

It seems it will not be long before the name of Camp Hill Swimming Club is as well known abroad as it is in this country !

Recently returned from Budapest where they took part in an 8 Nation Junior Tournament for the GB Team are Martin Hubbard and Richard Sheasby. (Barring accidents they will also be taking part in the European Youth Championships in Duisburg in mid-August.) Later on this month Richard, in company with Mike Fearon and Mike Hobbs, travels to Sneek in Holland for a 4 Nation Under 18 Polo Tournament. Currently in Tel Aviv, where he is representing G.B. in the Maccabian Games, is Nicky Green and word has just come through that Martin Edwards has been chosen for the England Team to swim against the Hungarians in Budapest on July 21/22.

Their success is a reflection of the hard-work which they have put in and shows that for those determined to succeed the world can be their oyster ! !

MATCH REPORTS.

26/5/73. Sutton-in-Ashfield.

A much weakened Team travelled North for this match and finished a good second.
Scores: Nottingham 108 C/Hill 88 Sutton 77.

27/28/5/73. Cardiff Meet.

Five minutes past nine, one sunny Sunday morning a group of parents and swimmers stood in New Street station anxiously awaiting the arrival of their Coach. Of course the few seasoned campaigners among the group were not so worried, being used to Mr. Thain arriving 5 minutes later than the appointed time but still in time to catch the train. All however went well and at approx. 1.00 p.m. our group, now containing a small number of "twits", arrived at Cardiff station and commenced the 'rigorous' walk to Sophia Gardens Sports Centre. Here we were all installed in our comfortable rooms and furnished with keys. This may have been a mistake in our case as over Sunday and Monday these keys got stuck in several of the wrong doors, thanks mainly due to the two H.R.'s. At one stage, the whole team, minus Mr. and Mrs. Thain, were locked in one room by an unmentionable Coventry swimmer and had the wrong key stuck in the door from the inside ! The situation seemed hopeless and such solutions as the whole team escaping via a rope made of sheets were suggested. This, luckily, did not come to pass, as one of the two male members of the team succeeded in getting the 'wrong' key out of the door, which was promptly opened from the outside by another Coventry swimmer. (These Coventry people seem to get everywhere, they've even infiltrated our Newsletter now ! !)

Many more choice and hilarious events occurred during the next day and a half which I could not attempt or dare to put down on paper. Suffice it to say, that the whole team had an enjoyable time and all returned home in one piece on Monday night after once more viewing Mr. Thain's 'landmarks of S. Wales' from the train. Now for the swimming.....

N.Green - 66.5 100 Fly: 2nd., H.Rowson - 2m.21.4 200 F/S; A.Priestley - 2m.22.6 200m. F/S; H.Rose - 1m23.9 100 BR.; A.Babl - 67.9 100 m. F/S. Team, 2m27.5 200 F/S; J.Sheasby - 69.2 100m. F/S Team.

H.R.

1/2/6/73. England v. West Germany.

On June 1st/2nd. England met the strong West German swimming team at Leeds. Both teams swam below their usual performances, this being due to no special preparation during hard training, but the points were well fought for and many exciting races shadowed the casual times. Mr. Thain as the newly appointed Team Manager saw his Team to a successful 36 point victory.

On Friday I competed in the 200m. Fly where I finished 4th. in my best long Course Time this year of 2m14.71. The Medley Relay concluded the first evenings swimming and the England Team of Colin Cunningham B/K, David Leigh BR, M.E. Fly, and Brian Brinkley F/S finished a close second to a strong West German squad. (My split was 60.38). In the 100m. Fly on Saturday afternoon I again met Fothert Meeuw (Olympic finalist) and as in Dortmund he succeeded in out-touching me in 59.1 to my 60.4.

The friendly, but competitive atmosphere, added to this enjoyable and memorable match for England and I am sure the whole of the newly formed England Team were well pleased in joining this fine victory. West Britain v. England 24.2.73 p. 176

6/6/73. B'ham Boys Team League - West Bromwich.

A reasonably strong team was sent to West Bromwich, and under the managership of Mr. MacDougall returned home with two 2nd. places and one 4th.

The main events of the evening were our Manager's written complaint over a very doubtful disqualification and the continuous complaints from the starter. The team was S. Gatland, A. Reeve, T. Welch, N. Baker, A. Deeley, I. MacDougall, P. Rogers, A. Smith, N. Green, D. Brook and R. Sheasby.

The most creditable swim of the night was done by Andrew Smith in the last leg of the Boys Under 13 F/S relay.

N.G.

6/6/73. Small Heath and Stechford Splash Gala.

Final Points totals were: C/Hill A 165, Small Heath and Stechford A 131, Morris 120, Sparkhill 111, C/Hill B 83, Small Heath and Stechford B 57.

16/6/73. v. Leicester.

A two lane trial of strength between the two clubs ended in favour of Leicester by quite a convincing margin in the end. One can argue that we were below strength but no doubt Leicester had some of their swimmers missing also.

Generally the earlier run of the gala proved quite even but gradually our weakness in the older age group relays became apparent. Many of our swimmers returned times well below their best and to some degree apathy seemed the keynote, however as in all galas one or two swimmers returned good performances. In the Under 17 BR. good swims by Mark Varney and Heather Rose and in the lower age-group Andrew Reeve continues to show promise. Backstroke, which apart from Andrew Wolf, has had a lean run during the last few galas looks more promising with the recent acquisition of two girl specialists on this stroke. Maybe sessions with predominance towards BR. and BK. would help to raise the general club level, if it could be achieved without detriment to our two stronger strokes!

Perhaps match reports are not the best place to express thoughts so I will end with the statistics one normally associates with them: BR. H. Rose 1.24.2., M. Varney 1.22.4., A. Reeve 1.45.8; Fly N. Green 66.8; F/C A. Priestley 66.3, N. Green 61.8; BK. J. Evans 76.4.

K.B.

22/23/6/73. Long Course, Coventry.

I was not present on the Friday evening but the times recorded by our swimmers were: A. Wolf 2nd. Mens 200 BK. 2m24.16; N. Green 1st. Boys 200 Fly 2m25.86 - a new Midland Record; M. Edwards 2nd. Mens Fly 2m14.72.

The Saturday Galas, however, I can say slightly more about. This being one of those brilliantly sunny and hot days, the number of spectators, not surprisingly, was smaller than usual. The weather was also very uncomfortable for the swimmers, who to allow the spectators to see lane 1, were made to sit on the far side of the pool next to those massive south facing windows. Consequently, after a day of continuous 'cooking' there were very few swimmers who weren't even more dead than usual by the time the evening session began. Next year, before the Saturday of this gala, will everyone in the club please get down on their knees and pray for rain!

Swims during Saturday.... A. Wolf 2nd. 400 IM 5m04.30, 6th. 100 BK 1m08.87, 1st. 200 IM 2m23.04.

M. Edwards 2nd. 100 Fly 1m00.93; N. Green 2nd. Boys 100 Fly 1m05.81.

M. Varney 200 BR 2m59.38, 100 BR. 1m23.76.

A. Babl 100 Fly 1m17.01, 100 F/S 1m09.27.

J. Sheasby 100 Fly 1m18.74. (Jackie also produced two very good 100 F/S swims in the Team events 68.5 and 69.1.)

H. Rowson 100 F/S 1m07.6; A. Priestley 400 F/S 5m03.98, H. Rose 4th. 100 BR 1m24.93.

The two J. Evans's produced two 100 BK swims of 1m15.8 and 1m16.9 (which did which?)

Overall Camp Hill produced two 1st.'s, five 2nd.'s, three 4th.'s, one 5th. and three 6th. places.

H.R.

30/6/73.Soundwell.

Coventry 263, C/Hill 195, Soundwell 189, Swindon 163, Newport 148.
This was a good team effort in a match where we were short of 21 swimmers through the 5 age-groups. The gala was rather drawn-out due to some indifferent starting (but swimmers, you should not let this upset your concentration at the beginning of your event) and because of several announcements relating to stolen costumes. (I don't think we lost any, but was surprised to learn that most of our girls had left their costumes in the changing room.)

Good swims? Well, I thought the Under 11's did well on what was for most of them their debut in this type of competition - they swam hard to get third place in the 2 relays. Nigel Baker (80.7) showed that he could still make a Fly swimmer with daily mental application towards that end. Ian MacDougall had a good 2nd. place on BK. (79.2) and Mark Varney (82.9) is gaining confidence. Jane Harrison (BK. 59.3, BR. 63.9), Jackie Sheasby (F/S 69.2, Fly 78.9) and Debbie Clarke (Fly 56.3, F/S 47.5) all produced two good swims, while Helen Rowson turned in a useful 67.6 on F/S.

Oh! and we kept up our record in the raffle by winning two of the prizes.
F.G.T.

7/7/73, v. Gloucester City SC.

Western League Champions and 1973 National Inter-League Cup Finalists Gloucester City visited the School pool for a four lane match. This was closely contested throughout but finally Camp Hill emerged very worthy winners with 196 to Gloucester's 178 points.

There were many fine performances by Camp Hill swimmers. Heather Rose's 83.0 for 100m. BR and Andrew Wolf's 65.8 for 100m. BK were both outstanding swims in the Open events and Club Records. Andrew also took the 100m BR in a creditable 78.1 and won the butterfly (But this was by kind permission of Martin!)

Paul Rogers registered three individual wins in the Under 14 age-group (F/S, BK, BR) and helped his team win the group relay - a stalwart all-round performance. Fourteen year old Janine Evans quickly established herself as a prominent Camp Hill swimmer by winning both the Under 16 and the Open BK events with less than 3 minutes rest between the two swims.

Among other good personal performances were Mark Varney's 81.8 for the 100m. BR, 11 year old Debbie Baker's 77.0 for 100m. F/S, Lynn Starling's win in the Under 12 100m. BR, Alan Deeley's 89.7 in the Under 14. BR and Graham Brookhouse's 86.9 for the 100m. BK.

Urged on by his numerous girl fans, Garry Tonks achieved a time of 89.8 for 100m Fly and 91.6 for 100m. BK - outstanding swims at the age of 10.

W.R.

7/7/73. Invitation Gala - Halesowen S.C.

This event was held in two separate parts, Part 1 for children of 10yrs. and under and Part 2 for older age groups. Our B team youngsters acquitted themselves with credit and Part 1 was most exciting. After 8 events we were in third place and after 15 events had moved up to second. With one event to go we were just in the lead. Unfortunately, we were last in that whilst our nearest rivals won to take the competition.

Final Team placings were: Warley 104, C/Hill B 98, Solihull 80, Halesowen 79, Newport 77, Stourbridge 72.

Part 2 started with a win in the Girls 12yrs. and under 4x1 F/S Relay but from that point on we were continually struggling against some good opposition and despite some creditable individual performances could not record another win and finished in fourth place. Some of the more noteworthy swims included:

Lorraine Simmons 110yds. F/S 77.6; June Brown 110yds. BR 99.9; Paul Atkins 110yds. F/S 68.2 (P.B.); Robin Gull 110yds. F/S 73.2 and Rob Leach 2L Fly (in relay) 57.8.

Final placings for Part 2 were: Halesowen 225, Stourbridge 172, Newport 144, C/Hill B 138, Warley 137, Solihull 106.

R.D.S.

WATER POLO NEWS.

Congratulations to Martin Hubbard and Richard Sheasby on their G.B. under 20 selection to play in Hungary and Duesburg in August. Mike Fearon, Mike Hobbs and Richard Sheasby picked for the England under 18 Team to play in the Four Nations under 18 Tournament at Sneek, Holland 20-23 July. I know you will join me in wishing them all the best of luck.

SENIORS:

In the Midland League we have collected a well earned 8 points and are 6th in the League Table. In the swimming squad championship we are top and unbeaten. We are also through to the quarter-final of the K.O. Championship against Oxford at the School Pool on Monday 16th July.

JUNIORS:

The Junior Team is still unbeaten and are at the top of the Junior League Table, recently beating their closest rivals Coventry 8 - 1, who we also meet in the Final of the Midland Junior Championship at Leamington on July 17th, when we hope to repeat the win which could take us on the road to the National Junior Championship.

G.S.

TOURNAMENT IN HUNGARY.

TEAMS: Spain, Sweden, Hungary, Holland, West Germany, Great Britain.

Spain won the tournament. When Great Britain played them we were drawing until the final seconds of the game when they had a penalty and scored, the final score being 5 - 6. Despite the fact that G.B. did not win a game, the tournament was very exciting, and it is interesting to note that G.B. only lost to the winners by one goal, but lost heavily to the remaining four teams who were all beaten by Spain.

R.S.