

2003 The 25th Anniversary Year

This year began with a hectic round of competition. Inter-club galas, the Middlesex Championships, the Interhouse Gala and the first round of the Junior League all produced a high level of competition.

The major anniversary celebrations were a photograph of about 160 swimmers, coaches and helpers, taken on one of the Interhouse Gala nights, and the Anniversary Gala, which was won in convincing fashion by Teddington A after a fierce battle with Staines, with the B team finishing in a creditable third place, just beating the team from Acton. Forward Hillingdon and Feltham were the other invited teams. A feature of this gala was the inclusion of events for all age groups, ranging from Under 11s to Masters (over 25). A special silver swim hat was obtained for the swimmers to wear for this event. A highlight for one small boy from Feltham (and his dad) was his success in winning a Liverpool shirt signed by Michael Owen. The Deputy Mayor of Richmond, Councillor Beattie, presented commemorative trophies to all the teams taking part. The final celebration was a barbecue with jazz band held at Hampton Pool and attended by nearly 200 current and former club members and their families, on a lovely sunny evening at the end of May.



Figure 66. Anniversary Gala. Captains of all the teams with the deputy mayor of Richmond Councillor Beattie



Figure 67. Anniversary Barbeque at Hampton

During the early summer swimmers competed with great success in a number of long distance open water swims, and the Masters team finished in 3rd place overall in the Middlesex Masters Championships at Barnet Copthall.



Figure 68. Masters swimmers win at Bracknell

Figure 69. Junior League Success



And lastly

To round off the first 25 years in a most satisfactory manner three swimmers achieved national success, ***Gina Heyn*** qualified for the National Long Course Championships in Manchester in three events, finishing in 8th place in the 50 metres freestyle. ***Robert Garvey*** and ***Edward Rice*** also achieved national qualifying times and performed creditably at the National Age Group Championships at Sheffield.

...And the 26th year started with further successes. Although narrowly beaten in the Teddington Challenge Trophy as a result of a disqualification in the last event, Teddington swimmers made up for it as, firstly, the Junior swimmers reached a best ever fourth place in the Milton Keynes District Junior League, and then the older swimmers, representing the borough of Richmond, achieved a place in the All London final of the Inter-Borough Competition for only the second time in the Club's history.

Appendix 1 Club Trophies

Novices Gala

Laing Trophies

Awarded at the Novice Gala to top swimmers in 10 years category.

Given by Mr & Mrs Laing

Interhouse Gala

Coates Trophy Was donated in 1982. Mr Cairns (who had been head of a primary school until his retirement) asked that it be given to a child of primary school age (Under 10) who had shown improvement over the last year. It is presented at the Interhouse Gala.

Clark Trophy. Given by a supporter of the club. It is presented at the Interhouse gala to the swimmer aged 14 or over who has shown the most improvement over the past 12 months.

Daisy Eltham Trophy Awarded at the Interhouse gala to the most improved swimmer aged 10-13

Club Championships

The 'CAIRNS TROPHY' was given to the Club by Mr A. P. Cairns, one of the Founder Members of the Club. Originally awarded to either a girl or a boy, this trophy is now awarded to a boy, 11 years old or under, showing keen spirit, unselfish attitude and good all round performance with improved times. It is presented at the Club Championships and was first presented in 1983 to Clair Morrall.

The 'GEORGE PINES TROPHY' was given by George Pines, formerly our club coach. This trophy is awarded to a girl, 11 or under, showing keen spirit, unselfish attitude and good all round performance with improved times.

The 'ARNOLD TROPHY', given by club supporters Mr & Mrs Arnold, is awarded to an Under 17 boy showing keen spirit, unselfish attitude and good all round performance.

The 'BOOTH TROPHY' was given by Jenny & David Booth, formerly Team Manager and Chairman of the Club. It is awarded to an Under 17 girl showing keen spirit, unselfish attitude and good all round performance.

The 'DENISE MEAKINS SHIELD' and the 'STEVEN MEAKINS SHIELD' are awarded to the girl and boy aged under 17 swimming the fastest times in the 100 metres Breaststroke in the Club Championships.

The 'BUTLER TROPHIES' are awarded to the boy and girl at the 400 metres handicap gala who achieve the greatest percentage improvement over their 'target time'

Teddington Challenge Trophy winners

1991	Leatherhead
1992	Leatherhead
1993	Teddington
1994	Teddington
1995	Dorking
1996	Teddington
1997	Seabyrds
1998	Seabyrds
1999	Teddington
2000	Teddington
2001	Seabyrds
2002	Crawley & Teddington (Joint winners)
2003	Seabyrds

Appendix 2 Evolution of the club kit



Figure 70. A Sprint Gala in 1983 (swimmers are wearing red swimsuits and red/white hat)



Figure 71. The Middlesex Champion team in red tracksuits (1988)



Figure 72. The Morrells' show off their Club Championships Medals in their club sweatshirts (1990)

From the start of the Club its colours were red and black. The first kit comprised a dark red costume or trunks, a fabric hat with red sides and white centre strip, and a white t-shirt with a large club logo in red on the front. The dark red costume had to be changed after a few years to a brighter red as the dark red became unavailable. A few years later the fabric hats were replaced by a simple red latex hat with the initials of the club in black. In the late 1980s swimmers were given the opportunity to purchase a red tracksuit (with some white), but this fell out of favour after a short time. A red sweatshirt was used for a number of years, and at the request of the swimmers a simple red t-shirt with the club name on the back was introduced.

By about 1990 the female swimmers in particular were expressing dissatisfaction with the red swimsuits, which were regarded as old-fashioned, as well as going slightly transparent after some period of use. Various costumes were tried, including plain black high-necked styles and other innovations which were now coming on to the market. Eventually the club settled on a black costume with red side panels which proved popular with swimmers of all ages and has, been the club kit ever since. Around 2000 a variation with the club logo on the back was introduced.

Meanwhile other additions to the kit included black jogging bottoms and shorts, red waterproof bags in various sizes and a black hat with the club initials for regular squad members. A new style of T-shirt, the 'tea-bag' was introduced for gala wear in the mid 1990s. This proved extremely popular and is the item of choice for most swimmers, as can be seen from the anniversary photo, in which almost everyone is wearing it. In 2002 a new tracksuit, in a much more comfortable fabric, made its appearance, followed by the introduction of a silver hat in 2003 for the 25th anniversary year.

Figure 73. Sam in black/red swimsuit 1992



Figure 75. 14 Sally wears the red T-shirt & black shorts in Konstanz (1995)

Figure 74. Rebecca liked her new t-bag so much she wore it in the water (1995)



Figure 76. David is wearing the black/red tracksuit top: Carol is wearing a red 'teachers top'.

Appendix 3 Who ran the Club

President

1979-1983	Councillor Sara Edwards
1984	Councillor Martin Elengorn
1985	(no president appointed)
1986	Joy Ellis
1987	Stewart Laing
1988-1992	Brian Maskell
1993-1997	David Booth
1998-2003	John Kenny

Chairperson

1978-1983	Alma Coates
1984	John Kenny
1985-1988	Stewart Laing
1988-	Derek Hoddinott
1989-1990	Warren Watson
1991-92	David Booth
1993- 2003	Ian Whittaker

Treasurer

-1988	Brian Maskell
1989-1990	David Booth
1991-92	Jenny Booth
1993-4	Michael Evans
1995-2002	Gerry Duggan
2003-	Duncan Milroy

Secretary

1978	Mr A Cairns
1979 - 1985	Joy Ellis
1986 - mid 1991	Pam Hoare
mid 1991- 1997	Jackie Rees
1998	Pam Hoare
1999-2003	Ruth Hatton

Coach

Early days:	Alma Coates/Keith Lavatt
1983-1985	John Frost
1985- July 1998	George Pines
August 1998 - present	Carol Butler

Team Manager

- 1984	Roger Martin
1985-1992	Ian Whittaker
1993-1998	Jenny Booth
1999	Peter Robinson
2000-present	Tony Russell & Tony Garvey

