



NEWSLETTER

MAY 1996

Issue :-156

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Annual Gala Finals 1996

Our Annual round of Heats and Finals will in future years be held during the March - April period, similar to our recent competition.

The Sunday finals of the four strokes produced just two new club records. First from our Southern Counties Champion **Darren Chappell** in the 12/U butterfly and **Tony Lawrence** in the 16/U butterfly.

Tony's for the first time beat his great friend Paul Nicholls and with a new club record in the process it was certainly a special event.

Many thanks to all our officials and helpers this year.

Next years' dates are published already, so please make a note in your diary.

Annual Gala Awards

Boys' progress

Girls' progress

Boys' swimmer of the year

Girls' swimmer of the year

Phillip Brown

Elizabeth Haynes

Darren Chappell

Hannah Spencer

All will hold these prestigious awards until the next Annual Gala - congratulations!!!

CLUB ANNUAL INTERNAL COMPETITIONS GUIDELINES

Internal competitions are defined as follows:-

1. Annual Gala Heats and Finals
2. Sprint Trophy Series
3. Points Cup Series
 - a) Dates will be published at least six months in advance.
 - b) In only very exceptional circumstances (i.e. closure of the pool) no dates will be altered after publication and then only at the instigation of the Committee who will publish a notice of any change of date and the need for such a change.
 - c) Heats will proceed in age group order or as published in the programme and any variance from this will be at the discretion of the acting referees at the time of the event.
 - d) Whilst every precaution will be taken to ensure dates do not clash with significant outside swimming events such as County School Swimming Championships and will be selected using the ASA Annual Calendar as a guide. We regret that no swimmer will be able to compete in any event they were unable to attend either before or after the published date and time under any circumstances.
 - e) All competing members are expected to participate in all annual competitions.

British Long Distance Swimming Association One hour Postal Swim

Everyone who took part this year should by now have their embroidered badges to mark their achievement.

This year two swimmers achieved medal placing. They were **Darren Chappell** bronze medal 10/11 age group, total swimmers in the group were 148 and **Clare Ross** silver medal Ladies 30/34 age group with 16 swimmers in the group.

Other good placing included:-

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age group</u>	<u>Total swimmers</u>
38	Shelley Carver	Girls' 10/U	147
4	Louise Griffiths	Ladies 20/24	10
5	Sharon Knapman	Ladies 35/39	31
6	Pat Griffiths	Ladies 50/54	18
6	Irene Murphy	Ladies 60/64	21
12	David Peach	Boys' 10/U	134
13	Phillip Brown	Boys' 10/U	134
6	Niki Brandsetter	Boys' 11/U	148
30	Martin West	Boys' 11/U	148
9	Andrew Bates	Boys' 13/U	92
22	Peter Gravell	Boys' 13/U	92
5	Paul Graimes	Mens' 25/29	25
15	Tim Wilkes	Mens' 35/39	42
20	Dave Walker	Mens' 40/44	37

Allan Bedford

JUNIOR SPEEDO LEAGUE

Round 2 - Held at Harlow - 21st April 1996

Again another comfortable third position was obtained being beaten only by Griffins of Enfield and Braintree. We now have to wait and hope this was enough to put us into the top six gala and not the consolation final.

All swimmers swam brilliantly, a total of 41 PBS'. Congratulations to **Darren Chappell** who not only got a PB in 12/U two lengths backstroke but also got a new club record in the 12/U 2 lengths butterfly. Also, well done to **Niki Brandsetter** who came first in the 11/U 2 lengths butterfly and 2 lengths freestyle.

The 12/U boys **Darren Chappell, Lee Scott, Adam Bayne and Mark Nicholls** were brilliant in both the medley and freestyle relays in which they came first.

Well done to **Warren Jones, George Warnes, Billy Jenkins, Danny Bayne and Lee Smith** who swam wonderfully to gain first place in 9/U boys freestyle and second place in the medley.

Result:	1st	Griffins	213.5 points
	2nd	Braintree	184.5 "
	3rd	Erith	167 "
	4th	Harlow	138 "
	5th	St Albans	108
	6th	Rochford	83 "

Glen Fuller

OCTOPUS LEAGUE

Gala 2 - Held at West Wickham - 30th March 1996

This was our first return to West Wickham pool where all Octopus galas used to be held before the two fires which had closed the pool for many months.

We had problems from a shortage of selected swimmers who had not ticked/crossed the team list indicating their availability, resulting in part of the day of the gala being spent trying to find other swimmers to fill the places, which was not a complete success.

After our win at the first gala the other clubs seemed a bit more competitive, resulting in us finishing fifth place. We had two disqualification's, one by an inexperienced young swimmer in the relay take over, but the object of these galas is to give them the experience they need to swim against other clubs.

We had three newcomers to our team. They were:- **Emma Wallace, Christopher Gladwell and Graham Baker.**

First places were achieved by **Mark Whent** 11/U breaststroke, **Peter Webb** 16/U backstroke and **Daniel Richards** 13/U backstroke. There were 21PBS'.

Well done to all swimmers.

Result:	1st Barracuda	186 points
	2nd Croydon	164 "
	3rd Eltham	147 "
	4th Dartford	139 "
	5th Erith	134 "
	6th Woodside	91 "

Gala 3 - Held at Walnuts Orpington - 18th May 1996

Once again a very competitive gala with very close finishes. We had 32PBS' and finished in fourth place. There were two disqualification's, once again through the inexperience of our younger swimmers.

There were two newcomers to the team **Rachel Hazzard** and **Emma Phillips**. First places were achieved by **Beth Keech** 13/U breaststroke, **Helen Shepherd** 13/U butterfly, **Emma Phillips** 11/U breaststroke and our medley relay team of **Simon Barrett, Emma Phillips, Mark Whent** and **Nadia Saleh**. Congratulations to these swimmers and the rest of the squad.

Result:	1st Eltham
	2nd Bromley
	3rd Dartford
	4th Erith
	5th Woodside
	6th Streatham

If there are any parents who attend the Octopus galas that would be prepared to write a brief report for the newsletter please let Penny Spencer or myself (Dave Lawrence) know as this would be very much appreciated.

Dave Lawrence

TUDOR LEAGUE

Red Team

Round 4 - Held at Eltham - 17th March 1996

As a new parent to the competitive swimming I found Eltham a very enjoyable evening. After a minutes silence to remember the children and teacher of Dunblane it was all stations go for a fast and furious competition. There were three debut swimmers **Daniel Brown, Christopher Gladwell and Hayley Gough**, who all swam very well. A special thank you to Trevor Holmes for stepping in at the last minute to complete a very successful squad, he proved there is still life left in the old dog ! I sat next to Peter Frost who was in fine vocal form (ensuring our swimmers stayed in the water until they were told to leave the pool) and I was keen to learn how the professional spectator completed the score card
On looking at the results I see a large number of PBS', that all any proud parent can ask.

Well done Red Team, lets' be the best and be at top of the League at the end of the season.

Result:	1st Erith Red	244 points
	2nd Darford	183 "
	3rd Eltham Stingrays	173 "
	4th Greenwich	165 "
	5th Bromley	152 "
	6th White Oak	145 "

Martin Smith

Round 6 Held at Eltham - 4th May 1996

This was an exciting gala we were in constant battle with the Dartford team. They always seemed to be on top, until three first places from **Mark Nicholls** 12/U butterfly, **Stacey Hoare** 15/U freestyle and **Matthew Walker** 15/U freestyle put us two points ahead. By the end of event 24 Dartford and us had an equal number of points, but after this our swimmers really made a big effort and with many first places we went on to win the gala.

Other individual winners were: **Tracey Thomas** 12/U breaststroke and backstroke, **Lee Gilbert** open freestyle, **Matthew Walker** 15/U backstroke, **Emma Porter** open breaststroke, **Mark Holmes** open breaststroke, **Shelley Carver** 10/U freestyle, **Mark Nicholls** 12/U backstroke and **Stacey Hoare** 15/U breaststroke.

There were victories for many of our relay teams, the mixed breaststroke - **Shelley Carver, Lee Smith, Tracey Thomas, Stephen Kihara, Stacey Hoare, Amit Hindocha, Emma Porter and Lee Gilbert**. The boys 15/U medley - **Matthew Walker, Amit Hindocha, Peter Gravell and Liam Whitmore**. The girls open medley - **Martina Cooley, Emma Porter, Lauren Peile and Joanne Mays**. The girls freestyle - **Tiffany Brown, Laura Thorogood, Hayley Gough, Gemma Merridan, Joanne Frost, Nicola Shepherd, Joanne Mays and Sara Case** and finally the girls 12/U team of **Gemma Merridan, Gemma Tippett, Tracey Thomas and Hayley Gough** who won both the freestyle and medley.

It was a successful night for Erith Red and with thirty three PBS'. Well done to the whole team.

Result:	1st Erith Red	238 points
	2nd Dartford	206 "
	3rd Erith White	205 "
	4th Greenwich	162 "
	5th Eltham Stingrays	132 "
	6th GBM	118 "

Sue Kihara

White Team

Round 5 - Held at Eltham - 20th April 1996.

Under incredibly hot conditions the evening didn't start too well. There were no programmes so it was difficult to keep track of the scores.

The evening certainly improved as it became quite obvious we were more than capable of winning this gala, and win it we did by forty one points.

We had fifteen 1st places and recorded 57 PBS'.

Result:	1st Erith White	230 points
	2nd Bromley	189 "
	3rd Dartford	173 "
	4th White Oak	165 "
	5th GBM	151 "
	6th Eltham Stingrays	149 "

Linda Banwell

Round 6 - Held at Eltham - 4th May 1996

Another good turn out by both swimmers and supporters. Everyone swam with passion and great effort, gaining five 1st places in the relay races and five 1st places in the individual events.

Lisa Dyer competed in her first gala and gained a PB, well done **Lisa**. PBS' were also achieved by **Clare Greenaway, Rikki Ferguson, Natalie Walker, Martin West, Adam Bayne, Peter Webb, Nicholas Fowler, David Peach, Matthew Banwell, Rory Jenner** and **Marc Merridan**.

The scoring for second and third place was very close, so close that after event fifty, Dartford and Erith White were neck and neck on two hundred points. Dartford beat us by one point at the end of the gala.

Well done everyone and remember there is always next time.

Result:	1st Erith Red	238 points
	2nd Dartford	206 "
	3rd Erith White	205 "
	4th Greenwich	162 "
	5th Eltham Stingrays	132 "
	6th GBM	118

Tracy Ferguson

White Horse League

Gala 3 - Held at Swanley - 30th March 1996

As ever with White Horse League Gala's the atmosphere was quite exciting and now doubly so because this season we are entering two teams.

White Team got off to a bit of a slow start which is unusual for them, but that didn't last for long and from race sixteen they started to pull away in style.

Apart from twelve PBS' there were two new club records achieved, one by **Niki Brandsetter** for 11/U butterfly and **Andrew Bates** for 110 yds butterfly, so a special pat on the back to those two boys.

Red Team also excelled themselves, there were twenty six PBS' obtained between them, which goes to show they must have given all they had to try and beat even their own club mates.

A special mention should go to **Amy Sharp** who knocked five seconds off her current PB in the 11/U butterfly and to **Peter Gravell** who only managed to be in the race by the skin of his teeth, for some reason he wasn't on the blocks at the start of the race, but fortunately the starter gave Mick a chance to find him. Once Peter got into the water he made good his error by knocking seven seconds off his current PB for 13/U backstroke.

Good old Trevor Holmes saved the day for the Red Team by swimming in place of Sam Hayes in the open medley relay by putting the Red Team in the lead on his length even though he swam without his trunks! Oops 'sorry' I mean club trunks. Overall the evening was great, White Team had a convincing win and Red Team did really well by ending up only five points behind Bromley. So watch out Bromley we're catching up!!

Result:	1st Erith White	96 points
	2nd White Oak	104 "
	3rd GBM	126 "
	4th Bromley	174 "
	5th Erith Red	179 "

Annette Partlett

Kent Championships held February and March

Results in this year's Kent championships were the best that the club has ever achieved with most swimmers making the finals and for the first time in the history of the club we had Gold medal winners at Kent level.

Over all we won **7 gold, 6 silver and 4 bronze - well done to all swimmers.**

Congratulations to **Niki Brandsetter** who swept the board in his age group and won 4 gold, 1 silver and broke two Kent records. **Darren Chappell** won 2 gold and 3 silver which included a silver in the 400m freestyle, he also broke the Kent record in the 12yrs Butterfly and made the qualifying time for National Age Group Championships which are being held later in the year at Crystal Palace. **Hannah Spencer** had her best overall results this year winning the 127/18 yrs 100m Breaststroke and getting a silver in both the 100m Backstroke and 200m Breaststroke, she just missed out on the entry time for the National Championships in the 200m Breaststroke but she is still hoping to qualify when she swims the Southern Counties.

The 4 bronzes were won by an **Ian Magness** in the 17/18yrs Backstroke, this was also his best result from previous years'. **Lee Scott** swimming in his first Kents won a bronze in the 12yrs Freestyle he also had the fastest time in the Breaststroke but unfortunately was disqualified. **Andrew Bates** who has not been 100% fit only swam three races this year, but still won 2 bronze one of which was for the 200m Butterfly. Best of luck to **Niki Brandsetter, Darren Chappell, Andrew Bates and Hannah Spencer** who have qualified to swim in the Southern Counties Championships which are being held at Crystal Palace Starting in May.

RESULTS - FINALISTS

Niki Brandsetter	1st 10/11 yrs Individual Medley (Kent Record) 1st 10/11yrs Backstroke (Kent Record) 1st 10/11yrs Butterfly 1st 10/11yrs Freestyle 2nd 10/11yrs Breaststroke
Darren Chappell	1st 12yrs Butterfly (Kent Record) 1st 12yrs Individual Medley 2nd 12yrs Freestyle 2nd Backstroke 2nd 12yrs 400m Freestyle
Lee Scott	3rd 12yrs Freestyle
Andrew Bates	3rd 14yrs Freestyle 3rd 14yrs 200m Butterfly 6th 14yrs Backstroke
Ian Magness	3rd 17/18yrs Backstroke
<u>Paul Nicholls</u>	5th Junior 50m Freestyle
David Sharrad	1st Reserve 15/16yrs Backstroke
Leanne Peile	6th 13yrs Breaststroke
Laura Belcher	1st Reserve 14yrs Backstroke
Hannah Spencer	1st 17/18yrs Breaststroke 2nd Ladies 200m Breaststroke 2nd 17/18yrs Backstroke 4th Ladies 100m Breaststroke 6th Ladies 50m Freestyle 1st Reserve 17/18yrs Individual Medley 1st Reserve 17/18yrs Freestyle

WELL DONE TO ALL SWIMMERS

KENT CHAMPIONSHIPS -RELAYS - CRYSTAL PALACE - MARCH

For the first time we entered most age groups in the Championships which were being held at Crystal Palace. We were unsure of the standard of swimming and we were

hoping that at least some of the teams would make the finals. For some of the swimmers this was the first time that they had swam in a 50m eight lane pool but all the swimmers did the club proud with 9 of the relays making the finals.

Niki Brandsetter, Lee Scott, Darren Chappell and Mark Nicholls won both the 12yrs Freestyle and Medley team events very convincingly and this team has now been entered in the Southern Counties Championships - Best of Luck boys. The boys 15/16yrs Medley team **Paul Nicholls, David Sharrad, David Case and Tony Lawrence** won the bronze medal.

Well done to all swimmers and thank you to all those parents who came along and to support what was a very long session.

Thanks also to **Penny Spencer, Mick Thackray and Mark Russell** who between them supported our swimmers on the pool side at the Championships.

RELAY RESULTS

Girls 13/14yrs Freestyle	Gemma Ford Emma Lawrence Laura Belcher Sarah McCook	6th
Boys 13/14yrs Medley	Matthew Walker Amit Hindocha Andrew Bates Gary Richards	6th
Girls 15/16yrs Freestyle	Katie Jefferson Natalie Walker Louise Ryan Danielle Poore	7th
Boys 15/16yrs Medley	David Sharrad Paul Nicholls Tony Lawrence David Case	3rd
Boys 12/U Medley	Mark Nicholls Niki Brandsetter Darren Chappell Lee Scott	1st
Girls 13/14yrs Medley	Emma Lawrence Leanne Peile Laura Belcher Sarah McCook	6th
Boys 13/14yrs Freestyle	Peter Gravell Gary Richards Matthew Walker Andrew Bates	5th

Girls 15/16yrs Medley	Natalie Walker Stacey Hoare Danielle Poore Louise Ryan	1st Reserve
Boys 15/16yrs Freestyle	Tony Lawrence David Sharrad David Case Paul Nicholls	8th
Boys 12/U Freestyle	<u>Mark Nicholls</u> Darren Chappell Niki Brandsetter Lee Scott	1st

KENT CHAMPIONSHIPS

It has been brought to my notice that for some of the parents and swimmers of our younger age groups do not understand exactly what the Kent Championships mean. The Kent Championships are swum in February and March. They are for swimmers who live in Kent or are members of a Kent club and are swam in various pools around the county.

The Kent ASA publish entry times for the championships and these you have to achieve since 1st April in the year preceding the championship entered. I normally post on the notice board the entry times and a list if you wish to enter. This would be in November / December, all entry fees are paid by the club and we submit all entries together. The championships are run like an open meet with an entry card system which you have to post in a box at the pool on the day of the event. All swimmers have to swim the heats with the fastest six going through to the finals. These sessions can be very long and possibly there might only be 2 or 3 swimmers from Erith at your session and you do not always have a lot of support. This is why we will only encourage those swimmers who achieve a good entry time to swim. I also give a chance for the younger swimmers to be timed if they feel they could achieve the times, many do not have 31 times.

For those swimmers who do well in the Kents there is then the chance to swim in the Southern counties Championships which is of a very high standard. Again this is done as the Kents with an entry time etc., these are always swum at Crystal Palace and this year we have 4 swimmers who have achieved entry times to these championships.

We have also this year for the first time got **Darren Chappell** and **Hannah Spencer** with a National entry time which covers the whole of the country. We are hoping that **Niki Brandsetter** and **Andrew Bates** will also get an entry time - these have only been achieved by a lot of hard work and dedication.

If any one wants to know about these championships please do not hesitate to ask either myself or Carol Bates (Tel 01322 408639) - just ask at the table and they will point you to us.

During the year there are various open meets that any one can enter and these give good experience to younger swimmers who perhaps do not get many club galas but enjoy racing. If you are interested please see Carol Bates or David Chappell.

Chris Case

FRIENDLY GALAS

Ted Mesure Memorial Trophy Gala - Held at Balham - 19th April 1996

Lane 1, cramped conditions, hot temperatures and a cold pool didn't put our swimmers off. We came a very commendable third, considering two teams from Rochester and two teams from O'Jays were the only other teams swimming with us.

We got off to a slow start but soon began to let the other teams know we were serious with the encouragement and enthusiasm given by the our supporters who came to watch.

Congratulations to those who gained PBS' on the night, too numerous to mention.

Well done to all swimmers, we showed we are a force to be reckoned with and not easily overshadowed.

Result:	1st Rochester A	174 points
	2nd O'Jays Purple	140 "
	3rd Erith	127 "
	4th Rochester B	76 "
	5th O'Jays Black	68

Liz Whent

OPEN MEETINGS

Thanet Viking - Held at Margate - 12th May 1996

Carrie-Anne Wilson, Laura Belcher, Niki Brandsetter, Darren Chappell and Andrew Bates entered this open meet at Hartsdown Park Sport and Leisure Centre at Margate.

With a 10.00 a.m. start we didn't have to get up at the crack of dawn to get there.

When we arrived we were impressed with the large grounds surrounding the Centre which included pitch and putt, tennis courts, football, cricket etc. At the end of the first session there was a break of approximately 2h 30 mins, this enabled us to leave the Centre if we wished and have a walk around Margate for some lunch. This was a very well organised open and the swimmers tell me it was a nice pool to swim in.

All swimmers swam well and produced quite a few **PBS**!. The overall results are as follows:-

Niki Brandsetter	1st	50m butterfly
	1st	100m freestyle
	1st	100m backstroke
	1st	100m breaststroke
Darren Chappell	1st	100m butterfly
	1st	100m backstroke
	2nd	100m freestyle
Andrew Bates	1st	100m freestyle
	2nd	100m butterfly
	3rd	100m backstroke
Laura Belcher	5th	100m backstroke

As Midland Bank and Nationwide Building Society sponsored this open, swimmers were presented with trophies, sports bags or other free gifts.

The Beckenham Open Meet - Held at Crystal Palace - 25th & 26th May 1996

This open meet was a two day event held at Crystal Palace Sports Centre. Only three swimmers from Erith took part, Niki Brandsetter, Darren Chappell and Andrew Bates, other swimmers applied but due to the very high standard of swimmers taking part were not accepted. This event was designated for entry into National Competitions and Championships, and this was evident by the times achieved by the finalists. Many swimmers taking part were from all over the country including Scotland, Jersey and the Isle of Wight.

Darren Chappell	1st	100m butterfly	11/12 years
	3rd	100m freestyle	11/12 "
Niki Brandsetter	4th	100m backstroke	11/12 years
	4th	100m freestyle	11/12 "
	6th	200m Ind medley	11/12 "
Andrew Bates	12th	100m butterfly	14 years
	4th	100m freestyle	"

Much to Andrew's disappointment he missed out on a National time by just under half a second!

Carol Bates

MASTERS SECTION

Great Britain Masters, Sheffield

After her success in the Southern Counties, **Alison Nye** travelled to Sheffield in confident mood. Unfortunately bugged by a virus, Alison withdrew from three out of the seven events she had entered.

Even so, she won gold in the 50m breaststroke and 50m butterfly; silver in the 50m and 100m freestyle with personal best times.

Alison is looking forward to the World Masters Championships at the end of June and is hoping other Masters swimmers will accompany her to future events

Masters Long Course at Crystal Palace - 13th & 14th April 1996.

The masters long course takes place over a very long week-end. The individual enters the amount of races they feel they can handle, on the day you wonder what made you enter certain races. I entered a 200m freestyle race, as the time came to race it seemed a very long way. Anyway I swam the race, noticed while swimming the 3rd leg of a 50m pool that the sun was shining, maybe I wasn't swimming fast enough.

Alison Nye had a very good week-end, she had a British Record in 100m breaststroke in 1m.22.10seconds.

Medal winners were:-

Alison Nye	200m individual medley	gold
	50m breaststroke	gold
	50m butterfly	gold
	50m freestyle	gold
	100m freestyle	silver
Clare Ross	100m freestyle	gold
	100m butterfly	silver
	50m butterfly	bronze
	50m freestyle	4th place
Irene Murphy	50m breaststroke	silver
	50m butterfly	bronze
	100m backstroke	bronze
Tim Wilkes	100m breaststroke	gold
	50m breaststroke	silver

Frank Rider	100m backstroke	silver
Chris Case	100m breaststroke	bronze
Luciana Cowell	50m breaststroke 50m freestyle	gold bronze
Rosemary Watkins	100m breaststroke	silver

Irene Murphy took part in a triathlon on the Sunday. Other swimmers included **Jenny Newton, S.Knapman, Pat Griffiths, Dennis Vick, Dean Greenaway** and **Chris Thomas**.

The ladies 4x50m (120years) freestyle and individual medley came third (bronze) and the ladies 4x50m (160years) also won bronze.

Well done to all the swimmers and spectators who lasted the whole week-end, including the 'Ross' clan who stayed all day Sunday.

Rosemary Watkins

SOCIAL SECTION

Annual Gala Raffle

A big 'thank you' to all those Club members and parents who took the trouble of selling their raffle tickets. Your efforts were rewarded with a profit of £852.25 reinforcing the status of this event as our single largest fund-raising activity. For the record, a table of raffle winners appears elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Presentation Disco (13th July 1996)

Tickets will soon be available for our Presentation Disco at Crayford Town Hall on Saturday 13th July.

As this season has seen two team competing in both White Horse and Tudor Leagues, add to them the Junior Speedo swimmers and all Mums, Dads, brothers and sisters and we're looking towards a packed house. Swimmers of course attend free of charge whilst Parents etc. pay £3.00 each. Remember, everyone is welcome and for the presentation itself, we hope to have a special guest in attendance.

Ramble 50

For those of you seeking news of our next Club Ramble, fear not as 'Ramble 50' is on it's way !

Indeed, by the time these words are read, you may have already spotted the presentation in the pool foyer revealing details of our celebratory 50th Ramble on the Isle of Wight this Autumn.

A two day affair, the half-term dates Thursday 24th and Friday 25th October should be set aside if you are considering joining us. Before adding your name to the list, please refer to the presentation where you will find details including travel arrangements, accommodation and cost, of course, numbers are limited, so hurry !

Easter Ramble footnote

If you ever pay a visit to 'The Fox & Hounds', Romney Street, (near Eynsford), be sure to look-out for a picture showing some very familiar faces. Why, I hear you ask? Well, following a visit to this wayside hostelry during our Easter Ramble with Wild Geese S.C their bar staff were confronted with the prospect of having to produce meals for 73 hungry souls. Unbeknown to us, we were to be the largest group that they had ever catered for and they accomplished this most commendably. And so, at their request and by way of thank you, I recently returned to 'The Fox & Hounds' to present them with a suitably framed photo of the occasion - and a pint of real ale of course !

Peter Frost

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1996 Annual Gala Raffle (Drawn 30th April)

	Prize Description	Winning Ticket No	Prize Recipient	Ticket Sold/Bought by:
1st	£150.00	002248	Mrs.Higginson	Chris Ellingford
2nd	£ 75.00	006400	J.W.Saunders	Carver family
3rd	£ 50.00	001577	A. Conner	Conner family
4th	£10.00	000535	Bealing family	Same
5th	£10.00	003102	Mr.Bravins	Goodey family
6th	Brandy	006167	Simone Rider	Same
7th	Soap Powder	006982	Tony Swain	Slough family
8th	Beer	008756	Marv (118)	Barry Magness
9th	Wine Rack	008754	Marv (118)	" "
10th	Cuddly Penguin	007448	Jill Thackray	same
11th	National Lottery £1.00 Instants scratch card	005871	Porter family	same
12th	" "	006278	Freda Ross	same
13th	" "	004748	C.Marshall	same
14th	" "	004417	Lyn	Whitmore family
15th	" "	008188	Tim Wilkes	same
16th	" "	003170	?	Gough family
17th	" "	000944	S.Barrett	same
18th	" "	002783	John H .	Peter Frost
19th	" "	006789	Resident of Alley Mount	Sharrad family
20th	" "	007968	Miss Webb	Webb family

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Anniversary Relay Gala - Held at Riverside - 18th May 1996

Our strength in this Club revolves a lot around Relays and going into this event it was considered that our performance may have been below par due to drop outs, illnesses etc, but this wasn't the case.

Obviously names cannot be listed due to the sheer number, however, one team must be mentioned and that's the 'Dream Team' of Darren Chappell, Lee Scott, Niki Brandsetter and Mark Nicholls, who won all their events including the Breaststroke which must go down in history.

Our 'first place' count wasn't that great, but consistency must have been the answer of the day

Some of the teams must also have been suffering the same problems as us with drop outs, especially our friends from Hastings.

Our overall win was due to team spirit. Ian Magness our boys vice captain and Natalie Walker collected the trophy.

Unfortunately the full results have gone missing, but we know Erith won the Anniversary Trophy.

TEAM MANAGERS' MOAN

We are becoming somewhat annoyed at the number of late Drop-Outs of swimmers at recent Galas. We know that illness is a problem, but surely Parents are aware if their son or daughter is unfit to swim early in the morning and not a hour before a gala starts. Cases have occurred when we have been informed that a swimmer is not well once we are on pool-side.

It puts a lot of pressure on us when we are told at the last minute a swimmer is unwell and sometimes makes it virtually impossible to fill the place.

A lot of time is spent during the week prior to a Gala sorting out the entries and with a relay Gala a considerable number of swimmers are needed.

If a swimmer for any reason cannot participate in a Gala as much notice as possible would be welcomed .

The numbers to ring if your child is unavailable after you have ticked the sheet on the notice board are:- **MICK THACKRAY - 01322 338910**

TREVOR HOLMES - 0181 304 1869

Your co-operation in this matter would be much appreciated.

Trevor Holmes

FORTHCOMING EVENTS**1996**

JUNE	Friday	14th	Points Cup Races Freestyle 8.00 p.m 8/u 10/u 12/u 14/u ONLY + Training After
	Saturday	15th	Tudor League Gala Round 8 Red & White
*Date	Friday	21st	Points Cup Races Breaststroke 8.00 p.m 8/u 10/u 12/u 14/u ONLY + Training After
Change*	Friday	22nd	Away Gala Croydon
	Saturday	29th	Octopus League Gala 4. and Black Lion Gala - All age groups
JULY	Friday	5th	Points Cup Races Backstroke 8.00 p.m 8/u 10/u 12/u 14/u ONLY + Training After
	Saturday	6th	Bexley Festival Gala
	Friday	12th	Points Cup Races Butterfly 8.00 p.m 8/u 10/u 12/u 14/u ONLY + Training After
	Saturday	13th	PRESENTATION DISCO TUDOR, WHITE HORSE, M11 JUNIOR SPEEDO - CRAYFORD TOWN HALL. ALL SWIMMERS WHO TOOK PART IN ANY OF THESE GALAS WILL RECEIVE AN AWARD - PLEASE ATTEND
	Saturday	20th	Away Gala Eastbourne
SEPTEMBER	Saturday	7th	Octopus League Gala 5
	Saturday	14th	Away Gala Faversham
	Saturday	21st	Away Gala Rushmoor Royals - Pre Speedo Programme
	Saturday	28th	EDSC Home Gala Speedo Programme
OCTOBER	Saturday	5th	Octopus League Gala 5. and Orpington Gala and LONDON INTERBOROUGH CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND 1
	Saturday	12th	Speedo League Gala Round 1
	Saturday	19th	Gravesend & Northfleet Gala All age groups
	Saturday	26th	Away Gala R.T.W. all age groups and White Horse League Gala
NOVEMBER	Saturday	2nd	Tudor League Gala Round 1
	Saturday	9th	Speedo League Gala Round 2
	Saturday	23rd	Dartford Gala All age groups and White Horse League Gala
	Saturday	30th	Away Gala Croydon Amphibians and London Interborough Championships FINALS
DECEMBER	Saturday	7th	Speedo League Gala Round 3 AND Octopus League Gala 6.
	Saturday	14th	Tudor League Gala Round 2
	Tuesday	31st	New Year Disco (Carlton Hall) Provisional

1997

MARCH	Sunday	2nd	M11 Junior Speedo League Gala Round 1
APRIL	Sunday	27th	M11 Junior Speedo League Gala Round 2
JUNE	Sunday	8th	M11 Junior Speedo League Gala Round 3