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### A helping hand from celebrity sportsmen



TO FOOTBALL fans, David Hirst, Lee Sharpe and Paul Walsh are stars whose exploits in the English Premier League aren't yet a distant memory.

To Siti Hajar, 12, the footballers, as well as Australian swimmer Chris Fydler and New Zealand television personality Simon Dallow, were simply the nice folk who helped her into Sentosa's Dolphin Lagoon yesterday to meet Jumbo the pink dolphin.

Never mind that former Southampton sharpshooter Hirst and former Manchester United left winger Sharpe had once been in the England team, or that Walsh had once played for Liverpool.

Never mind, too, that Fydler had actually won Olympic gold in the 100m relay.

Siti was entranced with Jumbo the pink dolphin. 'I've always liked sea creatures. And I'm very excited because this is my first time seeing a dolphin,' she said. The Hougang Primary pupil was one of 14 children from the Society for the Physically Disabled who were at the lagoon yesterday. One by one, the sports stars carried the children into the lagoon to meet and pet Jumbo. The children who could walk were led into the lagoon.

The sportsmen are here for the Caltex Cup Celebrity Challenge, a charity event in the 10-day golf festival organised by Caltex that raises funds for the society and The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund. The main golf tournament, the Caltex Singapore Masters, is scheduled to start tomorrow at the Laguna National Golf and Country Club. It ends on Sunday.