



FOUNDED 1887



The 2nd Edition

1935

THE  
**BELGRAVIAN**

The  
OFFICIAL GAZETTE  
of the

**BELGRAVE HARRIERS**

FEBRUARY, MARCH

Price 4/-



THE 2nd EDITION  
(1933)  
OF  
**THE BELGRAVIAN**  
FEBRUARY/MARCH.

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(to whom all monetary contributions should be sent).

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The three successive Saturdays, February 25th, March 4th and March 11th—brought with them three performances of outstanding merit which focussed the eyes of all the athletic world upon Belgrave and more than ever fortified our right to be considered the greatest all-round athletic club in the country. These three successive knocks upon the door of Fame have drawn universal attention to our Club, and congratulatory messages have been received from all directions. Great things have been done, great things remain to be done, and we are confident in the knowledge that we have the men to do them. The cumulative wave of success must not stop with March 11th, 1933, but carry on, and on . . . always preserving the spirit of comradeship, honest endeavour and Club loyalty which has raised us to our present position.

\* \* \* \* \*

And now let us deal chronologically with the above-mentioned exploits.

With February 25th came the "Southern" our best team position yet—second; and an individual win for H. E. Footer with A. W. Penny third. All honour to Bert upon his wonderful success! It would be difficult indeed to mention anyone in our Club—or in athletics generally, for that matter—who is more deserving of the high honours which have now come his way. They have not come easily, and are probably appreciated all the more because of that. Bert's enthusiastic perseverance throughout a dozen or more years' running holds a moral for all of us, as does also his conscientious, systematic training. It is very fitting that one who has done so much for the Club, who has imbued his club-mates with confidence and has been largely responsible for bringing our team to its present state of excellence, should be the first to receive the Club Honours Badge—even if Arthur Penny earned his one minute later!

On March 4th "that remarkable club Belgrave" —we quote the *Sheffield Sports Echo*—won the Road Walking Association Ten Miles Junior Championship at Birmingham and so once again became proud holders of the "Garnet" Cup. This is our fourth win—a record superior to that of any other club in the country—and was an example of good team work. The score of 26 points is the second lowest ever recorded in the history of this competition, and the best Belgrave score yet.

\* \* \* \* \*

Further honours came on March 11th, when for the first time in our Club history we were placed in the National Cross-country Championship; and had two men in the first five home, so securing International selection. Our heartiest congratulations go out to Bert Footer and Arthur Penny upon their well-deserved honour. We trust it will become an annual affair for them, and that in future years there will be other Belgravians to accompany them.

\* \* \* \* \*

Truly, a wonderful sequence of meritorious achievements and the Club's thanks and congratulations are extended to all who participated in these three successes. Successful as the past month has been, we can look to an even more successful future for we have a wealth of young talent rapidly maturing, whilst our tried and experienced athletes should be active on our behalf for many years to come.

\* \* \* \* \*

It is with very deep regret that we have to announce the death of one of our young sprinters, Albert H. Shannon. He had been a member of the Club for many years past and had shown considerable promise. Immediately before his death, the International cross-country results were read to him, and he died whilst expressing his appreciation of Footer's running. We extend our profound sympathy to Albert's parents and friends.

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Club vests, badges, ties, etc., may be obtained from the Hon. Treasurer, who would also be glad to receive any outstanding subscriptions and donations towards the Belgrave Building Fund.

## SOCIAL.

Since our last issue appeared, we have held a successful social evening at Wimbledon; and a dance at the Queensberry Hall, South Kensington, which exceeded even our most sanguine expectations.

A fine crowd assembled here and everyone appeared to enjoy themselves immensely. We shall certainly have to consider holding several Saturday evening dances at this venue next season.

The proceedings were crowned by the arrival of our "National" team from Alderley Edge, bringing with them the trophy awarded to the first Southern Club.

Our next social function is the Club Dinner at Carr's Restaurant, Victoria, on Saturday, May 6th, which it is hoped every loyal Clubman will make a special effort to attend. The entertainment promises to be of a novel character and the venue is easily accessible from all parts of London, so note the date and write for your tickets (5/- each) to:

W. A. RICE, 36 Ascalon Street, S.W.8.

## THE OPEN WALKS.

Since our last issue appeared we have participated in three open events promoted by the Cambridge H., L.C.C. Tramways A. & S.C., and Ashcombe A.C.

The first of these, a seven miles race, provided us with a shock, for Green was disqualified with 100 yards to go. Even Olympic Champions have their lapses! This robbed us of scratch honours, but first handicap team prizes came the way of A. H. Field, Harley, Speechley and Elson. A peculiarity of the handicap was that four men dead-heated for third place in the handicap, two of them, Field and Harley, coming from our own Club. If this happens very frequently promoting clubs will be crying out for a new Handicapper, to save them additional expense.

In the L.C.C. event, owing to considerably shorter handicap marks, our men were unable to shine, although they recuperated somewhat to take third prizes in the Ashcombe A.C. 10 miles race a fortnight later. This is now the only 10 miles race in the South before the Junior and is looked upon as a final test before the Championship. We cannot be said to have come out of this test too well compared with our Surrey W.C. rivals, but we were confident of doing better things a fortnight later, and so it proved.

## CAMBRIDGE H. OPEN 7 MILES WALK.

### RESULT.

m. s.		m. s.	
1. J. F. Johnson		14. A. H. Field .....	A 56 34
(Enfield A.C.	53 18	17. R. F. Elson .....	A 57 20
5. J. E. Field .....	A 55 17	39. E. A. Jackman.....	B 60 31
6. D. E. Brown.....	A 56 17	61. J. McCarthy .....	B 62 53
11. A. A. Harley .....	A 56 24	77. W. H. Snell .....	B 65 33
13. C. Speechley .....	A 56 30	85. F. W. Chandler .....	B 67 40

### SCRATCH TEAM RACE.

1. Enfield A.C.—1, 6, 7, 8, ...	...	...	...	...	22 pts.
2. Belgrave H.—4, 5, 10, 11 ...	...	...	...	...	30 pts.
3. Cambridge H.—3, 9, 24, 26 ...	...	...	...	...	62 pts.

HANDICAP TEAM RACE.

					m. s.
1.	Belgrave H. (Field, A. H., Harley, Speechley, Elson)...				204 48
2.	Metropolitan W.C. ... ..				205 44
3.	Cambridge H. ... ..				206 36
11.	Belgrave H. (B) ... ..				223 47

L.C.C. TRAMWAYS S.A.A. OPEN  
7 MILES WALK.

RESULT.

	m. s.		m. s.
1. A. W. Hurst (Cam. H.)	55 46	21. J. C. Bidgood	A 61 10
3. T. W. Green	A 57 3	25. R. F. Elson	A 62 5
10. A. A. Harley	A 59 13	37. R. C. Hillier	A 63 42
16. A. H. Field	A 60 24	49. E. C. Heather	B 64 55
18. C. E. Churcher	A 60 35	56. J. McCarthy	B 65 43
20. E. Saunders	A 61 10	78. F. W. Chandler	B 69 42

SCRATCH TEAM RESULT.

1. Surrey W.C. (4, 5, 7, 12)	...	...	...	28 pts.
2. Belgrave H. (3, 10, 15, 17)	...	...	...	45 pts.
3. Metropolitan W.C.	...	...	...	59 pts.
4. Enfield A.C.	...	...	...	79 pts.
5. Cambridge H.	...	...	...	83 pts.

HANDICAP TEAM RESULT.

	m. s.		m. s.
1. Surrey W.C.	A 219 15	3. Metropolitan W.C.	220 27
2. Cambridge H.	219 48	5. Belgrave H.	222 2

ASHCOMBE A.C. OPEN 10 MILES RACE.

RESULT.

	m. s.		m. s.
1. A. W. Hurst		21. A. H. Field	B 84 23
(Camb. H.)	77 41	23. D. E. Brown	A 84 50
4. H. G. Churcher	A 80 9	39. E. C. Heather	B 88 50
10. E. Saunders	A 82 2	44. J. McCarthy	B 89 47
14. A. A. Harley	A 83 1	51. W. H. Snell	B 90 47
15. R. F. Elson	A 83 2	61. W. H. Holman	B 94 8
17. C. E. Churcher	A 83 39	71. F. W. Chandler	B 98 9
18. C. H. Speechley	A 83 52	75. A. H. East	B 99 55

HANDICAP TEAM RACE.

	m. s.
1. Surrey Walking Club (A)	307 55
2. Surrey Walking Club (B)	309 10
3. Belgrave H. (A)—H. G. Churcher, C. E. Churcher, R. F. R. F. Elson, E. Saunders...	310 12
8. Belgrave H. (B)	317 57

THE CLUB TEN MILES CHAMPIONSHIPS.

January 28th was the day fixed for the decision of the Club Ten Miles Walking and Cross-country Championships, and what a day it was! Winter's icy hand had taken hold of the days preceding our championships and snow and persistent frost caused fears that our events might have to be postponed. However, the Saturday proved to be clear of snow, although still

intensely cold, with the Kingsmere and other lakes covered with several inches of ice. Hundreds of skaters thronged the ice, and thousands of spectators gathered—whether to watch the sport, or in the expectation of a crack in the ice is a matter for speculation. It is peculiar that so many people surge to the Common when the ponds are ice-covered, and yet ignore its delights in winter on the many other occasions when the conditions are of a more temperate nature.

However, to come to our racing. The walkers were first away in quest of the "R. Murphy" Shield. Green, J. E. Field, Brown and Harley, walking together, made the pace for the first two miles, when the last-named began to drop. Half-a-mile later Brown allowed the leaders to get away and so positions remained until the half-way mark. Shortly after this Field suffered disqualification and Saunders and Speechley passed Harley. R. F. Elson came through strongly in the last two miles, to dispossess Speechley of fourth place.

Tommy Green had an easy win and one missed the customary struggle between him and A. L. Fletcher, winner in the previous two years, who was a non-starter on this occasion. Second place was taken by Don Brown, still improving and likely to improve still further into the very top class; and Ted Saunders, always persevering and likely to be a valuable aid to the Club at twenty miles, took the third medal.

Jack Bidgood, showing a return to his form of a few years back, took the handicap prize, with Reg. Elson and ditto Hillier filling the minor placings.

And now for the run. For weeks there had been much friendly argument as to the merits of Footer and Penny and the prospects of one beating the other. If anything, it is possible that there was the slightest balance in favour of Penny, the Club Seven Miles champion, but all were agreed that an interesting race was certain.

Owing to the possible danger to ankles it was decided to omit Beverley Brook, now frozen over; and to substitute a lap of the field at the start to compensate for the distance so lost. The competitors were greatly hampered and hindered by the hundreds of cars and multitudes of people who had assembled for skating and sight-seeing. Not only was this difficulty of forcing one's way through crowds encountered in the starting field, but also at the Kingsmere, which serves as the furthestmost point of our course. This lap had to be run twice and so our runners' task was anything but enviable.

However, with all its difficulties our men managed to carry on. Footer and Penny were together for six miles but then Bert managed to open up a gap and eventually won by over a minute, so winning the "Macher" Shield—not for the first time.

Third came Arthur Allum, showing that he is rapidly recovering from his operation and that next year we may expect him to be in International class again. Jack Flower was unlucky in that he was forced to retire from the race at four miles owing to a nail working through his shoe into the foot. Continuance in the race with this handicap might well have led to a serious injury, to the detriment of the Club's team prospects in future races and so he did well to retire.

Owing to the alteration in the course, it is impossible to compare Bert's time with that of previous years, but undoubtedly it was of a very high order. This running won for Bert the sealed handicap, with Arthur Penny second, and Cecil Mains third. Alf. Taylor ran well and was a little unfortunate to be squeezed out of the sealed handicap places.

#### RESULT.

Pos.	Name	Act. Time	Start	H'cap Time	Pos. in H'cap
1.	H. E. Footer ...	57 31	0 10	57 21	1
2.	A. W. Penny ...	58 26	Scr.	58 26	2
3.	A. Allum ...	60 19	0 10	60 9	8
4.	C. Mains ...	60 52	1 45	59 7	3
5.	C. T. Carter ...	61 16	1 30	59 46	6
6.	H. W. Shields ...	61 55	2 0	59 55	7
7.	W. A. Rice ...	62 20	3 0	59 20	5
8.	A. E. Taylor ...	62 54	3 45	59 9	4
9.	C. W. Tame ...	64 32	3 15	61 17	9
10.	A. R. Shaw ...	64 41	2 30	62 11	10
11.	A. Beavan ...	74 14	8 0	66 14	12
12.	G. Still ...	74 24	10 30	63 54	11
13.	L. E. Fletcher ...	85 33	10 0	75 33	14
14.	H. Goodfellow ...	85 33	15 0	70 33	13

Pos.	Name	Act. Time	Start	H'cap Time	Pos. in H'cap
1.	T. W. Green ...	81 59	Scr.	81 59	8
2.	D. E. Brown ...	83 40	4 40	79 0	4
3.	E. Saunders ...	84 48	5 45	79 3	5
4.	R. F. Elson ...	85 34	7 40	79 54	2
5.	C. H. Speechley ...	85 40	4 40	81 0	7
6.	A. A. Harley ...	86 36	6 50	79 46	6
7.	J. C. Bidgood ...	87 5	9 20	77 45	1
8.	A. H. Field ...	87 20	7 0	80 20	—
9.	R. G. Hillier ...	88 58	10 30	78 28	3
10.	E. A. Jackman ...	92 50	11 0	81 50	10
11.	E. C. Heather ...	93 21	11 0	82 21	11
12.	J. McCarthy ...	95 16	12 0	83 16	12
13.	W. H. Snell ...	96 18	15 0	81 18	9

### WITH THE WALKERS.

Well, the "Junior" is over and won; and we take particular pride in this fourth win of ours which places us above all other clubs in the number of wins recorded. Our nearest rivals are Sheffield United Harriers, who gained their third win last year.

Our juniors must always strive to be at least one win ahead of our nearest rivals.

\* \* \* \* \*

Our win this year was particularly gratifying, as our team recorded the lowest score ever made by a Belgrave team and the second lowest in the series of 19 races. Another feature of our success was the good team work which received the commendation of many outside critics. At eight miles our four were one behind the other within a distance of 100 yards or so, and no other walkers intervening. From this point onwards Harry Churcher, who was very unlucky not to gain his Honours badge, drew away from the others, but less than 30 seconds covered Brown, Field and Harley at the finish.

\* \* \* \* \*

Most clubs expect to have a lean year in this particular race, following upon a win, but there is certainly no reason why we should not be prominent again next year with men such as C. E. Churcher, R. F. Elson, C. H. Speechley, J. C. Bidgood, C. W. Redgrave, H. Latter, R. C. Hillier, E. A. Jackman and many others to call upon.

\* \* \* \* \*

Let's quote from *The Sheffield Sports Echo* of March 11th: "The Ten Miles Junior Walking Championship at Fort Dunlop was won by that remarkable club, Belgrave, who, although not so strong in walking as Birchfield are in running, can claim to be the most consistent club in the country."

There's something for our walkers to live up to!

\* \* \* \* \*

Meanwhile, our principal aim must be to regain the Senior R.W.A. 20 miles championship and so complete a glorious treble—Brighton Team, "Junior" Team, "Senior" Team.

It would be a wonderful feat if we could add a National Walk win to the runners placed team in the National cross-country championship, and so be the first Club in the country to be placed in both National championships in one season!

\* \* \* \* \*

Our prospects are quite bright with both T. W. Green and F. Rickards eager to improve upon even last years' very fine performances, and strong backing will be forthcoming from J. F. King, H. F. King, F. E. Bentley, E. Saunders, A. H. Field, J. C. Bidgood, R. C. Hillier, C. H. Speechley, W. Holman and others. As previously announced, the race will start and finish on the Crystal Palace Parade, and the course will be *via* Sydenham Hill, Lordship Lane, Court Lane, Dulwich Village, Red Post Hill, Herne Hill, Half Moon Lane, Burbage Road, Gallery Road, Alieyn Park, The Avenue, Farquar Road. This

circuit (7½ miles) will be walked twice and a smaller lap once. It is hoped that we shall have some hundreds of supporters around the course on May 13th to encourage our representatives and cheer them on to what we hope will be our fifth National Championship.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Road Walking Association have recently published their annual Handbook giving details of past championship performances, details of records, rules, and other information of immense interest to all walkers. Copies (6d. each, by post 7d.) may be had from the Walking Hon. Secretary, address below.

In addition to the Shield awarded to the winning team in the National 20 miles Championship, the "Nijmegen" Shield is also up for competition and goes to the Club first finishing their complete team of eight. Sheffield United Harriers are the holders of this trophy at the moment, and it is to be hoped that the "Nijmegen" Shield will follow the "Garnet" Cup from Sheffield to London into Belgrave possession.

\* \* \* \* \*

Meanwhile, the track season is fast approaching and our walkers will again have plenty of opportunity of competition. The first Club handicap is on Saturday, May 6th; and our Inter-Club races at 1, 2, 3 and 5 miles will take place on Monday, June 19th.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### FORTHCOMING FIXTURES.

April 22—Wimbledon—Club 20 Miles Championship for "R. W. Ricketts" Shield (Holder, A. L. Fletcher), and Sealed Handicap.

May 6th—Battersea Park—Club 2 Miles Handicap.

May 13th—Crystal Palace Parade—R.W.A. National 20 Miles Championship.

\* \* \* \* \*

All enquiries, etc., should be addressed to the Walking Hon. Secretary.

A. A. HARLEY, 39 Roxburgh Avenue, Isleworth, Mx.

### THE "JUNIOR."

It was a happy and hopeful party of Belgraves that made the journey to Birmingham on 4th March to contest the R.W.A. Junior Championship over 10 miles. Realization of the strength of the opposition was not lacking, but our boys were quietly confident that they would win.

Arrived at Birmingham we proceeded by tram to Fort Dunlop, where we were delighted to notice that the flags and pennons profusely decorating the tramway standard were claret and gold,

or so nearly so that no other club competing could claim them as their's. This was strange! The Dunlop Walking Club's colours are white, amber and black! Was it a happy chance, or was our victory confidently anticipated? Presumably the latter, as the arrangements when a race is held at Fort Dunlop are so complete and all-embracing, and such forethought is exercised, that a successful forecast of the winners and appropriate celebration would only be in keeping with all that is done for us.

The day was a very fine one, and conditions were favourable until the leaders had about a mile to go. Then there was a very heavy rainstorm. The wind blew violently, whilst the rain was icy cold and keenly penetrating.

The race for individual honours was an exceptionally fine one. W. Treacher (North London Harriers) led for about 9 miles, but L. P. Hancock (Surrey Walking Club) and W. J. Hogan (Southgate and Wood Green A.C.) were always within striking distance. At 9 miles Hancock closed on Treacher, and for two-thirds of a mile there ensued a tremendous tussle, with Hancock shewing as the likely winner. Treacher was then dropped, but Hogan came up with a fine burst and beat Hancock by about 30 yards.

Our boys walked well right from the commencement of the race. At three miles, four of ours were right up and we were leading on points. At five and six miles we were substantially ahead. The Surrey Walking Club men have a habit of producing their best walking soon after six miles, but although Hake and Burt walked very strongly over the last part of the journey and picked up many valuable points, they could not get up to our leaders. Hake's effort was a particularly fine one.

#### RESULT.

	m.	s.
1. W. J. Hogan, Southgate and Wood Green A.C. (Ind.)...	79	38
2. L. P. Hancock, Surrey Walking Club ... ..	79	46
3. W. Treacher, North London Harriers ... ..	80	26
4. H. G. Churcher, Belgrave Harriers ... ..	81	4
7. D. E. Brown, " " ... ..	82	26
8. A. H. Field, " " ... ..	82	30
9. H. A. Hake, Surrey Walking Club ... ..	82	37
11. A. A. Harley, Belgrave Harriers ... ..	82	52
12. N. L. Burt, Surrey Walking Club ... ..	82	58
18. F. W. Mayor, S.W.C. ... ..	83	39
27. C. E. Churcher, Belgrave H. ... ..	84	31
30. C. H. Speechley " " ... ..	84	46
94. W. H. Snell " (B) ... ..	90	3
113. R. G. Hillier " ... ..	91	28
129. J. E. McCarthy " (B) ... ..	92	56
139. E. C. Heather " (B) ... ..	93	42
145. L. Jones " (B) ... ..	94	42
162. A. H. East " (B) ... ..	98	17
171. F. W. Chandler " (B) ... ..	99	35

TEAM PLACINGS.		pts.
1.	Belgrave Harriers—H. G. Churcher 3, Brown 6, Field 7, Harley 10 ... ..	26
2.	Surrey Walking Club—Hancock 1, Hake 8, Burt 11, Mayor, 17 ... ..	37
3.	Polytechnic H.—Masters 21, Tookey 25, Stone 33, Denyer 38 ... ..	117
4. †	Highgate Harriers ... ..	124
4. †	Dunlop Walking Club ... ..	124
6.	Lancashire Walking Club ... ..	145
7.	Derby Walking Club ... ..	153
8.	Leicester Walking Club ... ..	154
9.	Valentines S.C. ... ..	177
10.	Sheffield United Harriers ... ..	204
23.	Belgrave H. (B) ... ..	480

Thirty teams competed and the field numbered 211. On only one occasion has this championship been won with a lower score, viz., in 1919, when the Surrey Walking Club, represented by Blackmore, Amer, Chilton and Archibald, scored 22 points only. On that occasion, however, only 21 teams were in the field, whilst the starters numbered 143. So proportionally our score was phenomenally low. Surrey's fourth man in 1929 finished 4 mins. 5 secs behind the winner, whereas Alf. Harley was this year only 3 mins. 14 sec. behind Hogan. Accordingly we have ample reason to be proud of our juniors. Aiming at a win for the Club, Harry Churcher walked with scrupulous care and finished fourth in the race, giving a display the fairness of which was unquestionable. Young Don Brown did all that we hoped, and showed that he must be looked upon as a potential champion. Bert Field walked the race of his life, and Alf. Harley fought the Surrey boys in a style that thoroughly earned a place in the winning team. Charley Speechley is still, by the irony of fate, a junior, and C. E. Churcher, our fifth man to finish, also lives to walk another day as a junior.

A pleasing feature of the race was the revival of walking strength shewn by the Polytechnic team. In the days of Billy Sturgess, Jack Butler and J. J. Lynch, the Poly. walkers were a power in the land, but for some years past they have been only a shadow of their former selves. A. O. Tookey, whom we all know as a second-claim member of our own club, has unearthed a great number of novices this year and has performed Trojan service in whipping them into shape and style. That they should walk into third place against such opposition after so short a novitiate must indeed be gratifying to him. It was a success that was thoroughly deserved, and we are heartily pleased to compliment him and his club-mates.

J. B. BELCHAMBER.

After the Lord Mayor's Show . . . .

So it proved with the Surrey County Walk Championship held from Croydon. Our team was far from being at full strength and were unable to participate in the struggle which took place between Surrey W.C. and London Vidarians W.C.

RESULT.

		m. s.			m. s.
1.	A. W. Hurst		16.	A. O. Tookey	87 12
	(L.V.W.C.)	78 16	17.	W. Holman	87 35
12.	A. H. Field	85 48	23.	L. Jones	90 21
14.	C. E. Churcher	86 41	31.	P. W. Chandler	98 15

TEAM SCORES.

1.	Surrey W.C.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 pts.
2.	London V.W.C.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 pts.
3.	Belgrave H.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57 pts.

In the Middlesex Championships C. H. Speechley and J. C. Bidgood were members of the Polytechnic team placed third. Others to compete were E. Saunders, A. A. Harley, R. F. Elson and P. Khlopın in Cadogan A.C. colours.

## WITH THE RUNNERS.

*On this occasion we depart from our usual custom of presenting the various events in chronological order and prefer, instead, to commence with the "high-lights" of the past few weeks.*

*Owing to the space devoted to the three Championship events it becomes impossible to deal, other than in a sketchy manner, with our various engagements, which are summarised at the conclusion of this feature.*

*Joe Flower blossoms out and discourses on:—*

### THE "SENIOR" SOUTH OF THAMES CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP.

Held on Epsom Downs, the above race was decided on a bitterly cold day, the wind cutting right through one. Our team, thanks to the "flu" which was then at its worst, were not quite as fit as we had hoped. Tom Carter had had a bad attack of "flu" and with only a bare week's training ran superbly to lead our boys home finishing in the ninth position. The race was started against the wind and somehow the "Bels" were bottled up at the start, and at the first obstacle, about 400 yards out, not one of our men was in the first fifty places. The team must have put in some marvellous running out in the country, because when they came round for the first time we looked assured of a place. Every man in the team ran well, and if anyone deserves special mention I think probably A. F. Mitchell is the one. He is employed on night work and cannot train, and he only had about

two hours' sleep before the race. His position 30th, proves his natural ability and fine team spirit.

Another splendid performance, which in my opinion shows the fine team spirit which exists amongst our members, was that of Bill Rice. He was suffering from a very bad throat and should not have run, but as there was no one else to take his place, he did his bit and kept his end up, thereby enabling us to retain the "Sir Jeremiah Colman Cup." These are only two instances of the Belgrave team spirit and whilst this spirit lasts, our teams are bound to improve and reach the highest honours in the near future.

Our two Kent members, Mains and Shaw, are proving their worth, and greatly assisted the team to gain second position to the Surrey A.C., our old rivals, whom we all congratulate on their splendid victory. The result is published below, so you will see for yourselves that every man ran well, and that our runners are a credit to the Club.

#### RESULT.

Pos.		m.	s.	Pos.		m.	s.
9	C. T. Carter .....	43	25	56	C. W. Tame .....	45	15
11	C. Mains .....	43	30	73	F. R. Webb .....	45	42
19	A. R. Shaw .....	44	11	81	C. H. E. Penny .....	45	57
30	A. F. Mitchell .....	44	38	115	F. A. Walker .....	46	45
33	A. Taylor .....	44	42	142	S. T. Ring .....	48	13
38	H. W. Shields .....	44	47	200	W. A. Rice .....	50	5

#### TEAM SCORES.

1—Surrey A.C. ... ..	90 pts.
2—Belgrave H. ... ..	140 pts.
3—Ranelagh H. ... ..	152 pts.

*"The Tatler" title-tattles about*

## THE SOUTHERN COUNTIES CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP.

The dawn of February 27th, 1933, to the majority in this little isle of ours was merely the heralding of another Saturday. But to the Belgrave Harriers it had a special significance, for this day the Southern Counties Championship was to be contested at the Jubilee Retreat, Chingford, and our team had virtually promised a good performance.

I left my home with the rain coming down very heavily, but on my arrival at Chingford I found to my great delight that it had ceased, and realised that the "Bels" supporters could now do their supporting in real earnest; which, by the way, brings me to wonder how many supporters of other clubs change into running kit solely to encourage their club-mates in the far distant and outlandish country! The "boys" all looked remarkably fit in the dressing-room and our prospects of a record Club performance seemed very rosy. The start of the race was very

brisk and businesslike, the teams getting away in a body and the "Bels" were seen well to the fore.

Doing a "traditional short-circle" round the golf-links, the runners had to cross the road, and at this point it was gratifying to see Footer, Penny, Allum, Mains and Flower all with the leaders. Here I must award Bill Rice a laurel wreath for tipping the winner, for when the runners had gone into the "country" he remarked to the world at large that it was Footer's day, and certainly "our Bert" had that expression on his face that we in the Club have come to know means "Business only" at the Footer works. He wears it when he cleans up the camp he runs during the summer session!

Having taken up a prominent position, we patiently waited for the first arrivals up a beautiful steep hill. I use the expression "beautiful" with due respect to the competitors who, I understood from their phrases after the race, did not consider the hill anything to go into raptures over!

We were told that the runners had started the ascent of the aforesaid hill and eventually, to our unrestrained enthusiasm, Bert Footer came leading the field, closely followed by Barnet, of Wycombe, Arthur Penny being very near the Wycombe man and so one by one the competitors breasted the hill until we had counted seven Belgrave "boys" in the first 25. The rest of the team were battling nobly with the very heavy conditions, allied with steep hills to negotiate.

Leaving my vantage point I hastened down to below the golf-links to see field go "out" for the second time, and although the leaders had gone away by the time I had got there, it was some consolation to see that Walker and Robertshaw had moved up, after both having experienced a bad patch.

It was about this time the Aldershot boys were beginning to pack in their well-known manner and it was only the thought of Footer and Penny's positions that kept my hopes from dropping to below zero!

After a very long wait (during which the Belgrave "scouts" were dispatched into the unknown to persuade any of our boys, by vocal noises supplemented with the aid of a bell, to "keep going") the leaders were signalled from the opposite hill and then we saw "Our Bert" tearing down the hill and coming up the one on which we were waiting, with that tireless stride of his that he can maintain for such a long time.

Although finding that final part of the race very testing, Bert finished in great style, 37 secs. ahead of Humphris, of South

London, who had always been prominent, thus reversing last year's positions, when Humphris was 2nd and Bert 3rd. Arthur Penny maintained his third place 1 minute behind Footer, having run a gallant race all the way.

A word of praise is due, I think, to Tom Carter on his 17th position in the race, being third man home for the Club. When one realises that Carter is quite young in running experience, it makes one look forward to his and the Club's future. Jack Flower ran well in view of the fact that undoubtedly he has not trained quite so exactly this year, and the same applies to Arthur Allum, who also gave us a taste of his prowess, even though short of training. To our boys from the Kent county, Mains and Shaw, I think must also go an extra hearty congratulation for their sterling performance.

The remainder of the team ran with spartan-like fortitude (a now recognised trait in the Belgrave Club) and each gave of his utmost under conditions demanding exceptional fitness and bulldog stamina from each competitor.

Our sympathy must go out to Alf. Taylor, who ran three parts of the race with a very bad ankle which I understand has turned out rather seriously for him, and is diagnosed as a broken bone in the ankle which requires him to walk with crutches. So to finish 165th I think is a great performance and we can surely say with great feeling, "Well run, sir!"

The Club made another step up the ladder of fame in finishing second to Aldershot Command in the team race, and can we say that this is a pointer to the National and Brighton Relay? Who knows—our lads are capable of annexing the greatest honours and I feel sure that there will be no lack of support for them when they go forth to conquer.

To Bert Footer, Southern Counties Champion, heartiest wishes; to all other prospective members of future teams, train well and remember, UP THE BELS!

In the Junior 5 miles race which preceded the Senior event, our team ran creditably and finished eighth of the 31 teams to close in. Our first man to finish was H. W. Shields (17), and Michael, Martin and Chantler completed our team.

All our runners and supporters returned home very pleased with the team's showing, and with Footers' placing. The following song, to the tune of an ancient German marching song learned by some of the boys when away on a Continental tramping holiday was, soon being lustily roared:—

"Come my lads and let us sing,  
 Victory! Victory!  
 To the heavens let it ring,  
 Belgrave boys are we!  
 When we walk, and when we run,  
 Our fame is known to everyone.  
 Spread this slogan wide and free,  
 Belgrave boys are we!"

Those who know an iambic pentameter from a trochaic hexameter may find fault with its metrical construction, but we venture to think all will be in accord with its sentiment.

Anyhow! memorise the words and be prepared to join in next time!

RESULT.  
 SENIOR RACE (10 MILES).

Pos.	m. s.	Pos.	m. s.
1 H. E. Footer.....	60 54	45 A. R. Shaw .....	65 38
2 L. F. Humphris...S.L.H.	61 31	85 F. R. Webb	
3 A. W. Penny .....	61 54	91 C. W. Tame	
17 C. T. Carter.....	63 38	116 F. A. Walker	
25 J. E. Flower .....	64 25	123 A. Robertshaw	
37 A. Allum .....	65 20	165 A. Taylor	
40 C. Mains .....	65 25		

TEAM SCORES.

	pts.		pts.
1 Aldershot Command H. ...	111	4 South London H. ....	213
2 Belgrave Harriers .....	123	5 Enfield A.C. ....	244
3 Wycombe Phoenix H. ....	139	6 Surrey A.C. ....	266

*Our Cross-Country Captain, W. G. Webb, spins the yarn of*

## THE NATIONAL CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP.

It was one of those perfect days of early spring when our team left London to give an account of itself in the 52nd National Cross-Country Championship, held on Saturday, March 11th, at Alderley Park, Cheshire, over a course of 10 miles.

Just what our prospects were for the race was a matter for conjecture. There was, however, an atmosphere of quiet optimism prevailing, for our hopes had been raised by the earlier successes of the season. Indeed, Footer's brilliant achievement in taking individual honour, coupled with the team's magnificent effort in the Southern, when they just missed premier honour by the narrow margin of 11 points, was sufficient in itself to warrant the thought that we would at least put up a best performance and possibly achieve our modest ambition of being the first club home from the South, thus reversing the position of the "Southern." Moreover, were we not whispering

things amongst ourselves? Had we not two in the first three of the "Southern"? But let us away.

Feverish activity was manifest in the courtyards and stables at Alderley Park, which were used for dressing accommodation, and when our boys, who had wisely elected to loosen their limbs by tramping the  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the station, arrived, the place had acquired the usual crowded atmosphere and it was with relief that we sought the fresh air and sunshine when the "all out" was sounded.

Leaving the old-world setting of the courtyard and stables, and taking up a point of vantage in the Park on a slight rise in the course, it was a brilliant spectacle looking down the avenue of spectators, tapering away to a point some 500 yards away where the 347 runners were preparing themselves for the start. A huge kaleidoscope it appeared, the sun picking out the many and varied colours as they shuffled into line.

A puff of smoke was seen, but before the report of the starting pistol was heard, this dazzling mass was already moving along the turf at breakneck speed. What excitement! What shouting! Pointsmen rushed here and there in their efforts to stem the encroaching spectators. But they are passing—how fast they run—and 10 miles to go! I strained my eyes to see our men, but only a glimpse of Carter and Tame did I get as they were swept along. Away they go, round the bend and on to the course proper, which is a light and fast one of 4 laps of undulating grassland with several brooks, but no plough. "Up the Bels" I heard in the distance.

I picked them up again when they were passing Radnor Mere, at which point they had covered about 2 miles. Bailey, of Salford, was leading, followed by Holden (Tipton H.), Evenson (Salford H.), Webster (Birchfield H.), Dodd (Wirrall A.C.), Sutherland (Birchfield H.) and —yes! a Belgrave vest—Penny, seventh. How we shouted! And then 8, 9, 10—how had "our Bert" fared in the fearsome start?—18, 19, 20—there was still no sign—23, 24, 25. How those seconds dragged. "Up Weatherill" an "Irrepressible" shouted. Yes, there was Weatherill and—oh, cheers! there was "our Bert" also, bunched between 28 and the thirties. Then came Allum, 48th, followed at close intervals by Mains, Shaw and Flower, whom I could not place, but who were all well inside in the 100 positions. Tame, Carter and F. R. Webb followed shortly afterwards in that order. On they went to complete the first lap, at which point the leading positions had not altered, except that Penny had moved up to sixth, a position he was never outside for the remainder of the race.

At four miles a check of the positions revealed Evenson in the lead, closely attended by Holden, and Webster trying to dispossess them. Penny was sixth and Footer, most amazing of all runners, had moved up to 13th. Allum was 52nd, Mains 56th, Shaw 76th, Flower 82nd, Tame 130th and Carter, who by an unfortunate recurrence of leg trouble was unable to give us a repetition of his splendid running in the "Southern," was 160th, and F. R. Webb, running in his traditional languid style, 170th. And then again, a mile further on, the positions of our first six were: Penny 6th, Footer, still making ground, 11th, Allum 54th, Mains 55th, Shaw 72nd and Flower 77th.

With two laps to go,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles, the leaders, Evenson, Holden and Bailey, were still together with Sutherland, Penny and Dodd in close attendance.

At this stage the team contest had resolved itself into a duel between Birchfield Harriers, who had six in 30, and Salford Harriers, who had, roughly, 2 in 3 and 6 in 40; but it was uncertain which club would fill the third position. South London Harriers could be dismissed for once, their 3rd man being 150th. Aldershot Command, however, had roughly 3 in 50 and Wycombe Phoenix had 3 in 40, though it was difficult to place their other men.

When, however, our men were checked at 6 miles our hearts began to beat faster. Penny passed in the fifth position, running very strongly; "our Bert" running at this stage with great determination and faster than anyone else in the race had moved up to 7th. Allum came next, as fleet as a deer, having apparently recaptured a little of his International form, for he had picked up 11 places and was 41st (well run, Arthur!). Mains was next, 55th, Shaw 65th, Flower 81st and after a short interval, Tame 131st; Webb, who had now passed Carter, 168th, and lastly Carter, hobbling along at 175th.

At  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles, that is with one lap to go, Dodd had joined Evenson, who was running comfortably, Sutherland was third and Holden fourth. Penny, looking extraordinarily fit, was fifth, and—Magnificent!—10 yards behind was the "indomitable" Footer, 6th. How he must have run! "Who are these two," someone was overheard to say.

Over the last two miles a tremendous struggle took place, not only amongst the leaders, Evenson, Dodd and Sutherland, but also between Bert and Penny.

Dodd contested every inch and it was not until the last 300 yards that Evenson appeared safe. He eventually emerged the winner 15 yards ahead of Dodd.

Meanwhile, Footer was trudging on, nearer and nearer to Penny he drew. Not only did he catch him, but somewhere to

wards the end of that last lap he made a gallant challenge and beat Sutherland for third position. Sutherland, however, made a terrific effort and passed again, and in Footer's own words, "I was then content to struggle home hanging on to Penny's shoulder," and thus together did our two men come in at the finish in 4th and 5th positions. Then, following with welcome frequency: Allum 34th, Mains 48th, Flower 62nd, Shaw 80th, making a total score of 233 points. Tame again was seventh man home, 94th, and F. R. Webb, 126th. Carter was compelled, reluctantly, to retire in the last lap.

When the result of the race was disclosed, Birchfield were again home with 80 points, Salford were second with 101 points, and then—well run, sirs!—Belgrave were third, 232 pts. Thus the prestige of the South was upheld. This indeed was our best performance and one of which we are rightly proud. All credit is due to those who participated and served the Club so well. By virtue of being the first club home from the South, we were awarded the "F. Finch Wayte" Cup for the ensuing year, a replica of which was presented to Arthur Penny as first man home for the team.

Reflecting on the brilliant running of our men, both individually and collectively, we have every admiration. It was pleasing to see Allum's return to form, and the sterling efforts of Mains, Shaw and Tame, who, I believe, were receiving their "National" baptism, was deserving of commendation. But no words of mine can adequately describe the magnificence of Penny and Footer. It is a fitting culmination to their wonderful effort that they should have been selected to represent their country in the International Championship to be run on Saturday, 25th March. They will serve their country as they have served their Club.

#### RESULT.

Pos.	m. s.	Pos.	m. s.
1. T. Evenson (S.H.).....	55 10	34. A. Allum	
2. S. Dodd (W.A.C.).....	55 13	48. C. Mains	
3. R. R. Sutherland		62. J. E. Flower	
(Birchfield H.)....	55 24	80. A. R. Shaw	
4. A. W. C. Penny.....	55 29	94. C. W. Tame	
5. H. E. Footer.....	55 29	126. F. R. Webb	

#### TEAM PLACINGS.

1. Birchfield H.....	80 pts.	6. Surrey A.C. ....	339 pts.
2. Salford H. ....	101 "	7. Tipton H. ....	346 "
3. <b>Belgrave H.</b> .....	<b>233</b> "	8. Stockport H. ....	402 "
4. Aldershot C.H. ....	288 "	9. Hallamshire H. ....	429 "
5. Wyeombe Ph. H. ...	318 "	10. Sheffield U.H. ....	436 "

*And now for the minor events.*

#### MATCH v. 2nd GRENADIER GUARDS.

This match resulted in an easy win for our team, the score being 82 points to 131 points, 10 aside scoring. Jack Flower led

the field home and the first Guardsman to finish was Gdm. Blows, in third position. A sporting match, which should again find a place in our fixture list next winter.

#### SURREY JUNIOR CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP!

This race was held from "The Green Man," Putney Heath, and resulted in a win for our old friends, Epsom Harriers. Our team failed to distinguish itself, although running quite soundly, and was led home by R. G. Michael.

#### MATCH ("B" TEAM) v. M.P.A.A., THAMES VALLEY H. AND COLLEGE OF ST. MARK AND ST. JOHN.

This match resulted in narrow win for T.V.H. from us, with the Police third and the College fourth. For us F. R. Webb, fifth, was the first man home, while W. W. Mitchell, Saunders, Michael and D. D. Martin did well. Oh! and our Assistant Hon. Secretary beat Alf Miller by 10 seconds.

An enjoyable run, followed by a dip in the plunge bath which is the envy of all clubs who visit the Metropolitan Police quarters at Imber Court.

### H.L.R. CALLING !

Hullo, everybody! Here we are again, all merry and bright! The "Bels" still making history, which has been dealt with elsewhere in this *Gazette*.

The Brighton Relay seems to be our next step, being held on Easter Saturday (15th April) and arrangements for this fixture have all been made.

Then the Track Season commences, with many successes in store, I hope. A heavy programme has been put forward by the Committee, and several matches against clubs we have not met before in competition will give our men plenty to think about. The first fixture is to be held on 6th May at Battersea Park and our visitors are the L.A.C., with whom we have had many sterling tussles. Handicaps will be included in the programme and the summer fixture card will shortly be circulated, showing in detail what handicaps are being held this season.,

I want to take this opportunity of making a special appeal to our track men. We are the proud holders of the championship of the Southern Amateur League and yet, with all respect to Mitcham A.C. and Thames Valley Harriers, we lost to these clubs in track competition last years, losing the "Inter-Club Relay" and "Doris" Shields. It seems ridiculous, but nevertheless true, that several of our cross-country men had to run 100 yards, 300 yards, 880 yards and 1 mile in one evening in these competitions simply because our sprinters and track men let

us down. So I appeal to you to obviate a repetition of this occurring again by turning up and supporting these fixtures whole-heartedly, so that we can put up a good and worthy show of the Belgrave Harriers.

"Bill" Rice is your new Track Captain, and will be only too pleased to advise and help anyone. I myself will be entering teams in forthcoming events, and our Hon. Sec., Wally Bayliss, is seeing to Club handicap entries.

Having acted as team manager to the Runners section during the cross-country season, I should like to congratulate all upon their successes and wish those who perhaps were not quite so fortunate as to gain team places the best of luck next year. Always, when training, remember and bear in mind the grit and determination of our Bert Footer, who has at last achieved his ambition and gained an International vest by perseverance and pluck.

Enquiries to H. L. ROLLINS, 81 The Broadway, N.W.2.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Mr. Editor,

In my recent article I described A. W. Penny as superior to all previous holders of the "Blackstaffe" Shield, including the famous A. Allum and H. E. Footer.

Footer promptly "grassed" me by winning the Club 10, and—greater still—the Southern. I am indeed grateful to Penny that he made up for his backwardness in the above-mentioned events by finishing level with Bert in the "National." He justified my confidence of a Rose on his vest, and so saved my judgment from ridicule.

Perhaps now it would be more gracious to offer Footer my very sincere congratulations on his wonderful running lately. I doubt if any other athlete has tried so hard to obtain the coveted "Rose." Many have jumped into brilliance in a season, thousands have given up the sport in despair—but Footer has always said he would have his International vest before he gave the game up. Now he has achieved his cherished ambition and brought high honours to the Club in its trail. His name will always be coupled with the great men in Belgrave history.

Meanwhile, best wishes to Bert and Arthur in the future.

Yours, etc.

KEN. B. O'KELL.

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*BOOK YOUR DINNER TICKET AT ONCE.*



