

October 1997

BACK AGAIN!

Here we are, already in October with several important events such as the Inter-Counties, English Schools and National Winter Championships fast approaching. Firstly, however, we should look back on the culmination of last season. Yet again, **Georgina Lee** takes pride of place with her swims for the Great Britain Team in Glasgow at the European Junior Championships. Her 4th place in the 200m FLY, 2.17.31 was a Midlands Junior Record, and, of course a Club Record; likewise her times of 1.03.49 for the 100m., also County Junior and Senior Records.

It looked as if our girls would do well nationally, after their efforts in the Midlands Age Group, and this was confirmed by their performances. In fact, we were placed 8th in the points table for girls with only one Midlands club, 7th placed Coventry, in front of us. WELL DONE!

NO CHANGE

The widespread criticism of the proposed ill thought-out changes for the age group swimming has, I am pleased to report, resulted in their being dropped. There will, eventually, be changes but they are likely to involve much consideration and to take some time.

TANNER TROPHY

Tim Sheasby takes over from **Jon** as the holder of this award for the most improved young swimmer in the Club. He has considerable talent, and if he is able to channel his energies in the right direction he will do well.

JUNIOR LEAGUE

We finished 8th out of 18 teams in Division 1. This was a good result, and we now need to aim at reaching the top 6 in 1998. We are now looking for 9 yr. swimmers (1989), and must strengthen all of next year's age groups. It is vital that we do well in the first round - 4th April - the first day of the school holidays - **KEEP IT FREE.**

AN OPEN WATER CHAMPION

Alex Knibbs, the 'hard man' of our Masters Group took first place in a recent open water event over 4¹/₂ thousand metres - he had the insect bites to prove it!

MIDLANDS TEAM

Gemma Hindson had good swims for the team in a match at Swansea, 100 FLY 1.06.50 (3rd) and 200 FLY 2.24.05, F/S Relay split 1.00.40.

12.7.97 Bridgnorth (25 m.) Inter-Club

Northgate 124, Perry Beeches 117, Camp Hill 108, Wolverhampton 66

Mr Thain's usual hard work eventually filled our eleven years teams with some very enthusiastic nine and ten year olds. Their performances were very encouraging and the boys gained 14 points from a possible 20. Well done **Timothy Sheasby**, **Andrew Vale**, **Jonathan Humphries** and **Stuart Tierney**. We were 4 points ahead of Perry Beeches until two disqualifications cost us 7 points, and, despite our efforts, we could not recover the situation. There were wins for Girls 15/U and both Open Medley Teams plus; **Tim Sheasby** 32.76; **Jo Potter**, **BR** 1.18.67 & **David Woodhall** 1.15.16; **BK Lucy Lloyd-Roach** 1.12.09; **FLY Lyndsey Wyse** 1.11.98.

This was a good team performance at this level of competition, and gives good encouragement for next season. Well done swimmers and thank you officials and supporters.

N.S.

4th/8th August '97 National Age Group - Coventry

Georgina Lee had a superb week: 1st 100 **FLY** 1.03.85 and 200 **FLY** 2.17.72 (Competition Best Time). 2nd 400 **IM** 5.02.00 County Junior Record, Club Junior/Senior Records; 3rd 200 **F/S** 2.07.83, 2nd 800 **F/S** 9.14.55, 7th 200 **BK** 2.27.72.

Gemma Hindson, although not on top form, qualified for 6 finals including a p.b. for the 200 **F/S**, 2.10.79 6th, and a good 400 **F/S**, 4.35.65.

Kate Hindson swam in 2 finals, 200 **F/S** 6th 2.16.19 (ht 2.15.52) 800 **F/S** 4th 9.44.15 and she joins **Gemma** in the National Swim 2000 Squad.

Lucy Lloyd-Roach was 8th in the 200 **BK** after a good heats swim, 2.32.35.

Jon Sheasby took gold in the 100 **FLY**, 1.09.16, and was 3rd in the **F/S**, 1.01.38 and in the 200 **IM**, 2.33.95.

Finally our 15/16 yr. Girls' **F/S** team took silver medals behind Wigan in a time just outside the event record - WELL DONE **NICOLA**, **LYNDSEY**, **GEMMA**, **GEORGINA**. Credit also to **HANNAH LOFTUS** without whose efforts in the Midlands race our Team would not have qualified for the event.

6.9.97 Coventry 50m. - Sprints

We had 24 representatives at this popular 'season opener' with several good results.

Chris Hutton, despite completing 3 x 800m on the previous evening, - won the **F/S**, 26.70, and swam good times in his other events, including **BR** 38.80. 'New Look' **Jon Baker** was 2nd in the **FLY** in an unusually strong line-up, 27.60. **Lyndsey Wyse** was, I felt, unlucky in the **F/S** result, 2nd 29.76, and it was a pity that she withdrew from the **FLY**. **Pam Schofield** swam in 2 finals with her best effort in the **F/S**, 29.81. **Warren Jones** continues to show great promise, and likewise continues to make obvious mistakes. His best swim came in the **FLY**, 30.91. **Kerry Wyse** won both her heats with aggressive swims, **F/S** 34.87, **BR** 44.38. **Lucy Lloyd-Roach** took 2nd in the **BK** 35.38 and in the **FLY**, 32.73. **Sally Jones** was 3rd in the **FLY** 32.80 and swam a good **F/S**, 30.57. **Lorraine Petridge** continued her improvement on **BR**, 40.15, and **Ewan Martin** swam in 3 finals, **BR** 41.78. Our 10 yr. swimmers performed well and should have benefited from the experience.

The importance of concentration - one of our boys was standing by his block waiting for his race BUT absorbed in the actions of someone retrieving goggles from the water INSTEAD OF focusing on the race that he was about to tackle, and which he did not win.

13.9.97 Garrandale Trophy - Burton (25m.)

C/Hill 222, Perry Beeches 199, Etwall Eagles 184, Leic. Knighton Fields 154, Wolverhampton 140, Lichfield 128

Our small team of twenty arrived to take on the local Etwall Eagles and four city teams with no little apprehension. We started off with an appalling warm-up, due partly to the slack and/or loose lane ropes and mainly to our swimmer's inability to make any reasonable effort to warm-up.

Mr Thain, the old fox, had worked out the strategy well, sending no Open lady swimmers, so our girls swam up and finished 1st or 2nd in all six Open events - Well done!

We won twenty events, including double winners, **Lyndsey Wyse**, FLY 31.95 & F/S 29.07; **David Haynes**, FLY 31.42 & BK 32.00; **Jon Sheasby**, FLY 33.76, BR 38.58. Girls 11, 15 & Open relay teams were all winners.

The last event, a cannon 2 girls & 2 boys in any order, saw our team start very well, only for our 6th swimmer to decide that she wanted to start at the other end of the pool. This resulted in our swimming two lengths short and earning no points, however, Mr Thain's contingency plan meant that we scraped home as winners by 23 points. Well done team and thanks to our officials.

N.S.

20.9.97 Relay Gala - Tudor Grange (36 yds.)

This local gala offered a good opportunity to test the effectiveness of our early season training, and our results were, generally, very satisfactory.

Jon Baker won his 2 events - he had to work very hard in the F/S, 55.98, whereas if he worked in training he would swim faster than this with great ease. Similar comment has to be made about **Chris Hutton** who always tries very hard in his races. It was pleasing to see one of our best trainers, **Ian Potter**, close to that sub 60 in the F/S, and a good FLY, 1.07.45. **Jon Sheasby** swam a good F/S, 1.01.18, and tackled older opposition well - now to get down to some work. **Ian Johnstone** and **James Sumner** raced aggressively and **Carl Reed** showed 100% effort BUT why, in the LM, did he look around 4 times on the one length BR and breathe every stroke on the F/S.

Georgina Lee won her 5 events and the top female award. **Lucy Lloyd-Roach**, starting and turning well, won her 4 races, BK 1.11.59, FLY 1.10.82 and F/S 1.03.23. Then, not content with that, she went on to win a radio on the tombola. **Lyndsey Wyse** showed that she can finish in one of her FLY races, 1.10.91, and hopefully, will have gained confidence from this. **Sally Jones**, F/S 1.04.68, is racing well, and more determined training will see her stamina and therefore finishes improve - she was not disqualified in the BR. **Lorraine Petridge** swam a BR p.b., 1.29.55 and should be able to improve further. **Nicola Sheasby** tackled 6 events and had some good swims, including F/S 1.01.62.

27th/28th Sept. '97 Wolverhampton Masters (25m.)

I don't often blow my own trumpet - I'm sure you'll agree! BUT, after 3 months of persuading, pleading, bullying, threatening, begging and ordering, I succeeded in getting 5 women and 8 men to represent their club in this event - **Fanfare!** Of course, they did well, returning with many slate coasters. Who were these giants?

The following attended for relays only: **Alex Knibbs**, leaving urgent house repairs; **Lynn Clark**, **Claire Duffy**, **Kevin Woodward**, and a jet-lagged **Mike Hoare**. We competed in 13 team races; Men 1 gold, 2 silver; women 3 gold; mixed 6 gold, 1 silver.

In the individual events **Kate Chase** took 3 gold, **Jo Minion** 6 gold, although **Hayley Bettinson** was closing up on her fast towards the end of the Meet, winning the last 2 of their 6 encounters. **Phil Baker**, back on the Camp Hill scene, swam well with gold in the F/S and silver in the FLY. **Trevor Clark** and **Norman Stephens** each took 4 golds, and **Darren Dyke** was 2nd in the 25m. F/S, 11.89. Last but not least, **Paul Seymour**, having performed a disastrous 'gliding' BR, showed unsuspected talent in the 25m. BK to finish 2nd.

NATIONAL RANKING LISTS

It is quite difficult to present these details in an accurate and not too boring way, so I hope I have not missed anyone. It is an achievement to figure in these lists - more next year, please.

LONG COURSE

Age Group

(In the first 50):

Sally Jones (4 events), **Ruth Fraser** (1), **Gemma Hindson** (12), **Nicola Sheasby** (7), **Lyndsey Wyse** (1), **Lucy Lloyd-Roach** (7), **Kate Hindson** (10), **Georgina Lee** (15), **Chris Hutton** (2), **Jon Sheasby** (10).

(In the first 10):

Jon: 2nd 100 & 200 F/S, 100 FLY; 3rd 50 F/S, 200 I.M., 6th 50 FLY; 8th 50 BR & 400 F/S

Kate: 3rd 800 F/S; 4th 400 F/S; 6th 200 F/S & 200 FLY; 8th 400 I.M.

Gemma: 100 FLY 4th; 200 F/S 6th; 100 & 400 F/S 7th; 400 I.M. 9th; 50 FLY, 800 F/S, 200 I.M. and 200 FLY 10th.

Georgina: 100 & 200 FLY 1st; 400 I.M. 3rd; 50 FLY 4th; 200 F/S 5th; 800 F/S 6th; 100 F/S 8th; 400 F/S & 200 BK 10th.

Open

(In the first 50):

Jon Baker (1); **Gemma** (6); **Georgina** (9)

(In the first 20):

Gemma, 100 FLY 20th

Georgina, 200 FLY 3rd, 100 FLY & 400 I.M. 6th.

I think that is enough to digest for the moment, but it was encouraging to see the **Pattersons**, the **Heeleys**, **Hannah Freeman**, **Tim Sheasby**, **Stuart Tierney**, **Michael Bourne**, and **Andrew Vale** in the 10 yr lists.