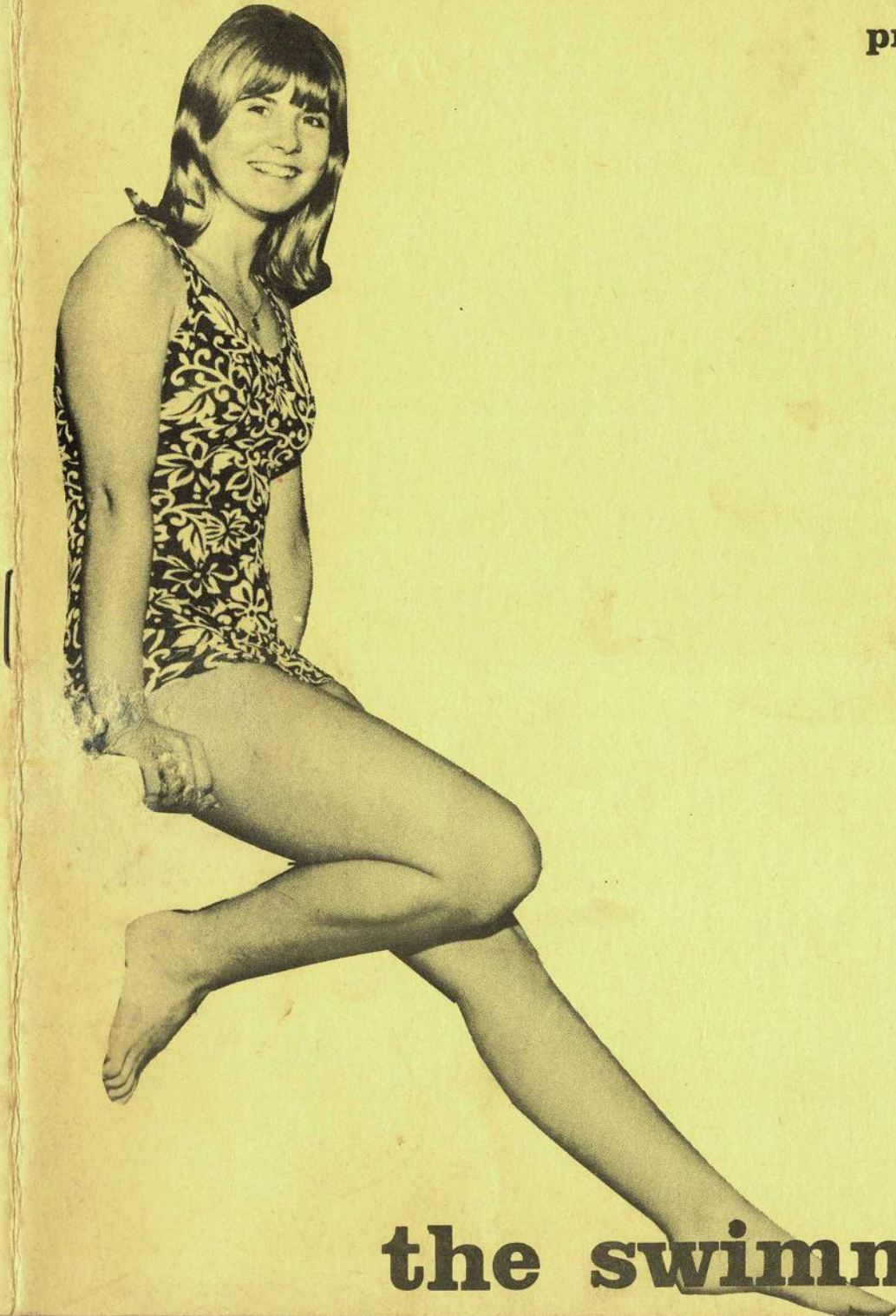


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**the swimmer**

## THE SWIMMER

The Swimmer is intended to be a magazine for the Scottish swimming public whom we feel have been starved of swim news for some time. With the growth in swimming in Scotland and the interest in performances by swimmers in other districts it is only by having a Scottish swim journal that the enthusiast can hope to keep up with what is happening on the swim scene.

The Swimmer is about swimming and we hope to hear from swimmers and officials either by contributing to the letters page or by submitting articles for publication.

To start off a magazine in Scotland it is necessary to begin in a modest manner but if the interest in the magazine grows so then will the magazine in style and number of pages.

We have responded to numerous requests to get a publication underway but the success of such a journal depends on the demand by the swim public.

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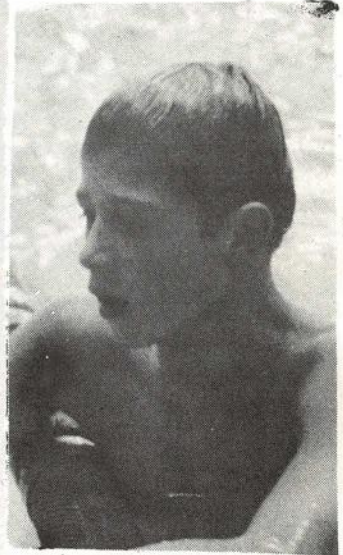
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DIANE WALKER - HAPPY AFTER HER RECORD SWIM

# Renfrew baths jubilee week

RENFREW Baths celebrated their Jubilee Year with a week of aquatic events which drew capacity crowds. Indeed on the Wednesday programme several hundred would-be spectators had to be turned away.

All branches of aquatic affairs participated at the Civic Week and one of the items was a competition for schoolboys and girls, where the accent was for style and not speed and points being awarded by the judges.

The Renfrew Burgh Swimming Championships provided the spectators with plenty of excitement and a number of keen races were witnessed.

Carol Gill who had a busy evening looked most impressive and no doubt more will be heard of this young Renfrew girl. Although an accepted backstroke swimmer, she had two useful successes on the front crawl which gave promise of better things to come from her on this stroke. Her turning technique could be more consistent, but with work this should be sorted out.

Renfrew Baths have a long and illustrious connection with Scottish and British swimming, and swimmers from Renfrew have represented Britain at the Olympic Games while at the Empire Games, Renfrew have a gold medalist. A team from Renfrew were among the first to give flotation displays and girls from the Victory Baths toured England and Scotland.

The Bologna Trophy has also been staged at Renfrew although to the disappointment of the Scots, an English victory was returned.

Water polo has been played at the pool for many years and Scottish championships and deciding matches have been fought out at the Inchinnan Road venue.

It is fitting that in the Jubilee Year of the pool a local team, Renfrew Aqua should win the West of Scotland league championship title.

During the week of celebrations, Mrs Black brought a team of synchronised swimmers from Clydebank and the display was warmly received by the crowd.

The pool superintendent, Mr A. Ellis who arranged the week of activities must have been delighted with the support given by the public. His baths convener, Mr O. McMahon, arranged with the town council to round off the week with a dance in the local town hall.

A glance at the history of swimming in Scotland shows just what a strong part Renfrew have played in the building up of swimming standards North of the border and the congratulations they received are fully merited.

## flashes

Be a swimmer and see the world, could be the motto for our young schoolchildren. Hammy Simpson, the Paisley backstroke swimmer is certainly seeing the world. His latest trip to Russia adding another country to his list of places visited. In Israel and Iceland with the Scottish team in addition to his British team visits, the Paisley television engineer is helping to make the sporting news which the television companies beam around the world.

The popularity of synchronised swimming is gaining ground and at galas all over Scotland teams are giving displays. At Renfrew and Grange-mouth last month, the Clydebank ladies' team gave delightful performances. Now the East Kilbride club have a team which is in great demand. With the success of formation swimming can we now look for Paisley and Renfrew to start teams?

PAISLEY Baths was one of the centres chosen by the West of Scotland for the Scottish Age Group Qualifying swims. Swimmers from all over the West made the trip to Paisley and for a number it was a long day. With the first session commencing at 10 a.m., it meant that the swimmers from Dumfries were early on the road. As it was after 8 p.m. before the events were finished for the day, it was indeed a long day. Paisley, with three pools, were able to keep open for the public and yet cope with the championships.

# Water polo in Scotland

By W. C. STEVENSON

IT has been an exciting year for water polo enthusiasts. January saw the first competitive effort of the year.

The tournament, held at Paisley Baths, between five teams was won by Leith 1930 on goal average from Renfrew who had equal points.

	P	W	L	Pts
Leith	4	3	1	6
Renfrew	4	3	1	6
Scot. Universities	4	2	2	4
N.C.R.	4	1	3	2
Portobello	4	1	3	2

It is proposed to hold another such competition early in 1972 in Dundee.

The Scottish squad did their usual winter training at Rosyth. The seven sessions between December and April produced marked improvements in the fitness and skills of the participants.

The R.A.F. were beaten thrice by a Scottish select team which visited Cranwell in April. The scores were 5-4, 1-4 and 7-3.

Later in April the Scottish select youth side took part in a quadrangular tournament at Rosyth against the Army, Ulster and the Royal Navy.

The team consisted of: C. Ritchie (Renfrew), Nicolson (Porto), W. Davidson (Renfrew), G. Harvey (Renfrew), S. Hampshire (Huddersfield), A. Harvey (N.C.R.), H. McLelland (Porto), R. Kerr, J. McLatchey (Perth), A. Armstrong (Renfrew).

The Scottish select won the competition outright with scores of 3-2 against the Army; 6-4 against Ulster; and 7-5 against the Navy.

The R.A.F. on their return tour of Scotland played the Scottish Universities at Glasgow, an East District Select

and the Scottish Select at Rosyth. The Scottish Select team consisted of: Ritchie, Davidson, Burgoyne, Harvey (Renfrew), Ovenstone, Steel (Leith 1930), Anderson, Henderson (Portobello), A. Elder (N.C.R., Dundee).

The R.A.F. tried all the "old head" tactics against this youthful team, however, the lads dished out a sound thrashing to the flyers to the extent of 12-0.

Junior Inter-District was played at Aberdeen (The Grant Trophy).

The North beat the West by 4-3 and the East beat the Midlands by 4-3.

The final between East and North went to extra time before being won by the East with a score of 3 goals to 1.

The closeness of these scores represents a much healthier condition within the junior ranks.

## RENFREW FAIL AGAIN

Another major event in May was the Scottish Water Polo Championship. This contains all the elements of the luck of the draw in that Portobello drew 1930 in the early rounds, while Renfrew drew Glasgow University.

Renfrew 7, Glasgow Un. 2; Galashiels 6, Inverness 3; N.C.R. 5, Perth Penguins 1; 1930 3, Portobello (holders) 2.

Semi finals — Galashiels 1, 1930 9; Renfrew 7, N.C.R. 5.

Making the big clash between 1930 and Renfrew. The better finishing of the Edinburgh team was the difference, when the final whistle was blown—1930 4, Renfrew 1.

Renfrew have been in the final of this competition many times but have never won it.

The senior Inter District or

Parker Trophy resulted in—1st East; 2nd Midlands; 3rd West; 4th North.

In June the Scottish team travelled to Aberavon in Wales to take part in the four countries International Tournament. The first game of the series saw Scotland emerge the victors by 2 goals to 1 over Wales. This result was a lucky one for us and slightly against the run of play.

The team was — Ritchie, Anderson, Ovenstone, Hampshire, McNeillie, Davidson, Wright, Elder, Henderson, Burgoyne and Cunningham.

Both of the remaining games against England and Ireland were lost by a fairly narrow margin to leave Scotland in fourth place.

One encouraging feature was the goalkeeping of C. Ritchie. He saved five penalties during the play.

Following this the Scottish team popped off to Vildervank in Holland to take part in a tournament. The team was the same as that in Wales except that Steele came in for Wright.

The previous year the Scottish team was well beaten. This time however there was a marked improvement in the performances.

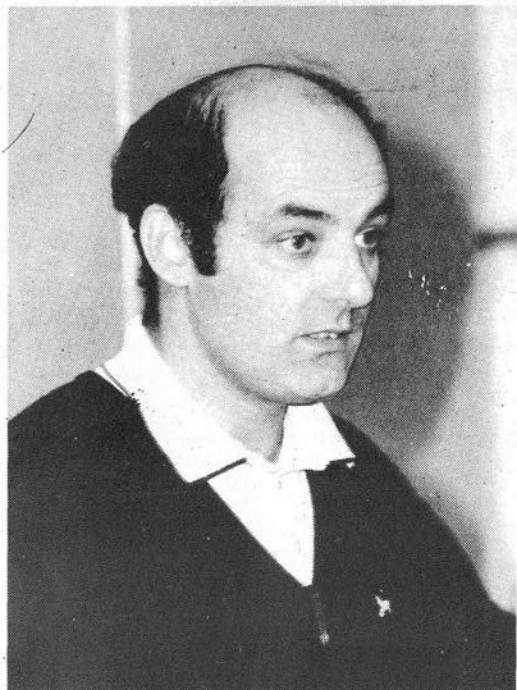
The scores for the qualifying rounds were: Scotland 3, Zwemlust 4; Scotland 3, AZ en PC 3; Scotland 2, de Meeuwen 2.

Thus we failed to qualify, but only just.

## DISAPPOINTING RESULTS

The last official commitment was a journey to Denmark where the results were disappointing. The first game was drawn 6-6 and the second was lost 6-2.

# Is There a Future for Scottish Swimming ?



John Hogg, National Training Officer

On reflection Scotland has certainly had its outstanding performers even in world class swimming, and besides, countless Scottish swimmers have been rewarded with Great Britain representation over the years. But the glorious days of the Wardrops, Black, McGregor and Motherwell A.S.C., at one time Britain's leading swimming club, now seem a long way off. Perhaps our previous efforts have been over-shadowed by the Great Britain swimming scene of which Scotland is only a part. I don't for one moment believe that Scottish swimming ever slumped. There has always been a wealth of swimming talent here and one of the great challenges in accepting the post of Technical Director of Swimming was the opportunity to harness

this potential with the help of coaches so that the cream would come to the top. Today there is undoubtedly a revived interest in the development and the future of Scottish swimming. Our top performers have shown measureable improvement against all opposition over the past eighteen months. This must be very encouraging to all concerned.

However, for this revival to be totally effective there is still much to be done. Our swimmers, coaches and administrators need to link to form a chain of success - a chain that will only be as strong as its weakest link. We can no longer afford to live in the past but use the experience of the past to work for the future. Traditional thinking must be modified to meet the needs of today and tomorrow. Much has already been done to move this traditional 'rock'. More could be done if everyone pushed firmly together instead of in isolated efforts. Once the 'rock' is moving then the next stage is for all to push with a sense of direction. In this way the future will be assured.

## ADMINISTRATORS.

Swimming will not develop without the positive assistance and guidance of the 'backroom boys'. Administrators can provide a sense of direction which is continually under review so that the purpose always suits our present and future needs. Short and long term planning backed up by sound administration and healthy finances will go a long way to putting Scottish swimming firmly on the map. There is a desperate need for more administrators to afford their expertise and help. But at the same time they must be allowed to help and accept responsibility for development..

Constructive criticism alone is not enough - more people must be prepared to act for the good of swimming.

## COACHES.

Coaches too must be prepared to gain further knowledge and experience within their own interests and within the interests of their club swimmers. They must aim to be professional in their approach, fight for better facilities and insure that existing facilities are being put to the best possible use, and be allowed to afford constructive suggestions for better training and competition. In this way they will become more aware of their responsibilities and eventually gain further respect and status. The coach must realise that coaching is a time-consuming activity if it is to be a success. More and more coaches are working effectively and it is through their efforts that the cream is coming through to the top.

## SWIMMERS.

To be successful a swimmer must clearly understand what this implies in terms of application of effort, sacrifice, dedication and a complete knowledge of standard times both within and outside of Scotland that must be their aim, and yardstick by which performances can be assessed objectively. Swimmers should be more aware of their convictions. They must believe in themselves, in their coaches and more especially in the work that they have done.

Administrators, coaches and swimmers will strengthen the chain by a united purpose. I sense that the tide is turning and if the chain can take the strain then the future of Scottish swimming will be very bright.

JOHN M. HOGG

Technical Director of Swimming for Scotland.

# Scotland finish second

The Midlands of England were so well served by their British Internationalists that they retained fairly comfortably the Coca-Cola sponsored quadrangular championship held at the Royal Commonwealth Pool, Edinburgh, on Saturday. They gained 532 points, with Scotland second on 467. Ireland, competing for the first time, had 281, just one point better than Wales.

Scotland, however, produced the outstanding swimmer of the tournament in Diane Walker, the 16-year-old Aberdonian, who not only won the 100 metres breast-stroke and 200 metres individual medley events but

Scottish records with times of 1min. 19.4sec. and 2-35.3 respectively.

Miss Walker was also involved in the closest race of the meet, the 200 metres free-style relay. Swimming the last leg, she failed by only one-thousandth of a second to catch her Midlands vis-a-vis, both teams recording 2-1.0.

The most successful section for the Scots was the girl's 13-14 years, in which they won five of the seven races, including the two relays. Winners (distances 100 metres unless otherwise stated): —



Mr. T. O'BYRNE - COCA COLA

## RESULTS

### BOYS

12 years—Back-stroke—K. Graham (S), 1min. 14.7sec.; breast-stroke—J. Corry (I), 1-24.1; butterfly—P. Mullet (M), 1-15.4; free-style—G. Parker (M), 1-15.4; 200 metres individual medley—G. Parker (M), 2-45.8; 200 metres medley relay—Scotland, 2-20.6; 200 metres free-style relay—Midlands, 2-6.1.

13-14 years—Butterfly—J. King (M), 1-6.5; free-style—S. Pole (S), 1-1.1; 200 metres individual medley—A. Devlin (S), 2-30.0; back-stroke—N. J. Culverwell (M), 1-8.1; breast-stroke—B. Conroy (I), 1-18.9; Medley relay—Midlands, 2-8.4; free-style relay—Midlands, 1-56.0.

15-16 years—200 metres individual medley—A. Welt (M), 2-27.2; back-stroke—A. Hobson (S), 1-7.1; breast-stroke—A. Wood (M), 1-15.2; butterfly—S. T. Nash (M), 1-2.4; free-style—S. J. Clarke (M), 58.7; 200 metres medley relay—Scotland, 2-1.7; 200 metres free-style—Midlands, 1-48.7.

### GIRLS

12 years—Breast-stroke—N. Coates (M), 1-24.5; butterfly—F. Taylor (M), 1-18.1; free style—J. Green (M), 1-7.8; 200 metres individual medley—J. Green (M), 2-47.1; back-stroke—M. Young (S), 1-17.0; 200 metres medley relay—Midlands, 2-24.4; free-style relay—Midlands, 2-11.1.

13-14 years—Free-style—A. O'Leary (I), 1-5.6; 200 metres individual medley—J. Lornie (S), 2-43.1; back-stroke—G. Fordyce (S), 1-14.0; breast-stroke—D. English (W), 1-26.3; Butterfly—G. Crabtree (S), 1-15.2; 200 metres medley relay—Scotland, 2-19.3; 200 metres free-style relay—Scotland, 2-5.0.

15-16 years—Back-stroke—D. Woodwar (M), 1-14.6; breast-stroke—D. Walker (S), 1-19.4; butterfly—J. Jeavons (M), 1-10.6; free-style—A. Willington (M), 1-4.6; 200 metres individual medley—D. Walker (S), 2-35.3; 200 metres medley relay—2-15.0; 200 metres free-style relay—Midlands, 2-1.0.



### FIXTURES TO NOTE

- OCTOBER 27 — Balagno Trophy event at Grimsby
- OCTOBER 9 — Age group International. Edinburgh.
- November 20 — Age Group Scottish finals.
- December 11—Eight Club Contest. Edinburgh



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# SCOTLAND

## International scene

The Bologna Trophy event is still one of the main events on the swim calendar and the competition for places in this prestige event is as keen as ever and the match at Grimsby on October 23 promises to be as keen and exciting as any of the previous 31 contests.

Scotland have only won the contest on two occasions, with England winning the other 29.

Last year at Edinburgh, England had a comfortable win with Scotland beating Wales for the second place. While Scotland may not achieve a greatly desired win at Grimsby it is to be hoped that they come closer than the Edinburgh contest when England scored 56 points against Scotland.

David Wilkie, who won the 200 metres breaststroke in 2 min. 34.6 secs. and Gordon Souter winner of the 400 metres freestyle in 4 min. 30.1 secs. are again in the team and no doubt both will be trying for a repeat win. Eric Henderson and Hammy Simpson were not too happy last term with each being placed third in the 200 metres butterfly and 200 metres backstroke events. In recent form they can improve on this placing. British team swimmer Moira Brown is out of the butterfly and replaced by Louise Ross. In the women's backstroke Linda Armour and Jean Ross were left out by the selectors who have retained Gillian Fordyce who swam so well against Ireland.

Andrea Mackie has the confidence and experience to score well in the 400 metres freestyle event.

Pam Wilson comes back in the breaststroke with Diane Walker taking the individual medley spot.

Martin Shore, the Scottish sprint champion, gets another chance to tangle with the top 100 metres men and it is pleasing to see Downie Brown included for a swim with the relay squad. This could be the final swim in what has been an illustrious international swim career for the popular freestyle swimmer.

"Liz" Wright, who has been moving very well, has earned her place in the 100 metres. She has everything to make the race a cracker.

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## In brief ...

Mrs J. Waldie, a former West District President who is emigrating, was accorded a dinner and farewell dance at a Glasgow restaurant. Mrs Waldie, who was a well known official, donated a trophy for annual competition. Among the dignitaries who attended the function were Scottish Past Presidents.

### Grangemouth opened new baths on October 9

and next month, Kirkcaldy will open their new pool to the public. At Ayr the swimming pool is well underway and should provide the swimming public in this part of the world with a further amenity. Paisley who have an old pool, are now looking around and the hope is that Paisley will decide to build 50 metre baths.

Blackpool's Derby Baths, a favourite with Scottish swimmers over the past years, have now been converted to 50 metres. At present East Kilbride Council are considering following the Blackpool example. Let us hope their decision is not too distant, because another 50 metre pool in Scotland would be an asset when considering future venues. Although the Scottish Long Course Championships were chaotic, the staff at East Kilbride could not have been more helpful.

A contest for the unofficial clubs' championship of Great Britain organised by Warrender will take place in the Royal Commonwealth Pool on Saturday, December 11. Eight teams will compete.

## EDITORIAL

The response to the magazine has been favourable.

Naturally, it is hoped that the content will be as general to cover all aspects of our sport. October sees the completion of the International fixtures for this year.

The Age-Group contest sponsored by Coca-Cola took place in the Royal Commonwealth Pool Edinburgh on October 9.

Scotland being hosts to Wales, Ireland, and Midlands ASA.

The English counties team were strong but let us hope that Scotland's youngsters can raise their standards and match the English swimmers next year. At Grimsby on Saturday

23 October the annual inter-county swimming contest for the Bologna Trophy takes place. Scotland has only won

this contest twice since it commenced in 1929. The strength of the English team should again be too strong for Wales and Scotland.

In this month's edition John Hogg, Technical Director of Swimming, has written a special article on the future of

Scottish Swimming. Many of the readers may have been too young when the Wardrops were breaking records. Twins Jack and Bert held at one time all Scottish Records barring the Breaststroke. Jack was the holder of two World Records.

These two were members of the famous Motherwell Swimming Club. Although reputed to be the top club in 1951

Motherwell were defeated in the St. Mungo Quaich presented by the Glasgow Town Council. A team from Robert Gordon's

College, Aberdeen, shook the Scottish swimming scene by resting the trophy from the Motherwell team.