



# Brighton Swimming Club

England's Oldest Swimming Club Founded 1860



The club is saddened to report the death of Michael 'Snowy' Walder, who passed away after a long illness at the Royal Sussex County Hospital. Snowy had a very long association with the club and became one of its vice presidents a year ago.

His family has been a part of the club for generations. His father John and mother Hilda were tireless workers for the club. Snowy's wife Lesley and daughter Hayley are members of the synchro group. His sister Denise Halls is our club secretary, his brother Alan is a polo player. Snowy's son Scott Walder was once a top squad swimmer and is still associated with the club. And Snowy's grandchildren carry forward the Walder name as members of the junior swimming section.

In his younger days, Snowy, so named because of his hair colour, was a handy sprinter and a very agile water polo goalkeeper, noted for his athletic style between the sticks. I shall remember him as an ever popular water polo team mate, whose support and encouragement was directed towards any new members of the team.

Over the years, he helped many young polo players find their feet.

I have an everlasting memory of Snowy in the shallow end goal of the old North Road pool, hurling himself bodily to block any number of shots in training sessions. He'd have been the first to concede that he may not have been the very best, but certainly looked the part!

Another memory I have of Snowy was of him and Lesley, standing on the beach in shirtsleeves, early one evening; the life and soul of a club barbecue. Seemingly, not a care in the world, with big grin on his face. What surprised me was that this was the same evening of the pier to pier race - in which he had been carted off to hospital suffering from hypothermia. Snowy liked parties, and was not going to let hypothermia stop him!

Jasper Stevens

Club Chairman