



THE 2nd EDITION
(1929)

OF

THE BELGRAVIAN

FEBRUARY—MARCH.

President : W. H. HARE.

Gen. Hon. Secretary: W. L. BAYLISS, 71, Ravensbury Road, S.W.18.

Hon. Treasurer : A. E. MACHER, 164, Bedford Hill, S.W.12.

Editor : B. J. T. KNIFTON, 81, St. Dunstan's Road, Hammersmith.

CLUB NOTES

At last one of the Club's greatest ambitions has been realised, and the South of the Thames Senior Championship been won—and won, fittingly enough, in the year that our President holds a similar office on the Committee of the South of the Thames Association. The six members who have served the Club so well, W. S. Mitchell, A. W. Penny, A. Allum, W. G. Webb, P. Khlopin and A. Robertshaw, are deserving of the Club's congratulations and thanks for their efforts, as are also the remaining six members of the team who enabled the Club to become holders of the "Colman" Cup in addition to the "Dewar" Shield—both for the first time. As a memento of the occasion the Committee have decided to present the twelve men with a small silver medal each.

A pleasing feature of the day was the large number of supporters that travelled to Merstham to help the team to its first win (a double win at that) by shout, rattle and bell. Our muster was far superior to that of any other Club, as anyone present would assure you. That this support was appreciated was confirmed by one of the runners who confided that the encouraging shouts were worth half a mile off the distance to him. One is reminded of the quotation, "They also serve who only stand and wait," for no doubt their turn to excel will come before long.

This win, following upon the Junior success and easy win in the Surrey County Championship, is in distinct contrast to the Club's performantes of a few years ago, and it is hoped that the track season about to commence will be equally successful. The loss of form in the Southern Championship is a temporary setback, but here note the use of the word *temporary*. A year's wait, and then

Since our last issue the walkers have won another scratch team race, this time in the Cambridge H. Open Walk, and so continue to show the Belgrave walkers' superiority in team events.

In conclusion, it is hoped that all who can do so will attend the Club Dinner on March 23rd, and hear from the lips of the President and Secretary of the past year's progress.

THE HARRIERS' DIARY.

— WITH THE RUNNERS WEEK BY WEEK. —

In which several members of the Running Section combine to record faithfully, and to the best of their ability, the happenings of the past weeks—a period during which Club history has been made, and hopes realized. The months of January and February, 1929, may well be looked back upon as the turning point in Belgravian history.

January 5th.

Our first turn-out in the New Year was for a social run with Epsom, Mitcham A.C. and Croydon H., from the Grandstand on Epsom Downs.

The "Bels." were there in force and three packs were sent out under the guidance of members of the home club (Epsom). The "slows," led by Tolley, went about 5 miles, the "mediums," under Gorringe, about 6 miles, and the "speed merchants" 7 miles.

It was a very cold afternoon and sweaters (or several vests) were the order of the day. Frost and ice lay thickly on the ground and those who turned out in spikes had a very thin time, while even those wearing plimsolls found the ground unpleasantly hard. A short tear-up at the finish, however, warmed us up, and after the external application of hot water—down in the basement—and the internal application of hot tea—in the dressing room—we returned home feeling quite satisfied with our outing.

S.D.

January 12th.

January 12th, 1929, will be remembered for many years as the day when the Club gained a decisive win in the Surrey County Cross-country Championship—the third win in four years—and so confirmed the optimism with which we had regarded our team's chances. The win was not of the fluky variety—an eighty points margin will surely satisfy the most critical supporter.

The race took place from the Grandstand, Epsom Downs, over a two-lap course, consisting of seven and-a-half miles of frozen, hilly country. Our team gained a good position right from the start and at half-way our runners had taken command of the race and to the onlookers it was apparent that there was really only one team in it. Harwood, Surrey A.C., and Stansbury, Ranelagh A.C., the eventual winner, were running together at this point, with Mitchell lying third, twenty yards behind. Following them came Byrne (S.L.H.), Penny, Duffett, P. H. Clark (S.L.H.), and H. S. Cook. It will be seen that we had four men in eight at this point, with Rice and Footer running 18th, and 19th; and, as Smith and Pyer were within striking distance, our chances appeared very rosy. A rough calculation of the scores at this stage showed:—

Belgrave H.	59
South London H.	108
Surrey A.C.	120

The finish came with A. C. Stansbury an easy winner. Harwood, second, had to run all out to prevent Penny (third) from passing him down the finishing straight. Then came Duffett (4th), Mitchell (5th), Cook (7th), Footer (9th) and Rice (15th) to finish our team. Eliminating the individuals, this gave us a total of 40 points, our six men being placed in the first twelve. For this splendid win the Club become once again holders of the "Pickett" Cup and the Belgrave name now appears three times out of six thereon.

Of those outside the scoring team, Smith and Pyer played their part of pushing the other teams a little farther back, whilst Morrell, Sloper and Traquair all ran well. Morrell and Sloper are showing improvement and as they are young, should be scoring for the team in two or three years' time.

It was very pleasing to find our friends of Mitcham A.C. gaining a place in this Championship and reproducing their good form of the South of the Thames Junior Race, for we have always found them the best of sportsmen, whether on the track, over the country, or at the tea-table (I nearly wrote tea-fight!).

RESULT.

1. A. C. Stansbury	Ranelagh H.	...	...	...	...	46	41
2. W. J. Harwood	Surrey A.C.	...	...	...	...	47	6
3. A. W. Penny	Belgrave H.	...	...	...	...	47	9
4. E. A. Duffett	"	...	...	...	...	47	35
5. W. S. Mitchell	"	...	...	...	...	47	39
7. H. S. Cook	"	...	...	...	...	48	4

9.	H. E. Footor	Belgrave H.	....	...	...	...	48	9
15.	W. A. Rice	"	...	...	...	...	48	57
30.	A. D. Pyer	"	...	...	...	...	50	19
32.	A. E. Smith	"	...	...	...	...	50	35
56.	T. F. Morrell	"	...	...	...	...	52	21
73.	D. A. Sloper	"	...	...	...	...	53	55
75.	A. H. Traquair	"	...	...	...	...	54	3

TEAM PLACINGS.

	Pts.		Pts.
1. Belgrave H.	40	6. Epsom H. ...	187
2. South London H. ...	120	7. St. George's Services S.C.	346
3. Mitcham A.C. ...	124	8. Croydon H. ...	366
4. Surrey A.C. ...	135	9. Fitzroy Lodge ...	463
5. Kanelagh H. ...	184		

Caterham A.C. and Redhill A.C. did not close in.

The team and supporters then adjourned to the King's Head for tea with Mitcham A.C., Epsom H. and Croydon H. Needless to say, the "Pickett" Cup held the place of honour on the table. After tea, Ernie Duffett received the "Inter-Club Relay Shield" from the hands of Epsom Harriers' President and the tables were then cleared for dancing. A pleasant evening was spent, sometimes in the dance room, sometimes elsewhere, until 10 p.m., when a move was made for home.

On the same day the Middlesex Championship was held at Northolt. J. E. Flower and W. G. Webb were unable to run owing to foot trouble, and Robertshaw was forced to retire from the race when well placed, owing to a recurrence of ankle strain. Allum, however, ran remarkably well, considering the opposition (Middlesex are the inter-county champions) to be placed ninth—especially as he was compelled to run the last half-mile of frozen ground with only one shoe.

To sum up. The fine form shown by our boys in the County Championships proves that the successes gained with not end here, but that we may expect further honours to come our way before the close of the season—a season which should be the best ever known in the Club's forty odd years of existence.

A.A.H.

January 19th.

This was the first occasion we have visited Herne Hill Harriers and it was rather a pity the Cambridge Harriers Open Walk clashed with the fixture, as our walkers, who have had so many tussles with Herne Hill's heel and toe experts in previous Open Walks this season would, no doubt, have welcomed a training spin as a respite from the keen struggle which always ensues when Presland, Sayer, Reddish and Co. are met in open competition.

Perhaps the 10 miles, in brackets, as printed on the fixture list, affected our running section's muster, as there was only about a dozen of us present. There were a few more of the Herne Hill boys, making about 35 all told, and it was thought that three packs would be most suitable owing to the variety of ability with H. A. Johnston and Mountford present, and one or two sprinters just keeping fit during the winter. The "slows" were sent off in charge of A. J. Hunt and covered close upon eight miles. The medium pack went very nearly ten miles, paced by R. Eagan, whilst our "Big Four" went out with the fast pack, led by H. A. Johnston. They were out about eighty minutes, and judging by the perspiration and our Paul's shorts when they returned, there was evidently no time lost in *that* pack.

The course, judged by a championship committee, would have been ideal. My personal opinion is different, as the plough was really too affectionate. The fields, as usual for the time of the year, were covered with fertilizing material, and when on one occasion we stopped to regain our bearings, we found we were standing in a patch well over our ankles, and as a result we had the highly smelling compound with us a little longer still, but it all came off in the wash. Apparently it never affected anyone's appetite, judging by the empty plates after the pleasant tea to which we all stayed.

Mr. Hunt, the Herne Hill Running Hon. Sec., passed a few remarks on the occasion of our first visit, and our President, in appropriate manner, added that we should be renewing their acquaintance on February 9th, in the South of the Thames race—only on a little more serious terms. On the journey home the usual card party was formed and the usual person won. So "nuff said."

W.A.R.

The London Business Houses' Cross-Country Championship was held at Ruislip and a large field of 159, comprising 17 teams and 16 individuals, turned out, thus testifying to the growth of Athletics in the Business House world. The individual race was won by the well-known South London Harrier, B. C. V. Oddie, who was representing the Air Ministry. Just behind came A. A. Hicks, of Loughton A.C., who was running for the Gas Light & Coke Co., and third was B. D. Taylor, the Highgate Harrier, who ran as an individual, as did the fourth man, G. Ingram, of Surrey A.C. The Gas Light and Coke Co. were successful in the team race, winning quite easily from the Great Eastern Railway, with the Port of London third. Included in the winning team were A. D. Pyer and A. E. Smith, of our own Club, who finished respectively in the 12th and 16th positions. Other members of

ours who were competing were S. H. Warboys, who finished 46th—quite a good performance seeing that this was his initial race over the country—also N. R. Dewberry, C. T. Hills, A. H. Marshall and L. E. Fletcher.

E.A.D.

10 MILES CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP.

January 26th.

This year the 10 Miles Championship for the "Macher" Shield was held under much better conditions than last year. No less than 24 started, despite several absentees, caused through minor injuries. The race started with Joe Flower taking the lead, but at the end of the first mile Duffett and Allum were well in evidence. The field soon disappeared across the golf links, and there was much discussion among officials and spectators as to who would be leading at the end of the first lap, for this was, I believe, one of the most open Championships that the Club has had. The first lap of 5 miles was covered in 29min. 23secs. with Mitchell leading Duffett by about 10yds., followed by Penny the same distance away. Allum was lying 4th, closely followed by Footer, who is finding his form at the right time for the big Championships. It was pleasing to see those at the rear of the field carry on for the second lap, all determined to finish the course. Among them was George Still, who was celebrating his 52nd birthday by having another go. The first man to come into view towards the end of the second lap was Mitchell, who seemed to be running quite comfortably about 20yds. ahead of Duffett and won with about the same distance to spare. Penny and Allum finished 3rd and 4th respectively. Much is expected of these two promising runners, who will no doubt improve greatly with the experience they are gaining during the present season. A. G. Jones, who showed much improved form, was first man home in the handicap: second place being deservedly taken by W. Mitchell, the winner of the race. Traquair beat Duffett by a few seconds for third place.

Altogether a very fine race, with 21 finishing the course—a tribute in itself to the gameness of our boys. I have been asked by some members to express their appreciation of the efforts of Messrs. Macher, Baker, Parker and others who rendered great assistance to the competitors by flagging the course so well. Full result follows:—

1.	W. S. Mitchell	...	59 44	...	0 45	...	58 50	...	2
2.	E. A. Duffett	...	59 51	...	Scr.	...	59 51	...	4
3.	A. W. Penny	...	60 28	...	0 30	...	59 58	...	5
4.	A. Allum	...	60 48	...	0 15	...	60 33	...	8

5.	H. E. Footter	...	61	45	...	0	15	...	61	30	...	9
6.	W. G. Webb	...	62	27	...	0	30	...	61	57	...	10
7.	A. G. Jones	...	63	5	...	5	0	...	58	5	...	1
8.	F. H. Webb	...	63	6	...	2	40	...	60	26	...	7
9.	P. N. Khlopin	...	63	31	...	1	25	...	62	6	...	11
10.	W. A. Rice	...	65	8	...	0	45	...	64	23	...	17
11.	S. Drake	...	65	52	...	5	30	...	60	22	...	6
12.	A. H. Traquair	...	65	53	...	6	20	...	59	33	...	3
13.	T. F. Morrell	...	69	19	...	6	30	...	62	49	...	13
14.	W. Callow	...	70	13	...	6	20	...	63	53	...	15
15.	F. G. Ford	...	70	51	...	6	40	...	64	11	...	16
16.	A. A. Harley	...	71	5	...	8	0	...	63	5	...	14
17.	A. E. Smith	...	71	34	...	2	45	...	68	49	...	20
18.	D. A. Sloper	...	72	11	...	7	0	...	65	11	...	18
19.	A. W. Jannaway	...	72	13	...	9	30	...	62	43	...	12
20.	G. Still	...	73	18	...	5	30	...	67	48	...	19
21.	L. E. Fletcher	...	80	29	...	9	0	...	71	29	...	21

W.L.B.

January 30th.

One of the most interesting matches held in the South this season was the contest between Middlesex County, Royal Air Force and the Civil Service, staged on this day from the headquarters of the R.A.F. at Uxbridge. Middlesex won the event by virtue of sound packing.

The match, however, was of more than ordinary interest to all Belgravians, inasmuch as the small field of 26 not only included such fine runners and potential champions as B. C. V. Oddie, F. W. Turner, R. H. Thomas and Sam Ferris, but also two members from our own little household; to wit, A. Allum (representing Middlesex) and W. G. Webb (representing the Civil Service).

The course of approximately seven miles of going, briefly summarized as wet, sticky and bumpy, was covered by the first man, B. C. V. Oddie, in the relatively fast time of 38min. 30sec. and by Arthur Allum (running fifth for his county and ninth in the race) in 40min. 9sec. Bill Webb filled fifth place for the Service and 19th, in the race, covering the course in 41min 36sec.

Allum's performance, you will agree, was a meritorious one, and one feels that Belgravians will be unanimous in tendering to him congratulations on the honour he has achieved for himself and his Club in gaining his County honours. (Up the North!).

February 2nd.

This day saw us entertaining Mitcham A.C., Croydon H., Epsom H. and St. George's Services S.C. to a social run, followed by a good tea and dance. Unfortunately the weather was wet, and although there was a jolly crowd, it was not quite as large as we expected.

Our Captain, W. G. Webb, organised two packs, one to go about eight miles and the other to go about five. The former pack went across the Common and into Richmond Park, and judging by the comments passed it was thoroughly enjoyed. The other pack went round the Common and also enjoyed their outing. As usual there were also late arrivals who, rather than miss a run, went out on their own.

After the run we all sat down to tea, and although I think more were catered for than actually had tea, the Wimbledon country is so good for one's appetite, that I feel sure if the expected number had turned up, supplies would have been short, especially the cream buns, which disappeared far too quickly. Are they the secret of Belgrave's success?

After tea came the Dance, which I think we all agree was a great success, in spite of the fact that the Piano was on strike (Would not strike! you mean—Ed.) and we had to do without our usual turns. Bert, however, rose to the occasion and gave a little turn of his own, which caused quite a lot of excitement for a short time.

This was, I understand, the last social this season, and I feel sure you all agree with me, these functions are a great asset to the Club, and go a long way to foster the right spirit amongst members.

T.J.F.

FORWARD.

February 9th.

The triumph of our team in the 32nd race for the South of the Thames Cross-Country Association's Championship at Gatton Park, Merstham, marks a very definite step in the recent rapid improvement of our Cross-country Section. Appropriately enough, our first victory was gained in the year of office of the first Belgravian President of the Association, whose description of the race follows. It will be generally agreed that it is very fitting that he should contribute this day's entry to our diary.

Apart from a minor success in 1904 at Redhill, when the Club finished 3rd with a score of 158 points, and a 3rd last year at Epsom with 177 points, our performances in this event have not been particularly outstanding, consequently our full-blooded success with our securing 6 in the first 26 placings and a total score of 89 points, was wonderfully satisfactory, whilst still further, our team of 12 gained the trophy for the Club with a lowest aggregate number of points for a full team.

The whole team, therefore, participated in a well-merited triumph and added two more trophies, the "Dewar" Shield and "Colman" Cup, to the very fine collection we have made during the past year.

The race was over a fairly stiff course of 2 laps of heavy grass-land, but fate had been reasonably kind and dry cold weather had prevented the ground becoming too heavy.

Favoured by the draw (we drew No. 1) our team were well away and were soon conspicuous among the leaders. Little could be seen of the early running, but at the end of the first lap Mitchell was our first to appear (4th). Then came Penny (8th), Allum (13th), Webb (25th), Robertshaw (26th), Khlopin (29th), Smith (44th), O'Kell, who had come from Stoke to help in the good work (48th), Rice (52nd), Jones, A. G. (74th), Bayliss (105th), Drake (151st).

Our scoring six totalled 105, and this was not too promising, for Herne Hill were showing up well. The old failing, however, of our falling back over the latter stages is not now evident, and to this the running of our 10 mile championship prior to this event doubtless has some bearing. Thus, whilst Mitchell was unable to gain sufficient ground to give him individual honours, he held his position and by finishing 4th registered the best individual performance of any member. (L. Edwards was 6th in 1904, and G. Piper 6th in 1908). Penny gained one place, Allum held on 13th, our Captain, W. G. Webb, improved 9 places, Khlopin 6, whilst Robertshaw retained his 26th position. Mean-time Herne Hill had not fulfilled their early promise and, dropping back, were eventually beaten by a margin of 50 points.

Amid the general rejoicing with the result, there is minor tragedy. H. E. Footer, in our scoring 6 for the past 6 years and on 4 occasions the first man home for the Club, was unable to run owing to illness at home, and himself suffering from a recent attack of influenza. In consequence he was unable to actively participate in the success that no one more than he was anxious to achieve and none more deserving to reap the reward of years of effort.

With such few words, than, we go forward to seek fresh honours.

INDIVIDUAL PLACINGS.

1.	W. A. Townsend	Swindon A.C.	...	...	...	39	59
2.	E. Ford	Kent A.C.	...	...	...	40	4
3.	W. Bromley	Brighton & Cty. H.	...	...	...	40	24
4.	W. S. Mitchell	Belgrave H.	...	...	...	40	26
7.	A. W. Penny	"	...	...	...	40	49
13.	A. Allum	"	...	...	...	41	7

16.	W. G. Webb	Belgrave H.	...	...	...	...	...	41	27
23.	P. N. Khlopin	"	...	...	...	...	...	41	41
26.	A. Robertshaw	"	...	...	...	...	...	41	44
44.	A. E. Smith	"	...	...	...	...	...	42	40
56.	K. B. O'Kell	"	...	...	...	...	...	42	50
66.	W. A. Rice	"	...	...	...	...	...	43	7
87.	A. G. Jones	"	...	...	...	...	...	43	46
116.	W. L. Bayliss	"	...	...	...	...	...	44	38
144.	S. Drake	"	...	...	...	...	...	45	24

TEAM PLACINGS.

(for the "Sir Thomas Dewar" Shield).

	Pts.		Pts.
1. Belgrave H. (4, 7, 13, 16, 23, 26)	89	6. Kent A.C.	251
2. Herne Hill H. (9, 12, 20, 29, 34, 25)	139	7. Reading A.C.	263
3. Horsham Blue Star A.C. (11, 14, 30, 33, 55, 60)	211	8. Surrey A.C.	266
4. 3rd Div. Signals	235	9. South London H.	368
5. Brighton & Cty. H.	236	10. Mitcham A.C.	416
		11. Dartford H.	470
		12. Epsom H.	520

TEAM PLACINGS.

(for the "Sir Jeremiah Colman" Cup).

	Pts.		Pts.
1. Belgrave H.	602	3. Horsham Blue Star A.C.	908
2. Herne Hill H.	806	4. Brighton & Cty. H.	1,195

February 16th.

The race, Belgrave H. Juniors *v.* Surrey A.C. Juniors, which, I believe, was the first of its kind promoted by the Club for Juniors, took place from our headquarters at Wimbledon Common, the distance being just over 3 miles. The weather conditions were all against the runners, it being very cold and the ground covered with snow, whilst nearby people were skating on the frozen ponds. Nevertheless, 14 runners (7 from each Club) faced the starter, and within a few moments they had commenced the race, with Adams of Surrey A.C., setting a fast pace across the Village and Golf Links. Chorley and Morrell, Belgrave, and Hampshire, Surrey A.C., followed closely behind, and on reaching the Horse Ride the last-named had forced himself ahead with Adams, who was paying the penalty of a too-fast pace at the start. Sanders and Ford came along here and were with the leaders at the Flag-staff. On reaching the Windmill the positions were practically the same, but Syd Chorley was running well within himself, and on entering the Village it looked as though we were going to have an exciting finish, with Morrell and Sanders now running strongly and close on the heels of the leaders. Chorley, seeing the position, challenged Hampshire and ran away in the last 100 yds. and won comfortably, leaving the Surrey man and Morrell fighting it out for second place, which the former gained by a yard or so.

With Sanders (who had run exceptionally well, holding on to the leaders practically the whole way) and the other members finishing close together, we won rather easily. Scoring five aside, the Belgrave finished their scoring team in the first seven places, winning by 21pts. as against Surrey A.C.'s 38pts. We must therefore congratulate our runners on having upheld the traditions of their Senior Members and on keeping up the winning way, which shows fine promise for the future.

RESULT.

1. S. R. Chorley	B	22	31	S. A. C. Canard	...	B	23	35
2. W. Hampshire	S	22	35	9. F. Secretan		S	24	8
3. T. F. Morrell	B	22	36	10. F. Gilchrist		S	24	10
4. A. L. Sanders	B	22	39	11. T. H. Scrimshaw		B	24	11
5. A. W. Adams	S	22	42	12. R. Bastard	...	S	24	58
6. F. G. Ford	B	22	45	13. F. A. Johnson	...	S	—	—
7. H. W. Swetman	B	23	22	14. H. G. Timms	...	S	—	—

TEAM SCORES.

Belgrave H.—1, 3, 4, 6, 7	...	...	...	...	...	21	pts.
Surrey A.C.—2, 5, 9, 10, 12	...	...	...	...	...	39	"
						F.R.W.	

February 23rd.

The 41st Southern Cross Country Championship was held this day at Horton Kirby, and a very optimistic group of Belgravians waited at Holborn Viaduct for the special train.

We certainly had grounds for our optimism, for had we not got the same team that had gained such a decisive victory in the South of the Thames race, further strengthened by the addition of Ernie Duffett and Bert Footer? In fact, it was the strongest team that had ever represented the Club. A dozen or more supporters, four bells and three rattles completed the team.

Once settled in the train, our President, with a few leading lights of the Club, proceeded to discuss the team, the course and the probable placings, and one could constantly hear snatches of conversation such as "Penny," "Twist," "Twenty" and "Twenty-one." Meanwhile, Paul Khlopin, our member from Greenland's icy mountains, or some similar spot, fervently prayed for rain, and on seeing the sun shining as we drew out of the station, received such a shock that he was unable to show his true form—until tea-time.

On arrival we found ample accommodation had been provided at the Homes for Little Boys. The weather was mild and, with the exception of one short shower, no rain was experienced, while the course seemed on the light side, but was somewhat undulating. Some plough was experienced, but most of the going was meadowland. The course consisted of one small lap about 1 mile round and two longer ones of 4½ miles each.

The 286 competitors were started by Sir Kynaston Studd, Lord Mayor of London, and the "Bels." seemed to get away fairly well, for Duffett, Footer, Allum and Penny were up in the thirties at the end of the first few hundred yards.

At the mile Penny and Duffett were running about 20th, with Mitchell, Allum, Rice and Webb further back in that order, while Footer was being nursed by Wally Bayliss, still nearer the tail-end.

When they next came into view they had covered about five miles and Penny had worked up into 14th place, followed by Mitchell, who was now lying 29th, with Duffett 33rd. Allum, Webb and Rice came along together some distance behind, and Robertshaw came later, looking none too comfortable.

A mile later it looked as if Mitchell would catch Penny, for he was running very easily and had picked up several places. The positions here were: Penny 15th, Mitchell 22nd, Duffett 46th, Webb 80th, Allum 81st and Rice 88th. Khlopin came next, scarcely picking his feet off the ground; then Smith, followed later by Robertshaw, Bayliss and Footer, all in a bunch. Our twelfth man, Drake, pegged away with an eye on the "Odling-Smee" Cup.

We next saw them when there was only half a mile to go, and by this time our first three men had begun to drop places, being 20th, 32nd and 57th respectively. Webb and Rice had, however, put in some running, and were now 66th and 77th, but Allum had dropped to 95th and was apparently feeling the strain of the distance and the effect of a recent attack of influenza; Footer (who had similarly suffered) had put in some running and picked up forty places, but was still outside the scoring six.

Our final placings are appended and it will be seen that although we knocked 80 points off our last year's score, our team place is the same, tenth.

Several of our team seemed to have an "off" day, but the unfortunate thing about it was that they were all off colour in the same race. Footer was 9th in this race two years ago, and Webb, Khlopin and Footer were all in the thirties last year, while Allum, Duffett and Robertshaw have very fine performances to their credit in the past. Penny ran very well in his first Southern, and Mitchell has improved a lot on his last year's placing (125th):

Bill Rice did much better than most of us (including Wally Bayliss) thought he would do, and we can be sure that every one of them did their best.

However, our misfortunes did not detract from our appetites, and 27 of us sat down to tea at the "Jolly Millers," and ate so much that our Hon. Sec. was called upon to handle the bread-knife, and the dainty slices he served out showed him to be a well-seasoned family man.

RESULT.

1.	L.-Sgt. W. M. Cotterell, 3rd Div. Signals	...	...	57	5
2.	L.-Cpl. J. A. Broadley, 3rd Div. Signals	...	...	57	53
3.	S. A. Tomlin, Highgate H.	...	...	58	16
21.	A. W. Penny, Belgrave H.	...	...	60	20
28.	W. S. Mitchell	"	...	60	43
54.	E. A. Duffett	"	...	61	21
62.	W. G. Webb	"	...	61	30
74.	W. A. Rice	"	...	62	12
102.	A. Allum	"	...	63	12
110.	H. E. Footer	"	...		
119.	A. E. Smith	"	...		
134.	W. L. Bayliss	"	...		
151.	A. Robertshaw	"	...		
162.	P. Khlopin	"	...		
199.	S. Drake	"	...		

TEAM PLACINGS.

					Pts.
1.	South London H.	...	...	...	160
2.	Aldershot Command C.C.R.C.	...	...	...	161
3.	Surrey A.C.	...	...	...	247
4.	3rd Division Signals	...	...	...	263
5.	Wycombe Phoenix H.	...	...	...	279
6.	Duke of Cornwall's L.I.	...	...	...	288
7.	Highgate H.	...	...	...	299
8.	Polytechnic H.	...	...	...	318
9.	Herne Hill H.	...	...	...	321
10.	Belgrave H.	...	...	...	341
11.	Hampstead H.	...	...	...	494
12.	Blackheath H.	...	...	...	554

29 Teams started.

S.L.K.

This concludes our diary for this issue of the "Belgravian," and now our Hon. Running Secretary will write of the forthcoming events on our programme.

March 9th sees the National Championship being held at Hall Barn, Beaconsfield, by kind permission of Lord and Lady Burnham. The competitors will be in sight practically the whole time, the course being one of three laps. A special train is being run, leaving Paddington at 1-48 p.m., return fare 2/-, and I hope to see some of our supporters present. On current form we should this time put up our best performance in this race to date.

On the 23rd the Club is holding a Time Trial over the roads at Wimbledon and this will give us a line as to the constitution of our team for the Brighton Relay race. The course will be about

5 miles and anyone who wishes to compete can do so. Please bear in mind, however, that there are only 10 men to run in the actual race, and these will, of course, include our cross-country cracker.

The abandoned Inter-Club race between Ashcombe A.C., Thames Valley H. and ourselves will be run off on the 30th from the Angel, Roehampton. Our Club will be holding a Handicap in conjunction with this race by, I may say, the wish of those who think that our non-team members should be catered for, and so although rather late in the season I hope our members will support this event. Entries should be handed to me by the 26th, latest. On the same day the Inter-Counties Championship is being held at Northolt Aerodrome, and we hope to have a record number of our own members participating for their counties.

April 6th is the day of the great Relay Race, London to Brighton, and we have a fine team to represent us, there being several new members to strengthen our last year's team and we are hoping to finish well up the front. We shall, no doubt, have a Club 'bus as last year and trust that our supporters will turn up in greater numbers than then. Book the date, April 6th; get the morning off, and come for a trip to the briny. Start from Westminster about 10-30 a.m., view the race and then still have a few hours to spare before commencing the homeward journey.

With the majority of our members' thoughts turning trackwards, the following brief review of our summer fixture list might prove interesting.

On April 27th we are holding our Open meeting at Battersea Park: open handicaps at the following distances, 100, 300 and 880yds. Entry fee 1/6 each. Also 1 mile scratch run for unattached and Belgrave novices, for "News of the World" medals. A new item on the programme is the 2-mile open team race; 4 to run, 3 to score, in which we hope to have Birchfield Harriers competing. There will also be Club Handicaps at 1 mile, 100yds. and Long Jump. A full and very interesting afternoon's sport is promised and I hope that all members will advertise this meeting and ask their friends to come along and see the best amateur sports meeting in the South.

Other new fixtures this season include a series of Match events with the London Athletic Club, on May 13th; and an Inter-Club contest, with Highgate Harriers and Enfield A.C. as our opponents, to take place on June 12th. There will be the usual number of Handicap meetings for our members at Battersea Park,

and these will include some new distances, one of which is a 3-lap Steeplechase. The Inter-Club contests between Croydon, Epsom, Mitcham and ourselves, also the "Doris Shield" events, with our old friends Ashcombe and Thames Valley, have been arranged, as in the past. Our Juniors, under 19, are being catered for, too; and an Inter-Club match with the Mitcham and Croydon Juniors will be held at Croydon on July 9th.

You will see from this brief survey that our summer programme is a full and interesting one, and I hope all our members will support these fixtures and so encourage the officials to seek a still more ambitious programme in the future.

Any enquiries to E. A. DUFFERT, *Hon. Running Sec.*,
106, Cherry Orchard Road,
East Croydon.

SPORTS JOTTINGS.

By "Observer."

I understand that a few of our runners are contemplating competing in the Poly Marathon on May 18th. W. D. Pritchard is already training diligently, while W. S. Mitchell should benefit by his cross-country running and is likely to put up a fine performance. There are, perhaps, others in the Club whose thoughts are turning towards this event, and I urge them to train together, if possible, as it will not only relieve the monotony of training on one's own, but should also improve their running. I am sure that the Club will see they are properly attended during the race and volunteer helpers would be welcomed. To have one of our men do well in the Marathon would make a fresh page in the Club's history.

Another feature of the Polytechnic meeting is the 1 Mile Relay for Juniors under 19. Our team, composed of T. H. Scrimshaw, A. J. Ford, L. W. White and E. J. Jones, triumphed easily last year and with the first three named still eligible for this year's race, we should again score. We also have such fine young sprinters as J. S. Williams and B. W. Hayman qualified to run, and with such wealth of talent should be able to field two teams capable of getting placed first and second.

The question of Army teams competing in civilian Championships such as the South of the Thames and Southern is causing much controversy just now. Several runners' qualifications have been queried and things generally are in a fine pickle. One has the instance of an Army runner competing one week for his civilian club and the next week for his regiment. The rules

clearly state that anyone serving in a unit of H.M. Forces (Regulars) shall be deemed a first-claim member of that unit, so that when he competes for his Civilian Club he is actually running in a Championship for a Club of which he is only a second-claim member. After all, the Army have their own district Championships and to my mind the various winners of these should compete, together with the pick of the Civilian Clubs in the National Championship only. Already the field for this race has been stated to be unwieldly, and so this year only nine runners will form a team, instead of the usual twelve. My point is that were only the best Clubs, together with the pick of the Army teams, allowed to run, one would witness a more classic race and the field would be pruned down to sensible dimensions. Outstanding individuals could compete, as now, but here again the list should be carefully gone through, as one has seen some ridiculous entries made in the past. Sentiment should not be allowed to count in a race of this description, and I maintain that the present rules which allow any Club and any individual to enter, even though the latter has to be entered by his Club, only tends to a large field and an unsatisfactory race. The N.C.C.U. have already commenced their pruning operations, as was inevitable, and it is time that they realised that the only satisfactory way out is: Army Teams for Army Championships, Civilian Clubs for their district Championships, the pick to meet in one great final, namely, the National Championship.

My next three Club members are comparative newcomers, but have soon made their presence felt and have given us the backbone we have so long needed for the formation of a fine cross-country team.

W. S. Mitchell has served in H.M. Forces and gained useful experience while running in India and also in various Army races. Slightly built, he is gifted with fine stamina and has a tireless stride. He has also developed a wonderfully even pace, as was proved in our 10 Mile Championship, in which his times for the two 5-mile laps were practically the same. He should do well in the A.A.A. 10 Miles on the track if he goes for it, although he much prefers long-distance road running. Is fairly young and should be a tower of strength to the Club for many years to come.

A. W. Penny, much more strongly-built than the above-named, and looks a typical cross-country runner; strong and powerful. Has low arm carriage eminently suitable for distance work, but not perhaps advisable if he aims to shine on the track. Should improve on his present performances next year and will possibly develop into a real champion. Might be advised not to take track work too seriously, as some of our other distance men have done, with disappointing results to themselves.

A. Allum, more of the greyhound type; he is very speedy and shone on the track last year when an unattached runner. Runs well over the country, but will probably do better still on the track this summer—a quiet tip for our 3-mile Championship. Has had a hard first winter season and will do well to take things steady before commencing serious work on the cinders.

THE SOCIAL SIDE

Six months of our 1928—1929 season have elapsed, in which time we have experienced several successes and, socially, the Club has developed wonderfully.

Our two big dances held at Wandsworth and Battersea Town Halls were great occasions for the "Bels." and we had many trying their luck in the dance hall. The Saturday evening socials held at Wimbledon during the season have also proved very popular and have created a jolly, friendly atmosphere among the members. I have been asked repeatedly, "When is the next?"

The next social function we have in hand is the Annual Dinner, to be held at Stanley's Restaurant, Clapham Junction (see special notice). This should be patronized by all members and records for attendance broken.

During the summer season we hope to arrange several Sunday outings (go-as-you-please affairs) the dates of which will be advised later.

In conclusion, I wish to thank everybody for their valued support, and only hope that the social side of our fine Club continues in its upward trend.

H. L. ROLLINS, *Social Hon. Secretary.*

FIELD EVENTS.

MEN WANTED: A NEW CHANCE TO SHINE.

It is hoped that during the ensuing season many of our members will take an active interest and give their support to the field events which have been arranged. They are as follows:—

Saturday, April 27th—Jong Jump Handicap.*

Wednesday, May 15th—Javelin Handicap.*

Wednesday, May 29th—Putting the Shot level* and High Jump* Handicap.

Saturday, August 3rd—120yds. Hurdles (3ft.) Handicap.

Mr. Harry Wright, who has been associated with the Club since its earliest days and has occupied the post of timekeeper for many years, has generously given the Club a Shield, which the Committee have decided shall be given to the best all-round scratch field events performer in the above four starred events. The scoring to decide who shall be the holder will be on a points basis, the

final details of which have not yet been settled. Everyone competing, however, will be able to score and the Shield will go to the best all-round performer—not necessarily for one exceptional throw or jump, but for a general good standard in all four events. I rather fancy that B. Fleming—a County Champion and one of the best all-round men in the Club—will not be far from the top when the final scores are made up, but there is always the chance of enthusiastic newcomer to the field event ranks springing a surprise.

It must be borne in mind that the Club has need of men to represent it in the Kinnaird Trophy competition on May 18th, in the following events: Long Jump, High Jump, Shot Putt and Hurdles. They will also possibly be wanted in our Club match versus L.A.C. on May 13th. It is essential that some of our members become adepts in the field events, in order that they may drive home the successes secured on the track.

I should like to remind our runners and walkers that they might profitably add another string to their bows by including a field event in their usual training and so become doubly useful to the Club.

H. M. Abrahams is an outstanding example of a man who achieved championship honours for both track and field events. Another name which occurs to one in this connection is G. Weightman-Smith, whose delightful hurdling and prowess at javelin throwing is well known. It may be also remembered that before Fred Gaby commenced hurdling he was only meeting with moderate success as a sprinter. It is within the bounds of possibility that we have such a champion in embryo, paying his three ha'pence at Battersa Park, waiting to show his promise and ability. It is with this in mind that the Committee has decided to introduce extra field events into the programme this season, and to utilize the "Harry Wright Shield" for an all-round field events championship.

F. A. M. Webster, whose books and newspaper articles are appreciated by all, has very kindly promised to attend on some evenings during the Summer at the Park and instruct those requiring information regarding field events. Acting upon his advice the Club shot, which will be available shortly, will be 12 lbs. in weight, instead of the customary 16 lbs., in order that correct style and methods may be more easily acquired. When this has been done the full-weight shot may be attempted. We are indebted to Mr. F. G. Thomson for his kindness in giving a shot to the Club.

Capt. Webster's tuition should prove of the greatest value to those who care to avail themselves of his knowledge and experience, which goes back for many years, during which he has been acquainted with all the world's best field events exponents.

Shot-putting should appeal especially to our heavy-weight Police members, notably Messrs. Pollard, Fleming, Macdonald, Rathbone, Briggs, Winner, etc., etc. Several members started javelin throwing towards the end of last season and it is hoped that their interest will revive with the coming of the summer season.

It may interest them to know that in the England *v.* France match, to be held on Sunday, July 28th, at Colombes Stadium, the hammer-throwing contest will be replaced by a javelin-throwing event. Here is a chance for Belgrave to supply one (or two) internationals.

Our good friend, George Powell, will be pleased to receive *your* support and if only he can get a large enough number of enthusiasts behind him, will press for the inclusion of field events in Open programmes. To conclude: Good Luck to the newly formed Section. May it still further enhance the name of Belgrave in the world of athletics.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR SUBS ?

No doubt you've heard this before, but not during this season. I am gratified to know that some members have gained speed in the payment of their dues, and I should be more pleased if I could include you all. I have allowed five months grace to members in which to pay their subscriptions due in September last, and now those who have not yet done so have received clearance notices. I appeal to all these members to meet their obligation AT ONCE, in part, if not the whole of it.

Much leisure time will be saved to me by this little service on their part. Surely it is not too much to ask of you.

Last year the amount of subscriptions collected was £80, and I am hoping to exceed £100 this year. Do your little bit to help me. By doing so you will be helping yourselves, and I shall count it as some appreciation of the work I do for the Club.

HON. TREASURER (*Semper-Paratus*).

THE WALKERS' DIARY.

January 19th.

The Cambridge Harriers' open 7 miles walk interested us most from the point of view of the scratch team race which was incorporated. We were unbeaten in the two scratch races already held this season.

Our team was a strong one, although lacking the services of J. G. Scamell, who was unwell. However, Turtle, of the Herne

Hill Harriers (the team most likely to challenge us) also was unwell; and our team, the fourth man being very much stronger than theirs, scored another victory by a convincing margin of points. T. W. Green, always in the first flight, was fifth; next was F. H. Elson, an excellent performer after a fortnight's rest, with R. D. McMullen close on his heels. J. E. Field again beat F. Rickards for fourth place in our team, but Fred shines brightest over 20 miles, when he does indeed come into the lime-light.

The others walked so well that from middle marks, C. H. Speechley, W. G. Dodkin, F. H. Elson and J. E. Field were placed as third team in the handicap—highly creditable in view of much longer aggregate marks of other teams. We make a habit of doing well at this race, half-a-dozen prizes between us being a usual number to bring away.

RESULT

1.	L. G. Sandy	Surrey A.C.	...	...	...	...	53	2
5.	T. W. Green	Belgrave H.	...	...	...	...	53	53
10.	F. H. Elson	"	...	...	...	...	55	54
11.	R. D. McMullen	"	...	...	...	...	55	58
15.	J. E. Field	"	...	...	...	...	56	29
21.	F. Rickards	"	...	...	...	...	57	3
26.	C. H. Speechley	"	...	...	...	...	57	52
27.	W. G. Dodkin	"	...	...	...	...	57	57

Also finished: B. J. T. Knifton, J. J. Crichton, A. Martin and A. H. Field.

February 2nd.

Sixteen turned out for the Club 10 Miles Championship for the Murphy Shield, in spite of the inclement weather. The course, over the same roads as our open race, included three ascents of "Pepy's Hill" (so we have christened it) and three descents of Copse Hill, enough to get most walkers "groggy," when we consider that it was our first "ten" of the season, and the pace at the start was very fast.

Tommy Green and F. H. Elson were together for nearly three miles, but after that the former got away. Elson was in no fear of losing his position, however, and walked remarkably well, for a walker of his short experience, to get second in this Club Championship; a position of late years held by such notable walkers as T. W. Green, A. L. Fletcher and R. D. McMullen, when they have been at their best.

Form was very much upset by the prevailing conditions, F. Rickards and J. Rathbone walking particularly well, to occupy the third and fourth positions, quite a distance from the rest of the field. R. D. McMullen had an unaccountable "off" day—but has since given evidence that it was a momentary lapse, all the more surprising when his fine record is considered. F. H. Elson, of course, gained the handicap first prize, as Mr. Hare, in presenting the prizes remarked, not without richly deserving it. J.

Rathbone was a popular and deserving second, whilst Macdonald, an old friend, turned up to take the third.

As an indication of our chances in the "Junior," the race was of little value—our boys will walk better than that.

RESULT

	Start	H'cap		Actual	Psn.		
		m. s.	m. s.				
1. T. W. Green	scr.	...	\$3 16	...	\$3 16	...	5
2. F. H. Elson	4 10	...	\$0 42	...	\$4 52	...	1
3. F. Rickards	2 40	...	\$3 8	...	\$5 48	...	4
4. J. Rathbone	5 15	...	\$1 14	...	\$6 29	...	2
5. B. J. Knifton	5 15	...	\$4 4	...	\$8 19	...	9
6. E. Saunders	5 30	...	\$3 44	...	\$9 14	...	8
7. W. G. Dodkin	7 0	...	\$3 24	...	\$0 24	...	6
8. R. D. McMullen	2 30	...	\$9 46	...	\$2 16	...	13
9. A. H. East	3 30	...	\$4 11	...	\$2 41	...	10
10. C. H. Speechley	5 20	...	\$8 43	...	\$4 3	...	12
11. R. E. Wills	11 20	...	\$5 20	...	\$6 40	...	11
12. W. McDonald	14 15	...	\$2 43	...	\$6 58	...	3
13. A. Martin	13 30	...	\$3 38	...	\$7 8	...	7

J. E. Field, A. H. Field and J. O. Horwood did not finish.

February 16th.

Was the date fixed for the annual 10 Miles Open Walk of the Ashcombe A.C., but, the roads being frozen over, the fixture was postponed until Good Friday (March 29th). Undaunted, a party of walkers set out training from the "Angel," clad some in long trousers, some in long pants and one in plus fours! and all very well wrapped up to withstand the bitterness of the weather.

March 2nd.

We gained second place in the National 10 Miles ("Junor") Road Walking Championship, decided at Birmingham. Twenty-two teams competed, the field totalling 143 starters. We turned out a strong team of eight and one individual—R. E. Wills. Many of our best men, being debarred from competing on account of their meritorious performances in championship races, were not available for the team, while it was considered inadvisable for our newer members to attempt a ten miles event until they have gained some further experience of racing.

In the early stages of the race our eight men were all well up, F. H. Elson being with the leaders. E. Saunders, J. E. Field and J. Rathbone completed a promising quartet. At the turn for home (5 miles) the placings were: 1, Surrey W.C., 31pts.; 2, Belgrave H., 62pts.; 3, Sheffield United H., 68pts. Elson was third at this point. Saunders, walking splendidly, had gone ahead of Field, while close behind J. Rathbone, W. G. Dodkin and B. J. T. Knifton were walking together. On the homeward journey both Field and Rathbone made up a lot of ground. Elson however "cracked" and lost several positions over the last mile. The race resulted as follows:—

INDIVIDUALS.

1.	E. E. Brewster	Surrey A.C.	...	...	...	...	81	16
2.	C. C. Bonnett	Ashcombe A.C.	...	...	...	...	81	26
3.	L. Dickinson	Lancashire W.C.	...	...	...	...	82	28
11.	J. E. Field	Belgrave H.	...	...	...	...	84	32
14.	J. Rathbone	"	...	...	...	...	85	19
16.	E. Saunders	"	...	...	...	...	85	25
21.	F. H. Elson	"	...	...	...	...	85	58
32.	W. G. Dodkin	"	...	...	...	...	87	7
33.	B. J. T. Knifton	"	...	...	...	...	87	12
38.	A. H. East	"	...	...	...	...	87	35
62.	R. E. Wills (Ind.)	"	...	...	...	...	92	29

TEAMS.

1.	Surrey W.C. (A)—F. W. Blackmore 3, W. F. Amer 4, W. T. Chilton 5, W. Archibald 10	...	...	...	...	...	22
2.	Belgrave H.—J. E. Field 9, J. Rathbone 11, E. Saunders 13, F. H. Elson 18	...	...	...	...	...	51
3.	Enfield A.C.—H. A. Amies 8, W. Oliver 16, W. J. Warren 20, J. P. Miller 24	...	...	...	...	...	68
4.	Sheffield United H. and A.C.	...	...	...	...	...	71
5.	Lancashire W.C.	...	...	...	...	...	114
6.	Polytechnic H.	...	...	...	...	...	134

Surrey W.C. were too strong for us on this occasion, but we did well to have 7 men in the first 34 (eliminating individuals).

Splendid quarters were made available for us by the kindness of Wolseley Motors (1927) Ltd., their directors providing an excellent tea and much-appreciated entertainment after the race.

Our programme for the next few weeks is not over-crowded. First come the County Championships, the Surrey, in which we shall have a team, from the headquarters of the Surrey W.C. and the Middlesex, in which some of our members walk, from the Enfield A.C.'s place. On the 29th is the postponed Ashcombe A.C. race.

PAUL'S STORY

(continued).

Corporal Preston and I were among the privileged few who shared a cabin between two, having a bunk and a sheep-skin sleeping-bag apiece. Near Preston's bed stood an iron stove, the stoking part of which was in the next-door cabin occupied by Corporals Ashe and Mann. These two were always cold and used to make the stove red-hot each night, to my great indignation, as I had to provide them with the wood. One night I awoke to find the room full of smoke and Corporal Ashe shouting "Fire! Fire!"

Fire there was, sure enough. Preston's bag, having touched the stove, was blazing! Up he jumped and, opening the door, pitched his bedding into the snow with blasphemies and clatter of beer-bottles, without which he never went to bed! Next night he slept at a respectful distance from the stove!

Of sport we used to have plenty. Almost daily I used to go for ski-ing practice with Corporal Ashe, who seemed entirely devoid of fear, for, getting up on a high hill (300ft. or so) he used to rush madly down the snowy slopes. The snow was soft enough, but unless you kept your feet straight a broken leg was the least you might expect.

Then we had Rugby matches, Officers *v.* Sergeants—in the snow. The Y.M.C.A. promoted boxing competitions, where one night I had the pleasure of seeing my wood-devouring friend, Corporal Mann, getting the worst of an argument with a huge Scots sergeant, who seemed a veritable angel of retribution to me!

Meanwhile April was well advanced, and the river was getting ominously black in places where the ice had melted.

By this we knew that the ice-break was at hand, and sure enough, it came one afternoon with a thundering noise.

General panic ensued among some of the soldiers caught crossing the river, though happily most of them escaped with nothing worse than a ducking in getting ashore.

Our old barge was getting the worse for wear, and we got an order to quit it. After a frantic few hours we succeeded in getting ashore most of our belongings—not the least valuable of which was our field kitchen—and proceeded to the Y.M.C.A., where we got temporary quarters.

Rather different these, after our comfortable old barge, for the Y M C.A. had a nasty habit of sheltering any passing battalion, and often one had to make one's way over the heads of sleeping Scotsmen, who, in weird and wonderful language, used to let you know they didn't like it!

However, warmer days soon came, and we got to camp on the Aerodrome.

P.N.K.

(to be continued).

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor.

January, 1929.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your correspondent in the previous issue who signs himself "Cocoanut" (has he really got ginger whiskers?) I should like to say that although I cannot explain the origin of our Club Badge (which is local enough to need no explanation) I can tell him that our motto *Semper Paratus* means "Ever-ready," because our ancestors foresaw that the Club would eventually produce leading lights in the athletic world.

FULL CIRCLE.

THE BELGRAVE HARRIERS.

— Sixth —

Annual Club Dinner

will be held at

Stanley's Restaurant

Lavender Hill, S.W.

on

Saturday, March 23rd, 1929

at 7-45 p.m

Tickets 5/- each.

Apply early for tickets to—

H. L. ROLLINS, Hon. Social Sec.,

1 Merivale Road, Putney, S.15.

YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED.

“Up the Bels.”



