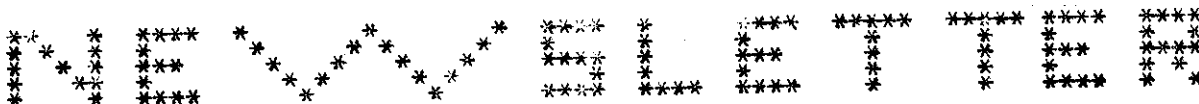


ERITH & DARTFORD SWIMMING CLUB



No.103

SEPTEMBER, 1983

SECRETARY'S NOTES

ANNUAL GALA

Entry Forms have been coming in well but we are still some short, so please return all Forms by our closing date Friday, 10th September.

Tickets will be on sale in advance and will be 60p for Adults and 30p for non-competing children.

The Diving, Breaststroke Style and Individual Medley Events will take place on Friday, 23rd September from 7.00 p.m. onwards. All classes except Beginners will be subject to alteration on this evening, but everyone should get a swim if not already competing.

The Gala starts at 5.30 on Saturday, 24th September.

TRACK SUITS

We have received several quotations from suppliers and will be ordering the favoured design in time for delivery before Christmas.

WHITE HORSE 'A' LEAGUE

We have joined this swimming League for an experimental season of six galas. The standard of swimming we will compete against is certain to be strong and we hope all Members selected will ensure they are available on the published dates as we must enter the strongest team available,

Clubs in the League include Bromley, Dartford, Woolwich (Greenwich Borough Mariners) and Maidstone.

If we are to maintain or further improve our present standards this League will, I am sure, be of great benefit.

	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Hosts</u>	
Dates to hand are:-	15th October, 1983	West Wickham	Bromley
	12th November, 1983	Fairfield Pool	Dartford
	12th May, 1984	Riverside Pool	Erith

BEGINNERS COURSES

We are again nearing the end of our Beginners' Courses - the first ones to be held under the Penguin Scheme. We are extremely pleased with the childrens' progress and they have obtained the best overall results we have ever achieved. Friday, 30th September is the last session of the present course for Friday beginners and Tuesday, 25th October the last session for Tuesday beginners. We regret that children who have completed one width or more cannot take a further beginners course with us, but children who have not attained a width certificate are welcome to apply for another course, although this will not necessarily follow on - depending on space availability.

Over the next weeks, until the end of the Course, you will see Mr. Ryan, Club Chief Instructor, looking at the children to select those who we feel are strong enough to be taken into the Club as full Members. The results of the selection will be displayed on the Notice Board on the last day of the Course. Children of ten or over will not be considered. On average, about four children from each class are selected for Club Membership. If you wish your child to continue swimming lessons, we advise you to join the Council Improvers Classes, but he/she is welcome to come for a test at any time so long as you feel they have improved.

P. & A. Bedford

DISTANCE SWIMS

Congratulations to the following who took part in the Distance Swimming during the holiday period.

<u>400 metres (1/4 mile)</u>	<u>800 metres (1/2 mile)</u>	<u>1600 metres (1 mile)</u>
Christopher Leathers	Stephen Browne	Kelly Brooker
Glenn Thackray	Andrew Eastaugh	Andrew Eastaugh
Keith Walker	Gary Ford	Martin Eastaugh
Mark Walker	Carman Gibson	Suzanne Groce
Joanne White	Suzanne Groce	Michael Halpin
Neil Young	Tara King	Yvonne Halpin
	Ben Knowles	Tara King
	Christopher Leathers	Lewis Knowles
	Barry Nay	Emma Leathers
	Mr. J. Pryor	Stuart Page
	Andrew Stevenson	Rebecca Pryor
	Glenn Thackray	Andrew Stevenson
	Mark Walker	Glenn Thackray
	Melanie Weekes	Julie Toy
	Robert Williams	Jackie Wood
	Joanne White	Robert Williams
	Neil Young	Neil Young

B.S.C.A. TIME AWARDS

Some excellent qualifying times have been achieved over the past few weeks and most of you should now have your badges etc. Congratulations to all

ACHIEVEMENTS

We have a "bumper-bundle" list of Penguin Award qualifiers who have all received cloth badges and certificates for their efforts.

<u>1 Width</u>		<u>1 Length</u>	
Leonard Appleby	Sally Hone	Leonard Appleby	Claire Foster
Laura Bedford	Tracy Jenner	Herbert Appleby	Joanne Isherwood
Robert Bird	Sally Lee	Laura Bedford	Sally Lee
Christopher Blackie	Paul Manning	Robert Bird	Alex Murphy
Alison Blackmore	Kirsty Morrison	Alison Blackmore	Neil Newby
Katrina Ciplinski	Alex Murphy	Christopher Blackie	Caroline Newton
Stuart Connolly	Neil Newby	Julie Botley	Helen Parkhurst
Stuart Cook	Caroline Newton	Katrina Ciplinski	Russell Prebble
Andrew Cornelius	Rachel Prebble	Stuart Connolly	Richard Probert
John Everett	Louise Quinn	James Cornelius	Claire Rice
Claire Foster	Graham Rackstraw	Christian Cook	Rebecca Russell
Tanya Hodson	Samantha Weaver	Zoe Draper	

Congratulations to the following who obtained their A.S.A. Water Skills Badges

<u>Grade I</u>		<u>Grade I</u>	<u>Grade 2</u>
Leonard Appleby	Zoe Draper	Helen Parkhurst	Laura Bedford
Herbert Appleby	John Everest	Rachel Prebble	William Bell
Laura Bedford	James Fisher	Russell Prebble	Robert Reid
Robert Bird	Claire Foster	Louise Quinn	Alex Murphy
Christopher Blackie	Claire Harrap	Claire Rice	Neil Newby
Julie Botley	Tanya Hodson	Rebecca Russell	Helen Parkhurst
Luke Cella	Tracy Jenner	James Tindall	Russell Prebble
Katrina Ciplinski	Paul Manning		Richard Probert
Stuart Connolly	James Mantell		
Christine Cook	Kirsty Morrison		
Stuart Cook	Alex Murphy		
Andrew Cornelius	Caroline Newtoh		
James Cornelius	Neil Newby		

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WATER SKILLS BADGES (Continued)

Grade 3

Michael Ford	Jamie Page
Jennifer Groce	Robin Parkhurst
Nicole Gurr	Bradley Scott
Mark Holmes	Julia Thomas
Nicola Holmes	Matthew Wenham
Christine Nay	Simon Wignall
Kirsten O'Connor	

Grade 4

Natalie Dickinson
Nicole Gurr
Kirsten O'Connor
Jamie Page
Glenn Thackray
Matthew Wenham

Grade 5

Stephen Browne
Natalie Dickinson
Nicola Holmes
Jennifer Groce
Christopher Leathers
Angela Lapsley
Barry Nay
Julie Toy
Glenn Thackray

Grade 6

Stephen Browne
Natalie Dickinson
Jennifer Groce
Nicola Holmes
Angela Lapsley
Barry Nay
Robin Parkhurst
Julie Toy

GALA HELD AT TONBRIDGE ON 9th JULY, 1983

This was a fairly 'low key' Gala with only three teams competing. It was held in one of the most pleasant pools in which we swim, at Tunbridge Wells with good spectator facilities and plenty of room on the side

Some excellent swimming by our older swimmers, especially Keith Affection who had only just recovered from his honeymoon, helped us to a good win. The result was in the balance right up to the last three relays and with plenty of support and good spirit it was a very satisfactory result.

Result:-	Tunbridge Wells Monson	146 Points	-	3rd
	Tonbridge Swimming Club	174	"	- 2nd
	E.D.S.C.	184	"	- 1st

FAVERSHAM GALA - 16th JULY, 1983

This is always a welcome event in our calendar being the only open-air pool in which we swim. It was all the more pleasant this year it being a very warm summer's evening.

We won this event last year but it seemed that Black Lion Club had put in an extra strong side this year after being narrowly beaten by us last time.

As usual our relay teams were in good form taking five races. There were some good individual swims also, especially by some swimmers who were called in at the last moment. It was unfortunate that many of our swimmers were on holiday on that particular date and, but for that I am sure we would have retained the trophy. An all round good performance.

Result:-	Black Lion	184
	Rochester	170
	Erith	162
	Maidstone	118
	Sevenoaks	97
	Faversham	90

COMPETITION SECRETARY'S NOTES

This first season for us has been very interesting with many high points and a few lows ranging from the excellent swim at Margate after the traumas of the coach journey, to the low of Sittingbourne when even I, who was on the poolside never saw half the Gala trying to cope with crying children and

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COMPETITION SECRETARY'S NOTES (Contd.)

asthma attacks in the changing rooms.

Jill and I have made a pact that we will start picking teams earlier in the evenings so that we can get to bed before about 1 a.m., but I don't suppose that will happen. Nevertheless we are looking forward to the new season with eagerness and some trepidation, as this year we will be swimming in two leagues, the Tudor League for our 'B' team and the White Horse League for our 'A' team. Also, for the first time we may be swimming two teams on the same evening as our A & B matches clash on some dates. This is going to stretch our organising abilities to the limits so may I give a few gentle reminders to swimmers and parents to watch the Notice Board every Club night and let us know as early as possible if somebody is unable to swim. We hope this will not occur very often.

If you have any question regarding team selection etc. that you may wish to ask, please speak to one of us on a Club night and we will try and answer your queries.

We wish all swimmers good fortune and hope we have a successful season. Lastly, we would like to thank all those who help us especially the parents who give lifts etc. and support us, and to all the Officials of the Club who help on the side at Galas. We hope this will continue.

Our phone number in case of any problems regarding Galas is ERITH 38910

J. & M. Thackray

AFTERNOON OUTING TO BRIGHTON TO TIE-IN WITH GALA - SATURDAY, 2nd JULY, 1983

When, last year, the Club received an invitation to swim at Brighton (home of the oldest established Swimming Club in Britain), the opportunity was thought too good to miss, even though we knew we would encounter strong opposing teams. So would it make the long journey there worthwhile? It was thought the answer lay in making an early start so that everyone could spend some of the afternoon in Brighton, and then follow on to the Gala in the evening.

As a result, swimmers and parents boarded a double-deck bus for the long journey to the famous seaside resort. This was to prove longer than anyone ever imagined as our driver was apparently prohibited from using the motorways.

Anyhow it was Glenn Thackray's birthday and the surprise presentation to him of a beautiful cake (iced as a swimming pool) along with the generous handout of other goodies, proved a highlight on the outward run. Having finally alighted in Brighton, spirits were dampened by the presence of a heavy sea mist. Nevertheless, we split up to go our own separate ways, some to explore and shop in the lanes and others for a visit to the Dolphinarium. Somewhat reluctantly, the boys I had with me sampled a slice of culture by visiting the famous Royal Pavilion. Predictably, nearly everyone ended up around the Pier and seafront amusement arcades.

To our relief, everyone returned to the rendezvous point, (outside Brighton's spanking new pool) at the allotted time. This probably made one of the largest gatherings of E.D.S.C. Swimmers, Mums and Dads and relatives to an away Gala, ever, but their usual fantastic support that has become a characteristic of inter-club Galas was to be somewhat muted by what was to occur in the pool that evening. I will allow our Competition Secretary to take up the story.

" As Peter says this was a very strong gala as we knew it would be often against opposition who were much bigger physically especially the "girls from Gosport". Nevertheless some very spirited swimming was produced by our team resulting in 34 Personal Best times being recorded but only 1 win, an excellent swim by Andrew Callard.

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Result:-	Gosport	271
	Brighton	228
	Beacon	156
	Dorking	145
	Margate	143
	Erith	125

Everyone returned home somewhat weary. Even the usual singing was below par! But, on the whole, everyone had found the previous 12 hours an enjoyable experience.

P.S. Even yours truly put in a personal best time!

P.A. Frost & M. Thackray

DANSON SHOW 9th & 10th JULY, 1983

Whether it was the heat, the entrance fee or the sheer number of stalls, the public seemed somewhat reluctant to dig into their pockets. This was particularly noticeable on the Saturday with our Card and Cuddly Toy stall. Even Sunday's huge crowds seemed to show little interest in buying cakes from a more convenient stall site. Anyhow, my constant barracking eventually brought attention to the wonderful array of home-made fancy cakes, gateaux, shortbread, bread pudding, popcorn, sausage rolls and fresh strawberries and cream that were on sale, so by the end of the afternoon everything had been sold.

Over the week-end we raised a total of £92.00 towards Club funds. Thanks for this must go to the Mums, Dads and swimmers who either made the goods, helped erect our stalls or acted as salespersons.

Thank you again.

WESTBROOK OUTING, SUNDAY 17th JULY, 1983

I'm not sure that I should be writing an account of our annual seaside jaunt, as while everybody was completing their journey to Westbrook I was passing Riverside Baths in a local 10 mile charity fun(-)run.

However I wasn't going to miss out on the fun, and after catching a train to Margate, I was soon down on the beach with the family. It immediately became clear that everyone was having a great time, as thanks to the hot weather nearly everybody else was out looning-around in the sea!

Unlike last year, there was the sun to enhance the tan or bring on the colour of a lobster. Consequently not so many swimmers decided to venture into Margate for a visit to Dreamland and so everyone else spent the afternoon playing beach games. The non-stop cricket was brought to a sudden end by Allan Bedford breaking the bat. Also, an unsuccessful attempt was made at Double-Dutch skipping using the Thackray's washing line! Anyhow, a rapidly advancing tide, all too soon, signalled it was time for home..... it had been a day thoroughly enjoyed by all.

DARTFORD CARNIVAL, SATURDAY 24th JULY, 1983

Following a hectic month, the last social event before the summer break was the entry of the Club float into the Dartford Carnival procession. In the annals of organisation, it had become one of the most worrying and frustrating, yet looked forward to, events we have ever undertaken.

Come the morning of the Carnival, it appeared that all our efforts might come to naught as, would you believe, after a succession of hot sunny days, it decided to rain! However in between showers we managed to complete the decoration of our lorry, transforming it into a stage for our theme, 'Erith and District Swimming Club plays Fantasy Island. Nearly all the swimmers

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DARTFORD CARNIVAL (Continued)

who had volunteered to ride on the float had agreed to wear fancy dress. Some had already arrived to lend a hand in decoration and hitch a lift into Dartford, their outfits and hairdos giving a taste of things to come.

The drive into Dartford was an experience in itself, but having reached Central Park all the other Swimmers were there ready to join us - well at least they had been Swimmers the night before, now they were transformed into punks, clowns, comic strip heroes, you name it, the looniest-looking mob in town!

At last the sun had broken through and as we proceeded to add the final touches to the float decoration and to have photographs taken, a certain rumour was confirmed with the appearance of Dartford Swimming Club's float. Unwisely they decided to park alongside our own with obvious results, but several of our rehearsed chants easily shouted them into submission!

Some Mums and Dads who had just come to drop off swimmers and have a laugh, were so impressed by our float, that they decided to join us on the back of the lorry bringing the number to over 40 people.

Amidst a great cheer, the procession finally moved off to slowly wend its way around Dartford. As usual our cheering and chanting was magnificent and we certainly let the roadside crowds know that we were coming. One unscheduled stop was even filled with a rendition of a Club favourite "The Music Man".

By the time we had returned to Central Park everyone was just about hoarse. Nevertheless, we summoned up one final extra loud chant as we paraded before Dartford's Mayor and Mayoress, leaving them I hope, in no doubt as to who was the greatest Swimming Club on the day. In addition we picked up a 3rd prize for our fancy dress.

Everyone had really had a great time and, sadly it only remained to dismantle the decorations from the lorry. No words can really describe the afternoon's adventures so if you missed out on the fun, Mr. Easthaugh's wonderful portfolio of photographs do full justice to the event, (copies are available at 30p each). In addition, the Social Committee decided to vote for the girl and boy who came in the most original, amusing and outlandish fancy dress. With everyone in such an array of costume, it was a very difficult decision especially with the Girls, but finally Kelly Brooker was elected the winner for her Belly Dancer cum Turkish Delight outfit. With the boys the unanimous decision was for Martin Easthaugh with his buxom Fairy Godmother outfit!

Well done to you all for being such great sports. We look forward to next year's Carnival with relish.

ERITH SHOW - AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY

Having already acquired a large quantity of odds and ends, we decided to run a Bric-a-Brac stall at this year's Erith Show. If you don't think that's very exciting, then you will be pleased to learn that we raised nearly £130.00 towards Club funds. It was all good fun in the process and we even had a barbecue on site at lunchtime. Well done and thanks to all Mums, Dads and Swimmers who helped make it such a successful day.

P.S. While on the subject of fund raising activities, there is a strong possibility that we will soon be holding a Jumble Sale, (see forthcoming events). So if you have any old clobber you want to get rid of, we will be happy to accept it any Club night. THANK YOU

OUTING TO WINDSOR, WEDNESDAY, 31st AUGUST, 1983

For eight people, five of them Club Swimmers, the recent outing to Windsor proved to be a day full of interest and excitement that was well worth every penny of the £6.00 fee. If you missed out, then read on as I reveal an insight into the day's action.

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OUTING TO WINDSOR (Continued)

After an early start, we travelled by train to Windsor via Waterloo, experiencing the 'rush-hour' and the new and impressive electric trains, (a far cry from our local rickety rolling stock).

The Windsor terminus being sandwiched between the River Thames and the Castle ramparts meant that two of the attractions were within easy walking distance, even for my son, Matthew. The first was Madame Taussaud's Royalty and Railways exhibition, and as the title implies, scenes, using restored rolling stock and their renowned wax figurwa, were re-erected to show the arrival of Queen Victoria and the Royal family at this actual station, during her Diamond Jubilee celebrations of 1897. Our visit here was concluded with a spectacular audio-visual presentation relating the 'growth of the British Empire during the reign of Queen Victoria and highlighting the lives of great people of the era (Dickens, Brunel etc.) using extremely lifelike moving and talking humanoids.

Then it was a short hop across the road for a visit to Windsor Castle, including a walk along the ramparts and a visit to see the ultimate Doll's House presented to Queen Mary (Queen to King George V) in 1925. Before we left, Marnie Thackray couldn't resist asking a sentry whether he was hot and bored in his duty - with the sun beating down on his bearskin-topped uniform, the answer was quite predictable.

We had lunch in nearby Home Park beneath the horsechestnut trees of the famous long walk and with the Castle as a back-drop. The scene was only spoiled by the constant noise of jets from Heathrow airport passing overhead.

After a period of unsuccessful 'conkering' we made our way to catch a bus to Windsor Safari Park. Once there, we unfortunately just missed a Safari bus that would take us through the wild animal reserve. Although we were able to take advantage of the vista afforded by the back seat on the next bus, some 40 minutes later, this delay put a 'spanner' in my schedule that ultimately led to a late arrival back home. Anyhow, the animals were great, the parrot show and amusements a lot of fun, but the cherry on the cake was still to come - the show in the Dolphinarium. This began with an added attraction, an exciting high-diving act from America. This was followed by the Dolphins who put on their usual remarkable performance to delight young and old alike. As you can guess, these large mammals produced considerable splashes, so you were warned that if you sat near the front of the auditorium, you were liable to get a soaking. Being a hot day, we did just that(!) so that by the time the finale by the Killer Whale had finished, Matthew and I remained the only dry members of our party. The rest squelched and dripped their way back to catch the return bus to Windsor station.

And so we reluctantly made our way back home after yet another tiring but thoroughly enjoyable day.

N.B. Details of the next Outing, a Ramble (see forthcoming events) will be appearing on the Club Notice Board in the near future.

FREE RAIL TICKETS FOR CLUB OUTINGS

Once again, British Rail in association with Lever Bros. are promoting a Free Rail Ticket scheme whereby tokens, collected from any of their domestic products can be exchanged for tickets. In previous years, your help in collecting tokens has enabled many swimmers to travel by rail on Club outings, free of charge. If you use any of the products listed below and do not intend to collect the tokens yourselves, I would be most grateful if you could cut them out and pass them onto me, - Peter Frost. I can then exchange them for respective rail tickets for use by swimmers wishing to go on future Club Outings.

The products are:- Persil, Comfort, Domestos, Jif, Sunlight Liquid & powder and Shield.

Thank you.

ADVERTISEMENT

Budding Scientists! Serious offers for a 'Biochemical Pathways' chart (size 6' x 4') going for free from Peter Frost, (swimmers who have been on Guys Hospital Outings will know what I am talking about) Ideal for donation to your School's Biology Dept.

WELL DONE!

To abigail and Elizabeth Bruce and Nina Walton. Having battled their way through the preliminary rounds of the annual Metropolitan Police Five-a-side Football competition, they went on to win the final held at Bexleyheath & Welling United's football ground on 10th August, with Abigail scoring both the winning goals. Having received attractive medals, if that was not enough, they now go on to the area final at Midland Bank's Sports ground, Beckenham on 25th September I wish them the best of luck.

P.A. Frost

BRIGHTON PIER TO PIER SWIM, SATURDAY, 23rd JULY, 1983

At the time we were causing a Breach of the Peace at the Dartford Carnival, three of our Members were in the rather chilly sea at Brighton - swimming in this annual event.

Our boys Club Daptain, Andrew Callard together with Kevin Hurley and Club Teacher Mr. Bill Lovett (well known for his long distance swims) were competing with 119 others in this swim of approximately 1 mile.

Competitors swam from the beach in calm conditions to a boat moored some way offshore to a mass start. Kevin finished 64th, Andrew 71st and Bill 107th a very creditable performance.

I am sure more of you including Mr. Ryan would have joined in but many were off on holiday on that day. Perhaps next year we will see a few more entries. (The minimum age is 14).

Mr. Bill Lovett has since swum in the annual Sandown to Shanklin Pier swim and will be swimming an even longer course of approx. 4 miles at Lowestoft in October.

A. Bedford

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	Saturday 17th	Gala at West Wickham Pool. Hosts Bromley S.C. Commencing 7.00 p.m.
	" 24th	Annual Club Gala at Riverside Baths. Commencing 5.30 p.m.
<u>OCTOBER</u>	" 8th	Gala at Witham, Essex. Coach from Riverside at 5.00 p.m.
	" 15th	White Horse 'A' League Gala, West Wickham. Hosts Bromley. (We have withdrawn from Hythe Gala)
	" 22nd	Gala at Margate Pool. Hosts Margate S.C. Coach from Riverside at 4.30.
	Wednesday 26th	Family Ramble with Peter Frost on the Isle of Grain. Details on Notice Board soon.
	Saturday 29th	Gala at Sevenoaks Pool. Hosts Sevenoaks S.C. commencing 6.45 p.m.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS - Continued

<u>NOVEMBER</u>	Saturday 12th	Tudor 'B' Gala at Eltham. commencing 6.00 p.m. White Horse 'A' League at Fairfield Pool, Dartford. Hosts Dartford S.C. (We have withdrawn from Dagenham Gala)
	Saturday 19th	Gala at Wimbledon Pool. Hosts Merton Swordfish S.C. Coach from Riverside 5.00 p.m.
	Friday 25th	MINI BAZAAR IN RIVERSIDE CLUBROOM. commencing 7.00
	Saturday 26th	Home Gala at Riverside commencing 7.00 p.m. Teams from Crowborough, Faversham, Streatham, Tonbridge and Margate.
<u>DECEMBER</u>	Saturday 3rd	Proposed DISCO at St. Martins Church Hall. (More details later)
	" 10th	Tudor 'B' Gala at Eltham. commencing at 6.00 p.m.
	(Four dates for the Sprint Trophy will be announced shortly)	
<u>1984</u>		
<u>JANUARY</u>	Saturday 21st	Tudor 'B' Gala at Eltham Commencing 6.00 p.m.
<u>FEBRUARY</u>	" 18th	Tudor 'B' Gala at Eltham. Commencing 6.00 p.m.
<u>MARCH</u>	" 3rd	Tudor 'B' Gala at Eltham. Commencing 6.00 p.m.
	" 10th	Home Gala at Riverside Pool. Commencing 7.00 p.m.
<u>APRIL</u>	" 14th	Tudor 'B' Gala at Eltham. Commencing 6.00 p.m. B.S.C.A. Standard Time Gala at Crook Log Baths. Hosts Bexley S.C.
<u>MAY</u>	Friday 11th	Mini Bazaar in Riverside Clubroom. Commencing 7.00 p.m.
	Saturday 12th	White Horse 'A' League at Riverside Baths Commencing 7.00 p.m. Hosts E.D.S.C.
<u>OCTOBER</u>	Saturday 6th	E.D.S.C. ANNUAL GALA commences 5.30 p.m.
<u>NOVEMBER</u>	" 17th	Home Gala Riverside commencing 7.00 p.m.

A D V E R T I S E M E N T

REPAIRS OR RENEWALS TO DAMAGED OR LEAKING ROOFS, CHIMNEY STACKS & GUTTERING

JOHN PRYOR

TELEPHONE: 01-301-0677

P.S. Whilst sewing name-labels into school uniform etc. for the new term, why not include swimming costumes, and write names in swim-caps, goggles etc? It would help solve our 'Lost Property' problems.