

February 1997

IT'S ALL ABOUT COMPETITION

This first issue of 1997 contains reports on lots of events, starting with the final round of the league early in December. So much has happened since, and yet it was only 9 weeks ago including a break of two weeks.

We are a **COMPETITIVE CLUB** and all members should be working hard to improve their performance and to earn selection for one of our teams. I do notice that there are some who attend spasmodically and who show little enthusiasm. We shall be consulting the attendance register shortly prior to membership renewal. It's up to you!

7.12.96 West Midland League - Round III

Cheslyn Hay (25m.)

Rugby & C/Hill 225, Phoenix 174, Whitney 149, Triple S 140, Orion 135

We were 2 points behind Rugby with the 2 Open 6x2 relays to swim: we won the women's race, and triumphed again in the men's, thanks to the presence of our older swimmers. Equal on points, after a count-back on 1st places, we were announced as gala winners. However, we later found that the count-back is not used to resolve a tie in the third round, it being decided on the total of points gained in the three rounds. Never mind, it was an exciting finish.

Some of the many good swims:

BK Lucy Lloyd-Roach a p.b. of 1.14.59 in the 15/U group followed by 1.14.04 in the 13/U event only 6 races later. **Ed. Clayton**, in his first race for the club, won his event with a determined 1.05.62; **Hannah Massey** 43.28 & **Ewan Martin** 38.28.

BR Jo Potter celebrated her birthday by winning in 1.18.51. and **David Woodhall**, leading from the start, 1.12.44.

FLY Warren Jones, winning in a club cap, 1.13.48; **Jon Baker** 1.01.94 - can he get that sub 60 secs.?

F/S Pam Schofield 1.04.69.

Yes, it was a good team effort with many good relay splits: **F/S Darren Dyke** 24.86; **Jon** 25.21; **Nicola Sheasby** 29.19; **Georgina Lee** 27.81; **Kate Hindson** 30.72; **Kevin Woodward** 25.68 & **FLY** 27.19.

Our supporters were good too!

Final position in the League: 9th.

Derby (25m.)

Belper Marlin 198, Stafford Apex 194, Brierley Hill 192, Derby B 163, Bicester 162, C/Hill B 129

We tried hard, but did not do very well, and are destined for Div 3 in 1997, having finished last in Div.2. Our results during the three rounds point to the importance of all swimmers being available for league galas, especially in the first round. Our good swims included: **BR Edward Freeman** 47.48; **Jon Hemming** 1.20.16; **F/S Katie Brooks** 1.05.90; **BK Hannah Loftus** 1.16.75.

14.12.96 Diddy Gala - Langley (33¹/₃ yds.) St. Nicholas Trophy C/Hill 226, Oldbury 184, Kidlington 172, Beaufort 117, Fox Hollies 97

This was a most satisfactory result from the last gala of the Diddy season, although it would have been better had the swimmers been allowed to watch. An over-officious official claimed that there was too much noise, and banished all the children to the teaching pool unless they were actually swimming.

Our 12 yr. girls **Kate Hindson, Sally Jones, Rachel McLaughlin & Leanne Sheasby**, ended a successful Diddy career in fine style by winning everything and then dragging their parents to McDonalds to celebrate.

Times mean nothing in a pool of such unusual length, but several swimmers stood out as being on form:

9 yr. **Sarah & Emily Paterson, Laura Heeley**, whose **FLY** is progressing rapidly, **Michael Bourne** (ditto) and **Andrew Vale**.

10 yr. **Hannah Massey, Sophia Mayor & Stuart Baker**.

We had 3 disqualifications, which was disappointing. One 9 yr. old boy, who is quite experienced enough to know better, got the medley team disqualified. This boy frequently has the team managers' hearts in their mouths with his take-overs. He really must make a New Year resolution to correct this fault.

14/15th December '96 England v. Germany - Swindon (25m.)

Georgina Lee gave a good account of herself in this Junior International Match, finishing 2nd in the 100 & 200 **FLY**, 1.04.76 & 2.20.34. She also clocked 1.03.80 in the 2nd placed medley team.

22.12.96 A.S.A. Winter Championships - Sheffield (25m.)

A CLUB JUNIOR RECORD for **Gemma Hindson** in the 200 **LM.**, 2.24.19 **WELL DONE!**

Mention, too, must be made of our Medley Teams *CLUB RECORD* at the Midland District Short Course, which was inadvertently missed from the last newsletter; **Jo Minion, Jo Potter, Georgina Lee, Gemma Hindson**, 2nd in a time of 4.34.29.

4.1.97 Relay Trophy Gala - Wolverhampton (25m.)

Perry Beeches A 210, Haden Hill 180, Cheadle 148, C/Hill 91, Avon Neptunes 89, Perry Beeches B 59

This first gala of 1997 was rather inconveniently held before either school or training had resumed after Christmas, but it turned out to be well worth the effort. Although we only finished 4th, it was excellent experience for our new 9 yr. olds, who all tried their best and behaved very well.

With 6 girls and 5 boys in that age group, we did well to have only 2 disqualifications, neither avoidable. One for declaring an ineligible swimmer in the 9 yr. boys' medley, and the other for an empty lane in a 9 yr. boy' relay. The boys struggled valiantly, but are really very weak and we desperately need more born in 1988. In contrast, the 9 yr. girls swam well and showed promise.

The Club is also weak in the 11 yr. boys group which, with the exception of **Stuart Baker**, was covered by 10 yr. olds. Fortunately, we have strong 10 yr. swimmers, but we need to be on the look out for boys born in 1986.

New 10 yr. **Alex McKenzie**, did well in his races, but must learn to start. Other good swim: **BK Davina Sham** 24.90, **Ben Rogers** 26.05. **FLY Laura Heeley** 19.88, **Michael Bourne** 19.83, **Elizabeth Jones** 21.84. **F/S Zara Sadiq** 20.72. **BR Justine Clark** 23.29.

On the same day

Lucy Lloyd-Roach had a series of good swims at Luton (33¹/₃ m.), winning the 100 **FLY**, 1.13.51 and the 200 **FLY**.

5.1.97 Stourbridge Crystal Diddy Sprint Meet - Wolverhampton (25 m.)

This was, for several of our swimmers, their second visit to Wolverhampton during the weekend, nevertheless they produced some good results.

Jon Sheasby collected two of the glass goblets, awarded to the winners, for his mother, with a competition best swim in the **F/S** of 29.49 and a determined **BR**, 39.82. He was also 3rd in the **FLY**, 33.86 & in the 200 **LM**, 2.42.08. **Kate Hindson** also placed 3rd in her **LM**, 2.44.09. **Tim Sheasby** won a third goblet for mum in the **BK**, 39.54 and was 2nd in the **F/S**, 34.54, when a repeat of his heat time would have got him a second goblet. **Emily & Sarah Paterson** reached the **BR**, 49.38 and the **BK** 44.96 finals respectively, and **Laura Heeley** the **FLY** final, 31.09, but she must aim for faster swims in the finals. Other good swims: **BR Mark Fisher** 43.31; **Ian Johnstone** 43.40. **F/S Stuart Baker** 36.29; **Andrew Vale** 37.31; **Michael Bourne** 38.97; **Leanne Sheasby** 32.23; **Hannah Massey** 35.76. **BK Hannah** 42.76; **Andrew** 44.47; **Hannah Freeman** 45.40. **FLY Ian** 36.85; **Ewan Martin** 37.24.

11.1.97 Northampton Distance Meet - Corby (25m.)

Four of our swimmers took advantage of the opportunity to compete over the longer distance in this popular Meet. **Jo Potter** took 1st in the 200 BR, 2.47.04, MQT & NQT. **Kate Hindson** swam a MQT in 4 events, including 400 F/S, 4.5.31. **Jon Sheasby** was 3rd in the 400 F/S, 4.55.22, MQT & NQT and he achieved another MQT in the 200 F/S, 2.20.53. **Lucy Lloyd-Roach** was 3rd in the 200 FLY, 2.39.00 and also swam a p.b. in the 200 BK, 2.39.38.

18/19th January '97 Wolverhampton Meet (25m.)

We had a very successful weekend at this Meet, which was not over crowded, and was very efficiently run. Of our 15 swimmers, 11 did at least one p.b. and two added to NQT's.

Jon Sheasby, 200 LM, 2.40.36, NQT.

Georgina Lee, 400 F/S, 4.31.09, 200 BR, 2.50.16, 200 F/S, 2.11.18, 200 BK, 2.23.91 - all NQT's and the BK *CLUB JUNIOR & SENIOR RECORDS*.

Other big improvements:

FLY **Ewan Martin** 1.22.75; **Carl Reed** 1.25.40. These boys swam stroke for stroke until the last turn when **Carl** stopped and looked round for so long that **Ewan** took a 2m. lead.

BK **Lucy Lloyd-Roach** 1.12.92, making up for a standard swim in the FLY which seemed to make her very cross, 2.37.99; **Jon** 1.19.18.

BR **Jon** 1.26.48; **Kate Hindson** 1.23.96 & 2.57.18.

F/S **Sally Jones** 1.06.88; **Kate** 1.06.85; **Ian Johnstone** 1.10.69; **Carl** 1.15.76.

200 LM **Ewan** 2.55.24; **Ian Potter** 2.34.75.

Pam Schofield showed improved form with a 1.04.21 F/S.

Kate Hindson, swimming with great consistency, took 6 golds and several silver medals, including: 800 F/S 9.54.90, 400 F/S 4.49.46, 200 F/S 2.18.84, 200 BR 2.57.15, and 400 LM 5.33.14.

Georgina also spent a great deal of time in the water, winning eleven events and picking up the 'Best Girl' statuette and a £30 voucher.

The same weekend, at the Geneva International Meet

Gemma Hindson & Nicola Sheasby had a busy weekend at this high level Meet which attracted swimmers from many countries, including Estonia, Egypt, France, Italy and the very strong German Junior Squad.

Gemma swam in 6 heats and 6 finals over the three days, with her best efforts being in the 200 FLY where she took silver, 2.26.80 and in the 100 FLY, 1.08.80 where she finished 3rd. **Nicola** had 9 swims, being well placed in her heats and improving on her heat times and placings in 2 B finals. We enjoyed meeting 'Our man in Geneva', **Graig Norrey**. He is recently back in the water, trying to regain his leg drive following a cartilage operation caused by jogging.

25.1.97 Ginger North Cup Relay Gala - Leamington (25m.)

Coventry 158, Haden Hill 128, C/Hill 103, Leamington 101, Stratford 100, Evesham 80

This gala provided more valuable experience for our new 9 yr. olds, several of whom swam faster than at Wolverhampton 3 weeks earlier. Many thanks to **David Humphries** for coming at such short notice.

Two newcomers, **Scarlett Allen** and **Alistair McKenzie**, showed great determination and promise.

Emily Paterson had the best swim with a 2 s. p.b. for the 50 **BR**, 47.90.

We only had 1 disqualification, for faulty arms in **FLY**, but we were very lucky not to have several more for fliers, for a stroke of **FLY** at the start of a **BR** length, and a stroke of **F/S** on another. Swimmers **MUST** listen to instructions and **CONCENTRATE** at the start.

On the same evening at Worcester (25m.) Carn Brae Trophy

C/Hill 202, Worcester 164, Bromsgrove 156, Kidderminster 125, Droitwich 123, Bicester 116

This was an enjoyable gala in an extremely warm building.

Good swims: **BK Andrew Vale** 42.17; **Jon Baker** 1.04.37. **BR Chris Gregory** 1.28.42; **James Venables** 1.20.31; **David Woodhall** 1.11.74; **Nicola Sheasby** 1.19.87.

FLY Lucy Lloyd-Roach 1.12.48; **Chris.** 1.20.26; **Laura Heeley** 47.18; **Chris Hutton** 1.09.94.

County Selection

Jo Potter, Gemma Hindson, Nicola Sheasby, Lucy Lloyd-Roach, Jon Baker and **Michael Hoare** were all members of the winning County team at a match at Milton Keynes.

Last but not least

I am pleased to report that our efficient secretary, **Polly Sheasby** is now a member of the Warwickshire Executive Committee, and of the Water Polo sub-committee.