

AUGUST, 1952

The
BELGRAVIAN

The
Official Gazette
of the
Belgrave Harriers

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No. 115

EDITORIAL

Dear Fellow Belgravians,

By the time this issue is in print, the Olympic Games will probably be ended and so it would be futile to attempt to forecast any eventualities.

We do, however, extend Belgrave's congratulations to all those selected to represent their country and know they will do their utmost to put us once again among the leading nations in the realm of amateur sport. Especially do we congratulate our very near and friendly rivals, Metropolitan Walking Club on the selection of their President, Harold Whitlock, and his brother Rex in the 50 kilometres walking event. It is a wonderful performance by Harold to be selected again for an Olympic event which he won in Germany just 16 years ago, and we hope we shall have the pleasure of seeing him again among the leaders.

The standard of our representatives fills us with great hope and those responsible for bringing them to their present perfection have done a good job of work which we are ready to recognise. It is also a fact that a considerable amount of groundwork has been done by those of whom we hear very little but who we know have done their share in first of all introducing these champions to the sport and coaching them within their clubs until they attain the standard which brings them to the notice of those whose responsibility is the selection of the best team to represent the country. These are really the back-room boys—the club officials, club coaches and trainers and those whose keenness for the club makes them ever eager to introduce new blood. ARE YOU ONE OF THESE? You can do just your little bit towards the great effort if you only keep your eyes open for likely talent and persuade them to join. Even the great champions were novices once. And so, on with the good work and may our representatives in the Games put up such a good show that their incentive will move you to your effort, which, little though it may be, is none the less essential.

YOUR EDITORS.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The Track Season marches on, the Olympic Games are in progress as I write, the Club Championships will soon be decided, and before we are aware of it our Annual General Meeting will be upon us, and the Winter Season engaging our full attention.

The Track Season has shown us to possess a measure of all-round ability as our praiseworthy position in Kinnaird Trophy, L.A.C. Relay, and Waddilove Trophy Meetings have all shown—and, let it be remembered, there is no higher standard of team competition in the country than these promotions present. Gerry Gregory, repeating his second placing in the 2 miles Walk, was our only placed competitor in the A.A.A. Championships, but Jack Brown with fifth position in the Mile in 4 min. 13.6 secs. (well inside world's record of years ago), and many others gaining standard medals in the various events, ensured that our colours were worthy carried. Bob Taylor, winning through to the 880 yards Final, did well,

and he is very reminiscent of Tommy Scrimshaw, our International half-miler of years ago in his running.

Basil Walden won the Southern Championship 100 yards and has showed himself our fastest sprinter for many years past. Alan Sexton has been experimenting with the quarter-mile in recent weeks, and will undoubtedly find that this is his true distance.

Our prospects for next year's Track Team competitions and Relay Championships appear very bright—and, it must be said, will be brighter still if our Field Events side can produce some good performers. Jack Chappell is working strenuously to this end. Our Junior strength is great—we have three of the finest Junior shot-putters in the country—and there is keenness and skill there which will take care of the future. But we are in immediate need of some Senior field events exponents who will give us adequate backing in team competitions. Jack Chappell is most generously presenting some special plaques to members obtaining certain standards, and we are sure his efforts will be crowned with success.

Our Junior runners are full of abounding promise—the future is indeed bright.

Our road runners have had a strenuous season, and a fair measure of success. The Club's successful promotion of an Open 20 Miles Run this summer was a triumph of organisation for which 99 per cent. of the credit is due to Arthur Whitehead. Denis Brickwood and Arthur can be very proud of their road-runners, and we are confident they will lead them from success to success.

In recent months our walkers have not disgraced the very high reputation the Club enjoys in this branch of Athletics. We would welcome new recruits to the walking ranks to enable our high standards to be maintained in perpetuity!

Our Coaches have worked well, and an especial word of praise is due to Frank Simmons for all his valuable work and to our professional Coach, Franz Stampfl for his great efforts on our behalf.

There can still be no doubt that over the full range of Athletics—from sprinting to Marathon, in track or road relay, walking at all distances, field events, track, country or road—combine the lot, and there has never been a Club with Belgrave's supremacy.

With the Winter Season close at hand may I wish the Club and all its members plenty of success in the months that follow.

A. A. HARLEY,
President.

OSCAR HORWOOD

On Good Friday last, our good friend Oscar Horwood departed this life and our sincere condolences are extended to Mrs. Horwood and his family. A number of Club members were present at the funeral ceremony, and a wreath in Club colours bore tribute to the affection in which he was held, and our gratitude for his past many services to Belgrave. His death is indeed an added blow to the many we have sustained in recent months.

The first mention of Oscar in the Club records is that on July 16th, 1908, at the old Stamford Bridge grounds. He was placed third in a race described as the 440 yards Club Championship. [Incidentally, at the same meeting, Harry Evans won the Mile Walk Handicap, off 10 yards; and Ted Good, present at our last A.G.M., won the Steeplechase Handicap, in which George Still (scratch) was third. The result is annotated, "Wet night, track inches deep in water—attendance very poor in consequence."]

From that time onward Oscar exerted great efforts on behalf of the Club and at varying times served as President, Trustee, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, and Hon. Handicapper; and had most deservedly had Life Membership conferred upon him.

As already mentioned, Oscar was a quarter-miler, and his tenacity at this distance and middle distances generally, and over the country, was well known. This same tenacity was much in evidence when he became walker, when he competed in Club teams at all distances up to and including the Brighton Walk. He was ever a great team man—always a great fighter for Belgrave in every field.

It is not an exaggeration to write that but for Oscar's brand of obstinate courage and tenacious fighting qualities in those years long since passed, we might not now have the Club of which we are so proud to be members to-day.

In Oscar's early days the Club was small and unstable. Its finances were small, its Headquarters likely to disappear overnight because the members did not patronise the Bar sufficiently, its membership—apart from a few shining lights—irresponsible and self-centred. To accept office in the Club was to pay fees, postages, etc., from one's own pocket; and to be compelled to submit to the "poaching" of members by larger Clubs who had more to offer in the way of competitions and amenities. It was against this background that Oscar Horwood fought and fought—and, fortunately for us, he did not fight in vain.

A story of the past which may now be told despite its illegalities, will illustrate the Club's standing in those far-off days. A well-known firm of prize-suppliers, having failed to receive their money, decided to put the bailiffs in on Bob Ricketts—then Club President. Hearing of this, Bob called on Oscar for assistance and together they spent an evening removing Bob's possessions of value (he held many trophies, etc.) into an adjacent empty flat—thus breaking the law—and when the bailiffs arrived they found little to interest them. Oscar, after his hard evening's task, arrived home in the small hours, and always doubted whether his explanations to his wife were believed until corroboration some time later with Mrs. Ricketts confirmed the story! It was then Oscar's task to turn the debt into a credit balance and in a comparatively short time he had done so—but not without a terrific struggle.

Oscar was continually faced with members who were attracted away to other Clubs "who had Championships, and entered teams in open competition." Horwood prophesied that the time would come when Belgrave would have a full range of Club Championships, would enter teams in all major competitions, and attain honours such as had never been won before.

How pleasing it was that Oscar should live to see his prophecies come true; and to know that the reward for his tenacity and purposefulness was in the Club's attainment of the highest honours, gained in a spirit of the highest sportsmanship! We honour him for all he did for us.

Oscar Horwood was not well known to the later generation of Club members. The financial slump of 1931 caused the firm for which he had worked since a boy, to be engulfed most unexpectedly, and Oscar, for whom prospects had looked bright, was struggling again. Courageously, with another member of the old firm, he started all over again; and these were days when Oscar did every job rolled into one, with never a moment to spare for sport, although his interests were still very much with us. But the stern business of gaining a living demanded all his time, and all the tenacious determination which had helped us so much. Gradually the new firm prospered until at outbreak of war twenty travellers were employed. Then three times the premises in the City were bombed, with all the attendant worries, but still Oscar kept going. In later years his health began to fail and he was only able to come along on rare occasions. But even in his last illness his desire was to see the Belgravians of the earlier days with whom he had worked so well, and Harry Goodfellow, C. H. Rogers, Dick Savage, F. M. Stone, the late Jimmy Belchamber, Harry Evans and others were frequently with him.

In 1926 Oscar presented the Club with the Horwood Cup which will keep his memory ever before us. He had also been a great enthusiast, one of the pioneers, for Women's Athletics and many will remember his daughter, Virna (who married Jim Tosh, a Club Champion and record-holder), winning walking championships.

Oscar's passing reminds us of the great difference between the Belgrave of thirty and forty years ago and the Club we know to-day; and we honour the memory of one who fought the good fight against great opposition and handed on to another generation something worth while—something on which could be founded even greater things, something we acknowledge with proud yet humble gratitude.

And in the Club history the name Oscar Horwood will always form part of the fabric; and his memory will remain dear to all who were privileged to know him, and enjoy the benefits he so largely helped to create.

Good-bye, Oscar. R.I.P.

A.A.H.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS IN FIELD EVENTS

The General Committee of the A.A.A. have made the following decision operative from 8th May, 1952:—

In view of the risk of serious accidents, the attention of athletes must be drawn to the instruction preceding Rule 99 requiring that during practice and competition, implements must be thrown only from the circle or scratch line and must be returned by hand and not thrown back.

The Referee or other appropriate official is now authorised to disqualify from competing in the event any competitor who wilfully disobeys this instruction after he has been told of it.

DATE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, October 14th, 6.30 sharp, at Belgrave Hall.

A very full Agenda is being prepared and your early attendance is requested.

ANNUAL DINNER AND DANCE

Saturday, October 18th. Venue—Coventry Street Corner House, W.1.

Plaques will be presented to the first Club member who long jumps 22 feet or throws the javelin 170 feet in Club or Match events. Plaques for other Field Events may follow.

FLOODLIGHT MEETING AT WHITE CITY

Wednesday, September 17th.

London—Paris—Brussels. Book early. Tickets obtainable from Frank Webb at 2s. 6d. each.

Sponsored by the "Evening News," a proportion of the profits are allocated to Clubs. Give this meeting your full support.

We are indebted to A. F. (Bert) Mitchell for the presentation of three plaques for the first three in the Club Marathon Championship.

In a previous issue the telephone number of Belgrave Hall was incorrectly given. While your Editors do not accept the blame for this, we do apologise for any inconvenience caused to members and others. Will you please now note carefully the correct number, which is **WIM. 6859**, and alter accordingly in your diaries and other references.

JIMMY BELLCHAMBER MEMORIAL TROPHY

Donations towards this Trophy will be gratefully accepted by Alf Harley. It is proposed to devote the proceeds to a suitable Trophy for a long-distance walking event, as Jimmy would have wished.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY 10 MILES WALK. PARLIAMENT HILL FIELDS, 1-3-52

Our Cadogan members had a fairly strong team for this event which was held over the Highgate Harriers' course for Parliament Hill Fields. Highgate, who were reinforced with second-claim members, Mash and Carpenter, once again had a fairly easy win. All our men walked exceedingly well and almost throughout the race we held second place although our own men changed places with one another several times. George Checkley, after being headed alternatively by Hugh McGreechan and G. Oliver, eventually led the team home, followed closely by Mac, and we thus won two places in the Middlesex Team for the Inter-County Race on 15th March.

Times and places as follows:—

1	D. Tunbridge	79.15	15	J. Rutland	87. 5
7	G. Checkley	84.29	21	A. Readman	88. 7
8	H. McGreechan	84.31	31	H. Shields	91.53
12	G. Oliver	85.29	36	W. Ferguson	94.49
14	C. Sutton	85.57	38	S. Spencer	95.40

Team Race—1, Highgate H., 19 points; 2, Cadogan A.C., 41 points.

SURREY COUNTY 10 MILES CHAMPIONSHIP. MITCHAM 1-3-52

1	W. Woods	78.57	13	G. Beecham	86.22
2	H. Churcher	78.58	21	G. Doubleday	89.23
3	B. Shepherd	80.24	24	A. East	89.55
4	C. Churcher	81.02	28	W. True	91.35
7	D. McMullen	82.47	33	J. Cotton	93.37
9	S. Jarlett	84.39	34	J. Wilson	94.09
10	S. James	84.49	37	P. Wilson	94.17
11	M. Ellis	85.53			

Team Championship—1, Belgrave "A," 22 points; 7, Belgrave "B," 126 points.

TROWBRIDGE A.C. 10½ MILES OPEN, 8-3-52

Only four of our walkers journeyed to Trowbridge in an effort to retain the "Traders" Bowl, but although we scored 1st and 2nd places in the team race, we were unable to do better than finish runners-up to the local club.

1	H. Churcher	83.55	20	B. Eglington	98.27
5	H. Clayton	89.26	24	P. Wright	103.17

1st—Trowbridge A.C., 21 points; 2nd, Belgrave Harriers, 29 points.

ENGLISH C.C. CHAMPIONSHIPS

These were held at Great Barr, Birmingham, on March 8th and on arrival at "The Pheasey," where the races were to take place, it was found that first-class dressing accommodation was available. The keener members of our team proceeded to view the course and to make plans for what was hoped would be a Belgrave victory. The "going" appeared fast and well suited to our type of running although a stiff hill at the commencement of each lap caused some consternation. This had to be negotiated once by the Youths, twice by the Juniors and four times by the Seniors in their respective races. From the spectators' angle conditions were ideal for the weather was favourable and a good view of the course could be had from a number of vantage points.

The Youths' race was the first to be run and right from the start Frank Wright, who has shown a wonderful improvement during the past year, was up with the leaders and despite a bad patch in the middle stages he put in a fighting finish and eventually finished 7th, which was a really fine effort. The rest of the team, weakened by the absence of Ron Linstead, who had to run for his school in another event, never seemed to get going although G. Lines did seem to be making some headway and we had to go back to the 93rd position for our fourth scoring runner.

The Senior race was of course the "piece de resistance" and it was to our team in this event that we looked to for "bringing home the bacon." The field got away to a good start with the exception of Len Herbert who

unfortunately fell heavily in the initial mad rush and could not seem to get going again. Charlie Walker was well up to start with but then seemed to ease off with the result that at the end of the first short lap we had no one in the first fifty placings. This was a handicap that we could not overcome as all our major rivals had two or three of their men well placed in the first twenty or so and were quickly getting themselves established. At the end of five miles we had made some improvement and our sixth scoring man was then about 130th and all our team appeared to have gained some places. Blowfield and Jack Brown were now in the thirties with Walker and Eddie Short also inside the fifty's, but our last two scoring men were still much too far back to stand a chance of securing a place in the team race. This was indeed the case as the final figures gave us fifth place behind Victoria Park A.A.C., Bolton United H., Manchester A.C., and Birchfield H. It was very pleasing to see Vern Blowfield once more leading our team home and gaining for himself the "Harry Parker" Memorial Trophy, and a replica of the "Finch-Wayte Cup" for being the first scoring member of the first Southern club to finish in this championship.

The Junior race which followed was a repetition of the Senior race so far as Belgrave was concerned, for at no stage were any of our runners well enough placed to give us any hope of a team victory. Their final placing of 13th was not so good as we had expected, although the fact that they were without the help of Ray Tooby, our Junior champion, must have had a disheartening effect on the rest of the team.

It should of course be recorded that in the Senior event we were without the help of Bill Lucas, our cross-country captain, and John Bromley who were both laid off with leg injuries, and it might well have been that with their help we could have at least gained third place.

We can console ourselves in the fact that we were the first Southern club to finish and so won the "Finch-Wayte Cup," also that we again won the "Charles Otway Cup" which is awarded to the first club to finish its complete team of 9 men, outside the placed teams.

Actual placings of our competitors is given below:—

Youths—7. F. J. Wright; 27. G. J. Goode; 32. G. Lines; 93. J. Hills; 198. P. M. Childs; 233. D. A. Wise; 159 points (4th position).

Junior—39. D. G. Maclean; 64. M. J. Stearman; 70. B. C. Trower; 134. E. T. Pater-son; 149. D. Briggs; 170. J. E. Godfrey; 307 points (13th position).

Senior—26. V. S. Blowfield; 40. J. W. Brown; 43. C. W. Walker; 58. E. A. Short; 93. B. L. Hudson; 96. A. W. Bedford; 134. L. A. Adams; 152. L. W. Herbert; 158. L. C. Bishop; 356 points (5th position).

COMMENTS ON THE "NATIONAL"

By "Observer."

It is rather strange to find the English cross-country championship being won by a Scottish club, Victoria Park A.A.C., and while I do not begrudge them their fine win, it does seem rather an anomaly that such a thing can happen.

Under the E.C.C.U. rules entries can be from any British cross-country club, but when we think of some of the Area Associations who limit their entries to those living within that area, it does not seem to tie-up somehow.

Also the rules state that the championship shall be held, if possible, on the 2nd Saturday in March in each year, but for the coming season it will be held on the 1st Saturday.

We understand that this is due to the International C.C. race being brought forward, but whereas in this race we only have 9 men representing England, it would seem that over 400 runners will have to revise their racing programme for the sake of these nine men.

Whether such happenings is good for the sport is open to doubt and with the moving forward of the "National" date all the other Area races, South and North of Thames events, will of course have to be adjusted accordingly.

NATIONAL 10 MILES CHAMPIONSHIP, Imber Court, 15-3-52

The absence of Harry Churcher, who had a severe attack of flu, and Gerry Gregory from our team, our chances of success were very remote. However, the remainder battled bravely on and almost throughout the whole of the race we were within an ace of winning, no more than 9 points ever separating us from Sheffield, the ultimate winners. Unfortunately about 150 yards from the finish, Hugh McGreechan was ruled out and we ceased to take an active interest in the team placings, eventually finishing 5th. Although Sheffield managed to retain the title, the score was quite high compared with previous years.

1	K. Hardy	...	...	...	73.16	76	J. Bellchamber	...	...	...	88.25
12	D. McMullen	...	...	...	80.40	85	S. James	...	...	...	89.42
13	C. Churcher	...	...	...	80.47	89	A. East	...	...	...	89.52
19	G. Checkley	...	...	...	81.33	95	H. Shields	...	...	...	90.14
40	G. Beecham	...	...	...	84.21	105	W. Ferguson	...	...	...	91.07
42	G. Warr	...	...	...	84.41	110	W. True	...	...	...	92.54
52	A. Readman	...	...	...	85.27	112	B. Eglinton	...	...	...	92.02
60	G. Oliver	...	...	...	86.10	122	J. Wilson	...	...	...	93.48
73	J. Rutland	...	...	...	87.53	137	P. Wilson	...	...	...	97.27

THE ROAD RELAY RACES

The first of these now annual events was the Ilford 10 x 3½ miles race held on March 15th, and we entered three teams in order to give most of our lads a run to gain experience of this type of racing.

Our "A" team put up a very good performance to come home in first place out of a field of 33 teams, even though we were only placed 13th at the end of the first stage. "Ginger" Newell took us up into 5th place on the 2nd relay and we then had Ken Stimpson 7th, B. L. Hudson 6th, Len Adams 5th, Eric Herbert 6th, Len Herbert 4th, Len Bishop 4th, with Eddie Short taking us into the lead on the 9th stage, for Chas. Walker to finish the race in front of such clubs as—Poly "A," Herne Hill "A," Finchley H., Aylesford P.M., Essex Beagles and Surrey A.C.

Unfortunately, our "B" team only had 8 men present and so failed to close in, but our "C" team, which in the main was composed of junior members, did well to finish in 14th place.

On March 22nd we had the T.V.H. 4 x 5 miles road relay at Cranford, and we had entered five teams, and they all closed in.

Chas. Walker went off first for our "A" team and handed over in 2nd place with Surrey A.C. leading. Len Herbert then went off and retained our position although Cambridge were now in the lead. Bill Lucas then took us to the front on the third stage but Vern Blowfield could not hold Alec Olney over the final "leg," and so we finished 2nd to Thames Valley H.

Our "B" team of—Newell, Adams, Short and Bedford, all ran well to finish in 3rd position in front of Cambridge H., Reading A.C., and Surrey A.C., with our "C" team—Stokell, Taylor, E. Herbert, Bruce, in 7th place, our "D" team of—Ken Stimpson, Bolam, Stace, Len Bishop, were 16th and our "E" team—R. Mitchell, Cuff, Tween, Porter, 22nd out of the 30 clubs that closed in. Chas. Walker also took a prize for the 3rd fastest lap time, so the Belgrave boys were well among the prizes!

Our Club 5 miles road race was to have been held on March 29th, but in view of the snow-bound roads at Wimbledon, it was decided to call the race off. Most of our lads went for a training spin over the country, but in view of the National Road Relay a week later it was a pity that our race could not be held.

The "Brighton." How this does attract some of our once-a-year supporters, but nevertheless we are pleased to see some of the old faces and it brings back memories of former races on the historic Brighton Road.

We had Chas. Walker running the first stage and although he had been receiving hospital treatment for a poisoned hand, we did not expect him to be so far back as 16th place, when the runners arrived at the first change-

over. Len Herbert tackled his task in his usual great-hearted style and made up six places so that at the end of the second stage we were now lying 10th.

We then ran "Ginger" Newell, who was a reserve that we had to bring in for Archie Bedford, who was injured, but what a "reserve" Ginger turned out to be! He took us from 10th to 4th and put up the fastest time of the day on his leg, which was certainly good going for one making his first appearance in this race. Bill Lucas went off on the 4th stage and, running in his usual smooth style, he took us up yet another place, although losing ground slightly on the two leading runners.

Ray Tooby was our next runner and he ran a "blinder" to equal Charlie Smart's record-breaking run on this same stage the previous year. We were now only 37 seconds behind the leaders after being nearly 2 minutes down at the end of the first stage.

Birchfield and Thames Valley were still fighting it out neck-and-neck in the lead and it was this continual battle which prevented our chaps getting on terms with the leaders. Bob Taylor, another reserve, ran the short 6th stage and although he kept our position he did not gain much ground on the teams in front. We then had Vern Blowfield on the long 7th stage and although he handed over 4th we were now only a couple of seconds behind the 2nd and 3rd teams with Birchfield 37 seconds in front.

Len Adams soon went past Thames Valley and Victoria Park, the Scottish champions, and put in a really fast run to gain on the Birchfield man so that at the end of the 8th stage we were now only 27 seconds behind.

Birchfield then pulled an "ace" by running Freddie Green on the 9th stage and, as we had rather expected, he gained ground from Eddie Short, who ran in his usual plucky style and did 3rd fastest time on his leg, but we were now 65 seconds down, and the race was as good as over.

Mr. Austin, the Birchfield President, did not think so, however, and it was not until the Birchfield runner had crossed the finishing line at Brighton that he would allow us to congratulate his club on their first win on the Brighton road since 1931.

Jack Brown had put in a club record-breaking run on the final leg and his time of 17min. 15secs. beat Pat Parker's old record by 5 seconds. Jack also gained 40 seconds on the leader, and if only we had been a little closer when he took over, who could say what the result might have been.

On the same day we had 2 teams in the Ilford Youths' Road Relay and our "A" team did well to finish 3rd behind the English Youths c.c. champions, Ilford A.C. and the Southgate boys.

Geoff Goode gave us the lead on the first leg but Gerry Lines dropped back to 3rd only for Ron Linstead to take us into 2nd place, which D. A. Wise hung on to on the 4th leg, but Frank Wright could not hold Barton of Southgate, who is the Southern Youth c.c. champion, over the final stage.

METROPOLITAN WALKING CLUB 15 MILES, REGENT'S PARK, 5th APRIL

Once again in this race we suffered what now seems to be our usual number of disqualifications. Even so, although we finished 4th, we were only one point behind the winners, our old friends, Surrey Walking Club. In fact only 2 points separated the first five teams, a result which must be without parallel. Met. W.C., Poly H., and ourselves all scored 40 points and priority was given to the clubs who were first to finish their teams. Charlie Churcher walked exceptionally well to take individual honours, beating Goodall of Woodford Green by exactly 30 seconds.

1	C. Churcher	...	...	2. 4.49	60	R. Frazer	...	...	2.23.14
7	G. Checkley	...	...	2. 9. 1	69	J. Wilson	...	...	2.24.47
33	A. Readman	...	...	2.17.27	73	G. Doubleday	...	...	2.26.24
41	H. Shields	...	...	2.19. 4	85	B. Eglinton	...	...	2.28.27
42	G. Oliver	...	...	2.19.23	87	P. Wilson	...	...	2.29.44
53	A. East	...	...	2.21.38	93	W. Ferguson	...	...	2.31.35
58	F. Rolfe	...	...	2.22.48	105	S. Spencer	...	...	2.35.29

THE CLUB 20 MILES CHAMPIONSHIP 19th APRIL, 1952

With 18 starters of Belgrave, and a good contingent of Woodford Green walkers who were also using the race as for their 20 miles Championship, there was a good field of walkers on show, and for a change the weather was nice and warm, too warm for some, I suspect. Hugh McGreechan, who was third last year, made himself a very worthy winner this year, and had the satisfaction of making his own pace throughout to win quite comfortably by five minutes from Alf Cotton—who won the Woodford 20—and from George Checkley, who took 2nd place in our Championship. Third in our Championship was a bit of a surprise, although he is no stranger to long distance racing. I refer, of course, to George Oliver, who walked very well and consistently to record his first placing in our 20 miles Championship.

1	H. McGreechan	...	3. 1. 8	9	J. Bidgood	...	3.22. 4
2	G. Checkley	...	3. 6.14	10	A. East	...	3.23. 5
3	G. Oliver	...	3.11. 9	11	A. Readman	...	3.25.51
4	H. Shields	...	3.13.23	12	P. Wilson	...	3.26. 4
5	J. Bellchamber	...	3.14.27	13	B. Eglington	...	3.30.30
6	W. Wesson	...	3.17. 5	14	S. Spencer	...	3.30.47
7	F. Rolfe	...	3.21. 5	15	F. Herring	...	3.48.29
8	H. Clayton	...	3.22. 4				

Handicap—1, F. Rolfe, 25 mins.; 2, W. Wesson, 19 mins.; 3, G. Oliver, 12.15 mins.

COLCHESTER TO IPSWICH WALK, 26-4-52

A first glance at the result of this race gives the impression that it was a policeman's "benefit," but as our winning team of three included two of our police members, we have no complaint to make. This was not the only police help we had that day, as they were also responsible for providing our means of transport, and since the weather was perfect, all voted it a grand day out. Misfortune nearly befell us at 8 miles when Hugh McGreechan had to stop to change his socks owing to blistered feet, but he certainly benefited by the change for thereafter there was no holding him, and he went through from the middle of the field to finish only 23 seconds behind Paddy Woods who had been in the lead all the way. George Checkley walked a very good race and although tiring over the last mile, finished 4th backed up by Harry Shields who also put his "skates" on over the second half and finished 8th, making our final score 14 points to Woodford Green's 22.

1	W. Woods	...	2.39.26	8	H. Shields	...	2.44.33
2	H. McGreechan	...	2.39.49	12	H. Clayton	...	2.45.22
4	G. Checkley	...	2.40.48	22	F. Rolfe	...	2.52.01

Team Race—1, Belgrave Harriers, 14 points.

MATCH AT MITCHAM

Our first fixture of the 1952 track season was held at Figgs Marsh, Mitcham, owing to the "News of the World" ground being under repair.

The local Council had laid out a grass track of 4 laps to the mile which was fairly level and, apart from small children and stray dogs, conditions were not too bad.

Geoff Barker was second in the 100 yards Senior and Dicky Bartlett won a straight 220 yards Senior. Ian Badiali won the 880 yards in 2min. 0.8secs. with Don Maclean in third place, while Bill Lucas beat Len Adams in the Senior mile after a good race with Fieldsend of Mitcham A.C. Bob Taylor was second in the 440 yards and our team of Walker, Barker, Thomas and Bartlett beat the local club in the 1 mile medley relay.

In the Junior events we saw Alan Law score a good double by winning the 100 and 220 yards, while Brian Trower was another dual winner in the 440 and 880 with Boreham giving him good assistance in both races. Gerry Lines won the 1 mile in good style with W. Bird in third place.

Final points in the two matches were: Senior—Belgrave H., 20; Mitcham A.C., 14; Junior—Belgrave H., 18; Mitcham A.C., 10.

FIRST CLUB TRACK MEETING

This was held at Battersea Park on May 3rd and we returned to our former "home" to find that instead of the 3 lap track we knew of old, there was now a brand new 4 lap track.

We had triangular matches with Herne Hill H. and Woodford Green A.C., and in the Senior 100 yards we saw Holtum finishing 3rd, and he followed this with a 4th place in the 220. Badiali was 3rd in the 440 and Jack Brown finished 2nd in the 880 yards with Bob Taylor in 4th place. Bill Lucas and Chas. Walker were 3rd and 4th in the 1 mile, but Len Adams scored a good win when he came home first in the 2 miles run.

In the field events we had Miska 3rd in the Weight, Whitehead 3rd in the Javelin, Luxon 3rd in the Long Jump, and our only win was by our Nigerian high jumper E. M. Bare.

We scored a good win in the 1 mile medley relay and final points were: Herne Hill H., 59; Belgrave H., 38; Woodford Green A.C., 25.

In the Junior events we had Benstead and Forrester in the first two places in the 100 yards, while Frank Kemp won the 220. R. F. Budd was second in the 440 with D. A. Wise in a similar position in the 880 yards. Geoff Goode won a good 1 mile with Gerry Lines in third place, and we also won the 4 x 110 yards relay. A new member in D. B. Ansell won the Long Jump with C. R. Jones and Jim Purdy being 2nd and 3rd in the High Jump.

Final match points were: Belgrave H., 53; Herne Hill H., 34; Woodford Green A.C., 24.

We also held some Club handicaps, and these resulted as under:—

220 Yards Final—1, D. Butler (15); 2, J. Smith (15); 3, J. Benstead (10); Time, 22.7 secs.

1320 Yards—1, J. Stevens (190); 2, J. Masters (120); 3, D. Powell (150); Time, 2 min. 55.5 secs.

Weight—1, G. Powell (35ft. 8½in.); 2, J. P. Jones (35ft. 6in.); 3, W. Sutton (35ft. 3½in.).

Javelin—1, D. Maddicks (50ft.); 2, H. Powell (70ft.); 3, R. Woodley (40ft.); Dist. 175ft. 6in.

The first event on the afternoon's programme was the Surrey County 7 miles walk championship, and Harry Churcher scored a good win from young Brian Shepherd in 54 min. 20 secs.

LEYTON FLOODLIT MEETING

This was held on May 7th and we had teams in the 1 mile medley relay, also the 3000 metres team race.

In the former event we were in the "A" section of the race with such clubs as Poly H., Achilles, Walton, Herne Hill, and Southgate H., and our team of Jack Brown, Holtum, Sexton, and Badiali did well to gain third place.

The 3000 metres event saw Len Eyre come home in first place followed by Paget and Gordon Pirie and Ray Tooby ran well to finish 5th and was clocked to do 8 min. 33 secs., which was very fast running. Our other runners were Len Adams, Chas. Walker and Bill Lucas, and we were placed 3rd in the team race to S.L.H., and the Polytechnic H.

MATCH AT EALING

This was the annual contest for the "Gordon Stewart" Trophy, and we retained the cup in rather easy fashion against Maidenhead A.C. and the local club.

Bob Taylor won the 1 mile in 4 min. 28.5 secs., while Holtum and Basil Walden were first two home in the 100 yards.

Ian Badiali won the 880 yards in fine style, beating Allen of Ealing H., the Middlesex champion, with Jack Brown and Ray Tooby also behind him.

Dicky Bartlett and D. Butler were second and third in the 220, and we also won the 2 miles team race, with Vern Blowfield leading the field home and scored yet another win in the 1 mile medley relay.

Final points for the Trophy were—Belgrave H., 41; Ealing H., 27; Maidenhead A.C., 8.

There was also a Junior match between the same clubs and in this we had Frank Kemp winning the 100 with John Benstead taking the 220 yards, while Geoff Goode was second to a very promising local youngster in the 1 mile.

D. A. Wise, our club junior 880 champion, was first home in the 880 match event, while in the medley relay we saw two Belgrave teams as the only contestants and in order to make a race of it we put D. A. Godfrey to run the 440 for the "B" team and he gave Geoff Goode about a 30 yards start and not only caught him but gave his 220 man a lead. Ian Forrester, however, took the "A" team into the lead again and I think the local crowd were duly impressed with the fine form shown by our junior members.

Match points for the junior contest were—Belgrave H., 27; Ealing H., 11; Maidenhead A.C., 6.

SURREY YOUTHS TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS

These were held at Tooting on May 10th and J. P. Jones did 48ft. 0½in. to win the Putting the Shot, while M. Cunningham qualified to compete in the 880 final. K. N. Eales was second in his 100 yards heat, but did not qualify for the final.

B. F. Windley was second in the Long Jump, while in the 1 mile D. C. Bird and G. Lines were 4th and 5th and both qualified for standard medals. F. Sullivan was 3rd in the High Jump while Windley gained another placing by being 3rd in the 110 yards Hurdles.

Also on the programme was the Surrey Senior 6 miles track championship, and Bill Lucas put in a good effort to retain his title but was beaten into 2nd place by T. Keegan, the Walton runner. Len Adams ran well to finish 4th, but Eddie Short was forced to retire after about 4½ miles.

R.W.A. NATIONAL 20 MILES CHAMPIONSHIP, ENFIELD, MAY 10th

In 1939 we last won this Championship, and now, happily in our own President's year of office as President of the R.W.A., we again become National 20 Mile Champions. After being runners-up for the last four years we triumphed over Sheffield United Harriers to gain a clear-cut victory. The team race throughout was very close, but our lads came through like the champions they proved to be at the end.

Our scoring four are to be congratulated on their splendid team work and we must certainly mention Bob Readman who, although walking in the "B" team, gave good support to our next four, H. Shields, G. Oliver, J. Bellchamber and F. Rolfe, who perhaps showed the finest example of team work by completing our eight and thus winning for us the Nijmegen Shield and a great double. We must also pay tribute to the great help given our walkers by Syd and Mrs. King, Joe Coleman, Jack Goswell, Frank Elson, Percy Wright and many others throughout the race. It should be noted with interest that in 24 National 20 Miles Championships we have taken winners' or placed medals no fewer than 21 times. This is indeed a great record, and we do thank our boys this time for so maintaining it.

5	H. McGreechan	...	...	3. 1.17	50	F. Rolfe	...	...	3.17.15
12	C. Churcher	...	...	3. 4.53	60	J. St. Wakeley	...	...	3.19.15
15	H. Clayton	...	...	3. 5.46	63	J. Wilson	...	...	3.22.58
17	G. Checkley	...	...	3. 6.30	66	P. Wilson	...	...	3.23.18
30	H. Shields	...	...	3.11.19	83	A. East	...	...	3.26.50
42	G. Oliver	...	...	3.14.59	102	B. Feglington	...	...	3.32.52
47	A. Readman	...	...	3.17. 9	105	S. Spencer	...	...	3.33.10
49	J. Bellchamber	...	...	3.17.15					

Team Championship—1, Belgrave Harriers "A," 49 points; 13, Belgrave Harriers "B," 244 points.

Nijmegen Shield—1, Belgrave Harriers.

THE COUNTY TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Surrey events were held at Motpur Park on May 17th and we were well represented in both Senior and Junior competitions.

Basil Walden ran 3rd in the Senior 100, while Denis Merrett was in a similar position in the 220 yards.

Don Maclean ran his best race to date in finishing 2nd in the Senior 1 mile which was won in 4 min. 19.6 secs.

D. J. Fleming was 3rd in the Javeline while P. L. Porter was also 3rd in the Hammer Throw.

Eddie Short ran 2nd in the 2 miles steeplechase while Harry Churcher once again won the 2 miles walk with Syd Jarlett doing well to take 3rd position.

In the Junior events we had Frank Kemp 2nd in the 220 yards, with Geoff Goode also 2nd in the 1 mile.

The Kent championships saw Ray Tooby win the Senior 1 mile with Jack Brown in second place and the time was 4 min. 19.6 secs.

"Ginger" Holtum was 2nd in the Middlesex Senior 100 yards championship, and Bob Taylor ran well to finish 2nd in the 880 yards. Vern Blowfield and "Ginger" Newell also gained standards in the 1 mile and we have quite a number of milers now doing inside 4.25 which goes to show how much the standard within the Club has improved in recent years.

JUNIOR MATCH ON 19th MAY

This was held at Tooting Bec Track and we had as visitors the Wallington County School, Whitgift Middle School and the John Ruskin Grammar School, Croydon.

We came out winners of the match by a comfortable margin of points, the totals being—Belgrave, 51½; Wallington, 27½; Whitgift, 17; John Ruskin, 14.

Also on the programme was our open Schools' Relay and this was won by Wallington in 49.4 secs. Whitgift, the holders, were second with Surbiton County School third.

Basil Walden won the Club 75 yards handicap with John Smith 2nd and Eddie Lacey 3rd, while Stan Davies showed some of his old form when he won the 2 miles run off 280 yards in 9 min. 21 secs.

"Ginger" Newell won the Club 880 yards handicap off a generous mark and it is a pity that we have not seen more of him in Club matches this season.

George Beecham won the 2 miles walk handicap with our old friend Harry Shields battling away to gain 2nd place from Bill True, the handicapper!

Complete results are given below:—

75 Yards—1, Walden (3); 2, J. Smith (6); 3, E. Lacey (10); Time, 7.9 secs.

2 Mile Run—1, Davies (280); 2, Rolls (380); 3, Carter (300); Time, 9 min. 21 secs.

880 Yards—1, P. Newell (50); 2, M. Porter (65); 3, L. Bishop (55); Time, 1 min. 54.6 secs.

2 Mile Walk—1, Beecham (340); 2, Shields (540); 3, True (560); Time, 14 min. 1.6 secs.

Long Jump—1, Ansell (3ft.); 2, J. Smith (3ft. 6in.); 3, Edmunds (4ft.); Dist., 21ft. 7ins.

"BROCKMAN" TROPHY MEETING

At Tooting Bec Track, on May 24th, we did well to gain 3rd position out of the 8 clubs competing in this annual contest.

Basil Walden and Ginger Holtum both qualified for the final of the 100 yards, which Basil won with Holtum in 3rd place.

Ray Tooby and Bob Taylor also qualified for the 880 yards final and Bob ran a fine race to finish in 2nd place, but Ray was almost run-out and could only struggle in for 6th position.

Alan Sexton and Dicky Bartlett also qualified for the 220 final and Alan set up a new "meet" record with a time of 22.7, beating Clay Gibbs with Dicky scoring a point for his 6th place.

Don Maclean again showed fine form when he ran away from his field in the 1 mile and he clocked 4 min. 22.4 secs., with Chas. Walker in 4th place to help our points total along.

Ian Badiali could only finish 4th in the 440 final which was won in 50.7 secs, and it is a pity that we are forced to run Ian at this distance as we think he prefers the half-mile.

Bill Lucas set up yet another "meet" record with his time of 14 min. 30.6 secs. in the 3 miles run, and he beat Alec Olney and K. Norris of T.V.H. in fine style.

As is usual in this style of contest we scored only a few points from the field events in which P. C. Luxon finished 3rd in the Long Jump and was then prevented from taking part in the Hop, Step and Jump by reason of a damaged ankle.

Final match points were—1, Thames Valley H., 57½; 2, Herne Hill H., 55; 3, Belgrave H., 46.

MATCH v. SURREY A.C.

This was held at Tooting on May 31st and was a three-sided match between Surrey A.C., Walton A.C., and ourselves.

In the Senior match we had Bob Taylor winning the 440 yards in 53 seconds, while Ian Badiali won the 880 in 1 min. 59 secs.

D. R. Childs won the Discus Throw, but we were well behind in the other field events, and the final match points were—Walton A.C., 82; Belgrave H., 48; Surrey A.C., 9.

In the Junior match between the same three clubs we fared a little better and scored wins in the 100, 440 and 1 mile, while we also won the medley relay, and final match points were—Belgrave H., 46; Surrey A.C., 31; Walton A.C., 21.

SOUTHERN SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

At the R.A.F. Stadium at Uxbridge, on 7th June, Basil Walden scored a fine win for the Club when taking the 100 yards title against strong opposition. His time was 10.2 secs and Basil's rigger training has certainly improved his sprinting powers, and he is running better now than at any time of his career.

G. H. Gregory won the 2 miles walk in 14 min. 12.4 secs., and this was our only other success except that our Junior team of Frank Kemp, Alan Law, Ian Forrester and John Benstead won the 4 x 110 yards Junior relay, beating Poly H. and the R.A.F., Halton, in 45.2 secs.

Our Senior team of—R. Holtum, Benstead, Sexton and Basil Walden also gained 3rd place in the Senior 4 x 110 yards relay when this was held at the Brockman meeting on May 24th.

MATCH WITH S.L.H.

This was held at Tooting Bec on June 11th and some well-contested racing was seen. In the Senior match we lost by 1 point only, the match being decided upon the result of the final event. We won the Junior match fairly comfortably and Alan Law won the weight with a put of 45ft. 6ins. Alan also won the Junior long jump and once again proved what a tower of strength he is to our Club ranks.

In the Senior events we saw Holtum win the 100 yards, and he was also 2nd in the 220, while Bill Lucas won the 1 mile in 4 min. 36.3 secs., and John Bromley, making a return after an operation for appendicitis, was 2nd to Peter Pirie in the 2 miles.

E. M. Bare, our Nigerian member, won the High Jump with 5ft. 6ins., while Dennis Fleming was 2nd in the Javelin with a throw of 160ft. 7½ins., and it is a pity that he cannot turn out more frequently in these matches.

Final match points were: Senior—South London H., 35; Belgrave H., 34; Junior—Belgrave H., 32; South London H., 19.

"KINNAIRD" TROPHY MEETING

At Chiswick Stadium, on June 14th, we put up one of our best performances in finishing 4th out of the 9 clubs taking part in what is virtually the Inter-Club championship of the South.

Bob Taylor and Jack Brown both qualified for the final of the 880 yards, and Bob ran well to finish 4th with Jack in 6th place.

As usual, we had no runners in the 120 yards Hurdles, but Don Maclean was 6th in the 1 mile and so scored yet another point.

Basil Walden won his 100 heat in 10.3 secs., and was placed 2nd to McDonald Bailey in the final which was won in 9.8 secs.

Bill Lucas ran well to take 3rd place in the 3 miles run with Len Herbert in 6th place, but we had no finalists in the 440.

Denis Merrett and Alan Sexton both qualified for the 220 final and they finished 3rd and 4th with Alan just beating Denis.

In the field events we had Bare gaining a point by being 6th in the High Jump, but Luxon in the Long Jump, George Powell in the Javelin and D. R. Childs in the Weight all found the opposition too strong for them to gain any points.

Final positions were—1, Polytechnic H., 62; 2, London A.C., 49; 3, South London H., 30; 4, Belgrave H., 23.

It will be seen that out of our total of 23 points, 22 of these came from track events and 1 from the field events.

EALING YOUTH SPORTS, JUNE 14th

At this Sports Meeting, Northolt Youth Centre, who were second last year, and have several Belgrave members, this year won the Boys' and Girls' mixed trophy by a large margin.

Belgrave members of Northolt Youth Centre among those scoring were as follows:

J. Smith, 1st 100 yards, 1st Long Jump, 1st 220 yards.

J. Farmer, 1st 100 yards boys, 1st Long Jump boys.

A. Mayhew, 2nd Long Jump.

M. Kirkby, 2nd 220 yards.

J. Smith, J. Farmer, M. Kirkby and A. Mayhew, 1st 4 x 100 relay.

Other Northolt boys who have already joined or are shortly joining the Club are P. Chappell, 1st mile (15-17), J. Hockley, 1st discus (125 ft.), K. Parker, 2nd Long Jump (boys), 2nd 440 yards (boys), D. Smith, 2nd mile (19-21).

The boys were well supported by the girls and the result gave Frank Elson, our Alperton Coach, who had spent much time training and coaching them, immense satisfaction.

R.W.A. 50 KILOS CHAMPIONSHIP, 14th JUNE, 1952

After our great win in the National 20, it was hoped that we should bring off the double this year in the long distance championships by retaining the 50 kilos trophy for which we had to travel to Leicester.

We arrived at Leicester to find it pouring with rain and our three cyclists, Jack Goswell, Percy Wilson and Frank Jarvis, were already well wet before the race started.

Thirteen teams comprising 97 walkers lined up for the start of a three-lap course, and immediately Rex Whitlock, Don Tunbridge and Proctor went to the front and set the pace. Our first casualty was Bert Clayton who is still suffering from knee trouble and was hoping for a hot day. The cold rain soon affected his leg and after two miles he was obliged to drop back, and although making a valiant effort to keep in the race, was eventually forced to retire.

Hugh McGreechan kept close to the leaders for the first ten miles, but then began to lose a little ground. Fred Rickards was then our second man in 21st position with George Checkley, not looking too happy, and Harry Shields following close behind. A check of the teams showed that Leicester were in the lead with 39 points, whilst we were 5th with 91 points. Woodford were packing extremely well, and looked like going into the lead.

By the end of the second lap, 21 miles, the cold rain began to tell on a number of the walkers, including veteran Fred Rickards, who retired. At the same time George Checkley was going back and things didn't look so good. It was then that Harry Shields and Jack Wakeley started putting in some good work, and on a further check at 20 miles we found that Woodford had a comfortable lead of 20 points over Poly, whilst Leicester had dropped to third place with us still fourth. While Hugh McGreechan was scoring 4th, our next positions were Harry Shields 28th, George Checkley 37th, Jack Wakeley 38th, Tony Bellchamber 41st, and Fred Rolfe 42nd.

Harry and Jack continued to push forward and at 25 miles we had further improved our position to third. Hugh by this time was suffering from hunger and cold, having missed his midday meal before the race and dropped back a few places, but this was compensated for by the others, including George Checkley who had begun to find a little more speed. Woodford continued to pack well and looked obvious winners, whilst our lads were struggling to maintain third position. The final result showed further improvement by our 2nd, 3rd and 4th scoring men, whilst Tony Bellchamber was still handy, to step in, had there been any other casualties.

Once again we congratulate our walkers on their fine achievement and also the cyclists who did a grand job; in particular, Jack Goswell, who forfeited one day of his holiday in the Isle of Wight to turn up and act as a very worthy attendant.

Result:—

1	D. Tunbridge	...	...	4.38. 2	36	G. Checkley	...	...	5.14.57
1	G. Whitlock	...	...	4.38. 2	43	J. Bellchamber	...	...	5.18.51
9	H. McGreechan	...	...	4.54.21	44	J. Wilson	...	...	5.19.26
20	H. Shields	...	...	5. 5.39	53	F. Rolfe	...	...	5.27.22
26	A. St. Wakeley	...	...	5. 9.59			...	...

points.

Team Championship—1, Woodford Green A.C., 29 points; 3, Belgrave Harriers, 75

MATCH v. SHAFTESBURY HARRIERS

This was held at Parliament Hill Fields on June 18th, and for the first event, the 100 yards, we had no sprinters present and so Shaftesbury loaned us a runner and Luxon, our long jumper, also said he would have a go!

For a Club of our so-called strength it seems amazing that such a position should arise and it makes one wonder whether it is worth while arranging these mid-week matches.

In the 200 yards we had Butler, who is a 2nd claim member, and Don Newell running for us, but had to be content with 4th and 6th places. Alan Bishop was 2nd in the 440, and "Ginger" Newell turned out in the 880 and finished second.

Arthur Bruce won the 1 mile and here is another member who we see very little of in these inter-Club fixtures and it does seem a pity that, although we have several members of promising strength, they seem very loth to display their form in public!

John Bromley won the 2 miles run with Archie Bedford in 2nd place, and in the field events we had Luxon, Childs and Bill Sutton picking up a few points here and there.

Final match points were—Shaftesbury H., 67; Belgrave H., 57; North London H., 52.

DID YOU READ THE EDITORIAL ?

*Have we wasted our written eloquence — or are YOU
going to introduce a new member ?*

A.A.A. CHAMPIONSHIP MEETING

At the White City Stadium on Friday and Saturday, 20-21st June, we had quite a number of members representing the Club in the various events.

G. H. Gregory was 2nd in the 2 miles walk, but as there was only 5 entries, and one of these was disqualified in the first 100 yards, it seemed rather an empty honour, although Gregory walked quite well but was still a minute behind the winner.

In the 100 yards we had Walden and Holtum, and although Basil was 2nd in his heat and so qualified for the next round, "Ginger" found himself in Mac's heat, and that was that! In the semi-finals Basil was in Mac's heat won in 9.7, and was a shade unlucky to be placed 4th and so missed qualifying for the final.

Bare, our Nigerian, was in the High Jump, but owing to knee trouble could not give of his best, and did not qualify at 6 feet.

The 880 yards saw three of our members running, and they all did well although only one of them, Bob Taylor, qualified for the final of this race. Ian Badiali and P. R. Bagnall, a new member, both finished 3rd in their heats, and although Bob was only 4th in his, he qualified by virtue of being one of the three fastest losers.

In the final Bob found the pace a little too fast for him, and with the 6th man doing 1.55 it was not surprising to see Bob in 8th and last place.

The 220 yards saw Sexton and Merrett running for the Club, and with the 1st two only qualifying, Alan was 3rd in his heat, but Denis came 2nd in his, and so got through to the semi-finals.

Once again we were unlucky in the fact that he could not manage to get in the first three, although there was very little in it.

We had no runners in the 440 and this does appear a distance at which we are noticeably short of good-class men.

In the 1 mile we had Jack Brown, Ray Tooby and Don Maclean running for us, and with the first two only to qualify, Jack left nothing to doubt and romped home an easy winner of his heat with Bill Nankeville in second place in 4 min. 16.6 secs.

Ray Tooby was unlucky in that he could only finish 3rd in his heat, but with more experience and a bit more weight, we are sure that Ray will be troubling the best next year.

Don Maclean proved that he is not yet ready for this class of competition, and here is another who we are sure will do much better next season.

So to the final with two Australians in the field, also our old friends Derrick Burfitt and Doug Wilson, the "daddy of them all." It was an interesting race to watch and once again Bill Nankeville proved himself a master tactician by beating his opponents in the fast time of 4 min. 9.8 secs. Jack Brown ran the best race of his career to finish in 5th place and he clocked 4 min. 13.6 secs., which must be the fastest time ever by a Belgrave Harrier.

The final event on the Friday evening was the 6 miles run, and I am sure the crowd, including all the school children present, missed our old friend Charlie Smart, who although entered, was unable to compete owing to achilles tendon trouble. We had Bill Lucas and Len Herbert representing the Club and they both ran well to clock their fastest times for this distance.

We had no competitors in the 7 miles walk which must surely be a record for our Club which is noted for its strong walking section, and it may be that the present-day opposition of Hardy and Allen makes them think that it is not worth the effort.

Also on the programme was the A.A.A. 4 x 110 yards Junior relay, and after our lads' fine effort in the Southern race we were naturally hoping for still further success. Our lads won their heat in good style, beating Birchfield into 2nd place, but in the final they did not appear to be doing too well over the first two legs, but Alan Law came through very fast on the 3rd leg and then in handing over to John Benstead for the final dash down the straight something seemed to happen and Benstead crashed to the ground, and we were out of the race. As Birchfield were 2nd to Mitcham A.C., the winners, it would appear reasonable to think that we should have at least been placed in the final, but still, better luck next time, lads!

In the 3 miles run we again had Bill Lucas and Len Herbert competing and this time Bill beat Len and was well up in the field, but even a repetition of his 14 min. 11.6 secs. would only have put Bill in 7th place, which shows how the standard has improved.

The final event in which we were interested was the 2 miles steeple-chase and apart from the fine form displayed by the winner, John Disley and the runner-up, C. W. Brasher, we were sorry to see Eddie Short have to drop out when running fairly well up owing to knocking his knee against the top of one of the hurdles, and with the new type of railway-sleeper that they use, one can quite understand how painful it must have been. John Bromley also competed, but seeing that John has only recently recovered from an appendix operation we could not expect him to put up much of a display.

So ends another A.A.A. Championship meeting which was full of good running and performances in the field, which gives us reason to hope that we shall do well as a nation in the Olympic Games at Helsinki.

MATCH v. WALTON A.C.

This was held at Battersea Park on June 25th, and owing to the late arrival of our opponents we were forced to alter the order of the events and so started off with the Club 1 mile handicap race.

This was won by Stan Davies with George Stace just beating Len Rolls on the tape for second place.

The 300 yards handicap saw "Jock" Cameron, our new member from Coventry Godiva H., running well to get up off 8 yards with Don Newell showing improved form to finish 2nd and John Smith, a protegee of Frank Elson, in 3rd place.

Alan Law won the Weight handicap with D. R. Childs taking first prize in the Discus handicap, while George Oliver won the 2 miles walk handicap with Bill True second and George Beecham third.

In the Junior match events we saw Alan Law win the 100 yards, and he also won the high jump and javelin events; quite a boy is our Alan! John Benstead won the Junior 220, with Frank Wright first in the Junior half-mile in the fast time of 2 min. 2.5 secs.

Basil Walden won both the Senior sprint events with Ian Badiali first home in the 880 in 2 min. 1.9 secs., and Alan Sexton winning the 440 in 52.1 secs.; shades of things to come!

Don Maclean won the Senior 1 mile with Len Adams in 2nd place, and final points were: Senior—Belgrave H., 29½; Walton A.C., 18½; Junior—Belgrave H., 28; Walton A.C., 8.

HAVE YOU READ PAGE FIVE ?

You should know then, that our Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 14th, at Belgrave Hall, commencing 6-30 SHARP

We wish to have a crowded meeting

Everything discussed and decided at this meeting concerns YOU !

"HEATHFIELD" TROPHY MEETING

Held at Walton-on-Thames on June 28th, this was an inter-Club affair with six clubs competing for the Shield.

In the 100 yards Basil Walden was our only runner and he caused some consternation by the fact that when he took his track suit off before getting on his mark, he discovered that he had forgotten to put his shorts on; was Basil's face red!

However, he won his heat O.K., and in the final was placed 3rd to Grieve of S.L.H. and Lewis of Walton.

The 880 yards saw Bob Taylor continue his good form by winning the race in 1 min. 57.3 secs. which equalled last year's time. "Jumbo" Masters also competed, but found the pace a little too fast for him, but will do better with more experience of such races.

In the 1 mile we had Ray Tooby and Chas. Walker, and Ray found one too good for him in Lloyd-Morgan, the Oxford runner, who won in the good time of 4 min. 19 secs. Ray was a close second but Walker could not make the first four home who all scored points.

The 440 yards saw Jim Heathfield and "Jock" Cameron running for us and "Jock" duly won his heat and so qualified for the final. Jim showed he was short of training and could not make it but in the final Cameron ran well to finish 2nd to Duffy, of the Polytechnic H.

In the 2 miles run we had Len Adams and Don Maclean, the latter being very keen to run this distance in preference to the mile in which he was entered. However, although Len ran well to finish third to Peter Pirie and Don Lee of Shaftesbury, Mac was well down the field and showed that without the full distance training you cannot expect to run well outside your own event.

We thus scored points in every event for the trophy and were told that we had tied with South London Harriers with 15 points each. Bob Taylor went up on our behalf and won the toss of a coin for the honour of holding the Shield for the first six months, and together with the various nice prizes that our lads won, a good day was had by all!

Also on the programme were the Surrey County Relay races, and although we were the holders of the Youths and Junior 4 x 110 events, we had to relinquish both these titles.

In the Youths 4 x 110 we only had three lads present and so could not field a team, while in the Junior 4 x 110 yards, our team of Kemp, Benstead, Laverick and Byrne could only finish 2nd to Mitcham A.C., the A.A.A. Junior champions.

We fielded a make-shift team in the Senior 4 x 110 yards, and Basil Walden had a close finish behind Alan Grieve to decide who should take 2nd place to Walton A.C., the winners.

In the Senior medley relay we could not field a team, a sad reflection on our so-called strength on the track, while in the Junior medley relay our team—Byrne, Benstead, Kemp and Frank Wright had a good race with Mitcham A.C., the holders, but had to admit defeat by about a foot after a thrilling battle throughout.

JUST A REMINDER—

OUR ANNUAL DINNER AND DANCE

will be held on

Saturday, October 18th at The Coventry Street Corner House

Undoubtedly the Best Social Function of the Year!

Book now with J. Lacey, Hon. Social Secretary or C. T. Carter

OUR "FIRST" OPEN 20 MILES ROAD RACE, 19-7-52

Amid scenes unparalleled at any Belgrave event, the Mayor of Wimbledon, Councillor S. Black, O.B.E., J.P., started 84 runners on their way in our first 20 miles Open Road Race, and so successful was the promotion that it undoubtedly established itself as the first of many more to come.

Everything required was thought of and carried through, down to the minutest detail. The weather was perfect for both runners and spectators. Wherever you looked you saw charming Red Cross Nurses with their ambulances and, together with our own Dr. Woodard, were ready always to assist those who fell by the wayside. Policemen and Police Cars seemed to be all round the course to look after traffic problems and the Wimbledon Boy Scouts, looking very smart and efficient, did a good job of work at turning points. A full retinue of officials and willing helpers were on duty and a large number of spectators enjoyed a good afternoon's racing. The course was well marked with direction arrows and mile marks. Timekeepers with ingenious time-recording boards, made by Arthur Penstone, were at every five miles. Spongeing points were set up and efficiently manned, and, of course, the prizes were quite up to the standard set by Belgrave.

Also about three minutes after the last man had finished the results had been proved and a typewritten sheet showing finishing times and positions of every man had been run off, and our thanks for this are given to Mrs. Jack Chappell and Miss Tribe.

That all these arrangements were appreciated by the competitors is without question, for many congratulations on the promotion were showered on those responsible, and here we place on record our appreciation to Arthur Whitehead, Denis Brickwood and their enthusiastic band of Road Runners who all did their share in making the race such a success. We are indeed indebted to Arthur Whitehead for putting his home at the disposal of the race, using it as Committee Rooms, First Aid Station (complete with bed), Feeding Station, Storeroom, Spongeing Point, Garage, etc., etc., but we know that although Arthur must have had many anxious hours prior to the race and anxious minutes during the race, he is most gratified with the results and he himself wishes to return thanks to all those who helped.

As to the race itself, 84 started and 54 completed the course. Eleven men were timed inside standard time and the first 50 obtained time certificates. The winner was D. Fotheringham, of T.V.H., followed home by G. Parr, of Reading, and G. Ash, of Southgate. Our first man to finish was J. McDonald, our Club Marathon Champion, in 16th position closely followed in by A. Jordan (17th) who showed grand form. D. Brickwood seemed to have had a hard race and finished in 20th position with R. Towndrow jogging along steadily just behind.

The prizes were duly presented by our President, Alf. Harley, who showed his appreciation of the efforts of his Road Running Section in his usual well-chosen words.

We are now fully assured that our Road Racing Section has strongly established itself, and as a point of interest, we started nine runners, seven of whom completed the course within 2 hours 45 minutes, thus gaining a Time Certificate.

And, just to show that every detail had been thought of, Arthur Whitehead invited to his house a few officials and members of the team, together with their good ladies, to discuss the race. During the discussion he produced a mammoth birthday cake with one candle and bearing the inscription, "Belgrave Harriers First Open 20 Miles Road Run." The toast to the future of the race was given in large cups of tea with very large lumps of cake.

Yes, definitely everything was thought of and carried through to unquestioned success.

Results:—

Individual Scratch: 1, D. Fotheringham, T.V.H., 1.56.40; 2, W. Parr, Reading A.C., 1.56.47; 3, G. W. Ash, Southgate H., 1.57.42.

Individual Handicap: 1, A. Cove, Shaftesbury H.; 2, R. Plummer, Oxford City A.C.; 3, W. Parr, Reading A.C.

Scratch Team Race: 1, Blackheath H.; 2, Polytechnic H.; 3, Thames Valley H.; 4, Belgrave H.

Finishing positions of Belgrave members:—

16	J. McDonald	...	...	2.08.35	29	G. Chantler	...	...	2.17.22
17	A. Jordan	...	...	2.08.47	37	A. Penstone	...	...	2.23.07
20	D. Brickwood	...	...	2.12.28	49	A. F. Mitchell	...	...	2.41.37
22	R. Towndrow	...	...	2.13.11					

FIELD EVENTS

The Club is fortunate to have some good Juniors in Field Events at the moment who are greatly improving. A good dozen are of first-class standard and I hope they will keep this up and keep in training with the Club Coaches at Battersea Park and Tooting. One of the pleasing features to date was the 11 entries for the Club Hop, Step and Jump Championship won by P. C. Luxon with C. R. Jones second and A. Ansell third, with five others gaining Club Standards of 37ft. I also mention in dispatches our high jumper, E. M. Bare, who jumped 6ft. at Hawick, Scotland, on June 6th to gain 1st place and also 1st place in handicap, and also P. Luxon who did 42ft. 4in. in the Hop, Step and Jump in the Southern Counties.

I hope you have all entered for the Club Championships, and I ask you to turn out for the Club when a post-card is sent you. With a few more Field Events competitors the Club could win many more matches and perhaps a few more trophies.

So turn out, lads, and support our track men, who do such good work. The Field Events Section are also capable of good work, but you must **turn out** and show us what you can do. What about it?

JACK CHAPPELL,

Hon. Field Events Secretary.

THE COMING WINTER SEASON

We open our winter programme with our usual 3 miles road run handicap race being held on September 27th.

The Southern London to Brighton Road Relay is being held on October 11th and we hope to be able to field a strong team in order to defend the title which we won last season. Some of the old faces will no doubt be disappearing from our team, and here is a good chance for some of our younger members to take their places.

On October 18th the Chelmsford Road Relay takes place and this is being held earlier in the season than previously and may give a chance to those members who do not make our team for the race the previous week.

We have the Maidenhead A.C. visiting our quarters on October 25th and will hold our usual 5 miles c.c. handicap in conjunction with this event.

November 8th is the day of the South of Thames "Junior" c.c. race, and it is being held at Maidenhead, which was the venue for the 1949 event. This race is only "Junior" in ability and is open to all over 18 so long as they have not scored in any previous winning teams or in any placed teams in the bigger championships. We have always entered as many teams as possible in order to give all our members, who are eligible, a chance of a run and am sure that we shall follow the same procedure for this year's race.

On November 15th we have our friends and rivals, the Herne Hill Harriers, coming over to Belgrave Hall for a match over our usual 5 miles course, and look forward to an enjoyable fixture.

November 29th is the day of the Club open 7 miles walk from Belgrave Hall, and as all the available accommodation will be required to stage this event, no runners will be allowed out from the Hall on this day. We have arranged an away fixture for both Juniors and Seniors with our friends, Ealing Harriers, from their quarters at Perivale, Middlesex.

On December 6th we have the first of the Surrey County c.c. events, this being the 3 miles Youth race, with the Senior race being decided on January 3rd from the Surrey A.C. quarters at Kingston, while we ourselves are staging the Junior race from Belgrave Hall on January 10th.

Our own Club championships will be on similar dates to last season, but the South of Thames "Senior" race will be held on the first Saturday in February, while the Southern Counties events are being held on the third Saturday in February, instead of the last Saturday as in previous years. This is due to the alteration of the date for the National c.c. races which are being held on the first Saturday in March, and as it is the South's turn to stage these events, they are being held at Reading, Berks.

All entries and enquiries to—

E. A. DUFFETT,
57, Harcourt Road,
Thornton Heath.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS (which are always welcome) FROM MEMBERS

George Clay has received an interesting letter from Frank Craft, our 100 yards champion, who is now resident in Queensland, Australia. He writes to say that he has just failed to qualify for the Olympic selection although he has had a very successful season. His first three days in Brisbane were spent in hospital owing to a bout of malaria and there he was visited by representatives of three local clubs who had evidently heard of Frank in advance. He decided to join Mayne Harriers and is still quite happy with them. Frank, who managed to touch 9.9 for 100 yards at Motspur Park, has now managed 9.8 and 21.8 for the 220. The general standard is below that in England, but there are many who are well above the standard. The Australian Championship times were 9.6 and 21.5, but in both cases only inches separated the first six.

Frank was just beaten for third place in the Queensland Championship which was also won in 9.6. He says he is enjoying his stay and has got a very good job. In wishing all Belgravians the best of luck, he says, "Keep a place in the Vets. open for my return," and we say, "The best of luck to you, Frank, and we assure you a hearty welcome on your return, whenever it may be."

Teddy Gordon writes from Bristol to say that he is keeping fit, leading a country life, hunting and shooting. In addition, he finds plenty to do as Vice-President of the Bristol A.C. and on the Committee of the Boys' Federation. He sends best wishes to all old pals and in particular to Frank Thomson.

Joe Flower writes to say that he hopes to be at the Championship meeting and wishes to be remembered to all old friends.

Ted Evans writes from Dover. Says he is likely to be there another three years and although he is keeping fit, is unable to get to London for racing, but hopes to do the Brighton Walk.

HERE AND THERE

Bob Wolton, our one-time Junior Hon. Sec., has had a spell in hospital with an operation for hernia, but is now up and about once again, although he will naturally have to take it easy for a while.

Terry Bateman writes from Ireland that he has joined the Albert Foundry A.C. for some competition while he is over there, and mentions that R. D. Miller, the javelin thrower, is a member of this club. Terry is now scaling 14½ stone, so the food out there must evidently agree with him.

Ray Tooby is now almost out of the Army, having served his two years' National Service training and recently finished 2nd to Peter Driver, of S.L.H., and clocked 4 min. 20.3 secs.

John Bromley is now running again after a spell in hospital with appendix trouble, and seems to have lost none of his old form, and we are looking forward to his help in the coming road relays and over the country.

Charlie Smart has written over from Germany to say that at a recent meeting out there he met another Belgravian in E. J. Gebbett. He has also been out training on the road with George Scutts, of Portsmouth A.C., so don't be surprised to see Charlie take up Marathon running when he eventually comes home for good, which he thinks will be some time next year.

At the National cross-country championships at Great Barr, Birmingham, we were pleased to see Martin Williamson with his wife, and they are living at Leamington, but Martin does not find time for any running but is keenly interested in all the Club is doing.

Also at this meeting we saw Tony Whincup who had come over from Crewe to see the lads, and Tony was interested to hear about our 20 miles road race and has sent along a cheque to Arthur Whitehead.

Ian Forrester is the latest of our Junior members to join the Forces and we hope that we shall see Ian turning out for the Club next track season.

We were sorry to hear that a new member in A. H. Waite went out for a training run with our road section from Belgrave Hall and was overcome by the heat and had to be taken to the hospital. One must take care not to overdo it during the extremely hot weather, and also if one has not done the necessary amount of work needed to keep up with the lads when they are doing their longer-distance training.

Once again Harry Churcher was 1st in the Surrey two miles track race, having finished 2nd to Paddy Woods by a narrow margin in the Track Seven.

Gerry Gregory won the Somersetshire 2 Miles Championship.

Hugh McGreechan retained his title in the Police "Classic," the Barking—Southend Walk, after going slightly off the course in the early stages.

We regret to report that, owing to knee trouble, Bert Clayton is obliged to retire from active walking. In his letter, Bert shows his great appreciation of his fellow Belgravians. We in return recognise Bert's great clubmanship. Living in Eastleigh, so many miles away, he has supported most races and has helped on many occasions, as recently as the National 20 Miles Championship, to win titles for the Club. We do hope that his knee trouble will eventually mend and he will reverse his decision. He tells us he is shortly getting married, and we send him and his wife-to-be, our sincere congratulations and best wishes for a happy married life.

In "Here and There" in our last issue, we reported that our old member, Albert Frost, had come 8th in an All England Civil Service legal examination. We have received further information from a most reliable source, and we wish to make a correction. To fully clarify the matter we quote from the letter received—"May I, however, in the interests of veracity, especially in the printed word, point out that Albert is no longer a Civil Servant. The results to which you refer were the finals of the Barrister-at-law examinations. He achieved his distinction, I regret to tell you, as a result of spare time study as an alternative to training, and although in the best Belgravian tradition, he is still *tee-total*, he was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple last November" We thank the writer for the information received, and we are all the more convinced that Albert is a brainy chap.

Syd James won the Open 2 Miles Walk Handicap in the Kent County Police Sports at Maidstone.

Colin Sutton is once again seeking his fortunes abroad. He is now serving for three years with the Malayan Police, and we do wish him every success during his sojourn in foreign lands, and assure him of a great welcome on his return.

Alf Harley recently met Jack Rathbone, one of our old Police walking members, who will be kindly remembered by many of the older members. Jack is still his old cheery self and wishes to be remembered to all his old Clubmates. We have to thank him for a donation to the Club and also to the Jimmy Belchamber Fund.

JUST A FINAL REMINDER—

Before the end of the Financial Year which is September 15th

the Hon. Treasurer would be grateful to receive

ALL outstanding subscriptions.

"bis dat, qui cito dat"