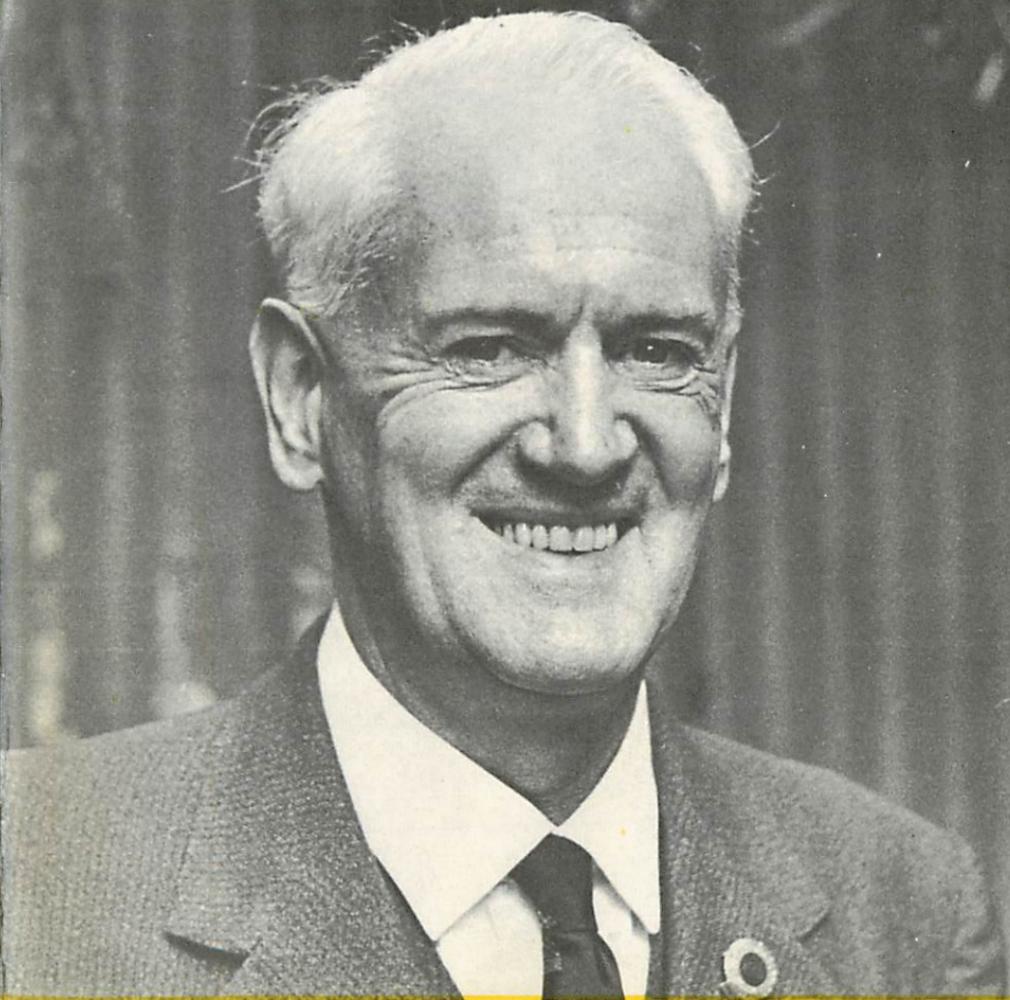


THE



BELGRAVIAN



**Official Gazette of
Belgrave Harriers**

QUARTERLY

DECEMBER, 1969



FRONTISPIECE (Photo:Ron Linstead)--The much improved BOB COATES who led our team to a sweeping victory in the 50th Open '7' Walk.

FRONT COVER (Photo:Ron Linstead)---Our new President, GORDON DOUBLEDAY.



THE

BELGRAVIAN

FOUNDED 1887

DECEMBER 1969

No. 172

EDITORIAL

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G. Doubleday

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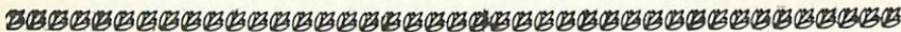
A MERRY CHRISTMAS and a PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR to all Belgravians, wherever you may be. A special greeting goes out to those members in distant parts, whether they be in far off Australia, India and U.S.A. or in the nearby British provinces. We are pleased to enjoy your continued support and the good work you do as ambassadors of Belgrave. Special greetings also to those regular contributors who have assisted your Honorary Editor over the past year; and to our principal photographer, Ron Linstead, whose work plays such an important part in the Gazette's production.



As we leave another decade behind us this is an appropriate moment to remind our readers that the Club is still gathering together all material relevant to the history of Belgrave Harriers. If you have any photos, cuttings or other literature even remotely concerning Belgrave then we would appreciate the loan of such material. Eventually, an official Belgrave History will be produced---your contribution, however small, might well play a part. How about giving that old loft a 1970 springclean?.

On another page can be found our first advertisement. Each copy of the Belgravian you receive costs the Club about 1/9d, and costs rise annually. Advertisers help to keep those costs down so it is in our interests to support our advertisers when we can. W. & G. HALES are not unknown to some of our members, but there are many who are unaware of the wide range of athletic gear available at this shop, one of whose suppliers is our own Gerry North. Open on Saturday afternoons, it is conveniently placed for buying shoes etc. on your way to or from Belgrave Hall. And don't forget to mention Belgrave when you make a purchase.

With a circulation approaching 600 and a readership probably nearer the thousand mark there must be many readers in a position to sell advertising space. Please contact the Editor if you have a recommendation to make. And if anyone is interested in becoming Advertising Manager. let him please step forward---quickly!.



Welcome

The Club extends a hearty welcome to the following members who have joined us during the last few months

BEAUMONT	Ivan	(-)	HOLDEN	Gary	(Surrey)
BINDA	Anthony	(Jamaica)	JOINS	Brian	(Oxfordshire)
BOSHER	George	(Surrey)	Mc KEOWN	John	(Surrey)
COLLINS	Gerald	(London)	FEDDER	John	(Co. Durham)
COY	Leo	(Ireland)	SMALL	John	(Barbados)
CROSBIE	Peter	(London)	WELLS	Martin	(Surrey)
HOLDEN	Barry	(Surrey)			

RE-ELECTED

CROOKES	Derek	(Middlesex)	FOREY	Cyril	(Middlesex)
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HONORARY MEMBER

STIRLING-WAKELY Arthur

HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES

A letter of good wishes and a cheque for \$ 25 has been received from Edmund P. Donovan, C.B.E., now of New York; and a member of the Club way back in 1911. He recalls with pleasure his visit to our Club Track Championships a couple of years ago, and hopes probably to renew acquaintance at our Boxing Day Meeting as he aims to be in England at that time.

If there was an award for our most loyal supporter it would go assuredly to MICK PYER, who must now be within months of fifty years of membership. Wherever our teams go MICK is to be found and we trust it will long be so. The Committee have invited him to serve as a co-opted member so that we may benefit from his experience and enthusiasm. It will be remembered by the few that it was one of Mick's proposals many years ago on our Committee that led to the inauguration of Youth's Track and Field Championships in the South.

Following the International Fixture Conference held at Bucharest recently there have been changes in the Summer fixtures. The A.A.A. Championships will be held on August 7th and 8th instead of July 10th and 11th as previously announced and as shown in our current Handbook.

This change will accommodate the East German team who will visit this country on the dates previously announced for the AAA Championships, which will now be held after the Edinburgh Commonwealth Games on July 16th-25th.

There may yet be other changes in the domestic programme, but no doubt these will be settled within the next few weeks.

August 16th 1971 will be the centenary of the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Act which dedicated the Commons to the use of the public. Much of this land was previously in the ownership of Earl Spencer, by whose permission Thames Hare and Hounds held the first cross country races ever, celebrating their centenary last year, it will be recalled.

We have made good use of the Commons since before the first World War; and have been grateful indeed to have had country and road courses with so much natural beauty and so very convenient of access, on hand for pleasure and our sport.

Undoubtedly, as a Club we have benefited considerably in having the Commons at our disposal, with no pen of the speculative builder driving us outward. So many cross country clubs have fought losing battles with the so-called "developers"—especially is this true in Middlesex—that we must count ourselves very fortunate indeed to have conducted our sport for well over fifty years under relatively stable conditions.

The Ranger, Mr. F.G.P. QUIXLEY, has invited representatives of the various clubs and societies with interests in the Commons to meet soon and possibly arrange to play some part in the making of the centenary in 1971.

We congratulate most heartily Past President Harry Shields on being honoured with Life Membership of the English Cross Country Union. Fortunately Harry's health is now much improved and he is to be seen at many of our fixtures once again.

We also congratulate DOUG FOTHERLINGHAM on being elected Chairman of the Race Walking Association, Southern Area Committee.

How very pleased to see TOMMY GREEN with his wife at Wimbledon recently, when he started our 50th Annual Open Walk. Tommy has his own particular niche in Belgrave history with his Olympic Games win, his London to Brighton and Manchester to Blackpool Walk wins, and dozens of other victories from two miles up to 100 Kilometres.

Tommy looks remarkably well and capable of repeating some of his wins of years ago! His age? Well he was 39 when he won his Olympic title at Los Angeles in 1932, so work it out for yourself!

Seen in Town recently, Vice President Fred M. STONE. He was in London to lecture on Youth Movements, which seems just the thing for a 72 year old who has tackled almost everything in the world of sport. He will be remembered as one of the bravest Metropolitan Policemen ever, and the recipient of many awards for gallantry and devotion to duty, the last one from the hands of Her Majesty The Queen.

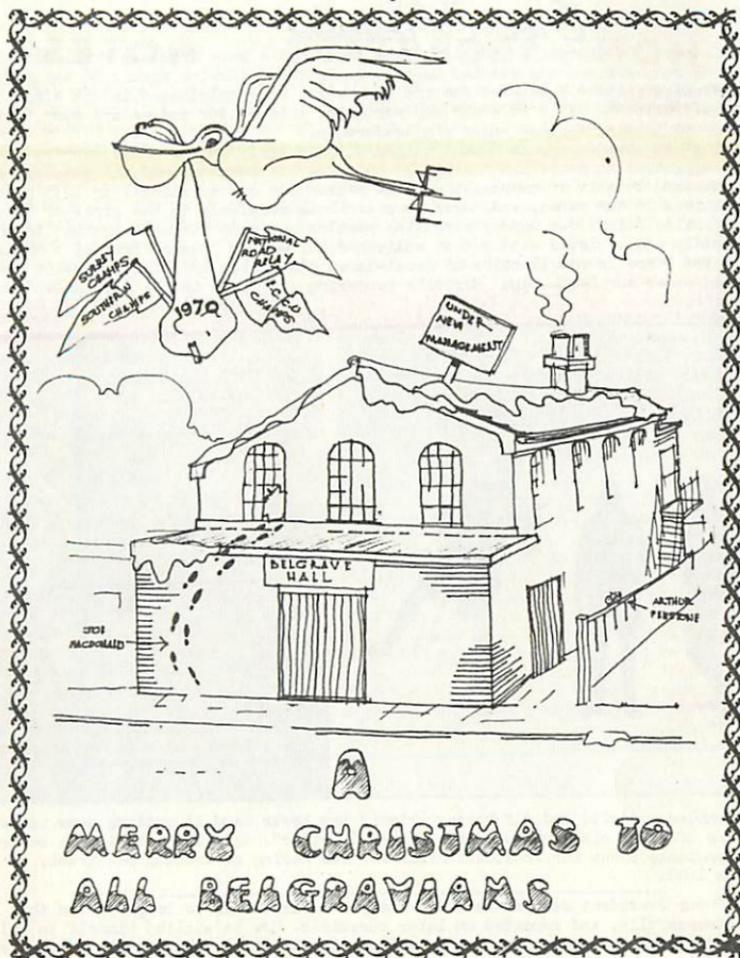
He was featured in the television series "This is your life" some years ago, in which the late Harry Evans also appeared. Fred sends his best wishes to all.

Also seen. Jack Edgood and Pat Sapote who send greetings to their many friends.

A.A.H.

Tommy Green cup

Awarded to the Belgravian who, in the opinion of the Committee, has put up the most meritorious performance of the year, the "TOMMY GREEN" Cup presentation for the 1968/9 Club year has gone to Geoff North for his second place in the Southern Counties 5,000 metres where his time of 13:44.4 ranked him 5th in the U.K. lists for 1969 behind Taylor, Stewart, Blinston and Bedford.



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO
ALL BELGRAVIANS

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Belgravians,

I would like to thank all of the members who elected me President at the A.G.M. I regret that I was not at the meeting as I was in hospital at the time. I am stepping into the shoes of our Past Presidents, who have over the years given sterling service to the Club; I hope to be worthy of their example. I have had to miss some of our early fixtures and I am grateful to Past Presidents who have kindly stood in for me.

When I joined the Club in 1934 I was attracted by the good sport, the good sportsmanship and the good friendship which the Belgrave Harriers offered. These qualities are as strong as ever and, over the years, I have enjoyed them with countless others. I am now no longer active in the athletic sense and have transferred my interest to the official side, and it has been brought home to me how much our sport owes to its officials. Fortunately in Belgrave we have many who are willing to help in this direction and I am proud that I have recently joined their number as an Hon. Timekeeper.

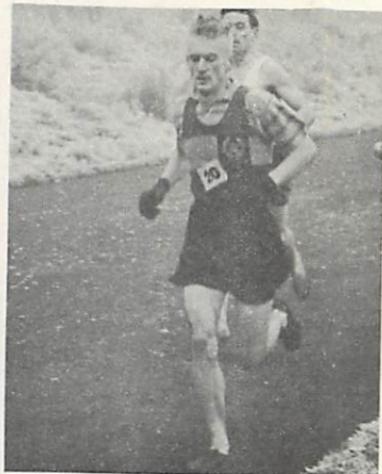
Belgrave have always been renowned for their team performances and over the whole range of athletics we can claim to be second to none. Readers of the "Belgravian" are well aware of our present strength, but to me one of the brightest signs is the prowess and enthusiasm of our Boys and Youths and I hope that they will mature to be the team-men, the champions, and indeed the Internationals of tomorrow. I wish the Club and all its members a very happy and successful year.

Gordon S. Doubleday.

6 *Our President*

In September 1934, Gordon S. Doubleday ran in a Novice race from our Wimbledon Headquarters. He duly won and was elected to membership the following month. So began 35 years of loyalty and conscientious hard work for the Club which have culminated in his election and installation as President. He is in every way worthy of this honour and we are sure that the Club will enjoy continuing success under his leadership.

Following his novice success "Doub" turned out regularly in our cross country events without any conspicuous success; but thoroughly enjoying his running and the companionship it brought him---and this is of course, the prime reason for our existence. In 1935 he climbed to higher positions in our races, and began to contribute regularly to the pages of "The Belgravian". He also joined our Sunday strolling parties and made his contribution to the flights of worldly and athletic wisdom that enlivened our weekly jaunts. Even at a distance of over thirty years there is recollection of frost-laden clear air, brilliant star-lit evenings and a good road under our feet---and Gordon's rendering of "David in the Lion's Den" and Ravel's Bolero".



Gordon Doubleday (left) and Alf Harley (right) try their hand at putting snow balls during one of their climbing holidays in the "Thirties". Alf Taylor is in the centre. The action photo shows our President after the war racing at Tooting Bec track, Christmas 1948.

In 1937 our President was persuaded to essay his first walk to Brighton and this he accomplished successfully, and repeated on later occasions. Now he applied himself to Walking at the shorter distance and accomplished an excellent Croydon to Godstone and back in his first season. In the Junior 10 miles Championship at Hampstead in 1938 when, let us remember, we had a record winning score with Len and Joe Coleman dead-heating for first place, Colin Sutton 6th and Reg Elson 7th, Doub finished 24th of the 127 finishers.

In September 1938 he accomplished an outstanding "double" in getting married and becoming Hon. Editor of the Belgravian!. His walking continued to improve and in the Surrey County 10 miles Championship he finished ninth---but was the sixth Belgrave man!. However, reward came in the 10 miles Championship at Manchester when he was in our winning team---and on later occasions he scored in our winning Surrey County teams.

The coming of War translated Doub to Exeter, where he became a Vice-Captain of Exeter Harriers, and he did his best to keep in touch during those trying years. Eventually, in happier days, the call of Belgravian duty persuaded Doub to be our Hon. Treasurer which he served through for two years; and on his retirement from office he was made a Life Member---a proposition the writer was able to make on behalf of the committee at the AGM with great personal satisfaction and pleasure.

Doub's work for our sport did not end here. He has walked his hundred miles inside 24 hours to become a Centurion, and is now Hon. Treasurer of that exclusive body.

He is also President of the Road Runners Club, and well on his way to becoming a first class timekeeper.

Gordon Doubleday has won a Club Honours Badge for Marathon running; has strengthened our Walking teams; enlivened our strolling and our holidays; worked hard in two important offices (and now a third) within the Club; contributed time and time again to the Belgravian; served us conscientiously as a timekeeper; and made his services and abilities to other sporting associations. All this, plus his pleasing personality, his ability to enthuse, and his great loyalty to Belgrave make us fortunate indeed in our selection of President. May he enjoy good health to enjoy his year of office, and to give us the full benefit of his talents and enthusiasms!.

A.A.H.

Dinner & Dance

The annual dinner and dance held at the Wimbledon Hill Hotel on the 15th November followed the successful pattern of recent years. Certainly the large attendance consisting of members of all ages accompanied by their nearest and dearest bore witness to the slogan "Nothing breeds success like success".

It was fitting that Sydney Wooderson, as President of Elackheath Harriers in this their Centenary Year, should be our guest of honour. In reply to his short but well received address Reg Hopkins displayed none of the nervousness generally encountered in maiden speeches, and achieved a fine blend of wit and invective. The overall brevity of speeches appeared to the connoisseurs to have resulted from an attempt to "keep 'em clean". Certainly there was a distinct lack of blue jokes and not even a single reference to Gerry North's support. Tributes were paid to both the retiring President and to the new incumbent.

The dancing that followed was enthusiastically enjoyed by all concerned and for those whose education in this art stopped at the twist the band's repertoire was sufficient. As a result of Ted Stimpson's persuasive pen numerous local firms and well wishers had contributed a vast array of prizes for the raffle. No wonder the dark mutterings from certain tables as prize after prize fell to Charlie Manning.

All in all a most successful 'do' appreciated by athletes, officials and guests.

One final suggestion, couldn't next year's menu be

NORFOLK TURKEY AU VIN
PECHE BONNE SURPRISE

Only the names need be changed to protect the innocent.....

'CORDON BLEU'.

THE A. G. M.

CARL LAWTON WRITES

With the attendance figure at around the 60 mark the A.G.M. of the Belgrave Harriers was convened at Belgrave Hall on the evening of Thursday, 18th September at 6.45pm. The retiring President Mr. Simmons was in the chair.

Apologies were received from various members of the club for non attendance, including those of the President elect, Mr. Doubleday who was suffering from a touch of the other in hospital, and Mr. Middleton who although performing magnificently in Athens at the time of the meeting regretted that he could not make it as he had walked enough *17*1 kilos for one day.

Mr. Harley proceeded to give a run down on the previous year's events in and around the club. He mentioned with regret the loss to the club of two outstanding and devoted men Mr. Rollins and Mr. Harley Senior. Their devotion to the club was exceptional and they would be missed. Mr. Harley made it known that he had been a member since 1926 and had watched its growth since that time. "The success over the years", he said "had been due to the supreme effort of the athletes and officials, and the past year had been no exception". The club was estimated to enter more individual events than any other club in the country but this gave no excuse for the disappointment of the club being relegated instead of promoted in the National League. The reason for this was the failure of a few, and only a few, to turn out when requested. The many successes of the club during the year would not be described as an excellent coverage had been provided in the Belgravian.

The General Hon. Sec. closed with a word of praise for our internationals during the year, Middleton, Thresher, Bicourt, Geoff North, Boosey and Lervill as well as the promising juniors without whom the club would have no future. He then requested a vote of thanks to the retiring President, the retiring Hon. Treasurer, and the retiring Cross Country Secretary. They step down in the knowledge that the club is where it is due to their work over the years.

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Shepherd, in his report on the world monetary situation gave a detailed account of the income and expenditure, ably assisted by Balance sheets carefully distributed around the hall. After much deliberation we were informed that the club had made a loss of £3 in the last financial year. "This was a bit near the mark" he said. It was pointed out that much of the income was spent in sending teams to national championships and this cost was increasing annually. However it was concluded that so long as nobody removed the hall we were still in good financial standing!

The meeting moved on to the election to life membership of Mr. R. Hall and Mr. C. Shippen. A brief review of Mr. Hall's sterling support of athletics both as participant and official was given by Mr. Harley and Mr. MacLennan. Perhaps his main achievement being one of a few who have beaten 8 hours for the Eighton. Mr. Wesch, showing his knowledge of English, wished it to be known that it was one of 6. Mr. Shippen was proposed by Mr. Lucas who described the efforts of the Hon. Editor of the Belgravian. He had worked hard for our benefit and his own athletics always took second place in the club. Mr. Manning seconded Mr. Shippen, but stated he was not going to say anything. Five minutes later he sat down.

(Cont'd on page 12)

TRACK AND FIELD

PETER HILLIAR (Track Captain) WRITES:

The 1969 track season was extremely disappointing and was climaxed by our relegation from a weak division of the National League to the first division of the Southern League. We only managed to annex one trophy, The Jim Peters Trophy, which we only won with the considerable assistance of a strong contingent of juniors and youths.

What went wrong then, following our earlier anticipation of an outstanding season? It is difficult to put one's finger accurately on the pulse of the trouble, but I am tempted to hazard a guess that the modern athlete is so well provided with competition at all levels by his club, his area and national organisers, universities and various other bodies such as the EMC, that he can no longer raise any particular enthusiasm for competitions such as the National League. This naturally affects athletes belonging to other clubs, so it could be a case of loyalties and / or priorities, which I feel are not taken seriously by some members of our club.

To get down off the metaphorical high horse, I now propose to summarise events.
100/200 metres. Probably our strongest events on paper with Steve White, Jim Vivian, John Mitchell and Chris Martin and able assistance from Aris Sapountzoglou, Tony and Cliff Brooks. However, through injury and other commitments, we have usually been weak in top-class competition.

400 metres. The most exciting occasion was the emergence of Mel Ford with 49.3 in the Brockman. Otherwise, we had sound and loyal contributions from Tony Brooks, Philip Gee, Philip Smith and Dave Rees (a startling improvement to sub-55 by Dave).

800 metres. I think we could at last have some strength in depth in the future in what has been our "Cinderella" event since the retirement of Dave Cocks; through such competitors as Mel Ford (around 1-56 relay), John Boardman, John Kelly and Doug Jardine. Nevertheless, 1969 wasn't their year, unfortunately.

1500 metres. Our best performers in this event were all basically under-distance in John Thresher, Geoff North, Adrian Major and Bill Kerr, well though they performed.

5000/10,000 metres. Geoff North's brilliant Southern run was the obvious highlight, but at National League and Trophy level, we were generally under-represented. It was encouraging, however, to welcome Gerry North and Bob Smith back to fitness by the end of the season.

3000metre Steeplechase. John Bicourt continued his steady improvement and it was encouraging to see Peter Morris and Dick Piotrowski (despite a nasty mid-season injury) not far behind. Also, the season witnessed the resurgence of Alan Elack.

To wind up, I should like to praise the enthusiasm of such members as Tony Brooks, Philip Gee, Dave Rees and Philip Smith, always willing to have a go at anything. Without them the season might have been disastrous. Finally, I feel a tribute should be paid to an immensely hard-working track secretary, Bob Taylor; a pillar of a great club.

BILL COUZENS writes on FIELD

I am sure that everybody knows Belgrave are relegated from the National League. This time last year we were considering which club would be promoted with us into the second division of the National League, but when it came to it we fizzed out like a damp firework. Was it all bad luck? We were without the following athletes, in most cases in all three National League meetings, for reasons beyond their control.

Glyn Ratcliffe (Shot, Discus) posted to Ireland with the Grenadier Guards.

Mel Ford (400m Hurdles, 4x400m Relay) also posted to Ireland.

Steve Inman (Pole Vault) also posted to Ireland.

Charlie Gillett (400m Hurdles, 4 X 440 Relay) Injured.

John Mitchell (Long Jump, Sprints) Injured.

Nick Head (Javelin, Shot) In Germany during 2 meetings.

With these men in the team we would certainly have avoided relegation, but what of our cert promotion prospects into the Second division? These could not be achieved without our top runners turning out at each League Meeting, so where were our sprinters? After all, this is where we should be strongest. Luckily we have a nucleus of men in Belgrave who will do two, three or even four events; their names can be seen quite easily in the results.

I, like others, left the last National League Meeting with a great lump in my throat.

I hope next year we will be celebrating our return.

GOOD NEWS!

Denzil Winsborrow will be back in action for the Club next year (pole vault, hurdles, High jump) after a successful year of studying, gaining him entrance to Brighton University.

S.C.A.A.A. CHAMPIONSHIPS

In view of the poor support over the past few years it has been decided to discontinue the 4 x 800m, 4 x 1 mile and Medley Relay Championships. The only Senior Relay Championships to be held in 1970 will be a 4 x 100m and 4 x 400m.

SAD NEWS!

We will be losing our javelin thrower Brian King in the near future as he will be moving to Huntingdon. This will be a great loss to the Club as Brian is one of our most stalwart members, he will always turn out to represent the Club and has not missed more than two meetings in five years, he has been Field Events Captain and has served on Committee. I know Brian will be continuing his athletics and wish him every success.

**NATIONAL LEAGUE****Match No. 2---Southampton, 23rd August**

100(A) 6. D.Rees 12.5	800(A) 5. J.Boardman 2:00.1	S/ch (A) 1.J.Bicourt 9:16.4
(B) 5. A.Brooks 12.1	(B) 3. J.Kelly 2:02.8	(B) 1.R.Piotrowski 9:41.0
200(A) 5. D.Rees 24.2	1500(A) 1. J.Treshner 3:55.9	110H (A) 3.R.Couillault 17.7
(B) 5. A.Brooks 24.5	(B) 3. A.Major 4:09.0	(B) 5.A.Bentt 18.7
400(A) 6. P.Smith 55.8	5000(A) 4. W.Kerr 15:06.2	400H (A) 5.A.Brooks 60.9
(B) 5. P.Gee 52.8	(B) 3. L.Mann 15:19.0	(B) 6.P.Hilliar 65.4
Shot(A) 6. W.Couzens 34'-11"	Jav(A) 3. B.King 178'-0"	HJ (A) 4.A.Bentt 5'-8"
(B) 6. -	(B) 4. F.Glass 142'-0"	(B) 5. R. Couillault 5'-4"
Disc(A) 6. F. Glass 116'-10"	Ham(A) 6. W.Couzens 105'-3"	LJ (A) 5. J. Mitchell 21'-5½"
(B) 6. B. King 92'-2"	(B) 4. B. King 87'-5"	(B) 6.C. Brooks 18'-6½"
TJ (A) 3. R.Couillault 42'-6"	PV (A) 6. A.Brooks 8'-6"	4X100 4.BELGRAVE 45.4
(B) 3. A.Bentt 41'-0½"	(B) 6. B.King 7'-6"	4X400 4.BELGRAVE 3:34.7

Match Score

1. Woodford Green A.C. 262 pts	4. Croydon Harriers 198 pts
2. Southampton A.A.C. 237 pts	5. London A.C. 172 pts
3. Bristol A.C. 223 pts	6. BELGRAVE HARRIERS 157 pts

Match No. 3---Woodford, September 13th

100(A) 6. A.Sapountz'u 11.9	800(A) 5.J.Boardman 1:59.8	S/ch (A) 6.A.Black 9:49.8
(B) 4. C.Brooks 12.1	(B) 4.J.Kelly 2:00.6	(B) 6.D.Maclean 12:31.4
200(A) 5. A.Sapountz'u 23.2	1500(A) 3.Geoff North 3:56.0	110H (A) 4.R.Couillault 16.4
(B) 4. D.Rees 24.1	(B) 1.W.Kerr 3:59.2	(B) 3.A.Bentt 18.0
400(A) 4. C.Gillett 50.6	5000(A) 2.Gerry North 14:30.0	400H (A) 6.C.Brooks 62.5
(B) 6. P.Gee 52.9	(B) 1.Geoff North 14:58.0	(B) 4.A.Brooks 60.0
Shot(A) 6. F.Glass 11.28	Jav(A) 4.N.Head 185'-0"	HJ (A) 3.A.Bentt 5'-6"
(B) 5. N.Head 11.16	(B) 2.B.King 174'-6"	(B) 3.R.Couillault 5'-6"
Disc(A) 4. F.Glass 37.90	Ham(A) 6.- Dark 30.02	LJ (A) 6.C.Brooks 5.82
(B) 4. N.Head 35.58	(B) 6 -	(B) 5.A.Brooks 5.75
TJ (A) 1. D.Boosey 14.72	PV (A) 6.A.Brooks 9'-0"	4X100 6.BELGRAVE 46.0
(B) 1. D.Glendinging 13.45	(B) 4.B.King 8'-0"	4X400 4.BELGRAVE 3:28.1

Match Score

1. Woodford Green A.C. 289pts	4. Bristol A.C. 195 pts
2. London A.C. 212pts	5. Croydon Harriers 187 pts
3. Southampton A.A.C. 203pts	6. BELGRAVE HARRIERS 170 pts

ATTENTION!

Following their relegation from the National League this Summer, Belgrave enter Division I of the Southern League. The clubs and fixture dates are as follows.-Reading (May 16th), Ilford (July 4th), W.B.C. (at Wimbledon Pk., August 22nd), Windsor and Aldershot.

The three dates quoted should be entered in diaries right away. THEY MUST BE REGARDED AS THE MOST IMPORTANT DATES OF 1970---this is because a 4th division of the National League is being formed in 1971 and we therefore have a double chance of returning to the top echelon.

The COACHING HON. SEC. speaks

Dave Ansell writes:-

Few men could have been so near to gaining a full international vest as the athlete who heads our 100 metres and long jump rankings for 1968---JOHN MITCHELL. He must have been a marginal omission from the Great Britain team in the Finland and France matches.

John takes his final exams in medicine next year, but between now and then fall the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh. He has both English and Scottish qualifications so must stand a good chance of appearing at the Games, should studies permit.

Our leading long jumper started his season in PARIS on May 10th, competing for London University, and recorded 10.8 (second) and 23'-7" (first). Four days later he chalked up 10.7/21.9/23'-2"; the 200m time being a personal best.

John was running into form nicely and in June won the B.U.S.F. long jump title, beating K. Snelgrove, with 23'-11". However, Snelgrove got his revenge in the Southern, 23'-7³/₄"/23'-6¹/₂" squeezing John into 4th place.

The height of John Mitchell's season was the A.A.A. Championships on August 2nd at the White City. Watching that claret and gold figure flashing down the Tartan strip it was obvious that only Lynn Davies was running faster. He qualified for the final: Hudson, among other good performers, failing. In a tremendous tussle for third place with Williams and Scott he was beaten by a mere $\frac{1}{2}$ " (24'-1", 24'-1", 24'- $\frac{1}{2}$ ") yet he had the best second jump and two hair-line fouls at 24'-5". By such margins are vests won and lost. However, John has tremendous determination and this should see him through to that International vest and help him to overcome the injuries which restricted his gallant efforts to help our National League team.

His new Club record (24'-5 $\frac{3}{4}$ ") was set at Portsmouth on August 20th when jumping for the B.U.S.F. against Combined Services and S.C.A.A.A. It placed him second, only 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ " behind Olympian Alan Lerwill. But for wind assistance, the jump would place him 4th in the U.K. rankings---and all but John of the top eight are Internationals!

John Mitchell has suggested retirement, but surely he is just about to reap the fruits of all his hard work. If he can maintain fitness through his studies then he has a great chance of competing in Edinburgh, and even Munich.

* * * * *

The S.C.A.A.A. have arranged a series of lectures at Crystal Palace, in room G55, at 7.00p.m. to 9.00p.m. as follows:-

Dec 2nd	Triple Jumping	T. McNab.
9th	The treatment of Athletic Injuries.	Dr. P. Sperryr.
16th	Sprinting.	J. Le Masurier.
Jan 6th	The Mechanics of Athletic Performance.	B. Hopper.
13th	Hurdling.	J. Le Masurier.
20th	Long Jumping and High Jumping.	D. Ansell & K.Hipwell
27th	Shot Putting and Discus Throwing.	To be announced.
Feb 3rd	Steeplechase and Pole Vaulting.	W. Coyne & M. Evans.
10th	Modern Strength Training.	T. McNab.
17th	Javelin and Hammer.	C. Smith & R. Bowden.
24th	International Forum	J. Le Masurier.

The cost is 5/- per lecture and all details are available from Dave Ansell, Coaching Sec., who points out that although these lectures will prove of help to all active athletes they will be of particular advantage to Coaches and Potential Coaches, and strongly advises those members who would like to improve their knowledge with a view to taking the HON. COACHES and SENIOR HON. COACHES EXAMS, to attend.

If there are still any club members who require advice and/or coaching then contact the Hon. Coaching Sec. who will be pleased to put you in touch with a Specialist Coach for your event.

SUNDAY MORNING COMPETITIONS AT BATTERSEA PARK

Sunday morning competitions have already begun at Battersea Park and consist generally of a sprint, hurdles race, jump and throwing event. These competitions give a healthy break from rigorous winter training schedules and will be held on the following dates starting at 11 a.m. 30th Nov., 21st Dec., 11th Jan., 1st Feb., 22nd Feb., 15th March., 5th April.

BEST PERFORMANCES 1969

FIRST CLAIM MEMBERS ONLY

Performances below dotted lines are outside A.A.A. Grade III standard.

<p><u>100 metres</u> 10.7 J. Mitchell 10.7 J. Vivian 11.0 S. White (J) 11.1 C. Brooks 11.2 C. Martin 11.3 A. Sapountzoglou 11.4 A. Brooks</p> <p><u>800 metres</u> 1:54.3 J. Thresher 1:55.9 J. Boardman 1:58.0 P. Hilliar 1:58.0 J. Kelly 1:58.1 L. Mann 1:58.2 D. Jardine ----- 1:59.3 A. Major</p> <p><u>5000 metres</u> 13:44.4 Geoff North 13:56.0 J. Thresher 14:29.0 P. Morris 14:30.0 Gerry North 14:38.0 T. Hart 14:42.2 A. Major 14:46.4 A. Fairclough 14:47.8 L. Mann 14:51.0 L. O'Hara</p> <p><u>High Jump</u> 6'0" A. Bantt (J) ----- 5'8" R. Couillault 5'6" S. Ipaye 5'6" C. Brooks 5'4" D. Glendinning</p> <p><u>Pole Vault</u> 11'6" S. Inman ----- 9'0" A. Kossi 9'0" A. Brooks 8'0" B. King</p> <p><u>Javelin</u> 197'9" N. Head 190'8" B. King 185'7" K. Schofield 177'2½" S. Inman 175'0" F. Glass ----- 158'6" W. Couzens 154'0" A. Bantt (J)</p>	<p><u>200 metres</u> 21.7. S. White (J) 21.9. J. Mitchell 22.7. C. Gillett 22.9. J. Vivian 22.9. C. Martin 23.0. A. Sapountzoglou 23.1. C. Brooks 23.3. A. Brooks 23.4. D. Rees (J) 23.5. P. Gee 23.5. A. Bantt (J)</p> <p><u>1500 metres</u> 3:50.1 J. Thresher 3:55.8 Geoff North 3:57.0 P. Morris 3:58.2 A. Major 3:58.4 R. Piotrowski 3:59.2 W. Kerr ----- 4:02.7 R. Smith</p> <p><u>3000m. S/chase</u> 8:50.2 J. Biccourt 8:55.0 P. Morris 9:00.6 R. Piotrowski 9:20.4 A. Elack 9:36.2 J. Dear</p> <p><u>Long Jump</u> 24'5½" J. Mitchell (rec) 22'6½" S. White (J) 22'4" C. Brooks 22'2½" L. Sullivan (J) 22'1½" A. Bantt (J) 21'8" R. Couillault ----- 21'0" D. Glendinning</p> <p><u>110m Hurdles</u> 16.4 R. Couillault ----- 18.0 A. Bantt (J)</p> <p><u>Discus</u> 148'6" G. Ratcliffe ----- 128'9" F. Glass 104'11" W. Couzens 100'4" M. Robertson</p> <p><u>Hammer</u> 140'9" M. Robertson ----- 117'5" W. Couzens</p>	<p><u>400 metres</u> 49.3. M. Ford 49.4. S. White (J) 49.8. C. Gillett 51.0. D. Rees (J) 51.3. A. Brooks 51.3. P. Gee ----- 51.8. C. Brooks 51.9. M. Eloice (Y)</p> <p><u>3000 metres</u> 8:07.6 J. Thresher 8:16.4 Geoff North 8:16.6 J. Biccourt 8:18.8 P. Morris 8:32.0 L. O'Hara 8:37.0 T. Hart 8:39.0 Gerry North</p> <p><u>10000 metres</u> 30:19.6 T. Hart 30:31.2 R. Smith 30:38.0 A. Fairclough 30:38.0 Gerry North 30:45.0 L. Mann 31:00.0 P. Morris 31:17.0 L. O'Hara 31:17.0 J. Dear</p> <p><u>Triple Jump</u> 52½" D. Boosey 47'4" D. Glendinning 45'7" R. Couillault ----- 42'8½" A. Bantt (J) 40'5½" C. Brooks</p> <p><u>400m Hurdles</u> 54.4 C. Gillett 55.4 M. Ford ----- 59.1 A. Brooks 60.8 R. Couillault 61.6 J. Martin 62.5 C. Brooks</p> <p><u>Shot</u> 44'1½" G. Ratcliffe ----- 39'6" N. Head 39'1½" J. Martin 38'5" F. Glass 38'1½" W. Couzens</p>
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That husband and wife athletic team JOHN and PAM DAVIES are expecting their first-born on December 27th. If it should prove to be a boy, John promises to sign him up for Belgrave immediately. If racehorses are anything to go by then we would be on a good winner. To keep the peace between Selsonia and Belgrave perhaps Pam ought to oblige with twins!

In the G.L.C. Track and Field Championships at Hurlingham on September 6th, Laurie O'Hara was third in the 3 miles with 14:18.0 and Alan Elack second in the 2,000m s/chase with 6:06.4.

YOU CAN BORROW ANY OF THESE

A.A.A. Instructional Booklets

THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO ALL MEMBERS

A.A.A. rules for competition 1969/70	7/6	Shot Putting	5/-d
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RULES FOR BORROWING

1. A deposit of the value of the publication, returnable less 6d to cover cost of future replacements.
2. Borrowing period of 2 weeks; a fine of 6d per week beyond this period.
3. Only one publication can be borrowed at one time.
4. Booklets must be returned to distributor and not passed from member to member.
5. All postage, if any, to be paid by borrower.

CONTACT. A.D. FYER,
55, MUNCASTER ROAD,
CLAPHAM COMMON,
WEST SIDE. S.W.11.

At Battersea Park every Sunday morning and all club meetings.
At Belgrave Hall, most Saturday afternoons.

A.G.M.-----Cont'd from page 7

The election of Officers was begun with the position of the president being filled by Mr. G. Doubleday. A letter was read from him regretting his non appearance but he hoped to be back in circulation very shortly. Mr. Harley was re-elected as General Secretary but stressed his desire to find a successor by next elections.

Senior posts in the club were filled by Mr. Baker as treasurer and Mr. Biscoe as Cross Country Secretary, election of the committee then followed. Mr. Pollock moved that he had not read rule 6 of the club and also that he preferred to have the annual dinner on an alternative day to a Saturday. Due to a misunderstanding of his queries, owing to the convening of certain unofficial sub-committees and Mr. Duncan who wished to see his Doctor, the replies given were not relevant to the question. The percolating Mr. Pollock threatened under his press card to depart and write an article on the misfortune of being a misunderstood reporter. The mention of the annual dinner brought a response from the floor as to the length of speeches and made the initiator of the subject wish he had not brought it up.

The election of certain officers brought to notice that several members not wishing re-election had not informed the General Secretary and furthermore were not there to do so. As a result of the changing of the name of the Junior Section Captain to Junior Team Manager a motion from the floor suggested that the Social Secretary's title should be changed to Social Discotequary, or words to that effect. The stunned listeners were then informed it was only a joke which brought a weak round of laughter from one or two but this was probably due to their not having heard the original remark anyway. entertaining. Those who had not enjoyed themselves sorrowfully filed into the "Duke and the Swan"—The bars were soon filled!

CHILDREN'S PARTY

The 1970 party will be held at Belgrave Hall on Sunday, January 11th.
Members' children under the age of 12 years are invited and names (with ages) should be entered on the list at Belgrave Hall or sent without delay to Nigel Bacon, 81, Gauden, S.W.4.

ROAD RELAY ROUND-UP

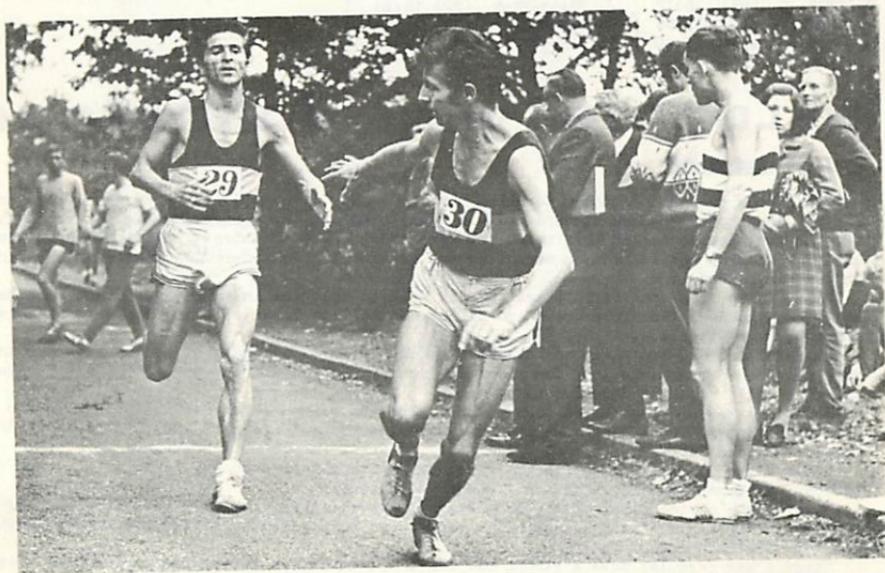
Last year's Autumn road relay season was disappointing for Belgrave, but the 1969 season was most encouraging. There was more spirit this year, and whilst we only chalked up one win we did at least gain medals in the four premier events. The season went as follows:-

September 6th	Surrey County Road Relay	5th
September 28th	"Johnston" Road Relay	1st
October 4th	Walton Road Relay	2nd
October 18th	Dudley--Bridgenorth Road Relay	2nd
October 25th	National Six Stage Relay	3rd

Once again, our worst turn-out of the year was at the Surrey race. With barring clauses, holidays, injuries and general apathy taking their toll it was a dismal occasion with Belgrave never in the hunt.

Each year, with the Surrey relay behind them our runners become transformed as though they've got something nasty out of their system and this was how it went with the Johnston relay. Coventry and Manchester were missing this year but the holders (Hercules-Wimbledon) who thrashed us last year were done down by our lads in a close fought struggle. This was our first victory in this relay.

The following week at Walton we faced our local rivals again, with Portsmouth thrown in for good measure. Lionel Mann was an impressive winner of the first stage, but by the third leg Dave Holt had taken Hercules-Wimbledon into their winning lead: they are a difficult club to beat over six stages. Our old enemies Portsmouth were never in the hunt really and finished 1½ minutes behind in third place. Our strength in this well supported relay was indicated by our 'B' team which finished 6th.



(Photo:Ron Linstead)

GEOFF NORTH hands over to brother GERRY for the last stage of the Walton Relay.

Such strength in depth augured well for Tipton's Dudley to Bridgenorth and back relay of ten stages, where we finished second to Derby. Our optimism was justified for, as in the Johnston, we beat the holders; but instead of taking the winning awards we were destined to be second again through the emergence of a strengthened North Staffs and Stone team now called City of Stoke AC. We were to hear more from them the following week and they are certain to provide very serious opposition in the coming months. Our second place should not detract from the fine running of our lads who finished inside the previous record and 3½ faster than last year. In addition, new stage records were set by Bill Kerr, Gerry North and Peter Morris.

The short season was rounded off with what should have been its major event---the inaugural 6-stage National Relay at the Crystal Palace. Not only was it the poorest supported event of all but it also produced the least enthusiasm. Six 2½ miles stages was far too brief for us to hold out much hope of winning and not only did the Stoke outfit score another win but Blackheath pipped us for second.

Although we were not exactly elated at our relay record this Autumn, many clubs would have been delighted to scoop one gold, two silvers and a bronze from five outings.

SURREY COUNTY RELAY--September 6th

1. Herc/Wimb. 'A'	85:15	C. Dabbs	(8)	14:30	W. Kerr	(3)	14:06
2. Mitcham AC	87:15	T. Hart	(6)	14:29	C. Pearson	(12)	16:01
3. Herc/Wimb 'B'	88:22	Gerry North	(1)	13:44	G. Biscoe	(12)	17:00
4. Walton AC	88:58	H. Satchell	(6)	16:23	Geoff North	(8)	13:34
5. BELGRAVE 'A'	90:05	R. Glover	(6)	16:42	D. McLean	(10)	17:05
9. BELGRAVE 'B'	93:48	A. Fairclough	(5)	14:17	W. Laws	(9)	15:02

BELGRAVE 'C'---J. Elair-Fish (14) 15:41

Fastest Lap: 1. R. Holt (H/W) 13:14 rec 2. Geoff North (BELS B) 13:34 3. D. Faircloth (Croy) 13:41

WALTON (Hewitt & Jones) RELAY-October 4th

1. Herc/Wim AC	90:30	L. Mann	(1)	15:02	P. O'Connor	(9)	15:36
2. BELGRAVE 'A'	91:27	J. Thresher	(1)	15:25	A. Fairclough	(7)	15:27
3. Portsmouth AC	92:42	P. Morris	(2)	15:14	T. Hart	(6)	15:49
6. BELGRAVE 'B'	94:32	R. Piotrowski	(2)	15:35	A. Major	(8)	16:12
17. BELGRAVE 'C'	101:56	Geoff North	(2)	15:09	W. Kerr	(7)	15:57
22. BELGRAVE 'D'	106:14	Gerry North	(2)	15:02	L. O'Hara	(6)	15:31
B. Gorman (18)	16:39	C. Pearson	(23)	17:02	R. Beaumont	(33)	18:41
R. Linstead (20)	17:11	J. Kelly	(23)	17:00	D. Maclean	(32)	19:17
A. Elack (19)	16:26	R. Glover	(20)	17:02	G. Biscoe	(30)	18:37 DNF.
D. Brow (19)	16:12	J. Elair-Fish	(22)	18:18			
C. Walker (17)	17:48	H. Satchell	(22)	18:37			
D. Jones (17)	17:40	B. Merry	(22)	18:15			

BELGRAVE WIN 'Johnstone'

Sunday September 28th

Owing to a proposed Southern Counties six man relay, which did not materialise, the entry for the Johnston was somewhat depleted with only nineteen teams starting. Coventry and Tipton have in the past contested this relay but were amongst the absentees. Nevertheless it was to be a hard fought battle between ourselves and our local rivals Hercules/Wimbledon who had won in 1968 in record time.

Pat O'Connor took the first stage and did well to bring us in third only eight seconds behind the leaders (Woodford Green and Ealing - Southall). Hercules/Wimbledon were at this stage back in 9th place.

Lionel Mann held 3rd place on Stage two by displacing Woodford but had to give way to an evergreen Ken Harland who took Cambridge H. from 5th to 2nd. Elvens of Ealing was the leader and Mike Fuller brought Hercules up to 4th.

John Thresher on Stage three took us up to 2nd and gained a few seconds on Ealing who were still out in front. John Sullivan of Hercules brought his club into 3rd place with a time one second faster than John.

Stage 4 saw us in the lead for the first time with a very good run by Trevor Hart who turned a 21 second deficit into a six second advantage.

Gerry North on the first of the long stages was well chased by Mike Barratt of Ealing but kept us in first place with a lead of 14 secs. Dave Holt gained a little ground for Hercules who were still third.

Stage 6 saw Hercules make a strong bid for the lead with a record breaking run by Mike Beevor who started 58 secs behind Bill Dance and brought his team up to a mere 9 secs behind us. We must again thank Bill for his ardent devotion to the Club by making the long journey from Huddersfield for this race.

Dick Piotrowski on Stage 7 was not in the least deterred by the closeness of Hercules and proceeded to open up a gap of 63 secs which later in the race proved invaluable.

Bas. Collins on Stage 8 gained two seconds on Laurie O'Hara, these two being by far the fastest runners on this stage. Ealing were now having trouble keeping in touch and were over two minutes adrift.

Although we all know the potential of Bob Holt on the road we also knew Geoff North to be running well as witnessed by his comfortable win in our own road race only one week earlier.

We were not therefore prepared for Bob to catch up the 61secs deficit and turn this into a lead of 11 secs. It was not that Geoff ran badly, for he was credited with the second fastest time of the day, but that Holt was in his most devastating form.

Peter Morris was not in the least concerned about giving a start to Mullholland of Hercules and it was not long before he was running at the opposition's shoulder.

Entreaties from our supporters to pull away were accepted and Pete came into the Stadium with fifteen seconds to spare. Asking afterwards why everyone was panicking he was told that we did not wish to see him beaten in a desperate finish with Mullholland. His effort gained for him a stage record.



THE WINNING "JOHNSTONE" TEAM

(Photo:David Hart)

BACK ROW (l. to r.): G. Biscoe (Manager), A. Fairclough (Reserve), R. Piotrowski, L. O'Hara, P. Morris, P. O'Connor.

FRONT ROW (l. to r.): G. W. Dance, J. Thresher, Gerry North (Captain), Geoff North, T. Hart.

Note: L. Mann is absent--under escort back to the Palace!

This was our first win in this event and our time will count as a course record although in fairness to Hercules/Wimbledon who were the holders of the best time the course was slightly shorter by the alteration of Stage 3 and 7. Nevertheless our time was a good comparison with the former record.

RESULT

1. BELGRAVE HARRIERS	3:33:25
2. Hercules/Wimbledon	3:33:40
3. Ealing and Southall AC.	3:37:42

Olympian

Stages

1. O'Connor	21:16 (3rd fastest)	6. G. Dance	24:47 (3rd fastest)
2. L. Mann	24:36 (3rd fastest)	7. R. Piotrowski	20:24 (3rd fastest)
3. J. Thresher	20:32 (3rd fastest)	8. L. O'Hara	15:39 (2nd fastest)
4. T. Hart	15:46 (2nd fastest)	9. Geoff North	28:45 (2nd fastest)
5. Gerry North	28:30 (2nd fastest)	10. P. Morris	13:20 (stage record)

Note: Stages 2,3,4 and 5 are the same as 6,7,8 and 9 respectively.

Another Second

Dudley to Bridgenorth and back Road Relay

October 18th

With a team only slightly changed from that which won the Johnstone Relay some three weeks before we made our second trip to this Midland race (the only southern club to do so) hoping that with the experience gained last year of the various stages we would be able to turn last year's second place into a first. However, although beating last year's winner (Derby County) we reckoned without the 'unknown quantity' City of Stoke A.C. who went into the lead in the first stage and, with the exception of one stage, held it to the finish. City of Stoke are a recent amalgamation of three clubs in the Midlands and with some of the talent they now possess are definitely a force to be reckoned with in the future, particularly in relays of 6 to 10 legs

As the results show our effort was a steady progression through the field with Gerry putting us in the medals with a fine run over a tough sixth stage. Some great running by Trevor Hart and Peter Morris took us to within a few seconds of the leaders at the end of stage 8 but some of the opposition was just too strong for Lionel Mann and he finally handed over to Bill Dance with a 45 sec deficit. Bill fought hard all the way but could hardly be expected to take that off Roy Fowler (C. of Stoke) on a tough up hill last leg.

Thanks were due to Bill Lucas who was one who bothered to make the journey to cheer the lads on and help deliver some to their various stages; and to Doug Brew who willingly undertook the glamour-less, but important role, of travelling first reserve.

Rumour has it that the whole team was almost put in jeopardy when, in the early hours of the morning before leaving London, Pat O'Connor and Bill Kerr went searching for Lionel Mann inside the grounds of Buckingham Palace---sounds like another of these "An Englishman, an Irishman and a Scotsman tales"!!.

G.I.B.

RESULT:

1. City of Stoke AC	3:33:06	J. Thresher	22:59	Gerry North	27:16
2. BELGRAVE H.	3:34:12	A. Fairclough	21:15	T. Hart	19:19
3. Tipton H.	3:34:22	W. Kerr	11:40	P. Morris	17:35
4. Derby & County	3:35:15	P. O'Connor	21:45	L. Mann	30:35
5. Coventry God. H.	3:41:10	R. Piotrowski	21:21	G.W. Dance	20:27

Stage positions-----5, 3, 2, 4, 4, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2.

Stage rankings-----5, 2, 1, 5, 3, 1, 2, 1, 4, 3.

(14 teams ran)

NATIONAL SIX STAGE RELAY

CRYSTAL PALACE—October 25th

A 'Damp Squib'---such is one headline already given to this race born in a rather wet Crystal Palace Sports Centre. Certainly it will go down as one of the non events of the year, with the title 'National' being a complete misnomer. Prior to the above date much controversy had centred around the introduction of this race, having been campaigned for by some of the smaller clubs for quite some time, but considered by others as completely unwarranted, in view of the existing 12 stage relay held at Leicester. However, with little or no consultation with clubs the date was fixed, in an already over-loaded calendar, only to clash with several important cross country fixtures including our own N.S. League event. The actual course of 6X2 laps (ie 2 1/2 m per leg) of the Crystal Palace motor racing circuit was also rather unimaginative. In view of all these factors several clubs decided to boycott the event as a form of protest. Although many of our members had varying views on the subject, it was considered we should support the venture rather than condemn it 'out of hand', although we would probably not have our strongest of teams out on the day.

Of the 19 clubs entered only 9 finally came under starters orders and from the start it was obvious that the main challenge was coming from City of Stoke AC, (our victors of the previous week in the Dudley to Bridgenorth Relay), and Manchester and District L.C, with Hlackheath H. and Ealing and Southall AC providing further danger.

Stage 1.— An early lead, which they were never to lose, for City of Stoke (S.Hope 12:52) with Ealing and Southall second (P.Fagin 13:01) and our own Dick Piotrowski (13:03) doing our second fastest time of the day for third place.

Stage 2.— In spite of Bill Kerr promising to close the gap it was not to be one of his good runs and although we retained our third position Stoke had increased their lead from 9 to 22s with MDLC second and Hlackheath close on our heels some 3secs behind.

Stage 3.— With Gerry North taking over for Bels and Bob Richardson for Hlackheath a battle royal seemed inevitable. After one lap of the stage Bob had closed the three second deficit and was seen to be opening a gap of his own. Gerry, however, is not easily beaten, and as they swept into view again for the last 400 yards he proceeded to close the gap again; but with Gerry getting the worse of a large puddle in the final straight it was Richardson who just got home first by a whisker. It was now Stoke (1) Hlackheath (2) and Belgrave (3) with Ealing and Manchester having been relegated to 4th and 5th respectively.

Stage 4.— On this leg Laurie O'Hara, like Bill Kerr, did not get into top gear but none the less produced one of his characteristically steady runs to maintain 3rd position.

Stage 5.— Excitement rose here when Tony Fairclough, although only doing our 5th fastest time, took us through to 2nd place. With Stoke now some 49 secs in the lead it was obvious, barring accidents, we would have to forget gold medals but the silver seemed in our grasp for the first time, although M and D were in third place just 17 secs behind us.

Stage 6.— Our hopes were not to be realised. John Thresher, we knew, was not at his best and with an in-form Ravalid (12:42) anchoring Manchester John was passed with half a lap to go and in spite of a great fight was forced to bring us home in our final 3rd place. A fit John would have seen a different result; so for that matter would a second or so off everyone else's time!.

RESULT---At foot of page opposite

G.I.B.

THAT OLD ONE-TWO AGAIN

½ mile road race—Wimbledon, September 20th

With Geoff and Gerry North on the start line one can always expect fireworks. No one has ever got within 20 seconds of their best times so the fireworks are usually confined to the family when they appear together. And so it was on this occasion, though Geoff ran out a clearer winner than Gerry would have liked.

Geoff set a brisk pace right from the start and looked as though he was after his record of 27:14. On the first circuit of the common a pack of nine detached itself from the remaining thirty five runners; the Norths, Morris, O'Connor, Mann, Thresher, Hart, Kerr and Piotrowski steadily moving clear of the ruck.

On leaving the Common, Geoff was five seconds clear with Dick Piotrowski showing up well, just ahead of the following bunch. At the bottom of Copse Hill the leader had stretched the gap to 15 seconds ahead of brother Gerry and Dick who were in turn 15 seconds clear of the next six. The rest of the field were now a further 50 seconds in arrears.

As usual the Cambridge Road drag and the "Kiss of Death" climb sorted every one out. Kerr was the first to tail off, then Hart, then Thresher. Dick did well to hold Gerry to the top of the hills but he faded badly. At the oak tree, with a lap of the Common to go, Geoff's lead remained the same but a strong finish increased his margin by 27 seconds.

Meanwhile, Mann, O'Connor and Morris were chasing hard and simply scorched round "the top" leaving the rest of their companions trailing. Lionel fired his booster rocket on the run in and nearly caught a surprised Gerry North; it's a pity the seven seconds gap wasn't six for then Lionel would have become only the ninth man to have broken the magical 28 minutes.

The shape of things to come was shown by Bill Curtin and John Stowe (both Youths) placing 11th and 12th—John scooping the handicap to boot! Ray Beaumont was a deserved second and that popular "vet" Joe McDonald third. Joe was delighted at being amongst the prizes and also at beating his training companion, the evergreen Charlie Smart; though he would probably agree that their handicap allowances should have been reversed on pre-race form.

RESULT:

1. Geoff North	(SCR)	27:26	23. C. Henn	(6:30)	33:39
2. Gerry North	(0:15)	27:53	24. R. Beaumont	(7:30)	33:42
3. L. Mann	(1:00)	28:00	25. G. Hiscoe	(5:30)	34:04
4. P. Morris	(0:30)	28:11	26. G. Pearson	(6:30)	34:18
5. P. O'Connor	(1:15)	28:13	27. B. Merry	(7:00)	34:20
6. R. Piotrowski	(1:30)	28:27	28. W. Matthews	(7:30)	34:39
7. J. Thresher	(0:20)	28:44	29. K. Stimpson	(6:45)	34:41
8. T. Hart	(1:00)	29:02	30. V. Butcher	(5:30)	34:43
9. W. Kerr	(1:30)	29:34	31. P. Sutton	(8:00)	34:46
10. D. Brew	(3:30)	30:14	32. J. McDonald	(8:30)	34:50
11. W. Curtin	(2:45)	30:25	33. P. Breslin	(6:30)	35:05
12. J. Stowe	(4:30)	30:31	34. P. Pringle	(7:00)	35:18
13. A. Brien	(2:30)	30:34	35. C. Smart	(8:00)	35:23
14. B. Gorman	(3:30)	31:28	36. D. Davies	(7:30)	35:40
15. C. Pearson	(5:00)	31:36	37. J. Heathfield	(8:00)	36:28
16. C. Walker	(3:00)	31:55	38. E. McNally	(7:30)	37:18
17. W. Laws	(4:00)	32:01	39. S. Barrett	(6:00)	37:33
18. D. Jones	(4:30)	32:32	40. C. Manning	(10:00)	38:11
19. J. Elair-fish	(5:00)	32:35	41. D. McMillen	(10:00)	38:48
20. A. Bruce	(5:30)	33:06	42. A. Stroud	(8:00)	39:17
21. J. Kelly	(4:30)	33:21	43. P. Wrench	(6:00)	40:02
22. J. Dooley	(5:00)	33:33	44. J.V. Baker	(10:00)	40:08

Lionel Mann clocked a personal best 5,000 metres of 14:47.8 when finishing second to J. Dobson (Hadleigh) in a Southern Counties meeting at Crystal Palace on October 15th.

In a similar meeting a month earlier Lionel recorded 30:45 for 10,000 metres in ninth place behind winner R. Newble and fourth placed GERRY NORTH (30:38).

RELAY RESULT—Cont'd from page opposite

RESULT:

1. City of Stoke AC	77:16	R. Piotrowski	13:03
2. Manchester & District L.C.	78:18	W. Kerr	13:14
3. BELGRAVE HARRIERS	78:25	Gerry North	12:42
4. Ealing & Southall AC	79:11	L. O'Hara	13:09
5. Elackheath Harriers	79:37	A. Fairclough	13:11
6. South London Harriers	80:19	J. Thresher	13:06

YACHT '3'

October 11th

Regularly at this time of the year we have that old Belgrave custom of 'Beat the Handicapper'. This year many thought that Bill Lucas when giving up his job of Cross-Country Secretary had also given up his job as handicapper and thus their old 'enemy' had gone. There were many surprised faces therefore when they learnt the horrible truth, that this was not so and that Bill was still at large, casting his beady eye over current form, completely immune to any smooth talk or enquiries over his good health.

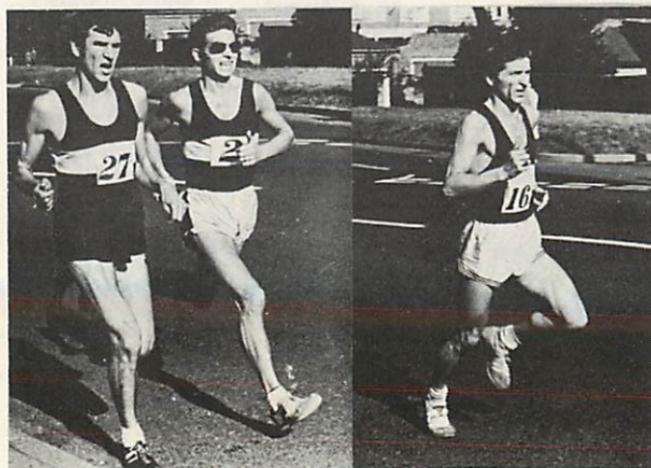
In spite of Bill's vigilance someone nearly always manages to pull a fast one and this year was no exception with Dave McMillan first in view at Wimbledon Village well clear of the large field. David Davies ran a well deserved 2nd place whilst another face to reappear after a long absence from the athletic scene was Bob James in 3rd spot---some shady training in the Coulsdon area indicated here; no doubt catching the habit from near neighbour Clive Shippen!!.

With the field significantly lacking many of our 'star performers' it was Tony Fairclough and Adrian Major who had the lonely 'last-men-to-go' spot, but undaunted they set about chasing the field to record the fastest times of the day. It is also worth noting that the next three fastest times were recorded by juniors!.

G.I.B.

RESULT:

1. D. McMillan	(6:00)	12:24	28. C. Pearson	(2:00)	14:27
2. D. Davies	(4:20)	13:11	29. J.V. Baker	(6:30)	14:30
3. R. James	(3:00)	13:33	30. C. Manning	(5:00)	14:32
4. W. Laws	(2:30)	13:39	31. B. Hamilton	(2:50)	14:33
5. J. Kelly	(2:30)	13:46	32. A. Binda	(2:30)	14:33
6. R. Beaumont	(3:40)	13:48	33. J. Hamilton	(2:50)	14:36
7. B. Gorman	(2:00)	13:51	34. P. Pringle	(3:10)	14:40
8. D. Crookes	(3:00)	13:51	35. M. Eloice	(4:00)	14:42
9. E. Mc Nally	(4:00)	13:52	36. J. Flummer	(4:30)	14:43
10. R. Hopkins (jun)	(4:00)	13:52	37. D. Wrench	(5:00)	14:44
11. J. Heathfield	(4:00)	13:54	38. A. Bishop	(3:30)	14:45
12. P. Carton	(1:40)	13:55	39. C. Henn	(2:40)	14:46
13. R. Glover	(2:20)	13:57	40. D. Gordon	(3:30)	14:47
14. B. Merry	(3:00)	13:57	41. M. Clancy	(4:00)	14:49
15. A. Eruce	(2:30)	13:59	42. A. Major	(0:20)	14:50
16. E. Pallant	(4:00)	13:59	43. L. Coy	(3:30)	14:56
17. J. Stowe	(1:40)	14:00	44. J. Dear	(0:50)	14:59
18. X. Yianni	(3:00)	14:03	45. D. Mc Millen	(4:50)	15:10
19. W. Curtin	(1:30)	14:04	46. M. Harvey	(4:00)	15:23
20. V. Butcher	(2:30)	14:05	47. P. Gee	(4:20)	15:24
21. D. Hurd	(3:10)	14:13	48. C. Hobbs	(3:30)	15:25
22. P. Breslin	(3:00)	14:14	49. M. Jones	(3:20)	15:30
23. P. Sutton	(3:40)	14:15	50. N. Bacon	(2:40)	15:32
24. E. Stimpson	(6:00)	14:20	51. D. Trow	(3:10)	15:37
25. R. Conway	(4:00)	14:21	52. R. Hopkins Sen.	(5:00)	16:02
26. A. Fairclough	(0:20)	14:23	53. S. Crosbie	(4:00)	16:30
27. J. Rimmer	(1:30)	14:24			



Dick Piotrowski and Gerry North (left) chase Geoff North during the '53'. Dick fell back at four miles leaving Gerry to finish second, 27 secs down on his brother.

Photo: Ron Linstead.

POSTBAG

ERIC HALL recently sent us a cutting from the Portsmouth Evening News which featured an article on our famous Olympian, Tommy Green. Eric writes, "It has often struck me as strange that most of what I know of Tommy Green is of the nature of legend; even how he came to be a Bel. has at least two stories to it, and the only concrete things available are the bare statistics of races won and records set up. Is it possible that a contemporary account of Tommy and his deeds is in the Editorial files and if so do you think it worth re-publishing? That photograph of him finishing the Brighton which used to hang in the Hall and is now upstairs I think speaks for itself and when I spoke to Tommy about it in 1956 he said that he and his helpers were convinced that he broke the 8 hours that day but he was never credited with it. To me he is a legend and I take encouragement from the fact that his walking was done at the age of 39 and over--me, I'm only 37 now so there is hope yet!". (Ed: A "Spotlight" on Tommy Green is in the course of preparation).

Yet another immaculate letter has been received from BARRY SAWYER in distant Australia (South Yarra, Melbourne). Barry, who is the Victorian State marathon champion has fought his way to personal bests from 1500 metres to the marathon, despite worsening achilles tendon trouble. Only when he was no longer able to hobble to the start line did this obstinate character give in and begin serving a medical "sentence" of twelve weeks off running. Daily swimming was recommended as an alternative and it will be no surprise to those that know Barry to hear that he had soon reached 50 lengths a night!. "It's amazing what one can do with a little obstinacy and determination" he says. It is fitting that he and that well-known Aussie iron-man Percy Cerutti should continue to see a lot of each other. Barry writes: "Percy is now living with his son Neil just around the corner. He recently returned from a month in Mount Isa in outback Queensland with a few lectures at Sydney University on the way back. He is quite fit but definitely not eating enough as both he and Neil lead a very bachelor life."

"I'm sure the only decent meals Percy has are when we fill him up around here. At the moment he intends leaving for the States in April to promote a series of books he is writing. Bert Nelson of Track and Field News is very keen for him to go, as is Fred Wilt who leaves the F.B.I next year and plans to open an Athletic Clinic. I hope something eventuates as Percy is very unhappy here right now. Besides, there might be some opening for me too--it's about time I made another move!".

After reading our version of the Radio Times on the centre pages of the September Gazette, "MINNIE BANNISTER" took time off from the Goon Show rehearsals to deliver her retort to the Woman Hour comment which said "All girls should learn how to do housework, some of them may never have a husband". Disguising herself as a bottle of ink she smuggled herself into the Editorial offices during the night, and as the Editor's quill approached the ink-well next morning, leapt on to the manuscript, complete with clenched fist and wet black socks, and screamed "SOME WOMEN WHO HAVE HUSBANDS NEVER SEE THEM!!!".

PETER WHEWELL sends best wishes to the Club from Johannesburg and writes, "I have been receiving The Belgravian each quarter and it is good to see that most of the fellows I ran with are still competing. My congratulations go out to those who were in the team that were placed second in the National Relay. I would have liked to have been in that team---it was a really great effort". Peter continued to train seriously when he first returned to South Africa and finished fourth in his National Cross Country Championships, but since then he has been studying hard and doing little competitive running. He resumes serious training this month and says, "I am hoping to be over in England within the next couple of years for a short holiday, and to renew old acquaintances". It would be Belgrave's good fortune if they were renewed down the funnel of the National Championships!.

Well, we always thought our members would have some difficulty in appreciating our centre page spreads. After all, who but a few could understand all those subtle satirical gems we produce each quarter? But we've been caught at our own game. JOHN BAKER sent us three cartoons that required the formation of an investigating committee to unravel the meaning. The frustrated committee are now begging for an explanation from John. Watch this column for further news!.

Another colourful letter has arrived from former Co-Editor MAL ROBINSON. Mal now lives in Des Moines, Iowa, U.S.A. but finds it difficult to fit in a regular training schedule these days. Of Iowa he says "Here, track is a Cinderella-gone-sour. True we have the Drake Relays where are gathered many of the finest schools in the Nation, but this is a once a year happening. While it is on, everybody in town is a track and field fan, but as soon as the Sunday paper is out everybody is a baseball fan and we track people belong to a minority sport. Officials are non-existent. We put on our own meets, run in them, and then write about them ourselves. Thirty people to run, jump, skip, and dance in many events at the State Championships is a good turnout. Dotted about the Nation are several fine meets of course, but who can afford to travel 1,000 miles for a race? So most of us slip into a weekly routine of running for fun, and try to steer promising kids on to the big meets". Mal is at present running a publishing-house division and is comfortably placed, but he still yearns for England at times and would like to know if any members have contacts in the British Publishing world so that he can at least start making some enquiries. Any offers?.

ROAD RUNNING

GORDON BISCOE WRITES:

Having written in earlier editions of our hopes and aspirations for the road season which has just closed (or should we say nowadays---eased off!), we can in a sense report a mission accomplished; for there is no doubt that this has been our best season for quite a few years. The fact that we have been placed in every event for which we have made a serious team entry is surely proof enough. However, the operative word here is 'placed', for although we have had our share of 'golds' there is still plenty of room for improvement. Some of our success this year has been due to following up an earlier request to concentrate our efforts on certain events as opposed to tackling the lot; let's continue in the same vein.

Every one by now is probably fully aware of the overloaded calendar we have, and it's good to hear that the R.R.C. are sharing a load (not for the first time) in attempting to resolve the problem; at least from the point of longer races.

For many years now our 'goal' in the cross country world has been to win the 'National', for 1970 I think we should add a further target---the Poly & AAA Marathon.

Next year these two are to be combined over the new classic course and it would be a fine tribute to our President Gordon Doubleday, in his year of office, to present him with this one, as well as all the others!!!

'Furniture Five'

Wycombe Phoenix---'Furniture Five'---30.8.69.

1. R. Taylor	(Coventry)	33:11.2	108. R. Beaumont	29:26
9. R. Piotrowski	(BELGRAVE)	24:32	109. J. Baker	29:28
11. Gerry North	"	24:34	112. C. Keavey	29:46
20. L. O'Hara	"	24:55	117. J. McDonald	30:08
24. L. Mann	"	25:07	119. G. Biscoe	30:16
50. C. Dabbs	"	25:51	126. M.F. Jones	30:42
52. T. Hart	"	25:59	128. P. Sutton	30:46
58. W. Kerr	"	26:28	130. C. Smart	30:49
60. B. Joines	"	26:34	131. B. Merry	30:52
66. C. Walker	"	26:52	133. R. Conway	31:09
74. R. Glover	"	27:30	135. D. McLean	31:37
78. W. Laws	"	27:42	139. M. Harvey	32:01
107. A. Bruce	"	29:21	(149 finished)	

Teams:

1. Coventry Godiva Harriers	15 pts	BELGRAVE 'C'	212 pts
2. Ealing & Southall A.C.	16 pts	BELGRAVE 'D'	343 pts
3. BELGRAVE 'A'	40 pts	BELGRAVE 'E'	362 pts
10. BELGRAVE 'B'	126 pts		

Southall 10 Miles---September 6th

1. M. Barratt	(Ealing and Southall)	51:19	24. B. Joines	(BELS)	56:49
6. L. Mann	(BELS)	53:02	67. G. Piddington	"	64:41
8. P. O'Connor	"	53:10	70. D. Bonsor	"	66:17

BRACKNELL '10

Belgrave were third team behind Windsor and Portsmouth with Mann, Piotrowski and Fairclough our scoring three, backed up by Kerr. A piece of fiendish cunning team selection made Pat O'Connor an individual, and of course he managed to beat most of the selected team. This was another well organised promotion by Bracknell A.C. and a pleasure to compete in.

L.M.

Result

1. J. Jones	(Windsor & E.)	51:00	13. R. Piotrowski	53:25
2. R. Ingleton	(Portsmouth)	51:09	16. P. O'Connor	53:35
3. J. McLamara	(Poly)	51:18	23. A. Fairclough	54:06
5. L. Mann	(BELS)	51:41	35. W. Kerr	55:36

Teams

1. Windsor	26pts.,	2. Portsmouth	32 pts.,	3. BELGRAVE HARRIERS	34pts.
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TANSWELL '10'

September 14th

Belgrave once again ventured into the wilds of Essex to retain a firm grip on the Tanswell Trophy. Again the battle for team honours was between Thames Valley and ourselves. Our scoring trio of Mann, O'Connor and Piotrowski only managed to pull back Davies, Franklin and Whitley of Thames Valley over the last two miles of the race. Bill Kerr supported well as non-scoring runner in twentieth place thus making a very exciting team race.

Charlie Walker (44th) led the Belgrave Vets to second place in the Veterans section aided by Arthur Bruce and Bill Matthews. Charlie qualified for third vet's prize and is being nominated by Basildon A.C. as Speaker of the Year at the next Town Crier's Championship!

1. A. Domleo (Derby)	50:58	73. A. Bruce (BELS)	61:41
7. L. Mann (BELS)	52:36	89. G. Hiscoe "	63:08
8. P. O'Connor "	52:37	92. R. Beaumont "	63:42
15. R. Piotrowski "	53:28	105. W. Mathews "	66:12
20. W. Kerr "	53:59	109. P. Pringle "	67:52
44. C. Walker "	57:56	120. J.V. Baker "	74:22
		(122 finished)	
<u>Teams:</u> 1. BELGRAVE H	30 pts	3. Thurrock	43 pts
2. T.V.H.	34 pts	(15 teams closed in)	
<u>Vets Result:</u> 1. Ranelagh	31 pts	2. BELGRAVE H	33 pts
		3. T.V.H.	39 pts

Bels fipped in WIMBLEDON 10

Hercules--Wimbledon '10'---October 11th

This "Ten" had the support of some extra top line athletes this year--yet all our boys excelled themselves to finish a close second to the Hercules-Wimbledon trio.

Gerry North threw caution to the winds early on and was almost a hundred yards clear of the two Holts, Tagg and Richardson at four miles. However our Gerry was soon to be caught by the bunch, although shortly afterwards Richardson was dropped. Gerry eventually fell away leaving the Holt twins and Tagg to sort out the medals. Of course, Tagg's finishing speed proved decisive.

Gerry finished in an excellent 48:54 still keeping Richardson at bay. Lionel and Dick gave him the sort of backing he deserves and finished strongly with 50:10 and 50:13 respectively. Pat ran steadily through the field for a well deserved 11th place in 50:54.

Result:

1. M. Tagg (Norfolk)	48:11 rec.	6. L. Mann (BELS)	50:10
2. D. Holt (HW)	48:13	7. R. Piotrowski "	50:13
3. R. Holt "	48:15	11. P. O'Connor "	50:54
4. Gerry North (BELS)	48:54	64. J. Dooley "	60:24
5. R. Richardson (B'Heath)	50:02	76. G. Piddington "	63:28

Teams: 1. Herc-Wimbledon 10 pts, 2. BELGRAVE HARRIERS 14pts, 3. T.V.H. 38 pts.

Walton 10 Miles---October 18th

1. D. Faircloth (Croydon H.)	48:38	45. D. Jones (BELS)	58:22
33. E. Gorman (BELS)	56:17	46. A. Bruce "	58:31
35. W. Laws "	56:27	49. J. Dooley "	59:00
36. B. Joines "	56:41	62. K. Stimpson "	61:23
40. J. Kelly "	57:06	68. G. Piddington "	63:31
41. C. Pearson "	57:11	71. P. Pringle "	64:14
		73. C. Henn "	65:00

Team: 6. BELGRAVE 'A' 105 points.

Epsom 10 miles---November 22nd

1. M. Turner (Liverpool H.)	49:14	105. J. Heathfield (BELGRAVE)	65:59
99. C. Henn (BELGRAVE H.)	64:09	106. H. Bishop "	66:41
100. G. Piddington "	64:34	115. C. Manning "	68:54
101. G. Pearson "	64:51	120. R. McMillen "	70:38
104. P. Pringle "	65:54	121. A. Stroud "	71:45
	(130 finished)		

Best Road Performances 1969

10 Miles

48:52	Gerry North	(Wimbledon)
50:10	L. Mann	(")
50:13	R. Piotrowski	(")
50:54	P. O'Connor	(")
53:47	C. Dabbs	(Shaftesbury)
53:56	C. Walker	(Hampstead)
53:59	W. Kerr	(Basildon)
54:07	T. Hart	(Maidenhead)
56:17	B. Gorman	(Walton)
56:27	W. Laws	(")
56:41	E. Joines	(")
57:06	J. Kelly	(")
57:11	C. Pearson	(")
58:27	D. Jones	(")
58:31	A. Bruce	(")
59:00	J. Dooley	(")

20 Miles

1:44:23	Gerry North	(Inter-City)
1:46:35	G.W. Dance	(Finchley)
1:49:32	L. Mann	(")
1:49:40	P. O'Connor	(")
1:52:20	A. Brien	(")
1:54:55	C. Dabbs	(Belgrave)
1:58:47	C. Shippin	(")
2:06:49	J. Hall	(Kent)
2:10:12	W. Matthews	(Finchley)
2:10:32	G. Pearson	(")
2:11:33	K. Stimpson	(Belgrave)
2:11:41	D. Bonsor	(Finchley)
2:15:34	J. Dooley	(Belgrave)
2:16:28	D. Trow	(")
2:27:15	R. Beaumont	(")
2:28:18	C. Henn	(")

MARATHON

2:30:13	T. Hart	(Maxo1)	2:53:45	C. Shippin	(Poly)
2:31:44	C. Steer	(Canadian)	2:55:31	W. Matthews	(Huddersfield)
2:44:59	J. Hall	(Isle of Wight)	3:02:02	D. Bonsor	(Harlow)
2:45:44	L. Mann	(Poly)	3:04:10	K. Stimpson	(Poly)
2:47:17	P. O'Connor	(Poly)	3:10:06	G. Pearson	(Poly)

Miscellaneous

or- 'Mann on the Run'

Feltham Marathon---August 16th -1. A. Walsham (Salford) 2:30:34 8. L. Mann (BELS) 2:47:25
21. B. Joines " 3:10:43

Ramsgate 5 miles---August 24th- 1. I. McMillan (Invieta) 23:20 6. L. Mann (BELS) 25:31

Greenwich 10 miles---September 13th 1. B. Richardson (B'Heath) 53:51 13. B. Joines (BELS) 60:50
1. B. Watson (Camb.H.) 53:51 41. D. Bonsor " 69:23
4. L. Mann (BELS) 56:00

Bernie Hames $\frac{1}{2}$ Marathon--September 21st--1. L. Mann (BELGRAVE HARRIERS) 69:41

Harlow Marathon---October 25th--1. A. Wood (Aberdeen) 2:19:15 76. D. Bonsor (BELS) 3:02:02

Suncharn '15'---November 1st -1. B. Ellis (T.V.H) 74:42 3. R. Hill (Bolton) 76:17
2. J. Newsome (Wakefield) 76:09 4. G.W. Dance (BELS) 76:29

Waterloo 8 miles---November 8th--Liverpool 1. T. Wright (Hallamshire) 37:26
22. G. Dance (BELS) 39:46 113. H. Satchell 44:49



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(Photo: Ron Linstead)

P. Pringle (6) and  
C. Henn (7) during  
the Walton '10'.

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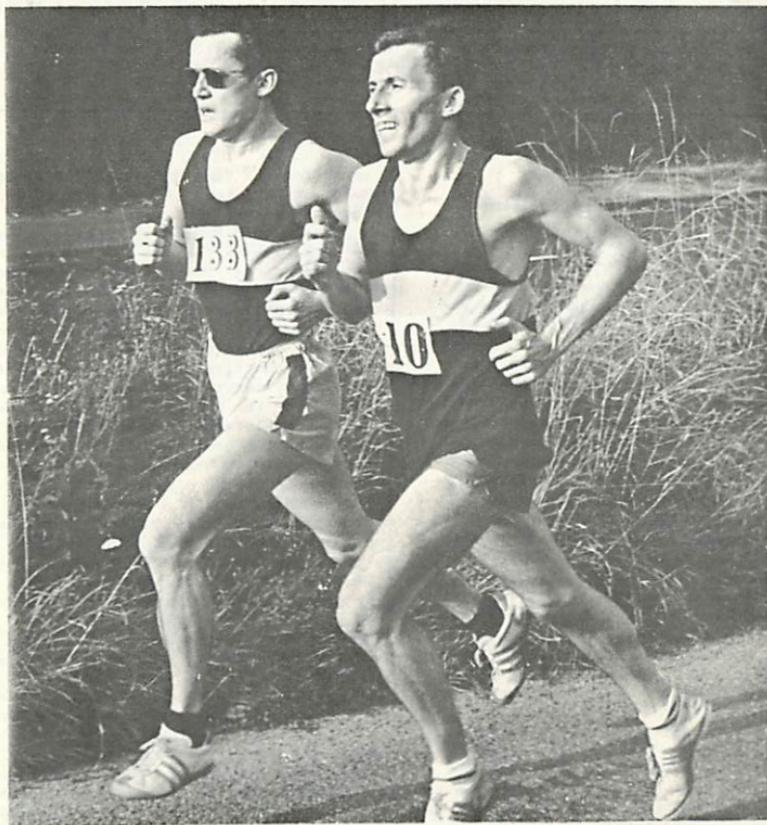
POSTEAG---Cont'd from page 19

GEORGE PIDDINGTON writes from Hayling Island to tell us that he is now a qualified County Youth Leader and has his club members taking part in judo, fencing and trampoline, besides athletics. He assures us that "any possible stars will become members of Belgrave". George's training took an exciting turn last September. As he left the factory for his lunch-time spin he passed a mini-skirted typist seated on the factory wall. "Bring your gear on Monday and I'll take you for a quick one in the field" chirped George, showing the bravado of all runners when on the move. "O.K." came the swift reply "I'll take you up on that". This worried George first of all because he wasn't clear whether she realised he meant for a training session, and then he worried even more when he thought she did!

Came Monday, and there she was, exactly as on Friday. George sighed with relief. But the relief was short lived as the mini-skirted doll bounded from the wall and running alongside him said "I'm coming training with you". As they entered the field George began shedding his track-suit, still a little perplexed. As he turned to stride away in his best Belgrave style he was staggered to see his immodest companion disrobing in broad daylight. Noticing the speechless Piddington standing there with knees trembling she said "Oh! I hope you don't mind my taking a few things off first". George stuttered that he certainly did not mind and was all for the encouragement of athletics.

And so began the first training session of the week. The next few were very similar, though the local boys school had got wise (they included some of George's youth club members) and the sessions were accompanied by unrepeatable ribald comments. Unfortunately this beautiful friendship was not allowed to flourish---she was a temporary typist who did not re-appear again. But George will always remember the happiest training week of his life.

By the way, if anyone comes across a half clad typist in their travels would they please contact George at 1, St. Hermans Road, Hayling Island---she's got the wrong shorts..



(Photo: Ron Linstead)

Colin Pearson (133) and Bill Laws (10) stride out impressively during the Walton '10' in which they finished 41st and 35th respectively.



I have a terrible conscience - it doesn't keep me from doing things; it just keeps me from enjoying them.

Personell Director: "You're asking big pay for a beginner".

Applicant: "Well, the work is harder when you don't know anything about it."

Prosecutor: "Now tell the jury the truth, please, why did you shoot your husband with a bow and arrow?"

Defendant: "I didn't want to wake the children."

Unashamed! Unexpurgated! Unreadable!

The Belgravian
"U" and Non "U"

QUIZ TIME FOR THE WELL-READ

2"	6"	12"	DRY	WET	OO & OOO
----	----	-----	-----	-----	----------------

These represent titles from plays - five from the Bard 'isself (William Shakespeare) and

one from the Irish playwright, Bernard Shaw. The answers will not be given because it could be said they are rude ... if you are not rude ... read on.

'twas the night before christmas

With continually saying, "Bah!" and "Humbug", Ebenezer Baker had a relapsed throat, and that was only part of the trouble. He was engaged with the annual visitation of the Ghost of Christmas Past, who looked remarkably like Tom Carter. "I'm telling you, Ebenezer," he said, "try to look back and see the gay cavorting youngster you used to be when money was no object. Remember the Folkestone Fiasco. They were the days and" His time up, he was wafted away to make room for the Ghost of Christmas Present. "Ah! You gave me quite a start", said Ebenezer, to the latest apparition which was regaled in a tassellated leather jacket embroidered with butterflies, a lacy shawl, pink trews and boots, one hand carrying flowers, the other twiddling with rows of beads, a dolly clung possessively to each arm and a copy of the Thoughts of Mao stuck out from his back pocket. "Still," continued Ebenezer, "it's nice to see you back, Chris". Master Steer gazed tolerantly at the wizened figure before him. "You gotta come across babe, I mean, it ain't no use fight'n it - a few lousey bucks an' you'd have a team that'd clean up in the Boston. Take that guy Hart, when he'd finished he could learn 'em natives English and Mann could show 'em how to jelly eels, and young North could gab on about thrift whilst Dabbs could instruct the injuns how to dress and yer kantankerous Team Manager, Biscoe ...". But the witching hour disposed of the rest. In a few minutes the diaph-

anous form of Tony Brooks gelled as the Ghost of Christmas to Come. "Tut, Tut! So they've sent you again have they?" sighed the Old Man, "Bell Graves answer to Jack Dash as the red hot radical and the poor girls' Steve McQueen. What now Anthony?" "I can point to a very restricted future", said the Ghost of Christmas to Come. "With the old order - your store - from the rubble of the crumbled edifice that you abortively tried to keep together is already marked 'John Ebenezer Baker, mourned by the Golden Guinea', and the top heavy administering establishment has choked on ..." but his time was up and just a whisper of haze was all that remained. Ebenezer finished off his concentrated lime cordial (you'll observe he never offered his visitors drinks - it's because he didn't believe in serving spirits) then in the time honoured way, he went to the window, threw it open and addressed a young street arab kicking his heels in the snow. "Hey, boy, what's your name?" "Wesch, Sir, Willie Wesch". "Well, cut along to the poulterer, Wiener Schnitzel's and procure the largest bird he has, and if you're back within five minutes there's a florin in it for you." Willie returned in four minutes for a journey of less than a quarter of a mile which was prodigiously long and Ebenezer would have done better to send the other ragamuffin playing with Willie, namely, Robert Coates. However, Willie pulled up short in front of Ebenezer. "How about this, sir?" "Oh Lord!" exclaimed Ebenezer as he gazed at the plump frauline on Willie's arm.

"Not Wiener Schnitzel's daughter, Helga". Willie dismissed, Ebenezer wound eight yards of woollen scarf around his scrawny neck and set off. With difficulty he fixed on a wooden smile and bid all a "Merry Christmas". After obtaining the largest turkey he could find he headed for his clerk's residence, R. Hopkins Crackett, "I've come to give you the bird", said his uncle.
 "Ha, Ha; You are a teeze,uncle, but don't stand out on the step, Come in, come in". What a festive beard they had and after the plum pudding, Tiny Bernard merrily leapt

to his feet, striving to preserve his balance on rickety legs and declared in a high voice " 'an God Bless every one of us!" Whereupon, the ladies with kerchieves to their eyes and hearts overflowing with compassion responded as one."Such a dear!" "How sweet" "Touching" and such like phrases fell from their lips. His atonement made, Ebenezer Baker reverted to his "Bah!" and "Humbug" for another 364 days.

A precis of this cautionary tale can be obtained in a booklet entitled "A Christmas Carol".



.....
 Woman at marriage bureau: "Can I take him outside and look at him in the daylight?"

.....
 "Her Ladyship has run off with the milkman, Will your Lordship take his tea with lemon".

WALKING

Pat Duncan writes:

There was a time, not very long passed, when it used to be a hard job getting together material for the Belgravian and pretty easy to get a mention - partly because I wrote it but mainly because there was not much competition. Its still a hard job getting the stuff together but this is because of the difficulty of deciding what to leave out. Week after week superb performances come rolling in and now I never get a mention. I thought things would go better in the long ones but no, could'nt make the national team the others walked so well. Brighton I thought, but Claret and Gold in my eyes all the way, John Moullin turning in another great one so soon after the Hastings. Ray Middleton, fantastic as ever in his British vest, shakes off a bad season with a superlative display in Athens comes back and Wilf Wesch beats him. Wilf turns in another great one in Lugano, comes home and Carl Lawton beats him one week and then Bob Coates does it the next. Barry Ingarfield and Doug Fotheringham, now there's two I can thrash - or can I? After the One Hour I thought Len Duquemin's age had at last caught up on him but where is he now? right up there again far out of my falling sight. Ray Hall; now I had written him off, two children and pressure of work he'll never make it now I thought - not without some satisfaction. But who was that just slipped inside the Hour at Enfield? Brian Ward, Gerry Cameron and Bob Picton all looked to be on the trail again and up north Dave King and Paul Duckett are sure to be slipping in some crafty sessions. It only needs Bob Barnes to comeback and thats my lot! On a more serious note 1970 is an important year for Bob Coates, Ray Middleton, Len Duquemin and John Moullin who all have a chance in the Commonwealth Games for Scotland, England, and the Channel Islands respectively. Gerry Cameron must also make his effort now. For the Long Distance men it is rumoured that the 100 Kilometres at Lugano will include an international four a side, no doubt Ray will be putting in his usual appearance for Britain in the Lugano Cup 50 Kilos. On the other side for Germany it must be Wilf Wesch. On the home front ALL the Nationals and the Garnett Cup is what the President ought to be able to expect, with the Brighton chucked in for good measure. To all the walkers of Belgrave at the close of one of our greatest years I can only say that it has been a fantastic year. We have never been out of the first three and over the year the team has so developed that no one can be sure of a place. I think too that the spirit of Belgrave whether it be that of the first or last man is something we can be really proud of - we must also live up to it and that is our task for the next decade, win or lose we'll have our laughs. Now back to that training!

LONDON - BRIGHTON HAT-TRICK

Pat Duncan, Dave King, Bob Farley and John Keown must be among the most reliable distance walkers in the country. Add to them John Moullin, Belgrave's latest distance champion and you have a formidable team who once again took the team title to make it three in a row. A great performance by our guest from America Klopfer and John Moullin close behind. John suffered some at Crawley but one sighting of the holder Pat Duncan sent him away to a really strong finish and victory in the Belgrave Cup. Dave King had his usual Mackeson inspired blinder, a word to for Bob & John who were there as always to anchor our leading men - Bob to score in the team and John, crafty to the end, to be the last man to beat the 10 hours second class standard.

RESULT

1. B.Eley	Bristol	8:02:09	6. P.Duncan	Belgrave	8:36:57
2. E.Michael	S.Africa	8:18:19	10. D.King	" "	8:57:55
3. G.Klopfer	USA	8:19:22	27. G.Farley	" "	9:38:03
4. J.Moullin	Belgrave	8:22:35	38. J.Keown	" "	9:58:23
Team: 1 Belgrave Harriers		31 Points			
2 Bristol W.C.		51 " "	1st Veteran Hew Neilson		9:50:04
3 Surrey W.C.		55 " "			

September 13th Woodford Green '51 (or 8,450 Metres!)

Doug Fotheringham 45:13 with 8:10 allowance won the Handicap and Barry Ingarfield, a new signing from Ipswich, 45:59 with 8:40 allowance took third. Charlie MacLennon, handicapped by a number of pints, finished - just! in 55:59

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But on the same Day at Morecambe things were going better. Booking arrangements misfired so a powerful Belgrave squad spent a hilarious night in the back of the Duncanmobile, accomodation which was not quite what Hotelier W. Wesch, esq. had in mind when he set off into the night with his suitcase! But these boys are tough and a night without much sleep put them in peak form. Wilf still complaining finished third, Carl Lawton stormed in sixth, Bob Coates finished eighth and Pat Duncan brought up the rear. Carl won the handicap in which Bob was third. Belgrave finished second team overall 3 points down on a full strength Lancashire and won the team handicap.

RESULT

1. P.Embleton	Met W.C.	89:29:9	6. C.Lawton	Belgrave	92:34:6
2. R.Wallwork	Lancashire	90:41:7	8. R.Coates	" "	94:59:0
3. W.Wesch	Belgrave	90:56:2	16. P.Duncan	" "	99:28:1

Team: 1. Lancashire WC	22	Handicap	1. C.Lawton	81:34
2. Belgrave	25		3. R.Coates	83:29

September 26th Highgate One Hour Track Walks - (Distances Metric)

1. P.Nihill	Surrey W.C.	13,671	4. B.Ward	Belgrave	11,271
2. W.Sutherland	Highgate	13,293	5. P.Duckett	" "	11,082
3. P.Embleton	Met WC	13,291	7. T.Cook	Belgrave	10,104
9. R.Middleton	Belgrave	12,649	28. C.MacLennan	" "	9,501
11. W.Wesch	" "	12,547	33. J.Wilson	" "	9,415
	'B'		16. J.Moullin	Belgrave	12,304
1. R.Coates	Belgrave	12,589	21. L.Duquemin	" "	11,919
2. C.Lawton	" "	12,542			
7. D.Fotheringham	" "	11,769			
31. B.Ingarfield	" "	11,204			

Team: 1. Belgrave Harriers	50,327	Metres
2. Ilford AC	48,846	" "
3. Highgate Harriers	48,136	" "

THE OPENING FIVEOctober 5th - Wimbledon

Wilf Wesch held off a slightly suspect Ken Easlea for a very strong win with Doug Fotheringham whipping round the hills to take the Handicap.

Result:

1. W.Wesch	Bels	36:26	11. B.Ingarfield	Bels	42:49	21. C.Megnin	Guest	46:26
2. K.Easlea	Guest	36:50	12. L.Mockett	MPWC	43:15	22. R.Youlton	MPWC	46:53
3. L.Duquemin	Bels	37:11	13. J.Clifton	"	43:16	23. T.Cook	Bels	47:00
4. R.Coates	"	37:47	14. N.Hill	"	44:01	24. A.Haith	MPWC	47:06
5. C.Lawton	"	38:01	15. R.Hall	Bels	44:15	25. A.East	Bels	48:38
6. O.Flynn	Guest	38:10	16. C.Flint	MPWC	44:25	26. D.Holmes	MPWC	49:10
7. B.Armstrong	"	38:30	17. K.Chamberlain	MPWC	44:32	27. L.Fairman	Bels	49:22
8. J.Moullin	Bels	39:07	18. C.Holmes	MPWC	45:18	28. C.MacLennan	"	49:57
9. P.Duncan	"	40:04	19. L.Taylor	MPWC	45:49	29. J.Wilson	"	50:00
10. D.Fotheringham	"	40:43	20. D.Maynard	Guest	46:02	30. P.Wilson	"	50:38

Team scoring 13 a side	1st Belgrave	150 Points
	2nd MPWC	207 " "

October 18th BWA Youths Three Miles

Full Marks to Ray Hall for getting a Youths team to the start but confusion with the disciplines led to Belgrave losing men and therefore not finishing a team. Andy Hinchcliff walked well to record 26:45 finishing 11th while McNally can reckon he's in the top thirty with a plucky 31.01.

In the Junior Five Mile Race our only starter Paul Duckett banged in a useful 41.08. Paul is now at Manchester University and has already made his mark with our friends in Lancashire Walking Club. We hope he does not give too much away as our training methods might be turned against us!

LUGANO NEWS

Wilf Wesch walked a powerful 30 Kilo Leg for Young England holding Pamich to two minutes and in the 100 Kilometres Pat Duncan pulled back six minutes on last year for a personal best 10:15:00 catching world champion Hohne, nearly ?

THE GERMAN TRIP

October 13th - Frankfurt Inter Club 30 Kilos

After a very rough journey to Frankfurt, thick fog all the way, we were glad to relax in the splendid hospitality laid on by our German hosts who had arranged for us to stay at the local sports centre. Obviously terrified by Wilf Wesch's rising reputation Frankfurt's two leading men thought better of even starting the race which was held over a very fast 15 lap course closed to all traffic except prams (and to our cost, Kite strings!) The lead was taken by the young East German Schuster who piled on the pace over the first 20 Kilos which he covered in 94.00 minutes with Wilf $1\frac{1}{2}$ minutes down and Ray not far behind. Wilf closed the gap and then Schuster retired leaving Wilf a clear lead. Ray nearly closed this towards the finish but rising to his own crowd Wilf held him off to win. Bob Coates and Len Duquemin walked together for most of the race both producing very fast times. Carl Lawton in what amounts to his first 20 Mile race started with Pat Duncan but after halfway closed on Bob and Len overtaking them before tiring and being re-caught. His time was really nothing short of fantastic for a first attempt. The first German finished next leaving our two Brighton stars to settle their differences not far behind. Pat caught an exhausted John with a lap to go but didn't wait in case the hot water ran out. In the presentation which followed the German National Coach paid tribute to the determination, style and sportsmanship of the Belgrave team. From our visit it is quite clear that no country can compare with Britain for the high standard of domestic competition and as for Frankfurt they have a lot of training to do before the return match!

Result:

1. W.Wesch	Belgrave	2:25:54	6. G.Gättrich	Post SV Mainz	2:36:36
2. R.Middleton	" "	2:26:45	7. P.Duncan	Belgrave	2:39:47
3. L.Duquemin	" "	2:32:43	8. J.Moullin	" "	2:43:57
4. R.Coates	" "	2:32:43	9. A.Reng	Pbst SV Mainz	2:44:45
5. C.Lawton	" "	2:33:06	10. H.Grafe	Frankfurt	2:54:06

Team Belgrave - Frankfurt did not close in

HIGHGATE 7

October 25th

Held over a new course Belgrave packed in closely behind Ray Middleton who was in turn just two minutes behind a really fit Roy Lodge.

Result:

1. R.Lodge	Bromsgrove	50:47	40. D.Fotheringham	Belgrave	58:56
2. W.Sutherland	Highgate	51:10	44. B.Ingarfield	" "	59:10
3. S.Lightman	Met WC	52:01	59. G.Cameron	" "	61:15
5. R.Middleton	Belgrave	52:40	60. B.Ward	" "	61:18
7. C.Lawton	" "	53:22	64. R.Hall	" "	61:47
8. W.Wesch	" "	53:34	89. J.Keown	" "	65:43
10. L.Duquemin	" "	53:48	119. L.Fairman	" "	69:55
15. J.Moullin	" "	54:43	134. P.Wilson	" "	71:48
			135. J.Wilson	" "	71:51

Team 1. Belgrave	23 Points
2. Southend	70 " "
3. Enfield	79 " "

November 2nd Belgrave v Civil Service - Imber Court

Fast walking by Wil Wesch and Len Duquemin put Ray Middleton back in third place although he did take the Civil Service 7 Mile title. Bob Coates was another to excel on this fast course putting Carl Lawton back to fifth man for Belgrave. Scoring 14 a side the Civil Service triumphed but only because our men could not count for both.

Result

1. W.Wesch	Bels	52:29	22. B.Ward	MP	59:58	56. T.Cook	Bels	67:58
2. L.Duquemin	"	52:31	31. R.Hall	Bels	62:02	59. L.Fairman	"	69:11
3. R.Middleton	CS	52:47	33. R.Picton	"	62:25	60. C.MacLennan	MP	69:34
4. R.Coates	Bels	53:00	38. J.Baker	"	63:18	71. J.Wilson	Bels	72:03
5. C.Lawton	"	53:07	39. J.Keown	CS	63:48	77. P.Wilson	"	79:01
8. J.Moullin	"	55:25	51. J.Morris	MP	67:13			
14. D.Fotheringham	"	57:31	52. A.Hinchcliff	"	67:22			

Belgrave's walking teams are becoming almost invincible, going from strength to strength with no limits yet in sight. Last year was highly successful with Belgrave winning three of the four National titles.

JOHN KEDDIN reviews that 1968/9 season and regards it as----

A YEAR TO REMEMBER

During the R.W.A. year 1968-69 (September '68 to August '69) Belgrave Harriers' Walking Section equalled, if not surpassed, the achievements of the great club teams of 1957 and 1960. The year ended with the club having won many races including the classic London to Brighton and three of the four National Senior Road Walking Championships. The walkers also secured second place in the remaining Senior event and a fourth place in the National Junior 5 Miles. In 1957 and 1960 when Belgrave teams won all three National Senior titles (a fourth, the National 20 Kilos, was added in 1965), the club had the advantage of being able to call upon the services of such internationals as Stan Vickers, Eric Hall and George Williams. Today, with only one international, Ray Middleton, among the active club walkers, success depends more on the efforts of the ordinary clubman and the drive and initiative of the Hon. Walking Secretary and the section captain.

Much of the credit for the success of Belgrave walkers during the year must go to Pat Duncan, the Hon. Walking Secretary. Pat is not only a hard working secretary but a capable leader and a very gifted long distance walker. Nothing is too much trouble for this tall Sussex man, for in addition to his other duties, he drives fellow Belgravians and others in his own mini-bus many miles, to races all over the country. Unfortunately his tremendous efforts on behalf of the club, during the period under review, meant a slight falling off in the standard of his own performances in such races as the Manchester to Blackpool and the London to Brighton. In June the previous year, Pat established a new course record of 7:57:01 for the 51½ miles Manchester to Blackpool race.

Ray Hall, the road walking captain, also contributed much to Belgrave's success. Ray, no longer as active a competitor as in the past, lightened considerably the burden of the Hon. Secretary with his help in the clubhouse, on the road and with transport. Alf Harley, Jack Goswell and Frank Jarvis, although required to devote a large proportion of their time to R.W.A. activities, played a not insignificant part in the Belgrave success story. Others who played their part were all those club members and friends who looked after the needs of the walkers during the middle and long distance races.

The story began on Saturday, September 7th, 1968 when the Belgrave team of Pat Duncan, Dave King, Bob Farley and George Beecham snatched victory from Bristol Walking Club in the London to Brighton by the narrow margin of 3 points (24 to 27). Pat finished third in the race, 23 minutes behind Bristol's Brian Eley, with a time of 8:23:24. This was the club's 17th victory in this race. Their first was back in 1921.

Since 1958, when Belgrave recorded their only win in the National Junior 5 Miles Championship, the club have had great difficulty fielding a team in this event. However on October 19th, at Manchester, Carl Laxton, Brian Ward and Paul Duckett filled fourth team position.

The winter season began well for Belgrave with Len Duquemin and the club taking top honours in the Highgate Open Seven. During the weeks that followed the team won the Enfield Open Seven and filled second place in both the Belgrave and Metro. Police Open Sevens. In November, whilst others struggled for top honours at home, Pat Duncan competed against the top long distance men of seven nations at Lugano in an International 100 Kms. race. He took second place behind S. Lindberg (Sweden) in 10:20:56.

Our ever cheerful West German, Will Wesch, set the race walking world alight in the early months of 1969, when he won the Southern 'Garnet' 10 Miles Championship, the Surrey Co. 10 Miles Championship, the Ipswich H. Open 10 and finished third in the Basingstoke A.C. Open 10. By winning the 'Garnet' he followed in the footsteps of Belgrave internationals, Stan Vickers and Ray Middleton who both began their rise to fame by winning this championship.

The club secured third place in the 'Garnet' team race, a very creditable performance in view of the fact that Belgrave had filled first place the previous year. Barring clauses in this Junior status championship prevent previous winners from competing again. Will Wesch led the team to victory in both the Ipswich and Basingstoke races. Unfortunately his mode of progression did not satisfy the judges in the R.W.A. National 10 Miles Championship at Morden on March 15th, so Belgrave had to be content with second place behind Leicester W.C. Three weeks later in the Metropolitan W.C. 20 Kilos. at Battersea Park the club tied with Coventry Godiva H. on points, each scoring 32. Under the A.A.A. rules first place went to Coventry as their fourth scoring man finished nearest the winner.

May was a great month for the walkers who wear the claret and gold. On the 3rd at Bexley in a two race, four a side international match between West Germany and Great Britain, Ray Middleton finished second in the 35 Kms. in 3:31:15 and thus helped his country to a team victory. A week later Ray led Belgrave to their second successive National 20 Kilos. victory. Other members were Len Duquemin, John Mullin and Will Wesch. At the end of the month the same team, this time lead by Will Wesch, who finished in 4th individual position, won the Leicester Mercury Open 20 Miles.

In June the club scored its 12th win in the National 20 Miles Championship. This was indeed a welcomed success for the walkers as they had not fared too well in this Championship since 1965 when they found themselves outside the medals for the first time since 1932. The scoring four were the same as those who took top honours in the National 20 Kilos. The forward walking of the other four members of the eight man team; Bob Coates, Pat Duncan, Bob Farley and Dave DeBondi enabled Belgrave to win the Nijmegen Shield awarded to the first team to finish its declared eight. During the month Bob Coates, an ex-Scottish Junior racing cyclist, covered 3,000 metres on the track at Brighton in the fast time of 13:16.44

At the beginning of July Belgrave took first place in their own invitation Inter-Club Track Walks at Battersea Park. In the Birmingham Outer Circle 25 Miles Walk on July 5th, Ray Middleton finished second and lead the club to a very easy team victory. Later in the month the club were again in action in the Midlands, this time in the National 50 Kms. Championship at Redditch. Belgrave started 11 walkers including new recruit, G. Klopfer from the U.S.A. Klopfer walked as a guest and finished third just in front of Ray Middleton who was placed third in the championship thus making sure of selection for the European Games 50 Kilos Walk. Ray with the support of John Mullin, Len Duquemin and Dave King took the team title. This was Belgrave's 15th team victory in this race. In fact the club have only been outside the first three on 4 occasions since a team-championship was added to this event in 1932. Once again the reliability of our walkers was clearly demonstrated when they were the first team to finish their declared eight, thus winning the Milan Trophy.

The year ended with Belgrave recording a good victory in the Annual Hastings to Brighton 38 Miles Walk. The club finished 4 walkers in the first six and with only three to score easily retained their team title, with the very low score of 9 points. Ray Middleton took third individual prize whilst Pat Duncan in 5th position got the prize for being the first Sussex man to finish.

The year 1968-69 was certainly a great year for Belgrave walkers, perhaps they will make the present year an even more memorable one. Can they win all four National Senior titles? Their easy win in the recent London to Brighton certainly shows that it will take some very high class performances by their opponents to stop them.

ENFIELD 7

November 8th

Borough of Enfield are another club to have had to change their 7 Miles course, although this has led to a less satisfactory surface most of the roads used were traffic free and the start and finish are now on closed roads. For Belgrave it was a tremendous day with so many of our men up front that it looked like a club championship. This superb packing brought its rewards not only in the team which we won with minimum points but also in the individual and handicap races as well.

Result

1. S.Lightman	Met WC	51:09	12. J.Moullin	Bels	55:00	52. B.Ward	Bels	60:17
2. W.Wesch	Bels	52:07	19. P.Duncan	"	56:31	57. R.Picton	"	61:20
3. R.Coates	"	52:17	24. D.Fotheringham		56:43	102. C.MacLennan		68:36
4. L.Duquemin	"	52:36	35. B.Ingarfield		57:52	111. R.Yates		69:38
5. C.Lawton	"	52:36	44. R.Hall		59:23	117. P.Wilson		71:28

It would be wrong to let this occasion pass without mentioning that veteran Belgravian Joe Scammell who finished in 77:31 a useful performance from our oldest active member.

Team Result	1. Belgrave	1,2,3,4,	10 Points	Handicap	1. B.Ingarfield	46:53
	2. Enfield		49 "	Team	1. Belgrave	
	3. Southend		70 "			

In a 3,000 metres walk at Crystal Palace on October 25th WILL WESCH led American Olympian Ron Laird to the half distance before conceding victory 13:01.0 to 13:14.2.

JOHN KNIFTON continues to show fine form in U.S.A. where he recently finished 3rd in the National 30 Kilos behind Ron Laird and Tom Dooley.

Three months have elapsed since the European Athletics Championships were held in Athens but the thrills of British successes are still fresh in our minds. Paul Nihill's great win in the 20 Kilos Walk tended to overshadow Britain's performance in the 50 Kilos event when two of our trio were unable to finish. But who better was there to carry the burden alone than our own RAY MIDDLETON. One of the Country's most reliable performers, and a seasoned international with a Commonwealth "silver" and two European "fifths" to his credit, Ray tells of that hot September day in Athens and how, after nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours of walking, he was just----

Four Minutes From Bronze

With so many good performances by British Athletes in Athens my 5th place seems a bit low in the order of merit. However, I was quite pleased with my performance. Having gone well in training since my arrival in Athens I thought that given a hot day I might have a good one; and sure enough the day of the race was hot. I had been stocking up with salt over the previous week as I no longer take salt on race days; only a small drop in drinks. I find that this cuts out sickness during the race.

The course was along the coast road with very little shade, and that blue sea to keep your mind off walking! Hohne of East Germany went right from the gun with the Russians in the next three places, then two groups some way behind the leaders. I think the first 10 Kilos was the hardest bit as the sun was at it's hottest. I started out with sun glasses but could not see half the time so I had to whip them off. The first drink I had was a life saver, from that point on I could not wait to get to the next drinking point; in all I drank 14 bottles of Coke each one going down better than the last! It's true what they say about Coke ("things do go better")--for me anyway! At 20 Kilos I had got with the main bunch. Up to this point the course had been flat but to the surprise of many we found we were now walking up what seemed like the side of a mountain, and I do believe this was the turning point for many of the more fancied boys. At the turn I still felt quite good and I think I must have been about ninth at this point. I was walking with the two East Germans but I felt that once we were back on the flat I might have a job to match their speed. I soon passed one of the Russians who looked far from happy and this bucked me up quite a bit but at 30 Kilos the Germans put the speed work in and I found myself walking on my own once again. I passed our Hotel with 20 Kilos to go and this was just like walking past one's house but not stopping to have a quick chat to the wife and a quick drink, as I do at home. Once past this point I felt strong again and realised I had gained another place as I passed one of the Germans sitting in the road--- disqualified. Despite the heat of competition I felt sorry for him as it had happened to me in Belgrade 7 years ago. But now I had the second Russian in my sights with 10 Kilos left. Pushed on by supporting John Webb I did all I could to nail him but with the sight of home ahead he just held me off. At first I felt disgusted at not catching him but he had walked well and that's all that counts in Walking.

It was a wonderful trip with great performances from British Athletes but I also remember the sadness of Dick Taylor and Bill Adeocks who, with so many good runs behind them, had to have a bad one on the big day. This also went for my own walking team who failed to finish the '50'---for them let's hope that they get another chance to prove their worth.

RESULT

1. C. Hohne (E.Germany)	4:13:32.8	4. O. Bartsch (USSR)	4:26:45.0
2. P. Selzer (")	4:16:09.6	5. RAY MIDDLETON (UK)	4:27:00.0
3. V. Soldatenko (USSR)	4:23:04.8	6. S. Ingarsson (Sweden)	4:32:07.2

LEADING U.K. WALKERS 1969

3,000 m (Track)

1. P. Nihill (S.W.C.)	12:09.0
6. W. Wesch (Bels)	12:50.0
16. R. Coates (Bels)	13:16.4

10,000 m (Track)

1. P. Nihill (S.W.C.)	43:20.4
9. L. Duquemin (Bels)	45:50.0
19. R. Middleton (Bels)	46:59.0
20. W. Wesch (Bels)	47:06.0

50 Kilos (Road)

1. B. Eley (Eristol)	4:19:13
3. R. Middleton (BELS)	4:25:46
7. J. Moullin "	4:34:26
14. L. Duquemin "	4:45:43

20 Kilos (Road)

1. P. Nihill (S.W.C.)	88:29
12. R. Middleton (Bels)	94:41

50th BELGRAVE OPEN '7'

November 22nd 1969

50 open 7's is quite some record for a promoting club so that it was only right that the 50th should be started by Tommy Green who took the Gold Medal for the 50 Kilometres Walk in the 1932 Olympics. Tommy looked far too fit to be standing on the side of the road but it gave great pleasure to his many friends and admirers to see him back at Wimbledon. For the younger members it also provided the opportunity, not the only one we hope, for them to take a close look at an Olympic Gold, both the man and the medal! Anyway, Tommy sent the 150 or so walkers on their way and immediately the visiting Mexicans took the front with Suan Lightman also prominent. Our leading four were also well up to put us comfortably ahead in the team race. Some doubts were expressed as to the quality of the Mexican's walking for although they passed the judges their frequent spurts must inevitably stretch the rules of fair walking to the limit



CARL LAWTON leads JOHN MOULLIN.

(Photo: Ron Linstead)

By the end of the first lap the field had stretched right out with Colin and Lightman locked together closely followed by Oliveros, Ramirez Wil Wesch and Bob Coates who were both walking superbly. Len Duquemin was also walking very smoothly, Carl Lawton too was well up although clearly such pace must make even the strongest suffer. Ray Middleton was clearly feeling the effects of losing his father in law but did not let his team place go without a battle. Wife Jean was also much in evidence helping as always and pushing the boys along with vocal support. Further back things were going well for Fotheringham, Ward and Ingarfield who were grouped closely together while newcomer to walking, but not running, John Bromley was giving a good account of himself at the heel and toe game. Over the second lap Colin broke clear of Suan who tired a bit and had to give second best to Oliveros and Ramirez. For Belgrave Bob pulled away from Wilf over the last half mile and was involved in a thrilling finish, with Campos just edging him out. Once again the Belgrave scoring four really showed the others, beating Surrey by a fantastic 84 Points! The boys also picked up the handicap team prizes for the second race in a row and Bob Coates certainly deserved better than third in the handicap on the tremendous form he showed. Bob must certainly be regarded as a great prospect for the Commonwealth Games; not only for selection. For the many senior Belgravians present it was a great pleasure to see such a strong team performance, there can be few occasions when the white stick for the first unplaced Belgravian is won by the same man

who a few weeks earlier finished fifth in the whole of Europe. For the many walkers present we must express our profound thanks to all the many Belgravians who over the years have put so much into the club; to mention names is always difficult but Alf Harley, Jack Goswell, Frank Jarvis, Ernie Kemp, Dave Shepherd Gordon Doubleday and Harry Hathway must surely be thanked; Ray Hall too for his behind the scenes work and finally Mrs Savage who was present at the first open 7 and despite making tea for the walkers ever since was there large as life for the 50th. Hidden in the murky light of the Swan, Joan Goswell worked her usual miracle with the result sheets.

Result.

1. P. Colin	Mexico	50:58	44. D. Fotheringham	Belgrave	59:32
2. J. Oliveros	"	51:07	47. B. Ward	"	60:01
3. P. Ramirez	"	51:17	48. B. Ingarfield	"	60:20
6. R. Coates	Belgrave	52:59	56. G. Cameron	"	61:01
7. W. Wesch	"	53:08	61. R. Picton	"	61:35
9. L. Duquemin	"	53:46	76. J. Bromley	"	63:32
11. C. Lawton	"	54:15	90. J. Keown	"	65:54
14. R. Middleton	"	55:01	126. L. Fairman	"	70:13
20. J. Moullin	"	56:13	133. A. East	"	72:02
			139. P. Wilson	"	74:23

Team 1. Belgrave Harriers	11 Pts	Handicap Team: Belgrave Harriers
2. Surrey W.C. A	95 "	Individual: 3. Bob Coates
3. Ilford A.C.	95 "	

Scene: The Middle of Cambridge Road.

Action: Walking Secretary marking 7 Mile course with bag of white flour.

Car draws up and window is lowered - Passenger to Driver " Do you think he's alright ?" Driver to figure in road " I say, are you alright, what are you doing?"

Now if nothing else our walking secretary is never stuck for words - quick as a flash he replies " Making drop scones, can't you see ?"

" Shouldn't we do something?" asks Passenger at which moment 150 men in various stages of undress come belting round the corner. That did it !



(Photo: Ron Linstead)

A corner of Felgrave Hall showing the heaving mass of steaming bodies that go to make up an Open '7'.



FROM 'THE BELGRAVIAN' 25 years ago

OCTOBER 1944-----Since the last issue we have learned, with great sorrow, of the following deaths:-

K.N. WOOD died from wounds in Normandy. He was a former Surrey Junior Cross-Country Champion and was placed in the South of Thames Junior race.

KEN SHEAIL was killed in action with the Hampshire Regiment in Italy, having previously been wounded there. His favourite distance with us was the 880 yards. **FRANK HANDLEY** was killed in action with the Irish Guards. **LIONEL PENNY** was killed in action with the Race Corps. He was one of our most promising cross-country runners.

Prisoner of War news is scant. **LES BENNETT** is still in Japanese hands. **ARTHUR BEALES** seems to have settled down to life in a prison camp and has "made himself at home"---if such a phrase applies! **FRANK HALLS** was wounded in the legs before capture and it is feared that he will not be able to race walk again. **DAN** & **ALEC PATIENCE** were taken prisoners during the fighting around the Anzio beachhead and sent to Germany. (Dan had earlier been wounded in N. Africa and was home for a while). Their older brother **GEORGE**, with whom they were inseparable since the outbreak of war and have fought together during the whole of the North African and Sicilian Campaigns, was killed in the same engagement.

PAT DRISCOLL has been posted as missing with his fighter ten days after D-day and **REG SHEPHERD** is still amongst the missing. **BERT FOOTER** has been right up to the front at Normandy and would welcome a rest in the rear. **JOHN FLOWER** is back in England after sixteen months sojourn in the "White man's grave", and now has one ring on his sleeve. **LEN ROLLINS** is on board H.M.S. Lochabart.

ALF MILLER was slightly wounded in Italy and was pleased to have a clubmate as a visitor---**ALF HARLEY**! We have recently learned with regret that he has been reported missing, probably a prisoner of war. **LAURIE JACKSON** was wounded in Normandy by shrapnel from a mortar bomb and spent a time in hospital at Bradford. His last copy of the "Belgravian" has a large hole in it---it was in his pocket when he stopped his "packet". We'll try and get the next copy on bullet-proof paper!

ERNIE DUFFETT lost his home through a direct hit from a flying bomb. Mrs Duffett and some of their children were buried in the debris and were rescued, fortunately without injury. Ernie (a War Reserve Policeman) was on duty at the time. Prospective "pot-hunters" are warned that Ernie has recovered his handicap sheets! **CHARLIE COOK** also had his home demolished by a flying bomb and sustained minor injuries necessitating a short stay in hospital. **JOHN BROWN** lost his mother and a sister when their home was destroyed, and we extend to him our deepest sympathies. John himself was taken to hospital for a short while as he sustained minor injuries.

and 40 years ago

DECEMBER 1929-----This month we must congratulate J.E. Flower upon winning the South of Thames Junior race. He is the first winner of this event we have ever had---and a worthy one at that. We are expecting big things of Jack in the future and are not likely to suffer disappointment.

Very shortly we shall be bidding goodbye to 1929, and a retrospective glance shows that we have had our most successful year in the Club's history. The South of the Thames Championship has been won for the first time, the National Road Walking Championship retained and many minor successes of varying importance recorded. In addition, the membership has increased considerably and the Club attained a higher position than ever before in the athletic world. Our great hope is that 1930 will surpass even 1929, wonderful though it has been, and that a year hence we may be able to look back with even greater pride and satisfaction than we do this year.

<u>ENFIELD '7'</u> Result:	1. Enfield A.C.	(1, 10, 17, 21)	226112
	2. BELGRAVE	(4, 7, 11, 13)!!!	226135
<u>BELGRAVE OPEN '7'</u>	1. A.H. Pope	(Woodford Green AC)	55112
	2. T.W. Green	BELGRAVE HARRIERS)	56101

1. BELGRAVE H. 34pts., 2. H.H.H. 80pts., 3. Met. W.C. 97pts.

PHOTO (Evening News)

FLASHBACK TO 1934, shows Belgrave's cross-country runners and officials with their trophy collection which includes the London-Brighton (News of the World) Trophy, Southern and Surrey County cups. The team was also placed in the National and South of Thames Senior and Junior races.

BACK ROW (l. to r.): E.A. Duffett, R. Savage, A.T. Jordan, B. Lindsey, S.T. Ring, F.R. Webb, N. Dewberry, A. Robertshaw, W. Mitchell, A. Patience, L. Rollins.
CENTRE ROW (l. to r.): T. Eaton (masser), D. Patience, R. Patience, J. Belchamber (Past President), W.H. Hare (Hon. Treasurer), J.R. McKay (President), W. Bayliss (General Hon. Secretary), E. Gordon (Past President), F. Walker, C. Penny, W.G. Webb.
FRONT ROW (l. to r.): W. Rice, C.T. Carter, H.W. Shields, J. Flower, A.W. Penny, S. Warboys, A. Shaw, A. Taylor, R.E. Footer (Captain), A. Allum.

YOUTHS & BOYS

Reg. Hopkins reports

Of the six races in which we have competed so far this season we have been placed in all except one (Redhill & Reigate) and in that we were without the services of John Stow and Peter Carton. This is an excellent start to the season when one remembers that all except one of our Youths will still be eligible for this grade of competition next year.

Our potential is better than it has ever been, and our depth so strong that with 8 or 10 to score we would be almost unbeatable. This is due not only to the hard work of our front runners but by the keen backing of the remainder.

Our packs from Belgrave Hall are showing great enthusiasm and on a recent perishing cold Tuesday evening I counted 20 youths and boys setting out together. We have some fine runners in the making.

* * * * *

Maidenhead Youth and Boy Races-----September 27th

YOUTH RACE (2½ Miles)

1. J. Davies (T.V.H.)	13:13	30. L. Harris (BELS)	14:37
2. I. Kilpatrick (Bracknell)	13:17	33. V. Butcher	14:42
3. R. Weatherley "	13:25	43. P. Breslin	15:03
5. P. Carton (BELGRAVE)	13:38	49. X. Yianni	15:23
7. J. Stow "	13:48	60. E. McNally	16:19
10. W. Curtin "	13:58	66. M. Clancy	17:01

Teams:

1. BELGRAVE H 20pts., 2. T.V.H. 25 pts., 3. Bracknell A.C. 35pts.



WINNING YOUTH TEAM

(1. to r.) Bill Curtin, Peter Carton, John Stow and Les Harris

BOY'S RACE (2½ miles)

1. D. Miller (Feltham)	13:34	71. D. Harvey (BELS)	16:42
2. A. Barnett (Andover)	13:49	75. R. Hopkins	16:55
3. S. Barr (Thurrock)	13:57	76. M. Eloice	16:58
42. R. Langley (BELGRAVE)	15:44	96. J. Mc Caffee	18:05
52. B. Quirk "	15:57	99. S. Crosbie	18:20
59. S. Holmes "	16:13		

Teams:

1. Hillingdon A.C. 25pts., 2. Bristol A.C. 30pts., 16. BELGRAVE HARRIERS.

HERE & THERE

Nice to see two sons of Club members, Ivan Beaumont (son of Ray) and Stephen Walker (son of Chas.) running for the Club in the K.L.G. 3000 metres Cross-Country races for colts recently. Ivan finished 30th in 22:31 and Stephen 55th in 25:32—a promising start, by both. Ian Gillings was leading the field with only a quarter of a mile to go but was forced to drop out with stitch. Never mind Ian, it happens to the best of them. Another son in regular training is John Baker (son of Jack). With over 300 senior members in the Club we should have a lot more!

In the Junior Inter-County track and field match at Erith on August 16th, Peter Carton (4:29.2) and John Stow (4:36.0) finished 2nd and 5th respectively in the mile for Surrey. Steve White scored a sprint double (10.5 y/22.5y) while Arnold Bentt leapt a season's best 22'-1½" to finish 2nd in the long jump and followed up with a below par high jump (5'-7") for 6th. Other Belgravians in the Surrey team were John Hamilton (54.2y) and Paul Duckett (7:35.8 mile walk).

John Stow had the fastest lap of the day while representing his school in the annual Walton A.C. schools road relay on Oct. 25th. John's time—11:33. Paddy Breslin, also a member of the Richard Challoner team, helped bring them into 3rd team place with 12:28.

John Cambridge was 4th in a schools Cross-Country race over 2½ miles at Ewell recently. He goes to the same school as Martin Eloice (Spencer Park) and looks as if he is going to be useful. He is still only a colt.

With Reg chauffeuring our youngsters to their many fixtures some odd things have happened. Once, he even managed to get lost in Hyde Park and on another occasion found himself in an Atomic Power Station. But by far the most interesting occurrence was when he found himself caught up in the Lord Mayor's Show—but for the Police, half the Show would have ended up at Luton!

In a S.C.A.A.A. v London Junior match at Crystal Palace on August 24th the Carton/Stow combination were out again, this time in the 1500 metres where they were 3rd (4:08.1) and 7th (4:14.1) respectively. Steve White got his revenge over his A.A.A. conqueror, Griffiths, by scoring another sprint double (11.1/22.1), a yard clear each time. Arnold Bentt was second in the high jump (5'-8") and Paul Duckett 5th in the 3,000 metres walk (15:15.8).

Two great wins for Peter Carton—1st in the H.H.H. schools Cross-Country race breaking the previous record by over a minute and 1st in the South London schools Senior Cross-Country Championships at Morden winning by over 1½ minutes. Les Harris was an excellent 4th in this race.

Lee Sullivan shared the same time (11.5) as the first and second when being placed third in the Junior 100 metres in a S.C.A.A.A. open meeting at Crystal Palace on Oct 15th.

How well Tony Binda has fitted into the Youths team, he has only been with us a few weeks but has already won the hearts of his team mates by some really gritty running, both in training and races. He has all the hall-marks of a true Belgravian—a sense of humour, a friendly manner, and a desire to succeed. We welcome him into our ranks.

It is reported that at the moment Vic Butcher is unattached; but between girl friends!

Surrey County Road Relay Youths 4 X 2 miles—Woking Lido, September 6th

Our second place was the highest we have notched in this event, and with three of the same team still eligible next year we can hardly wait!

Les Harris had one of his best runs to date to finish second on the opening stage, just eight seconds in arrears, but Vic Butcher was not at his best and had the misfortune to face Adams of West Surrey who raced away to record second fastest time of the day. Although over a minute down we still held second place. John Stow produced his usual gummy run to cut our deficit to 39 seconds but Peter Carton was left to chase an invincible Ford (W.Surrey) who disappeared to set a new lap record (9:17). Nevertheless, Peter clocked fourth fastest time of the day and consolidated our second position.

RESULT

1. West Surrey H.	39:58		L. Harris	10:17		P. Carton	10:06
2. BELGRAVE H.	41:26		V. Butcher	10:35		'B'	
3. Walton A.C.	41:56		J. Stow	10:28		P. Breslin	10:53

SURREY C. C. LEAGUE

YOUTH/BOY DIV. 1

Wimbledon—October 25th Race No.1

Bill Curtin looked all set to repeat his win of last year when Fromant of Mitcham put in a finishing kick to squeeze ahead by inches. The Mitcham lad's effort was a supreme one and he knew he had been in a race when he finished! Bill was philosophical "I should never have let him beat me, it'll be different later on". Hot on his heels was Peter Carton, who becomes a greater force each time he runs; and, not all that far behind, T. Bindar our third scorer who produced an excellent effort to finish 10th. Last year we were third in this opener, 18 points behind Mitcham. This year the margin was a mere 3 points and we look to have a great chance of regaining the title we lost last season.

RESULT:

1. M. Fromant	(Mitcham)	14:31	21. R. Langley	(BELGRAVE)	46:00
2. W. Curtin	(BELGRAVE)	14:31	27. E. McNally	(")	46:34
3. P. Francis	(Walton)	14:40	35. R. Hopkins	(")	17:21
4. P. Carton	(BELGRAVE)	14:45	38. S. Barlow	(")	17:51
5. M. Connelly	(Walton)	15:00	40. M. Clancy	(")	18:20
6. C. Taylor	(Mitcham)	15:11	43. J. Talhades	(")	18:49
10. T. Bindar	(BELGRAVE)	15:28	45. J. Cambridge	(")	19:04
13. V. Butcher	(")	15:37	49. I. Gillings	(")	21:00
15. L. Harris	(")	15:42	50. C. Nazer	(")	22:18
20. X. Yianni	(")	16:00	51. S. Walker	(")	23:27

Teams:

1. Mitcham A.C.	(1, 6, 8, 12, 14)	41 points
2. BELGRAVE HARRIERS	(2, 4, 10, 13, 15)	44 points
3. Walton A.C.	(3, 5, 11, 16, 19)	54 points
4. Horne Hill Harriers	(7, 22, 23, 24, 26)	102 points
5. South London Harriers	(9, 17, 21, 27, 35)	109 points
6. Hercules Wimbledon	(18, 20, 25, 28, 29)	120 points
7. Ranelagh Harriers	(30, 32, 33, 34, 35)	164 points



Bill Curtin fights out the closing stages with M. Fromant of Mitcham

(Photo: Ron Linstead)

BELGRAVE OPEN YOUTHS ROAD RELAY

BELGRAVE OPEN RELAY---October 18th

As far as the winners, Shaftesbury, were concerned this year's race was a procession. Bober clocked 11:16 on the first stage to give them a mammoth lead of 40 seconds, which was stretched still further by Jones on stage two. With Goater (11:04) doing fastest time of the day on the fourth and final stage they were invincible.

Although three of the Shaftesbury quartet were faster than any of our runners, Belgrave were by no means out of the medals hunt. Vic Butcher did not produce one of his best runs in finishing 10th on the first stage but Bill Curtin, Peter Carton and John Stow all put in useful sub-12 efforts to gain us deserved third place medals.

In the 'B' team, Yianni and Binda also showed their paces with useful times.

The first school to finish and collect the special set of medals awarded by former International Arthur Penny were Whitgift in 8th place.

RESULT.

1. Shaftesbury H.	46:12		'A'		'B'
2. Aldershot & F.	46:59	V. Butcher	12:42	X. Yianni	12:35
3. BELGRAVE 'A'	48:07	W. Curtin	11:43	T. Binda	12:37
4. Luton Utd AC.	48:11	P. Carton	11:52	P. Breslin	12:52
12. BELGRAVE 'B'	53:01	J. Stow	11:50	C. Clancy	14:57

Fastest: Goater 11:04, Ford (A&F) 11:06, Whittle (Luton) 11:15, Bober 11:16, Adams (A&F) 11:30.

Redhill & Reigate Youths Cross-Country (2½ miles)

November 1st

With two of our best runners unavailable---Peter Carton (competing for school) and John Stow (sick), and Bill Curtin below form we had no chance at all. However, it was good to see the response from the rest of the lads and the way they packed.

RESULT:

1. K. Kitson	(Brighton & H.)	12:50	29. L. Harris	(BELGRAVE)	14:42
2. J. Yates	(Guildford & G.)	13:21	36. P. Breslin	"	14:50
3. G. Styan	(Horsham B.S.)	13:28	37. V. Butcher	"	14:56
21. W. Curtin	(BELGRAVE H.)	14:22	54. E. Godfrey	"	15:46
23. T. Binda	"	14:28	55. E. Mc Nally	"	15:48

Teams:

1. Brighton & H. 18pts., 2. T.V.H. 24pts., 3. G. & G. 53 pts., 5. BELGRAVE H. 73pts.

Match v Wimbledon College---Boys under 15 yrs.(2½ miles)

Wimbledon---November 22nd

1. R. Langley	16:52	8. I. Gillings	18:00	24. C. Nazel	21:51
2. S. Holmes	16:52	13. J. Cambridge	18:40	26. R. Butt	22:32
3. R. Hopkins	16:55	17. J. Baker	19:20	27. S. Walker	22:33
5. D. Harvey	17:22	19. S. Crosbie	20:18	(29 finished)	
6. L. Hobbs	17:25	21. I. Beaumont	21:09		

Teams: (10 to score)

1. BELGRAVE H. 95 points. 2. Wimbledon College 116 points

MEDWAY A.C. YOUTHS CROSS-COUNTRY---November 22nd

1. K. Kitson	(Brighton & H.)		18. J. Stow	(BELS)	15:22
7. W. Curtin	(BELGRAVE H.)	14:32	19. T. Binda	"	15:23
10. P. Carton	"	14:44	- P. Breslin	"	15:34

Teams:

1. Brighton & H. A.C. 2. BELGRAVE HARRIERS.

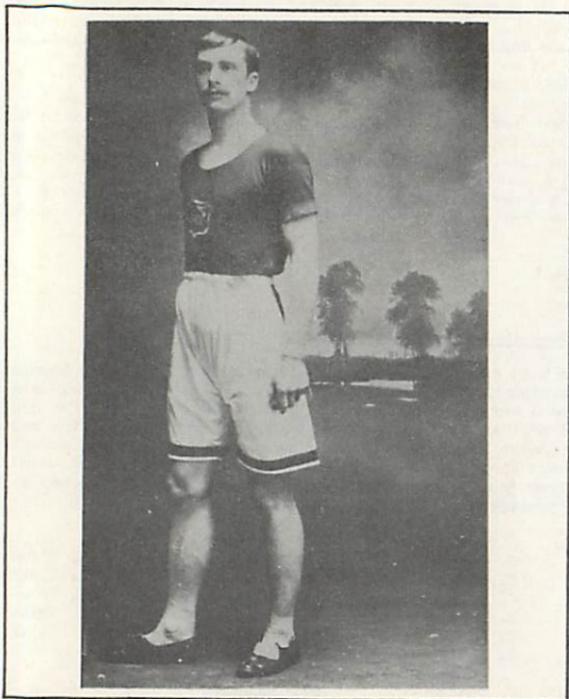
Running as a guest, Martin Eloice (Youth) finished 17th in the London Telecommunications Senior cross-country race over a 5 miles course.

THE MEN BEHIND THE TROPHIES

R.W. RICKETTS

Much has been written at various times of that great personality BOB RICKETTS, who probably wielded more influence on the Club than has any other man, alive or dead, in our 82 years of history. Bob had run in our events in the 1890's but it was immediately after the first World War that his sense of leadership caused him to work incessantly for Belgrave, and to lay the foundations for the greater things to come. As President of the Club he naturally seemed to be the dominant personality --in the pleasantest possible way. He had that great asset of being able to get others to share and work for his enthusiasms; and he was able to impress his personality on everyone he met.

He had run at most distances, was a boxer of no small repute; and on the persuasion of Jimmy Belchamber, had become a distance walker of outstanding merit.



However his greatest work for the Club lay in the planning and building of the Club for which he had so much affection. His powerful personality attracted other members, he fought the London County Council over and over again for a cinder track in Battersea Park, and when it was eventually installed fought again for adequate dressing accommodation to allow it to be used with advantage. He had a welcome for every newcomer; and had a keen eye to discover, and to use everyone's talents to the best advantage. And he worked and worked for Belgrave in the days when money was scarce indeed; and he himself was an example of intense enthusiasm for all the Club to see.

His outstanding personality, fortunately, was such that the Club was never in the position of becoming a one-man band. His qualities rather melded with the keenness and abilities of many other workers for the Club contemporary with him; and Belgrave gradually grew from an unimportant and relatively unknown group to a Club with a personality and a future.

Unfortunately Bob never lived to see the really great days for he died at the early age of 47, in 1927. The torch was passed to other hands.

During his lifetime Bob made many presentations to the Club which still endure. He gave us the "R.W. RICKETTS" Cup for our Junior 220 yards Championship; and the "R.W. RICKETTS" Shield for our 20 miles Walking Championship.

The "Belgrave" Cup for the Long distance Walking Championship also came from him; as did also the "DORIS" Shield (named after his daughter) for inter-club competition.

He gave of himself in ample measure in his years with the Club; and we still have the permanent records of his generosity in the form of trophies as detailed above to remind us, and to encourage us, and to enthruse us.

CROSS COUNTRY

Our new Honorary Cross Country Secretary GORDON BISCOE writes:-

Has Bill Lucas finally gone? Has been the question asked in recent weeks; although I don't think anything was implied by the word "gone". However after 17 years as cross country secretary one cannot just leave the matter there without first expressing our grateful thanks to him for all the efforts, frustrations and pitfalls--endured in that time, as well as the successes and triumphs. (For records please see 17 years of Belgravian! He hands over a legacy of hard work which I know will be hard to follow.

Since taking on the job, opinions have been expressed to me about a new approach and fresh ideas being a good thing---this might well be true, but whatever fresh approach there might be one fact still remains,---that anything we achieve will only be done with a maximum effort from all concerned. With training schedules now common place at around 80-100 miles (or more!) per week no one will appreciate just being told to train harder---(although if the cap fits--wear it!). But we must expect everyone to be fit at the right time for the right occasion and then having got there to give of his best.

We have, for example, already suffered two defeats this season at the hands of City of Stoke A.C., another 'new' club resulting from an amalgamation. This is the modern trend we have to face as well as the 'old enemies'. It is no use saying we have 'strength in depth' and leaving it to someone else, for it is obvious there is no room for complacency or passengers. In short we must think and run like a team.

Once again in the new year we shall start the string of championship races leading up to the National. If every one does his best (we can ask no more) I'm sure success will be ours again.

'REIGATE'

REIGATE PRIORY RELAY---(6 X 2 1/2M)---November 1st

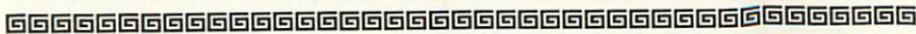
Although we won this event last year this is not one of the most popular races and was consequently given a miss by several of our 'A' team members this year. As a result we had to take 2nd place behind a very in-form Medway team. The almost spring like conditions, very firm going, (most unusual on this course), and the possible shortening of the course explained why no less than seven runners broke Gerry North's record (12:40 in 1968) as well as being equalled by Lionel Mann and Dick Piotrowski. The late arrival of Alan Elack and Charlie Walker prevented their getting more favourable runs in the B team, whilst Bob James showed a fine return to fitness after being inactive for so long.

RESULT: 'A'	'B'	'C'	'D'
L. Mann 12:40	C. Pearson 14:32	R. Hamilton 15:49	R. Glover 14:38
R. Piotrowski 12:40	B. Gorman 14:11	C. Henn 15:17	A. Chandler 16:56
A. Major 13:19	J. Rimmer 13:55	R. James 14:26	D. Trow 15:20
R. Smith 12:51	B. Merry 14:59	A. Elack 13:25	C. Walker 14:38
J. Bicourt 12:54	D. Jones 15:16	J. Hamilton 15:30	D.N.F.
L. O'Hara 12:42	J. Kelly 14:01	D. Hurd 16:03	

Teams: 1. Medway 'A'	76:05	22. BELGRAVE 'B'	86:54
2. BELGRAVE 'A'	77:05	34. BELGRAVE 'C'	90:30
Fastest Lap: R. Newble (Medway A.C.)	12:11 (Record)		(47 teams finished)

In the annual CYCLISTS v HARRIERS cross-country race, held over a tough 5 miles course at Coulsdon on November 8th, Alan Elack was the fifth harrier to finish and D. Jardine the eighteenth. Fifty-one harriers and thirty-three cyclists started, and for the first time in several years the cyclists won.

VERNE BLOWFIELD, Belgrave's most forward placed runner ever in the National (he was passed by Sydney Wooderson in the closing stages of the 1948 Championship when victory seemed in his grasp) was placed second in a Veterans AC cross-country handicap on October 18th on a mark of 5:30.



Cont'd from opposite page

Teams:

1. BELGRAVE HARRIERS	4,5,7,11,16,17,21,24,25,34	164 points
2. Hercules-Wimbledon	1,6,10,14,15,19,20,30,44,45	204 points
3. Mitcham A.C.	2,3,8,12,13,18,41,46,56,58	257 points
4. Ranelagh Harriers	23,27,33,37,38,43,51,52,59,69	432 points
5. Walton A.C.	22,26,29,35,47,49,54,55,60,70	447 points
6. Herne Hill Harriers	9,36,39,40,48,53,57,61,64,66	473 points
7. South London Harriers	28,31,32,42,50,62,63,65,67,68	508 points

SURREY C. C. LEAGUE

SENIOR/JUNIOR DIV. 1

Wimbledon---October 25th Race No. 1.

Last year was one of our best ever starts in the opening match, when we finished 10 in 23. This year's event clashed with the new National 6-stage road relay at Crystal Palace and although our best seven men were absent from Wimbledon we expected our rivals to suffer more as a result of the clash. As it happened the National event was a flop and only S.L.H. of our six rivals had a team at the Palace. Strong support was needed to overcome our disadvantage---and strong support we got. Forty-two Belgavians toed the line and ten finished in the first 34 of the 140 finishers to clinch a win that certainly shook our opponents. Lionel Mann and Bob Smith were in great form to lead our team home with Doug Brew also showing up well to close in our scorers. A fine start.



Result:

1. R. Holt	(Herc-Wim)	27:03	11. J. Bicourt	(BELS)	28:20
2. G. Biscoe	(Mitcham)	27:30	16. P. O'Connor	(")	28:40
3. M. Kortzenray	(")	27:40	17. K. Diprose	(")	28:49
4. L. Mann	(BELS)	27:43	21. A. Black	(")	29:00
5. R. Smith	(BELS)	27:44	24. A. Major	(")	29:08
6. J. Sullivan	(H/W)	28:00	25. D. Fernee	(")	29:17
7. T. Hart	(BELS)	28:01	34. D. Brew	(")	29:46
38. C. Dabbs	30:01	91. J. Hamilton	33:00	121. P. P. Gee	35:23
51. J. Dear	30:36	94. D. Jones	33:10	124. D. McMillan	35:39
52. J. Woodcock	30:36	96. J. Dooley	33:20	127. P. Sutton	36:12
57. C. Calderwood	30:47	100. R. Beaumont	33:34	128. D. Hurd	36:16
60. E. Gorman	30:51	103. K. Stimpson	33:54	129. R. Hamilton	36:20
65. C. Walker	31:10	105. G. Piddington	33:56	131. P. Wrench	36:31
67. R. James	31:12	106. C. Henn	34:14	134. C. Manning	37:11
70. H. Satchell	31:15	107. D. Davies	34:31	137. J. Plummer	38:03
77. C. Pearson	31:36	109. P. Fringle	34:39	139. A. Chandler	43:39
81. A. Trowell	32:13	110. G. Pearson	34:45	140. D. McMullen	43:42
88. B. Merry	32:49	114. E. Pallant	35:04		

← Cont'd opposite

A COUNTRYMAN'S JOTTINGS

Many happy returns of the day CHARLIE SMART. On December 9th the inimitable Charlie reaches the magnificent age of 60. Nothing special in that alone, perhaps, but couple it with a 5:17 mile and it makes him the Nation's top athlete in his age group.

Charlie's long standing training routine of three mid-week visits to the Duke of York's track and Sunday mornings at Arthur Whitehead's has been a feature of the athletics scene for many years. Of late he can be seen regularly in the company of that other "character" and veteran, Joe McDonald. Thanks to each other they are both running better than for some time and Mac will be the first to vouch for the remarkable ability of his 60 years old companion. In his famous eloquent manner Mac described Charlie as "bloody great!". And few would disagree.

After 14 years at the helm of Belgrave's cross-country affairs HILL LUCAS has finally decided to call it a day. He had dearly hoped to see the Club win the National during his term of office but three consecutive fourth places was the nearest our teams could get. In this day and age this is frustratingly close so his optimism to the bitter end was fully justified. Hill must have written several thousand cards during those years and spent hundreds of hours of telephone time encouraging, advising, persuading and cajoling runners so that Belgrave could produce a truly representative team on the Saturday. His presence at virtually every fixture made him a familiar figure to athletes from all clubs.

Although Hill has relinquished the reins of the cross-country section he still remains one of it's most ardent supporters and already this season he has been seen fervently scribbling down race positions and times. He is still the Club's Hon. Handicapper, of course, so it will be some time before our runners are able to pull a fast one!



With Charlie Smart having preceded Bill Lucas as our cross-country secretary this is an appropriate spot to say something of "new man" Gordon Hiscoe. Gordon is already a familiar personality to active Belgravians through his former office of Social Hon. Sec. and his present position as Road Running Hon. Sec. If the cross-country men get the attention and service enjoyed by their road running colleagues then they will have much for which to be grateful. Gordon produced several useful runs himself in the "fifties" and has by no means thrown in the towel yet, but the emphasis of his devotion to Belgrave has gradually switched to administration where, if he takes on anything else, he will become a Les Cohen Mark III!

My picture was specially taken by Ron Linstead who had difficulty in getting Gordon's hand just right. Apparently the fingers have been trained to hold only pint beer mugs!

It is with many regrets that we say au revoir to PETER MORRIS who, after 6 months with us, has returned to his native Blackpool. If running was the only thing in life then Peter tells me he would have no hesitation in remaining down South, but personal and business commitments oblige him to make the move. During his six months with Belgrave he has given sterling service and has been a popular personality with our runners. We will follow his career with great interest, wishing him the best possible success and should he ever return South again he can be sure of a warm welcome from Belgravians.

The prize for the biggest anti-climax of the year goes to the A.A.A., inaugural six-stage National relay at Crystal Palace. Whether there was a strong demand for such a race in the first place is doubtful. Given that there was, then the consultation, planning, publicity and organisation in general was abysmal to say the least. Portsmouth were reputed to be one of the initiators of the six-stage idea, but they had pressed for 3 long and 3 short stages on a point to point course. The decisions on date, distance and venue were taken so arbitrarily that it was no surprise to those in the know to find a meagre NINE TEAMS on the start line. We were in two minds ourselves whether to appear.

The presentation "ceremony" was even worse than the débâclé at Leicester earlier this year. Although there were medals this time, there was nowhere suitable to present them.

For National championships to be handled in such a way is bad for the sport. They should be very special highly efficient affairs oozing with National "atmosphere". Unless this is done they are in danger of becoming just another race with no one caring very much who wins.

SOUTH of THAMES 'JUNIOR'---November 5th

Having won the race last year our successful scoring team joined the many other Belgians who are barred from this event. We were therefore very weakly represented, though Colin Pearson and Bob James showed promising form.

Result

1. J. Sullivan	(Herc/Wimb.)	25:10	184. J. Hamilton	225. S. Barrett
69. D. Erew	(BELGRAVE)		186. R. Beaumont	226. D. Trow
113. C. Pearson	"		194. R. Hamilton	229. P. Wrench
114. B. Gorman	"		200. G. Piddington	235. J. Plummer
118. R. James	"		206. P. Pringle	238. D. McMillan
124. R. Glover	"		209. P. Gee	240. C. Manning
150. B. Merry	"		217. L. Coy	

Teams

1. Blackheath H.	38 points	19. BELGRAVE HARRIERS	414 points
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G. L. C. ~ FOUR IN A ROW!

G.L.C. Cross-Country Championship---November 22nd

A few days of steady rain coupled with the venue of Parliament Hill and one immediately thinks of that familiar sea of mud and heavy going. This was what Gerry North had in mind too when he set out to defend his individual title for the fourth successive year. However fate was against him this day for on arrival he found Spring-like weather and very firm going. An hour or so later his title had gone to a fit Bob Richardson of Blackheath Harriers. Richardson had opened a gap of about 10 secs on Gerry at the half way stage which he maintained to the end.

Lionel Mann showed Pat O'Connor (and everyone else!!) that he means business on the country as well as the road by being our next man home, whilst Trevor Hart was having a few shocks---being pressed in the latter stages by Laurie O'Hara and with Adrian Major, now returning to something like his proper fitness, breathing down his neck. For O'Connor, Fairclough and Kerr it was not their day. Worth noting was Jim Rimmer's good run in his first main outing of the season and Bob Glover's triumph over arch rival Brian Gorman.

Although Gerry lost his title he nevertheless led Belgrave to victory again for the fourth successive year.

Result

1. R. Richardson	(Blackheath H.)	28:56	54. W. Kerr
2. Gerry North	(BELGRAVE H.)	29:52	60. D. Erew
7. L. Mann	"	30:28	63. J. Rimmer
15. L. O'Hara	"	30:30	83. J. Dear
16. T. Hart	"	30:32	108. C. Pearson
17. A. Major	"	31:08	109. R. Glover
23. P. O'Connor	"	31:23	110. B. Gorman
28. A. Fairclough	"	32:22	- D. Trow

Teams

1. BELGRAVE HARRIERS	(2, 7, 15, 16)	40 points
2. Poly H.	(5, 8, 10, 19)	42 points
3. Cambridge H.	(4, 9, 13, 22)	48 points
18. BELGRAVE 'B'	(63, 83, 108, 119)	360 points

Walking in uniform with an empty post bag on his back as a handicap, RAY MIDDLETON took three minutes off his record in winning the Postmen's Walk through the City of London on October 4th.

DICK PIOTROWSKI was placed 7th in the Wolverton '5' on November 29th finishing 75secs down on winner Ron Grove and 23 seconds behind Luton's Tony Simmons.

RYE '10'---September 1st

1. R. Gevers (SLH)	51:51	8. L. Mann	(Bols)	55:01
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MANN TO MANNING

Club '71—Wimbledon, December 6th

Lionel Mann means business. Up to now he has been regarded as a road man providing useful support over the country, but this year he intends to wear a cross-country label, as of right, and show his heels to those who reckon they make our scoring six. In annexing the "Blackstaff" shield on a cold and wet December afternoon he showed a useful bunch of runners where to get off and stretched the field to such an extent that it was a quarter of an hour before near-namesake Manning closed them in. (It is rumoured that Charlie is to grow a beard and visit Somerset House!.)

Thirty two runners started, getting away this year before the inter-Varsity race crossed their path. Forty eight seconds later a breathless Laurie O'Hara appeared at the start with the unenviable task of chasing the field.

After the first lap (14:21) Adrian Major was towing Piotrowski, Mann, Dear and Fairclough round in a tight bunch. A hundred yards back were Elack, Rimmer, and Smith, and 150 yards further behind was John Kelly—with Laurie O'Hara hard on his heels. Laurie must have covered that first lap a good 8 to 10 seconds faster than the leaders!

With two laps complete it was Mann (28:37) setting the pace from Major, both 10 yards clear of Fairclough with John Dear running the race of his life another 50 yards back. Although still making places, O'Hara paid the penalty for his fast start and dropped about 40 seconds on the leaders.

Adrian hung on doggedly during the final circuit but was outrun in the closing stages by the narrow margin of 5 seconds. Tony Fairclough was a none too cheerful third followed closely by an exuberant John Dear who looks set for his best ever Winter.

The handicap went to D. Trow, who ran some five minutes faster than anyone thought him capable and who was fast closing on Charlie Walker in the finishing straight. Jim Rimmer ran better than his fourth handicap place suggested so perhaps we will be seeing more of him than usual this season.

Result

1. L. Mann	(1:15)	42:44	18. J. Dooley	(8:30)	51:29
2. A. Major	(1:30)	42:49	19. C. Keavy	(8:10)	51:53
3. A. Fairclough	(0:45)	43:17	20. C. Forey	(6:00)	51:57
4. J. Dear	(2:45)	43:35	21. D. McKeown	(8:00)	52:26
5. R. Piotrowski	(1:30)	44:51	22. G. Piddington	(11:00)	52:40
6. L. O'Hara	(1:15)	44:53	23. C. Henn	(9:30)	52:55
7. A. Elack	(3:00)	44:59	24. P. Pringle	(11:00)	53:26
8. J. Rimmer	(4:30)	45:28	25. R. Beaumont	(9:00)	53:47
9. R. Smith	(1:15)	46:14	26. S. Barrett	(13:00)	54:21
10. C. Walker	(6:00)	47:02	27. K. Stampson	(10:15)	54:36
11. D. Trow	(10:00)	47:06	28. P. Wrench	(10:30)	55:12
12. J. Kelly	(7:30)	47:27	29. G. Pearson	(10:00)	55:43
13. C. Pearson	(6:15)	47:34	30. R. Conway	(12:30)	56:28
14. W. Kerr	(2:45)	49:31	31. D. Stroud	(15:00)	56:59
15. B. Merry	(8:00)	49:31	32. D. McMillan	(12:00)	58:07
16. J. Davies	(9:00)	50:03	33. C. Manning	(16:00)	58:12
17. J. Blair-Fish	(7:00)	51:10			

Handicap: 1. D. Trow 37:66 2. J. Kelly 39:57 3. J. Dear 40:50 4. J. Rimmer 40:58

JOHN BICOURT showed fine early season form at Parliament Hill on October 18th when he finished third behind Morrison and Gunstone in the London Colleges League. He also led his team (St. Mary's College) to victory.

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TONY FAIRCLOUGH produced a fine run for the Southern Counties in this match versus Borough Road College and the R.A.F. at Isleworth on November 5th. He finished sixth in a good class field 51 seconds behind winner M. Absolem and 4 seconds behind M. Barratt.

COMING!

December 26th
" 27th
January 3rd

Boxing Day Meeting
North Surrey League
Surrey County Championships.

Eatrisea
Morden Park
Miford

