They Start 'Em Young at Kinchela

The mighty midget in the photo is seven-year-old Mervyn King, of Kinchela Boys' Training Home, near Kempsey. Mervyn, baby of the Home, last season won the highly coveted cup (almost as big as himself) for the highest aggregate points score at the Lower Macleay Swimming Club's annual championships. As well, he won the D-grade points trophy and the Under 8 freestyle, over 25 metres.

This “get-'em-young-and-train-'em” policy at Kinchela pays off. Arthur Russell (pictured with Mervyn) has left Kinchela after being there for quite a while, and at the same swimming carnival (above) he won the Open 100 metres freestyle, the Junior 100 metres freestyle, the 100 metres breast stroke—and holds the Under 16 record for the pool.

The proof of the policy was in the swimming—Kinchela took out eight championships at the carnival. (Photo courtesy Sky Studios, Kempsey)

Keep That Candle

Don't throw away candle ends, because they are ideal for many lubricating jobs around the home.

The catch on the refrigerator or oven door will usually work quite smoothly after being rubbed over with a candle end. The same applies to ball catches on cupboard doors and the bolts on mortice door locks.

When sliding sash windows become stiff, open the windows as far as possible and use the candle end on the sticking tracks. Sticking draws can be treated in a similar way, by first removing the draws and lubricating the runners; this method is especially good for new and sticking furniture.

Ripping timber with a dull saw, or if the wood is damp, is a difficult job which can be made easier if both sides of the blade are lubricated by the candle; the saw will not bind in the cut.

The humble candle end has even more uses. It can be used, when trimmed to size, as a substitute for a cork in a bottle.

Sticking ball castors on furniture cause annoyance, but a quick wipe with a candle will quickly get them moving again. Candle lubrication is also ideal for car door latches, and the hinges and locks of the car's dashboard compartments, where oil (if used as a lubricant) may stain clothing and upholstery.

Many home-made circular saws have timber tables and guide fences. If these are given a good coating of candle wax, timber can be fed more easily to the saw blade.

Another use for the candle end is in the workshop. There it can be used to lubricate the drill-stand column, and there is no danger of oil stains on timber to be drilled.

DAWN, July, 1966