

ERITH & DISTRICT SWIMMING CLUB

N E W S L E T T E R

No. 81

November, 1980

SECRETARY'S NOTES

MATCH AT MARGATE 25.10.1980

A favourable programme provided us with some good opportunities but with an extremely strong Margate A & B Squad, our swimmers total of 11 wins was very impressive and our best result ever at this short 25M pool. A number of "Personal Best" times were recorded, helped, no doubt, by the excellent anti-wave lane lines. Congratulations to you all.

RESULT:-	1st Margate A	89 Points
	2nd Erith	153 "
	3rd Ashford Town	204 "
	4th Margate B	205 "
	5th Faversham	211 "
	6th Birchington	263 "

(This Club uses the reverse marking system)

TUDOR TROPHY 'B' LEAGUE SERIES

Quite a number of you will be selected to swim for us for the first time in this regular winter six-match series. We are the present Trophy holders and our first defence is at Eltham Baths on 6th December. All galas start at 6 p.m. sharp and we hope to see a large contingent of supporters to cheer our swimmers on.

The age groups this year are Under 10, Under 12 and Under 15 and races will include Butterfly for the first time in the two older events. Owing to the fewer age groups there are now only 36 events and the programme takes about 90 minutes to complete.

SPRINT TROPHY RACES

A much better attendance for the Backcrawl races on Friday 31st October ensured many improved times being recorded and I hope to see most of you for the two remaining races. Even if you have not attended the first two events it is vital that you make the effort for the other evenings as the main aim of these races is to help us select the best team for matches against other Clubs and quite a number of you will get your first chance in competition in this season's Tudor 'B' series where the times recorded recently will be invaluable to us.

The cumulative points at present gives us two girls and one boy on 20 points.

MINI BAZAARS

We are holding two evening sales on Friday 21st November and 5th December in the Club Room commencing at 7 p.m. All are welcome so why not bring your friends along? Swimming Classes will be held as usual so we do hope that as many parents as possible will come along. Stalls will include toys, Tombola, cakes, home made preserves, Christmas wrappings etc. and Mrs Steedan will have a selection of new dresses available, so make it a date for a good bargain. If any of you have any items you can bring along for us, please hand them in any Club evenings.

OUTING TO STREATHAM ICE RINK, SATURDAY 22nd NOVEMBER

Tickets are now on sale at £2.40 each (child or adult). The coach leaves Riverside at 6.30 p.m. and will leave Streatham at approx. 10.30 p.m.

Swimwear makes an ideal Christmas Gift and we will have a full range of items on display at the Mini Bazaars. Club costumes are in stock and most sizes and other styles in Speedo or Arena can normally be ordered for you. We also have goggles, swimbags, Speedo hats etc.

LOST PROPERTY

We would ask all swimmers and parents to check before leaving the Pool to ensure you have everything as in recent weeks the quantity and variety of items left behind has been quite amazing. Officials always check the changing rooms at the end of the evening, so in the event of your leaving something please contact me or Mrs Bedford in the first instance.

If your belongings have your name clearly marked it will ensure their safe return, also it prevents arguments in the changing rooms where clothes, goggles etc. are sometimes muddled.

A. Bedford

A.S.A. PERSONAL SURVIVAL AWARDS

The following swimmers have passed the A.S.A. Personal Survival Awards, SILVER STANDARD.

Certificates and badges have been applied for and should be received in due course.

D. Connolly
R. Connolly
T. Bennett

A. Pallett
C. Bennett
L. Hearn

S. Dersley

Practice for the Personal Survival GOLD Standard commences on Friday, 14th November, 8.00 p.m.

T.A. Davison

OUTING TO AYLESFORD FOR A RAMBLE ON 29th OCTOBER, 1980

The previous day's atrocious weather had, for many, washed away any enthusiasm for taking part in this Ramble. In addition, the weather forecast was taken with much pessimism, but how wrong we were to be?.

Bright morning sunshine greeted 35 happy faces at Dartford station and having commandeered a complete railway carriage, we were on our way with 2 extra people joining us at Gravesend (one of the girls thought we were walking to Aylesford and back, though).

On arrival at Aylesford station, we soon encountered the first mud, a direct result of the previous days' heavy rainfall. About a fifth of our Ramble was spent walking through puddles and slippery mud, much to the enjoyment of the Club members and their friends, irrespective of wet feet. The Mums and Dads in the party tended to steer clear though, even if this entailed climbing over fences into adjoining fields. The two family dogs that were with us also began to acquire a different hue to their lower quarters.

We passed Aylesford Friary and the picturesque village before stopping for lunch at the Malta Inn, adjacent to Allington Lock. This provided a peaceful setting, and as a bonus, there was archery in progress in a nearby field.

Refreshed, the next stage was made at a relatively fast pace, passing a Sailing Barge, a tree-obscured Allington Castle and ascending the valley side to the village of Sandling. Here, we passed a small disused watermill, but

OUTING TO AYLESFORD (Continued)

soon after, the peace was shattered by the presence of the M20 motorway, the children taking advantage of the sloping concrete bridge abutments for use as miniature slides. A short distance further on we passed a large old Tithe Barn and the remains of Boxley Abbey. Our Ramble now reverted to crawling pace as the footpath to Boxley village crossed farmland that had recently been ploughed. One of the children described it as walking on the moon, and before we reached flat ground again a large number of us had fallen over into the sticky clay soil. One girl had had enough and jokingly hailed an approaching bus to learn that they stop almost anywhere on request, in the countryside! We had another rest on Boxley village green adjacent to the Church. The opportunity was taken to clean our mud-laden footwear, (one Dad looked as though he had acquired Frankenstein's clogs) and to take some photographs of the multi-coloured, if bedraggled party.

After many groans, we resumed our Ramble, now uphill, to reach the 'Pilgrim's Way'. We had fine views over the Medway valley from this elevated point on the North Downs, and below was a typical scene of a farmer ploughing with seagulls in tow. Further along the busy A229 halted our progress, the discovery of a petrol station selling confectionery lengthening our stay. While everyone refreshed themselves on sweets, crisps and soft drinks, the youngest rambler of the party, in an attempt to retrieve his fallen 'walking stick' disappeared head first into a mass of stinging nettles. Dock leaves were promptly applied to the necessary areas to soothe our one and only casualty.

Leaving one petrol station proprietress with a rather messy floor to clear up, we headed off on the last leg back to Aylesford. En route we made a short detour to see the 4000 year old Burial Chamber, known as 'Kit's Coty House'.

Tiredness began to show by the fact that the party was strung out over 400 yards along the road and the crawling pace had returned. We were treated to a sunset but by the time we reached Aylesford, it was dark and there was still an hour to go before the local pub. opened. The discovery of a newsagents resulted in its invasion even though it was due to have closed at that precise moment.

So 37 happy people returned home after a very enjoyable, if tiring, day. To many it seemed as though they had walked further than the 7 miles that had been set. Even one of the dogs had to have 40 winks on the floor of the railway carriage.

It had been a comparatively cheap day as there were no entrance fees on top of our Rail fare, no souvenirs to buy, just some nice memories to take home, along with a be of windfall pears, one rusty horseshoe, several empty shotgun cartridges, some stout 'walking sticks' and masses of muddy clothing to be washed.

Next January I shall be putting a list of proposed outings for 1981 on the Swimming Club Notice Board, so keep a look-out.

P. Frost

See over for Forthcoming Events etc.

B.S.C.A. MIDDLE DISTANCE SWIMS. TUESDAY, 28th OCTOBER

Congratulations to the following swimmers who have qualified for the above:-

<u>Freestyle</u>	<u>Backrawl</u>	<u>Breaststroke</u>	<u>Butterfly</u>
<u>Bronze</u>	<u>Bronze</u>	<u>Bronze</u>	<u>Bronze</u>
Sarah Breare Vicki Gibb Kevin Hurley	Karen Bragg Andrew Callard Karen Fox Sally Taylor	Karen Bragg Andrew Callard Gerald Kaute Katie Knight Corin Netherwood Nicola Ormes Paul Richardson Mark Steeden Paul Toy	Angela Sartain

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, 21st NOVEMBER	Mini Bazaar Club Room 7 p.m.
SATURDAY, 22nd NOVEMBER	Skating Trip to Streathan, leaves Riverside 6.30 p.m.
FRIDAY, 28th NOVEMBER	Sprint Trophy - Breaststroke commencing 8 p.m.
FRIDAY, 5th DECEMBER	Mini Bazaar Club Room 7 p.m.
SATURDAY, 6th DECEMBER	TUDOR 'B' Match, Eltham commencing 6 p.m. Erith Host (Dartford Drop-out)
FRIDAY, 12th DECEMBER	Sprint Trophy Frontcrawl commencing 8 p.m.
FRIDAY, 19th DECEMBER	Sprint Trophy Presentation. Splash Night commencing 8 p.m.
SATURDAY, 24th JANUARY	TUDOR 'B' Match, Eltham commencing 6 p.m. (Sevenoaks Drop-out)
SATURDAY, 21st FEBRUARY	TUDOR 'B' Match, Eltham commencing 6 p.m. (Eltham Drop-out)
SATURDAY, 7th MARCH	6 way HOME match Riverside commencing 7 p.m.
SATURDAY 14th MARCH	TUDOR 'B' Match, Eltham commencing 6 p.m. (Finsbury Drop-out)
SATURDAY 21st MARCH	TUDOR 'B' Match, Eltham commencing 6 p.m. (Greenwich Drop-out)
SATURDAY, 4th APRIL	TUDOR 'B' Friendly (Erith Host)

PLEASE NOTE - There will be no swimming on Friday 26th December - pool closed)