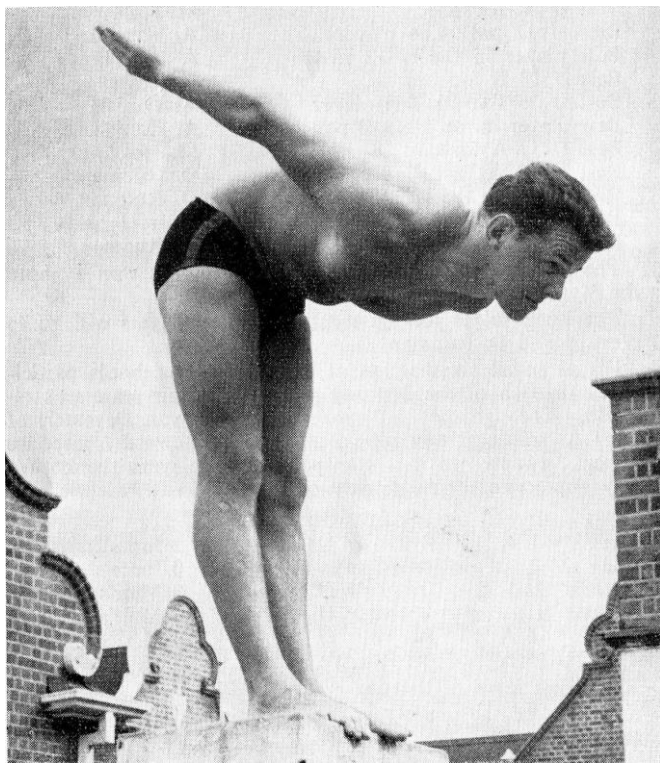


CHAPTER 56 Swimmers in the scintillating sixties

Peter Kavanagh, who won a national title in 1960, also represented Eastern Province at an Inter-Provincial meeting in Cape Town, still as an U/16 competitor. In the Harrow Cup event,



the team of Peter Kavanagh, Anthony Skinner, Michael Skinner and Errol van Wyngaardt set a new record of 2 minutes 26.8 seconds. The annual inter-house gala was hardly less exciting, with 12 records being broken, of which Kavanagh accounted for three. The others were established by Derrick Coetzer, David Scott, Etienne Uys, Victor Rabie and Anthony Skinner. Since 1954 no fewer than 59 school records had been broken, which was quite remarkable in view of the school having to continue using the Roberts Street bath, which was not ideal for galas supported by large numbers of spectators. The proposed new municipal pool was something to look forward to.

Peter Kavanagh at the ready, 1960

Swimming took some exciting strokes in **1963**. At an inter-schools gala the Muir U/14 team set 5 records in the six events they entered, and gained 2nd and 3rd places in the sixth! 3 of the 7 E.P. All-comers records broken at senior level were by Muir swimmers. D Scott, V Rabie, H van Wyngaardt and B Williams were selected for the EP team. EP records held by Muir boys were:

110 yards Freestyle U/14: H van Wyngaardt

110 yards Breaststroke U/14: O Diamond

110 yards Backstroke U/14: D Scott

4 x 55 yards teams medley U/14 all-comers

4 x 55 yards Freestyle Relay U/14 all-comers

11 yards Freestyle U/16: B Williams

55 yards Freestyle U/16 all-comers: V Rabie

Diving U/14: E Uys

Team results boys U/14: Muir

A very good season followed in **1964**, with three EP records being broken by Muir swimmers, who gained four first places, four second places and 'won the U/16 Swimming Cup', which was not identified as the Clift Cup as such. David Scott and Victor Rabie were selected for the EP team, for which Scott gained a second place in the U/14 110 yards Backstroke at the SA Championships. Such achievements were foreshadowed by the breaking of twelve school records at the school gala early in the year.

As reported in "Memuiranda", the student newsletter in **1965**:

For the first time in many years, Muir won the Clift Cup in 1958, but this year, owing either to the time-keepers, the judges, the swimming-bath, the P.E. climate (or the Grey boys), we miraculously lost the race.

In contrast to this, it could be reported that the performances of Muir swimmers showed beyond doubt that the school was regaining its dominance in Eastern Province circles. At the 1965 EP Schools Gala, Muir boys gained five first, three second, three third and three fourth places. In addition, Clive Rabie broke the E.P. U/14 110 yards freestyle record with a time of 1 minute, 09.3 seconds, while David Scott lowered the EP U/16 110 yards backstroke mark with a time of 1: 14.6 secs. Scott continued his winning ways in the next two years, well backed up by John Basson and Clive Rabie.



Swimming team in 1967

Back L to R: B. Allen, P. Lange, G. Cowie, C. Basson, A. Hammond

Middle L to R: A. Moul, J. Basson, C. Rabie, I. Coetzee, J. Moore, P. Tuck, R. Gilson

Front L to R: M. Lachenicht, R. Engelbrecht, K. Galloway, Mr G. Streso, D. Scott, L. Horwitz, G. Wentworth

Seated: B. Seady

Muir was the dominant force in the **Diving Championships** in **1966**, winning two of the three sections and coming second in the third. In the same year David Scott demonstrated his versatility once again by breaking the EP All-comers swimming record for the U/16 110 yards Backstroke. This was not unexpected, as Scott broke records at every EP Schools gala in which he had participated. He repeated his triumph in the 110 yards Backstroke event at the EP Schools gala in **1967**, at which the Muir team was placed second overall out of a large number of schools.

Swimming in **1969** yielded some outstanding results, particularly from Kevin Galloway and Clive Rabie at representative level. Rabie continued on his record-breaking spree (4 records in his 5 events at the school gala) and Kevin Galloway astonished by lowering the 220 yards Breaststroke record of 3: 13.1 to 3: 01.1 seconds.



Swimming team 1969

Back L to R: R. Engelbrecht, G. Wentworth, A. Impey, I. Beaumont, B. Seady, G. Clunnie

Middle L to R: T. van der Miller, D. Lachenicht, P. Stephens, I. Marsh, D. Clunnie, M. Blignaut, C. Wink

Front L to R: I. Coetzee, J. Basson, K. Galloway, Mr G. Streso, C. Rabie, M. Lachenicht, M. Wink