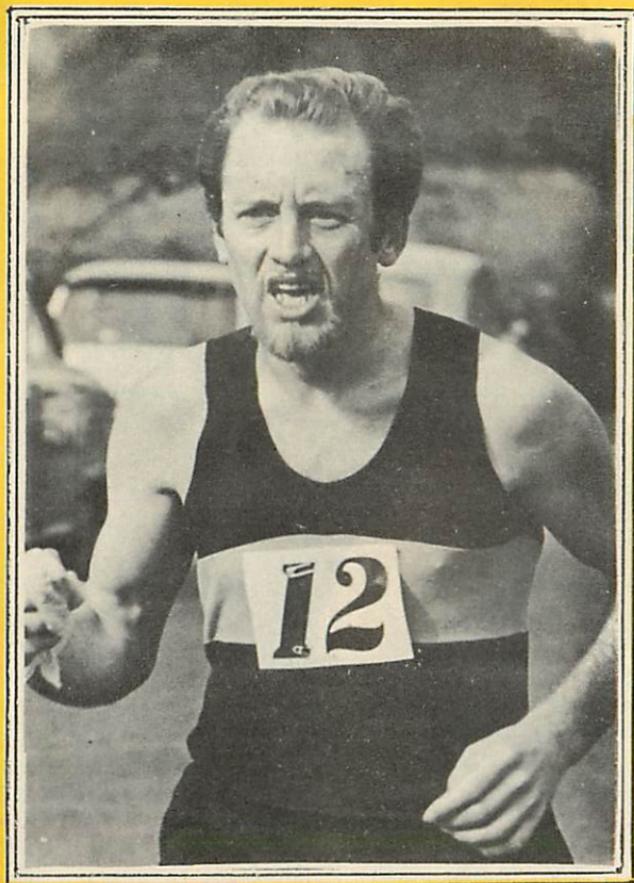


The

# BELGRAVIAN



Official Gazette of  
Belgrave Harriers

QUARTERLY

JUNE 1967



**FRONTISPIECE** (Photo:E.D. Lacey) John Bicourt becomes the first Belgravian to break 9 mins for the 3,000m S/chase at the Inter-Counties, White City.

**FRONT COVER** (Photo:R. Linstead) Trevor Hart, Belgrave's leading distance runner this season with times of 1:46:19 (Finchley 20) and 1:47:07 (Inter-County 20)



THE

## BELGRAVIAN

FOUNDED 1887

June 1967

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## EDITORIAL

Already this season torrential rain has caused many of our tracks to post those familiar notices "track closed", "dressing rooms only". When the tracks are back in use again, three or four groundsmen will spend considerable time preparing for the next meeting, rolling, sweeping, marking and then, to protect their handiwork, post that even more familiar notice "outside lanes only". Between times some of these tracks (Tooting Bec in particular) get such a pounding that on occasions the Common horsehide is smooth by comparison.

If ever a country needed all-weather track surfaces, then this country is it. The National Playing Fields Association is alive to the desirability of such surfaces for play areas in general, but many local authorities appear to be dragging their feet. The capital cost is, of course, higher than the traditional cinder track but maintenance is negligible by present standards, markings

are permanent and drainage is immediate. Furthermore, athletes can train in all weathers and only need road shoes for doing so — though needle spikes are advisable for sprints during competition.

The En-Tout-Cas "K" surface (a resin-bound rubber chip on a hessian mat over an asphalt sub-base) has been laid down at Queens University, Belfast (1966) and at Leicester (1967). Freedom from maintenance was the prime mover in both cases and, whilst there is difficulty at present in finding a solution for the normally long spiked javelin throwers, each track has proved to be very successful. The "K" surface is also being laid at the twin sports cities in Tripoli and Benghazi, Libya, which will accommodate the 1969 Pan-Arab Games, and in Montreal the 1967 Pan-American Games will be staged on the fabulous 3M "Tartan" surface — a ½" thick synthetic polymer sheet costing £12 a square yard!

The first resilient all-weather track was laid in the U.S.A. in 1958 — 9 years ago. Within a year or two there were dozens, yet London is still awaiting its first. Tooting Bec track is probably the most heavily used track in the country. Many improvements have been made there and it was one of the first to install floodlighting. The G.L.C. would render an even greater service to the athletes in the South London area if it were to lay an all-weather surface at this popular venue, and at the same time ease its own labour problems.

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With the summer season only shortly begun there have already been some tremendous individual performances by Belgrave athletes although we have still failed, so far, to click as an all-round track and field team. Four Club records have been written into the books with others being threatened at almost every meeting we attend. We have yet to be beaten in an ordinary club match this year so LET'S HAVE A GO AT THOSE TROPHY MEETS.

Amongst our younger members the scene is fantastic. There are literally dozens of Boys between the ages of 8 and 15 years old at Battersea Park on Sunday mornings (similarly at Norbiton) training in all aspects of our sport. All standards are being catered for but some of the performances put up by these lads are truly amazing — after all, how many of our Seniors can Long Jump over 17'0", toss a Javelin out to 120'0" or more, or knock up 2:12 for a "half"?

## COMING!

JUNE 19th	(Mon)	Inter-club match at Parliament Hill fields.
JUNE 24th	(Sat)	Southern Senior Championships Motspur Park.
JUNE 28th	(Wed)	Inter-club match at Battersea Park.
JULY 1st	(Sat)	RYDER TROPHY MEETING Southampton.
JULY 5th	(Wed)	Inter-Club Walks Battersea Park.
JULY 8th	(Sat)	BROCKMAN TROPHY MEETING Wimbledon Park.

# HON SEC'S NOTES

All Belgravians will be delighted to know that the AAA General Committee has unanimously recommended that Les Cohen should be awarded the AAA Award of Honour for his tremendous services to Athletics. This recommendation will require the endorsement of the Annual General Meeting in October when it is certain that everyone connected with the sport will take the opportunity of showing their appreciation of the work Les has done over so many years.

Our Hon. Secretary, Alf Harley, has been elected Deputy-Chairman of the Southern Counties AAA.

In our last issue we printed a photograph taken outside "The Swan" in 1921 and Albert Macher (who himself appears in the photograph) has been able to fill in some of the blanks among the names as follows; 38.Mr Gray Snr. (J.F.Gray's father); 32.Frazer; 26.Wyatt; 29.Barrell. He confirms that 23 is H.E.Nice and not C.P.Sexton as printed.

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 20th at our Wimbledon Headquarters, and diaries should be noted accordingly.

An alteration should be made to the current Summer fixture list. The AAA Marathon Championship will take place on Saturday, August 19th (and not 26th as shown) from Badesley Colliery, near Nuneaton. Also that the Hastings - Brighton walk will be on August 12th and not as shown.

One of the heart-gladdening sights at our track meetings at Battersea Park is the number of enthusiastic Boy members, whose keenness is a joy to behold. They tackle all sorts of events arranged for them with such evident pleasure and enthusiasm that Reg Hopkins, Tom Carter, Dave Ansell and others must surely feel well compensated for the terrific volume of work involved in looking after the interests of our young members.

A letter of good wishes to the present generation of athletes, and to those who may remember him has been received from W.G. ("Bill") Dodkin who ran and walked with us in the early 1920's, after three years in the army in the first World War.

A.A.H.

## WELCOME

We extend a cordial welcome to the following members who have joined us since the March issue of THE BELGRAVIAN. We look forward to seeing them in action and hope they will avail themselves of our coaches and facilities. Our officials will gladly give any help or advice you might require so don't be shy of putting pen to paper or lifting the telephone.

Enrique BARRAGAN.....(Bolivia)	Edward McNALLY.....(Surrey)
Anthony C. BIANCHI.....(Staffs)	David MILAN.....(Surrey)
Donald R. BONSER.....(Surrey)	Paul PLANSON.....(Surrey)
Clifford CALDERWOOD.....(Midxx)	Alan S. REES.....(Surrey)
John CLEMENTS.....(Surrey)	David B. REES.....(Surrey)
John P. CROCKFORD.....(Surrey)	Patrick J. RUDD.....(Midxx)
Michael J. DAY.....(Surrey)	Anthony RUSSELL.....(Surrey)
Trevor M. DAY.....(Surrey)	Aris SAPOUNTZOGLOU.....(Tanzania)
Patrick DONNELLY.....(Eire)	Malcolm P. SMITH.....(Wales)
Vincent HORN.....(Midxx)	Colin C. SMITH.....(Surrey)
Olusola A. IPAYE.....(Nigeria)	Barry M. Staples.....(Surrey)
Robert D. KIBBLE.....(Surrey)	Peter WHEWELL.....(Cheshire)
Neil KIRBY.....(Surrey)	David H. WILKINSON.....(Lancs)

### SECOND CLAIM

David COCKSEGE.....(Herne H.) Alan L. LERWILL.....(Queens Park H)

### HONORARY MEMBER

Victor F. RANGER of CHINGFORD, E.4.

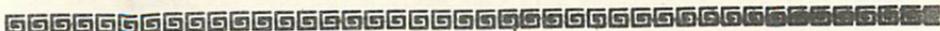
An especial welcome is accorded to Peter Whewell, member of the South African cross-country team. Although he now hails from JOHANNESBURG he was in fact born in

Cheshire and did not leave these shores until the age of 12 years. That was nearly 15 years ago, and as Peter had every intention of re-visiting the land of his birth he used the South Africa cross-country team as the vehicle!

Not an easy way, but a satisfying one. The name of BELGRAVE HARRIERS was not new to him either, for in Johannesburg he shared a flat with former member Mike CONINGHAM (resident at Lauriston Cottage for some time) who also made the Springbok's team..

After the International in March Peter stayed on. An accountant, he took a job with a Auditing firm which has kept him too busy to continue with his normal training. Nevertheless he plans to set personal bests for all his track distances this summer and has already put the six miles behind him with an excellent 28:35 at Walton. The other times awaiting betterment are 1 mile 4:5:0, 2 miles 9:6:0, 3,000 metres 8:27:0, 3 miles 13:59:0 (at an altitude of 6,000 ft).

At the beginning of August he commences a two month tour of the Continent and Scandinavia and then, on his return, will weigh up the advantages and disadvantages of prolonging his stay. Whatever his decision, we wish him a happy stay and hope he will make many friends here.



## From 'The BELGRAVIAN'

### 25 YEARS AGO . . . . .

MAY 1942---" Each month sees a wider distribution of our members over the Earth's surface---each month lengthens the distances between us---each month makes THE BELGRAVIAN more and more of a necessity.

Our Gazette is a reminder of happy times spent together in sporting endeavour and a reminder that the prized friendships we have built against a background of amateur sport and happy associations, still exist; and will continue to exist even when the War is recalled as something rather unpleasant which came our way in the distant past.

The great majority of Club members are now serving in the Forces and look forward to the arrival of THE BELGRAVIAN giving news of friends and of the athletic events which continue to be held---We re-live the incidents of past years, we wonder how this one is faring and where the other lays his head in these days of War.

### . . . . and 40 YEARS AGO

JUNE 1927---"If the eagerly anticipated Road Walking "Junior" Championship at Sheffield failed to provide the expected success to the Club in the team event, ample consolation was forthcoming for any disappointment by the really great performances of T.W. Green (Olympic Gold-medallist 5 years later) and A.L. Fletcher who finished first and second respectively in the actual race after as good and exciting a race as has been witnessed over 10 miles.

With a field of over 200 there was naturally some bunching at the start but at a mile Green was ahead with Fletcher behind a pack in close attendance.

Shortly after, the two drew out clear ahead and at 4½ miles Green had a nominal lead of some 2 yards---they were having a battle royal and knowing the speed at Fletcher's command we were considering that he would be certain to win when the time came for the final effort, but Green was a sturdy finisher and resisting all challengers held on to win a very fine race by some 6 yards----. We started 17 and all finished.

TAILPIECE to the Bank Holiday meeting at White City.

If Harold Abrahams intends to persevere with the announcing "game" he might like to note the suggestion that was noisily aired in the "popular" section of the ground. This was to supply each spectator with a telephone, a stenographer and an assistant. The telephone would enable him to reply to Harold's greeting of "Hallo!" before every announcement, the stenographer to enter names while the spectator struggles to get down numbers and times only, and the assistant to discover what the numbers are when names only are given. The latter would also have an additional task---that of recording the results announced while an exciting race is in progress!

# GERRY REGAINS 'WIMBLEDON CUP'

## COMFORTABLE WIN IN '54' - MARCH 18th

Although Geoff North relinquished his hold on the Club 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  road race title, there was little doubt that it was destined to remain in the family. Brother Gerry was back in good form after his set-back at Norwich but surprised even himself to run within six seconds of the record set by Geoff last year. "If I'd known I'd be that close I would have gone for the record" he remarked, ruminating on last year's event when his record was surpassed by just one second!

When Frank Jarvis sent the 45 runners on their way it was soon apparent that the best three would have to work very hard for their medals. Following his excellent run in the Southampton - Bournemouth relay the previous week (B team!) Chris Steer was really out to show it was no freak performance. Before the field had realised it his tall stylish figure had raced into a 20 yards lead which he had doubled by the half mile! Bill Dance led the chase and, inevitably, the gap narrowed - but it was not until the runners made their way out to Copse Hill that Gerry moved into the lead he was to hold to the end. Geoff North, Major, Dance, O'Hara and Fairclough joined Chris to form the forward bunch and the contest for second place.

On the homeward run Tony Fairclough drew away for a comfortable looking second place but those ace finishers Bill Dance and Laurie O'Hara reduced it to very modest proportions down Lauriston Road and at the same time relegated Chris Steer, the hero of the race, to 5th position.

Bill Kerr, fast regaining his form of old, made a lot of ground in the final stages, but John Thresher once again showed his dislike for road races in excess of 4 miles. Pat Newell chivvied up our leading men with a snappy 28:49, just 14 seconds faster than his winning time of 12 years ago!

Lionel Mann and Pat O'Connor both ran exceptionally well and you will be hearing a lot more of this fast improving pair.

Bernard Merry was a popular winner of the handicap with Mann second

and Laws third.

### RESULT:

1. Gerry North	(Scr)	27:20	23. E. Penny	(4:30)	32:19
2. A. Fairclough	(0:40)	28:03	24. P. Pringle	(4:30)	32:28
3. G. Dance	(1:15)	28:07	25. B. Merry	(7:30)	32:32
4. L. O'Hara	(1:00)	28:10	26. J. Kelly	(4:30)	32:49
5. C. Steer	(1:15)	28:13	27. R. Glover	(3:30)	32:57
6. Geoff North	(Scr.)	28:15	28. W. Laws	(7:30)	33:09
7. A. Major	(1:45)	28:16	29. P. King	(6:00)	33:21
8. W. Kerr	(1:00)	28:21	30. D. Hurd	(6:30)	33:29
9. J. Thresher	(0:30)	28:46	31. C. Hurd	(6:30)	33:56
10. P. Newall	(1:45)	28:49	32. W. Fairfield	(6:20)	34:11
11. A. Black	(1:30)	29:12	33. J. Macdonald	(7:15)	34:14
12. L. Mann	(4:30)	29:37	34. G. Piddington	(7:00)	34:19
13. J. Dear	(1:50)	30:06	35. J. Hall	(4:30)	34:44
14. P. O'Connor	(2:30)	30:15	36. Bonser	(4:30)	34:50
15. C. Walker	(2:45)	30:27	37. D. Newall	(6:30)	34:53
16. D. Brew	(3:20)	30:57	38. D. Davies	(7:00)	35:06
17. A. Bruce	(3:00)	31:20	39. P. Sutton	(8:30)	35:31
18. C. Shippen	(4:00)	31:40	40. A. Mead	(8:00)	35:46
19. R. James	(4:45)	31:52	41. J. Plummer	(8:00)	35:56
20. G. Biscoe	(5:00)	31:54	42. R. Hopkins	(8:45)	36:50
21. C. Keavey	(3:45)	31:59	43. J. Heathfield	(9:00)	37:08
22. D. Jones	(4:45)	32:07	44. J. V. Baker	(9:30)	38:29

Cross-country item omitted from our March issue. On 11th March at Mark Eaton, Derby, the Junior Inter-County CTC. Championships were held in which the Surrey team were 7th. ADRIAN MAJOR was their second scoring man in 35th place.

JOHN BARNARD, one of our most promising youths for the last two seasons, has now turned his attention to soccer in a big way. This talented all-round sportsman has been signed up by Plymouth Argyle and is looking forward to a long professional career.

John will not be the first to leave our ranks for the soccer field—nor indeed the first John. Another that comes to mind is our former junior long-jump record holder, JOHN KEY, who made the grade at Fulham F.C. We wish John Barnard similar success and will watch his progress with interest.

RAY MIDDLETON became the first holder of the "JACK CRUMP" trophy when this fine silver salver was presented to him at the Surrey County Championships at Motpur Park on May 20th. The trophy was presented jointly by the Surrey Co AAA and the Surrey Co P.F.A. to perpetuate the name of Jack Crump who did so much for Surrey Co athletics.

# ROAD RELAY ROUND-UP

THREE FIRSTS — ONE THIRD — ONE FOURTH — ONE SEVENTH

The 1967 Spring Road Relay Season produced three wins in six outings - as in 1966 - but one can't help having mixed feelings about the record. On the credit side, three wins is a performance that many clubs would envy and is, of course, a great morale booster to the lads whose sideboards are becoming heavily laden with prizes. Even our 'B' teams are making their mark with runners clocking times superior to some 'A' team men and giving the selectors a real head-ache! On the debit side, Portsmouth did not defend their Southampton - Bournemouth title and our other two wins were at Enfield and Brighton where the opposition could hardly be termed difficult; and at the latter venue we were closer than was comfortable even then. Our 4th place at Cranford was not really disappointing for we were without the Norths, Thresher and Fairclough, but our limitations are brought home to us when we meet our Midland and Northern rivals. The leading clubs in these areas are surging ahead again in the form books whilst standards in the South (outside Portsmouth and Belgrave) are at a low ebb. The new generation of Midland and Northern runners are already making their mark and are proving harder nuts to crack than their Southern counterparts. With Portsmouth having seen their best days it is up to BELGRAVE to keep the Southern flag flying and to prepare in earnest for a tougher than ever 1967/8 season.

The South African cross-country team competed as guests at the T.V.H. road relay, Cranford, and were first to cross the line. Although we won nothing this day we did not come away empty handed. Peter Whewell, who clocked fastest time of the day for the South Africans, signed on the dotted line and hopes to compete for us for the remainder of the year. Our depleted 'A' team had plenty to run for and were never outside the first five. On the final lap John Bicourt stood an outside chance of finishing 2nd to a full strength Poly team but had to concede places to Price (Bristol) and Herring (Blackheath). Trevor Hart was our best performer for the 'A' team and Pat Newall the top 'B' man.

The wisdom of racing on the track between the National C.C. and Relay events was shown to be doubtful when both Gerry Williams (strained stomach muscle) and Gerry North (strained calf) were invalids at the A.A.A. inaugural relay at Leicester. Williams withdrew minutes before the start and North broke down during the race. John Dear did everything that was asked of him as reserve but our long stage men found the opposition too much to cope with. There were plenty of "ifs" and "buts" floating around after the race but great teams win despite their set-backs and Coventry had more of these than anyone!

With seven days to overcome their disappointment there was a carefree air about the eighteen runners that appeared at Brighton for the Front Relay. A warm, sunny, windless day was in complete contrast to the conditions at Leicester the previous week. The usual debate as to who should step down to the 'B' team resulted in Tony Fairclough having his turn as a second team man. This resulted in a fine tussle between Tony and Bill Dance ('A') on the first leg which ended with Bill's usual sprint finish cutting back his rival's 30 yards lead to a mere 1 second margin. Such rivalry between our 'A' and 'B' teams does the Club nothing but good and our runners finished 3rd and 4th to give their colleagues a grand start. S.L.H. proved to be a surprise package here for, without Roberts and Gilson, they led us until the final stages of the last leg when Laurie O'Hara did his usual duty for us. Brian Buxton made his only appearance of the short season and showed how useful he would have been at Leicester.

Winners for the last three years, Belgrave sent a useful team up to Blackpool for the four-man relay. Peter Whewell had his first race in our colours finishing 4th behind Ibbottson, Leigh and Raval and Bill Dance took us up a further place. Geoff North got us to within 8 seconds of Manchester D.L.C. but Gerry, in his first outing after his calf injury, could do nothing to stop the two leading clubs from going away and we had to be content with 3rd place. A name to note in the Manchester team was R. Wilde, who was amongst the day's fastest times and with team-mate Gregory and the whole Longwood quartet, were faster than any of our four men! This illustrates only too well the improvement in standards "up there".

Our final outing was at Enfield for the Ponders End Relay where, once again, we went as holders. Last year we led from start to finish and we followed the same pattern this time, except that this year the only team to provide any opposition was our 'B' outfit! Slowest of our ten runners was Bill Kerr whose time was beaten last year by only Gerry North and Laurie O'Hara. This time it was Bill Dance's turn for relegation to the 'B' team

and he gave the only sensible answer to such decisions - a time faster than two of our 'A' men!

All in all an interesting, though brief, season. Would anyone dare to predict our record next Spring?

### SUMMARY

#### SOUTHAMPTON - BOURNEMOUTH

See March edition of "The Belgravian" (p.44)

CRANFORD (Thames Valley H.)		'A'		'B'
1. Polytechnic H	83:38	(5) L.O'Hara	17:02	(17) J. Dear 17:31
2. Bristol AC	84:58	(4) T. Hart	16:48	(12) A. Major 17:30
3. Blackheath H	85:19	(2) W. Dance	17:07	(10) P. Newall 17:18
4. BELGRAVE H	85:37	(3) C. Steer	17:21	(11) L. Mann 18:18
5. T.V.H.	86:25	(4) J. Bicourt	17:19	(12) A. Black 17:50
6. Cambridge & Col.	86:29			
7. Windsor & Eton	86:41	(23) J.W. Brown	17:45	(51) D. Jones 19:32
8. Ranelagh H	87:07	(27) H. Satchell	18:34	(47) E. Penny 19:34
12. BELGRAVE 'B'	88:27	(29) D. Brew	19:04	(46) B. Merry 20:09
31. BELGRAVE 'C'	94:33	(28) R. Jones	19:12	(42) R. Glover 18:52
40. BELGRAVE 'D'	98:57	(31) P. Blair-Fish	19:58	(40) G. Piddington 20:05
<b>Fastest times:-</b> P. Whewell (S.A) 16:07, W. Olivier (S.A) 16:10, R. Winter (Bristol 'B') 16:23, M. Price (Bristol) 16:24, A. Ashton (Reading) 16:24, J. Hogan (Poly H) 16:26.				

#### A.A.A. NATIONAL ROAD RELAY

See page 9.

BRIGHTON FRONT (Brighton & Hove AC)				
1. BELGRAVE H (rec)	75:52	(4) W. Dance	12:42	(3) A. Fairclough 12:41
2. S.L.H.	76:08	(2) J. Bicourt	12:32	(13) J. Dear 13:54
3. Portsmouth AC	76:17	(3) A. Major	12:58	(18) P.O'Connor 14:10
4. Hercules AC	76:57	(2) Geoff North	12:35	(15) B. Buxton 12:45
5. Woodford Gn.	77:11	(2) J. Thresher	12:26	(13) H. Satchell 13:35
6. Surrey AC	77:38	(1) L.O'Hara	12:39	(12) A. Black 13:14
7. Mitcham AC	78:03			
8. Walton AC	78:10	(42) C. Keavey	14:25	(35) R. Glover 14:10
12. BELGRAVE 'B'	80:19	(43) P. Pringle	14:41	(34) C. Shippen 14:19
31. BELGRAVE 'C'	86:43	(40) E. Penny	14:35	(31) W. Laws 14:33
<b>Fastest Times:-</b> R. Holt (Herc) 12:17, R. Gevers (SLH) 12:20, L. Presland (Sy) 12:21, A. Maxwell (W.Gn) 12:21, C. Moxom (W.Gn) 12:23 J. Cooke (Portsmouth) 12:24				

#### BLACKPOOL (Blackpool & Fylde AC)

BLACKPOOL (Blackpool & Fylde AC)		'A'		'B'
1. Longwood H	89:40			
2. Manchester DLC	90:11	(4) P. Whewell	22:37	(9) A. Major 23:17
3. BELGRAVE H	90:48	(3) W. Dance	22:58	(15) J. Dear 24:33
4. Nth. Staffs & Stn.	90:55	(3) Geoff North	22:29	
5. Bolton Utd. H	91:46	(3) Gerry North	22:44	
<b>Fastest Times:-</b> J. Jackson (N. Staffs) 21:53, R. Hill (Bolton) 21:56, A. Simpson (Roth) 22:09, J. McGrow (Long) 22:15, R. Gregory (Man) 22:15 (Under 21yrs) S. Edmunds (Sale) 23:09, A. Major (BELS) 23:17				

#### PONDERS END (Boro' Of Enfield H)

PONDERS END (Boro' Of Enfield H)		'A'		'B'
1. BELGRAVE H (rec)	86:27	(1) Gerry North	16:57	(5) A. Major 17:39
2. BELGRAVE 'B'	87:58	(1) J. Bicourt	17:33	(2) A. Fairclough 17:28
3. Ilford AC	88:36	(1) P. Whewell	17:24	(2) C. Steer 17:43
4. Boro' of Enfield	89:13	(1) Geoff North	17:04	(2) W. Kerr 17:44
5. Ealing & Southall	89:16	(1) L.O'Hara	17:29	(2) W. Dance 17:24
6. Luton Utd.	89:32			
15. BELGRAVE 'C'	96:58	(10) P.O'Connor	18:06	(15) C. Keavey 19:38
		(15) R. James	20:03	(15) C. Shippen 19:36
		(16) D. Jones	19:35	'D' team: D. Hurd 20:41
<b>Fastest times:-</b> Gerry North 16:57, Geoff North 17:04, M. Barratt (Ealing) 17:08				

" A Scotsman one day in Dumbarton  
Tried to run in the mile, like a Spartan,  
But on the first lap  
Our Jock broke his strap  
And his face turned a real Scottish tartan".

# Bels slump in National Relay

LONG STAGE WEAKNESSES

## WHETSTONE, LEICESTER - APRIL 1st

Once again, when the chips were down against top opposition, we failed to make our mark. Oh yes! It was quite easy to work out afterwards how we would have won if it had been "our day" but such daydreams overlook the fact that other clubs can justifiably do likewise and in several instances have a bigger "time-credit" up their sleeves. Belgrave finished 7th; Coventry are the Champions and the gap was 3mins 14secs. That was the result but the story was much different. There is no doubt that Dick Taylor of Coventry went as near as anyone could to winning a relay on his own. Taking over 3 minutes down and in 8th position the National Cross Country Champion took his club into the lead and they never looked back - but this effort did no more really than offset Coventry's disastrous run on Stage 3, when they dropped from 3rd to 15th. Gerry North, only partially recovered from injury in an ultra-early track race, risked himself on a long stage and broke down halfway through to record a time as slow as Coventry's "failures" on the third and seventh stages - but we had no Dick Taylor or John Hammond to off-set such setbacks and therein lies our weakness at this level. Neither of the Norths were fully fit yet it was still necessary for them to do long stages and although our short stage men performed excellently it is very unlikely that they would have improved on our long stage rankings of 14th, 8th, 10th, 10th, 16th and 16th - figures that tell a great deal.

The Championship was held at the English Electric premises at Whetstone Leicester on April 1st. The course was a figure-eight circuit with the large lap measuring 5m 1,600yds and the short one 3m 705yds - an almost perfect venue with all the facilities of the firm available to competitors and officials alike.

About sixty Belgravians and supporters turned up for this inaugural championship and in the hour preceding the start there was to be good and bad news for our followers. Spirits sank when Gerry Williams' pre-race "test" confirmed his withdrawal from the team, but rose again when it was understood Gerry North would be taking a long stage after all. The only other change was Bill Kerr to replace Bill Dance on a long stage.

### STAGE 1: Geoff North (28:45 - 14th fastest)

Conditions were cold with a very strong head wind as the 28 runners set off on the first of the long stages. Geoff seemed contented enough for the first mile or so, but when the field strung out before the head wind had been overcome the going became much harder and his absence from competition began to tell. It was generally felt that Coventry and Portsmouth were the main teams to watch so although Hammond brought Godiva home with a useful lead it was gratifying to see Geoff hold Meadows of Portsmouth to one second.

### STAGE 2: John Bicourt (16:34 - 2nd fastest)

Everyone knew that it was up to our short stage men to make progress while the long stages held their own and John set an excellent example of what was required. Only the redoubtable Ibbotson bettered his time. John's effort had hauled us up from 14th to 7th and we were now 39 seconds behind the leaders, Longwood.

### STAGE 3: Bill Kerr (28:42 - 8th fastest)

Bill really did justify the last minute decision to switch him on to a long stage. He passed every one of the six runners ahead, only to be passed in turn by Perry (Birchfield), Wright (Tipton) and in a final sprint Leake (Leicester). Nevertheless we were better placed than at any time in the race, being 33 seconds behind the leaders, 29 seconds ahead of Portsmouth and 1:15 up on Coventry.

### STAGE 4: John Dear (17:22 - 13th fastest)

John was in the unenviable position of being a last minute replacement for Gerry Williams and taking over in 4th place. He kept his head, stuck to the task well and although conceding three places got inside the 17:30 we were looking for. More important, John had drawn 17 seconds further away from Pompey and Coventry were still over a minute behind.

### STAGE 5: John Thresher (29:03 - 10th fastest)

John regained a place and ran to form for a race of this length, but the five clubs ahead all moved away and Entwistle (Man DLC) and Hirons (Coventry) each gained over half a minute in our rear.

### STAGE 6: Adrian Major (16:44 - 2nd fastest)

It was on this stage that Mel Thorpe, who has given us such good

service in the past, was to have his first opportunity of crossing swords with his old team-mates. Providing he didn't gain ground at our expense everyone wished him well! Adrian was most helpful, running second fastest time on this leg and thus enabling Mel to finish third fastest (2 seconds slower) and gain the congratulations of both teams - a most diplomatic solution!

#### STAGE 7 Trevor Hart (29:18 - 10th fastest)

Trevor held his place well for most of the stage and moved past Polytechnic (Beacham) near the end to take 4th position, only to be passed by Gregory (Man DLC) who had run 37 seconds faster. Hyman had also run 20 secs faster to bring Pompey a little nearer but Coventry had another bad stage with Dowall clocking 30:29 in 10th place - 1:11 slower than Trevor and nearly 4 minutes behind the leaders, Birchfield. At this point we rashly dismissed Coventry from the reckoning; after all, didn't we have Gerry North, Fairclough, Dance, O'Hara and Steer to come? Surely no one could match such power - we thought!

#### STAGE 8 Chris Steer (16:54 - 2nd fastest)

Chris was quick to endorse this point of view and followed Adrian Major's example by clocking second fastest time for his stage; only Coventry (Juan Taylor) running faster. Portsmouth slipped back further still while Chris's effort had caught Manchester on the line.

#### STAGE 9 Tony Fairclough (30:16 - 16th fastest)

This was the stage that decided it all. When Tony set off with Ravald of Manchester, a man of equal calibre, 1:36 behind the leaders and 1:18 and 1:48 ahead of Coventry and Portsmouth respectively we looked to be in with a good chance still, for it was not unreasonable to hope that Fairclough would hold off the efforts of Taylor and Tulloh. However, Tony chose this day for one of his rare mediocre performances and Dick Taylor picked it for perhaps his greatest run to date. Ravald got away from Tony almost immediately and while the Manchester Lad opened up a minute's lead Taylor simply tore through the field like a half-miler against marathoners and shot from 8th to 1st in 27:08, well over a minute faster than Tulloh and Holt and 37 seconds faster than the next best man of the day, Allan Rushmer (Tipton). So sensational was this performance that when it was announced that Taylor had taken the lead a mile or so from the finish, no one believed it. Surely it was another error over the radio-telephone. But no, in he raced to applause from all sides with a narrow lead over Leicester and Derby and it was nearly two minutes later that the anxious eyes of our supporters spotted a distressed Tony Fairclough struggling to the finish, just 6 seconds ahead of Bruce Tulloh. It was bad enough to get "stitch" in a race of this importance but to have it rubbed in by the two fastest men of the day tearing past was cruel luck for our runner.

#### STAGE 10 Laurie O'Hara (16:45 - fastest)

The race had been transformed and things looked black, but not to Laurie O'Hara. Revelling in the situation his rapid stride ate into the deficit and brought us back up to the Manchester club again. He fully deserved his number 1 ranking for stage 10. We had now recovered to 1:29 down on the leaders, but with the first four teams running in a pack during this lap it was a formidable gap to close. If anyone could do it, it would be Gerry North.

#### STAGE 11 Gerry North (30:27 - 16th fastest)

Gerry soon caught and passed Ward of Manchester DLC and half way round the lap was over half a minute ahead of his Northern rival and fast closing on the runners ahead. Tim Johnston of Portsmouth was running equally well 37 seconds behind and was making little impression on the gap. Then disaster struck. Gerry's leg failed to stand the strain and he tore his damaged calf again. Reduced to a hobble but with no thought of retiring, he pressed on at a painfully slow pace. First Johnston, then Ward swept past and Gerry's good work was rapidly undone. Instead of finishing a certain third he could do nothing but limp in a gallant 8th, 3 minutes behind the leaders, Derby. Gerry is normally at his best in these relays and it would not be unreasonable to assume he would have matched Johnston's time of 27:59 in normal circumstances. In the final analysis this alone was the difference between 3rd place medals and 7th place.

#### STAGE 12 Bill Dance (16:59 - 5th fastest)

With well-wishers from many sides implying that it would all depend on the last stage and that Gerry would probably hand over in 3rd place, it must have been no small shock to wait 2½ minutes longer than expected and see one's rivals disappear into impregnable leads. Bill did enough to gain the only place it was humanly possible to take but certainly would have been

higher up the ranking list if he had been in at the kill as expected. Nevertheless he was our 5th runner to break 17 minutes on the short lap - a record that no other club could match.

And so we had to be content with 7th place, but whilst we live to fight another day it must be remembered that so too do Manchester, Longwood, Tipton, North Staffs and our old rivals Birchfield, all of whom are growing stronger month by month. It will not get any easier and next year our team will all be a year older - a factor that will soon eclipse the Portsmouth outfit. Our team would no doubt be quite happy to fade away if they could match the record of their south coast rivals! It is not impossible.

RESULT:

1.Coventry God. H	274:35
2.Derby & Cty AC	275:03
3.Portsmouth AC	275:36
4.Manchester DLC	276:50
5.Birchfield H	277:00
6.Tipton H	277:09
7.BELGRAVE H	277:49
8.Leicester Coll.	278:04
9.Polytechnic H	279:33
10.Longwood H	279:50

FASTEST TIMES

	<u>Long Stage</u>	<u>Short Stage</u>
R.Taylor(Cov)	27:08	D.Ibbottson(Lng)16:23
A.Rushmer(Tip)	27:45	P.Stewart(Birch)16:27
D.Lem (Leics)	27:53	J.Taylor(Cov) 16:28
J.Hammond(Cov)	27:59	K.Bartlett(Cov)16:30
J.Wright(Tip)	27:59	A.Ashton(Read) 16:32
T.Johnston(Ports)	27:59	J.Bicourt(BEL) 16:34
J.Simmons (Derby)	28:01	G.Pymm (TVH) 16:35
C.Perry(Birch)	28:02	P.Blakesley(Leics)16:35

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## SOCIAL

The last Jumble Bale was our most successful so far and we took no less than £28-18-10½. Our thanks go to all those regular helpers who helped to make it a success. For those who have not witnessed the spectacle of jumble being sold, you don't know what you are missing! Come along and help out on a stall at our next sale; students of sociology will find it quite an education.

\* \* \*

The Club Dinner will be held at the WIMBLEDON HILL HOTEL again this year, November 18th. If you think that is early then you had better note that there are only 240 tickets left—10 were snapped up at the Club Championships on June 3rd! Seriously though folks, it was a full house last year and some late applicants were disappointed. Make a note in those diaries to get your tickets in September and be safe.

\* \* \*

Club Championship Day, June 3rd, saw our usual programme of Children's races during the interval. Charlie Manning ("Uncle Charlie") was in control(?) and apart from one prize, which disappeared with its recipient over the track railings, the awards were in fact won by children of bona-fide club members—or should it be bona-fide children of club members!

The few races were the "Benger's Benefit" 20 yards for 2 yr olds, the "Dolly Mixture" derby (30yds) for 3 yr olds, the "Lollipop Stakes" 30 yds for 5 yr olds and the "Cow and Gate" handicap hurdle for 5-10 yr olds over 40 yds. The handicapping left a lot to be desired and starting stalls would have been useful for some of the 2 yr olds. The Club's Hon. Handicapper was, nevertheless, still seen to be jotting down some of the form for filing with his 1980 marks!

\* \* \*

On the evening of the Club Championships a "Freak- Out" was held at Belgrave Hall. The originator of Wimbledon's pirate pop station, Christopher "Carnaby" Steer, was in the "chair" with sufficient record stocks and equipment to rival the B.B.C. (sorry, I mean Caroline). Apart from the incoherent ramblings of the disc jockey, who had difficulty in reading the record titles through dark glasses and hashish smoke, and the aura of purple haze around the set this could have been any radio station. The poor amplification helped to make it sound even more authentic.

A good sized crowd got really bouncing as the evening wore on and it might have been an idea to open up the showers at midnight when the evening drew to a close. Everyone had a good time, particularly Bob Taylor who celebrated his birthday with Don Maclean in the bar!

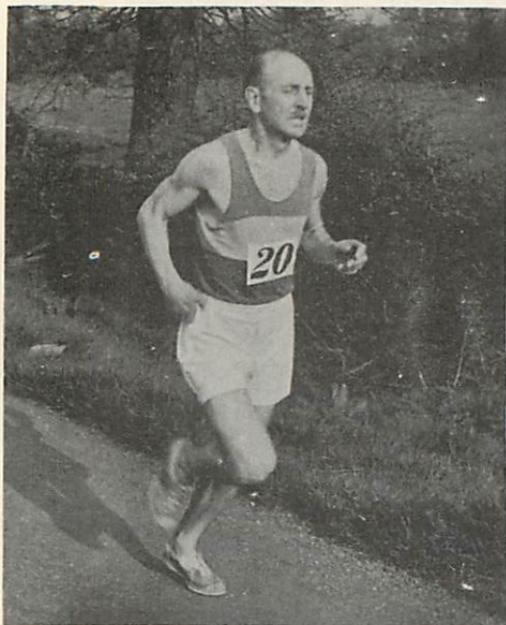
Chris put a lot of time into preparation for the evening and deserves commendation for his decor, publicity and presentation—not forgetting, of course, Charlie Manning's witty skits on T.V. advertising during the interval.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 1967

Members are reminded that subscriptions for the current year have been due since September 1st 1966—8 months ago. Those with outstanding obligations are asked to contact their friend THE TREASURER without delay.

# SPOTLIGHT ON ... ..

... .. *Arthur Whitehead*



Arthur Whitehead during the Finchley '20'  
19th April 1952

When the South African cross-country team arrived at London Airport last February they lost no time in heading straight for Lauriston Cottage - the "Centre of British Athletics". This title was given by one of the visitors and although it may seem a gross exaggeration to our local athletes it does illustrate the high regard with which the Cottage is held by our overseas friends. And not without good cause. During the last fifteen years hundreds of athletes from far afield, including Olympic, European and Empire medallists, have run across that eighty sq. yards of stable fore court which dates back to the days of William Wilberforce the emancipator. Stars and scrubbers alike rub shoulders at this well known training base and it will surely not be long before the Cottage becomes more famous than Cerutti's camp at Portsea in Australia. But what is behind the popularity of this ancient building sited on the south side of Wimbledon Common? What is it that has caused as many as sixty runners to appear there on a Sunday morning? Why do some travel 10 to 15 miles just to train there? There are many reasons of course but they all originate from one

source. A man. A man whose hospitality and understanding of athletes has earned him the undying gratitude of countless runners; a man who very nearly did not live to see any of it — ARTHUR WHITEHEAD.

Arthur was born at Hindhead, Surrey in 1913. Although a Surrey man through and through his formative years were spent at Sedbergh Public School in the North of England. His knowledge of the Yorkshire moors, and his general fitness to boot, were acquired during his years at this school where the boys regularly took part in cross-country runs in excess of 10 miles - sometimes stretching to 20 miles when conditions were unfavourable! There was no inter-school athletics for Sedbergh though, for Arthur's school was the famous rugby nursery that produced W.W.Wakefield, and all physical fitness was channelled into this contact sport.

On completion of his general education Arthur studied Law. What spare time he could salvage was devoted to sailing and the Territorial Army - in both he enjoyed success. (It was during his T.A. service with the London Scottish that he first met Tommy Robertson, now President of Wimbledon AC and then CSM of the Unit.) He was now living at Wimbledon, and in 1937 he became a qualified Solicitor of Law.

Two years later Great Britain was at war with Germany and soon after Arthur was commissioned into the Black Watch, where his grandfather had been a colonel in the Regiment, and it was not long before he was employing his well-known beliefs in physical fitness, team spirit and determination in the cause of producing a first-rate fighting unit for the anticipated "second front" in Normandy. Apart from a period of exhausting manoeuvres in Iceland much of his time was spent in East Anglia where Arthur's love for running soon found it's expression in the creation of a Unit athletic team. Those famous characteristics permeated thro' the team and it was with great joy that he joined them in their celebration at lifting the Divisional Championship.

'D' day was June 5th 1944. In their very first action the Black Watch were severely mauled and Arthur's Company (he was 2nd I/C) virtually annihilated. For eight hours Arthur lay seriously wounded on the battlefield while the tanks roared around him and the fierce cross-fire continued unabated. He could do little else but just wait. Yet he recalls how he viewed this nightmarish situation with a calm resignation. There is no doubt that his inbred toughness of character pulled him through, and it was to serve him still further after his rescue from the field.

With only one lung and one useable arm Arthur seemed destined for a very long spell in hospital. He was probably a 'difficult' patient. His contempt for illness or injury and his faith in the ability of the human body to overcome adversity soon had him struggling out of bed to take a bath - even though he couldn't get out again, once in! In three months he was out of hospital in what must have been record time. A medical specialist recently interviewed him to glean as much as possible about his miraculous recovery from an injury which has incapacitated car-crash victims for life.

Arthur moved into Lauriston Cottage in 1945. His step-grandmother, Lady Fell, occupied the Lauriston House mansion alongside. He led a fairly lonely existence for some time and with his weight only now up to 6½ stone many lesser men would have led an invalid existence indefinitely. Such thoughts were alien to Arthur and he spent many a happy moment remembering the joys of running over the Fell country and planning return visits. Then came a day that was to affect the lives of many people, not least his own.

It was on a Saturday in the Autumn of 1945 that Harry Parker and a group of Belgravians congregated on the Common just opposite Lauriston Road. It was probable that Arthur had seen such groups at this spot before and was undecided about approaching them, but anyway on this day he did so and on simply stating "I'd like to do some running" he was made warmly welcome by Harry and his cheerful companions. To begin with Arthur's training companion was that famous old Surrey AC character and Olympic Gold Medallist Joe Deakin. With regular outings over four or five miles a foundation of fitness was gradually laid - but not without considerable discomfort. Handicapped by a restricted arm movement Arthur also resumed swimming, a pastime that proved painful for some time but with which he persevered.

In time he graduated to George Still's training pack where he built up his fitness still further and then set his sights on competitive road racing. Arthur has happy memories of those early days in the Club with George, Sid Ring, Bert "Champ" Smith, George Chandler and others, and really enjoyed himself when he began to compete in distance road races with Arthur Penstone and Denis Brickwood. Early morning swimming in Queensmere and regular training had enabled Arthur to conquer those war wounds but, typically, this was not enough. Adversity had been overcome; now a measure of success in it's own right was called for. Frequently he participated in open road races and steadily his form improved and then the moment arrived that he treasures more than all the tributes and honours he has been awarded since his



George Chandler, Dr. Harold Lee, Arthur Whitehead and Arthur Penstone approach the 20 miles mark in the London - Brighton race of 1952.

competitive days - he won a Belgrave Honours Badge in the A.A.A. Marathon of 1953. There is no need to elaborate on his success, Belgravians are fully aware of how small a minority qualify for this award.

Arthur then turned his attention to the London - Brighton run and took part with his regular training companion, Arthur Penstone, in the inaugural race sponsored by the "News Chronicle". Both runners had their "taxi" waiting at Crawley (probably Denis Brickwood chauffeuring) as they had planned to just get the feel of the race in their first outing. Arthur Whitehead was 7th when he withdrew and well remembers how upset that famous figure Ernest Neville was to see a forward placing runner drop out. This was the first real meeting of these two personalities and although they did not see eye to eye at the time their association has lived long and is still unbroken. Arthur has great respect for this elderly man "who has such a youthful and progressive outlook on athletics". Another whom he much admired was the immortal Arthur Newton who shared his strong views on the "degrading" spectacle of elderly "crawlers" being allowed to compete in open races.

With the successful coverage of the London - Brighton course to go with his Honours Badge, Arthur retired from competition. Swimming and running still continued of course but now the challenge was the promotion and organisation of events. It seemed natural that his desires in this direction would be fulfilled through his position on the Belgrave Committee, but this was not to be. Arthur is an individualist. If he is to do a job then he must have a free hand to do it his way; sub-committees did not appeal to him one little bit. However, he did invaluable work whilst on the Committee and was



Arthur (left) and Denis Brickwood at the South of Thames CCC held at Sevenoaks, 1961.

responsible for the inauguration of the Belgrave open '20' and the "Lady Fell" Shield that goes with that race but, inevitably, he eventually declined re-election to the Committee. He is sorry to see the way financial considerations play an exaggerated part in the debate of new ideas and, on Belgrave's relative affluence, he remarks "A rich club is not necessarily a healthy one" and wonders whether Belgrave was not a better club when it had far less money and resources than it now possesses. Such remarks have not endeared him to all; nor has his criticism of petty officials ("they are usually the minor ones") improved his popularity with this, fortunately small, body of gentlemen.

Arthur's interest in road running led him to be a founder-member of the Road Runners Club and, until recently, he had printed and circulated every edition of that Club's Newsletter besides playing a large part in the promotion of special events.

With Denis Brickwood's co-operation, Arthur made his name in cross-country circles with a standard of course marking second to none. Over several years a wide variety of Championship events were marked by those training companions and their helpers. The feature of these occasions was the "exploding dustbin" starting signal which was invented principally for the

Lauriston Christmas Day Paarlauf to indicate the expiry of the time allowance. For many years the Whitehead/Brickwood partnership could be seen on race day mornings erecting all the assembly area paraphernalia and later placing the hundreds of flags for the course itself. But lack of support in marking and patrolling and in the maintenance and renewal of the equipment and flags led to the gradual phasing out of a service that had been frequently called upon by a wide variety of associations.

Meanwhile, the members attending Lauriston Cottage for training grew and grew. In the early days, just half a dozen or so Belgravians would join Arthur for tea and biscuits after a Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning run and talk athletics interminably. The ever-open door, the inexhaustable supply of refreshments and the genuine welcome by the host, whatever the time, soon led to the second bathroom being heavily used after the Sunday run. Arthur loves athletics, enjoys the company of athletes and is genuinely pleased to assist them. With part of the Cottage now housing his brother's family he therefore carried out extensive alterations at the rear, rather than be unable to accommodate his athletic friends. A heated changing room four showers, three w.c.'s, sink, gas-stove and library proved to be a very expensive gesture of friendship and was not paid for with the ease that some might imagine. The numbers continued to grow - from all clubs now. On this latter point Arthur has always considered that "the sport is more important than the Club" and welcomes all athletes alike. As a Vice-President and Life-Member of Belgrave he has implemented the Club's Rule No.4 ("The object of the Club shall be the encouragement of Amateur Athletics") to better effect than most. When attendances reached a magnitude of sixty or seventy a halt had to be called and the Lauriston Runners Club was formed. Payment of an annual subscription has enabled attendance to settle down to manageable proportions and partly contributes to the very high fuel and refreshment expenses. The value of this "centre" is best illustrated by Surrey's win in the Inter-Counties Championship at Leicester this year when all six scorers came from the Cottage.

As the huge colourful pack rolls across Wimbledon Common on a Sunday morning Arthur Whitehead can still be found amongst one of the forward groups on the outward journey and he rarely returns before his 60 minutes are up. He enjoys his exercise and intends to continue swimming and running for as long as he is physically capable. "I cannot understand", he says, "how athletes who have trained regularly for many years can give it up just like that".

Arthur is not of an extrovertive disposition but nevertheless he has strong views on certain subjects. He cannot tolerate dishonesty, particularly in public life; regrets the decline of team spirit in athletics generally; objects strongly to foreigners being permitted to take part in any of our National Championships, and was an admirer of the late Jack Crump "the best official of his time, extremely knowledgeable and very able".

Arthur Whitehead's contribution to the athletics scene was recognised long ago when Belgrave Harriers bestowed a Vice-Presidency and Life-Membership upon him. Yet no one could seek recognition less. He tends to shrink from the formal occasion, feeling much more at ease in the environs of Lauriston Cottage where the moments of solitude are just as precious as the company he enjoys. And as he winds his solitary way across the Common for his early morning dip in Queensmere one wonders how often the memories of Sedbergh, the Fell country, The Black Watch, Harry Parker and his runners and the long struggle for that Honours Badge pass across his mind. One also wonders whether he is even remotely aware of the appreciation and respect held for him by fellow athletes in many parts of the United Kingdom, Holland and South Africa in particular.

Such men are rare. We are privileged to have his valued membership.

Congratulations to Jackie Hampshire who was married on 29th April. It only seems a couple of years ago that he was our fastest boy miler.

Our Club coaches have never been so active as they are at present. At Norbiton and Battersea Park we have six in attendance on Sunday mornings---and they still have their hands full!

A very cheerful letter has been received from TONY WHINCUP who has not been seen around for a long time. Tony has been incapacitated for some time with nerve-sheath damage to his spine but is now able to get about with the aid of a stick. He has been told he will never run again, but intends appearing again at Wimbledon in the Autumn. His cheerful attitude to such difficulties could well aid him in proving the doctors wrong.

Following a request by a group of members, the Club Committee decided to open BELGRAVE HALL on Sunday mornings during last winter's season. The appreciation of those concerned was shown in a manner only too rare these days---a donation to Club funds of £3.2.9

# ROAD RUNNING

Although not actually sweeping all before us, our record to date this year looks much healthier than at the same time in the previous few years. With Trevor Hart's emergence as a long distance runner and Lionel Mann's tremendous improvement on last season's performances (no doubt it's the good food he gets) our road running over the 'Longer Journeys' has received a much needed 'shot in the arm'.

With Trevor Hart representing Middlesex; Charlie Dabbs and Chris Steer, Surrey; and Lionel Mann for Bedford, we have quite a team of 'all stars' in the Inter-Counties '20' on May 27th and reasonable hopes as a team for the Poly Marathon on June 10th.

G.I.B

## March 27th - Maidenhead '10'

This year's race held on Easter Monday was run in rather adverse conditions and produced nothing spectacular. It provided a benefit run for the South African Cross Country team who absolutely dominated the race from start to finish. Among their members, however, was our old friend Mike Coningham finishing 13th and a new boy to Belgrave, Peter Whewell finishing 7th. Warnings for the future were posted by Trevor Hart and Lionel Mann both having excellent runs in 9th and 26th positions respectively. Chris Steer was a little off colour but came home in 31st position to enable the team to finish 2nd behind the strong Windsor & Eton outfit. John Bicourt, Chris Keavey and Gordon Biscoe also started but unfortunately the first two fell by the wayside during the race and Gordon was unhappy with his form despite finishing.

(From a statisticians point of view four of our runners, Messrs. Hart, Mann, Keavey and Bicourt were all sporting beards. What are the odds against these four winning a team race and being presented with electric razors?)

### RESULT:

1.D.Morrison (S.Africa)....	50:46	31.C.Steer.....	55:49
9.T.Hart .....	52:20	64.G.Biscoe .....	60:05
26.L.Mann .....	55:34	112 finished	

Teams:- 1.Windsor & Eton 27pts, 2.BELGRAVE H 54pts, 3.Enfield 58pts.  
16 teams closed in.

## April 8th

### ROMFORD HALF MARATHON

Trevor Hart chose this fairly tough course to make his debut into long distance running and showed he meant business by leading our 'A' team home. Charlie Dabbs also chose this race to emerge from hibernation and after a steady start ran through the field just getting the edge on Lionel Mann in the last few miles. Dennis Jones made a welcome return after injuries and with some strong running indicated he may be approaching his form of 1961/62

### RESULT:

1.C.Kirkham (Durham Un)....	66:56	39.L.Mann .....	73:53
8.T.Hart .....	68:06	59.D.Jones .....	76:17
12.C.Steer .....	69:36	70.G.Biscoe .....	77:44
36.C.Dabbs .....	73:10	101.G.Piddington .....	82:45
		131 finished	

Teams:- 1.TVH 21pts, 2.Ilford AC 30pts, 3.Reading AC 37pts, 4.BELGRAVE 39pts  
21 teams closed in.

## April 22nd

### FINCHLEY '20'

The first of the seasons long distance races, this always has the reputation of a high 'casualty rate' by reason of the numbers who drop out en route. This year was no exception and with Charlie Dabbs not competing and Chris Steer forced to drop out at 15m it was left to Trevor Hart to capture any honours coming our way. Having been previously informed by one of our 'experts' (?) in the Club that he would never finish a '20', Trevor, thus encouraged, nevertheless set about the task in grand style to run a well judged race and record the excellent time of 1hr.46m.19secs. Thus running himself into the Middlesex team at his first attempt. Lionel Mann continued to show how much he has improved, if any proof is needed, with a time some 12 minutes faster than his best of last year. The 'old firm' of Ken Stimpson, Alan Bishop and Geoff Pearson ran through once again quite steadily but strongly - Geoff ought to know the way by now, he first ran the 'Finchley' in 1946!

Another surprise member of our supporting cast was Eric Gebbett who although having to call it a day at 10m, informed us he had been 'doing a bit' during the winter and was contemplating a come back!

RESULT:

1.B.Tulloh (Portsmouth).....	1:41:46	128.A.Bishop.....	2:10:23
13.T.Hart.....	1:46:19	129.G.Pearson.....	2:10:52
75.L.Mann.....	1:56:38	140.W.Matthews.....	2:17:45
118.K.Stimpson.....	2:07:37	141.G.Piddington.....	2:18:08

Open Team Race:- 1.Windsor & Eton 25pts, 2.Cambridge 63pts, 3.TVH 94pts.  
Middlesex Champ. 1.I.MacIntosh (Ran), 2.D.Sparkes, 3.T.Hart (BELGRAVE H)

**SURREY '20'**May 6th

Acting as hosts this was to be the first race held over our recently modified 20m course, brought about by extensive road works at Tibbetts Corner. However, in spite of the amenities which Belgrave offer, plus fine weather, it was only a small field of 36 who faced the starter. With Collins and Smallbone (Surrey & Mitcham respectively) taking an early lead, it was soon obvious that our leading trio of Charlie Dabbs, Chris Steer and Lionel Mann (unfortunately only competing as a guest because of his Bedford qualifications) were taking a more cautious approach, staying together until around the 11m mark. Chris then pushed on ahead but with some 3 miles to go Charlie decided to play the Captains role, re-caught Chris up Copse Hill and ran in together with him 'university style', to finish equal second. With Lionel recording a time nearly 2 mins faster than at Finchley two weeks earlier, interest was centred around who would be our third scoring man and could we take the team title from Croydon AC. With rumours reaching the finishing post that all our remaining runners had dropped out at various points on the last lap, the suspense was finally broken when the 'Third Man' came into view and the identity revealed as evergreen Charlie Walker. What a good Club man he is, staying the distance although very tired due to lack of training and racing; his last outing being the Feltham '5'! Charlie in clinching the team title for us added another medal to his collection, but in so doing "robbed" another of our stalwarts - George "I'm getting fit" Piddington - of his first gold medal. No doubt George will get another chance - he's got youth on his side!

RESULT:

1.B.Collins (Surrey)....	1:47:26	n.s.7.L.Mann.....	1:54:50
=2.C.Dabbs		23.C.Walker.....	2:18:15
=2.C.Steer.....	1:51:44	24.G.Piddington.....	2:22:57

Teams:- 1.BELGRAVE H 12pts, 2.Croydon AC 15pts, 3.South London H 22pts.

M I S C E L L A N E O U S R E S U L T SMarch 27th - Feltham '5'

1.R.Holt (Hercules).....	23:40(rec)	62.D.Newall.....	29:20
10.W.Kerr.....	24:49	66.J.Hall.....	29:58
33.H.Satchell.....	26:15	69.J.Smart.....	30:10
34.C.Walker.....	26:18	70.M.Jones.....	30:29
42.R.Glover.....	27:03	71.J.McDonald.....	30:30
50.R.James.....	27:44	73.P.Sutton.....	30:47
54.J.Bromley.....	28:05	76 finished.	

Teams:- 1.Hercules 9pts, 8.BELGRAVE 'A' 63pts, 12.BELGRAVE 'B' 120pts,  
17.BELGRAVE 'C' 168pts.

April 1st - Wigmere '15'

1.B.Watson (Bournemouth).....	77:13	85.K.Stimpson.....	97:06
18.L.Mann.....	85:52	90.G.Pearson.....	98:10
74.R.Plummer.....	94:47	94.G.Piddington.....	101:58
81.A.Bishop.....	96:00	127 starters.	

Teams:- 1.Cambridge H, 11.BELGRAVE H. 19 teams closed in.

April 29th - Herne Hill H '10'

1.G.Taylor (Camb).....	49:00(rec)	110.C.Manning.....	67:08
29.L.Mann.....	54:46	112.J.Hall.....	67:23
103.W.Fairfield.....	63:37	121 finished	
107.W.Matthews.....	66:02		

Teams:- 1.Windsor & Eton 19pts, 15.BELGRAVE H, 16 teams closed in.

May 13th - Kent '20'

1.G.Taylor (Camb).....	1:46:57	- K.Stimpson.....	2:15:32
32.G.Pearson.....	2:13:10	44 finished.	

May 13th - Chichester - Portsmouth '16'

1.Ingleton (Ports)	1:25:41	62.G.Piddington.....	1:57:27
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# WALKING

Our appeal in the last edition of THE BELGRAVIAN for a "Walking" reporter did not go unheeded and we are most grateful for the way in which PAT DUNCAN has co-operated in the sending of results. The walking section, like other sections before it, is going through a difficult spell. The geographical location of our present walkers could not be worse and this makes recovery even more difficult. Individual enthusiasm has to be even greater when regular group training sessions are not held but, fortunately, there is a nucleus of walkers that are endowed with the necessary keenness and club spirit to pull us through. One is Pat Duncan.

Recent news of Belgrave walking has been far from cheerful. However with a good second place in the National '10' team championship things seemed to be looking up a bit. The redoubtable Ray Middleton is rapidly building up to peak fitness, Bob Barnes and Eric Hall have both produced some fast times and our scout reports that Dave King has been seen back on the road. We have a strong team in the making if everyone pulls their weight on the day. Too often we fail to field our strongest team, or if we do some of our men seem to be using the occasion as a training spin.

With the longer distances coming up Ray Middleton, Dave King, and Pat Duncan should be able to take top honours but only with support. Joe Baker has stepped up the miles and with Bob Farley back in training Belgrave should once again show the others the way home.

## R. W. A. & Inter-Counties '10'

March 18th - BOLTON

In blustery conditions ten Belgravians started the first National Championship of 1967. Paul Nihill of Surrey went away from the start but at 3 miles Ronny Wallwork overtook him and shortly afterwards the Surrey man was pulled. Further back Ray Middleton and Bob Barnes were moving through steadily after a cautious start with Eric and Ray Hall well placed not far behind. Met WC looked to be all set for the team title with Surrey, Belgrave and Wakefield contesting the lower places. At 5 miles however, Surrey lost Selby and with the Belgrave scoring four all doing well our hopes rose. Over the second half of the course a scrap developed with Wakefield for second place with Belgrave clinching it by 4 points. The individual title, appropriately on his home course, was won by Ronny Wallwork with Shaun Lightman 2nd and a surprised Arthur Jones 3rd. Ray Middleton was first Belgrave man home hotly pursued by Bob Barnes.

### RESULT:

1. E. Wallwork (Lancs WC)	75:06	52. D. Mayo (BELGRAVE H)	84:19
2. S. Lightman (Met WC)	75:43	59. P. Duncan	85:05
3. A. Jones (Brighton)	76:10	67. G. Cameron	86:01
10. R. Middleton (BELGRAVE H)	78:16	75. G. Farley	86:40
12. R. Barnes	78:58	121. J. Keown	91:49
29. E. Hall	81:32	126. C. Capener	92:25
43. R. Hall	82:53		

Teams:- 1. Met W.C. (2,5,10,26) 43pts, 2. BELGRAVE H (7,9,21,35) 72pts,  
3. Wakefield (8,12,16,40) 76pts.

Belgrave started three men in the A.A.A. '7' track championship held at Hurlingham on March 25th. Ray Middleton led the trio home in 54:07 with Bob Barnes 55:44 and Eric Hall 56:29. Over at Mitcham for a 15 mile event Pat Duncan finished 3rd in 2hrs 4mins. with Doug Fotheringham 21st in 2hrs 22mins. and Percy Wilson 34th in 2hrs 35 mins.

## Met. W.C. Open 20 Kilos

April 1st - BATTERSEA PARK

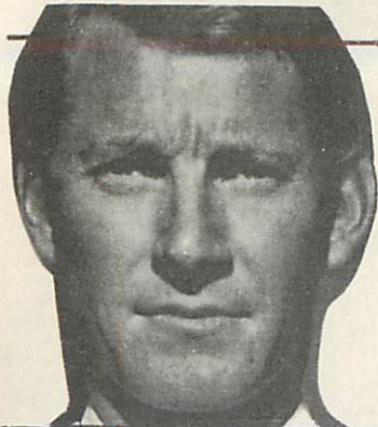
1. S. Lightman (Met WC)	95:45	20. R. Hall (BELGRAVE H)	106:14
2. K. Bobbett (Roath)	97:34	21. G. Cameron	106:15
3. R. Middleton (BELGRAVE H)	98:10	53. J. Keown	118:14
5. R. Barnes	99:04	- C. Capener	124:10

Teams:- 1. Surrey W.C. 44pts, 2. BELGRAVE H 47pts, 3. Met W.C. 90pts.

(Cont'd on Page 22)



PHOTO: (R. Linstead) — Ray Middleton leads Brian Keegan (London Vids) during his Championship win in the Surrey County 2 miles.



## 200 FT SPEARMAN ON HORNS OF DILEMMA.

What are the chances of ace arena champion, Curds and Whey Head? It could be a cow that the I.A.A.F. and Olympic Selection Committee find an embarrassment to our potential international. Head is going well enough for a representative honour and deserves to get it, but remember, it was beans that finally blew Ann Packer off the athletic firmment.

### BICOURT GETS GOOD SUPPORT

By James Coote  
(Our Fashion Correspondent)

John Bicourt who is a key man in Belgrave Harriers' Darts team, won the Surrey Steeplechase Championship on 6th May. John was wearing a red, white and blue jock-strap which was given to him by Gaston Roelants, the well-known Belgian runner, when they shared a shower together at Hamnut earlier in the year.

### ADVERTISEMENTS

For Sale Comprehensive selection of Nature-study photographs - Write J. Macdonald (Box 73)

Lost One Middlesex vest. Will the finder please return it to the local Sanitary Inspector.

G.A.H. Come back - all is forgiven Love T.K.H.

### STOCK EXCHANGE

Pre-olympic year speculation has been dull and a further turn down in view of County Results announced this week is expected.

Major issues in the middle distance such as O'HARA, BUXTON and KEER have slipped a few seconds whilst NORTH industries are experiencing injuries and do not at present inspire a buyers market.

Final winding up of HUGH BURROW, the Scottish firm, was complicated when the Receiver found a fault in the accounts.

A gleam of hope in this flat season has come from our chaser BICOURT LTD. who has risen to an all time high and is confidently expected to return some good results.

A reshuffle on the main board of WALKERS SECTION has caused some conjecture. In the "longs" a buoyant mood is apparent with STEER, DABBS, MANN and HART Corp. moving steadily forward.

The index, rallying towards the close was depressed on the news that HERCULES was making a bid for SATCHELL.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

I was horrified when I turned to the middle page of the last 'Belgravian' and found some of the disgusting rubbish you saw fit to publish there.

I remember the good old days of the Brighton when we all used to sing those wonderful old songs at the Black Swan, we had none of this filth of today. In the name of Queen and Country, I beseech you - keep the 'Belgravian' clean.

Yours faithfully,  
Mary Whitehouse (Mrs.)

<sup>■</sup> It is believed the writer is referring to Queen Victoria. (Editor)

Sir,

Bravo for your last issue! I found your searing exposés on the middle pages stimulating. Kilroy is the most refreshing writer in athletics today! Keep up the good work!

Yours faithfully,  
H. Heffner (Editor, Playboy Magazine)

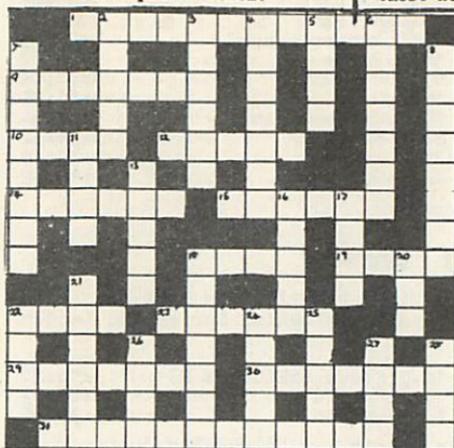
Dear Ma'am,

Sorry to leave you to help yourself, but there's hot savoyards and peas pudding in steamer, or a nice bit o' cold pork and salad in 'frig.

Your obedient servant,

Lionel (Mann)

J.P.B. Where were you  
22nd April? W.E.L.



ACROSS

DOWN

1. Pursuit of aspiring clergy? (12)
9. Sounds a Latin Lover (7)
10. Expensive. (4)
12. & 13 Down. Head for upper pole. (5,5)
14. No training ground for snobs? (6)
15. Unblocks! (6)
18. Possibly too fast to belt from (4)
19. Fast but only when second to Fall (4)
22. Last lap sound (4)
23. A fryer for a British Record Holder (6) Anag.
29. Watch this and you may avoid ailment (7) Anag.
30. Double L for a Commonwealth Half Miler (7) Anag.
31. Top vessel (12)
2. Coach, maybe not athletic (5)
3. On form 7 Down should achieve this (6)
4. Peak not usually attained by Belgravians (7)
5. Cooling stream painter! (4)
6. Out in the ring, not on the track, we hope (7)
7. Ready headwear? (8)
8. Wimbledon - Commonplace Quixotic! (8)
11. One of which may be 31 Across (4)
13. See 12 across.
16. French Algerian found at 9 Across (5)
17. A stitch in this may well lose 9 places instead (4)
18. Dazzling undazzled sprinter (7)
20. Dog not necessarily a greyhound (3)
21. See 24 Down
22. Permanent one is seldom achieved (4)
- 24 & 21. Top walker who makes a bad champion (5,6) Anag.
25. Pre-Junior (5)
26. Non illicit spirit (4)
27. Jumper's year (4)
28. Hammerthrower milk-man! (4) Anag.

All clues have a connection (either in the answer or clue) with Belgrave or Athletics in general. Names of Belgravians included may be found in this gazette.

## 21 WAY OF THE WORLD

Down the many avenues, under a cloak of green the country is a sweet and gentle place. The evenings are light and the air balmy with nature's fragrance. It is summertime. I'd like to take you back a few months to a very different evening.

Running along Southside on a crisp dark night towards Putney, I was surprised to see a strong light coming from beyond the Windmill. The leafless trees formed a frozen craggy lattice until merging with the inky blackness of the common. It puzzled me. Who on earth could be over there now? The rough road is closed at nightfall.

### CROSSWORD

Sender of the first correct result opened on August 1st will receive a complimentary ticket for the CLUB DINNER. Entries to Belgrave Hall marked "Crossword Comp".

Turning left at Tibbets and left again off the Portsmouth Road, I was soon engulfed in the cold darkness and heading along the bride path to the Windmill. Suddenly away to my right, I saw a light and immediately jogged over the long frosty grass towards it. I stopped, unobserved, at what was before me. Crouching behind the bole of a large tree was an unmistakable thug, he wore an enormous surtout, open, over a jacket with large patch pockets, his boots were muddy and hat very battered. He was unshaven and in his mitten coated hands was a large cudgel. I could see his breath in little white clouds in the cold air as he peered expectantly around the tree. Coming slowly up the path that wound past the villain was a frail old man with a lantern. His tall hat, frock coat and gaiters all bespoke a gentleman. I was mesmerised as the little man passed round the tree and before he could cry out the cudgel had swung down on his head knocking off his hat and the lantern bowling along the ground. The thief was on him in a flash and snatching his watch and chain made off into the night. The little man lay still, very still...

"CUT", boomed a voice from one of the B.B.C. generating vans as the clapper boy dashed over to help up "Michael Faraday", who will be appearing on T.V. in "Horizon".

I tell you, it all happens on the Common.

Young Man Seeks interesting position (Box 47)  
(Try Page 84, Kama Sutra - ED)

## CLUB 20 MILE CHAMPIONSHIP

April 15th

Undeterred by the hot day Ray Middleton walked away from the field to win the R.W.Ricketts shield by nearly quarter of an hour. Pat Duncan paid for an over enthusiastic start over the second ten miles but with Ray Hall, Gerry Cameron and Bob Farley dropping out, finished an unworried second. John Keown walked steadily for third place while Bernard Eglinton, fully acclimatised from his training in Malta, sneaked the handicap from F.Rolfe with Keown taking third prize. In a seven-a-side match with the police C.Fogg led the police to victory by 6 points, 50 - 56.

RESULT:

1.R.Middleton	2:43:21	12.J.Clifton	3:24:30
2.C.Fogg	2:54:24	13.B.Eglinton	3:25:08
3.P.Duncan	2:57:26	14.E.McNeir	3:25:10
4.B.Keegan	2:59:19	15.D.Fotheringham	3:27:45
5.P.Maidment	2:59:19	16.F.Rolfe	3:38:53
6.P.Thorn	3:03:50	17.T.Melhuish	3:31:09
7.A.Buchanan	3:14:10	18.L.Gray	3:31:36
8.J.Keown	3:14:36	19.K.Chamberlain	3:31:54
9.C.Flint	3:16:34	20.P.Burling	3:34:52
10.J.Owen	3:18:29	21.J.Wilson	3:37:48
11.L.Taylor	3:20:46	22.C.Gittens	3:40:42

## The County Walks

April 29th

Ray Middleton won the Surrey 20 mile title but with Ray Hall not racing the Bels were only able to muster third team place behind Surrey and London Vidarians.

RESULT:

1.R.Middleton (BELGRAVE H)	2:48:09	10.J.Keown (BELGRAVE H)	3:16:20
2.D.Vale (Surrey WC)	2:51:44	12.J.Morris	3:24:17
3.P.Maidment (London Vids)	2:57:55	13.P.Wilson	3:33:36

Teams:- 1.Surrey WC 20pts, 2.London Vids. 24pts, 3.BELGRAVE H 36pts.

In the Sussex Championship over a hilly course at Sompting, Pat Duncan carried off the Sussex title in 2:54:28.

## CLUB TRACK '7'

May 1st

As expected, Ray Middleton won the Frank Elson Cup but Eric Hall was always a danger and at one point looked as though he might catch Ray. Both returned fast times leaving Pat Duncan a long way behind in third place although he was given first place in the handicap, much to Ray's disgust!

RESULT:

1.R.Middleton	54:02	6.J.Baker	63:15
2.E.Hall	54:10	7.J.Morris	64:45
3.P.Duncan	57:29	8.T.Cook	65:21
4.R.Seaton (MPWC)	57:46	9.A.East	70:31
5.D.Fotheringham	61:43	10.P.Wilson	70:32

## NATIONAL 20 kilos

WELL—May 13th

A tough course and a hot day combined to make this a day most of Belgrave would rather forget. Ray Middleton walked a great race to take third place, just over a minute behind a stylish Arthur Jones who was himself only 40 seconds from the winner Ronny Wallwork. George Beecham made a welcome return after a long absence with broken ribs and Bob Farley was going better than he has for some time. The less said about the others the better.

RESULTS.

1. R. Wallwork.....(Lancs W.C.)	..97.21	77. R. Barnes.....BELS.	..122.14
2. A. Jones.....(Brighton)	..98.01	78. G. Cameron....."	..122.14
3. R. Middleton.....(BELGRAVE)	..99.27	81. B. Eglinton....."	..122.42
34. P. Duncan....."	..112.16	82. D. Fotheringham.."	..122.47
37. G. Farley....."	..112.37	94. G. Beecham....."	..129.12
61. J. Baker....."	..112.42	105. P. Wilson....."	..136.22
68. J. Keown....."	..119.11	106. B. Stevenson...."	..138.02

TRANS:

1. Trowbridge.....(4,6,11,16).....37pts	4. Surrey W.C.....84pts
2. Lancashire W.C.....(1,10,23,26)....60pts	5. BELGRAVE.....93pts
3. Metropolitan W.C.....(5,19,20,31)....75pts	

## Mercury '20'

LEICESTER—May 27th

Dave King made a welcome return to lead the team with Dave Mayo, walking well in his first 20, fourth scoring man.

RESULTS

1. R. Lodge.....Sutton Coldfield.....2:52:29	34. G. Farley....BELGRAVE..3:20:14
2. P. Markham.....Leicester W.C.....2:56:22	42. D. Mayo....." ..3:24:18
3. A. Banyard.....Southend.....2:56:57	- B. Eglinton.. " ..3:33:34
16. D. King.....BELGRAVE.....3:09:59	- C. Capener.. " ..3:34:52

TEAMS

1. Leicester Walking Club.....32pts	4. Sheffield.....63pts
2. Surrey Walking Club.....33pts	5. BELGRAVE.....91pts
3. Royal Sutton.....63pts	

BRADFORD 50 Kilos—May 29th

In their annual pot-hunt 4 Belgravians came near to defeating all opposition. Ray Middleton and Pat Duncan passed the 14 mile mark together in just under 2 hours. Ray forged on to win with Pat "I left it at Leicester" being pipped for second place. Dave King and Bernard Eglinton both fresh from the Mercury walked magnificently to bring the team in 2nd equal.

RESULT

1. R. C. Middleton.....BELGRAVE.....4:40:30	11. D. King....BELGRAVE...5:12:25
2. G. Barnes.....Wakefield.....4:49:19	23. B. Eglinton " ..5:40:40

TEAM

1. Wakefield...26pts, 2. Sheffield.....35pts, 3. BELGRAVE.....35pts.

1st Handicap P.L. Duncan- BELGRAVE 4:24.17.

**BOOK REVIEW**"RUNNING ROUND THE WORLD" by Jack Crump (Robert Hale, 25/-)

For many years friends and acquaintances had been telling Jack Crump that he should write his autobiography and reveal the first-hand story of a career studded with incident and controversy - a career that lasted over 30 years. Eventually, as a "reluctant author", he put pen to paper. It was fortuitous that fate should permit him to do so, for it was not long after the book's completion that Jack Crump died.

Before joining Vidarians W.C. in 1925 Jack and his brother were members of BELGRAVE HARRIERS and he does not forget to pay tribute to the club he has had so much contact with since. "..... a really kind welcome by such fine old stalwarts as Dick Murphy, Bob Ricketts and Harry Hare .... Looking back, one can see how much the kindly encouragement and advice of those early Belgrave giants played in the development of the Club which now ranks amongst Britain's largest, most successful and most affluent athletic organisations."

There are several further references to Belgrave, particularly during the late 20's, early 30's, when Crump was Surrey County Secretary and team manager. With his rapid ascendancy to AAA team manager in 1936, however, the remainder of the book is mainly devoted to the fortunes of our international teams. With one man at the heart of things for so long a fascinating resumé of the last 30 years is presented - three decades of success, failure, joy, disappointment, expectation and frustration. Many of the well publicised "incidents" that studded his career are related and it is most enlightening to read the other side of the story from a man who was rarely able to defend himself against the combined efforts of a few athletes and a frequently hostile press. His was indeed a thankless task and it was a sad ending to an illustrious career when his final year was marred by the Timbury conflagration and the vituperative press articles that followed the Tokyo Olympics. It was typical of Jack Crump that all bitterness had disappeared within 12 months, and it was not surprising to see this man, who had held such high office, officiating at a Vidarian W.C. minor fixture in the pouring rain a few months before his death. This is a book well worth reading.

C.S.

## Harry Hare continues his reminiscences:-

In 1921 BELGRAVE HARRIERS moved to St. John's Hall, Denmark Rd. Fifteen years later the leasehold was purchased and the name changed to BELGRAVE HALL. In 1950 there was jubilation when we acquired the freehold - at last the club had a permanent home of it's own. But what of those historic circumstances that led to the acquisition of facilities now taken for granted by the present generation of Belgravians? In the March edition of the Gazette, Harry Hare spoke of the days at "The Swan Hotel", here he tells our 'moving' story of 1921.

Having completed a pleasing and modestly successful first year of membership, it seemed a matter of interest to attend the Annual General Meeting called for 1921. That it proved to be of more than passing interest was soon very evident.

Completely unexpectedly I left as a bemused, bewitched and very much bewildered newly appointed Hon. Secretary and Treasurer! Grasping a bundle of Club books and papers, I set off home with final whispered instructions from the retiring Hon. Secretary, Oscar Horwood, "Meet me on Saturday and I will introduce you to 'The Swan' and book up the opening run and walk."

So, in due course, I was in company with Oscar seated on a high stool at the bar of the saloon of 'The Swan Hotel'. As is customary at such places and on such occasions certain formalities are called for, compliments expressed and paid. Then the formal introduction being completed the main objective, the opening day for the Club Winter Activities, was raised.

The response was clear, decisive and unforgettable, "I am sorry, gentlemen, I cannot take you. The brewers are carrying out alterations and converting the Skittle Alley into a Saloon Lounge."

Oscar gasped as if he had received a blow in the solar plexus and then murmured some words of regret. I maintained a dignified silence, in other words I was speechless, dumbfounded by the realization that we also would need to carry out some alterations. Our programme was shattered.

Our host withdrew to other business. We emptied our glasses before leaving. Whatever the drink had been earlier, it was now Bitter! Lohengrin sang a farewell and departed floating away on the back of a swan - I had nothing to sing about and was departing leaving 'The Swan' behind me!

Such rambling thoughts assailed me as we made our way home. Before going our separate ways Oscar murmured, "You had better call a Committee meeting." This was to be a great help. In their infinite wisdom, it was decreed that "The date of the opening run and walk be postponed to a later date", and members asked to look around for suitable premises and report. No reports came.

Setting out on a lonely trail, I wandered around the outskirts of Wimbledon Common with deviations into Raynes Park searching for some haven for our quarters. Realization of a small bank balance and a very slender income quickly dispelled the thoughts aroused by a "For Sale" board in the grounds of a desirable detached house bordering the Common.

At the second weekend of these rambles I gravitated back to the Ridgway more than a little dispirited. Here however came the break. The old Potman of "The Swan" was here in company with a postman and I halted readily enough. The postman was Mr. Savage, who had been an interested onlooker of our activities and was aware of our troubles. With his wife he lived in Denmark Road and acted as caretaker for St. John's Parish Hall. The Boy Scouts had discontinued using the Hall on Saturday afternoons. Perhaps permission could be obtained for the Club to use it. "I am seeing Mr. Haynes, the Treasurer, during the week and will speak to him for you if you wish."

Such was the trend of the talk that followed the meeting. It did not take long to discover the Hall. So near and yet quite unknown. A speedy inspection, a few enquiries for the prospect of hot water and refreshment, and then the outcome of the weekend meeting was anxiously awaited.

It was with a mixture of hope and fear that I attended the meeting that had been arranged for me at the home of the Treasurer. The outcome however was satisfactory. We were to have the use of the Hall on Saturday afternoons until the end of April for a fee of 7/6d per week. A Committee meeting was called to confirm this arrangement and it is perhaps indicative of the financial difficulties of those days that one member remarked, "But we don't want to buy the place!"

Wise counsel and sheer necessity decided the matter quickly enough. After completing preliminary arrangements on the opening day, I stood in the roadway to attract the attention of members passing along the Ridgway and to direct them to the side entrance.

(Cont'd at foot of opposite page)

# YOUTHS & BOYS

The results of the South London Schools meeting at the Crystal Palace on May 9th make interesting reading. Neil Kirby won the Junior boys mile in 5:04.7, Vic Butcher was 4th in the intermediate event (after getting badly boxed in) and Ray Gale recorded a promising 24.0 for the furlong. Pride of place though must go to Bill Curtin for winning the Junior 880 yards. Having already clocked 2:12.0 in one of our club races and beating the County record at Wimbledon, he ran a magnificent 2:11.2 to break the schools record by 5.4 seconds.

Another schools area champion was David Wilkinson, throwing 106'0 to win the Westminster schools Javelin.

Bob Poole was 3rd in an all Oxfordshire boys race recently and is upholding the name of Belgrave in this locality.

There are many others, all eagerly trying to make their marks, and to these we would repeat the old advice once again. Don't despair if you fail to become a champion right away. With plenty of training and perseverance you can beat the best. There is tons of time and it's when you are a Senior that it really counts.

Amongst the Youths Arnold Bent and Steve White stand supreme. With sprinter David Rees, John and Bob Hamilton over the 'half' and 'quarter' and new members Michael and Trevor Day and John Crockford over the longer distances, we have the makings of a first class Youth team.

Steve has shown a maturity in his sprinting and jumping that is hard to credit to his 16 years. He started the ball rolling this season with 4th in the LAC Schools Long Jump (for athletes under 20) with a great leap of 21'2", following up quickly with two stupendous sprints in our first club match - 10.5/23.4. Since then of course he has gone on to win the Surrey Youths 100y.

It is great to see that one of the few athletes to give Steve a defeat now and again is Arnold Bent - another Belgrave man. Although Arnold is mainly a High Jumper he has managed to reach out to 20'2 in the Long Jump and is always ready to have a go at any other event going.

## March 25th - Victoria Park

On Saturday 25th March we took two teams over to Victoria Park, East London to try our luck in the V.P. Harriers annual Boys road relay. This race is held over a 1½ mile circuit with five members to each team. Sad to relate, although our team gave everything they had, the lack of experience in this type of race took its toll and the best we could manage was 12th position out of the 19 teams taking part. We don't consider our journey a waste of time however and feel sure that things will be different when we pay a return visit next year.

1. Cambridge & Col.	37:27	G. Rosam	8:16	We started a 'B' team:-	
2. Hornsey	37:47	W. Curtin	7:44	V. Butcher	8:09
3. Hercules AC	37:48	R. Poole	7:44	M. Harvey	8:50
12. BELGRAVE H 'A'	40:08	J. Hamilton	8:04	R. Gale	8:51
		R. Hamilton	8:11		

## April 23rd - Battersea Park

This was the first of what we hope will become a regular feature of our Sunday morning sessions at Battersea Park. On this occasion it was a road race of approx 1¼ miles (once round the Park on the road). We hope to vary the distance of each race and to arrange one every six weeks or so. If all are supported as well as this one we can look forward to some good races. Bill Curtin won in the excellent time of 9:08 secs. a time that many Senior members would like to emulate.

(Cont'd from opposite page)

One of the early arrivals was that keen Committee man and critic, Harry Parker (soon to become a very staunch help and supporter). Sniffing like a terrier smelling out a rat (or so it seemed to me at the time) he looked up to the premises and the Church notice board and then disappeared inside. He returned after a few minutes and in approving tone remarked, "Yes, very nice, but where are you going to get the members to fill the place?"

There was no reply. It was to come very soon. We grew and grew.

The 'moving' story of 1921 had ended and an era of greatness began.

1.W.Curtin	9:08	10.S.Beadon	11:36
2.G.Walsh	9:45	11.K.Savage	11:36
3.V.Butcher	9:49	12.I.Gillings	12:10
4.R.Williams	10:27	13.I.McNally	12:56
5.E.McNally	10:46	14.J.Deverson	13:28
6.M.Harvey	10:56	15.M.Smith	13:44
7.R.Hopkins	11:14	16.T.Russell	13:45
8.K.Coulman	11:18	17.C.saul	14:25
9.J.Clements	11:13		

#### April 29th - Battersea Park - YOUTHS MATCH v EALING & SOUTHALL

Steve White really impressed in this meeting notching up a 10.5 hundred and a 23.4 furlong - times which speak for themselves. David Wilkinson scored his first points for us in a club match, winning the Javelin by seven feet and also scoring in the Junior match.

100: 1.S.White	10.5	220: 1.S.White	23.4	880: 1.R.Hamilton	2:11.2	
2.D.Rees	11.1	Jav: 1.D.Wilkinson	122'9	2.T.Day	2:13.2	
1m: 1.M.Day	4:57.0	L.J	1.A.Bent	20'1	Shot: 1.A.Bent	36'4
H.J	1.A.Bent	5'8	2.S.White	19'4	4.D.Wilkinson	35'7
4 x 110: 1.BELGRAVE H (Hamilton, Bent, White, Williams)	49.3					

MATCH RESULT:- 1.BELGRAVE H 64pts, 2.Ealing & Southall 26pts.

In a Boys 880y race which we held on the same day there were a few surprises. Our boys have crossed swords many times with each other over the country but this was the first time they had met on the track. Robert Williams, who had done nothing outstanding in the longer events, came into his own and ran a fine race to finish 2nd to Bill Curtin. He later started our Youth relay team with another good performance.

1.W.Curtin	2:12	11.R.Hopkins	2:48
2.R.Williams	2:15	12.K.Savage	2:49
3.R.Poole	2:21	13.M.Smith	2:53
4.V.Butcher	2:25	14.I.Gillings	2:54
5.R.Gale	2:33	15.A.Mills	3:04
6.P.Donnally	2:37	16.I.McNally	3:04
7.M.Harvey	2:40	17.C.Godstone	3:13
8.M.Cane	2:41	18.C.Savage	3:24
9.K.Coulman	2:42	19.B.Staples	3:28
10.J.Clements	2:47		

#### May 1st - Battersea Park - 1st event in Boys & Youths Medal Competitions

##### 1/2 mile Walk

1.D.Wilkinson	6:53	7.E.McNally	7:22	13.R.Williams	8:06
2.W.Curtin	7:00	8.J.Deverson	7:22	<u>Youths</u>	
3.R.Hopkins	7:02	9.C.Savage	7:28	1.R.King	7:41
4.K.Coulman	7:02	10.I.McNally	7:32	2.P.Dunn	7:47
5.C.Saul	7:08	11.R.Galeb	7:42	3.N.Bacon	7:47
6.B.Staples		12.K.Savage	7:47		

## **Bill Curtin wins Surrey Boys 880y**

#### May 6th - Wimbledon Park - SURREY CHAMPIONSHIPS PART 1

Bill Curtin showed just what potential he has in middle distance events by winning the Surrey County Boys 880y with a tremendous sprint finish. Despite the fact that the heats of this race were run on the same afternoon (he ran in 4th having lost a shoe after one lap) Bill managed to record 2 minutes 14.3 seconds - 4.4 secs. inside the previous county record!

Steve Beadon in the Boys 80y Hurdle event probably had the best hurdling technique in the field but had to give best to two older and bigger boys. Still, third in a county championship is a tremendous achievement and he must be favourite to win next year.

80yH: 1.K.Charalambous (Tulse Hill)	12.4	880y: 1.W.Curtin (BELGRAVE H)	2:14.3
2.K.Johnson (Therfield Sch)	13.1	2.M.Mowatt (Wm.Penn Sch)	2:15.0
3.S.Beadon (BELGRAVE H)	13.3	3.A.Christodoulides	
		(R.R.A.C.)	2:15.9

#### May 10th - Battersea Park - Boys & Youths Medal Competitions

Boys 100y: 1.R.Williams	11.5	10.J.Clements	13.4
2.D.Wilkinson	12.0	11.E.McNally	13.8
3.K.Coulman	12.3	12.B.Staples	13.9
4.R.Hopkins	12.4	13.I.McNally	14.0
5.R.Kibble	12.4	14.J.Wood	14.1
6.W.Curtin	12.4	15.T.Russell	14.1
7.P.Donnally	12.5	16.C.Savage	14.5
8.R.Gale	12.5	17.C.Saul	14.5
9.K.Savage	13.3	18.D.McCarthy	15.0

Boys L.J:	1.R.Hopkins.....	16'4½	10.J.Wood .....	12'10½
	2.D.Wilkinson .....	16'4	11.C.Saul .....	12'8
	3.K.Coulman .....	15'9½	12.I.McNally.....	12'8
	4.R.Williams .....	15'6¾	13.C.Savage .....	12'7
	5.R.Kibble .....	15'4	14.T.Russell .....	12'6
	6.K.Savage .....	14'7½	15.E.McNally .....	12'1
	7.R.Gale .....	14'6½	16.D.McCarthy .....	11'6¾
	8.J.Clements .....	14'2¾	17.P.Donnally .....	10'6¾
	9.B.Staples .....	13'2	18.W.Curtin .....	-
Yths 100y:	1.M.Franks .....	11.4	4.N.Bacon .....	12.1
	2.P.Priest .....	11.6	5.M.Harvey .....	12.3
	3.R.King .....	11.9		
Yths L.J:	1.P.Priest .....	17'2	4.M.Harvey .....	13'4¾
	2.M.Franks .....	17'0	5.N.Bacon .....	12'7¾
	3.R.King .....	14'1		

May 20th - Motpur Park - SURREY COUNTY AAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

## Steve and Arnold in top form

We only had two Bels performing in the County Champs at Motpur Park but between them they picked up two firsts and a second. Steve White reached 19'6½" on the Thursday night to place second in the Long Jump and then on Saturday loped to easy wins in the heat and final of the 100 yards. It was a pity he hadn't entered the furlong also for this was won in a slower time than he has run at Battersea Park and it is almost certain that he would have taken this title too. Arnold Bent had no difficulty in winning the High Jump with 5'7", failing narrowly at 5'9" (the County record). Arnold regularly clears these heights and more in training but seems to be finding difficulty in following them up in competition.

100y: 1.S.White (BEL) 10.6, 2.E.Forman (Dorking) 10.9, 3.R.Sinclair(Sy) 11.0  
 H.J.: 1.A.Bent (BEL) 5'7", 2.J.Thorner (HHH) 5'4", 3.R.Field(Wall) 5'4"  
 L.J.: 1.I.O'Donnell (Mitch) 20'3¾, 2.S.White (BEL) 19'8¾, 3.D.Christmas (Redhill) 19'6¾



Photo: R. Linstead

Steve White coasts to a comfortable win in the Youths 100 yds final.

# ON THE RIGHT TRACK

We definitely are on the right track. Our Field Event section is at its strongest for years - possibly ever. Again and again our sprinters are making themselves felt in all standards of competitions.. With our ever powerful distance men (when they can be coaxed into running) it must be our year.

John Mitchell is having an incredible season. Now studying medicine, he has had to cut down on his training but the heavy work of the last three years under the guidance of Dave Ansell is reaping its own reward. He won the London University 100y into a strong wind in 10.4, took the Long Jump with 22'8" and in a representative match soon after was only narrowly beaten by Jim Vivian, both in 10.0 secs.

On May 10th came the climax. Competing in a University match against Cambridge and Loughborough he reached 24'0", breaking our 13 year old record by 6 inches and also ran his best ever '100' in 9.9, this time equalling the best ever by a Belgavian.

Second to John at this meeting and also at London University was Derek Wade with 23'2" also a best ever and only 4" off the old Club best. Derek is improving at perhaps an even greater rate than John and it will not be long before he is the second Bel. over 24 feet (Alan Lerwill has cleared 24'8" but is second claim).

The Triple Jump is being capably looked after by Lyle Moar, whose job involves so much travelling that most of his training is with isometric exercises. He has reached 43'4" already and is heading for 45'0" as soon as he dares to attempt a step from a bigger hop.

Another from the Ansell stable and who is going great guns is our second claim member from Queens Park H, Alan Lerwill. Alan regularly supports our meetings and has only been beaten by one person since October '66 - Lynn Davies. He has disposed of five British internationals and must surely get a GB vest this year.

The only Club man who can lay any claims to being able to beat Mitchell in a sprint is Jim Vivian. Although he has clocked an inferior time (so far) he is liable at any time to break new ground with 9.8 or even faster, and his 21.9 over the furlong is far from being his best this summer.

The main stay of our sprinters is Chris Martin, scorer of more points in our Club matches than any other person. In the Surrey County 4 x 110y and 4 x 440y our 2nd and 3rd places were due mainly to him, although there was some good backing from other members especially from Terry Derham in the shorter race.

Apart from the Long Jump our other parade event on the field is the Javelin. Nick Head turns out often and usually goes very close, if not over, 200 feet. However, Field Event Captain Brian King, who upped his best last year by 20 feet to 185 feet, added still more in his first competition of the season in spite of being troubled by a bruised throwing arm. (Those winter meetings have certainly proved their worth). He too must be going for the 'double top' before long.

These two are good enough to pick up nigh on maximum points at most meetings but just to make things difficult for our selectors, Tony Bianchi, a new member, has already thrown his spear over 170 feet this year and has previously broken 200 feet, so things are really going well here.

Our Pole Vaulters/High Jumpers are improving each time out. Barry Townsend has already had a go at 6 feet in the High Jump (unsuccessfully) and is certain to improve when he becomes fitter. Denzil Winsborrow has been Vaulting and jumping extremely well. The sight of him dashing from the Pole Vault to the High Jump, both being held at the same time at the 'Vancouver' gave us something to enthuse about whilst our other men were affected by the conditions. If only we can get hold of a fibre-glass pole without going on the long waiting list of orders for this equipment, we will see some REAL vaulting.

And so to our distance men. Gerry North struck a high note early in the season in a Lauriston Runners organised six mile event on March 21st, only to injure a calf-muscle in the last half-mile. What a way to get injured though - 28:08.4! Apart from being a personal and Club record he hasn't really done anything as fast as this since he set the old mark in 1963. Still more amazing, the fact that he was only 5th behind Tim Johnston (Ports/27:36.8), W.Olivier (S.Africa/27:41.8), and Bob and Dave Holt (Herc/28:05.0, 28:06.8). Close behind was Peter Whewell in 7th place (BEL/S.Africa 28:35.0).

At his fittest ever, John Bicourt has relentlessly improved on his best mile and 3000 metres Steeplechase times in the last couple of months recording:-

4:15.9 .....	21/3	9:05.8 .....	17/5
9:15.4 .....	26/4	4:15.0 .....	18/5
9:09.6 .....	3/5	4:14.6 .....	20/5
9:15.4 .....	6/5		

Picked for the Surrey team in the Inter-Counties 3000mSC, he stands his best chance ever of breaking through to top class honours and perhaps being the 32nd Briton to get under 9 minutes.

With a host of others just getting into the stride of the track season (Thresher 13:40.4/3m, Williams 4:12.7/1m, Geoff North "This year I'll hit the top or do nothing at all", etc.) I think we can look forward to what could be a vintage year for Belgrave. A.M.

### JUNIORS

You may have noticed the omission above of two events which are the weakest links in the Belgrave chain - the 'quarter' and 'half'. Two Juniors who are the fastest in the Club to date and who fill the bill admirably are Tony Brooks and John Kelly. Whilst Tony has yet to beat his 50.6 of the Junior AAA last year, his early times have been considerably faster than during the same period a year ago and when the important fixtures come round shortly we may well see our first sub-50 for some time. Although he switched to sprint type training through the last winter and has clocked some good times over the 100/220, his best distance may well be the 880 yards in a few years time.

John Kelly is one of the grittiest fighters there are in the last 100y of a half-mile but his weak point is that in a tactical race like the 'half' the first lap can often be slow and John is not able to switch on a real blazer over the second circuit. This alone was the reason for his 6th place in the Surrey Champs. and not 1st.

These two, together with Philip Gee in the sprints and Ray Mainstone over the mile and upwards, are the nucleus of our Junior team. There are, however, not many others to back them up at present, so although we usually provide the winners in inter-club matches we lose valuable points amongst the runners up.

## Results . . . . .

### March 18th - Tooting

#### BELGRAVE 11th OPEN FIELD EVENTS MEETING

This meeting was held on a cold and windy day with a total of thirty-two competitors, twelve of whom were Belgravians. Our only win of the day came from Denzil Winsborrow in the Pole Vault clearing 10'8" but with the potential of clearing a far greater height than this. Arnold Bent, the only Youth in the Senior High Jump, showed great form by clearing 5'8" and taking second place. Derek Wade was second in the Long Jump with 22'0" and has his sights on 24'0" this coming season with every chance of achieving it.

A pity more of our throwers did not turn up as this would have shown a good all round performance.

#### RESULTS:

<u>L. Jump</u>		<u>H. Jump</u>		<u>Pole Vault</u>	
1.J. Howell (HHH) 22'2"		1.M. Vale (S.Bgl) 6'0		1.D. Winsborrow 10'8	
2.D. Wade 22'0		2.A. Bent 5'8		<u>Discus</u>	
4.L. Moar 20'2		3.D. Winsborrow 5'8		1.C. Ellerbrook (Nflk)	
5.R. Bennett 20'1		6.S. Ipaye 5'2			149'7
10.A. Brooks 19'3"		<u>Javelin</u>		10.J. Martin	86'6
11.R. Coullault 19'1"		1.M. Reddick (TVH) 190'10		<u>Triple Jump</u>	
13.A. Bent 18'4		6.B. King 154'4		1.M. Mein (SLH) 42'4	
14.S. White 17'8"		<u>Shot</u>		3.L. Moar 40'4	
		1.C. Ellerbrook (Nflk) 50'0"			
		9.J. Martin 35'2			

March 18th - Battlebridge - Redhill Winter Meeting

100y 1.J.Vivian ....10.0 220y 1.J.Vivian .... 22.2

March 28th - Crystal Palace - SCAA Winter Meeting

2000mSC 1.J.Bicourt 6:04.4 2m 3. G.Williams 9:12.2

April 26th - Itley Road - SCAA v Oxford University

L.J. 3.D.Wade (SCAAA/BEL) 22'8.4 3000mSC 3.J.Bicourt (SCAAA/BEL) 9:15.4

April 29th - Battersea Park - CLUB MATCH v MET.POLICE v EALING/SOUTHALL

100y 1.C.Martin 10.4	220y 1.C.Martin 22.9	440y 2.P.Smith 52.4
2.T.Derham 10.5	2.A.Lerwill 23.4	3.D.Gleeson 53.2
880y 3.J.Rimmer 2:04.0	1m 2.H.Satchell 4:45	4.A.Mead 53.2
4.D.Baines 2:05.0	4.D.Maclean 4:50	4 x 110y 1.BELS 45.5
H.J. 1.B.Townsend 5'10	5.E.Penny 5:02	(Nelson, Gleeson, Martin, Derham)
5.D.Winsborrow 5'8	6.P.King 5:10	
Shot 5.W.Couzens 35'0½	L.J. 1.A.Lerwill 21'10	Jav. 1.N.Head 200'2
6.B.Townsend 30'11	3.B.Townsend 20'5½	2.B.King 192'10

MATCH RESULT:- 1.BELGRAVE H 96pts, 2.Met.Pol. 78pts, 3.Ealing/Southall 41

JUNIOR MATCH v EALING/SOUTHALL

100y 1.A.Brooks 10.6	220y 1.P.Gee 24.1	440y 1.A.Brooks 52.4
2.P.Gee 11.1	1m 1.R.Mainstone 4:46.8	Shot 2.A.Brooks 30'1
880y 1.J.Kelly 2:01.7	Jav. 2.A.Brooks 115'9	L.J. 1.A.Brooks 18'5½
3.R.Moody 2:06.4	3.R.Mainstone 104'7	
4 x 110y 1. BELS 48.2 (Hamilton, Moody, Gee, Brooks)		

MATCH RESULT:- 1.BELGRAVE H 46pts, 2.Ealing/Southall 34pts.

April 29th - Motpur Park - London University Championships

100y 1.J.Mitchell 10.4 L.J. 1.J.Mitchell 22'8"

Hurlingham - N.U.T.S. Meeting

100y 2.J.Vivian 10.2 220y 2.J.Vivian 22.5 L.J. 1.A.Lerwill 22'0½

Chiswick - 'Sward' Mile

1.A.Simpson(Roth) 4:05.5, 2.A.Green(Had) 4:07.7, 5.G.Williams(BEL) 4:12.7

May 1st - Battersea Park - Shot Putt Handicap

A poor entry of only eight competitors for the Shot Putt handicap but nevertheless an enjoyable competition won by Lyle Moar with a personal best and Dave Ansell 2nd with a special handicap for taking part in his best suit.

1.L.Moar 25'4½	41'10½	4.J.Martin 33'5½	40'11½
2.D.Ansell 25'10	41'4	6.A.Mead 25'8	39'8
3.C.Keavey 23'3½	41'3½	7.B.King 29'9	39'3
4.R.Hopkins 21'11½	40'11½	8.W.Couzens 34'0½	38'8½

(actual)

(actual)

May 3rd - Motpur Park - Surrey v R.A.F. v Univ. London

John Bicourt pulverised the field in the Steeplechase beating the second man home, Halliday (Hercules), by almost half a minute and staking a strong claim for his place in the Inter-Counties team. His time equalled his best and with more competition looks certain to crash 9 minutes before long. We were well represented in the sprints, John Mitchell finishing extremely close to Jim Vivian in the 100y and Chris Martin grabbing 3rd in the furlong.

100y 1.A.Tymms (Sy) 9.8	220y 1.A.Tymms (Sy) 22.0
2.J.Vivian (Sy/BEL) 10.0	2.D.Grant (UL) 22.6
3.J.Mitchell (UL/BEL) 10.0	3.C.Martin (Sy/BEL) 22.8
L.J. - 22'6½	3000SC 1.J.Bicourt (Sy/BEL) 9:09.6
2.J.Mitchell (UL/BEL) 22'6½	2.J.Halliday (Sy) 9:37.8
3.D.Wade (UL/BEL) 21'11½	3.A.Domleo (UL) 9:39.0

May 6th - Leicester

100y 1. L.Davies (Roath) 10.0, 2.R.Frith (Poly) 10.1, 3.J.Vivian (BEL) 10.1

## SURREY COUNTY RELAYS

### May 6th/7th - Wimbledon Park

4 x 110: 1. Surrey 43.0, 2. BELGRAVE (R. Nelson, D. Gleeson, C. Martin, T. Derham) 43.4 3. Mitcham AC 44.9
4 x 440: 1. Surrey 3:24.7, 2. Herne Hill H 3:29.8, 3. BELGRAVE (P. Smith, A. Mead, C. Martin, R. Nelson) 3:30.0
3000mSC: 1. J. Bicornet (BEL) 9:15.4, 2. A. Black (BEL) 9:31.2, 3. W. Dance (BEL) 9:37.4
6 miles: 1. R. Holt (Herc) 28:42.2, 2. D. Holt (herc) 28:49.5, 3. R. Robinson (Camb & Col) 28:56.8, 7. W. Dance (BEL) 29:42.2, 8. A. Black (BEL) 30:16.6
JUNIORS
4 x 110: 1. Redhill 46.1, 2. BELGRAVE (K. Finn, R. Moody, P. Gee, A. Brooks) 46.3 3. Bishop Thomas Grant Sch. 46.3
4 x 220: 1. Epsom Coll. 1:35.0, 2. Redhill 1:35.6, 3. BELGRAVE (K. Finn, R. Moody, P. Gee, A. Brooks) 1:35.8
Pentathlon: 1. A. Brooks (BELGRAVE) 2645pts, 2. R. Wilson (Guildford) 2136pts

### May 10th - Battersea Park - CLUB MATCH v Sutton & Cheam v Queens Park H

100: 4. C. Martin 10.4	220: 1. C. Martin 22.4	440: 4. P. Smith 53.5
6. P. Smith 10.7	6. A. Mead 24.8	1m: 1. G. Williams 4:22
880: 3. L. Mann 2:05.0	Jav: 1. N. Head 192'3	2. Gy. North 4:25
4. J. Rimmer 2:06.0	2. A. Bianchi 170'3	3. A. Major 4:26
Shot: 2. N. Head 41'3	H. J: 1. D. Winsborrow 5'6	4. J. Dear 4:28
3. A. Bianchi 36'1		5. W. Kerr 4:29
MATCH RESULT: 1. BELGRAVE H 69pts, 2. Sutton & Cheam 64pts, 3. QPH 43pts.		
JUNIORS		
100: 3. P. Gee 11.2	220: 1. P. Gee 23.5	440: 2. J. Kelly 54.5
4. R. Mainstone 11.8	880: 2. R. Mainstone 2:09	4. R. King 61.0
H. J 1. A. Bent 5'8	Jav: 3. D. Wilkinson 106'	Shot: 2. D. Wilkinson 33'8 1/2
MATCH RESULT: 1. QPH 59pts, 2. BELGRAVE H 43pts, 3. Sutton & Cheam 7pts.		

### May 14th - Woodford Bridge

## VANCOUVER TROPHY

After a week of heat wave conditions it rained... and rained... and rained. Our final position in the match, although slightly better than last year, did nothing to dispell the gloom - 6th out of the 12 clubs taking part. It is worth noting that with the exception of the Steeplechase ALL our points were scored in the sprints and on the field. We didn't manage to raise a single competitor in the 5000m.

Tony Brooks ran an extremely powerful 400m to qualify for the final amongst athletes like Campbell (Poly), Shurmer (B' th) and Jackson (W. Gn) and his 6th place in this event made him one of the favourites for the Surrey Junior title the following week.

The conditions sadly affected our field event men with Nick Head being injured in the Javelin, our two Long Jumpers suffering from the anti-climax of their performances the previous week and Barry Townsend recovering from the SCAAA Decathlon held the day before. The best performance of the day was from Denzil Winsborrow, an athlete who promises so much in the near future, clearing 11'6" to win the Pole Vault and beat a number of formidable opponents who had the advantage of fibre glass poles.

#### Heats:-

100m: 3. J. Mitchell 11.0,	200m: 3. C. Martin 23.5,	2. J. Vivian 22.6
400m: 1. A. Brooks 51.6,	3. P. Smith 53.8,	400mH: 5. D. Maclean -
800m: 5. J. Kelly 2:00.3,	6. A. Morrison 2:06.0,	100mH: 4. B. Townsend 17.3
1500m: (A) 7. L. O'Hara, (B) 6. A. Black 4:12.5,	Hammer: 7. W. Couzens 103.9	
T. J: 7. L. Moar 41'7 1/2		

#### Finals:-

200m: 1. Barry (Birch) 22.6,	2. Adey (Hill) 22.6,	3. Graham (Poly) 22.8,
4. J. Vivian (BELGRAVE H) 23.0		
400m: 1. Shurmer (Bl' th) 49.3,	2. Campbell (Poly) 49.5,	3. Jackson (W. Gn) 50.2,
6. A. Brooks (BELGRAVE H) 52.6		
L. J: 1. Mollett (Birch) 22'5 1/2,	2. Alsoop (Horn) 22'2,	3. J. Mitchell (BELGRAVE H) 21'9 1/2
5. D. Wade (BELGRAVE H) 21'0 1/4		
Jav: 1. Perkins (Notts) 210'6,	2. Bosworth (Notts) 206'10,	3. Greasley (Poly) 203'5
6. N. Head (BELGRAVE H) 185'0,	9. B. King (BELGRAVE H) 149'5 1/2	
H. J: 1. McWhirter (Birch) 6'2,	2. Tranter (C. God) 5'10,	4. D. Winsborrow (BELGRAVE H) 5'8,
6. B. Townsend (BELGRAVE H) 5'6.		
P. V: 1. D. Winsborrow (BELGRAVE H) 11'6,	2. Jones (Bl' th) 11'0,	3. Clark (Notts) 11'0

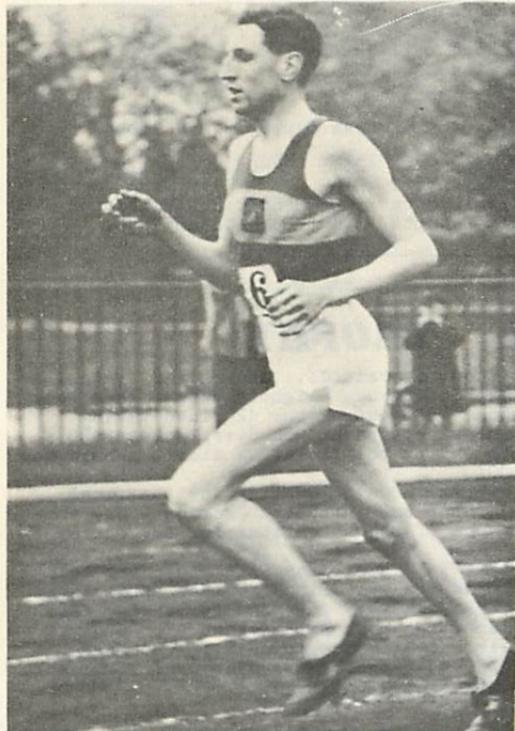
# I WAS THERE

## No. 3—by Bill Lucas

No one particular incident in a long association with athletics as an athlete, official and occasionally a spectator stands out particularly in my mind. So much has happened since I first came into the sport—six Olympic Games and similar numbers of European and Commonwealth Championships have produced many world records and at other times individual efforts have brought fame to the athlete concerned in field, track, cross-country and road events, so to pick any one particular case would be invidious.

I would however like to comment on three occasions when the crowd has risen to its feet to acclaim an athletic performance of unusual merit and to show that under the right circumstances athletics can be an exciting sport producing crowd appeal equal to any other sporting activity.

The first was during the period immediately following the Second World War when I was struggling badly to regain some 1939 form. It occurred in the AAA 3 miles championship at the White City on July 20th 1946 when Sidney Wooderson already established as one of the greatest milers of all times, tackled the longer distance and became the first Englishman to beat 14 minutes in a new British record of 13:53.6 secs. This in itself may not now seem to be of any great importance but it sticks in my mind because I was also running in that event and although finishing 7th I was all



BILL LUCAS WINS SURREY '6' OF 1951

but lapped—there is in fact a photograph in existence which shows me passing the tape a yard or so ahead of the winner. The White City crowd, rather larger in those days in the absence of television, had realised well before the second mile had been completed that they were to witness the breaking of another "barrier" and Sidney being the idol of the British crowds at that time was given a reception second to none. Such was the cheering that for the second half of the race it was impossible to hear either the sound of the runners feet on the track or even one's own breathing—it was literally one long continuous roar and I am sure that this must have spurred Wooderson to his great achievement.

The second occasion was during the 1948 Olympic Games in London where I was privileged to be a participant although not a particularly successful one. The event was the final of the 5000 metres in which I might have been a runner if my over enthusiasm in my heat had lasted a little longer and had not deserted me and left me like a pricked balloon. The great Emil Zatopek who had in a small way contributed to my own downfall by running, in my humble opinion, far faster than was necessary in our heat, was matched against, among others, Gaston Reiff from Belgium. Zatopek was of course

the favourite but for some reason best known to himself he had let Gaston go and Reiff was to all intents and purposes with one lap to run an easy winner. To the amazement of the crowd Zatopek with something like 100 yards to make up decided on entering the back straight to "have a go" and with one long determined effort he sprinted for the line and only failed by the proverbial inch to secure first place. The crowd went wild with excitement as they saw this dramatic come-back unfolding itself and no one will ever know whether the cheers at the finish, which went on for some considerable time, were for Reiff as the winner, or Zatopek in his unsuccessful bid for victory. It is in my mind the greatest grandstand finish of all time.

The third occasion was again at the White City on a never to be forgotten evening in 1957 when Derek Ibbotson brought back to Britain the World 1 mile record with a fantastic 3:57.4. I was privileged to be the announcer at this meeting and never shall I forget firstly the cheers when Ibbotson won, for everyone knew that the time was a good one, secondly the hush of expectancy in the Stadium as I began my announcement and then the eruption when I came to the time. I doubt whether anyone

kept their seats—everyone was on their feet demanding to see Derek who obliged with a lap of honour and was then cajoled(?) into coming to my microphone which was sited at that time in the centre of the arena near the finishing post, to say a few words. Evon Ibbotson, who is not renowned for his lack of words, found difficulty on that occasion to put into words his great excitement in annexing the "blue riband" World record. My recollection is that the meeting was considerably delayed but no one worried for the evening had been made for the crowd and the officials and everyone went home happy with the knowledge that a little history had been made—Ibbotson's finest hour!!!

These occasions remain as delightful remembrances of time well spent and I can only say how pleased I am that "I was there".

#### May 16th - Motspur Park - SURREY AAA HEATS

Qualifiers for finals:- 220: J. Vivian 21.9, C. Martin 22.6  
3m: J. Thresher 13:57.0, W. Dance 14:26.2  
880J: J. Kelly 2:06.8

Non-qualifiers:- 3m: A. Major 14:29.0, A. Black.

#### May 17th - Motspur Park - University of London v A.A.A.

## CLUB RECORD for BICOURT

Four Belgravians were selected for this match, John Bicourt and Jim Vivian for the AAA and those Long Jump twins John Mitchell and Derek Wade for the University. Vivian was unlucky to be drawn outside Dick Steane in the furlong and despite finishing 2 yards down, endorsed his best of 21.9 the night before with a sound 22.1. The Long Jump provided the home team with their only one... two... of the whole match, both Bels creeping up towards their best marks again. In fact the only real opposition could have come from Mary Rand - competing in the women's match.

John Bicourt's Steeplechase was tremendous. Making the pace for most of the way, John managed to shake of Pymm (TVH guest) but then in turn was dropped by Gerry Stevens (AAA). As the bell rang for one more circuit John gave everything he had and as they approached the water jump for the last time he was within a few feet of his rival. Here the race was decided for John stumbled and Stevens put just enough daylight between them to hold on to the finish, our man closing again at the tape. It was a fine effort by Bicourt and he was rewarded with a personal best time and a Club Record.

100: 1. D. Dear (AAA) 10.1	3000mSC: 1. G. Stevens (AAA) 9:05.4
2. N. Rice (AAA) 10.2	2. J. Bicourt (AAA/BEL) 9:05.8
3. J. Mitchell (UL/BEL) 10.2	3. G. Pymm (TVH) 9:12.8
220: 1. R. Steane (AAA) 21.9	L.J 1. J. Mitchell (UL/BEL) 23'0½"
2. J. Vivian (AAA/BEL) 22.1	2. D. Wade (UL/BEL) 22'6½"
3. Mayfield (UL) 22.8	3. C. O'Neill (AAA) 22'2½"
4 x 110: 1. AAA (Dear, Rice, Vivian, Steane) 42.5	

#### May 18th - Motspur Park - SURREY AAA HEATS

Qualifiers for finals:- 440yJ: A. Brooks 52.1  
1mJ: R. Mainstone 4:37.2

Non-qualifiers:- 1m: J. Bicourt 4:15.0  
440y: R. Nelson 53.0, P. Smith 53.1, A. Mead 53.4  
1m: H. Satchell 4:29.1

#### Middlesex County Results:

##### Feltham

100y 1. R. Steane (TVH) 9.9	LJ 1. A. Lerwill (QPH/BEL) 22'-7½"
2. J. Mitchell (BEL) 10.3	2. T. Birchmore (Enf) 21'-7½"
3. J. Barrett (TVH)	3. A. Huber (Highgate) 21'-4"
	4. J. Mitchell (BEL) 21'-2"

The U.A.U. 2 Mile walking championship was an all Belgrave affair.

#### RESULTS

1. Vaughan Thomas	Loughborough	15:45.6
2. Bob Farley	"	15:45.7
3. Dave King	Hull	16:24.5

May 20th - Motpur Park

**SURREY COUNTY CHAMPS****Unlucky Jim**

Qualifying easily in 10.2 and 10.3 respectively, Jim Vivian and Tony Tymms (Surrey) had everyone looking forward to an exciting final of the 100 yards ... but then disaster struck. Jim was a shade too eager to get away and was pulled back by the starter for a false start. At the second attempt Jim, in the lane farthest from the starter, failed to hear the call to 'get set' and after a fast gun was left sitting on his blocks as the others rocketed off. The 220 yard final an hour later gave him his chance to make up for his showing in the 100y and although Tymms became the title-holder at this event also, Jim put on an impressive display to beat Woodland (Hercules) and close on the winner at the tape.

The 3 mile final was John Thresher's first real test of the season and it resulted in a narrow defeat by Bob Holt (Hercules) with John stopping the watches at a p.best of 13:40.4. (He has, in fact, clocked a superior time over the metric equivalent). Smallbone (Mitcham) and Fuller (Wimb) set the early pace from the two Holts and John Thresher, keeping a wary eye on Mike Gowan (HHH), close behind. As the leading bunch swept through the first mile (4:34.0) Dave Holt took the lead, Thresher closing up to 2nd place. Just before 2 miles (9:11.2) the Belgrave man strode into the lead, breaking up the field with a fast lap of 65.0 secs., only Bob Holt managing to stay with him and one of the main threats, Gowan, dropping back and only narrowly keeping ahead of the main body of runners. For three laps the position remained the same until with 660 yards to go Holt struck and gathered a couple of yards lead which try as he might, John just could not regain.

**RESULTS:**

100y Heats :	J.Vivian 10.2,	C.Martin 10.7		
100y:	1.A.Tymms (Surrey)	10.0	220y:	1.A.Tymms(Surrey) 21.7
	2.I.Matthews (Sutton)	10.3		2.J.Vivian (BELGRAVE) 22.0
	3.D.Fitch (Army)	10.3		3.R.Woodland(Hercules) 22.2
	J.Vivian (BELGRAVE)	dnf		4.C.Martin (BELGRAVE) 22.7
1m:	1.J.Rix (SLH)	4:05.4	3m:	1.R.Holt (Hercules) 13:38.8
	2.G.Biscoe (Mitcham)	4:06.4		2.J.Thresher(BELGRAVE) 13:40.4
	3.F.Stebbings (Croydon)	4:11.6		3.M.Gowan (HHH) 13:54.6
	5.J.Bicourt (BELGRAVE)	4:14.6		11.W.Dance (BELGRAVE) 14:19.0

**JUNIORS**

We were well represented in the Junior events with finalists in all track events except the hurdles but our only medal was won by Philip Gee in the 220 yards. Philip also clocked a useful 10.7 for 5th place in the 100 yards, only 0.1 secs. covering the first five home.

There were high hopes that Tony Brooks might take the quarter-mile title and add his name to those past winners Dave Cocks and Danny Wiseman. The pace, however, was ferocious and Tony struggled home in 51.4 after an ultra fast first furlong. The winner recorded 49.7, the same time as the winning Senior mark!

100y:	1.J.Owens(S.Beagles)	10.6	220y:	1.T.Collins (Hercules)	22.9
	2.J.Allman(KCS Wimbledon)	10.6		2.P.Forder(Woking)	23.7
	3.J.Chappell(Epsom)	10.6		3.P.Gee (BELGRAVE)	24.0
	5.P.Gee(BELGRAVE)	10.7			
440y:	1.T.Collins (Hercules)	49.7	880y:	1.A.Carr-Locke(Whitgift)	1:59.0
	2.D.Marchese (Surrey)	50.5		2.Griffith (Surrey)	1:59.2
	3.R.Jackson (Epsom)	51.1		3.Fife (Poly H)	1:59.2
	4.A.Brooks (BELGRAVE)	51.4		6.J.Kelly (BELGRAVE)	2:03.1
			1m:	1.N.Morrison(R.Russell)	4:14.2
				2.J.Spooner(Dorking)	4:28.7
				3.H.Hayes(Wimbledon)	4:28.9
				4.R.Mainstone (BELGRAVE)	4:34.0

May 24th - London University v. Oxford University.

**9.9 AGAIN for JOHN MITCHELL**

100y:	1.M.Sharpe (OU)	9.8	L.J:	1.J.Mitchell (BEL/LU)	23'4"
	2.J.Mitchell (BEL/LU)	9.9		2.M.Sharpe (OU)	23'3"
	3.A.Ronay (OU)	9.9		3.D.Wade (BEL/LU)	23'1"



**THE SURREY CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS**

**Photos: R. Linstead:**

**TOP:** Jim Vivian splits A. Tymms (Surrey AC) and R. Woodland (Hercules) to finish 2nd in the 220 yds with 22.0 seconds.

**BOTTOM:** After doing his fair share of the pace-making, John Thresher loses ground in the final stages to winner R. Holt (Hercules) who got home by a 1.6 sec margin.

# CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

## HURLINGHAM PARK—JUNE 3rd

After weeks of unsettled weather our most important date on the fixture list was blessed with a fine sunny afternoon. The attendance was quite good and was noticeable for the high proportion of younger members and their families.

The fine array of 21 trophies on view were largely hogged by Nick Head (Javelin, Weight, Discus), Jim Vivian (100,220,440), Tony Brooks (Jun 220, Jun 440) and Arnold Bent (Sen and Jun high jumps), but performances were not quite up to expectations.

Features of the afternoon were Jim Vivian's floating 'quarter' in 50.9, John Thresher's front running from gun to tape in 4:11.8, Stevie White's 10.5 win in the 100yds Junior (he is only a youth) and the necessity to run three heats in the Boys 100yds.

As usual, the most heavily supported Senior events were the 880yds and mile races. There were 14 starters in the 'half' and it was tragic that the holder, Geoff North, should pull a muscle after 300yds when leading. His withdrawal left 20 miler Lionel Mann momentarily to the fore but Peter Whewell piled on the pressure at the bell to draw away to a 9 yards victory over John Bicourt.

The mile saw no less than 21 starters, but at the half distance Thresher and Williams were well clear in 2:6.0. A 64 seconds third lap by John shook of the Welshman, and as he streaked away to a comfortable best championship performance Peter Whewell pulled back Williams to a mere 12 inches for 3rd place.

The 2 mile walk gave Eric Hall yet another Club title and he took the "Don Brown" style award also. Dave King (3rd) travelled all the way from Hull, so desperate is he for competition. What an example!

The Boys 880 yds produced a good winner and the most popular competitor of the afternoon—8yrs old Ian Gillings. Half the size and only two-thirds the age of many of his rivals he was by no means outclassed. He has the graceful style of a natural athlete, showed no distress whatever and almost looked a seasoned campaigner! No wonder he got a special round of applause at the finish.

### RESULTS

<u>100 yds</u> (Boys)	1. R. Williams.....11.5	<u>880yds</u> (Boys)	1. W. Curtin.....2:13.2
	2. D. Wilkinson....12.0		2. R. Williams.....2:20.0
	3. R. Gale.....12.2		3. R. Gale.....2:26.0
	4. R. Kibble.....12.4		4. D. Milan.....2:39.0
	5. K. Coulman.....12.7		5. E. McNally.....2:40.0
	6. K. Savage.....13.2		6. K. Coulman.....2:42.0

<u>100yds</u> (Jun)	1. S. White (Y)....10.5	7. K. Savage.....2:43.0
	2. A. Brooks.....10.6	8. R. Hopkins.....2:46.0
	3. P. Gee.....10.7	9. J. Clements.....2:47.0
	4. M. Franks.....11.2	10. M. Franks.....2:48.0
	5. A. Bent..... —	11. I. Gillings.....2:52.0
	6. N. Bacon..... —	12. I. McNally.....2:59.0

<u>100yds</u> (Sen)	1. J. Vivian.....10.2	<u>880yds</u> (Sen)	1. P. Whewell.....1:57.9
	2. C. Martin.....10.4		2. J. Bicourt.....1:59.0
	3. D. Wade.....10.8		3. W. Dance.....2:00.0
	4. A. Mead.....11.0		4. L. O'Hara.....2:00.1

<u>220yds</u> (Jun)	1. A. Brooks.....23.3	5. A. Major.....2:00.2
	2. S. White (Y)....23.7	6. L. Mann.....2:03.0
	3. P. Gee.....23.8	7. P. Hilliar.....2:04.0
	4. A. Bent (Y)....26.0	8. J. Rimmer.....2:05.0

<u>220yds</u> (Sen)	1. J. Vivian.....22.9	9. D. Newell.....2:10.0
	2. C. Martin.....23.1	10. J. Dear.....2:15.0
	3. D. Wade.....23.6	11. D. Gordon.....2:18.0
	4. D. Winsborrow...24.1	12. W. Kerr.....2:19.0
	5. S. Opaye.....25.0	13. C. Manning.....2:20.0

<u>440yds</u> (Jun)	1. A. Brooks.....52.0	<u>1 Mile</u> (Jun)	1. J. Hamilton.....5:08.0
	2. J. Hamilton.....56.4		2. N. Bacon.....5:12.9
	3. - Walls.....62.4		3. R. Hamilton.....5:20.0
			4. A. Chandler.....5:25.7
			5. G. Rosam.....5:39.0

<u>440yds</u> (Sen)	1. J. Vivian.....50.9	<u>3,000m</u> s/chase	1. W. Dance.....9:46.0
	2. C. Martin.....52.4		2. J. Dear.....9:59.2
	3. A. Mead.....52.7		3. D. Maclean.....10:34.4
	4. P. Smith.....53.7		
	5. D. Baines.....54.0		
	6. S. Opaye.....---		

<u>1 Mile</u> (Sen)		
1. J. Thresher.....	4:11.8	
2. G. Williams.....	4:15.0	
3. P. Whewell.....	4:15.0	
4. J. Bicourt.....	4:23.0	
5. L. O'Hara.....	4:24.0	
6. A. Major.....	4:25.0	
7. A. Fairclough.....	4:31.0	
8. T. Hart.....	4:31.0	
9. W. Dance.....	4:31.0	
10. H. Satchell.....	4:36.0	
11. W. Kerr.....	4:37.0	
12. L. Mann.....	4:39.0	
13. J. Davies.....	4:40.0	
14. J. Rimmer.....	4:41.0	
15. R. Glover.....	4:43.0	
16. P. O'Connor.....	4:46.0	
17. C. Keavey.....	4:53.0	
18. - Carton.....	4:58.0	
19. E. Penny.....	5:03.0	
20. B. Merry.....	5:09.0	
21. G. Piddington.....	5:11.0	

<u>880yds</u> (Jun)		
1. R. Hamilton.....	2:11.5	
2. M. Franks.....	2:15.6	
3. A. Chandler.....	2:16.8	
4. C. Calderwood.....	2:17.0	
5. - Walls.....	2:21.3	
6. N. Bacon.....	2:23.8	
7. G. Rosam.....	2:27.3	

<u>L. JUMP</u>		
1. D. Wade.....	22'-1"	
2. R. Jones.....	21'-11"	
3. L. Moar.....	21'-0"	
4. D. Winsborrow.....	20'-5"	

<u>2 M. Walk</u>		
1. E. Hall.....	15:08.8	
2. P. Duncan.....	15:57.8	
3. D. King.....	16:14.6	
4. J. Baker.....	16:33.4	
5. R. Picton.....	16:47.4	
6. J. Keown.....	16:51.8	
7. D. Potheringham.....	16:58.0	
8. C. MacLennan.....	19:00.2	
9. S. Jones.....	19:09.6	
10. A. East.....	19:23.4	
11. P. Wilson.....	19:34.4	

<u>DISCUS</u>		
1. N. Head.....	124'-3"	
2. B. King.....	102'-11½"	
3. W. Couzens.....	101'-1½"	
4. L. Moar.....	86'-10"	

<u>WEIGHT</u>		
1. N. Head.....	40'-8"	
2. W. Couzens.....	36'-0½"	
3. B. King.....	3	

<u>JAVELIN</u>		
1. N. Head.....	199'-0"	
2. B. King.....	171'-3"	

<u>H. JUMP</u> (Jun)		
1. A. Bent(Y).....	4'-6"	
2. D. Milan.....	4'-4"	
3. N. Bacon.....	4'-0"	

<u>H. JUMP</u> (Sen)		
1. A. Bent(Y).....	5'-6"	
2. D. Winsborrow.....	5'-6"	
3. L. Moar.....	4'-11"	
4. S. Opaye.....	4'-10"	

<u>T. JUMP</u>		
1. L. Moar.....	40'-11"	
2. D. Wade.....	39'-2½"	



JAVELIN, DISCUS AND SHOT CHAMPION---1967.

To help the 80% of our readers who fail to understand our centre pages "satire" supplement(1) we reproduce the sort of advert which, with any luck, will one day embarrass those administrators who make those illogical decisions on amateur status. More power to your elbow NICK HEAD, and bad luck Ann Packer!

# INTER-COUNTIES :

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## White City—May 27th and 29th

The final event of the Games, the 3,000 metres steeplechase was underway. John Bicourt carried Surrey's vest momentarily to the front but the Herriott/Pomfret international partnership set a sizzling pace that soon had the field strung out, with John relegated to eighth, fractionally ahead of a menacing group. This was the critical stage. And it was at this moment that the Tannoys blared forth the news that Middlesex led Surrey by 1½ points in the Inter-County Championships and that all depended on "the Surrey man's placing". Nothing less than sixth place was needed. The large contingent of Surrey stalwarts at the start of the back straight soon set up a chant of "Bicourt", "Bicourt", "Bicourt" and John responded in magnificent style. With two laps to go he looked stronger than ever and simply tore past Glamorgan's McAndrew to reach sixth place at the bell with the bearded Perry 30yds ahead. A speedy 300 yds, a neat water-jump and the two runners cleared the last hurdle almost together. However, the Birchfield man just managed to hold off John's effort. But no matter, the Surrey supporters were jubilant for the vital 2 points had been gained—or so it seemed. Imagine their dismay, particularly John's, when it was later discovered that 3 points had in fact been required. So despite a great personal best of 8:57.6 John Bicourt just failed to pull off another title for Surrey. Where did Surrey really lose that vital point? Was it when Rushmer "came again" and doubtfully piped Holt on the finishing line of the 6 miles? Was it when Stewart appeared from nowhere to pass Rix in the final yards of the mile? Was it when the 220 photo placed Tymms 5th instead of 3rd? Or was it the "count-back" in the High Jump that pushed Miller into second place? Wherever that elusive point went there is no doubt that the three Belgravians in the Surrey team did all of, and more, that was asked of them.

John Thresher ran an excellent '3' on the Saturday to finish 4th (13:40.8) and Ray Middleton picked up a valuable 5 points with his third placing in the 7 miles walk (53:33.0). John Bicourt's 2 points brought our trio's total to 11 out of a County total of 68.

Of course, some say that Surrey's failure to gain the title was in no way due to the instances of bad luck mentioned above but was caused solely by Trevor Hart and his standard point for Middlesex in the 20 mile road race!

### INTER-COUNTY PLACINGS

1. Middlesex 68½ pts, 2. Surrey 68 pts, 3. Lancs 54 pts. 4. Hants 38 pts.  
(36 Counties took part).

### INTERNATIONAL 2 MILES

1. I. McCafferty (G.B) 8:33.4, 10. Geoff North 8:56.6, 11. P. Whewell 9:02.0

## MAY 24th—CHISWICK—CLUB MATCH V POLYTECHNIC V TWICKENHAM

100y	1. J. Vivian...10.1 4 C. Martin...10.5	220y	1. J. Vivian...23.4 2. C. Martin...23.8 4. Sapountz'...24.6	440y	1. P. Smith...53.7 2. A. Mead...53.7
100y (W/S)	1. A. Lerwill...10.1 2. A. Brooks...10.3 3. A. Mead...10.5 4. P. Smith...10.6	220y (N/S)	1. A. Lerwill...23.7 2. A. Brooks...23.9 3. L. Moar...24.7	880y	1. L. Mann...2:10 2. A. Brooks...2:14
2 m	1. W. Kerr...9:24.0 3. L. O'Hara...9:31.6 - P. Hilliar...9:52.0	Dis	1. W. Couzens...94'1-9½" 2. B. King...93'1-5½"	1 m	2. A. Major...4:31.0 5. L. Mann...4:38.5

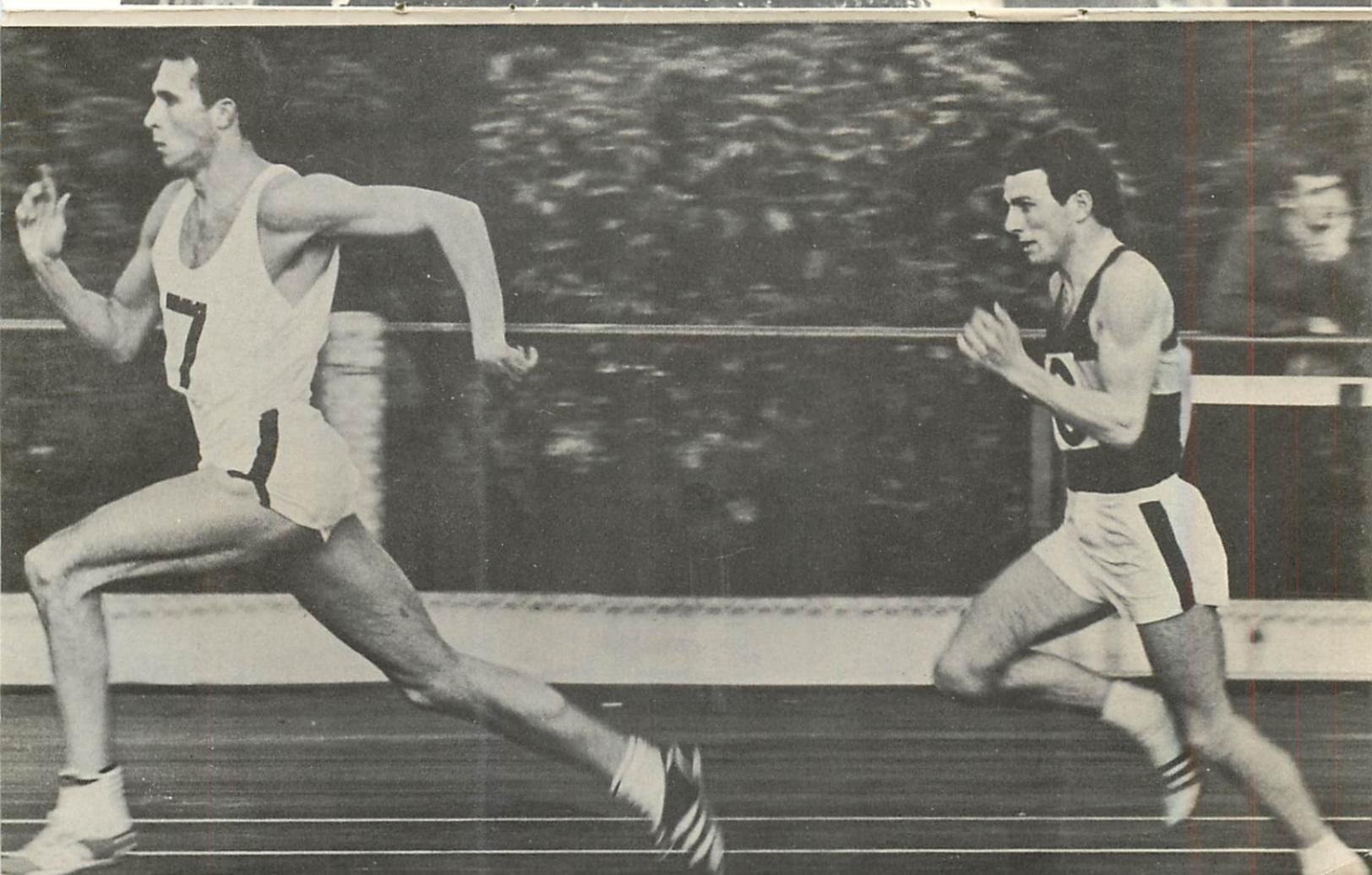
MATCH RESULT—1. BELGRAVE H 70pts, 2. Poly. H. 39pts. 3. Twickenham 21pts

## MAY 30th—WALTON—CLUB MATCH V WALTON V POLYTECHNIC HARRIERS

100y	1. J. Vivian...10.0 3. A. Lerwill...10.6	220y	1. J. Vivian...22.9 2. C. Martin...23.1	440y	1. A. Brooks...52.4 4. C. Manning...62.8
100y (N/S)	1. C. Martin...10.5 2. A. Brooks...10.7	220y (N/S)	1. A. Brooks...23.7	880y	3. A. Major...2:02.9 5. J. Rimmer...2:04.0
1 M	1. J. Thresher...4:11.0 4. A. Major...4:22.9 5. L. O'Hara...4:24.0 6. P. Hilliar...4:26.5 7. H. Satchell...4:27.0	2 M	2. W. Dance...9:24.7 4. J. Dear...9:38.2	HJ	1. D. Winsborrow...5'3" 2. L. Moar...5'2"
Dis	1. N. Head...121'4" 3. W. Couzens...97'7½"	Shot	1. N. Head...40'7" 3. W. Couzens...35'8"	LJ	1. A. Lerwill...22'1-2½" 2. Winsborrow...20'1" 3. L. Moar...19'10"
		Jay	1. N. Head...195'10½" 4. B. King...161'9"	4X110	1. BELGRAVE 45.6

MATCH RESULT—1. BELGRAVE H. 74pts, 2. Walton 43pts, 3. Poly 13pts.

BACKPIECE (Photo by E.D. Lacey)—Chris Martin trails the majestic Winbolt-Lewis in a heat of the Surrey Co 220yds. Both qualified for the final, run four days later, in which Vivian was 2nd and Martin 4th. Winbolt-Lewis withdrew.



# Best Performers 1967

(as at June 3rd)

Marks are for first-claim members only.

Figures in brackets indicate best performance in 1966.

<b>100 yards (9.9)</b> 9.9 J. Mitchell 10.0 J. Vivian 10.3 A. Brooks (J) 10.4 C. Martin 10.5 S. White (Y)	<b>220 yards (22.2)</b> 21.9 J. Vivian 22.4 C. Martin 23.4 S. White (Y) 23.5 P. Gee (J)	<b>440 yards (50.6)</b> 50.9 J. Vivian 51.4 A. Brooks (J) 52.4 P. Smith 52.4 C. Martin 52.7 A. Mead
<b>880 yards (1:54.7)</b> 1:57.9 P. Whewell 1:59.0 J. Bicourt 2:00.0 W. Dance 2:00.1 L. O'Hara 2:00.2 A. Major	<b>1 Mile (4:03.3)</b> 4:11.0 J. Thresher 4:12.6 G. Williams 4:14.6 J. Bicourt 4:22.9 A. Major 4:24.0 L. O'Hara	<b>2 Miles (8:42.2)</b> 8:56.6 Geoff North 9:02.0 P. Whewell 9:12.2 G. Williams 9:24.0 W. Kerr 9:24.7 W. Dance
<b>3 Miles (13:18.8)</b> 13:40.4 J. Thresher 14:15.0 P. Whewell 14:17.8 W. Dance. 14:21.2 J. Bicourt 14:22.2 L. O'Hara 14:29.0 A. Major	<b>6 Miles (28:19.0)</b> 28:08.4 Gerry North 28:35.0 P. Whewell 29:49.2 W. Dance 30:16.2 A. Black	<b>3,000m SC (9:09.6)</b> 8:57.6 J. Bicourt 9:31.2 A. Black 9:37.4 W. Dance 9:56.8 J. Dear
<b>High Jump (6'-0")</b> 5'-10" B. Townsend 5'-8" D. Winsborrow	<b>4x100YD (42.8)</b> 43.4 Nelson, Gleeson Martin, Derham	<b>Long Jump (23'-5½")</b> 24'-0½" J. Mitchell 23'-2½" D. Wade 21'-2½" S. White (Y) 20'-6½" L. Moar
<b>Shot (38'-6")</b> 42'-1" N. Head 38'-8½" C. Clair 36'-1" A. Bianchi 35'-8" W. Couzens 35'-2½" J. Martin	<b>Triple Jump (50'-1½")</b> 48'-6½" D. Boosey 43'-4" L. Moar	<b>Javelin (210'-2")</b> 200'-2" N. Head 192'-10" B. King 170'-3" A. Bianchi 150'-4" W. Couzens
<b>Pole Vault (11'-6")</b> 11'-6" D. Winsborrow 10'-6" B. Townsend	<b>Discus (124'-0")</b> 128'-0" N. Head 98'-1" J. Martin 97'-7½" W. Couzens 93'-5½" B. King 86'-1" B. Townsend	<b>Hammer (104'-7")</b> 103'-9" W. Couzens
	<b>Decathlon (5403pts)</b> 5082 B. Townsend	<b>Pentathlon (2683 pts)</b> 2645 A. Brooks (J)

## POSTBAG

BARRY SAWYER writes from Melbourne, Australia where he spends his week-ends with Percy Cerutti at the famous Portsea training camp. He hopes to be back in Europe in 1972 and issues a warning to Trevor Hart ("how did that 'nong' get three photos in one gazette?"), to get in plenty of training as Barry wants no excuses when he returns to do battle! For two years now sinovitis and fibrositis have curbed his insatiable appetite for mileage and the majority of his sessions are less than 10 miles. However, at the end of May he had run up 516 consecutive days of training and is running better than ever. Last month he finished second to Fred Howe (ex-Blackpool) in the Victoria State marathon with 2:25:16 and is now managing to step up his mileage again. Cerutti has set him a target of 2:10:0 (1) but Barry confesses he would be happy to "fail" at 2:15:0. He also hopes to do a 4:10 mile—his best last year being 4:17.

RANJIT BHATIA writes from Delhi, where earlier this year he clocked 31:54.8 for 10,000 metres and 70:38.5 for 20 Kms. He hopes to return to England once every 3 years and remain fit enough to don a Belgrave vest each time. He still thinks "Bels are the tops" and sends his regards to all.

IAN BLAKET, resident at Lauriston Cottage and Secretary of the Lauriston Runners Club refers to the last edition of THE BELGRAVIAN and writes:—"I noticed your reference to L.R.C. as a second claim club. This I fear is inaccurate. Whilst it is correct to say that the members of the club are at present second claim members, and naturally will only compete as such, the club is not limited to such members and would be perfectly free to accept members first claim. Such members would be free to compete in open events just as any other first-claim members of any club".