

1975 is now well into its stride and the early signs are that it could prove to be another bumper year for the Club. Numbers at the training sessions continue to be most encouraging and the results in the Swimming Leagues and other matches are certainly good advertisements for quality swimming. Now that spring is here, let us hope that the warmer (!) weather will coincide with a continued rise in Camp Hill's swimming barometer !

Yet again are water polo players have done us proud and sincere congratulations are due to Mike Hobbs and Richard Sheasby on being selected for the G.B. squad to take part in a tournament in Italy. Well done to you both and may you have an enjoyable and exciting time.

Finally but by no means least, a word of congratulations on the Club's behalf to Gerry Thain on his election as President of the Midland District A.S.A. for the coming year. This is a deserved and well-earned honour and I am sure all our best wishes are with 'F.G.T.' for a successful, enjoyable and rewarding term of office.

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The next Skittle Evening is due to be held on July 3rd. Further details will be posted nearer the date, so keep an eye on the noticeboard.

The Annual Club Dinner/Dance has again been booked in at the Greswolde Arms Hotel, Knowle and the date is the 13th. of December - a Saturday I might add !

Many thanks to all those who gave so generously of their time to help with the Jumble Sale which again proved to be a financial success.

Club costumes are now available at 'Sportsco' in the Birmingham Shopping Centre.

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#### BREASTSTROKE - BOYS.

The Club record of 77.0 was set up ten years ago by Dickie Hall, and since then we have only had 5 boys who have occasionally beaten 80s. It has long been our weak stroke and has affected the results of our Medley Teams. At last things are looking up, Nigel Baker has been threatening the record for a few months and he now holds it with 76.7. Our current ranking list reads:

Baker 76.7 Wolf 79.0 Rogers 80.8 Beavan 81.5 Leach 82.5  
Starling 83.0 Coaton 84.5

..... and there is no reason why all of these should not be in the 70's by the summer. Next target 75.0 and what about Dickie Hall's 220yds. Club Record of 2.44.0 ?

F.G.T.

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#### MATCH REPORTS.

14/12/74. v. Luton, H/Hempstead, Coventry 'B', Reading, Walthamstow.

Due to this being the night of the Dinner-Dance a very weak team travelled to Luton for this match. Although all swimmers gave of their best, our only first place was gained by Sarah Cheeseborough in the Open F/S. She was able to slow down and keep the rest of the swimmers in view and still finished well in the lead. Coventry and Reading took an early lead and by Event 10 we were in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, due to two unnecessary disqualifications. Coventry gradually extended their lead throughout the Gala and we finished in 5<sup>th</sup>. place, although 3<sup>rd</sup>. place could have been ours without disqualifications.

Final points were: Coventry 'B' 207, Reading 187, Walthamstow 131, Luton 130, C/Hill 128, H/Hempstead 105.

Good times were recorded by: John Austin 26.6 (BK), Andrew Coaton 84.5 (BR), Alan Deeley 1.48.7 (4x1IM), Wendy Leach 51.9 (Fly).

R.A.L.

4/1/75. v. Mansfield.

An encouraging Gala which gave us plenty of 1<sup>st</sup>. places and proved to be a good work-out for the younger swimmers.

C/Hill 221 pts. Mansfield 186 pts.

4/1/75.C/Hill 'B' 272 Rykneld 216.

This match provided a useful warm-up for the League galas, and gave our U11's a chance to show how they are progressing. The following noteworthy times were recorded: F/S. Yvonne Jukes 40.1, Frank Edwards 40.6, Laura Barrett 82.0, Tim Emens 85.4. BK. Karen Gurney 49.0, Laura Barrett 87.3. BR. Karen Gurney 50.0, Nicholas Bott 51.2, Debbie Baker 93.2, Tim Emens 1.40.2., Lyn Starling 87.4, Mike Starling 83.0, David Beavan 82.4. Fly. Laura Barrett 43.2.

F.G.T.

11/1/75. Swimming League - Round 1.

Cambridge Granta 195, C/Hill 164, Tunbridge Wells 162, Woolwich 152, Kingsbury 144, Barracuda 143.

A most pleasing result this after a late arrival following a protracted tour of Surrey-on-Thames! Without a warm-up and a 6th. and two 5ths. in the first three races it looked as if it was going to be 'one of those days' - but far from it.

Lynn Starling's good win in the U/14 BR (57.3) changed our fortune and a really good team effort gave us a well-earned 2nd. place at the conclusion of the gala. Good swims: BK. Helen Franklin 57.0, Karen Brookhouse 79.2, Sheena Grant 79.0, Stuart Gatland 54.2 (+ Fly 51.0), Alan Deeley 78.8 and Iain MacDougall 73.9. F/S. Mark Coppen 24.2, Philip Baker 60.4 (+ an excellent finish in his Fly - 66.6), Debbie Baker 46.2. BR. Karen Gurney 31.4, Robert Leach 83.6, David Beavan 81.5. Fly. Jackie Sheasby 77.3, Mike Starling 74.5. Our relay teams swam in the best traditions of Camp Hill relay teams, and we set off for home delighted in the knowledge that the Club had again given a good account of itself in London.

F.G.T.

11/1/75. East Midland League 1 (Derby).

Final scores: City of Coventry 'A' 227, C/Hill 217, Derby 170, Notts. Northern 138, Wolverhampton 119, Bromsgrove 88.

18/1/75. Long Distance Gala - Cambridge.

The gala turned out to be extremely one-sided. Cambridge were unable to provide any decent competition for our swimmers, but it did provide an opportunity for swimmers to compete in events in which they would not have otherwise - Laura Barrett (9yrs. old) who competed in the Senior women's 200mBK, and Katie Long in the Senior 200mER. Other notable performances were by Jackie Evans (1.45.9 - IM) and Sarah Cheeseborough (5.03.0 - 400 F/S and 4 events later 5.46.0 in the 400IM).

Good times were recorded by Jackie Evans, Sarah Sheeseborough, Philip Baker and Chris Tainty. Good times were had by other members on the back seat of the coach.

N.G.

25/1/75. v. Leicester Knighton Fields.

Leicester Knighton Fields 163 pts. Camp Hill 'B' 211 pts. - a result which must surely speak for itself.

During the early stages points were even, but as the match progressed, Camp Hill began steadily to forge ahead and soon established a healthy 22pt. lead. The Leicester side fought back with determination and although they did reduce the lead at the halfway mark, the visitors could not overcome the strength of the home team, who went on to finish 48 points ahead.

Several swimmers achieved 'personal bests', there were few false starts or disqualifications, F/S and BR turns were generally good although BK and Fly turns suggested more practice was needed, both sides swam enthusiastically and with great determination and the result was a good one for Camp Hill.

M.L.

25/1/75. Mini Bolognav West Wales and Leicester.

Swimming at Stechford Baths in a Gala sponsored by the Welconstruct Co. Ltd., Camp Hill swimmers gave a demonstration of their skills by winning the Gala quite comfortably against first-class opposition.

This was a good all-round Club performance with many personal best times and swimming with a style that pleased the eye.

As Mr. Thain is the Midland District President this year, he will have been pleased, I am sure, of the start which the Club has made to 1975 competitions. Keep it up!

F.S.

1/2/75. Swimming League - Round 2.

Final Scores: City of Southampton 247, Granta 169, Walthamstow 157, Watford 146, Feltham 124, Camp Hill 118.

8/2/75. East Midland League - Round 2.

Over the past 2 weeks considerable press coverage roused quite an interest in this particular match in which we met our old rivals Orion along with Bilston, Norwich, Bramcote and Loughborough.

For several hours after the match and many discussions later as to why Orion beat us by 6 points, I could not arrive at a reasonable excuse. Then quite by chance one of Camp Hill's longest stalwarts, in passing mentioned how lucky Orion were to have obtained Lane 1, yes Lane 1, when we could only get Lane 3. I paused with interest, and possibly some amazement, as this was contrary to my normal reasoning, but on reflection there well may have been some advantage.

At the last count the number of alleged Officials parading, prancing, whistling, running, inspecting bubbles, questioning results and generally retarding the normal smooth flow of a Camp Hill gala was 44 ! (and there was only 1 occupant at a time within the confines of Lane 3)

To the match:.....from visiting spectators points of view this was a three match gala: Orion 235 v. C/Hill 229 ; Bilston 141 v. Norwich 151; Bramcote 111 v. L'boro 97. Involvement as a whole was obviously lacking as the results show, there were several fine swims, but pride of place must go to that blue riband of races - the 100m Mens F/S.

The contestants stood at the starting blocks until the gun punctured the air... Nick Green in Lane 3, Steve Nash in the magic Lane 1. Neck and neck over the first 2 lengths, Green a better turn into the last length, a slight lead and as most swimmers know there are few better exponents of the last length dash and a win in 57.7. to Steve's 58.1.

There were other good swims namely, Chris Tainty (69.4 100BK), Paul Rogers (1.20.4 100BR), Mandy Sharp (73.5 100Fly), Sarah Cheeseborough (66.6 100F/S), Adrian Griffiths (61.6 100F/S).....and amongst the younger swimmers Laura Barrett (26.0 BK), Kabie Long (28.8 BR).

February 8th. was a very busy day for the Camp Hill Club as many of the Officials were also involved in some form or other with the Jumble Sale earlier in the day and in addition Camp Hill were well represented at the GB Water Polo training session at Cosford.

Congratulations to all concerned !

K.B.

23/2/75. C/Hill 'F' & 'C', Junction

22/2/75. Northfield.

In a triangular swimming match at Northfield Baths between Camp Hill, Rugby and Northfield, Camp Hill swimmers dominated to take twenty-seven 1st. places and the overall match by 9pts.

Final scores: C/Hill 122, Northfield 113, Rugby 50.

G.I.

23/2/75. v. Junction 10 B&C, Cosely.

The gala began promptly at 2.30 in the well maintained 33 $\frac{1}{2}$  yard pool at Darlaston. We started well with a win in the first event and by the end of ten events it was obvious that it was becoming a "two horse race." We had a lead of three points over Junction 10 B and Cosely were already dropping behind. The gala was well run but it became a little slow at times, and a ten minute break for refreshments was welcome at 'half time.' The points now stood at: Junc. 10 B 76, C/Hill B 75, Junc. 10 C 51, Cosely 50, C/Hill C 48.

In the second half our C team swimmer beat the B swimmer twice and Junction 10 B started an unbeaten run which lasted 16 events. In fact, from event 17 onwards they only dropped five points although our swimmers tried their hardest. One notable swim was by H. Bettinson who swam the last leg of the 14/U 4x1F/S relay in 17.8s to come through and win. There were also two dead heats for second place in three events, involving C. Tainty in the 16/U Fly and D. Steele in the 14/U Breast.

After event 30 the C Team were above Cosely but they were unable to swim in any of the relays and the final score was:

Junction 10 B 182, C/Hill B 152, Junction 10 C 110, Cosely 103, C/Hill B 70. Good times were recorded by: C. Tainty (Fly 64.9), P. Woodall (Fly 74.6), S. Gatland (Fly 74.4), W. Leach (Fly 79.8), J. Robson (BK 74.2), K. Long (BR 86.5), A. Deeley (BR 78.5), W. Leach (F/S 69.8), H. Bettinson (F/S split 17.8), C. Tainty (4x1IM 91.2).

R.A.L.



1/3/75.v.Mansfield.

Once again the Mansfield Club visited our pool but this time fielding 12yrs and under, 14yrs and under and open age groups. The selected teams proved to be more evenly matched than before - only thirteen points separating the teams after the last event.

We are grateful to the parents who helped officiate at this gala and to Mrs. Franklin who looked after the refreshments for the visitors and those officiating.

G.I.

1/3/75.Diddy Gala-Langley Baths.

The enthusiasm from these youngsters had to be seen to be believed and must assure the sport of swimming a great future.

Right from the start Camp Hill took the lead and were only overtaken for a short while due to a disqualification only to re-take the lead and storm into the finish 26 points ahead.

The gala was marred for many people by some very harsh borderline disqualifications against the 8 and 9 year olds.

Final points: C/Hill 131, Oldbury 105, West/Hands. 100, Bilston 81, Worlds End 29.

G.G.

1/3/75.v.Notts A & B, Derby.

The trip to Nottingham to participate in their Inter Age Group Gala contest gave our swimmers an opportunity to compete not only against opponents but also against each other in all the individual events. As anticipated the A team had the satisfaction of defeating the B team in all events (Here one must compliment the Team Manager in his selection of the 2 Teams.) Mind you there was almost an upset in the 14/U Girls F/S as both our swimmers clocked the same time.

This contest was a DUAL affair - A Gala and B Gala and the points were recorded in this fashion. The A Team took the lead from event 3 and never looked back, slowly increasing this lead throughout and finally running out winners over Derby by 13 points. Good swims were performed by Judith Robson (BK), Jackie Evans (BK), Debbie Clark (F/S), Nigel Baker (IM).

The B Team proved too strong for Notts, leading all the way and never once being really pressed by the opposition. They finished worthy winners by 17 pts. Swimmers who caught the eye were Jackie Sheasby (F/S) and Gary Tomks (Fly).

A.T.

8/3/75. East Midland League-Round 3.

A party of 69 adults and swimmers set off by coach and minibus from Vicarage Road to watch and take part in a truly first class contest, a real nail-biting battle of the giants of the Midlands.

Orion took an early lead which, as it turned out, they just managed to hold throughout the evening. Coventry drew level on one occasion but then succumbed rather suprisingly. Camp Hill kept within easy reach and thanks to good swims by Nigel Baker, Katie Long and Debbie Clark, to mention but a few, managed to overhaul Coventry and were only 9 points behind Orion at the halfway stage. The second half started with a flourish from Orion and it appeared that they had things sewn up, but far from it. Camp Hill could so easily have thrown in the towel, but no - all the swimmers got their heads down and swam their hearts out. Although not always successful they fought all the way. Here we must congratulate Mandy Sharp, who not only recored her best time-72.5-in the 100m Fly, but also beat the previous Club Record. Well done, Mandy! Jackie Evans (Ind. Medley) and the three Girls Relay Teams (all 3 won) recorded good performances.

Although individuals have been named I rate all our swimmers 'Top Marks' for unflagging effort against heavy odds. Your loyal supporters were proud of you. Keep this up and success is only just around the corner, and the 6 points defeat in this gala will become a victory next time.

Final points: Orion 193 C/Hill 187 Coventry 180 Leicester 162 Derby 133 Nottingham Leander 109.

A.T.

8/3/75. Swimming League-Round 3.

Feltham 194, Woolwich 183, Tunbridge Wells 181, Edmonton 161, C/Hill 148, Fulham 84.

While the 'A' Team was doing so well at Leicester in the East Midland League Final, our 'B' Team was fighting to retain our place in the 1st. Division of the Swimming League. The Team as selected would probably have taken 2nd. place in this Gala, but our strength was greatly reduced owing to several swimmers being unavailable. Despite this the Team showed great spirit and all our supporters noted this. David Beavan was our star with a 79.9 ER and our U/12 Boys Andrew Hunt, Frank Edwards, Guy Adams and Robert Slater had a good win in the F/S Team. Other good times were: ER, Debbie Baker 60.3 (2nd), Mark Varnay 83.3 (3rd), Fly Lynn Deeley 75.5, Philip Baker 67.0 (1st), F/S: Philip Baker 59.5 (2nd), Debbie Baker 45.6 (2nd), Paul Woodall F/S Team 45.5.

It was most pleasing to see our older girls representing the Club again, and the Team's effort resulted in a final league place of 17th, avoiding relegation by 2 places. WELL DONE!

F.G.T.

15/2/75. Midland District.

Some good performance here, despite the long journey, although that is the sort of problem that has to be accepted and overcome if one is to get anywhere as a swimmer. F/S Nicky Green 2nd. (58.1), Sarah Cheeseborough 220 4th. (2.22.3), 440 5th. (4.58.0), Debbie Clarke 4th. (66.1). B/K Andrew Wolf 2nd. (2.20.6), Jackie Evans 4th. (2.37.5), I.M. Andrew Wolf 1st. (4.56.4), 3rd. (1.31.5).

13 & 15/3/75.

Unfortunately, most of our entrants were recovering from illness and their times generally were below their best. Pride of place must go to Andrew Wolf for making the Short and Long Medley Finals (although a thoughtless swim in the Heats almost lost him a place in the 440 I.M. Final). Nicky Green swam reasonable F/S races - 58.0 and 2.06.6 - but his sprint Fly (64.1) was disappointing as, on top form, he could have qualified for the Final. The one real improvement was by Chris Tainty who swam an excellent 2.26.5 (220 BK).

I was pleased that we had 6 swimmers competing at National level and I am sure that they will have benefited from the experience. Let's have 10 qualifiers for the Long Course !

F.G.T.

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WATER POLO.

We are again at the start of another season for both Senior and Junior Teams, and we are awaiting the Final of the 16/Under Winter League against Heath Town.

16/Under Winter League.

Again we came out winners of our Zone, winning all but one, and that was a draw. This year the standard was much higher and this was reflected in our match against Leamington - the most improved local team we came up against. The match itself is best forgotten because it was one of those nights when nothing went right, but Leamington played well above their normal standard and deserve all credit. Of the boys in the Team I will mention only one, who though not a good swimmer was prepared to come along and train three times a week to keep fit and improve his swimming - well done Karl Varney for setting such a good example !

On February 22nd. we had a 6 Team, 15 match Tournament providing a very good day's polo, and I hope you all saw Ron Germany's report in the Sports Argus. May I thank all those who helped and supplied refreshments, it was much appreciated by the players and officials.

The Seniors should have their best season in the Midland League for we have two new players - John Beavan and Bernard Wills - both very experienced and this coupled with the experience gained at County and District level by Jeremy Shimell and by the other members in the C.B. Squad should give us a good sound team.

The Juniors have this year lost 2 players who are now over age for Junior Polo....there must be something about Camp Hill for when we lose a good goalkeeper along comes a new Junior ! This time in the form of Mark Coles and at 14 he looks like following his predecessors who have played in goal at County, District and County level. As for the rest of the Team, they are all 16 and under except for their very able captain Richard Sheasby, so we do not expect big things this year but who knows.

What of the future ? We have some very good 12 and 13 year olds coming along and though very raw are very keen having won the few games they have had. So keep it up boys and do not forget - to get to the top you must train that much harder with your swimming.

May we offer our congratulations to...Mike Hobbs on going to New Zealand with W.B. for their inaugural Games at Christchurch....Richard Sheasby and Nigel Baker on being selected for the C.B. 18/U Team against a select University Team at Liverpool.....and to four of our 16/U Team Nigel Baker, Mark Varney, Iain MacDougall and Paul Rogers who have been selected for the Midland District U/17 Team for a series of matches against the other Districts and a Welsh U/17 Team to be held on the 4th and 5th April at Warwick University.

I am very sorry to hear that one of our younger U/16 players Tim Lawrence is in Hospital with a broken leg. On hearing this the Team said that they will try that bit harder to win the 16/U Final for they know just how much you look forward to your polo - so get well soon, Tim.

C.H.V.

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