

NEWELL TERN

No.102

JUNE, 1983

SECRETARY'S NOTES

LEARN TO SWIM THE P.P.PENGUIN WAY

Our Club has been enrolled by the A.S.A. into the new scheme to promote the teaching of swimming to young people. For the next 12 months all Beginners who learn to swim widths in our six month courses will receive, in addition to the certificates and badges we offer for successful attempts at the width and length at Riverside Pool, a Penguin "Learn to Swim" certificate and a cloth badge.

Please note that when the children swim a width it must be completed in a recognised stroke - either breaststroke, frontcrawl or backcrawl.

WATER SKILLS BADGES

Once the Beginners have mastered the three main strokes, we will be taking the Grade I Water Skills badge. This consists of ten simple activities such as swimming half a width on both back and front, blowing bubbles into the water, blowing a ball along in the water, floating without moving, etc. Eight out of ten activities must be successfully undertake to pass.

A badge can be obtained at a cost of 30p when the test has been passed.

VERRUCA SOCKS

We would like to remind all members of our rule on verruca socks. If you have a verruca you may wear sock SO LONG AS THEY ARE PUT ON BEFORE ENTERING THE BATHS PREMISES AND NOT REMOVED UNTIL YOU LEAVE THE PREMISES. Several socks have been found in the boys' changing rooms indicating that they have been removed before leaving the building. In order to keep verruca to a minimum it is important to be vigilant. If you see anybody taking off their verruca socks in the changing rooms, either tell them they are breaking our rules or tell one of the Club Officials. Also, if you know that somebody is swimming with a verruca and is not wearing a sock, inform us.

Please check your own feet once a week to make sure you unknowingly are not giving the infection to others.

ANNUAL GALA 24th SEPTEMBER, 1983

You will all be receiving your Entry Form shortly. These must be returned by 10th September latest.

We would like every Member to enter to ensure a good evening, so don't put off your Gala entry.

Please help your Club by selling as many Gala Raffle Tickets as possible. Every family will receive four books, total value £2 but if you can sell more please ask for additional tickets.

CLUB TRACK SUITS

We will be obtaining quotations for the most popular designs chosen by you in the recent competition and dependent on cost, we hope to have them available by the Autumn and a big THANK YOU to all those who submitted some excellent designs for selection.

MINI BAZAAR

Many thanks to all those who both contributed and bought items on a generally very poorly attended Club evening. Nevertheless we made a profit of £104 which will go towards coach hire costs etc. which are paid for by our Social Section, who this year so far have paid £520 for coaches to just four away Galas!

POINTS CUP

The final races have now been held and the winners decided, the Awards will be made at our Annual Gala - 24th September.

Thanks to all swimmers for your excellent support.

DARTFORD S.C. - "IT'S A KNOCKOUT"

Thanks to all our team and supporters for an enjoyable and very warm afternoon at this annual event.

This was the first time we have been invited and after a good start we finished a good sixth! But our supporters seemed to be the only ones in the true spirit of the event and gave plenty of verbal support, Thanks go to Irwin Parkhurst and Derek Byers for their organisation.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PERIOD

DISTANCE SWIMS

We will be holding Distance Swims during the school holidays on Tuesday evenings between 7.30 and 8.30 and also B.S.C.A. Middle Distance and Distance Swims for older Club swimmers. Please refer to the Notice Board for lists.

DIVING GROUP

A Diving class for those wishing to enter for these events in the Annual Gala will be held at 9.00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings from 26th July. Please see Notice Board for list.

FAMILY SPLASH NIGHTS

Will be held on the following Fridays from 8.30 - 9.30.

29th July
26th August
2nd September

All Members, parents, relatives and friends are welcome for an hour of fun, so please support us.

BEGINNERS' GROUPS

Will continue throughout the holidays as normal so please attend as often as possible.

TEACHING/TRAINING GROUPS

The top squad will miss training on SplashNights only as above, but during these three weeks Morning Swims sessions will be held. Groups between 7.30 and 8.30 on Tuesday evenings will be subject to some alteration owing to Distance Swims.

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR CLUB DURING THE HOLIDAY PERIOD. Remember all teachers and helpers give up their time freely and this period can be very lonely without some of your company!

HOLIDAY DATES

Please notify us of the dates you will be away and not attending the Club to enable us to mark the Register accordingly.

P. & A. BEDFORD

ELTHAM GALA - 30th APRIL

All six League members swam in this Gala. It was well hosted on this occasion by City of London. This was a slightly disappointing result for us as we only came third, but there were some good individual swims.

This result left us in third place in the League, 3 points behind the leaders City of London with one Gala left.

GALA AT REDHILL-REIGATE - 7th MAY

This Gala was held in an old fashioned pool in Reigate. It had a strange gallery for spectators at one end that reminded me of an old-time music hall. From a swimming point of view it was a very successful evening in which we ended up winners of a very acceptable trophy. Our older boys were in particularly good form with Andrew Callard and Mark Bragg doing very well.

A well-supported Gala and a very pleasant evening.

"B" GALA AT MARGATE - 14th MAY

A very eventful journey this, which you will read about elsewhere in this Newsletter.

This was a very pleasant pool to swim in with good spectator facilities and lots of room on the side.

We had a number of new young swimmers on their first Gala and despite nerves and the rigours of the journey, we witnessed some very good swims. We ended up quite easy winners. A special mention for Melanie Weekes with a very good win in the 2 Lengths 12 and under Backcrawl. Also Lindsay Goodes, Jennifer Grove, Stewart Brown having their first swims.

We did not get back to Erith until 11.30 p.m. so it was a very long evening and many thanks to all parents who came and supported us.

ELTHAM GALA - 28th MAY

This was the final Gala in this year's League. Only four teams were swimming. City of London, Greenwich, Dartford and ourselves,

Once again our team differed greatly from the previous galas due to birthday celebrations and people being unable to swim..

The team swam with a very good spirit and with many personal bests, we came out on top once again beating City of London our biggest rival in this League, into third place.

Our final League position for this year was second and I was very pleased with the performance and attitude of all swimmers throughout the series.

The new season starts again in November and we hope to be using as many swimmers as we can throughout.

HOME GALA - 11th JUNE

Our third Home Gala of the season and a very successful one from our point of view with our team coming first by over 50 points. With many personal bests and our usual great performance in relays the result was never in doubt.

A special mention for Stephen Arnott who, despite lack of training due to illness, swam very well recording personal bests in backcrawl and frontcrawl. Well done, Stephen and the rest of the squad.

Many thanks to all helpers and supporters and to Pam and Allan Bedford for their superb organisation of the whole evening.

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"B" GALA AT SITTINGBOURNE - 18th JUNE

With many children on holiday and unavailable due to Bexley Schools Gala, this was an ideal opportunity for us to "blood" some new swimmers.

The Gala was in an old-fashioned pool which was long and thin and made life very difficult on the side with the four teams crammed down one end. Under the circumstances all swimmers behaved very well and more important, swam very well and in a close finish we came third behind Rochester and Dartford.

Due to a bad P.A. system we did not know the scores as the Gala progressed and perhaps if we had known it was so close just a little extra effort might have won it for us.

A special "WELL DONE" to Stevie Wilcox, Neil Harris, Elizabeth Bruce and Glenn Thackray having their first swim for the Club.

Scores:-	Rochester 158
	Dartford 154
	Erith 149
	Sitting. 96

M.J. THACKRAY

P.S. Our team has had five wins in seven Galas. Please try to keep it up especially for BRIGHTON,TONBRIDGE, FAVERSHAM galas coming soon.

THE M2 ADVENTURE

On Saturday 14th May we were invited to go to a Swimming Gala at Hartsdown Pool, Margate, by Ramsgate Swimming Club. There was a coach going to the Gala and as usual it was full.

As we were going along the M2 Motorway we heard a loud BOOM - the front tyre burst. There was a great heave as the coach shook from side to side and slowed down quite considerably. All the swimmers at the back of the coach thought it was a joke and started laughing and screaming, but my Dad thought it was the end of us. The driver very surprisingly managed to pull the coach over to the hard shoulder exceedingly well but the coach didn't have a spare tyre'. What were we going to do now? It was 6.05 p.m. and the Gala started at 7.00 p.m.

The coach driver said he would try and thumb a lift to a phone, a lorry pulled up, the coach driver got in but a short way up the road the lorry stopped again. The driver was willing to give us all a lift to the swimming pool in the back of his lorry. The adults lined the way to the lorry along the Motorway verge and we all walked in single file to the lorry. It was a very high climb to get into the back so most of us had to be lifted up. Then some policemen stopped and asked what we were doing but when it was explained to them they let us continue as long as we sat down and the trailer behind us drppped off.

The doors were closed, it went very dark but as we moved off Mr. Thackray started singing so the rest of us joined in. The only source of light we had was from a Space Invader game and that only gave a green light. When we turned a corner everyone fell on top of each other.

The lorry driver took us right onto the car park of the swimming pool. Everyone was surprised when they saw us coming out of the back of the lorry laughing and singing, "He's a jolly good fellow" to the driver.

Mr. Thackray lost some hair with worry, but was alright at the end of the Gala because we won.

From contributions submitted by:-

Sammy Hayes
Marnie Thackray
The Watkins

BIGGIN HILL AIR FAIR

On the 15th May Peter Frost took some of the Swimming Club together with Mums, Dads and Friends to the BIGGIN HILL AIR FAIR.

We set off from the swimming pool in teeming rain, without a break in the clouds to promise better things to come.

Peter came in our car with his wife and two children, I thought that he and my Dad lost their way, but they tell me that the route was specially planned to take in areas of notable scenic beauty and rustic charm. I still think they lost their way.

When we eventually arrived there was a long wait to get in but we finally managed to get the car parked and I joined some of the other children in a rush to get to the fun fair. When our money ran out we returned, covered in mud, to the cars and tucked into our lunch.

After lunch we watched some of the display from the shelter of the cars and then at about three o'clock the clouds lifted, the rain stopped and the sun came out. We left the cars and waded across the field to the runway and managed to get a closer look at some of the events.

We watched a display of free fall parachutists, they were so high up that they looked like ants coming out of the plane. They waited a long time before opening their parachutes and then all landed close to the marker on the runway.

I enjoyed seeing the Lancaster bomber fly past with a Spitfire and Hurricane escort and then later on the dog fight which included a Messerschmitt 108.

I think the most fascinating part of the display was to see the Hawker Harrier fly past at about 600 m.p.h. and then come in on a second run, stop and hover in the middle of the runway, then after turning a few lazy circles tilt its nose to the sky and disappear like a rocket with a noise like thunder into the clouds.

It was soon time to go home, lost children were found, cars were extracted from the mud and we headed back to Erith, tired and dirty, but with a feeling that it was well worth the effort.

Thanks Peter for all the hard work that went into organising this and all the other outings.

Andrew Stevenson (aged 9)
(with a bit of help from Dad)

N.B. This was the 25th Outing (P.A. Frost)

BROWNIE & GUIDE GALA - SATURDAY 21st MAY

A month or two ago, the local press reported the results of Erith School's Swimming Gala. If you recall seeing the article then the honours read like a "who's who" and "who was" of the Club. The same could have been said of the recent Brownie and Guide gala held at Erith.

With representatives from nearly every Brownie pack in the Borough, even after allowing for heats, there were up to a dozen girls thrashing their way across the pool at one time. Yes, nearly all the Brownie events were of 1 width and this proved rather a doddle to competing Club Members Lindsey Goodes, Natalie Dickinson, Kirsty and Leigh O'Connor, Angela Lapsley and Sarah Goodman.

If our younger swimmers did us proud, then three girls literally stole the show in the Guide section of the gala. The fact that Emma Leathers, Marnie Thackray and Jackie Wood all belong to the 1st Slade Green Guides and proved an unbeatable combination, (even in the presence of other Erith

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/Continued BROWNIE & GUIDE GALA

(Claire Miller), ex Erith, Bexley and White Oak swimmers) and their individual and team performances ultimately won their Company the Guide Gala shield, by a very substantial points margin.

This was a fitting end to a hectic and sometimes amusing evening for Mick Thackray and myself (we had volunteered to be Starter and Announcer respectively) and it was one which saw both balconies filled to capacity as well as the poolside!

To all Club swimmers who took part in the Gala - WELL DONE!

DANSON SHOW - SUNDAY 10th JULY

Just a few lines to serve as a memory jogger and to say that we would be most grateful to Mums and Dads willing to make cakes (in any size, shape or form) for our fund-raising stall at the above event. Donations of ingredients or fruit fillings will be equally acceptable, and if you have any storage problems, Jill Thackray will be able to help you out.

DARTFORD CARNIVAL - SATURDAY 23rd JULY

Remember the fun we had when we entered a float in the Dartford Carnival procession two years ago? Well this year it's going to be even more fun. If any swimmers, Mums or Dads would like to take part, please add your name(s) to the list on the Club Notice Board as soon as possible. The only stipulation is that you will be required to wear fancy dress (!) to tie-in with the theme, 'Erith & District Swimming Club plays Fantasy Island' (remember the children's T.V. programme). This expands on our original idea and means that there are definitely 'no holds barred' on what you wear (or what you don't wear) The Carnival organisers are offering a prize for the best float, and the Club will be awarding a prize for the funniest and most ludicrous fancy dress outfit.

So don't miss this event, put your name(s) down now!

OTHER NEWS ITEMS

A total of £142.00 was raised by the Club Members who took part in the Mayor of Bexley's Sponsored Walk. Although 75% of this sum will be put towards the purchase of a tail-lift ambulance for the Borough's physically disabled, a donation of £35.50 was made to the Club. Many thanks to all who sponsored us.

Well done to all the Club swimmers who took part in the recent British Heart Foundation Sponsored swim. Those I know of who raised money towards this worthy cause were:- Kelly Brooker, Kieran Moreton, Cheryl Harris, Michael Halpin, Samantha Darvill, Graham Byers, Yvonne Halpin, Glenn Thackray, Joanne White, Martin Eastaugh, Lynn Young.

Congratulations to Mr. Stevenson (Andrew's Dad). who successfully undertook a Parachute jump at the end of May and hopes to raise around £500 towards Multiple Sclerosis research!

Pats on the back go to Martin Eastaugh, Andrew Stevenson and Stephen Ford who, suitable attired, recently gave a short talk about the Club during their School assembly. I understand that assemblies for that particular week were turned over to classes to give talks about hobbies and other activities, and with all three boys in the same class, there was only one subject possible. I hope the other 300 pupils present took note!

ADVERTISEMENT - Serious offers for a 'Biochemical Pathways' chart (size 6'x-4') from Peter Frost (swimmers who have been on any of my outings to Guy's Hospital will know what I'm talking about). Ideal for donation to your School.

Peter Frost

While other Club Members were preparing for the 'It's a Knockout' competition, Peter Frost was just completing his first Marathon at Mote Park, Maidstone. Peter completed the 26 mile Course in 3 hours and 33 minutes. He wishes to thank all Mums, Dada and Swimmers who sponsored him and helped to raise in the region of £200. The final sum will be split between the West Kent Cancer and Leukaemia Fund, the Muscular Dystrophy Group, the Kent and East Sussex railway and, of course, Erith & District Swimming Club.

I am sure Members will join in saying CONGRATULATIONS and WELL DONE to Peter and many thanks for his contribution to the Club.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to the following Beginners who have swum 1 Width and will receive a Club Certificate and Cloth Badge plus a Penguin 'Learn to Swim Certificate and an embroidered Penguin Badge.

Herbert Appleby	Joanne Isherwood
William Bell	James Mantell
Julie Botley	Helen Parkhurst
Christian Cook	Russell Preeble
James Cornelius	Richard Probert
Zoe Draper	Claire Rice
James Fisher	Rebecca Russell
Tracy Handy	James Tindall
Clare Harrap	

FURTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

B.S.C.A. MIDDLE DISTANCE

Martin Eastaugh	-	Bronze Breaststroke
Michelle Sartain	-	Silver Butterfly
Stephen Watkins	-	Bronze Individual Medley
Elizabeth Watkins	-	" " "
Melanie Weekes	-	" Back Crawl
Lynn Young	-	" Individual Medley

A.S.A. WATER SKILLS - GRADE 4

Stephen Browne
Rebecca Carragher
Jennifer Groce
Daniel Lewis
Nicola Payne
Keith Walker
Neil Harris

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

JULY

Saturday 2nd	Afternoon Outing to Brighton to tie-in with Gala at Prince Regent Pool, Brighton commencing 6.30. Double-deck Bus from Riverside at 12 noon (Adults £2.00, Child £1.00)
" 9th	Gala at St. Johns Pool, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells. Hosts Tonbridge S.C. Commences 7.15 p.m.
Sunday 10th	DANSON SHOW - Club Fund Raising Stall.
Saturday 16th	Dolphin Trophy Gala at Faversham Open Pool. Commencing 7.00 p.m.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS - Continued

<u>JULY</u>	Sunday 17th	ANNUAL CLUB OUTING to Westbrook (Margate). Bus from Riverside Baths at 8.45 a.m. Tickets now on sale Price £2.50
	Tuesday 26th	Distance Swims (400/800 metres) / B.S.C.A. Middle Distance.
	Saturday 23rd	DARTFORD CARNIVAL FLOAT.
	Monday 25th - Friday 29th	MORNING SWIM SESSIONS AT RIVERSIDE 9.00 - 10.00 a.m.
	Friday 29th	SPLASH NIGHT - 8.30 - 9.30
<u>AUGUST</u>	Tuesday 2nd	Distance Swims (1600 metres) / B.S.C.A. Distance
	" 9th	" " (400/800 metres) / B.S.C.A. Distance
	" 16th	" " (1600 metres) " B.S.C.A. Distance
	Monday 22nd - Friday 26th	MORNING SWIM SESSIONS AT RIVERSIDE 9.00 - 10.00 a.m.
	Tuesday 23rd	Distance Swims & B.S.C.A. (All Distances)
	Friday 26th	SPLASH NIGHT - 8.30 - 9.30
	Monday 29th	ERITHSHOW WITH CLUB FUND RAISING STALL
	Tuesday 30th - Friday 2nd September	MORNING SWIM SESSIONS AT RIVERSIDE. 9.00 - 10.00 a.m.
	Wednesday 31st	London Outing with Peter Frost (Details to be announced soon)
<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	Friday 2nd	SPLASH NIGHT - 8.30 - 9.30 p.m.
	Saturday 17th	Gala at West Wickham Pool. Hosts Bromley S.C. Commencing at 7.00 p.m.
	Saturday 24th	ANNUAL CLUB GALA at RIVERSIDE BATHS commencing 5.30 Entry Forms soon.
<u>OCTOBER</u>	Saturday 8th	Gala at Witham Dolphins, Essex.
	" 15th	Gala at Hythe (Nr. Folkestone)
	" 22nd	Gala at Hartsdown Pool, Margate. Hosts Margate S.C. commencing 7.00 p.m.
	Wednesday 26th	Family Ramble with Peter Frost, on the Isle of Grain.
	Saturday 29th	Gala at Eardley Road Pool, Sevenoaks. Commencing at 6.45 p.m.
<u>NOVEMBER</u>	Saturday 12th	Tudor 'B' Gala, Eltham commencing 6.00 p.m.
	" 12th	'A' Gala at Dagenham Pool
	" 19th	Gala at Wimbledon Pool. Hosts Merton Swordfish. commencing 7.00 p.m.
	Friday 25th	MINI BAZAAR at Riverside Clubroom commences 7.00
	Saturday 26th	Home Gala Riverside Pool. Commencing 7.00 p.m.
<u>DECEMBER</u>	Saturday 10th	Tudor 'B' Gala, Eltham commencing 6.00 p.m.
<u>1984</u>	<u>HOME GALA DATES</u>	
March	Saturday 10th	Commencing 7.00 p.m.
May	" 12th	" "
October	" 6th	E.D.S.C. Annual Gala. Commencing 5.30
November	" 17th	commencing 7.00 p.m.