

Despite strange 'goings-on' in Gretna Green (4) the Club's first tour north of the Border proved to be a resounding success and a full account of the entire trip is to be produced as a separate "edition." Our thanks go to Mr. MacDougall and his happy band for all the hard work they put in, and the enthusiasm shown by the swimmers for the trip is a testimony to their thoroughness. Congratulations are again due to Martin Edwards and Nicky Green on their International selections and also to Mike Hobbs who has gained a full G.B. cap for the Water Polo Team. Well done one and all !

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#### Club Badges.

These are now available from Mrs. Baker, price 20p. Members who entered the badge design competition may apply for a free one.

#### Club T-Shirts.

Orders for the Club T-Shirt are being taken again and anyone who would like one should see the notice on the Club board.

#### Age-Groups.

Mr. Sharp has kindly agreed to look after this section of the Club's activities, and anyone with queries about Age-Group competitions at County, District or National level should contact him.

#### Skittle Evening.

The next skittle evening is set for Thursday, 4th July, and a coach will be leaving the School at 7.00 p.m. The party will be limited to 43 and the price is £1-50 inclusive of Coach Fare and Buffet. Anyone interested should read the notice on the Club board and phone Mr. Cull: 458-1737.

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#### A.G.M. of the Swimming League (West Midlands)

Without going into too much detail, I think it will suffice to say that with the new Clubs that have registered for the League, Division 1 and 2 will comprise of 4 Galas of 6 Clubs each Gala, 48 Clubs, plus two reserve Clubs. Our first Gala on October 5th will be against Soundwell, Derby, Notts. Leander, Bristol North and Walsall. (Team Managers please note that warm up swims must take place in the lane allocated to the Club and it is their responsibility to ensure this.)

The remaining Teams in Division 1 are:

Gala 1: Halesowen, Coventry B, Orion, Notts. Northern, Leicester A, Bilston.

Gala 2: COSSACSS B, Coventry A, Coalville, COSSACSS A, Belgrave Leics., Rugby.

Gala 3: Nottingham, Wolverhampton, Oldbury, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Luton/Vaux., Heath T.

The date of the second round is November 2nd, which also happens to be the date arranged for a Green shield Stamp sponsored competition, so we shall have to wait to see how it will affect us.

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A. Mac.D.

#### Eight Nations Junior International - Bergamo - 14/15 April.

The England and Wales Junior Team met at Loughborough together with the Green Shield Youth Squad for a few days training before we left for Italy on the 11th. of April. The first day at the College we only covered 6,000 yds but the next two days we covered a distance between 11 and 13,000 yds. in two 1½ hour sessions. When we weren't in the pool we were in the gym, and in the evening the whole squad of around 50 got together for talks.

The coach journey to Heathrow saw encounter every mishap possible, and when we arrived at the Airport the plane was waiting for its cargo to arrive! From Milan we took a train to Bergamo and we found ourselves accommodated at a College with all the other teams. The College had facilities even sports centres would be envious of - gyms, volleyball, tennis and squash courts, rooms for judo and karate - in fact practically everything. The food was also very good, almost anything we wanted and as much of it as we liked!

After a few days acclimatisation the competition began, and the pool (about 5 minutes walk from the College) was very modern and packed in about 2,000 spectators. On the first night, due to a disqualification, the England team were in third position behind the Dutch and Germans, but after the Girls 200 IM we regained second place behind the Dutch. They had some fantastic girl swimmers and a few excellent boys, and their few swimmers swam practically every event and gained maximum points in many of them. The English victories came from Dean Smith and Brian Lonsdale, and we also won my event - the 4x200 F/S Relay. My time of 2,05.9 equates to my best, and this proved to be the only relay win for the team.

The teams celebrated afterwards with a Disco at which there was plenty of free beer and wine. We were in bed at 1.00 a.m. and up again at 6.00 a.m. to catch the return flight back to London after 5 successful days in Italy. N.G.

MATCH REPORTS.

9/3/74. The London Swimming League-Final Gala.

The Final Gala of the London Swimming League was held at Ladywell Baths, Lewisham on Saturday 9th. March. The Camphill Edwardian Club received magnificent support from its swimmers, and achieved third position in the gala with 164 pts, behind Southampton (214), Reading (171) and ahead of Havering (145) and Sutton and Cheam/Cheam Ladies and Portsmouth Nailsea (131), jointly in 5th. place.

This is the highest placed position in the final gala our club has yet achieved, though we have reached it on three previous occasions. At a time when standards have been rising all round, this result shows that ours have been rising faster than those of others, and it must augur well for the future. In the years ahead winning this competition must be within our grasp.

The swimmers performed so well collectively that it is almost invidious to mention individual performances. Thanks are particularly due to the polo players, including Mike Fearon and Richard Sheasby, who gave up important matches to attend, and to the older swimmers such as Ann Priestley, Helen Rowson, Andrew Wolf and Gerry Bishop, who all gave up time and who often travelled long distances to come.

Amongst the younger swimmers, Jackie Sheasby and Mike Starling were towers of strength, and in the under 12's Linda Brown (27.8) and David Steele (29.7) both won the breast stroke events. This is a stroke on which we have often been weak in recent years.

B.S.

28-30/3/74. National Short Course Championships.

Many lengths have been swum since this event, but our results should be placed on record.

Martin Edwards: 110yds. F/S 56.2 (8th), 220yds F/S 2m.4.3 (11th), 110yds Fly 59.4 (2nd) - This swim earned Martin selection for the Edinburgh Match, the Coca-Cola Meet and the Six Nations.

Andrew Wolf: 200 IM 2m21.2 (8th), 400 IM 4m54.3 (4th).

Nicky Green: 100 Fly 63.8 (6th. Jun), 220 Fly 2m22.4 (7th. Jun), 220yds F/S 2m06.3 (6th. Jun) - this last swim resulted in Nicky's Selection for the 8 Nations Junior International Tournament in Bergamo.

Sue Stacey: 220yds IM 2m43.3      Mandy Sharp: 220yds. Fly 2m43.4.

Five competitors - let's see some more at Blackpool.

F.G.T.

6/4/74. Eight Towns Gala-Coventry.

The Club was well represented in this gala providing 17 of the 26 swimmers in the Birmingham Team. It was disappointing that, after a convincing win, the medals and trophy were not awarded because of a protest, however, they will arrive eventually! Good swims: Fly - Mandy Sharp 74.9, Jackie Sheasby 74.7, Hayley Bettinson 59.2, Mike Starling 75.9. F/S - Jan. Evans 66.3, Nigel Baker 65.3, Debbie Clarke 70.4; BK. Jackie Evans 77.8.

F.G.T.

10/4/74. C/Hill v. Junction 10 v. Orion v. Darmstadter.

A traffic jam headed by a German coach caught the eye of four very observant Camp Hill swimmers who eased the congestion by directing the way to das Freibad!

The three English teams could not match the strength of the German Touring side but were by no means outclassed. It was of particular interest to note how sharp the German swimmers were on starts and turns - an example which many of our swimmers should follow. The Boys' Team suffered from the absence of our older swimmers but nevertheless were able to produce some fine swims:

Gary Tonks 2L BK 57.9; 2L Fly 54.1, Paul Rogers 110F/S 64.8; Ian MacDougall 110BK 75.9. The Girls were in sparkling form and pride of place must go to Janine Evans, who in spite of a misjudged turn, swam a creditable 110BK 75.6 after a comfortable victory in the 110F/S 66.5.

Sarah Cheesebrough won the 4x1 IM in a p.b. of 1.51.3 and Jackie Evans swam to form in the 110BK with a 76.9. One good ER performance was achieved by Linda Brown (2L 61.5) and both Mandy Sharp (74.6) and Hayley Bettinson (55.1) had successful fly swims. Camp Hill's fleet of fly swimmers showed their strength and determination in the two 6x1 fly relay races, victories in these rounded off a pleasing performance by our swimmers.

Final points position:

Age Group Match: 1st. C/Hill 2nd. Orion 3rd. Junction 10  
Jun.-Sen. Match: 1st. Darmstadter 2nd. Orion 3rd. Junction 10 4th. C/Hill.

A.P.

19/5/74. Inter-Club.

Wulfrun 190, Leicester 186, C/Hill 152, Reading 143, Paindee 132, Warrington 110.  
Some keen competition in a well-organised Sunday match. Good times by:  
Hayley Bettinson 88.7 (Fly), Paul Rogers 64.2 (F/S), Sue Stacey 3.45.4 (IM) and Karen Brookhouse 81.5 (BK).

F.G.T.

8/6/74. 'B' Team v. Mansfield.

On Saturday June 8th, our B Team entertained Mansfield SC at the School Pool. Because of an evening commitment we were only swimming a three Age-Group match which gave a 36 event gala. After six events with the score Mansfield 28 Camp Hill 32, both sides had won three races. The halfway stage still showed the same pattern with the score Mansfield 82 Camp Hill 95, and this was maintained until the end; the final scores being Mansfield 155 C/Hill B 163.

G.I.

8/6/74. v. Coventry House, Leicester, W/Handsworth.

This match provided a good preliminary to the District Championships on the following two Saturdays. Times were generally a little down, but there were some keen races - Sue Stacey getting us off to a good start with her win in the 200 IM in 2m40.4. Amongst our best swims were:

100 Fly. Nicky Green 63.3, Trevor Clark 64.4, Jackie Sheasby 75.7, Mike Starling 76.1,

Sue Stacey 75.9, Hayley Bettinson (50m) 39.6.

100 BK. Trevor Clark 67.5, Martin Edwards 68.8, Karen Brookhouse 81.5.

100 F/S. Nicky Green 59.3, Philip Baker 61.8, Paul Rogers 64.9, Graham Brookhouse 70.9, Jackie Sheasby 67.1.

Improved swims too from Andrew Coaton, Stuart Catland, Mark Varney and Alan Deeley. On reflection, this was a good effort and we must now 'sharpen up' BOTH PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY for the Championships.

F.G.T.

WARWICKSHIRE CHAMPIONSHIPS 1974.

Individual Medals.

9 Gold

20 Silver

19 Bronze.

4 Golds Junior Girls F/S Relay Team

4 Golds Open Mens F/S Relay Team.

Total 56 Medals.

Well done all Camp Hill swimmers.

It is indeed a pleasure and an experience to witness as a spectator the effort of swimmers in their first serious competition of the year and the first timers K. Long, C. Brown (what a thrill for them and all of us) to see them take their first medals along with the experienced swimmers, Gold Jan. Evans, Silver N. Green, K. Long, G. Tonks, Bronze C. Brown and M. Starling, at the first session 20th. April Cov. (remember the date you little ones.)

Too excited to have any tea - return to the pool, with Ann Priestley to report to Mr. G. Thain our success so far, to be greeted with a smile and a deep throated GOOD. With such praise ringing in their ears, the swimmers for the evening session set about their task. Gold for Sheasby, Gold for Bettinson. Silver for Edwards, H. Rose, D. Clarke, Jan. Evans. Bronze for Green and Cheesbrough and to set the seal on the first day 4 Gold for our F/S Team Evans, Sharp, Sheasby and Rabl. (PHEW !)

I'm glad there's a two week gap.

What's two weeks, a mere 40-60,000 yds. training, and it's gone, and to arrive the 2nd. session of the Warwickshire Championships, HOLD YOUR BREATH. Gold S. Stacey, L. Brown not to be outshone by her sister (wonderful) and M. Edwards, Olympic and Commonwealth Games swimmer for him a gold, you see swimmers they are all important. Silver Jac. Evans, L. Deeley, K. Long. Bronze C. Brown, N. Green, J. Sheasby. I must have tea to fortify myself for the evening, so with G. Thain's deep throated "VERY GOOD" ringing in our ears we have tea.

The evening session was to be a tough one - everyone had now heard of Camp Hill, and so battle commenced. Gold for Starling, Silver J. Sheasby and K. Long (she's at it again), Bronze M. Edwards, L. Deeley, Jac. Evans and G. Brookhouse who broke 70 for the first time and again in the Final.

The Final Day.

Not one session had past without us taking a Gold, shall we falter ?, not on your 2 length backstroke ! Gold Sheasby, 4 Golds Open Mens F/S team: M. Edwards, N. Green, P. Baker, R. Sheasby. Silver Starling, Bronze N. Green, K. Long, D. Clarke.

EVENING SESSION - NO FINGER NAILS LEFT !

Gold by our supreme champion M. Edwards (thanks), Silver Bettinson, Starling, Stacey, Green and K. Long (again). Bronze P. Baker, A. Sharp, C.A. Brown and a new one L.S. Barrett. How can one find an ending to these Warwickshire Championships ? To all of you who entered the Championships, to all of you who made the Finals, I can only end as I began and say,

WELL DONE ALL CAMP HILL SWIMMERS.

F.G.S.

Water Polo News.

For the first time (and working on an idea suggested by C/Hill and Coventry), a Winter U/16 League was formed - 12 teams split into two zones, with a play-off for the top two teams. Camp Hill eventually met Neshells in the Final at the new Wyndley Pool, and they finished up by winning all 11 games with a total of 135 goals for and 33 against.

A full report of the National U/16 Knock-out Final is given below (in which we reached this stage for the 2nd. time in four years), but on reaching the Final and counting the friendlies played, the U/16 recorded a total of 27 games, winning 23, drawing 1 and losing 3. A wonderful achievement.

Congratulations to all and also to Mike Hobbs, a Senior player, for getting full GB honours playing in goal against Germany, and to Nigel Baker and Mark Varney for representing the Mid-District U/16 against the Welsh National U/16 Team, and again to Nigel Fox being selected for the Warwickshire U/18 Team.

National Under 16 Finals.

On Saturday 18th. May at 9.30 a.m. a convoy of cars with the U/16 Team aboard left the School on their way to RAF Cosford for the National Finals. This was to be their day though we felt it had come a year early as our target was 1975 - when the same team would still be in contention. Our opponents were to be Planthill (Manchester), Plaistow (London) and Leamington. We lost to the Londoners in the first game 2-4, then to the Mancunians 1-2, and finally beat Leamington 4-2.

General comments which can be said about the Team are that they have never played better polo and lost, and they will play a lot worse and lose, but it was just one of those days when the ball was not 'running' for us. At a vital time we missed penalties and then we had what looked like a good goal disallowed, and you must have some luck to win. The Referees too were what I would call home referees, not that there was any bad refereeing, but I thought that when a decision was close it always seemed to go the other way, and finally if we could have played Leamington first events may have turned out differently.

Without doubt the best match of the day was the game against Planthill. We opened the score in the first quarter, and that's how it was with two minutes to go in the Final quarter. Then we missed a penalty; Planthill came and levelled the scores, and then in the last 30secs. they scored again to give them a 2-1 victory. All I can say is that both teams gave a 100% effort and it was one of the finest games I have seen - a view backed up by other comments at the end of the game.

"Try and follow that" from an exhausted International Referee who had been an Official at the World Student Games; a Timekeeper whose Club won the ASA Club Water Polo Championship in 1967 and who play in the National League said it was one of the best games he had ever seen; "The finest team ever played" from Planthill's own coach; a standing ovation from all the spectators and ASA Officials and an admission from the onlooking Plaistow coach that his Team could never match that. Planthill beat Leamington 10-0, Camp Hill 2-1 and Plaistow 13-1 to emerge as Champions but next year we shall win!

C.H.V.

Stop Press. (As an introduction to the report due to be published on the Tour, here is a short resumé from one of the participants.)

The Club tour of Bradford and Paisley was very successful. It was a new experience for most of the Club members', but they all had a very enjoyable time. Everyone had excellent billets and were made very welcome. The trip was improved by a comfortable coach with a competent and very friendly driver. Every swimmer found various ways of amusing themselves during the journey, from playing cards to eating apples! The highlights of the Tour were the coach wash at Carlisle and the visit to Edinburgh Castle. We had an incidental stop at Gretna Green where a mock marriage took place - Nicky and Janine made a lovely couple!

The swimming Gala at Bradford was very close and exciting, the outcome depending on the last few races. Unfortunately we lost by a small margin. At Paisley, the opposition was stronger, but all swimmers put up an excellent show. There were good swims at both Galas and most swimmers were satisfied with their performances.

I am sure everyone would like to thank Mr. McDougall for making the trip possible - perhaps he could be persuaded to arrange another one next year.

S.S.

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