

NO. 114

SEPTEMBER 1985

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Congratulations to our Club Coach, Mr. Bill Lovett, on qualifying as an ASA Coach. Mr. Dave Hicks, ASA Regional Educational Officer at Crystal Palace Centre visited Riverside to see Bill in 'action' with our top squad and appeared suitably impressed by Bill's excellent work and commented favourably on our 'grass roots' level of activities.

TUESDAY CLUB SESSION

Despite our application to the Borough of Bexley for the return of our lost hour on Tuesday evenings from September for at least six months, we have now been informed that owing to the impending closure of Lamorbey Pool, Sidcup for new boilers to be installed and the re-location of activities and users based there, our time will, for the present, remain at two hours. However, we have been able to book the facilities at Dartford College Pool for the Autumn Term commencing from Wednesday, 2nd October, 1985 between 6.00 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. All younger swimmers who attended this alternative session will be able to re-commence from the above date, so please give us your support (all swimmers affected will be informed in due course).

AUTUMN PROGRAMME

We have a very busy three months ahead of us with the Annual Gala heats starting shortly and the Sprint Trophy and numerous away galas plus the White Horse 'A' and Tudor 'B' Series beginning again, a full list of dates can be found under 'Forthcoming Events'.

SUNDAY SWIMS

Just a reminder that all members are welcome to the Sunday Lunchtime Sessions between 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. Remember with a busy season coming up, this is an ideal time to get in some extra training. Please come along and join in. The cost is only 20p per session.

A. Bedford

INFORMATION FOR BEGINNERS

The present Beginners Course finishes on Friday, 27th September. During the next few weeks, all children who can now swim a width or more will be assessed by an independant official of the club for possible membership of the club. The children's regular teachers are also constantly assessing them. They are looking for talent and correct strokes but also, behaviour, age and attitude to work are taken into consideration. About a week before the end of the course, the teachers will get together and decide who should be asked to join as a member of the club. We usually accept a maximum of twelve children from the two classes and they are on three months trial to ensure they make further progress and whether they like the workload. The younger the child, the more chance of being offered a place. It also has to be born in mind that the next class is held in deep water and the child must therefore be confident out of their depth. We do not accept a child for a further Beginners Course if it has already done a width, and unfortunately, with the time the Council allots to us, we are unable to offer Improvers Classes. Any child who has not completed a width by the end of the course is eligible for a further course but due to the fact that the Council have taken an hour of our time on a Tuesday and the length of the waiting list, we cannot gurantee a place in the next course. We are pleased to have ex-beginners coming along for tests for possible entry to the club if they have got stronger since leaving the course.

P. Bedford

FROM OUR CLUB COACH

Thank you all for some great efforts over the past gala season, we had our share of triumphs with not too many disasters. I must say how very fortunate we are to have our enthusiastic group of "older" competitive swimmers, I am very grateful for their example and it shows that it is not necessary to take the attitude - "now that I have reached the grand old age of 18 years I can't hope to keep up with the younger swimmers, and it must soon be time for me to retire."

We commence training for a new competitive year in the middle of September and straight away we have the freestyle and breaststroke annual gala heats, a gala at Crowborough and the first of the new White House series, remember we won that one last year.

We will start off with the faster swimmers completing a training distance of 2,100 metres in September and gradually work up, by about one length a week, to a maximum of 2,700 metres by early January. The remaining swimmers should be 200 metres behind. One improvement that we expect to see from September onwards is that, on evenings which contain gala heats, sprint trophy or points cup races, swimmers will remain in the pool until 9.30 p.m. and not vanish after they have completed their swim.

Lastly, I must thank you all for your help and encouragement with my Club Coaches Award with a special thank you to Mick Thackray for his valued work on the poolside week after week with never a murmur of discontent.

W. LOVETT

NOTES FROM THE COMPETITION SECRETARY

You no doubt have been wondering why we have had to cancel three galas, firstly Maidstone, 6th July.

This was cancelled due to the late arrival of the programme from Maidstone. It is always at least three weeks prior to the gala that we receive the programme and in this case, we received it one week prior, to the Saturday date. This means it is almost impossible to select the swimmers and to contact parents accordingly, therefore we reluctantly withdrew.

Hastings, 13th July.

We had to withdraw from this event, due to the fact that, when we received the invitation for this gala, it gave certain age groups and when the programme came it included Open Age, which is any swimmers over seventeen years of age and when we look at the team competing, namely Bexley, Smiths, and also due to the fact that our older swimmers were competing in the Orpington Supersquad, it was agreed that in our best interest it would be better to withdraw than face embarrassment.

Erith, 14th September

With regard to the Home gala, it was originally decided to hold this gala in November, but then we decided that it would be better to hold the Club Championships in November rather than September due to holidays, and it was unfortunate that we had already had acceptances from four clubs for the November date, we then set to to find other clubs, but after 36 letters, no clubs could accept due to previous engagements, so this was cancelled.

From now until Christmas, we have an extremely heavy programme of galas and Leagues starting on 21st September at Crowborough, therefore, we again ask for your co-operation during this time.

T. HOLMES

NOTES FROM THE LEAGUE SECRETARY

White Horse League

The last gala of the series was held on 15th June which seems an age ago now after a very busy summer. We were pushed into fifth place on this occasion with all the other clubs bringing out their 'big guns' for one last effort.

We managed to retain our fourth place in the league though and this was quite pleasing.

Our new league season starts shortly with the White Horse gala on 28th September and the first Tudor League gala in early November.

Once again, I would appeal to all swimmers and parents that if a swimmer is picked to swim, he or she should make every effort to do so. I hope it is regarded as a privilege to swim for Erith and that every excuse should be used to swim and not the other way round. Usually, team sheets are up at least four club nights before a gala so please check if your name is on it or not. We understand that sometimes swimmers are not available and it is perhaps even more important that we know you can't swim, as soon as possible, than you can, so that another swimmer does not have it sprung on them at the last moment. Trevor and I, and our wives, have encountered and overcome most problems with swimmers over the last few years, so parents do not hesitate to ring if you need help with transport or anything else.

I am looking forward to the new season and I hope you are too.

M. THACKRAY

ORPINGTON SUPERSQUAD - 13th-14th JULY

If you have been recently watching Superman III on television, then you will no doubt admire his achievements. Well, what we witnessed on a sunny weekend in July must go down as the achievement of five mini Supermen, mini, basically because they cannot fly, but can do almost everything else. This epic adventure commenced on Saturday, 13th July on a Golf Course in Bromley at 8 a.m. when most self-respecting person is still having their beauty sleep and according to Sarah Byers "all this lot looked as if they should have turned over for some more beauty sleep."

Although the writer did not witness this event, it is understood that the famous five, John Murray, Julian Torreggiani, Andy Callard, Peter Frost, Bobby Game, well, held their own, although they do not expect to enter the British Open Championships next year. It is also reported that the sight of Bobby Game in full golfing uniform, trolley, bag and all, had a magnificent start on the first tee, lining up, swing, contact with the ball, looking into the far distance to see the light of the ball, how far did the ball go? You might ask. Well, it went a magnificent 24" but that embarrassment was forgotten, the team was still in the top four in fourth place, with four teams competing - not bad.

After that it was off to Streatham to the tenpin bowling in a superb old London Transport Greenline Bus. Not much can be reported on this event as the team struggled to find their bowling rhythm and at the end of the event they still held on to their place in the top four.

At this point the writer joined the excellent band of supporters at Norman Park, Bromley for the track events. Firstly the 4 x 100 m, they won this in excellent style and with the disappointment from the first two events fading into the past, with a new Superstar record as well. This win gave them 12 points.

Next came the discuss with again varied styles and poses but the end result was disappointing with a fourth place. But then things got a lot brighter with a resounding win in the 4 x 400m relay, but the most incredible performance came from the lads in the High Jump minor setbacks with below par performance from

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Peter and Andy but John and Bob fighting it out with Julian, who astounded everybody with his leaping of the bar. The best event on the track must have been the Steeplechase, with the sight of Andy turning green as he passed the post for the first time and Peter going on a mountain expedition on each hurdle. He even took an early bath in the water jump. This winning event took them well into the lead.

From this event it was off to the river for the rowing which passed fairly uneventfully and a third place. Then to the final event of the first day which was in the Swimming Pool. Well, I am afraid that this was somewhat of a let down with them only winning the 4 x 200 by some twelve minutes after comfortably winning the 4 x 66 and so to bed leading the field.

2nd Day

Again they were up with the lark for the cricket, which was a sight to see, with balls flying left, right and centre. This was no place to be a spectator!

With the archery, they all thought they were Robin Hood with their arrows and so to fourth place. Then off to the bar where most of them expected to stay for the day but they had to drag themselves to the dartboard to throw a few arrows and play like Eric Bristow. They started badly losing the first game, but then up stepped Peter with deadly accuracy not knowing what to throw for, hit the winning double eleven, that was 1-1, final game going reasonably well until Peter stepped up again and, flushed with success, threw again and he came up with the goods again to finish on double three. Well, everybody was astounded, except Peter, who knew exactly what he was doing. This meant that they were still heading the field but only just. Off now to the Gym, which most of them would argue was the most exacting of the lot, even those watching were tired out with the sight of John in extreme pain in the sit-ups, sweat flowing but coming up with the goods and so did all the lads. This gave them eight out of fourteen wins pretty good going with four events still to go. Staying in the Gym, we were then treated to a feast of table tennis, all being very hard pressed. Julian was on form with his long arms acting the part of an octopus. In the end, a result that made the overall very tight with a fourth place.

So to the Squash Court, which was again a sight to see, with Peter, who hadn't ever played squash in his life, doing battle and Andy, again a novice, no-one saw anything of Bob, had they banished him to an outside court or was he hiding? We will never know, but John again came up with the goods to give us two wins which kept us in the top four out of four in fourth place but still retaining our leading position.

We then entered the final stages in the Main Hall, with the Basketball, which as it turned out was nearly World War II and a bit, with an International Referee walking off the court in disgust, with Julian being taken out in mid air and then we knew Julian was nearly Superman because he started to fly, by the tackles he received, and may we remind you that Basketball is a non-contact sport. As it turned out, Julian ended up as Referee and player. which became difficult to say the least. In the end this was win number nine and only the football to come, which turned out to be the most exciting of all as it was a cliffhanger, with the team needing only second place. Well, they got off to a good start with a 1-0 win with Peter playing like Ray Clements in goal, saving magnificently and keeping the team in the hunt. Then disaster struck with a 1-0 defeat, this led to a frantic totalling up of points to find out what they needed to do well. The answer was a draw. This is what they achieved with a 0-0 draw, and everybody was still undecided as to the result due to goal difference

We were then moved into the main reception area where the results were given, and after the two days of hard work, endeavour and eighteen hard events, the five lads, John, Andy, Julian, Bobby and Peter were announced as winners, which was a terrific achievement for themselves and the club. Each were presented with tankards and a magnificent trophy. We must also thank the supporters who gave every encouragement to the lads, this was also remarked on by the opposing teams.

SOCIAL SECTION NEWS

Supersports

On behalf of the EDSC Supersports team, I would like to thank the following :-

Trevor Holmes - for giving up an afternoon in an attempt to make us better squash players

John Smith - for his time into giving us a crash course in Archery

All the swimmers, mums and dads who came along to give their usual unparalleled support over the course of the weekend, and last, (but by no means least) to the many mums and dads who, through their donations, in effect made it all possible.

Thanks again!

Westbrook Outing

On behalf of the EDSC Social Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to say 'thank you' to the Willcocks family for kindly allowing us the use of their speedboat! With rides and water-skiing, this added another dimension to an already enjoyable day at the seaside.

Dartford Carnival

Fantastic! Brilliant! Wonderful! Hang on a moment! Let us begin by saying that way back in April the Social Committee had decided against entering this year's Dartford Carnival! Unbelievable, maybe, but we were not too impressed with the Carnival's theme of 'International Youth Year' (IYY) or with the organisers for that matter who had just given us an official 'telling off' for collecting money and throwing 'cannonballs' in the previous year's event (for new members, we were depicting HMS Victory).

Then the Picardy School fete came along involving a series of Chariot Races as one of its attractions. We decided to enter several teams, but for a brief period of 'glory' it seemed to us such a shame to spend so much time on constructing our chariots that it would make it more worthwhile if they could be used again, thus forming the basis for a Carnival entry.

With renewed enthusiasm, ideas began to flow and the size of our processional contingent just grew and grew and grew! And grew it certainly did! An unprecedented 80% of club members, along with many mums, dads and friends were to take part, making it bigger than all the other Carnival entries put together. We were one of the few organisations to follow the Carnival's theme and to fulfill its slogan 'Peace, Participation and Development' and we were certainly the only one to display the official 'IYY' logo.

Of course, we all have our own personal memories of the July afternoon, and it would have seemed such a shame had that all there been left to remind us of such a wonderful time, but for Ian Bulmer's superb portfolio of photographs. These will survive as testimony to another pinnacle of achievement in the club's history.

What superlatives remain to be said? Many of you will have read Jill Thackray's 'thank you' letter so I will not repeat it's contents here. But the success goes beyond winning the trophy for 'Best Processional Group' or for simply advertising the club's name. It really lies in the event bringing everyone together, closer than ever before, reinforcing our belief in showing just what a friendly and close-knit club we are and of one which I hope, like me, you feel proud to be a member of. Well done everyone!

P.S. A rumour abounds that due to financial reasons, the 1985 Dartford Carnival could sadly well have been the last. Do not despair, for if this is the case, we will endeavour to find an alternative carnival or the like into which we can channel our talents and enthusiasm next year. So, if you were one of the few who for some reason missed out, prepare yourself for '86!

Copies of the Carnival photos have been ordered and should be available shortly at 40p each. If anyone possesses any photographs of the club Carnival procession other

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than those taken by our 'official' photographer, we would dearly love to see them. Whilst on the subject of photographs, those taken on club outings during the past year will be available for your perusal soon. Please keep an eye on the club noticeboard.

Bank Holiday Monday

On behalf of the Social Section Committee Members, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all mums, dads and swimmers who donated items towards our two stalls at Erith and Bexley for the respective shows on Bank Holiday Monday. I would like to extend a special thank you to those of you who became salespersons or face-painters on the day, helping to raise the magnificent combined sum of just over £400. Well done all!

Well Done...

To Julian Torreggiani whom in addition to his important role in the 'Supersports' victory, has had success high-jumping in the Kent Championships (fourth) and London Youth Games (fourth).

To Mark Russell who came first in a recent NALGO fun run around Danson Park (yours truly was fifth in the open event). Following on from this success, at the open athletics meeting in Erith Stadium, held in conjunction with the Erith Show, Mark came a very creditable second in the Boys' 1,500 m event, against local running club members, and received a very nice medal for his efforts.

To David Springham who won two trophies at a recent BMX race meeting at the Barnehurst track.

P.A. Frost

ACHIEVEMENTS

1 WIDTH

Clive Allford
Ian Aldridge
Katharine Attridge
Rowan Blake
Paul Bates
Joanne Clancy
Robert Clark
Martin Cotmore
Lisa Ciplinski
Hannah Daly
Andrew Day
John Dominey
Elizabeth Emmett
Natalie Gurr

1 WIDTH

Paul Haslett
Philip Haslett
Bryan Jones
Samantha Little
Ian Magness
Neil Peaper
Laura Peck
Sally Portis
Catherine Quirke
Kieran Quirke
Jennifer Still
Victoria Sullivan
Helen Wright

1 LENGTH

Katharine Attridge
Rowan Blake
Joanne Clancy
Martin Cotmore
Hannah Daly
Andrew Day
Paul Dickens
Daniel Eaton
Natalie Gurr
Neil Peaper
Kieran Quirke
Victoria Sullivan
Helen Wright

All receive EDSC certificates and badges along with Penguin awards.

ASA Water Skills

GRADE 1

Ian Aldridge
Katharine Attridge
Clive Allford
Paul Bates
Rowan Blake
Robert Clark
Lisa Ciplinski
Joanne Clancy
Sonya Cox
Martin Cotmore
Hannah Daly
Andrew Day

GRADE 1

Paul Dickens
Victoria Eaton
Daniel Eaton
Elizabeth Emmett
Mark Grimes
Daniel Howlett
Paul Haslett
Philip Haslett
Bryan Jones
Samantha Little
Sally Portis
Neil Peaper

GRADE 1

Laura Peck
Kieran Quirke
Catherine Quirke
Jennifer Still
Victoria Sullivan
Ben Thompson
Ross Timms
Paul Watkins
Sarah Whitewood
Janine Wright
Helen Wright
James Willcocks

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GRADE 2

Ian Aldridge
Katharine Attridge
Rowan Blake
Joanne Clancy
Martin Cotmore
Faul Dickens
Andrew Day
Hannah Daly
Maxine Draper
Victoria Eaton
Mark Grimes

GRADE 2

Daniel Howlett
Bryan Jones
Samantha Little
Laura Peck
Neil Peaper
Kieran Quirke
Catherine Quirke
Jennifer Still
Victoria Sullivan
James Willcocks
Janine Wright
Helen Wright

GRADE 3

Jennifer Attridge
Richard Cane
Mark Cutler
Iain Cunningham
Maxine Draper
Lisa Flowers
Claire Garrett
Natalie Jones
David Springham
Amanda Stevens
Joanna Stevens

GRADE 3

Laura Bedford
Christopher Blackie
Katharine Brook
Sarah Brook
Christine Nay
Sasha Rider
Simone Rider
Jonathan Watkins
James Watkins
James Willcocks
Steve Willcocks

DISTANCE SWIMS

Congratulations to all those who swam so well in our August Distance Swims :-

1/4 MILE

Jennifer Attridge
Katharine Brook
Roy Burdett
Carley Burt
Richard Cane
James Cornelius
Iain Cunningham
Victoria Eaton
Lisa Flowers
Lee Gilbert
Gary Lupton
Alicia Mitchell
Sasha Rider
Simone Rider
Andrew Smith
Amanda Stevens
Joanna Stevens
Ann Waller
James Watkins
Matthew Wenham
Spencer Wenham
James Willcocks
Steve Willcocks

1/2 MILE

Laura Bedford
Katharine Brook
Sarah Brook
Carley Burt
Iain Cunningham
Lisa Durrant
Andrew Eastaugh
Martin Eastaugh
Victoria Eaton
Lisa Flowers
Lee Gilbert
Gary Lupton
Alicia Mitchell
Helen Parkhurst
Stuart Peaper
Sasha Rider
Simone Rider
Andrew Smith
Amanda Stevens
Joanna Stevens
James Tindall
Ann Waller
Jonathan Watkins
James Watkins
Ben Watt
Natalie Webster
James Willcocks

1 MILE

Laura Bedford
Eleanor Beeke
Christopher Blackie
Katharine Brook
Sarah Brook
Elizabeth Bruce
Debbie Carrad*
Claire Conner
James Cornelius
Lisa Durrant
Helen Fraser*
Daniel Howlett
Keith Jones
Gary Lupton*
John Merrifield
Alicia Mitchell
Rebecca Russell
Andrew Smith
Lorraine Stevens
Claire Tindall*
Jonathan Watkins
Ann Waller
Natalie Webster*
Victoria Willoughby

All receive certificates and badges.

* BSCA Bronze Award qualifiers.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- SEPTEMBER Saturday 14th Sorry, Home gala, Riverside cancelled due to non-availability of other teams
- Friday 20th Annual Gala Freestyle heats at 8 p.m.
- Saturday 21st Away gala at Crowborough Beacon School, Sussex. Coach from Riverside at 1.30 p.m. starts 3 p.m.
- Friday 27th Annual Gala Breaststroke heats at 8 p.m.
- Saturday 28th White Horse 'A' League Gala, Ladywell Pool, Lewisham
- OCTOBER Friday 4th Annual Gala Backstroke heats at 8 p.m.
- Saturday 5th Away gala Witham, Essex. Hosts Witham Dolphins S.C.
- Friday 11th Annual Gala Butterfly Heats at 8 p.m.
- Saturday 12th Leisure Pool outing to Larkfield. Coach from Riverside. Sorry tickets sold out.
- Saturday 26th Away gala at Leatherhead commencing at 6.45 p.m. Coach from Riverside at 5 p.m.
- Wednesday 30th Half term family ramble to East Sussex - Burwash, Brightling, Bodiam - details to follow soon
- NOVEMBER Saturday 2nd White Horse 'A' League Gala (provisionally at Fairfield Pool, Dartford)
- Friday 8th Annual Gala Individual Medley heats at 8 p.m. Breaststroke Style at 7 p.m. Diving at 7 p.m.
- Saturday 9th Tudor 'B' League Gala at Eltham commencing at 6 p.m.
- Friday 15th Annual Gala Individual Medley Finals 8 p.m.
- Saturday 16th Annual Gala Finals Night at Riverside commencing at 5.30 p.m. Guests of honour include Mr. John Carter KCASA President 1985.
- Friday 22nd Sprint Trophy - Butterfly commencing at 8 p.m. Also Xmas Mini Bazaar at 7 p.m.
- Saturday 23rd Away Gala at Whiteoak, Swanley 'A' Team Bexley Borough Youth & Community Service Swimming Gala 'B' Team (provisional)
- Friday 29th Sprint Trophy Backstroke commencing at 8 p.m.
- Saturday 30th Away Gala Fairfield Pool, Dartford. Hosts Dartford District S.C. commencing at 6.30 p.m.
- DECEMBER Friday 6th Sprint Trophy Breaststroke commencing at 8 p.m.
- Saturday 7th Away gala at Kingsmead Pool, Canterbury Tudor 'B' League Gala at Eltham at 6 p.m.
- Friday 13th Sprint Trophy Freestyle commencing at 8 p.m.
- Saturday 14th Xmas Disco at Scout Hall, rear of St. Martins Church, Erith Road, Bexleyheath near Bus Garage
- Friday 20th Sprint Trophy Winners presentation at 8 p.m. followed by 'Fun Evening'
- (Christmas and New Year Club sessions to be confirmed later)
- JANUARY Saturday 18th Tudor 'B' League Gala at Eltham at 6 p.m. White Horse 'A' League Gala (Baths to be advised)
- FEBRUARY Saturday 15th Tudor 'B' League Gala at Eltham at 6 p.m.
- Saturday 22nd White Horse 'A' League Gala Hosts EDSC (Baths to be advised)

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MARCH Saturday 15th Tudor 'B' League Gala at Eltham at 6 p.m.
Saturday 22nd Home Gala at Riverside Baths, commencing at 7 p.m.

APRIL Saturday 12th Tudor 'B' League Gala at Eltham at 6 p.m.
Saturday 19th White Horse 'A' League Gala (Baths to be advised)

MAY Saturday 10th Tudor 'B' League Gala at Eltham at 6 p.m.
Saturday 17th White Horse 'A' League Gala (Baths to be advised)

JUNE Saturday 14th White Horse Reserve Gala (provisional only)

JULY Saturday 5th Home Gala at Riverside commencing at 7 p.m.

OCTOBER Saturday 18th Annual Gala Finals Night commencing at 5.30 p.m.

NOVEMBER Saturday 29th Home Gala at Riverside commencing at 7 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