

June 1997

I was only going to produce one Newsletter prior to the summer break, but we have been involved in so many events that are well worth reporting in the past eight weeks, that I have decided, subject to the forbearance of Editor Martin Loftus, to make it two.

**19th/20th April 1997 Wolverhampton Meet (25m.)**

This Meet, with races over 50m. for the 10 yr. group, was a good opportunity for our younger swimmers: **Hannah Freeman, Laura Heeley, Andrew Vale, Tim Sheasby, Michael Bourne** and **Alastair McKenzie** all received awards and swam good times.

**Jo Potter** swam well to take the 200 **BR** with a well-paced 2.45.95, and **Ewan Martin** was 3rd in the **BR** with a p.b. of 1.27.27.

**Sally Jones** had a busy weekend, including **BK**, 1.17.55 & 2.51.90 in her first 200 **FLY**.

**Pam Schofield** sprinted well **F/S** 29.32 (2nd) and 1.04.54 (3rd).

**Chris Hutton** had numerous swims, with p.b.'s of 1.10.86 **BK** and 1.18.47 **BR**; he placed 3rd in the 50 **F/S**, 27.03.

Other good swims: **Ruth Fraser**, **BR** 1.30.98; **Carl Reed**, **BK** 1.24.22; **Leanne Sheasby**, **F/S** 1.08.12 & **FLY** 1.17.54 - much better to come if she can do some work;

**Ian Johnstone**, **F/S** 1.09.83 & **FLY** 1.18.25; **Chris Gregory**, **FLY** 1.18.27.

Our most improved swim came from **Ian Potter** who joined the sub 70 **FLY** list with 1.07.69 an improvement of over 3 secs.

**Leeds Age Group Meet (50m.)**

On the same weekend a small party of swimmers attended this Meet, winning several medals and recording good times. **Kate Hindson**, 200 **F/S** 2.19.90, 400 4.51.12, **FLY** 1.16.75 & 2.40.11, 400 **I.M.** 5.34.25. **Jon Sheasby**, **F/S** 1.03.28, **FLY** 1.11.84. **Gemma Hindson**, **F/S** 1.01.50, 2.11.18, 4.36.51, **FLY**, 1.07.53. **Lucy Lloyd-Roach**, **F/S** 1.06.98, **BK** 1.14.30, 200 **F/S** 2.18.75. **Gemma Hindson**, **F/S** 1.01.50, 2.11.18, 4.36.51, **FLY** 1.07.53.

**26.4.1997 Inter-Club Leicester (25m.)**

Perry Beeches 266, C/Hill 265, Leic. Belgrave 263, Kettering 233, Corby 175

As shown by the final points, this was an exciting competition. Good swims: **Laura Heeley**, **FLY** & **BR**; **Ian Potter**, **F/S** 27.49; **James Venables**, **Sally Jones**. **Jon Baker** and **Hannah Freeman**.

**26th/27th April 1997 Leeds Masters (50m.)**

A "returning to form" **Trevor Clark** won 4 golds and a silver, including **F/S** 1.02.61, **FLY** 1.06.75.

### 3rd/4th May 1997 Midlands Senior Championships - Coventry (50m.)

Our young team had several good swims at the District Championships. **Lucy Lloyd-Roach**, **BK** winning her heat, 1.14.50; **Jo Potter**, **BR** 2.50.20; **Kate Hindson**, **I.M.** 5.30.32, 400 **F/S** 4.45.47; sister **Gemma** 4.35.80. The sisters won their consecutive heats - both in lane 8, momentarily confusing the commentator. **Gemma** was 2nd in the 200 **FLY**, 2.27.96 and 5th in the 100, and is **SELECTED FOR THE MIDLAND TEAM** to swim at Swansea in July. **Jon Baker** tackled the 50 **FLY** winning silver in a respectable 27.02. **Georgina Lee** won the 100 **FLY**, 1.04.71 and the 200, 2.21.07 comfortably, but her most pleasing swims were in the 100 **F/S**, 3rd - 1.00.34 and the 200, 2nd - 2.10.28. It is always good for morale to finish the day with a team success. On the Saturday our Women's Medley Team, **Georgina, Jo, Gemma, Nicola Sheasby** finished 3rd when a good **FLY** leg from **Gemma** moved us up from 4th for **Nicola** to hang on, 4.40.28. Better still on the Sunday when our **F/S** Team, **Nicola, Gemma, Kate & Georgina** were in the lead throughout the race - the final event of the Championships. **Nicola** 1.02.80, **Gemma** 1.00.97, **Kate**, not a bit over-awed 1.04.07, and **Georgina** bringing us home in 59.52. Total 4.07.38 - five seconds faster than the previous year's winners, and the first time we had won the event.

### 10.5.97 Round II Junior League - Rugby (33m.)

Stourbridge 201, Rugby 182, C/Hill & Nuneaton 154, Avon Neptunes 151, Bromsgrove 98

For the second time we had drawn a long pool, however, everyone gave of their best, and we clung to 3rd place till the final event when Nuneaton finished ahead to share the placing with us.

The third round is at Halesowen on 21st June, 6.00 for 6.30 - we are 8th in Division One after two rounds and a good team effort is required to hold on to that position or to improve it.

### 10th/11th May 1997 Birmingham Meet - Stechford (25m.)

We had many fine swims at this well organised Meet.

To start with the boys: **Jon Sheasby** was invincible, with 6 first places **F/S** 1.01.96, 2.13.82 (1.05.96 / 1.07.86), 4.48.77 (2.23.79 / 2.24.98). 200 **BR** 3.01.57, **I.M.** 2.38.90, **FLY** 1.11.91. **Jon** is pacing his races really well, but he must be prepared to go out faster against stronger opposition. Brother **Tim** won the **I.M.** and had the fastest time in the **BK** heats, 1.23.90, but had to miss the final to swim in the Junior League. He was 3rd in the **FLY** and 2nd in the **F/S** after having established a good lead on the first 50m. and then completely losing concentration on the 3rd length.

**Chris Hutton** - for the first time - swam with 100% effort throughout his 100 **F/S**, his determination earning him a p.b. of 58.12. **Ruth Fraser** got her Midlands **F/S** Q.T., 1.05.06 and **Lyndsey Wyse** had some good swims, **F/S** 1.02.75, **FLY** 1.12.16, but must swim faster in finals. **Sally Jones** had her best swim in the 200 **F/S**, 2.24.75.

**Lucy Lloyd-Roach** "came good" with 3 National Q.Times, FLY 1.09.55 - 1st., and 2.34.27 - 1st., BK 2.31.72. **Nicola Sheasby** was 2nd in the F/S, 1.01.52, 3rd in the 200 F/S 2.14.92. and won the last event of the Meet, BR 1.18.39.

**Kate Hindson** tackled her customary extensive programme including F/S, 1.04.16, 2.16.94 - 2nd, 4.40.20 - 1st (2.18.06 / 2.22.14), 400 LM, 5 25.48 - 3rd. Her first place in the 800, 9.30.99 (4.41.40 / 4.46.99) came after a really hard stroke for stroke race. Sister **Gemma** won her 4 events on the Sunday, 200 FLY, 400 LM, 5.07.73 and TWO CLUB RECORDS 200 F/S 2.07.73, 800 F/S 9.12.47 (4.31.33 / 4.41.14) beating **Sarah Cheesbrough's** long standing time set some 20 years ago.

Our 10 yr. swimmers, **Stuart Tierney**, **Andrew Vale**, **Michael Bourne** and the **Heeley** sisters benefited from the chance to swim 100 m. races with **Laura Heeley** placing 3rd in the BR, 1.45.33.

### On the same weekend - Midland District Masters - Leamington (25m.)

After several months of ordering, cajoling, pleading, I was pleased that we had a total of 13 representatives at this event, and, of course, a considerable number of medals. Their names: **Norman Stephens**, F/S 57.42 & 25.55; **Darren Dyke** F/S 55.82 & 25.46; **Trevor Clark** F/S 1.01.11 and FLY 1.04.99; **Mike Hoare** - yes, he is a Master now - FLY 1.02.44; and the two **Pauls**, **Seymour & Rogers**; **Barrie Cope**, **David Beavan**, **Kevin Woodward** who makes such a difference to our relay teams.

**Jo Minion** took 5 golds, BR 35.93; **Hayley Bettinson** had 7 medals; **Claire Duffy** gold in the 400 F/S & 200 BR; **Kate Chase** FLY 37.48 & F/S 32.64.

We won 4 gold and 2 silver in the relays with a particularly satisfying win over a very strong Coventry Team, including 2 internationals, in the F/S race after being beaten by them in the Medley. Lets keep the pot boiling - how about the Wolverhampton Masters in September, the English Masters in October and a trip to the Guernsey Masters - think about it!

### 17th May 1997 Midland District Age Group Teams - Coventry (50m.)

We entered one boys' team, **Ewan Martin**, the **Sheasby** brothers and **Carl Reed**. They did well to finish 7th/26 in the F/S and 11th/25 in the Medley.

The 13/14 girls were placed 12th/38 in the Medley and 9th/38 in the F/S where they averaged 30.4 secs. The 15/16 team, **Hannah Loftus**, **Gemma Hindson**, **Nicola Sheasby** and **Georgina Lee** were 9th/20 in the Medley and 3rd in the F/S with the excellent time of 1.56.75. The 17/18 girls were 5th/7 in the Medley and 4th/7 in the F/S. I invariably comment, good results when one considers the geographical spread of the District.

### The following day - Midlands 50m. Sprints

Our best swims came from **Jon Sheasby**, F/S 2nd 28.92, FLY 4th 33.14; **Chris Hutton**, keen to get a Kellogg's Frosties T shirt and taking 2nd in the F/S 26.59. Our other finalists were: **Lyndsey Wyse**, F/S and FLY; **Nicola Sheasby**, BR and F/S; **Pam Schofield** F/S.

Good swims also from **Lucy Lloyd-Roach**, BK 34.73, FLY 32.66; **Sally Jones**, FLY 34.01 and **Ruth Fraser**, F/S 30.57.

### 23rd/25th May 1997 Crown Meet, Guernsey (25m.)

It was surprising to learn that this was our seventh visit, with **Mike Hoare's** 200 BR record, 2.27.92 still standing as it remains from 1991.

**Travel** Nine flew from Birmingham and the other hardy fifteen went down to Poole for a voyage on the Condor, arriving eventually at 9.00 p.m. Throughout the weekend there was some doubt, because of the very strong winds and the recent poor performances of the Condor, that the return would take place on Sunday. All went well, however, apart from a lengthy wait to get into Poole harbour, eventually docking around 1.30 a.m. Our return flight was some 20 minutes late into Birmingham, and then we waited for our luggage - had it been taken off at Jersey? Our protests resulted in its being found in a different hold on the plane after some time.

**Accommodation** As usual, this was at the Marton Hotel, and, as always, it was very good, but I was disappointed by the behaviour and attitude of some of the younger members of our party, who did not realise that there certain constraints to be observed when stopping with other guests. Hopefully, the example set by our "regulars" will have some effect.

**Performances** Behaviour at the Pool was in contrast good, as were our results. We won the overall trophies for both boys and girls, with **Nicola** and **Jon Sheasby** collecting the individual prizes for best boy and girl. **Ben Darbyshire** was an inspiring cheer leader, and we cannot have missed the prize for the best supporters by very much.

**Jon** broke 4 Meet Records, 50 F/S, 100 F/S, 100 FLY and 100 BR, 1.22.48 and swam a p.b. BK 1.15.48. **Chris Hutton** swam hard in all his events and finally reached the medal rostrum on the final session with a most determined F/S swim of 57.60 - Silver.

**Jo Potter** swam her best 400 I.M. 5.15.05. **Jon Baker** swam well in outside lanes in finals, FLY 1.00.65, BK 1.03.33. **Pam Scofield**, F/S 1.04.36; **Sally Jones** 1.06.80;

**Warren Jones**, who can now start, 1.01.17; **Nicola** 1.01.96 and there were many other good efforts.

**Tim Sheasby** incessantly patronised the tombola and eventually won that sportsbag. Thanks are due to our two tireless drivers, **Polly Sheasby** and **Richard Jones** who, in addition to taking us to and from the pool, made many extra journeys. Also to **Mike Hoare** who is always such a good leader of the group.

Enjoyable excursions were made to the beaches at Fermain and Cobo where, undaunted by the cold water and the gusty wind, there was some brave bathing.

**On the same weekend** **Kate Hindson** was at the Leeds Age Group Meet where she was 2nd in the F/S 1.05.28 and I.M. 2.39.96.

### County Selection

Congratulations to: **Sally Jones**, **Kate Hindson**, **Tim** and **Jon Sheasby** and **Alastair McKenzie** chosen to swim in a County Age Group Match at Leicester on 1st June.