

Editorial.

The facilities which we enjoy at Camp Hill are first-rate and a vital factor in the high success rate which the Club enjoys. So as the promise of Summer begins to look feasible, a request please not to abuse the privileges that we have.

This can be helped on two main counts. Firstly could all motorists please use the centre drive when coming to or leaving the pool and the only time this rule does not apply is when a School function is in progress. Secondly remember that we are solely restricted to the use of the pool - so please during the warm weather no impromptu football matches or walkabouts!

Many thanks!

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Subscriptions.

Club subs. for the 1977/78 season are now due (1-00). Swimmers should give their money to Anne Priestley and water-polo players to Mr. Rogers.

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MATCH REPORTS.22-23/1/77. City of Cardiff 'Speedo' meet.

The qualifying times for this event were considerably steeper than National Age-Group requirements, nevertheless eight of our swimmers made the journey by train to Cardiff. The British entries were joined by strong teams from Holland, Switzerland and Belgium. In this sort of company personal bests were achieved by most swimmers.

Without doubt the best swims came from Rosalind Fox, Judy Robson and Chris Tainty. Rosalind surprised us all by reaching the final of the 200 Fly and then secured 3rd. place with an incredible personal best of 2.35.90. Judy, after many weeks of hard training, pulled off three personal bests.. 66.25 in the U17 100mF/S, 2.39.17 for the 200BK and a powerful 74.73 in the 100m. Chris reached the final in both his backstroke events and the best undoubtedly being the Open 200mBK. After a p.b. of 2.14.98 in the heats, he gained second place in the final with a 2.15.16. He was 4th. in the 100m with a time of 64.63 and swam a strong 400mI.M. in the time of 5.02.05.

Alison Gibbons showed good form in the Open 100m BK and finished hard to produce a 72.72. Next morning she recorded a 2.35.25 in the 200BK. Carol Brown dominated her heat in the U17 100mF/S with a 65.48 and swam a notable 400 F/S in the evening.. 4.52.62, but her best effort must have been her 2.18.02 in the 200m. F/S. Andrew Coaton pushed hard in the U17 100mBR but unfortunately couldn't regain his true form. He made up for this in the 200m with a 2.51.36. Glenn Moreton was also slightly off form but finished 9th in the U17 200mFly with 2.29.32 and he did well in the 100m in 1.05.31. Dave Beavan had a p.b. in the Open 100m. BR with a time of 73.18 but fell back slightly with no one to push him in the heats of the 200m and did 2.38.37.

The organisation of the meet was very successful but there was some complaints about our accommodation. Nevertheless black sheets and purple pillow cases did produce three p.b.'s for Judy Robson! Finally on behalf of the swimmers may I thank Mr. and Mrs. Thain and Anne for their help and encouragement throughout the weekend.

D.B.

29/1/77. Round 2 Swimming League.

Reading 220, Portsmouth 217, Havering 144, C/Hill 141½, Rushmoor 126½, Crawley 116.

Although trailing the two leaders we had a continuous battle with Havering throughout the gala for the 3rd. place. At event 36 we led by ½ a point but our relay teams were not strong enough to keep the lead. Generally times were poor but there were some p.b.'s.. Karen Leeman BR 58.9, Paul Broese F/S 21.8, Susan Moore Fly 53.9, Nigel Sobell F/S 41.1 and our Men's 6x2 F/S team were again well below 4 mins.

F.G.T.

29/1/77. Spondon meet.

Spondon SC invited Camp Hill to swim against them at Beechdale Baths and also invited Junction 10, Coventry, Radford and Cleethorps who were attending their first ever gala. After an interesting mystery tour organised by the National Bus Co., we managed to arrive just in the nick of time.

Though the team was only at  $\frac{1}{2}$  strength they were determined not to be outswum by Coventry or Junction 10 and though Coventry were in the same boat as us, Junction 10 were fielding a full side. After 10 events we were delighted to find that there were only 4 points dividing the 3 top clubs and the rest were having a match on their own. By event 20 the difference was only 5 points. Between events 21-30 we had 6 wins and when the relays arrived FGS's instructions were simple "No flyers-work in the water and we can win..." They did and we edged home by 3 points.

It was a great effort by all but the following times deserve special mention... BR David Beavan 1.12.9 (Club Record), Elizabeth Richards 1.27.1, Austin Swain 1.23.6, Joanne Seymore 1.28.9.... F/S Paul Woodward 1.04.6, BK John Austin 1.19.4, Fly Laura Barratt 1.19.8, Alyson Gibbons 1.14.0, Katie Long 1.15.6, Stuart Gatland 1.11.4.

Final Points... Camp Hill 178, Junction 10 175, Coventry 174, Spondon 142, Radford 100, Cleethorps 66.

N.R.

6/2/77. West Wales.

Once again we went to Neath in the now seemingly everlasting Welsh rain and again we suffered from the 'evil Welsh eye' with 3 disqualifications. However we still managed to win - this time by a margin of 7 points. The key to our swimming was consistent performances in the relay events where we gained 78 out of a possible 90 despite a disqualification for a very doubtful flyer. Everyone in these events showed a fighting spirit that brought us from a position where all seemed lost 12 points behind to eventual winners.

Although there were some good individual swims... p.b.'s being claimed by K. Long Fly 1.14.6, J. Austin BK 1.18.8, P. Breese F/S 1.16.6, J. Swift F/S 1.19.0, P. Tainty F/S 58.1, G. Brookhouse 1.12.2 BK which provided a good basis, I would emphasize again that this was a team win in it's best sense.

Many more close galas like this and I think that the Club will have to think about buying Fred Sharp a toupee, he can't afford to lose much more of his own hair.

Points... Camp Hill 211, Worcester County 204, West Wales A 189, Gwent 173, Port of Plymouth 141, West Wales B 86.

P.S. Will everyone please note that the circular tour of Wales was at no extra cost !

R.A.A.

15/2/77. 5 Club League Match.

Camp Hill 119, Boldmere 110, Morris Commercial 98, Stechford 95, Solihull 80.

Supporters witnessed an excellent league match with plenty of good swims from this Camp Hill team, winning as they did 15 first and 9 second places out of 34 events.

Good swims resulting in 1st. places for J. Mason, S. Moore, A. Hunt, J. Moore, M. Steele, T. Kamp, S. Short and E. Goroll and 2nd. places worthy of mention from D. Swift, J. McGowen, M. Dolman and D. Gatland. Extra special praise to all the relay teams who put in so much effort - it was a pleasure to watch.

On the sour side (which is a pity after the praise) why couldn't all the team who were picked, turn up? It seemed such a shame to throw away 4 races because of swimmers not turning up and names were posted on the notice board.

J.E.G.

19/2/77.M.D.Short Course Championships.

Our performances did not reach the heights of last years Championships, but there were a number of pleasing swims.  
100m.F/S Carol Brown 1.05.0 ,Paul Tainty 57.4.100 BK. . Chris Tainty 1.03.5 (3rd.), 200 BK Chris Tainty 2.16.6 (2nd) .. but oh those turns, Alyson Gibbons 2.33.2 (3rd), 200 F/S Carol Brown 2.18.5 (turns !), 100 Fly Glenn Moreton 1.03.7(P.B.), 800 F/S Sandra Richards 9.50.0 and 400 4.47.7.  
F.G.T.

26/2/77.Piranah Trophy.

After experiencing two strokes of misfortune within the first five events of the gala, the Camp Hill and their supporters could be forgiven for looking somewhat dejected. Incidents involving one lad almost losing his swimwear and another injuring his hand on a backstroke turn had given us the kind of start one has nightmares about.

However, the above was soon forgotten and the team settled down to give a sound performance against good opposition. At the two thirds stage we had made our presence felt and we continued to consolidate our position to the finish.

The final 12 x 1 freestyle relay left no doubt in the opposition's mind as to Camp Hill's all round strength in depth and provided a fitting finale to a good afternoons swim.

For the eighth cosecutive year our youngsters took the PIRANAH TROPHY, a proud record which I venture to say will take some beating - except perhaps, by ourselves next year.

J.C.H.

27/10/77.Junction 10 Meet.

We had several representatives at this meet and the majority swam standard performances. There were a few, however, who 'raised' themselves for the occasion, notably Laura Barratt, who took 1st. in the F/S 68.5 (cut-glass vase), 2nd. in the IM 1.47 (towel) and 3rd. in the BK 78+ (hand paddles). Sound swims by Linda Brown (BR. 86.8), John Austin (BK 78.1), Paul Woodall (BK 75.8), David Beavan (BR 2.40.4), Ros. Fox (Fly 73.3), Sara Cheeseborough (F/S 65.0) and impressive ones from Frank Edwards (Fly 78.0), Katie Long (IM 1.43.0) and Derek Allen (F/S 63.4).

F.G.T.

12/3/77/ East Midlands League Final - Derby.

Derby 162 Norwich 163 Orion 143 Camp Hill 177 Coventry 233½ Jun 10 85½  
Swimmers of Camphill,

As Mr.Thain put it, quite simply, we had to finish in first or second position to qualify for the Swimming League's Final Gala at Cardiff, and you did just that. Swimming in the manner you have been for the last five galas with a dedication and team spirit that makes other clubs a little envious and your coaches and supporters very proud. This nail-biting gala was fought with no quarter asked or given, particularly by Derby and Norwich whose only hope of getting to the final was to beat Camphill. After 8 events we held them off by 1 point. After 16 events we had an 11 point lead over Derby (breathe again.). After 24 events this lead had been whittled down by the hosts to 2 points (my resignation was refused)... so back to battle.

After 32 events we were 6 points in front of Norwich (where had they come from ?) and 7 in front of Derby. After 40 events we had moved to an 11 point lead over Norwich and a 12 point one over Derby. Smiles began to appear; our supporters came from Eyes Down, working out those points, to see the last 8 races (in any case they had no nails left !). And so after the 46th event we were 14 points in front of Norwich and safely in the Final; another memory for my Treasure Chest and I am sure for our supporters also.

This result makes a hat-trick of finals for Camp Hill. To our swimmers who seem to wear the Black and White with pride... Magnificent ! See you at Cardiff where you will be hurling yourselves against all the best City Clubs .... but that is another story.

F.G.S.



19/3/77. Swimming League.

No match is ever won until the last race is swum. This was the lesson that we first learnt from Modernians at Luton and then later re-taught to them in the closing stages. We started the match with two convincing wins by our under 12 relay teams, with all personal splits under 24 seconds (33 metres). During the next dozen events six wins by Katie Long (U14 Fly 47.1) Judith Robson (U16 BK 75.9), David Beavan (Open BR 73.4), John Austin (U14 BK 48.9), Laura Barrett (U14 BK 49.9), Andrew Coaton (U16 BR 80.4)... left us 15 points in the lead after as many events.

There then followed a rather sticky patch, highlighted by two wins in the U14 BR by Joanne Seymore (55.7 p.b.) and Austin Swain (53.1). By event 24 Modernians had pulled very close, but wins by our U12 BR's Robert Johnson in 27.5 (PB) and Susan Denny in 29.0 (PB) and Gayner Simper (U14 F/S 42.7) put us 8½ points ahead after 28 events. The battle was then on and in the last 18 events, although we only scored 6 wins we were nearly always second to Modernians whenever they won. The wins came from Jo Swift (U12 F/S 22.1), Austin Swain (U14 IM 1.46.1), Laura Barrett (U14 IM 1.48.3), Chris Tainty (Open BK 1.5.3) and both U14 and U16 relay teams. Convincing seconds by Chris Tainty (Open Fly 64.9 p.b.), Julian Swain (U12 F/S 21.7) and Glen Moreton (U16 Fly 64.2).. all helped to teach the Modernians the lesson from them in the first 8 events.. that the race was not won until the last stroke was swum.

Final Points: Camp Hill 228½, Modernians 217, Norwich Penguins 166½, Walthamstow 146, Luton and Vauxhall 136, Enfield 66.

N.E.R.

26/3/77/. Leicester Belgrade.

Having been invited to send a weak 'B' team we did just that and swam many events 'off-stroke' and 'out of age.' There were some very good times by young ones swimming in Under 16 events and also by some new members.

We were noticeably first in the water on the starts and the relays also went well. It was unfortunate that the loudspeaker system failed and repeated requests failed to keep the other swimmers silent. The behaviour of our swimmers was excellent and although we came 3rd. in the Gala, we were congratulated for our co-operation and behaviour.

N.E.R.

2/4/77/Wyndley.

We were invited to send a 'C' team to compete against Boldmere, Stechford, Morris and our hosts, Triple S.

They had asked us to give them a good match and this we did. After 18 events they had a 10 point lead having played a trump card in the form of Howard Gibson in the open BR. However our young relay team were too good for them and with the help of double points we soon got on level terms. A DEAD HEAT in the 8x1 mixed relay left us the winners by ONE point.

It was a most enjoyable gala and included a display of Synchro at the half-way mark. Our hosts Triple S are to be congratulated.

N.R.

Warwickshire Age- Groups.

The championships promised to provide greater opposition than ever before for our swimmers and undoubtedly this promise was fulfilled, yet, despite this our swimmers rose to the occasion by winning nearly 80 medals. The standard was so high that to win a race needed swims of national or international standard.

In the 11yr. Age group we had only two medal winners. Paul Breeze who was 2nd. in the F/S 1.13.2 and Joanne Swift, two bronzes in the Fly 89.9 and F/S 74.6. If Julian Swain had been fit enough to compete our total from this group would have been higher. Robert Johnson in the BR returned a national qualifying time just missing a medal and a number of others made Finals and produced Midland times.

The 12/13 Age group provided the championship with its most keenly contested, and supported, races. Katie Long fought a magnificent battle with Maxine Charles for supremacy and the rivalry produced some excellent times: F/S 66.2, Fly 73.9, BR 83.8, BK 77.2 and IM 1.41.8. Katie came away with 2 golds, 3 silvers and 1 bronze. The rivalry should be continued at the Midlands.

In the same age-group Laura Barrett won 4 bronzes behind Katie and Maxine. Her performances suggest that next year she should dominate the group. One of the most enjoyable races was the clean sweep in the BR with Katie Long 1st, Elizabeth Richards 2nd. and Joanne Seymour 3rd - a fingernail ahead of Maxine.

In the boys section and unfit Austin Swain still managed 2nd. in the BR and John Austin also came home for the silver in a marvellous BK race that had Stechford Baths in hysteria as he came back at the leader on the last length.

The 14/15 group produced a number of good swims. Caroline Brown in winning the BR in 83.9, taking 2nd. in the IM and F/S and 3rd. in the fly was our most successful competitor here. Judith Robson also won two medals in the BK and F/S. The Boys gave us two golds from Glen Moreton in the F/S 60.8 and Fly 64.4 but Graham Brookhouse, Stuart Gatland and Andy Coaton all took medals in the group. Credit must go to Paul Woodall for his 'swim-off' F/S which, in a time of 62.8, had he won it, would have given him a medal in the final.

Also to Derek Allen for his two 63.0's.

Swimmers in the 16/17 group tended to alternate events with swims in the open. Sarah Cheesborough in these two groups picked up, amongst others, 3 golds winning the 16/17 F/S, the open F/S 63.9, and the 16/17 Fly 70.2. Sandra Richards picked up medals in the open 880yds 9.51.3 and in the 440 in 4.45.2. Sandra also helped our 16/17 girls to a clean sweep in the F/S with Sarah 1st Alyson Gibbons 2nd. and Sandra 3rd. Alyson Gibbons won innumerable medals, unfortunately they were mostly silvers and bronzes and despite brave attempts gold repeatedly eluded her. Chris Tainty competed in many events taking medals in most, he won two Open BK with ease but appeared very stiff in his own age-group and was just pipped by Gareth Sykes of Coventry. David Beavan won both his BR events with Paul Rogers coming 2nd. in the 100. David also took silvers, to Howard Gibson, in the open events.

Our relay teams all competed well giving us 4 victories in the open boys and junior girls events (all in record times) and silvers in almost all the others.

All the swimmers will want to thank Mr. Sharp for his sympathetic, threatening, ecstatic, neurotic and joyous help on the side and we all hope by the time he reads this he will be fully recovered! Thus, despite the occasional disappointment, the Club can look forward with justifiable optimism to the forthcoming Midland Championships.

N.G.

#### WATER POLO.

##### 19/3/77. Boys National Championship.

Once again we went to Manchester to do battle with Plant Hill, our most friendly and hospitable rivals.

The first period started with the usual Camp Hill failure to get involved in the game as soon as the whistle goes and two mistakes gave goalkeeper R. Harrison no chance and in games of this calibre you can ill-afford to give your rival a two goal start. In the second period we started 'one man down' but at last we began to show our worth and play ranged from end-to-end. D. Allen, G. Tonks and R. Cockerill all had shots at goal and it was T. Lawrence who eventually got the well-deserved goal. Plant Hill sneaked in their third but it was now more of a game with the battle raging fast and furious.

The third was undoubtedly our 'finest hour.' We started to gain the upper hand, Plant Hill started to panic, they missed a penalty and their passing was off-key. We just lacked that bit of experience to make full use of our advantage and if only we could have scored another goal, then I feel the game would have gone our way.... but it was Plant Hill who scored thus finishing up 4-1 in the lead with only the final period to go. Once again play was intense at both ends and both goalkeepers were kept busy. G. Brookhouse P. Kelly and M. Whitworth shone and though Plant Hill scored again we kept pressing till the end and it was a pity that S. Wilkes, who 'Got free' well at the end was not given the opportunity to make good. The final score was Plant Hill 5 Camp Hill 1.

The criticism of the players is well-meant and I hope they will all have gained some useful experience from the game. I was proud to see you all play so wholeheartedly and with so much fervour. My final thanks to R. Green who didn't get into the water but was part of the team and to Mr. Cockerill, Mr. Tonks, Mr. Allen and Mr. Lawrence for providing me with the