

Hon. Secretary's Notes.

The Club's performance in the Inter-League Final was a great climax to a year in which our all-round strength has steadily increased, and it should enable us to face tougher competition with confidence.

1. West Midland League. On October 4th. we have two teams competing in Round 1, and will need to turn out approximately 60 swimmers. A year ago (No. 30) I wrote asking members to make every effort to be available for the League fixtures, and that request is even more relevant now that both of our Teams are in Division 1. Even if you are in the 'B' team you are swimming against the 'A' teams of the other clubs, so you have every inducement to do well. We shall benefit too, in that we shall have more swimmers doing individual events at a high level.

2. We now have a large number of swimmers in training, and (this applies particularly to the Under 12's), if you feel that you have been overlooked for a team, you should ask Mr. Sharp or myself for a time-trial, as it is difficult for us to keep in touch with everyone's current level of performance. We want to swim our strongest teams, and, if you can produce the right time, you'll be in!

3. Other Fixtures. These include the Relay Gala at Leeds on the 5th. October. We ought to do well in this in view of our Team race successes there in August. I regret that this follows two Galas on the previous day, but they are reasonably 'local' and I felt that this was 'too good to miss.'

ON October 18th. we have a Senior/Junior team travelling to London, probably by train, to take part in the Bill Juba Memorial Trophy contest. Then on November 15th. we entertain Cardiff (School, afternoon) and on the following day we meet Wulfrun and Mancunians at Bilston. Finally on November 29th. we have a Senior Team at Southampton for the Invitational Club Competition.

In addition to these events some of our swimmers will be competing in the BSSA Finals at Basildon, and doubtless a number will be selected for the Green-Shield Inter-County Contest, so we are looking for some good performances as a result of all the above opportunities. Some targets: Girls-BR. 84.+ Fly. 70.+ F/S 62.+ BK. 74. Boys BR. 75.+ 2.45.0 Fly 61.0, 2.16.0. F/S 57+ BK. 65+.

F.G.T.

Grand Draw.

On behalf of the Club I would like to thank all Club members and friends for their support in our raffle. Although over 4,500 tickets were sold we cannot give an accurate profit margin owing to some final arrangements being made for the trip to Paris.

We hope it will be approx. £ 130. The final account will be displayed on the notice board as soon as possible. The winners were: 1st. Prize G. Sheasby (5606), 2nd. S. J. Wood (2706), 3rd. Mrs. J. Gumbley (3513), 4th. Mrs. E. Summerfield (0661), 5th. A. H. Watt (2468), 6th. D. W. Smith (2940), 7th. J. Walsh (0030), 8th. D. Hurley (5074).

T.R.S.

Club Dance.

A reminder that the Club Dance is again being organised by Mr. Niblett and is due to be held at the Greswolde Arms, Knowle on December 13th. Further details will be posted on the noticeboard.

Dutch Swim.

Friday August 1st. dawned bright and sunny... the greatest day of my life had arrived. I was to meet up with fellow team members in London, en route to Holland for a 3 Nations Contest between England/Wales, Holland and Germany. Boarding the train at New Street Station I met two of the team, and mentioning no names found that one of them had done the journey to London the day before, only to find that he was a day early! We got to London without mishap and were fitted out with tracksuits before taking off from Heathrow.

The flight was smooth and being only the second time I had flown, I found it most interesting. We arrived at Amsterdam, and completed the rest of the journey by coach (a 3 hour ride) to the Technical College which was to be our quarters for the weekend. After refreshments of ham and cheese (which proved to be our main diet) we went to see the pool in which we were competing. It proved to be an impressive sight, the centre had 5 pools - 3 of which were open air. Ours was open air and 50 metres long. Tired and weary after a long journey we went to bed in anticipation of tomorrow's challenge.

On Saturday morning, Mr. Laurence our Team Manager took us to the pool for a training session, then onto Hengelo for a look around, back to the College for more ham and cheese and a rest before the first Gala.

The opening ceremony took place with all the Teams marching round the Pool, but only a spectator at this session. Sunday (hot and humid and 92°) saw me on the starting block ready to tackle my 1,500 metres swim. The opposition was of a very high standard and though I gave of my best, I realize that there is still a lot to learn. The Gala proved to be exciting with Germany finishing first with 235pts England/Wales 2nd, with 212 and Holland last with 151 points. A Disco was arranged for us and we finally went to bed at about 11.00.

Monday morning we said our farewells and by 9.00 a.m. were on the first part of the homeward journey. At Heathrow (with husky voices) we thanked Mr. Laurence for all his help and vocal support - his voice was now almost non-existent! Sad that it was all over I arrived home, with the thought that sometime in the near future I hope that the honour of Representing England will come my way again. Without the facilities of Camp Hill none of this would have been possible - so thank you, F.G.T.!

Graham Brookhouse.

European Youth Championships - Geneva - 7-10 August.

After assembling at Heathrow on Tuesday 5th, the Team of 39 including Officials flew by a Swissair DC 9 to Geneva. On arrival we went straight to the Les Vernets pool, where we were issued with identity cards, a pair of swimming trunks and a commemorative medal.

The competition started on Thursday with heats in the morning and Finals (which were televised) from 5.00 p.m. onwards. The East German Girls team were very strong and won every event except the 100 metres freestyle. The Boys medals were split between several countries, but unfortunately no boy from Great Britain won one.

My own event, the 200m. BK, was won by a Russian swimmer in 2.10.6, my time of 2.24.35 was 0.1 sec. slower than my best time and I was disappointed with this. It was a great experience to swim for Britain and I hope to do better next time.

Chris Tainty.

European Youth Water Polo Championships.

Three Camp Hill players - Mike Fearon, Mike Hobbs and Richard Sheasby - represented the G.B. Junior Team in the above tournament held at Jonkoping, Sweden.

The initial draw placed the GB team in a tough group and after beating France, they lost to Yugoslavia, Spain and Holland in hard fought games. Following these matches all the competing nations were again re-grouped (according to earlier results) for the games to determine final positions.

In between these sessions we were given one (!) day's rest which allowed everyone to make full use of the local facilities - a 50m. competition pool, 50m. swimming pool, separate diving pool and sauna - all within 30 metres of the hotel.

Our opponents in the new Group were Austria (3-3) and Denmark (5-4), and these two results added to the French one eventually placed us 10th in the Tournament which was won by Russia, with Spain 2nd. and Hungary 3rd.

Mike Fearon.

National Age Groups - Leeds - 18/23rd August.

Over 40 swimmers and supporters made the journey to Leeds to compete in what was our most successful Age-group's ever. The squad returned to Birmingham with 1 silver, 2 bronze, 1 fifth, 3 sixths and 5 eighth places in the Finals. 27 personal bests were recorded in individual races plus a host of personal bests over 50m. in the relays.

The most outstanding Camp Hill performances came from the Tainty family who between them recorded 8 personal bests out of 9 events. Chris's bronze medal in the 14/15 200m. BK was the highlight of the squad's achievements and he followed this up with an 8th. place in the 100m. BK and 2 p.b.'s in the 100m. Fly 66.0 and 200 I.M. 2.31.04. Paul Tainty also surprised some of the highly ranked swimmers with a 63.85 and a 2.21.0 in the 100 and 200 Fly and another 3 p.b.'s in the 100 F/S 59.50, 400 F/S 4.31.02 and 400 I.M. 5.16.13.

Adrian Griffiths swam two p.b.'s in the 200 Fly 2.28.41 and 59.60 in the 100 F/S. Our only other individual finalist was Andrew Coaton who swam an excellent best time of 80.85 in the heats of the 12/13 BR to qualify 6th. fastest for the Final but lacked a little bit of finishing speed and eighth overall.

In the Boys relays we qualified for all but 2 Finals. The 11yrs. Team of John Austin, Ian Scott, Gary Whitson and Paul Denny finished 8th. in the Medley Team and 5th. in the F/S Team with an excellent effort after qualifying 7th. Our top squad was undoubtedly the 12/13yr. Boys who won a silver and a bronze. In their first event, the Medley Relay, where they gained a silver, Andrew Coaton swam a superb 36.8 BR split to put us right up with the leaders for the Fly leg which pulled out a good swim from Stuart Gatland and finally an excellent 29.1 from Glen Morton on the F/S leg. In the F/S Team they

The 14/15yrs.F/S Team of Alan Deeley,Michael Starling,Paul Rogers and Chris Tainty came sixth in their Final in an excellent 1.54.58 - Paul swam consistently under 28 secs.in these relays.The 16/17 F/S Team (Nicky Green, Paul Tainty,Ian MacDougall,A.Griffiths) came 8th.in their event.

The Girls also put up many noteworthy performances and although none of them reached individual finals many came close.Debbie Clarke recorded 3 p.b.'s in the 14/15yrs.group...64.75 : 100 F/S,2.22.77:200 F/S and 74.10 in the 100 Fly.Jackie Sheasby swam 2 very good times in the 100 Fly 73.51 and 200 F/S 2.25.91.In the same age-group Sarah Sheeseborough just failed to make the 200 F/S Final in 2.19.57 and she also did two useful 100's in the F/S 66.7 and the Fly 74.8. Mandy Sharp was our fastest Fly swimmer with 73.02 and any of these 4 could go under 70 secs.on fly if they only used their legs more !

In the BR events Lyn Deeley swam 85.59(100) and 3.00.56(200),whilst one of the top Camp Hill performances came from Lyn Starling who did an excellent 85.86 in her 100 which would have given her a final place not long ago.

Karen Brookhouse and Judith Robson both did good BK times and Laura Barrett would have qualified for a final place had it not been for an unfortunate missed turn.Hayley Bottinson swam 68.33 in an incredibly high standard 12/13 F/S in which you had to do 63 secs to win medals.The 11yr.Team of Laura Barrett, Katie Long,Gayner Simper and Joanna Hands came 6th in the Medley relay and 8th in the F/S final.The 12/13 yrs.Medley Team came 6th.and the 14/15yrs.Team 8th in a very hard race where the winners averaged 29.4 secs.

The week as you can see was successful,mainly due to the training done by the swimmers(and coaches) beforehand,to the excellent team atmosphere and to the constant attention of Ann and Mr.and Mrs.Thain.

N.G.

National Championships - Coventry - 27/30 August.

AT LAST - a really good Men's F/S Team performance....Paul Tainty 59.3, Philip Baker 57.8,Nicky Green 58.5,Adrian Griffiths 58.7.The time of 3.54.3 placed us as first reserve(7th.fastest) and rep.resents an average of 58.5 - how about an average of 57 next year !

Our other p.b.'s came from Paul Tainty(200 fly 2.20.5) and Sarah Cheeseborough(400 F/S 4.46.7).

Let's have a large entry at the Crystal Palace next year.

F.G.T.

MATCH REPORTS.

12/7/75 - Banbury.

Camp Hill swam two teams,B and C,and the other teams taking part were Banbury A,Bicester,Newbury and Oxford.It was a most exciting gala,and there were some very good swims.The swimming bath was rather unusual,shallow at each end and deep in the centre.Also,the water came up to the top of the bath,and it was rather dangerous.There were one or two mishaps,swimmers missing the end of the bath and hitting their heads;tumble turns too were causing problems. However,I think a good time was had by all !

We did not win I'm sorry to say,the B team being place 4th.The C team finished 5th. and the gala was won by Banbury with 201 pts and who I'm sure are used to swimming in this unusual pool;Newbury were second with 193 pts, Bicester third with 192,C/Hill B had 161,the C team had 107 and Oxford 62.As Banbury,Bicester and Newbury were all swimming their A teams I feel our swimmers did very well.Members of the Polo team proved that they can do well in galas as well as water polo.P.b.'s by Tim Lawrence 39.4(50mFly),Alan Cooper 72.0(100mF/S),Mark Shineill 84.5(100mBR).

L.H.

28/6/75 - North Bristol.

A C team,rather depleted due to school calls and the fact that four swimmers did not turn up,left in a coach with a shattered rear window.Was this an omen ? We had to wait until event 9,Girls 10/U Medley relay before there was a Camp Hill win,the 10/U Boys finished first but were disqualified. Marie Porter swam well in the Girls 12/U BR only to be robbed of 3rd.place. Lyn Clark fought hard in the Girls 16/U Fly for 2nd.place and in the Boys event Jim Gallagher did well to get third.Jonathan Earles 2nd. in the 10/U F/S was well deserved...it was nice to see a youngster swim hard for the wall. Mark Shimmel did a creditable 77.6 in the 100yds.BR,and Mark Coles must surely have won the BR if he had not persisted in looking for the wall for nearly half a length.

About this time Mr.Shinell gave a pep talk,we were trailing badly.Event 33 at last saw another Camp Hill win - Fiona Tullock in the 10/U BR in 21.0secs. We had to wait for the relays for CH to produce any more wins and four 1sts. were obtained in the F/S relays.

The most exciting race of the evening was probably the girls 16/U relay, when a fine team effort resulted in Jane Atkin winning by a touch.

The final result was Thornbury B 196pts, Norton Radstock 149, Camp Hill 134, Maindee 130, Thornbury C 88. Perhaps not a bad result in the circumstances but Camp Hill swimmers seemed to find it difficult to concentrate in rather a disorganised noisy atmosphere.

R.S.

17/7/75. - Warley.

This gala for swimmers born 1960 and above, organised by Warley SC as part of the Sandwell Sports Festival, was disappointing due to the quality of swimmers taking part and, as well as the host club and ourselves, only Bilston were participating. Our strong squad lacked the incentive to push themselves, winning 25 of the 29 events in this relay match very comfortably. Three second places and one disqualification complete our match results.

Perhaps it was the apathy that crept in but in event 13, Girls 11/U 4x1 F/S our team of K. Long, G. Simper, L. Barratt and G. Cawley had to take 2nd. place to Warley when it was expected by most that this combination should have won.

The final points score was C/Hill 81, Warley 59, Bilston 30.

G.I.

24/8/75 - Warley.

An entertaining gala involving swimmers of 8, 9, and 10 years of age. Teams from Bilston, Halesowen, Coseley, Warley A and B, and ourselves closely contested all the individual events and the final result was finely balanced until the relays, when we won nine out of the thirteen races.

This match was the second held as part of the Sandwell Sports Festival and was far more enjoyable from the swimming and spectating point of view. We had a large following of the Bilston swimmers chanting 'Camphill, Camphill,' towards the end of the match, swelling the pleasing following of our own supporters. Mrs. Long and Mr. Scott supervised the teams with Mr. Gurney controlling the team's times.

Final Results: Camp Hill 255, Warley 212, Coseley 201, Halesowen 165, Bilston 140 and Warley B 58.

G.I.

6/9/75 - Leicester.

A Five Club match contested by Derby Phoenix, Wigston, Shepshed, Camphill B and C and the home team Leicester Knighton Fields, was marred by the noise that was allowed during the start of the races - it was only towards the end of the evening that the races were held up until quiet was attained. Nevertheless this was an interesting contest, with the two Leicester clubs, Wigston and Knighton Fields making the running early on and sustaining the pace to the end.

The position of our teams and the points score was disappointing from a Camp Hill squad but not so the fighting quality of our swimmers. It was a depleted group of competitors, due to the Scottish Tour and late cry-offs, that left Birmingham but how they made the opposition work for their places. The general idea was for the second string to try and split the opposition and give the first string an extra point advantage. This they did on a few occasions, so well in fact that in three events they beat the first string!

The one big disappointment was our failure to win a team race although we did achieve 6 seconds, 6 thirds, 5 fourths and 1 disqualification. In the individual events we waited until event 12 before we headed the field and followed this position in events 23 and 38. There were 7 seconds, 8 thirds, 9 fourths, 3 fifths, 1 sixth and 1 disqualification. Not despondent there was much singing and merriment on the journey home.

G.I.

19/9/75. - 5 Club League.

C/Hill 104 Boldmere 90 Morris 85 Solihull 77 Stechford 64.

A most pleasing result. M. Shimmel set us on our way with a 1st. in the 100 YR. We seesawed up to event 13 - Boldmere 40, C/Hill 39. No times were announced during the evening but one could see the fighting qualities of M. Kendall, T. Callaghan, A. Lowe, F. Davis and Jeremy (after drinking a bottle of Dynamo) and a host of other swimmers whose names I did not know.

A special thank you to the Officials - Joyce, Charlie, Reg (have I left anyone out?) to the C/Hill Manager (both halves), and to the swimmers, some who swam in events which were not their personal choice - a big thank you for a big effort.

And who won the raffle? Our Eric, of course!

H.P.

Scottish Tour.

On Friday afternoon, 5th. September, the Club members taking part in the 1975 Scottish Tour assembled at the Red Lion car park, Kings Heath. The coach arrived at about 4.15 when we all fought for seats whilst the bags and food were loaded onto the coach and then we were off.

We had one stop on the first leg of the journey and arrived in Bradford at approx. 7.00 p.m. and took part in a two lane Gala against Bradford Metropolitan. There was some very good swimming and some exciting and close finishes. The boys had a convincing win by about 20 points, and the girls also won but only by about 2 points. After the Gala we all departed to our respective accommodation for the night, where we were made welcome and very well looked after. We all assembled back at the Baths at 9.15 a.m. on Saturday ready to continue our journey onto Paisley. We had numerous short stops, one being Gretna Green, where we were supplied with a packed lunch which was very enjoyable. Before we got to Paisley we had a half hour stop in Glasgow where a group of boys tried their hand at putting. We reached Paisley at 6.00 p.m. and went straight to the Pool where we took part in a match between Aberdeen and our hosts, Paisley. This was a good gala but we were not as successful as the previous evening, finishing up in 2nd. place to Paisley. After the Gala we were again introduced to the people with whom we would be spending the night and were once again well looked after.

On Sunday morning we all met at the pool to begin our journey home. Before we left we went on the Clyde Ferry which used to be the only means of getting across the river until the Clyde Tunnel was built. We also had a short stop in Edinburgh where we had a pleasant hour sightseeing. After leaving here we again stopped at Gretna Green and then continued southwards. We arrived back at Camp Hill School at 8.30 p.m. tired, but having had a very enjoyable weekend.

Our thanks to Mr. MacDougall and Mr. Baker for their efforts on our behalf!

A.G.

Arriving at Bradford not too tired after the journey, the Camp Hill Boys and Girls teams proceeded to show Bradford that we were a team to be reckoned with. For close finishes and nail biting, this was the match to see..out of the 12 Relay team races, six had finger touch finishes.

Debbie Clarke swam her heart out all night, recording a fine win in the 100yds. 14/15 F/S in 58.5 plus some magnificent relay sprints. Judith Robson looked very impressive winning the 100yds. 13/13 BK, Lyn Starling won the 100yds 14/15 BR and looked a good prospect for the future. There was a battle royal between Debbie Baker and Carol Brown in the 12/13 100yds. F/S with Debbie coming out on top in a time of 65.0. Another keen tussle developed in the 16+ 100yds. F/S where Paul Tainty in 53.5 just beat Adrain Griffiths. Andrew Coaten in the 12/13 100yds. BR was an excellent winner, swimming well within himself and was never pushed by the opposition....I am sure he could knock 4-5 secs. off his time of 1.16.8. Chris Tainty gave us a glimpse of his all-round ability winning the 14/15 Fly in 61.2 and the BK in 62.0.

I could give a dossier on all the swimmers but I thought that everyone gave their best and left the impression that the Camp Hill Club were a very good strong all-round team.

Arriving at Paisley after our overnight stay at Bradford, we set about showing Aberdeen and Paisley what we could do. Our first win came in Event 3, Chris Tainty winning the 14/15 100yds BK in 60.5. Andrew Coaten won Event 11 12/13 BR in 73.3, but the Aberdeen and Paisley swimmers showed plenty of determination and some close finishes went against us - Lyn Starling in the BR and Paul Rogers who in the 100yds F/S was given the same time as the winner 55.8 but finished 3rd., Nigel Baker third in the BR, and the 14/15 Boys and Girls F/S Relays which could have gone either way.

Debbie Clarke in winning the 100yds. 14/15 F/S in 58.9 again swam with determination - an example for all swimmers. Chris Tainty won his Fly race in 60.9, and Philip Baker had a great race against J. Connor of Paisley winning in 52.0. The race of the night for me was the Boys 16+BK. Andrew Wolf swimming against J. Connor (again).....after 11 Andrew was 1/2 yd. up, after 2 lengths level at the turn, in the third length Connor was a hand in front, but on the last lap Andrew put all his effort into winning a marvellous race by 1/4 of a second in a time of 58.8.

Once again Camp Hill gave a very good account of themselves as a team, finishing second to Paisley with Aberdeen third.

V.T.

Inter League Final - Sunday 21st September 1975.

Superlatives have raced round in my mind, some I can't spell but I have to start, so here goes.

October 1974 saw the beginning of this GALA FINAL, six hard fought galas ago, and the last of these we knew we had to be second, and second we were, beating after a marvellous fight, Coventry, into a third place and so into the final.

A marvellous Parade of all competing clubs and then
into Battle.

Our younger swimmers opened FIRE ! and rocked Five Cities back on their heels (also Orion and Reading) with outstanding swimming, no fears, just absolute confidence in themselves and their team mates, this was team swimming at its best, no outstanding swimmers have we who are sure of winning, but swimmers who fight for every point and how they fought.

Magnifique !

I shall mention but one name in this gala and only one, because the swimmers have spoken about it and it's young

David Bevan - 100m.B/R - 77.8.

Here is someone who by hard work and dedication (plus the fact his father is a breast stroke record holder) set himself this target to beat, and beat it he has. Your father must be very pleased with you and your mother now has two men in her life !!!

To all of you if you came first or last -

We raise our hats - We shake your hands.

F.G.S.