'B' matches are proving a great success and the standard of the team reflects the hard work being put in with the 'B' squad by Mr. Shimell and his team of coaches on Thursday evenings and by Jeff Beech and his assistants on Tuesdays and Fridays.

We hope to have a full programme of 'B' team matches in the Autumn, so keep training hard for a good performance in the 'B' team might well get you a place in the Club's first team.

A.P.

7/4/73.Warks.v.Wores.v.Staffs.Age Group Match.

The following Club members were in the Warks. Team for this match:

Michael Starling F/S 46.2 2nd.; Paul Rogers F/S 42.6 2nd., BR.56.6 4th.; Graham Brookhouse BK.56.8 5th.; Mark Varney BR.53.7 2nd.; Nicky Green Fly 66.9 1st., I.M. 3.34.8 2nd.; Debbie Baker F/S 51.0 6th.; Alan Deeley I.M. 1.52.1 6th.; Tim Welch Fly 51.9 2nd.; I.M. 1.58.7 2nd.; Lynne Deeley BR.54.5 1st.

F.G.T.

14/4/73.Eight Towns Gala, Coventry.

Club members of the winning Birmingham Team were: Debbie Baker (F/S 35.9 2nd) Jackie Sheasby (Fly 78.9 2nd), Lynne Deeley (BR 85.9 2nd), Graham Brookhouse (BK 41.0 5th), Alan Deeley (BR 94.8 5th), Paul Rogers (F/S 67.4 1st), Mark Varney (BR 85.0 4th), Frank Smith (Fly 80.2 5th), Ian MacDougall (BK 82.2 6th), Nigel Baker (F/S 69.7 6th).

Let's have some more girls in the Team next year!

F.G.T.

15/4/73.Neath.

West Wales 'A' 242, Coventry Squad 239, Cardiff United 235, C/Hill 140, Newport 122, West Wales 'B' 98.

With several members of the Team away on holiday we were not at our best against three strong 'Squad' Teams. However, the experience was useful and this is the sort of opposition that we need, and as always, there were a number of good performances: Andrew Wolf (I.M. 3.16.0 1st; BK.66.8 2nd; BR.79.9 3rd; Fly.65.4 3rd); Lynn Starling (BR.97.4 2nd); Helen Field (F/S.74.6 4th); Frank Smith (F/S 68.4 5th); Debbie Baker (F/S 80.5 2nd); Graham Brookhouse (F/S.78.2 3rd); Paul Rogers (BR 87.7 2nd); Debbie Clark (Fly.87.8).

It was disappointing, when we were struggling for points, to have a number thrown away by several disqualifications - no more of that please! Perhaps the two most memorable events of a very pleasant day were a) the 'tailing' of a 'heavy load' for several miles in narrow Welsh lanes and b) a hard fought game of football at Abergavenny on the return journey.

F.G.T.

21/4/73. Age Group Gala. Southampton.

After arriving in plenty of time at Southampton we unfortunately had to suffer an hours diving competition which disturbed the Teams' concentration and hence they became very bored and restless. It did not seem fair to the swimmers or supporters to sit through this tedious competition after having completed a four hour journey. This consequently made our return home ridiculously late.

However, our only U/10 female swimmer was not to be shaken by this and, encouraged by the fact that 1st, 2nd and 3rd. swimmers would be awarded medals, Katie Long produced four excellent swims, winning 3 out of her 4 races. Three noteworthy BR. wins came from Paul Rogers (100m. - 86.3), Lynn Starling (2L. 62.7) Roger Green (2L. 62.9). The Clubs BK. weakness is showing signs of improvement, Karen Brookhouse swam a creditable 88.5 - 100m. and Alan Deeley 81.7 (TURNS !). Good FS performances were encountered by Helen Field (100m. 73.9), Debbie Baker (2L. 49.7) Graham Brookhouse (2L. 50.1) and Guy Adams (1L. 29.1).

Generally speaking the swimming performance by the Team was outstanding, effort was 100% and this was reflected in the end result of an exciting Gala. Bedford Modernians (187) came out on top, followed by Southampton (159) and Camp Hill (149) a close third.

A.P.

28/4/73; 5/5/73; 12/5/73. Works. Championships & Age Group Competitions.

The Club name was kept well to the fore during the increasingly competitive County events, and I was especially pleased by our winning of 3 of the 4 Free-style Team Races. Andrew Wolf and Martin Edwards rather 'carved up' the Open events between them and Paul Rogers took three firsts in his age-group - he certainly had to work to take the Freestyle and was rewarded with a P.B. of 65.7. On my reckoning our individual medal totals were: 1st. - eight; 2nd. - eleven and 3rd. - eleven.

Medal winners have already been listed on the noticeboard, but special mention must be made of Heather Rose's 83.9 in the BR; Andrew Wolf's 66.3 in the BK and Martin Edwards's 58.2 in the F/S - good stuff ! We were well represented in many finals and there were also one or two good heat times which portend well for the future: Debbie Clark. (F/S 73.0); Michael Starling (Fly 85.6), Jackie Sheasby (F/S 70.2).

I thought that a few people 'surrendered' third places and hope that they won't make the same mistake next time: nobody has a medal as of right - it has to be won !

Anyway, some of you have climbed the first step of the ladder - now for the Midland Age Group, followed by the National Age Group in August. To-date 18 have qualified for the Midland A.G. and 6 members have qualified for the National Age Group Competitions.

F.G.T.

Fixtures. May/June.

Sat. 26th. May. Sutton-in-Ashfield. (A) U/11, U/13, U/15, OF. (2 strings)
Sun./Mon.

27/28th. May. Cardiff Meet.

Wed. 30th. May. Stratford - 'B' Team. 7.30 for 8.00.

Sat. 2nd. June. Luton, Orion. (A)

Wed. 6th. June. Boys Team League Gala - West Bromwich. 7.30.

Sat. 9th. June. Gloucester. (A)

Sat. 16th. June. Leicester. (H)

Sat. 30th. June. Soundwell. (A).

WATER POLO NEWS.

We are now well into the second month of the 1973 Season and I am pleased to report promising starts. Our Senior team won their Knock-out Championship first round match against Bilston 14-2. They now meet Stourbridge in the second round on May 24th.

As you know this year we are in the Senior Midland League and the standard of play is much higher than anything we have been used to in previous years. Our aim is to stay up, while our team grows up. We have won one out of the three games we have played so far.

Heath Town 10. C/H 8 - a very close and exciting game.

Aston 13. C/H 3. Aston are one of the leading Senior clubs in the country, and considering that eight of our team of nine players were Juniors, I would like to say - well done lads ! We had our fair share of play but Aston were much stronger in their finishing.

C/H 7. Solihull 1. That's two points in the kitty !

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Juniors. Having played two Junior League games so far - beating Leamington Juniors 18-1 and Nechells Juniors 17-1 - I feel sure that they are well on the way to winning the Championship again this year. In fact if the team themselves want to, and are prepared to train together as a team, they could win this year's National Championship. it's up to them !

U/16's National Boys Club Championship.

C/H 2 Coventry 5. A very exciting game. It's goals that count and we just couldn't get the ball between the posts. Well done lads - it wasn't for the want of trying !

On Sunday May 13th. the Midland District Under 20 Trials took place at Coventry. Martin Hubbard, Mike Hobb, Mike Fearon, Richard Sheasby were selected for the Team and Dave Brook was reserve.

Congratulations to Richard Sheasby and Mike Fearon for their selection for Under 20 GB Squad Training at Cosford. Richard's further selection for the GB Squad to play in Holland could see him playing against Dutch and Spanish Teams.

G.S.

SOCIAL NEWS.

Square Dance - 6th. April.

"Wanted - a social activity whereby young swimmers, old swimmers, parents and their parents could all join together and take part." This was the cry, a challenge, thrown out to various club members, to organize.

"A Country Dance - that should do the trick, whether you be young or not so young, have two left feet - it doesn't matter," was the reply I gallantly made. Where ? - A Sixth Form room - move the fixtures and fittings and we should have enough space. When ? A Saturday evening ? Don't forget Swimming League Round 2 and 3, Motorway League Round 2 & 3, Southampton away, M.D. Short Course Championship, ASA Short Course, South Staffs (away), West Wales and Leeds (home) - but what of March 17th - a home match v. Rugby in the afternoon: an ideal date.

Arrangements were made with the English Folk Dance Society to send a caller for this date, only to have it squashed owing to an evening match with Southampton being arranged. Finally April 6th. was settled on (a Friday) after making sure no Polo matches were due, but even this date seemed to be doomed due to the Gas strike. However, good fortune began to look our way, and the strike over, the School opened 10 days prior to the evening. More headaches arose - could everybody be informed that the Big Night was on.....?

The catering staff ("Bless 'em") did their bit and what a wonderful spread we had. Thank you very much to the Ladies - T. Shimell, J. Sheasby, P. Green, J. Baker, J. MacDougall, M. Deeley - and all others who helped. Dick Hodges, the caller, soon had everybody doing the "Light Fantastic" with a Dozy Doe and away we go. The 'Basket' in one dance gave cause for merriment with "tall" adults coping with "short" youngsters - hordes of dancers galloping from one end to the other - which partner does what in the "Red River Valley" - and too soon the evening came to an end with everybody hot, sticky and tired and cries of 'when can we have the next one ?'

A profit was made on the evening and this was duly passed on to the "coffers." There is, however, one thing I would like to comment on. This was a club activity, on a club night, and I feel therefore that all club members could have attended and been given a rest from pounding up and down a swimming bath.

R.S.

Annual Beer and Skittles Evening - 16th. April.

Once again we had a very enjoyable evening. Each year the standard seems to get better or maybe the company mellows with age ? ! This year's winners were Mr. and Mrs. Cradock - "Booby" prizes were also won but they will remain unsung heroes. The food was also very good and on behalf of everyone who participated I would like to thank David Cull for providing such a very pleasant evening.

A. Mac.D.
