

July 1954

The
BELGRAVIAN

The
Official Gazette
of the
Belgrave Harriers

JULY 1954

No. 119

EDITORIAL

Dear Fellow Belgravians,

Since our last issue of the Club Magazine, a major tragedy has befallen the Club in the loss of our President, Frank Elson. It is difficult to realise how great a loss the Club has sustained as Frank was something more than an ordinary Club member. As my Co-editor, I shall miss his very great assistance and I am sure the magazine will suffer to a degree without his help and co-operation. Any further tribute I will leave to the pen of Alf Harley who has known him considerably longer than I have but I know you will all join in a few moments of silent tribute to the memory of a great sportsman, a first class club man and a gentleman.

The long illness of our late President has been partly responsible for the delay in coming to a decision over the future of the Magazine and you now have before you the first issue of the Belgravian in its new form.

After much consideration and bearing in mind the suggestions put forward at the last Annual General Meeting, your committee have arrived at the following conclusions:

1. That there is a general desire for a Club Magazine.
2. That such a magazine should be published at least once a quarter.
3. That the cost of four issues a year would be too great to be met wholly out of club funds.

It was therefore decided to publish a first issue for circulation to every member and thereafter to introduce a charge of 2/- a year for four issues, the second and subsequent issues being sent only to those who indicated their desire to be associated with the scheme by completing and returning the form which is enclosed. It must of course be made quite clear that the proposed charge of 2/- a year would only meet part of the cost of production and distribution the balance being borne by Club Funds. Your response will really show if you want a club magazine and it is hoped that every member will support this new venture and thus ensure its success. The yearly charge will also apply to members who are engaged on their compulsory period of National Service and are not called upon for ordinary subscriptions.

If you wish to receive the next issue, please don't put the enclosed form away and forget about it. Complete it now and forward it with P.O. for 2/- to the Hon. Treasurer:
S.C. Roberts, 4, Derwent Avenue, London, N.18.

The future of the Belgravian depends on you. Your Editor will do the utmost to provide you with an interesting and topical magazine.

Owing to the lapse of time since our last issue and the fact that space is restricted, it is not possible to give as full results of some of the races as we would wish, but I hope that with a regular quarterly issue in the future, I shall not have to resort to any cutting of copy sent to me

Your Editor.

FRANK H. ELSON

We mourn the loss of our President who passed away on 26th April at the early age of 47 years and extend our heartfelt sympathies to Mrs. Elson and daughter June.

We congratulate ourselves on having had Frank as an enthusiastic member for 27 years but we are profoundly sorry that he has not been spared to see the fruition of much that he worked for within the Club and to give us the continuing benefits of his wise guidance, his courageous and pleasing personality and enthusiastic zeal for anything to do with Belgrave. His great work for our Building Fund will ever be remembered.

Frank joined the Club in October 1927, and quickly endeared himself to all members. In a very short time he started showing the most promising form in Walking events, and in his first "Open" road event finished 29th and was a member of our team which won the handicap. In his second open race he was again a member of the winning team and for several years was a first class performer both on road and track. On scores of occasions Frank figured in our winning and placed teams and special mention must be made of his second place in the R.W.A. National Junior Championship of 1930 at Enfield when he led our team to victory.

He served the Club at various times as Captain, Walking Hon. Secretary, Hon. Handicapper and Joint Hon. Editor and his hard work for the Club had deservedly gained him Life Membership. He became our President last October, and many will recall his courageous and inspiring speech at our Dinner a few weeks later.

For 27 years, Frank gave of his enthusiastic best for the Club - a sustained and ever zealous effort throughout - and his pleasing personality and devotion to Belgrave's interest over so many years can well be an inspiration to all.

R. I. P.

A.A.H.

The following is an extract from Frank's will:-
 "My very deep appreciation of the many happy hours spent in the company of very fine fellows. The Club has always been one of the greatest things of my life and my feelings towards the Club and those who have been and still are true Belgravians are those of sincere pride and gratitude".

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Well over twenty members and friends paid their last respect to our President and there were numerous messages of condolence and floral tributes from other Athletic Clubs and Associations.

We also regret to announce the death of Harry Goodfellow, a Life Member and a member of the Club for over 40 years. Many will recall his jovial rotund figure, and his hard work for the Club in past years. Also his efforts on the Brighton Road as a cyclist attendant in the 1930's.

INTRODUCING YOUR NEW TRACK CAPTAIN

Due to the enforced resignation of Len Marchant owing to domestic difficulties (house hunting), I was persuaded by your Committee to accept the post of Track Captain. In taking on this position I realise what a tremendous job I have, but I am determined to try and make a success of it. I can if you will all give me your unstinted support throughout the Summer Season. We have a full programme as you will see by your Fixture List, and everybody has a chance of running or partaking in the various field events to enable them to enjoy their athletics.

There will be no "Closed shop" as has been alleged in the past. Everybody has the same opportunity to run in the big events but they must show that they are worthy.. There is ample proof of the talent in the Club and I, for one, want to see the younger members making our first teams. Teams will be picked on current merit and not on past reputations and reserves must always remember to bring their kit with them, even although they may not get a run. Remember too that it will make my job much easier if all turn up at the correct time and not an hour after the majority. I can then say "My team is here, let's get to town Belgrave". We have had a lot of glamour on the country and on the road, now lets get some on the track.

My sincere thanks to Bill Lucas and Tom Carter for their promised assistance when needed.

One last word. I should be most happy if more of you, especially the half and the one milers who cannot go to Albert Shaw, would make more use of Franz Stampfl. He is most anxious to help you and his advice is given wholeheartedly, with great charming and understanding, but with the accent on hard work.

Good luck, good racing and Up the "Bels".

Frank Simmons.

SURREY COUNTY ROAD RELAY

This was held at Woking on September 12th last and our team finished third to South London H. and Herne Hill H.

Our runners and their lap times were A.H. Bruce 14.00, C.Walker 14.18, W.E. Lucas 14.27, J. Bromley 14.14. L. Fishop 14.34 and E.A. Short 14.46. It was interesting to note that the first three teams all beat the course record of 87min.3secs. set up by the Bels in 1951.

CLUB THREE MILES ROAD RACE - September 26th

It was very encouraging to see a field of seventy runners turn out for this event, the opening run of the winter season from Club Headquarters. The winner of the handicap was L. Rush (3.30) with a net time of 13mins.13secs. 2nd was J. R. Cooper (4.15) 13.22, 3rd B.C. Taylor (3.45) 13.31, 4th A.W. Saville (3.0) 5th Ron Linstead (1.20) 13.50, 6th H.E. Footer (3.15) 13.51, 7th Stan Gawler (1.30) 13.52 and 8th P.M. Childs (3.0) 13.56. Fastest actual time was returned by A.H. Bruce who did 15.06.

SOUTHERN ROAD RELAY - October 10th

This was held over the old course from Mitcham to Brighton and Jack Brown put us in the lead on the first stage. Bill Lucas dropped to 3rd on the next leg only for Stan Gawler to pick up a place on the third relay. Arthur Bruce maintained this on the fourth as did Peter Bagnall and John Burr on stages 5 and 6. Chas Walker dropped a place on the long 7th relay but Len Bishop who ran very well, took us back into 2nd place on the 8th leg. Eddie Short and Bob Taylor maintained this position on the two final stages and were unable to overtake the leaders Essex Beagles, who returned a

time of 3 hours 49 mins, 16secs. to our 3.50.33. Thames Valley Harriers were 3rd with 3.51.25 followed by Poly H., Finchley H. and Herne Hill H.

5 MILES CROSS COUNTRY HANDICAP

This was held at Wimbledon on October 24th jointly with a match against Herne Hill H. and Sutton and Cheam Harriers. Maynard, Clark and Heywood were the first three home, followed by Chas, Walker and P. Bagnall. The winner of the Club Handicap was P. Childs (6.0) with a net time of 25mins. 56secs. Then came A. Whitehead (5.15) 26.21 and J. Masters (3.0) 26.37.

SOUTH OF THAMES JUNIOR RACE

There was a record entry of 60 teams for this race which was held on 16th November at Caterham from the Guards Depot. Peter Bagmall ran well to finish 2nd in the individual race, and our other scorers were J. Masters 8th, Frank Wright 20th and Stan Gawler 21st. Our "A" team were placed 2nd in the team race being beaten by South London Harriers, by the narrow margin of 1 point. We had four teams taking part. Our "R" team being 8th, "C" team 19th and "D" team 28th out of 55 teams who closed in.

SURREY YOUTHS C.C. RACE

Our youths travelled to Coulsden for this event and were very unlucky not to retain the title. The race resulted in a tie on the number of points, but Farnham A.C. who totalled forty the same as us, were declared the winners as their fourth man was 15th in the race against ours at 18th place.

Ron Linstead did well to finish 2nd place and he was well backed up by Jim Edgar who was 3rd. Our other scorers were B.C. Taylor and R.J. Braine.

SENIOR CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP

Our 7 miles Cross Country Championship for the Blackstaffe Shield was held on 12th December, and was won by Jack Brown, the holder, in the fast time of 36mins. 17secs. 2nd and 3rd places were filled by G.T. Olding 37.06 and Ron Linstead, yet a junior, 37.25, but as Olding is only second claim and therefore not eligible for a Club Championship, Ron Linstead took the 2nd medal and Dennis Brickwood (37.33) 3rd. R. Taylor, 37.45 was fifth and J. Masters 37.48, 6th. The handicap in conjunction was won by Ron Linstead with Don Briggs 2nd and Dennis Brickwood 3rd.

JUNIOR CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP

Following the Senior Race on the 12th December, the Juniors turned out to compete for the Savage Shield on December 19th and it was only to be expected that Ron Linstead who was 2nd in the Senior Championship, should prove the winner. Second place was filled by J. Edgar with Peter Courtney third, the next being F. Wright, D. Baulch and P. Childs. The handicap resulted in a win for Edgar with Baulch 2nd and a dead heat for the third place between Linstead and D. G. Hooper.

BOXING DAY MEETING

Our Annual Boxing Day meeting was held as usual on the Battersea Park Track and a good crowd of members took part. The 120 yards handicap was won by P. Luxon off 9 yards, with Reg. Bale, also 9yds in second place, whilst the good old trier J. Teilsbaum off 14yds was third.

The three miles walk saw Gordon Doubleday a good winner from Syd James with our old veteran Charlie Spechley 3rd.

Alan Law won the weight handicap and with an allowance of 4ft. 6ins did 42ft. 3ins. Then came Ian Law (11.6) 42'1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "", P. Luxon (7' 6") 42' 1", whilst Gaworski, the scratch man did 41' $\frac{1}{2}$ ". The tit bit of the meeting was the two miles run handicap in which Jack Brown ran a fine race to go right through the field and win in the fast time of 9mins. 6.8secs. This must be the fastest time ever made by a club member and moreover to return such a time at this time of the year speaks well for Jack's chances during the coming track season.

SURREY SENIOR C.C. RACE

We staged this event over our 7 miles course and must thank Arthur Whitehead for the splendid job he did in having the course so well pointed. As there was a thick fog during the afternoon we were lucky to get the event run off and all concerned were full of praise for the excellent course arrangements.

Jim Masters was our first man home and deservedly gained his County Colours by finishing fourth. Our other scorers were J. Braughton 16th, C. Walker 19th, D. Frickwood 20th, D. Briggs 23rd and P. Bagnall 24th. We were third in the team race to South London Harriers and Herne Hill Harriers which seemed to indicate that at the moment our performances over the country are not up to standard.

SURREY JUNIOR C.C. CHAMPIONSHIP

This was held on 9th January and our lads ran well below their usual form in fact we could only finish fourth in the team race. Our scoring men were P. Courtney 8th, D.H. Baulch 9th F.J. Wright 14th and P. Childs 16th.

CLUB 3 MILES YOUTHS CHAMPIONSHIP

This event for the "Overseas" Cup was held on 23rd January at Wimbledon and with Ron Linstead an absentee owing to leg trouble, the winner proved to be J. Edgar, thus confirming his form in the Savage Shield race. D.G. Pettican was 2nd and E. Cronk 3rd. The handicap in conjunction was won by Edgar. Pettican was 2nd and L. Harding 3rd.

CLUB 10 MILES C.C. CHAMPIONSHIP

This event which carries with it the Macher Shield was held on January 30th and the holder Jack Brown, made sure of retaining the trophy by scoring a runaway victory in the fast time of 55mins. 9secs. Chas. Walker 55.08 was 2nd with Jim Masters 3rd in 55.17, the next three placings being P. Bagnall 55.40, D. Frickwood 55.56, and E. Short 56.07. The handicap was won by Mike Stearman (4.30) with Stan Gawler (3.30) 2nd and D. Frickwood (3.0) 3rd.

SOUTH OF THAMES C.C. CHAMPIONSHIP

This was held over a 7 miles course at Aylesford and our lads did well to finish runners up in the team race. Peter Bagnall ran a very good race to finish 7th, then came Jim Masters 18th, Bob Taylor 21st, D. Briggs 28th, S. Gawler 30th and L. Fishop 34th. We were also 2nd in the Colman Cup which is awarded to the first club to finish a complete team of runners.

SOUTHERN C.C. CHAMPIONSHIPS

The three championships, Senior, Junior and Youths were held on the same day, February 27th, at Parliament Hill Fields and a large crowd of spectators was in attendance.

The Youths race was held first and our lads put up a fine performance to finish in 2nd place and could have been first if our fourth man had been just a little bit closer. Ron Linstead

18th, Jim Edgar 18th, G. Flangan 36th and D. Pettican 57th made up the team.

Next was the Senior Race with a huge field. Our first man home was Jim Masters 21st, followed by Stan Gawler 29th D. Brickwood 36th, G. Walker 45th, M. Stearman 65th and E. Short 72nd place which was only good enough to put us in 6th position. This was a decline from last year but it must be borne in mind that we were not at full strength.

The Junior race was the final event of the afternoon and D. Baulch did well to finish 13th and looks a real good prospect for the future. Peter Courtney was 23rd, Frank Wright 37th and G. Biscoe 84th and here again we could have gained a place with a faster fourth man.

CLUB 5 MILES ROAD RACE

This annual event was held at Wimbledon on 27th March. Over 40 runners turned out and there was a surprise winner in Ron Linstead. His time of 28mins. 24secs. was a new course record and once his National Service training is finished he will prove a handful to the best in the country. Charlie Smart who is now back in England for good - we hope - finished 2nd, with John Bromley 3rd. Then came A. Redford, our junior D. Baulch, L. Herbert Bill Lucas, Dennis Erickwood, Len Rishop, Eddie Short, S. Gawler and Mike Stearman all of whom were to give the selectors some head aches when trying to find the best team for the approaching National Brighton Relay. The handicap was won by P. Childs (4.45) net time 26 mins. 43secs. with I. Edmonds (5.15) 26.53 2nd and L. Rishop (2.30) 26.55 3rd.

LEYTON FLOODLIGHT MEETING

A cold blustery evening on May 5th saw a grand crowd of club members at this meeting, the first big attraction of the season. Those who were not competing, were cheering the club members on.

Dennis Merrett ran in the 100 yards, but it was very evident that he had not recovered from an attack of the flu. Ted Gaworski gave a good account of himself in the Shot and was most unlucky not to gain a place. His put was 42" 8". Some of you could take a lesson from Ted in Clubmanship. J. Butterfield was also in the shot put and managed over 40', good performances on such an evening.

John Bromley was lying third in the 3000 metres steeplechase when he gave his ankle a nasty bang on a hurdle and had to retire. He however ran again in the two mile team race so that we could field a full team, another example of good Belgrave spirit, although we did not fare too well in this event. R. Taylor ran an excellent half mile considering he was the victim of a lot of unnecessary rough tactics on the first bend.

The highlight of the evening for us was the mile medley relay. Bob Wolton's 660 yards cannot be praised too much and the magnificent way in which the rest of the team rose to the occasion to give us a handsome win in the time of 3mins. 26.3secs was terrific. The team was R. Wolton, D. Merrett, R. Holtum, Ian Mayers and Jock Cameron.

Jock Cameron paid our bus fares back to the railway station and everybody was extremely happy about the evening.

Bystander.

SPECIAL TRACK NOTE

The fixture shown as Aug 18th (Wed) Battersea Park should read AUG 16th (MON) Battersea Park. please amend your Fixture Card.

LONDON TO BRIGHTON NATIONAL RELAY RACE
 SATURDAY APRIL 10TH 1954
 By Olympian.

This Classic race promoted by the "News of the World" has come to be recognised as one of the major events in the Athletic Calendar and on this occasion history was again made when the course from Westminster to Brighton as instituted in 1924 when the race was originally staged was once more experimentally adopted for the first time since 1939. In the intervening years the start has been from Mitcham but it is hoped that by the restriction of supporters coaches that the full distance of 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles can be reinstated as the recognised route for future races.

The race started at 10am. precisely by the first stroke of Big Ben and after the twenty runners had sorted themselves out from the conglomeration of press cameramen, who had formed an almost impassable barrier in the first twenty yards, the battle was on in earnest. A fast start along the embankment to Chelsea Bridge soon strung out the field which was led by Wood of Sheffield United Harriers who had recently performed creditably in the International Cross Country closely followed by Parmenter of Birchfield and Wood of Surrey A.C. Our own Bill Lucas was not far away in 10th position. The three leading teams remained unchanged to Clapham Common where we were seventh, some fifty seconds behind the Sheffield Club with all but Birchfield of the favoured clubs behind us. John Bromley on the second leg to Mitcham maintained the position with a steady run but Blackheath and Essex Beagles had come more into the picture and Sheffield were over a minute ahead with Bolton also prominent. Jack Brown on his favourite stage from Mitcham to Purley produced another of his excellent performances on this leg and with a well judged effort took Belgrave into a very valuable lead of twenty one seconds from Surrey A.C. and Sheffield. The lead was held by Archie Bedford on the fourth stage to Merstham at which point we had 16 seconds over Essex Beagles and 88 over South London who had been slowly moving through the field. The remainder of the teams had begun to fall away - Birchfield had not maintained their earlier promise and Thames Valley, a well fancied team, had not made up for their poor start.

Our Cross Country Captain Dennis Erickwood, who in 1937 had started Mitcham A.C. on a winning sequence in this event by an inches decision over our own Arthur Allum, was performing for the first time in this race in Belgrave colours and although chased by two very promising runners in the shape of Douglas of Essex Beagles and Lyne of S.L.H. retained our lead by a small margin over the latter club. Another veteran, Len Herbert, who is now 40 years of age took over at Earlswood with the Beagles and South London Harriers breathing down his neck, but with a nicely judged effort and one of his well renowned sprint finishes opened up a few seconds gap from those clubs.

Now began one of the crucial stages of the race the newly arranged leg of well over six miles which constituted the combined Nos. 5 and 6 stages of the old course. Charlie Smart who at the age of 44 is running better than ever set off with the Belgrave baton with Gordon Pirie of S.L.H. some 15 seconds behind. As one would expect it was not long before Gordon caught Charlie, but it was not without a fight that he eventually got away. In fact Charles actually repossessed Pirie twice before having to relinquish his lead and by finishing only a minute behind at Handcross, can be said to have put up an excellent performance. The Beagles were still in third place but had lost a little ground.

The next stage was another vital long leg over which many battles have been fought in the past. S.L.H. had given

it to Peter Driver another of their young but very talented members and he set up for them what proved to be an unassailable lead with a time of 28.52 which beat by 17 seconds the October effort of Pirie and Olney which it will be remembered was considered to be an almost fantastic effort. However even Driver's time was not unbeatable, for first Jim Peters lowered it by 10 seconds and in doing so passed Charlie Walker and took Essex Beagles into 2nd place, and later by Alec Olney who reduced it by another 7 seconds without bringing his club T.V.H. anywhere near the front.

The race by this time had definitely resolved itself into a battle between the leading three clubs with S. L. H. almost certain winners. Bob Taylor set about reducing the lead and with the fastest time of the day on his leg gained 43secs. on the Beagles but made only a small impression on S.L.H. who were still some 2½ minutes ahead. Stan Gawler carried on the good work and also returned the fastest time of the day on his stage and in so doing he brought us back to second place. S.L.H. were still keeping up the pace and with only the last leg to be run had over two minutes to spare. Dave Baulch a newcomer to Belgrave and on his first Brighton run put up a creditable performance which kept us in second place and also gave him the second fastest time for the stage. This member has definitely come to stay and should be an asset to our teams for some time to come.

Although we had to be content with only second place on this occasion the team performance was extremely good and it will take an exceptionally fast team to defeat S.L.H. in this type of race over the next few years. Providing Belgrave can produce two runners to undertake the vital 7th and 8th stages which now more than ever are the crucial points of the race, I feel that we can match South London's strength. In Jack Brown we have one of those runners but at present it is difficult to see who else can bear this mantle to combat S.L.H.'s Pirie and Driver. It is time our younger runners trained hard enough to keep our ageing athletes out of the team - this is not a race for the over 35's, yet in this year's team we had five in that group and without doubt were the oldest team on the road. We cannot much longer depend on these runners who have carried the long distance, track and road running on their shoulders since the war ended.

In passing it should be mentioned that the old record for the full course which had stood since 1932 was beaten by no less than 8 minutes by S.L.H. and six by Belgrave and the Mitcham/Brighton time made by Mitham A.C. in 1938 by approximately two minutes by both clubs. Perhaps the perfect weather with a slight following breeze had something to do with it.

RESULT:	1. South London Harriers.	4hrs. 31mins. 37secs
	2. Belgrave Harriers	4 33 43
	3. Essex Beagles	4 34 24

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AMENDMENTS TO CLUB RECORDS

Track records - Senior.

Marathon	R.G. Plummer	July 1953.	2hr. 39m. 12s.
100 yards	A.D. Sexton	June 1953	10s.
220 yards	A.D. Sexton	June 1953	21.9s
6 miles	J.C. Smart	Apr. 1954	29m. 29.6s

Notes:-

Alan Sexton's times for 100 and 220 yards, bot set up in USA both equal the club record. Charlie Smart's 6 miles beat his own club record time by 46.4s. This time would have been a British record before the war.

NATIONAL CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

This year Arrowse Park, Birkenhead was the venue for the Championships which were held on March 13th. The course which everyone had expected to be easy, turned out to be quite sticky.

The first event was the Youths' race over 3 Miles. There, our lads expected to do well, bearing in mind their surprise 2nd place in the "Southern". This was not to be however, for Ron Linstead and Jim Edgar never seemed to get going and, finishing together in 30th and 31st places, were a minute down on the winner. D. Petticoat did not seem at home on the sticky ground and was 85th. G. Flanagan, 99th failed to produce his Southern form but nevertheless ran well for an athlete of only three months experience. When the team positions had been worked out it was found that we had come eighth.

The Senior Race over a course of just under 10 miles was the next on. Our team was weakened by Jack Brown's absence and it is interesting to note that G. Olding, our Second Claim member, who was beaten by Jack in the Club "7", finished 19th. Although we did not expect anything brilliant from our runners, they did not run too badly and certainly bettered their "Southern" performance in coming 31st, Chas Walker certainly pulled one out of the bag and so becomes holder of the "Harry Parker" Memorial Trophy, for the ensuing year. Not far behind Chas. was "Jumbo" Masters in 41st place, a good performance especially in view of his recent foot injury. Dennis Brickwood running in his usual steady manner, was our next man to finish coming 73rd. Doug Briggs came in 20 places later. Our next two home were Stan Gawler 98th, and Eddie Short 128th. Both these runners were further back than expected, although in fairness to Eddie Short it must be stated that his training has been interrupted this winter.

Lastly came the Juniors who once more had to perform on a course churned up by nearly a thousand others. Here we came only 16th, but Dave Bauloh's 31st place was especially encouraging for it was only his sixth race since he joined us in November. Peter Courtney ran well and finished 38th. We had to go back to 125th position for our next scorer, B. Trower, who was ten places in front of Frank Wright whose running seems to have been upset by an Army P.T.I. Course he is on at present.

And finally a word about our supporters. There is no doubt the efforts of our runners were matched by the few Club supporters who turned up. Particular mention must be made of Charlie Poulter and his two lads who carried a vast quantity of tea from London to Arrowse Park, where he was soon relieved of it by three teams of thirsty and grateful runners. Arthur Whitehead and Mickey Pyer did what was expected of them as Team Managers and Recorders, but found a flaw in the Northern Officials organisation. Arthur is particularly suited however, to overcoming diplomatically other peoples' inefficiency. Finally Eric Bishop motor cycled all the way with his wife, and adequately made up for the very poor support our runners received from the Club generally.

Placings of our teams are given below:-

- Seniors - 1st. Bolton 152 points. 9th Belgrave 463 points
 31. C. Walker, 41. J. Masters, 75. D. Brickwood, 93.
 D. Briggs, 98. S. Gawler, 127. E. Short, 197. E. Gebbett,
 236. M. Stearman, 241. L. Bishop.
- Juniors - 1st Sheffield U.H. 145 points. 16th Belgrave 319 points
 21. D. Fauloh, 38. P. Courtney, 125. B. Trower, 135.
 F. Wright, 140. S. Boreham, 141. G. Biscoe.

Youths - 1st South London H. 82 points. 8th Belgrave 245 points
 30. R. Linstead, 31. J. Edgar, 85. D. Pettican
 99. G. Flanagan, 148. E. Cronk, 213. L. Harding.

Observer.

A FEW WORDS FROM THE HON. TREASURER

I should like to thank all those who so promptly replied to the letters I sent out a few weeks ago regarding arrears of subscriptions, also those who paid without a reminder.

Our rebuilding programme is now in progress, which means we shall be spending the whole of our funds, so I would once again, through the medium of the magazine, ask all those who have not done so, to send in their subscriptions for the current year AT ONCE. You have an excellent opportunity of killing two birds with one stone, by not only completing the enclosed form, that is assuming you want to get the next issue of the Belgravian, and returning it to me with the necessary £/-, but also including in the same letter your subscription for the current year. If you are not sure whether you have paid, just glance at the back of your handbook and see if you have a receipt affixed for the current year. May I once again remind members who are engaged on the compulsory period of National Service that whilst we do not enforce payment of your subscriptions during that period, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU LET ME KNOW THAT YOU ARE SO ENGAGED. Will Service members also indicate on the form for the Belgravian, whether they would like it sent to their home or Service address.

S.C.R.

WITH THE FIELD EVENTS MEN

May I first say how pleased I am that we can once again write to all our members, particularly as far as I am concerned to those in the Field Events Section, through the medium of the Belgravian. This year, as we all know, the weather has not been too kind to us, but we have been able to train during the winter. I was surprised to see so many members turning up for training. It is quite encouraging to the Club and particularly to Frank Simmons and Percy Luxon. Up to the moment we have not had a very exciting time but one or two have started to come into form. Percy Potter's win in the Essex County Hammer Championship with a throw of 146' 8" was a fine effort. He tells me he had a throw of 155' at Imber Court. Well done, Percy. J. Powell-Jones is giving a good account of himself. In addition to winning the Surrey County Junior Weight with 48' 10" - a County record - he is also putting the senior weight for London University at about 49'. Ted Gaworski is also coming back to form. At the Sward Trophy Meeting on 29th June he threw the discus 142', which I think is the best club performance. He is also putting the weight about 43' and the hammer 140'. A new member, Ron Liggins is also proving very useful with the javelin, his best distance to date being 178' 10" in the Middlesex County Championship which gave him 2nd place.. Percy Luxon and Ken Key are showing improvement in both the Long Jump and Triple Jump. Dennis Fleming had an operation on his arm during the winter but should soon be back in form. Young Day is jumping well and we are pleased to see him when on leave. Other new members are beginning to take their place in teams. We did not do too good at the Brockman Trophy Meeting, but in the Sward Meeting we were better than last year. We had a competitor in each event except the pole vault which certainly shows the growth of the section. Eddie Short was 3rd in the 3000 metres steeplechase.

I am now looking forward to the Kinnaird and hope we shall again make a good show. Alan Law is at Oxford but recovering from a strained back. I wish him well as we can do with him.

Finally, the most important thing is to keep hard at training and make full use of the coaches who are ready to help.

Wishing you all many successes.

Jack Chappell.

THE COUNTY TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS

Our members met with many successes in the various County Championships which were held on Saturday, 22nd May, and in all gained 7 firsts, 7 seconds and 7 thirds, in addition to which a recently joined second claim member, J. Butterfield, won no fewer than three Kent titles, viz; shot, discus and hammer throw, the last with a new County record of 135' 2". At Motpur Park the most outstanding performance was undoubtedly that of our Junior, J. Powell-Jones who set up a new Surrey County record in the shot put with a put of 48' 10". Despite a recent injury, Alan Sexton won the 440yds in 49.4secs. with A. Picton 3rd. The sprinters did well with Basil Walden defeating the holder C. Gibbs, to win the 100 yards, with D Merrett 3rd and J. Benstead 5th. In the 220 yards Merrett was 2nd to Gibbs and Benstead again 5th. C. Walker was third in a fast race over three miles and T. Gaworski 2nd in the shot put with 41ft. 2ins and third in the hammer with 137ft. 6ins. R. Phillips won the two miles walk in 14mins. 57.8 secs with Eric Hall 3rd and Syd James 5th

The best junior performance was that of J. Powell-Jones who won the shot put with a new County record of 48ft. 10ins. H. Powell was third in the javelin and B. Windley who cleared 20ft to finish 3rd in the long jump, both achieved Southern Standard.

In the Middlesex Championships Bob Taylor was second in the 880 yards for the third year in succession. He equalled Arthur Wint's County record in his heat, but a slow first lap in the final prevented a fast time, and he was beaten by R. Day in 1 min. 57 secs. A. Cameron won the 440 yards and R. Wolton was third. In the 100 yards I Mayers was 2nd and R. Holtum 4th. P. Luxon missed 1st place in the long jump by three inches and was fifth in the hop step and jump with K. Key 4th.

In the Kent Championships Jack Brown won the mile in 4 mins. 19.6secs and R. Liggins was 2nd in the javelin with 178ft.

At the Essec Championships, won the hammer throw with a new County record of 146ft. 3ins.

Roving Reporter

NEWS FROM ABROAD

C.R. Jones, serving in H.M. Forces in Egypt send news of his activities in "Sphinxland". In the Station Sports he competed in the Long Jump, Triple Jump, 100 yards and 220 yards with the following results:- L.J. 19' 6", H.S. & J. 41' 6" (1st) 100 yards 10.3sec. (2nd) and 220 yards, 23.5secs. (2nd). In the R.A.F. Championships, he improved on this by gaining 1st in the two jumps, both with record distances, viz; Long Jump 20' 5", Triple Jump, 42' 7", and was second in the 100 yards in 10.2secs.

Later in the Inter-Services Championships, he was 4th in the Long Jump with 19' 10", 1st in the Triple Jump with 41' 7", 2nd in the 100 yards in 10.4secs. and 2nd in the 220 yards in 23.2. He mentions that all the track events take place on a sand track and the run up for the jumps is bone hard bumpy mud. Contrary to what he understands is the opinion over here, the temperature and general conditions do not tend to make for faster times in fact he has it on

the authority of a A.A.A. Coach that there is a difference of about .1 - .2 in the 100 yards and .3 in the 220 yards. Congratulations! Charles, we certainly hope your times were correctly recorded and we wish you more successes.

SOCIAL

The most important date in the Club's Social Section is the ANNUAL DINNER AND DANCE which will be held this year on 25th September, a date which you should make a note of straight away.

As the attendance last year was not as great as was expected, it has been decided to hold this year's function at Oxford Street Corner House, (corner of Tottenham Court Road, where there is accommodation for not more than 200 so you are advised to book early to avoid disappointment. As the number is limited, all applications for tickets MUST be accompanied by the cash, (17/6d each) and although the tickets are not yet available, you can send your applications in as early as you please. Those who have attended during the past few years need no recommendation as it is really a first class night. So once again, don't leave it too late.

Another important function, and one in which you will get full value for your money, is the Brighton Relay in October. Here again, if you would only realise the immense pleasure and excitement which can be gained from this day out, I am sure I should be inundated with applications for seats on the coaches.

With the completion of the improvements at Belgrave Hall, the socials during the coming winter season, should be a great improvement on previous years. We need to recapture some of the pre-war enthusiasm for these very enjoyable socials and I hope that the improved amenities at our hall will have this effect. Look out for the dates in our next issue and come along and give your support.

Dave Shepherd.

WITH THE WALKERS

This being the first issue of the Belgravian for some months, the activities of the Walking Section have had to be tightly compressed, so if I have inadvertently overlooked any of the unusually good performances, my humble apologies.

We can be pleased with our progress, during the winter we made continued improvement in the "Open" sevens and some of our younger members began to show their paces. I hope it will continue during the track season. Our distance walkers are going from strength to strength. To gauge the spirit, one only needs to go on one of our trips away from home, a better days outing you could not wish for. The biggest triumph of all was, of course, our win in the National 20, a big surprise for many and a credit to the Club.

Our all day strolls are thoroughly enjoyed by all who take part, even if "Big head" will argue with the Captain (alias Fog horn), over the birth and names of trees. Those who want to improve their knowledge of Natural History or English History would always be most welcome and would soon learn something about "Silent pools" "Good Queen Bess", "Old manors", etc. Last Whitsun we learnt that they feed the north on rhubarb - acres and acres of it, in fact the country outside Leeds is covered with it.

There is a very good attendance at Battersea Track on Tuesday evenings and I am sure the lads will benefit from the advice and assistance of our coaches Len Fletcher and Don Brown. Unfortunately Len is now working quite a bit outside London and is not able to spend

so much time at the track as last year and whilst we miss you Len, we are fortunate to have one of your pupils in Don Brown.

We must endeavour to enrol more youngsters to keep our strength going and I should like to see a good field battling for the "Olympic" Cup next year. By the time this is being read, the Inter-Club meeting at Battersea will be over and I am sure we can look for a good result. The National 50 Kilos will also have been held at Sheffield and I hope will result in another National Win. The lads are all fighting fit, particularly after their win at Bradford in the Northern 50 Kilos on Whit Monday and I am sure we all wish them luck, and continued progress in the coming months. May the name of Belgrave be seen many times in our National papers.

Yours sincerely
Jack Goswell.

RACE WALKING NEWS SINCE THE LAST ISSUE

Before starting on the winter season's results, some mention should be made of the efforts of our distance walkers during August and September last.

In the Hastings to Brighton race on 15th August last Norman Guilman put up a grand performance by winning the race in a new record time and to crown it, won the handicap also. The team were second in the team race, our best performance for many years.

In the following month, Norman again excelled himself by gaining second place in the London to Brighton Walk and of course won the Club Long Distance Championship. Hugh McGreechan and Harry Shields walked their best distances to date, both being inside 8. 40. but unfortunately Fred Rolfe had shoe trouble and was obliged to fall out at Dale Hill. However Jack Wakeley who had only intended making it a stroll, being his first long walk following his operation, made a great effort to push through and finish as our fourth man to make us second in the team race, only five points behind the winners. Our other walkers, Bernard Eglinton, Joe Wilson, Percy Wilson, all gave a good account of themselves. The usual enthusiastic support was in evidence and much appreciated by the walkers.

Following Norman's fine performance in the Brighton Walk we were very pleased to hear that he had been selected to go to Milan for an International 100 kilometres race. After lying 6th at 80 kilometres, he suddenly collapsed and of course was out of the race. He was subsequently taken to hospital, and our old friend of Surrey Walking Club, Timber Woodcock, who was acting as manager, in order to stay with Norman, was obliged to become a casualty also, and be put to bed with "flu". Fortunately Norman has suffered no serious after effects and is now almost back to last year's form. Hard luck Norman and better luck next time.

In the St. Dunstan's Hour Walks at Parliament Hill Fields, 23 of our lads competed, six of whom qualified for "Six mile" badges and no doubt they are all now striving for the "Seven". This was virtually the end of the summer season and we now go over to Wimbledon.

5 MILES CLUB HANDICAP

The opening 5 miles Club handicap was held on the 10th October with the usual M.P.A.A. match in conjunction making a total field of 57 walkers. The handicap was won by one of our up and coming lads, Bob Phillips, with that improving youngster Ray Middleton, 3rd and "Evergreen" Doub. splitting them for 2nd place. First man home was R. McMullen, 37.22, 2nd. Syd James, 37.30., and 3rd H. McGreechan

37.53. Scoring 20 a side, the team race resulted in win for the Bels by 382 points to 438.

HIGHGATE OPEN 7. October 24th.

Quoting Mr. McSweeney, we turned out in battalion strength for this race, our number of competitors being no fewer than 36. Being the first open of the season we did not expect any very startling result and our "A" team finished 4th. R. McMullen was our first man home in 56.11, with George Checkley 15th, Hugh McGreechan 17th and Eric Hall 23rd. D. Logan won the Veteran's handicap.

ENFIELD OPEN - November 14th

Four teams started in this race but unfortunately Bob McMullen and Hugh McGreechan were unable to get there which made a considerable difference to our chances in the scratch race. However this was partly compensated for by the "A" team consisting of Hall, Checkley, Eglinton and Haynes taking 2nd place in the handicap team race, thus once again proving that our younger members were showing improvement.

BELGRAVE OPEN 7 - November 28th

Our own Open created a record programme entry of no less than 332. 220 started and for the first time over 200 finished, 203 to be exact. It was a busy day and a hard one for the recorders and it is certain that the whole day reflected credit on the Club. The scratch team race developed into a neck and neck struggle, and it was very difficult to forecast who was going to come out winners until the very end, eventually 3 points separated the first 3 teams with us taking 3rd place.. Bob McMullen once again led the lads home in 5th position with George Checkley 8th, Hugh McGreechan 15th and E. Hall 16th. All the handicap team prizes stopped over our side of the water as Surrey W.C. took 1st place, our "B" team (Demmon, Middleton Wilson, Doubleday) were 2nd and the "A" Team (Hall, Checkley, Eglinton McMullen) were 3rd. The result showed a decided improvement in all our walkers and hopes of greater successes in the future. In addition Len Demmon was third in the individual handicap.

CAMBRIDGE HARRIERS OPEN - December 12th

We entered four teams in this event but our leading walkers must have had an off day as no fewer than three of them were disqualified. Nevertheless we finished 4th in the scratch race with George Checkley 13th, Erich Hall 22nd, George Beecham 25th, and Len Demmon 28th. The "A" Team were also 4th in the handicap.

7 MILES JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP - December 19th.

In our 7 miles Junior Race for the Horwood Cup we had a field of 25 and Eric Hall, improving every time out, had a good race with Bob Phillips and beat him down Lauriston Road to win in 58mins. 25secs. egged on over the last 100 yards by an enthusiastic band of runners returning from the common. Bob Phillips was 4 secs behind with Len Demmon 3rd in 59.23. M. Ellis, a second claim member was actually 3rd in the race in 59.11 but not eligible for the Championship. Ray Middleton, still showing improvement was 5th and Johnny Haynes 6th, both inside the hour. A new member in R. Newson competing in his second race, was 7th in the very good time of 61.33 and shows promise of being a real asset. The handicap was won by another new member Dough Fotheringham in 63.03 (7.10), C. McLennon was second in 64.28 (8.30) and Newson 3rd (5.0).

M.P.A.A. Open 7. - January 16th

This was the last "Open" of the season and held as usual at Imber Court when we entered six teams with a total of 46

walkers, and had our most successful seven of the winter season.

All the good performances were too numerous to give in detail, but briefly Hall, Phillips, Demmon, Middleton, Eglinton Newson and Scamell all beat the hour and were awarded their 7 miles badges. Well done lads. Bob Phillips was second in the handicap and our "A" team won the handicap team race and were 3rd in the Scratch Race, a good performance by all concerned. Bob McMullen, 10th, led the "A" team home followed by Syd James, 11th, George Checkley 14th, and Eric Hall 20th, the next three places being filled by Phillips, Brian Shepherd (second claim) and Hugh McGreechan

CLUB 10 MILES CHAMPIONSHIP - January 23rd

We had a field of 31 for our Murphy Shield Championship and a very good race resulted in McMullen just managing to hold of Syd James to win in a time of 78mins. 54secs. Only nine seconds separated the first three, Syd James time being 78.59 and Eric Hall, 3rd 79.08. Our new members again showed up very well, Bob Newson renewing his tussle with Bernard Eglinton and just getting the best of it. It was pleasing to see young Joe Scamell walking so well again and hope this will continue during the track season. The handicap was deservedly won by Eric Hall (1.30) with Ron Fairman (16.00), 2nd, and Hugh McGreechan (0.40) 3rd.

SOUTHERN GARNET CUP CHAMPIONSHIP - February 6th

This was held at Eltham on February 6th and we were unfortunately short of two of our qualified members, so that when Bob Phillips came under the judges' ban after the first mile our hopes of a place looked very slender. However this setback rather than deter the rest of the team, seemed to make them more enthusiastic, and so well did they walk, that we finished third in the Championship. Considering we had an entirely different team from last year when we won, this was an excellent performance and says much for the younger members. With all these walkers eligible for next year we have very high hopes of regaining the championship. Congratulations to Surrey Walking Club on their win.

The team was led home by Eric Hall 12th, 84mins.4sec. 13th R. Newson 84.37, 24th J. Scamell 87.02, and 36th R. Garwood, 89.29. Surrey Walking Club scored 58 points to our 76.

MATCH WITH SURREY W.C. - February 13th.

Our annual match with Surrey W.C. over the Croydon to Banstead and back course was a very enjoyable afternoon with a distinctly "social" air about it. A total of 51 completed the course, and we filled the first three places with Bob McMullen 97.53, S. James 98.18 and Hugh McGreechan 99.02. The next three places were filled by Surrey and then three more for us - Guilmant, Eglinton and Demmon. Scoring 20 a side, we won by 397 points to 423. A Club handicap held in conjunction resulted in a win by Bill Ferguson, 92.04 (17.45) with Bill Wesson, 94.04 (16.0) 2nd and R. Garwood 94.07 (15.30) 3rd.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS - February 20th

The Surrey 10 Miles Championship was held at Kingston and we congratulate R. McMullen on winning the individual title in 79.39 and the team on making the double. Syd James was 2nd, 85 secs. behind and Eric Hall was 3rd until a few yards from the end when he was ruled out whilst having a tussle with Brian Shepherd. G. Doubleday 9th (89.29) and Ron Garwood 12th (91.15) made up our team with a score of 24 points to Surrey W.C.'s 26. Joe Wilson, George Beecham, Albert Skinner, another new member, and R. Fairman also completed the race.

Our Middlesex members, racing as Cadogan A.C. were led

home by Hugh McGreechan in 10th position (82.37), with George Checkley 12th (84.02), Len Demmon 14th (84.46) and Harry Shields 27th (90.19). making a score of 62 points, only one point out for a place, the Poly being 3rd with 61 points. Six other members completed the course.

At Eastleigh in the Hampshire Championship, Norman Guilment, walking as an individual, finished 3rd in 86.48, whilst Ron Kemp and Percy Wright, representing Southampton A.C., finished 4th and 6th respectively and gained first team medals.

Last but not least, Bernard Eglinton competed in the Wiltshire Championship and finished 3rd in 88.57.

R.W.A. NATIONAL 10 MILES CHAMPIONSHIP - March 6th

This Championship was held over a stiff course from Parliament Hill Fields and we must congratulate the local club, Highgate Harriers for their excellent arrangements. Sheffield United H. scored their sixth successive win with Hardy completing the hat trick for the individual title.

We had 20 starters and our first man home was McMullen in 12th position (80.32). Syd James was 19th (81.45), George Checkley 24th (82.58) and Hugh McGreechan 26th, (83.21), which gave us only 4th place in the team race with 76 points. Bob Newson, in his first National Championship walked a grand race and looks like making some of our distance men go in the not too distant future.

TROWBRIDGE TRADERS BOWL - March 13th

Six of our walkers made the journey to Trowbridge for the 10½ miles race for the "Traders" Bowl. Syd James was second in the individual race in 85.56, followed by Norman Guilment 4th, Bernard Eglinton 6th and Harry Shields 10th, making a total of 20 points and 2nd place in the team race, to Trowbridge A.C. Bernard was third in the handicap.

REGENTS PARK 15 - March 20th.

This race usually produces some surprising results, being the first race of the season over 10 miles, coupled with the fact that the team race is only three to score which adds to the difficulty of selecting the team. However all our members walked reasonably well with the result that we finished in 3rd position with 27 points, actually tying with Met. W.C. Club for second place, but taking the minor placing as our third scoring man was after theirs. Their peculiar way of awarding handicap prizes to the first 12 individuals instead of the teams, resulted in George Beecham taking 5th prize, George Checkley, 9th and Joe Wilson 12th, which was quite a good proportion.

COLCHESTER TO IPSWICH - April 10th

For this very enjoyable day out in the country, we took two teams and out of the three coaches which left the Embankment, one complete coach contained Belgrave lads and lassies.

Unfortunately George Beecham had to retire and we were only able to finish 4th in the scratch team race with 24 points. This was amply compensated for by the other results, in fact apart from the scratch team race it was a Belgrave field day. Hugh McGreechan was 3rd in the scratch race in 2 hrs. 34mins.44secs., our "A" Team - McGreechan Newson and Eglinton - won the handicap team race, the "B" Team - Rolfe Wilson and Doubleday - were 2nd; Bernard Eglinton (22.0) won the individual handicap, and Fred Rolfe (22.0) was 2nd in fact it is rumoured that the coach driver complained about the extra load on the way home, when you can guess there was a very merry party.

CLUB 20 MILES CHAMPIONSHIP - April 17th

A new course was used for the race for the Ricketts Shield this year at the suggestion of the walkers themselves. Owing to traffic conditions at various crossings, and the opening of new blocks of flats adjacent to the course it was felt that the existing course was too dangerous for the walkers and the Committee therefore agreed to use the same course as that used for the 20 miles Road run. This consists of three equal laps, turning left with traffic the whole way and with no crossings. After the race the general opinion of all the walkers was that the course was an improvement on the old one.

Hugh McGreechan and George Beecham led the field for the first two laps at a very fast pace and one began to wonder who would be the first to crack. Eventually George began to drop back and soon lost a number of places. Hugh continued to hold the lead, but by this time George Checkley was storming ahead and making up a lot of ground but not quite sufficient to catch McGreechan who thus won for the third time running in the time of 2hrs. 57mins. 19secs. George Checkley was a good second in 2hrs. 58mins. 23secs., Bernard Eglinton coming next nearly 7 minutes behind in 3hrs. 5mins. 14sec. Norman Guilmant, 4th, Bob Newson, 5th, George Beecham 6th and Fred Rolfe 7th all completed the course inside 3hrs. 15mins. Outstanding performance was that of Bob Newson on his first 20. He is certainly going to be one of our leading distance men in the near future. The handicap was deservedly won by George Checkley with Bob Newson 2nd, and Bernard Eglinton 3rd. Our thanks are due to all the helpers, the ladies who manned a sponge and drink station at the bottom of the hill, to Ron Garwood, Arthur Skinner and their ladies at the top of Kingston Hill, the helpers at the top of Lauriston Road and all those who assisted with cars and enabled the judges to get round the course.

As last year, we arranged to hold our Junior 5 miles race on the same day, for the "Olympic" Cup. Unfortunately Johnny Haynes was unable to get away from duty to defend his title and only Ray Middleton turned up and had a walk over for this very fine cup. This shows the necessity for enrolling some more junior members and thus ensure that next year we shall have a proper race.

NATIONAL 20 MILES CHAMPIONSHIP - May 8th.

The Championship was held at Birmingham this year and what a grand day it turned out to be for the Club. Once again we are holders of a National title and it was grand to see in a weekly paper "Belgrave National Champions".

It was quite a good field which faced the starter on a fair two lap course although there was fairly heavy traffic in many places. From the start the lads were content to settle down and the following table shows the positions of the team throughout the race.

	3m.	6m.	9m.	14m.	18m.	20m.		9m.	14m.	20m.
McGreechan	8	6	5	6	5	4	Belgrave	50	48	42
Checkley	14	8	8	11	10	9	Poly	57	65	75
Eglinton	26	21	15	13	12	12	Woodford	63	81	82
Beecham	30	26	22	18	16	17	Sheffield	44	56	56
Newson	38	29	20	25	22	22				
Shields	43	40	32	30	25	23				
Guilmant	44	50	40	38	28	27				
Rolfe	45	40	39	46	44	43				

As one can see, not only did the lads consolidate their positions, but gradually improved on them, although George Checkley did drop one place in the last stages. Sheffield made a dashing start and were only 29 points at 3 miles, whilst we were then 78 and thereafter at every check we were improving our position. The last few miles was a drive to strengthen our position and this we certainly did.

The only real disappointment was that we did not win the Nimegen Shield, although we had seven men in before Woodford's 5th man, but unfortunately Fred Rolfe developed a bad spell as will be seen from the table above between 9 and 14 miles otherwise we should certainly have scored the double, in fact we only missed it by one place, the shield going to the first team to close in their full team of 8.

Our heartiest congratulations to all, particularly to George Checkley who celebrated his birthday by gaining his Honours badge. Bernard Eglinton, 13th, missed his by one position. George Beecham gained his first National winning team medal, Hugh McGreechan the Sydney Bayliss Cup and Bob Newson his first (2nd Class) National Standard medal. In fact the four members of the winning team were all inside first class standard and three out of the remaining four were inside 2nd class.

To Joe Wilson, Gordon Doubleday, Len Demmon and Billie True and the ladies who came along to give their help and support, we say thank you very much. Needless to say the hard working Hon. Sec. Jack Goswell, covered quite 50 miles on his iron horse dashing from one end of the field to the other to attend to the wants of the men. All this went along way towards attaining our aim and ultimate pos- as -BELGRAVE - NATIONAL CHAMPIONS.

ON THE TRACK

Our two miles track handicaps held to date have been well supported. The first was won by "Pothunter" Harry Shields, with Eric Hall 2nd and Doub 3rd. The second was won by Maurice Nye who we had not seen since the early winter, but who must have been doing plenty of secret training. We look forward to seeing him more with the lads in the future. Doub improved on his first effort by coming 2nd and Percy Wilson was third, slowly getting back to fitness after a spell of ill health. We were also pleased to see Charlie Speechley having a go again after a period in hospital. One minute covered fourteen competitors in this race - good marks to the handicapper.

News has just been received that Johnny Haynes has made up his mind to resign from the club as he is now permanently pestered a long way away and is hoping to join another club nearer at hand. We can ill afford to lose our younger members but thank him for his help in the past and wish him well in the future.

We understand the "Baron" has bought a nice big car. We have missed him out racing this past winter, but when he is qualified to drive we feel sure he will be out regularly particularly on the distance walks when he can be of great help.

Gerry Warr has gone back to rejoin our Southampton-cum-Eastleigh contingent having taken up residence at Southampton, so we hope he will be seeing something of Percy Wright.

For many years Belgrave Walkers have been trying to win the Police Barking to Southend Walk for four years in succession, and this year we hoped Hugh McGreechan would be the first to do it. Fred Rickards, Fred Bentley and Hugh have all won on three successive occasions and Hugh looked all set for it this year. However that very improved young walker, McFarlane of the Poly, who incidentally seems to spend more time with us than his own club, beat Mc. to it and so the battle for this honour still goes on.

A piece of news concerning our long distance walkers has just come to hand and whilst we hope to give a fuller report of the race in the next issue, we feel that brief details should be included here.

Four walkers and the usual hard working Jack Goswell went

up to Bradford for the Northern 50 Kilometres Walk on Whit Monday and came away well loaded up with prizes. Hugh McGreechan was 3rd in the race, Norman Guilmant 5th, Bernard Eglington 9th and Harry Shields 10th, all inside 5 hours. In addition Harry took the second handicap prize and Norman the 3rd. It looks well for the R.W.A.50 Kilometres.

DATES TO REMEMBER

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

BATTERSEA PARK

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7TH

Please send your entries to Ernie Duffett, 57, Harcourt Road, Thornton Heath, not later than July 29th. Every competitor must be on the programme. If you are not competing, then come along and give your support to the competitors.

LONDON TO BRIGHTON WALK

Application for coach seats should be sent to Jack Goswell, 7, Faversham Court, Faversham Road, S.E.6. if possible by 1st September. Our walkers deserve your support and you will spend a very enjoyable day with them.

ANNUAL DINNER & DANCE

SATURDAY, 25TH SEPTEMBER 1954

LYONS CORNER HOUSE, OXFORD STREET, W.C.1.

Tickets - 17/6d

The number of tickets available is limited and early application (with cash) should be made to D. Martin-Shepherd, 124, Florence Road, S.W.19. to avoid disappointment.

- FINAL NOTE -

If you want the next issue of the Belgravian, don't forget to send in the enclosed form straight away with 2/-
