

NEWS

Bhaveet goes to great lengths for Kenyan kids

A TEENAGER from Southgate is well on the way to reaching his £2,000 target after swimming almost 7 miles.

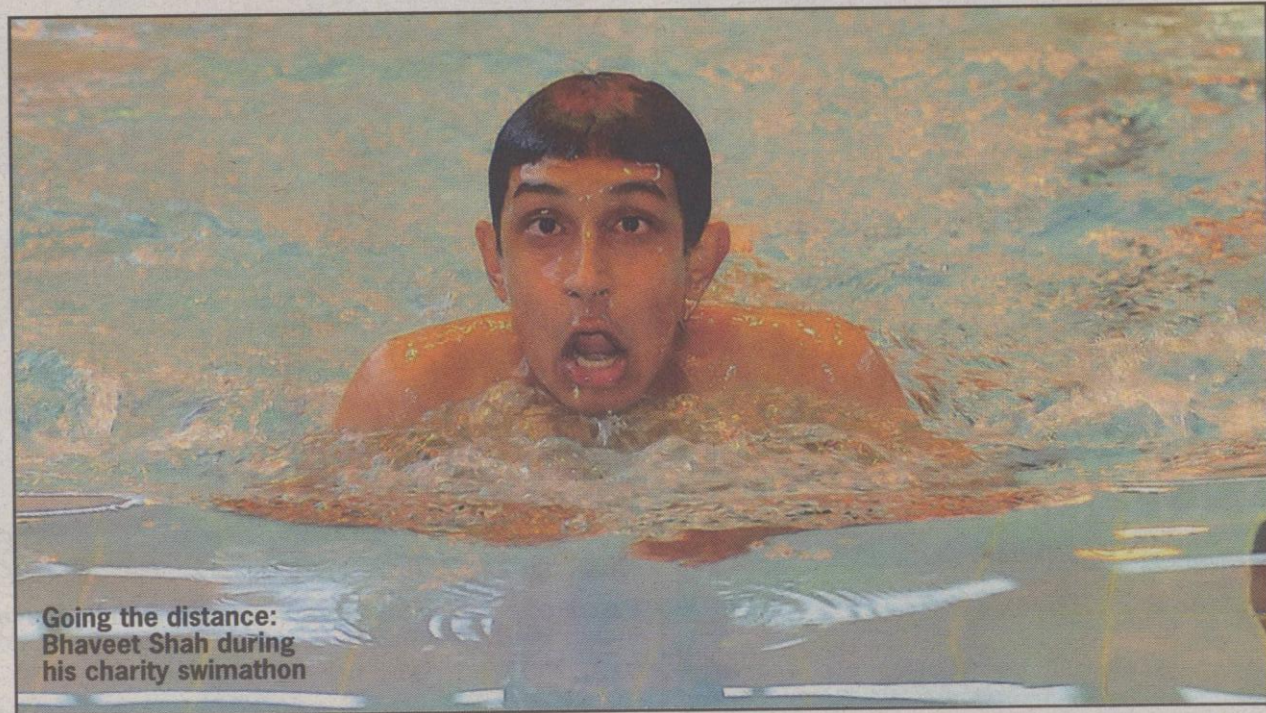
Seventeen-year-old Bhaveet Shah, a student at Enfield Grammar School in Market Square, Enfield, hoped to swim 6 miles in around five hours last Saturday, but goaded on by sponsors he managed to swim an extra 38 lengths of Copthall swimming pool.

The money raised will be donated to Life 4 children, a project run by Asian charity Shishukunj which funds projects that help some of the world's poorest children.

He told the Gazette: "It was really tiring but I enjoyed it. I had hoped to complete the 400 lengths in about five hours, but I had sponsors there who said that if I swam more lengths, they'd give me more money, so I just kept going.

"I'm very happy with the distance I managed. I'm about halfway there with the money, but there are still a lot of people who have said they'll make a donation, and it is for a really good cause, so I'm hopeful that I can make it to the £2,000-mark soon."

Bhaveet organised the swimathon himself after visiting Kenya and seeing the charity's work first hand. This



Going the distance:
Bhaveet Shah during his charity swimathon

is not the first time he has trained for a long distance swim. Aged just 12, in 2004, he completed the 1,500-metre swim at Butlin's for a cancer charity.

"As school's started again, I have

to stop my training for the time being," Bhaveet added, "but I'm planning a 9-mile swim next summer for the charity. It does take a lot of hard work, but I think I will be able to do

it. I need to go for one long swim each week and then it's just about building up the distance again."

To make a donation, visit www.justgiving.com/BshahS4C