

Gordon Sheasby

The news of the sudden, untimely death of Gordon Sheasby came as a great shock, and our deepest sympathy goes to his widow Shirley, and to Jackie, Michael and Richard. Gordon was responsible for putting Camp Hill on the map in the world of Water Polo. He developed a strong U/16 team which won the National Tournament in 1972. Several of its members went on to represent England and Great Britain, and these same players form the nucleus of our team which has, for several years, been one of the strongest in the Midland League.

Gordon was a first class coach, patient, thorough and quietly persuasive. He had great influence on his players and will be sadly missed.

WEDDING BELLS

Congratulations to Jo Swift, now Mrs Farmer and to Mick on their wedding on 28 September.

SELECTIONS

Well done Sharon Morris, Flora Lee, Jonathon Baker, Adam Edwards and Andrew Brown on their selection for a Warwickshire Age Group Team last month. Also Andrew Brown and Andrew Caves who will represent Div. 6 Schools at the National Schools' Championships at Sheffield at the end of October.

MORNING TRAINING

Tuesday and Friday 6.30 - 8.00

These sessions are still poorly supported. Anyone who is determined to improve should be there. Most of you could reach the pool in 15 minutes (the time that it takes me to walk there) or less at that time of the day, swim for 45 minutes to an hour and be back home for breakfast by 8.00 am.

FIXTURES

- 6 October - Dudley Distance Meet - entries made
- 12 October - West Midland League - 'A' and 'B' Teams
- 19 October - Stourbridge Diddy Gala at Dudley Pool
- 27 October - Leeds Relays 10 years - Open
- 9 November - W.M.L.
- 10 November - Ladies League Junior Gala

22/23 June 1991 Midland Championships
Yorkshire Bank Age Group - Coventry

A number of good performances from swimmers, with Andrew Brown in fine form, taking three 2nd places, but unfortunate to lose to a different boy each time.

50 Breaststroke	33.66
100 Breaststroke	1.13.80
200 Breaststroke	2.43.40

Mike Hoare was not at his best, but swam hard in the finals of his events. Other swimmers:-Jo Potter F/S, 1.10.10 and 2.30.69
Michelle Jennings, 1.10.44; Steve Jones, 200 Br 2.59.78; Jon Baker Fl 1.16.16; Kate Green, Br 43.02 and 1.34.86.

5/7 July 1991 Welsh ASA Nationals, Cardiff (50 m)

We met at New Street Station early on the Friday morning to begin our journey to Cardiff. It was an uneventful trip and we made good time, arriving in Cardiff a couple of hours later. Conveniently, the station, hotel and swimming pool were all within 500 yards of each other, so after a short walk with our luggage, we arrived, and were installed in our rooms at the Royal Hotel.

Having recovered from the embarrassment of walking into a rather smart hotel with chandeliered ceilings, wearing jeans and T-shirts, we quickly made ourselves at home, and much to our delight, discovered the internal telephone system from room to room. An hour or so later we walked to the pool to begin our weekend of competition. Our first impression of the pool was that it was too deep, too cold and never ending, but despite our apprehension there was good seating for both spectators and swimmers and by the end of the afternoon we were beginning to relax.

Come the evening, since none of us knew Cardiff particularly well, it was down the road to MacDonaldis and Wimpy for the evening meal. Andrew Caves triumphed over everyone in the eating competition until even Andrew Brown and Michael had to admit to defeat. You'll have to go for the whole menu sometime, Andy!

Saturday morning and we were all up bright and early and ready for a day's competition. Occasional trips back to the hotel for a rest revealed a shot of Andre swimming the warm-up on Welsh television in preview for the coverage of the event. Fame at last for Camp Hill swimmers, even if it was just for a second from a distance of 50 m!

For those not swimming on Saturday afternoon there was a chance to go to the theme park on Barry Island. Twenty minutes and a few rides later Andrew Caves began to feel the effect of his MacDonaldis the night before, and just about made it thanks to his escort of Jo Potter, Michelle, Jo Hutton, Flora and Sam. He wasn't however, the only person feeling slightly off colour that evening. Nobody ever worked out whether Andrew and Mike were celebrating or drowning their sorrows, but I expect the bar staff would still be able to remember their order even if they went back now!

Sunday provided some excellent finals with the Junior Boys team doing extremely well and Andrew adding to his already extensive medal collection.

Having the pool so close to the station proved very useful on Sunday evening when Mike swam his 50 m F/S final 7 minutes before the train was due to leave. It was lucky that the gala was so well organised or we might well have had to stay there for another two hours, however, that would have given Mike time to change his costume.

I'm sure most of Cardiff were glad to see us go - especially the hotel, who were probably sick to death of having to open our doors for us when we locked ourselves out. Nevertheless, I expect they were rather shocked to find the shower controls of a certain room being worked by a spanner, bought for 99p from a shop near the pool.

All in all, the whole event was a great success. The Welsh certainly know how to run a gala, and this year both atmosphere and spectators were in much greater abundance than the year before (or so we're reliably informed by a more experienced Welsh National's swimmer). Congratulations to everyone who went, and thanks to Sam and Gerry, and Martin Thain for looking after us and organising us so well. Let's hope we can hit Cardiff with even more style in 1992.

LT assisted by LG

PERFORMANCES

Our group of 12 swimmers swam a total of 86 races. Michelle Jennings showed the most improvement with a 1.08.86 F/S (3rd) and a 31.88 50m. Jo Potter swam a 1.24.40 BK and along with Flora Lee and Jo Hutton were 3rd in the F/S relay and 3rd in the overall Junior Competition. Rachel Nock produced 4 long course PBs; Lucy Tubbs and Liz Green swam 1.07.04 and 1.09.89 F/S respectively, and Jo Hutton's best effort was a 1.37.21 BR.

Andrew Brown was 2nd in the 50 BR, 33.40 and 3rd in the 100 and 200 (2.42.82). He also edged still closer to a sub 60 F/S, 1.00.16. Andrew Caves in his first Camp Hill races, recorded an excellent 1.01.59 F/S, with a good FLY 1.13.74 and BR 1.18.07. Jamie Hamer did a FLY PB 1.16.33 and these three with Andre Sheppard won the Junior F/S Relay and were 4th in the Junior Competition. Mike Hoare reached 3 finals and was probably most pleased with his 50 F/S 26.02.

Altogether a worthwhile trip with plenty of demanding competition.

6/7/91 Rugby (33m)

Rugby 213, C/Hill 183, Oldbury 169, Bramcote 135, Rugby 'B' 85, Stratford 65.

Almost the last gala of the season on a very hot afternoon. Good swims included Ben Darbyshire FLY 1.16.24; Simon Delves, BK 1.12.37; Richard Rivers F/S 1.03.40. Unfortunately the organisers had sent most of the clubs the wrong programme, so last year's dramatic Over 35 mixed relay had to be abandoned for lack of competitors.

AL

13.7.91 Bridgnorth (25m)

Northgate 150, C/Hill 'B' 142, Cheadle 108, Cheadle 'B' 107

The last gala of the season led us to an unfamiliar pool at Bridgnorth and a curiously silent gala as the loudspeaker system failed. Our 'B' team came 2nd to a strong Northgate team and fought hard to overtake them in the last relays.

Many thanks to Matthew Silvertown for ringing the Team Manager at 1.40 am on the gala day to say that he was not available! Thanks also to new member Andrew Caves for joining the team at short notice.

Notable performances: BR Steve Jones, 1.22.21; Tom Green 1.23.18; Andrew Caves 1.18.39; F/S Lucy Tubbs 1.05.91; Sam Waring 36.62; Tim Bunting 1.08.10; BK Lucy 1.16.37; Simon Delves 1.14.35; David Hutton 43.19; FLY Andrew 1.13.34; Ben Darbyshire 1.16.37. Regrettably, we had two BK turns disqualifications - two too many!

JG

National Age Group - Coventry - August 1991

Standard swims by our 3 representatives, Andrew Brown, 1.14.73, needed a faster first 50 m; and Flora Lee, 1.30.77 went out well, but could not maintain her pace. She did, however, swim her best long course time. Adam Edwards BK 1.19.37, but had the misfortune to catch his foot in the trough at the turn and was in considerable pain. We now have to look forward to Crystal Palace, 1992.

31/8/91 Coventry 50 m Sprints

A useful 'back into the swim' and 'dusting off the cobwebs' after only 3 days back in training following the summer lay-off. Our two best swims were an excellent F/S by Andrew Caves and a much improved FLY by Andrew Brown after his supporters had gone home.

Finalists:

BR - Andrew Cave 35.66, 4th; Sharon Morris 39.02, 4th;
Andrew Brown 33.38, 2nd; Jonathon 44.66, 8th
FLY - Andrew Brown 30.52, 4th; Amy Waterhouse 33.58, 7th;
Jonathon Baker 34.71, 4th; Jo Potter 37.97, 7th
F/S - Andrew Cave 27.30, 2nd; Sharon 30.52 3rd;
Jonathon 32.44, 4th; Andrew Brown 27.59, 6th;
BK - Lucy Tubbs 29.78, 3rd; Lucy 36.90, 8th;
Simon Delves 34.03, 7th; Richard Rivers 34.56, 8th

1/9/91 Bilston 50m Sprint Meet, 10,11,12,13 yrs Wolverhampton

We had a good turn out for this event with 24 finalists. Noteworthy swims by: Sally Millard, BR 1st, 40.41; Kate Green, 2nd 41.58; Steve Jones, F/S 2nd 30.23; Adam Edwards BK, 3rd 36.65; Wayne Pool, Ben Hobbs, Mark Pigott and David Hutton were 5th and 8th respectively in the F/S final, but were 1st in the team race. Our 12 yr. boys were 2nd in their event. Coventry pool, the previous day had been a hothouse, but conditions at Wolverhampton for our supporters were scarcely bearable.

7/9/91 Stratford (33 1/3m)

Walsall 236, Avon Neptunes 232, C/Hill 190, Warley 108, Avon 'B' 91, Wombourne 89

Our first match of the new season with some strong competition. There were a number of good swims: BK Nicola Sheasby 30.95 (& F/S 25.58); Lucy Tubbs 1.16.12; brother David 1.21.03; Amy Waterhouse 1.20.71. FLY Mike Hoare 1.04.75. BR Gemma Hindson 30.63; F/S Adam Lynch 26.47; Wayne Poole 49.68; Sharon Morris 1.06.04.

15/9/91 Wellington (25m)

Salopia 235, Walsall 222, Dudley Metro 218, C/Hill 199, Southport 112.

A gala in a murky green deck level pool; all the officials ended up wetter than usual, and swimmers in coloured goggles had difficulty in seeing the end of the bath. Wayne Pool, direct from the Triple S Meet, burst into the pool after his race had been called. A collective effort by team mates and timekeepers got him undressed and onto the block in time to swim. Thank you Jackie Jennings!

Ten year old Lucy Wood swam her first race for the club, recording a respectable 42.86 BK. Adam Edwards did 35.78 and Simon Delves 1.12.1 for 100m. Other good swims came from Pam Schofield BR 44.82; Stephen Harris 49.26 and Debbie Farmer (Hadley) in her first re-swim for the club, 100 F/S in 1.07.75 with a certain 6 month old infant observing.

AL

15/9/91 Triple S Meet Stechford (25m)

We had a limited entry for this event because of the fixture at Salopia on the same day. Tracey Collier and Jo Potter took advantage of the 'age on the day' groupings to collect medals and set good times. Tracy, BR 2nd 1.27.42; Jo 2nd in the IM; 1.22.21 & F/S, 1.11.17. Other good swims by Wayne Poole, F/S 1.17.81 - once he applies himself consistently in training he will do really well; Kate Green, F/S 1.15.51 & Br 135.03; brother Tom, F/S 1.08.45; Richard Rivers, F/S 1.02.51 and Raymond Watson, coming back to form with a 1.13.48 FLY.

21/1/91 Stratford (33 1/3m)

C/Hill 196, Northgate 150, Orion 145, Stratford 112

This relay gala turned into a demonstration of Camp Hill's 'strength in depth' with our teams winning 25 out of a possible 35 races. Two clubs scratched late in the day and Orion was without several of its better swimmers, so the opposition was not quite what it might have been. Nevertheless, there was tremendous support in the gallery from parents who don't often enjoy a win by almost 50 points.

We had no disqualifications (Good) but, on the other hand some swimmers are too careful over takeovers (Rachel Nock please note). Stephen Jones swam well, but he must learn to dive rather than fall into the water. Tracey Collier and Ben Darbyshire were in good form as was Mark Faulkner, home for his first weekend break from boarding school.

AL

21/1/91 Diddy Gala - Wyndley ('33m)

Triple S 252, Solihull 231, C/Hill 210, Solihull 'B' 131, Triple S 'B' 126

This was a good showing by a team that was below full strength, with the 11 yr group also competing at Stratford. Our 11 yr girls showed our reserve strength with good swims from Michelle Wilson, Katie Smith, FLY 1.00.32. Pam Schofield, BR 1.41.99 and wins in both relays. Matthew Hobbs swam consistently well in his 7 races, as did Gemma Hindson. Jonathon Baker swam a good BR, 1.32.89, but people must have been standing in front of all the judges for him to have got away with that relay takeover. Ian Potter F/S 23.05, and David Hutton FLY 58.52, continue to improve.

Good swims by Jo Potter, BK; Adam Edwards, F/S 1.08.32; Michelle Jennings, F/S 1.10.89; Georgie Lee, FLY 27.72 and Lucy Wood, BK 27.77.

It was not easy to turn out two teams with an age group duplicated, but was well worthwhile in that 58 swimmers were given competition.

28/9/91 Gloucester (36 yds)

Gloucester 217, C/Hill 190, Cardiff 144, Gloucester 'B' 89, Pershore 62

A good match with most of our team swimming to form with times which convert closely to a 50m course. F/S Andrew Caves swam a pleasing 1.02.91 after waiting till event 39 for his first swims; Michelle Jennings under 70s for the second time, 1.09.44 now she must do it every time; Martin Atkins producing a sound tactical FLY, 1.02.72, despite his lack of work; Simon Delves, BK 1.13.23; Natalia Smith, F/S 1.17.46; Lucy Tubbs 1.06.04; Laura Flynn and David Hutton, FLY 57.77 and 57.96. Some good relay splits with a 22.84 from Ian Potter and two high 21's from Kate Green. Mike Hoare setting a new fashion by returning in shorts!