

APRIL, 1950

The  
**BELGRAVIAN**

The  
**Official Gazette**  
of the  
**Belgrave Harriers**

# THE BELGRAVIAN

The Official Gazette of the Belgrave Harriers

APRIL, 1950

No. 108

President: W. G. WEBB.

General Hon. Secretary: A. A. HARLEY,  
"Kingsclere," Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks.

Hon. Treasurer: S. L. KING, 141, Bramblewood Close, Carshalton, Surrey.

Hon. Editors: F. H. ELSON, 248, Whitton Avenue, Greenford, Middx.  
S. C. ROBERTS, 35, Perrymead Street, Fulham, S.W.6.

## EDITORIAL

Dear Fellow Belgravians,

It is said—"that he who plants an avenue of trees, cannot, in the nature of things, hope to enjoy them in their grandeur"—but it was a very happy occasion and a most gratifying result to the labours of all Belgravians responsible for it, when our popular Hon. Secretary told the Special General Meeting held at Belgrave Hall on Thursday, March 16th, that Belgrave Hall was now our own freehold property. What many of us years ago dreamed of, even dared to think possible, has now been achieved.

To Harry Hare, the originator of the idea, and others too numerous to mention, who helped to make it possible—we say—fervently—*thank you*, and we know they feel fully repaid for their efforts. They now hope that the wheels of officialdom will not turn too slowly and that in the near future we shall obtain a permit for rebuilding a Hall that will be a fitting and lasting monument to the greatness of Belgrave. Then, and not till then, will they, the men who achieved so much, so unselfishly, sit back and observe complacently—the dream that really came true.

And now for a subject that is causing some people a little concern—our recent defeats over the Country. Many are the reasons advanced, some unjust, some pessimistic, advice is freely given, some good, much bad. Let us not worry unduly. Let us take our defeats as gentlemen of sport, let us be ready to congratulate our victors and above all appreciate that competition is now much keener owing, no doubt, to the desire of our friends our opponents to vanquish a club with a reputation that we enjoy. That, we believe, is perhaps the biggest reason—the desire of *David to vanquish Goliath*—and now that we have been vanquished, shall we say temporarily, let us now turn about and endeavour with all the enthusiasm we can muster, to regain once again our former premiership in our Sport. We are passing through a period of gradual change over from a number of old and tried runners to a newer school of robust young runners, but without perhaps the experience of the old school. This experience will undoubtedly come, but in the meantime we must expect one or two reverses. No, we are not dead yet. Let us say we are a little unwell. Let us not try to find the cause, but certainly let us find a cure. And the first part of a cure is a tonic. Again, let us look upon our recent defeats, as in the nature of a tonic—the cure will be completed by 100 per cent. *Club Spirit*—you'll see.

Finally, if you turn to page 20 you will find an article dealing with this matter by a well remembered columnist namely "Observer." Some years before the war there was a considerable amount of conjecture as to who was the person writing under this nome-de-plume, and although sometimes his writings were outspoken and critical, they were, nevertheless, always eagerly read. We, the Editors, welcome the return of this mysterious writer, and having been allowed to share the secret of his identity, we pledge ourselves to keep it.

YOUR EDITORS.

(As a footnote to the above Editorial—a personal message from the "Frank" side of the Editorial Staff to Harry Hare. "Please do come along and say hallo to your old pals and have a look at—*YOUR HALL!*")

## IN MEMORIAM

It is with profound regret that we have to record the sudden death of R. (Jock) Martin who was killed on Thursday, March 23rd, 1950, whilst on Police duty on his motor cycle.

Jock joined the Club in 1933 and was one of our most popular walking members and a very efficient official. He was also a Centurion, qualifying for this honour at the White City Track in 1946. He had put up some wonderful performances over the long distances, among them a 6th position in the London-Brighton Walk in both 1933 and 1934 and held the Club Long Distance Championship in 1936.

He was also a popular member of the M.P.A.A. Walking Section and was responsible for the introduction to our club of a number of our other Police walkers.

He will be mourned by all who knew him and the Club extends its deepest sympathy to his wife and daughter in their sad bereavement.

A floral tribute was sent from the Club and Club representatives attended the funeral.

## COACHING

In the last issue of the *Belgravian* I mentioned that the Club had been able to arrange to have the exclusive use of the track at the Territorial Army Headquarters, Duke of York's Barracks, Chelsea. It has been decided by the Committee that this track shall be used solely for coaching purposes. This will enable really specialised coaching to be given without the disadvantages which appertain on ordinary training nights at other tracks.

The coaches have studied the possibilities which this will offer and have planned these special sessions at which all the Club coaches will be in attendance. These sessions will be held on Wednesday evenings from 7 o'clock till 9, commencing on April 12th.

In view of the fact that the authorities have placed a restriction on the numbers who can use the track on these evenings, a programme has been prepared covering all events over the summer period. This programme showing dates and events is enclosed with this copy of the *Belgravian*.

Owing to the restriction on numbers, only those men whom the coaches consider will most benefit from special coaching can attend and the coaches or section captains will inform their men before the date of the first session. Also in view of this restriction no training can take place unless under the guidance of the coaches and in the events which are being covered on the particular night. It is regretted this must be enforced but we are restricted and in addition, of course, the coaches desire to be able to concentrate on the programme mapped out.

This programme gives everybody ample opportunity and it will be seen that each event is given about eight evenings. The coaches have worked extremely hard on this programme and the schedules of training for each session, and it is hoped full advantage will be taken of it.

The use of the track has only been obtained at considerable cost to the Club and if in the opinion of the coaches any member is not taking full advantage of the facilities offered he will be excluded from the sessions, and his place filled by a more enthusiastic member.

Each member attending will be handed a card upon which to record his performances throughout the year and this card will also serve as an admission ticket to the track. Upon the information recorded on these cards, it will be possible to trace improvement in performances over the season.

Any enquiries for admission to the coaching sessions and details thereof can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary of the Coaching Committee, F. Simmons, 69, Monckton Street, S.E.11.

We have four coaches who are now qualified A.A.A. Coaches. George Clay has passed as a Senior Coach and Frank Simmons, Mick Pyer and Ben Lulham have obtained their Honorary Coaches badge. The other coaches will be taking examinations during the coming months so that eventually we hope the abilities of all Coaches will have been recognised by the A.A.A.

All coaches will now be concentrating on the summer programme and will generally also be available on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings. Our main training track is at Tooting but coaches will also be available at Motspur Park and Alperton.

The full list of coaches with the events they cover and the tracks they attend are set out below. To enable everyone and particularly new members to find the coach for their particular event, each coach can be identified by the coloured shoulders on his track suit—these colours are also set out below.

<i>Track</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Events</i>	<i>Colour</i>
<i>Tooting</i>	Frank Simmons	... Sprints and Relay	Orange
	Bob Jessop ...	... Sprints and Relay	Orange
	Mick Pyer ...	... Middle Distance	Blue
	Bert Footer	... Long Distance and Road	Yellow
	Bill Sutton	... Field Events (Shot & Discus)	Green
	Charlie Jones	... Field Events (Javelin, Hurdles, High Jump, Long Jump and Hop, Step and Jump)	Green
<i>Motspur Park</i> <i>Alperton</i>	Len Fletcher	... Walking	Grey
	George Clay	... Sprints and Relay	Orange
	Ben Lulham	... Sprints and Relay	Orange
	Frank Elson	... Walking (Sunday morn. only)	Grey

At both Motspur Park and Alperton, club champions who train at either track will be only too glad to give any assistance to you in events not covered by the coaches.

T. C. JONES, Chief Coach.

### TO THE JUNIORS

Dear Juniors,

The track season is fast approaching and I hope many of you will be regular for training and coaching, for it is only by regular attendance that you can improve on your last season's efforts. We had a good season last year, but I am hoping for an even better one, it can be you know, if you really get down to it. There have been matches arranged for you which I hope you will endeavour to attend, but I will tell you all now, that you will be picked on your merits and that you will have to earn your place in the teams. I looked upon it as an honour to be asked to run, jump or throw for the Club, and I hope you will look on it in that way too. I shall be at Tooting on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6 p.m. until I am more or less turned off the track, and I shall be very happy to help one and all to attain a good standard in any events they train for. The Club has been presented with a magnificent cup which is being given for the Junior quarter-mile championship so I hope you lads who fancy yourselves as quarter-milers will prove that it was not given in vain and that Belgrave can still turn out good lads at that distance.

The field event lads cannot find a better coach than Charlie Jones. He will always be there to give you the benefit of his long experience, and teach you the correct technique, with which, plus a little determination, you should give a good account of yourselves.

Starting on April 12th at Duke of York's Headquarters, the SPECIAL COACHING SCHOOL begins. The time will be from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. every Wednesday.

Train well, work hard and UP THE BELS!

Good luck, FRANK SIMMONS.

## OUR OWN HEADQUARTERS

By the time the Gazette is in your hands, the purchase of the freehold of Belgrave Hall will have been completed, and an ideal of many years' standing will have been realised.

In the 1920's, with the late Bob Ricketts as President, and many others (happily still with us) striving hard, a small reserve of £200 to £300 was built up and this was always looked upon as the beginning of something which might eventually lead to our own headquarters. The possibility seemed so far away however, that no one ever indulged in speculation.

Later, Harry Hare, who succeeded Bob Ricketts as President after occupying most official positions in the club, initiated a scheme to save halfpennies—many members can proudly show their contribution cards to this day—and our funds began to grow. Frank Elson helped with a football scheme, Tom Cotton, Teddy Gordon, Wally Bayliss and others contributed their ideas, a Smoking Concert was held at the old mid-week quarters and still our Building Fund, as it was now called, grew. Collecting boxes known as "bricks" were issued to members who undertook to turn out their spare coppers and by all sorts of means our balance increased.

The purchase of the leasehold of St. John's Hall (as it was then known) in 1935 gave a fillip to our ambitions, and now Frank Elson and Tom Cotton, assisted by countless other members, really got going and our available money in reserve reached the thousand's column. Les Cohen now gave a hand and a spell of as fine a work as any amateur club has ever known, was begun. Fortunately for us it still continues and our gratitude to Les knows no bounds.

These humble beginnings and the application of Belgrave team work at its best over many years has now had its reward and we now own our own headquarters—free from debt, debentures, mortgages and the rest of it. Our grateful thanks go to all who have helped and we look for your continued support in the future.

We are entitled to feel the flush of satisfaction on the attainment of our ambition.

Just after the first world war, a member advised the then Hon. Sec. Oscar Horwood, that he was resigning to join another club "who held Club championships and entered open relay events." Oscar said the day would come when Belgrave would hold Club track championships, enter teams in open competition and generally be a power in the land, but Oscar's confidence and optimism were contemptuously received. The first two track championships were instituted in 1922 and have been added to almost annually until we have a range of which any club could be proud. We have produced teams to win National Championships and athletes to earn distinction and respect over a wide range of events. We have built up a reputation for sportsmanship in victory and defeat. At the moment, a Belgrave Harrier, Harry Parker, holds the highest official position in the Cross Country world and another former Club President, Frank Thompson, has been President of the Road Walking Association.

Now we have acquired our own freehold headquarters and have money in hand to proceed with development when this is permitted. Who would deny our older members that flush of satisfaction they now feel?

Our headquarters have the advantage of being easily accessible and building developments are unlikely to drive us further and further out of London as has happened to so many clubs. Our courses, both on road and country are excellent and the threat of being moved on, especially now we have our own headquarters, is practically non-existent.

As conditions improve, we shall endeavour to rebuild nearer the heart's desire, and thus complete the grand work begun by those who have striven so hard in the past. This is dependent on the support and enthusiasm of every member and I am sure we shall not be disappointed in our efforts any more than they were.

A.A.H.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT—



It is now just 41 years since **HARRY EVANS** was approached by a fellow baker and asked to support the Bakers' Charity Athletic Meeting at the old Kensal Rise track by competing in a walking race. Harry agreed, and surprised himself by finishing a close second to the trade champion.

Another baker named Savage, who had been the world's professional champion and whose records made under the name of "Billy Franks" in 1882 still stand, thereupon became interested in Harry and, having a son in the Belgraves, he got Harry introduced to our club.

Up till this time the Bels had never been a power to be reckoned with in Club Championships of any kind. It is true that their stationery and Entry forms showed that once they had been placed third in the South of the Thames Championship, that was their sole team honour but the Club's numerous team victories have all been achieved since the days when Harry showed his fellow clubmen that true sportsmanship

demanding that one should give his utmost in every race.

The Walking Captain of the Club at that time was F. W. Coomber, a fine walker and a good sportsman, who quickly realised Harry's potential ability. He taught Harry so thoroughly that in the next Club race to be decided the pupil walked away from the teacher. So Harry was urged to enter for the Two-mile handicap at the Stamford Bridge Open "Good Friday" meeting. Hot Cross Buns, being a National necessity at that time, Harry had to put in a stretch of 36 hours on them. During this period he had only two short rests. The race commenced only a few hours after he left the Bakery but Harry won the race by 75 yards.

Shortly after the Good Friday race Harry competed at Herne Hill and was a close third in the very fast time of 13 mins. 32 secs. Next he won a 2 mile Walk at Redhill. Here Tommy Eaton, whom many of you will know as our pre-war trainer, was the virtual scratch man together with Alf Pateman. Harry followed with a second prize at the Tottenham Hospital Sports and a first prize at Sutton.

This Sutton race was memorable inasmuch as Harry was receiving a small start from A. E. Rowlands, the New Zealand Champion, who was over here for the 1908 Olympic Games and who had been recording some very fast times. He was a strong favourite for the race and actually caught Harry, but Harry fought on to gain the victory by a yard.

This race was followed by a second place in a race at Epsom. During this season Harry had won every Club handicap from the scratch mark. During the Winter Season he won the Club 10 miles Championship in 78 minutes.

Following this he walked in the A.A.A. 7 miles Championship and recorded the fast time of 54 mins. 30 secs. and in the 2 miles Championship recording 14 mins. 10 secs. He followed this up with a win at 2 miles on the old White City track of three laps to the mile. This was a very fast track, certainly faster than Stamford Bridge, but not quite so fast as the present track there.

A second place in the L.A.C. Open walk at Stamford Bridge came next and this was followed by a first at Clapton. This was undoubtedly one of Harry's finest performances. E. J. Webb, a winner of five A.A.A. Championships gave Harry a short start and caught him with a lap to go. Harry held him and one of the judges ran the whole of the lap in

case either broke contact. It was neck and neck all the way with Harry just winning.

By now we have got to the Winter Season of 1909 and here we find Harry winning the first Junior Individual and Team race promoted by the Road Walking Association. The Belgraves lost the team race by one point, but hereafter there was another honour recorded on our letter readings.

About two miles of tar-macadam and eight miles of rolled granite were generally to be expected in a ten mile race at this time, and in this race the course was typical. In winning, Harry recorded the splendid time of 81 mins. 37 seconds.

Following this, the Club arranged a fair number of inter-club races and in these, although Harry was generally first man home, our successes were few as usually only three or four Belgraves turned out.

Now came a long break in Harry's athletic career. He married, and a growing family, his wife's ill health and night work kept him out of the sport for some time. This period of inactivity was followed by the 1914-18 World War. Harry was an early volunteer for the forces. He was captured and spent a long while in a German prison camp. On returning to England in 1919 he tells me he "was talked into training again by Jimmy Belchamber." Although he did not get back the pace that had formerly made him so formidable he soon became a very sound and reliable team man at seven and ten miles.

He found pace enough also to win some more prizes at 2 miles on the track, a first at Paddington just after the 1920 Olympic games being especially commendable. In this race the British, Australian and South African Olympic walkers were competing. Harry's handicap mark was by no means a long one. On the road he was awarded the style prize in the Islington Borough Walk in March, 1920.

Twice Harry attempted the 20 miles R.W.A. Championship but found that this was not his distance. This was before 1914. When he made his after-war come-back I could not persuade him to try this distance.

As a walking judge Harry has no superior. He has been on the R.W.A. list since early in 1922 and has officiated at many A.A.A. Championships. His worth to the Club as an adviser on style and fair walking is inestimable. As a Committee man he has served a lifetime. He has held the Presidency of the Club worthily for two years.

Finally, Harry's advice to all young walkers—"Get a good style before attempting speed work. That will come later, and remember, the game is the thing."

*(We regret we are unable to find an action photograph showing Harry's grand style, but for the interest of younger members the vest Harry is wearing is the original club vest.)*

*With apologies for delay owing to circumstances beyond our control.*

### THE CAMBRIDGE HARRIERS 7 MILE OPEN WALK

December 17th, 1949

At the time of going to press with our January issue we were not in possession of the official result. We now report as follows:—

1. H. G. Churcher .. ..	54.45	49. J. C. Bidgood .. ..	62.17
2. D. McMullen .. ..	56.38	53. G. Atkinson .. ..	62.39
7. A. Readman .. ..	57.41	55. R. H. Scamell .. ..	62.54
10. A. N. East .. ..	57.56	61. E. Evans .. ..	63.13
16. S. James .. ..	58.47	68. P. Wilson .. ..	64.08
17. C. E. Churcher .. ..	58.54	78. S. Goold .. ..	65.16
23. J. H. Robins .. ..	59.45	91. J. G. Scammell .. ..	67.32
27. B. E. Shepherd .. ..	60.15	93. S. G. Spencer .. ..	67.46
28. F. W. Tasker .. ..	60.15	96. J. Sheldon .. ..	68.23
33. G. Oliver .. ..	60.54	100. G. Waghorn .. ..	69.24
46. J. C. Baker .. ..	62.10		

Scratch Team.—1. Belgrave Harriers "A" 20 points. Churcher, McMullen, East, Readman.

Ind. Handicap.—B. Shepherd 2nd (8.50).

Team Handicap.—3rd Belgrave H. "B" 213.41. Tasker, Robins, Wilson, Evans.

## MATCH v. KENT A.C.

Held at Wimbledon on December 31st and this was styled a "B" team fixture so far as our Club was concerned.

The winner of the race was J. F. Williams (Kent) who some of our members will remember as winning the Oxted 7 miles road race last summer. He was followed home by a Club-mate in R. Hale and E. G. Popplewell was our first man in third place.

George Chantler, A. W. Saville and Bert Jordan also ran well but scoring six a side we had to admit defeat by 32 points to 46.

Placings and times of our runners were as under:—Popplewell 42.16; Chantler 43.2; Saville 43.57; Jordan 44.21; Savage 46.23; Jefferson 46.44; Laing 46.55; Fox 47.5; Taylor A. W. 47.45; Tween 48.14.

## SURREY JUNIOR C.C. RACE

Held at Banstead on January 7th over a two-lap course and our lads did very well to gain third team position, against the strong South London side and a Herne Hill team, strengthened by the inclusion of two Reading A.C. members.

C. W. Walker was our first man home in sixth place and he did well seeing the calibre of the lads who finished in front of him, including the Pirie brothers, Chataway of Walton, who won the recent South of Thames event, Brown of Mitcham who was runner-up in the National Youth's race, and Green of Reading who gave Len Marchant a start and beating in last year's London to Brighton Relay race.

Our next man home was D. J. Abbott, who was making his first appearance in our colours, and he was followed by Mike Stearman, who very sportingly makes the long journey from Brighton each time he turns out for the Club.

Len Bishop, now coming back to form after his spell in the Forces overseas, was our fourth scoring man, and the full positions and times are given below:—

6, C. W. Walker, 32.54; 17, D. J. Abbott, 34.10; 20, M. J. Stearman, 34.33; 22, L. C. Bishop, 34.43; 31, G. Stace, 35.47; 40, J. A. Lacey, 37.10; 49, S. G. Brooks, 38.1.

Team result.—1. South London H., 23 pts; 2. Herne Hill H., 31 pts; 3. Belgrave H., 61 pts.

## SURREY COUNTY C.C. CHAMPIONSHIP

Held at Banstead on January 7th over a 3-lap course, which must have been nearer eight than the stated seven and a half miles.

Frank Abberton the holder of the individual title was a non-entrant, as he is not doing anything over the country this season, but even without him we were fairly confident of retaining the "Pickett" Cup, which is awarded to the winning team.

At the end of the first lap, Stone of Dorking St. Paul's was away out in front and then came two Surrey A.C. runners followed by Len Herbert and a bunch of five Belgrave runners, and at this stage of the race it looked a walk-over for us.

Stone had increased his lead when they came round again and although Len Herbert was still with Butler and Wheeler of Surrey, with Les Stokell close behind the rest of our chaps had fallen back and we were hoping for a usual last lap Belgrave effort.

It was Surrey A.C. however, who supplied this, and their team came through splendidly over the final lap and they eventually finished their first five men home in the first eleven placings, which is truly great packing, and although our supporters seemed to doubt that we had lost the team title, the fact that Surrey had five men home against our two, is sufficient to convince anybody that we were beaten by a better side.

Actually, our total of points was less than last year when we won the race, but seeing that this was Surrey's first success since 1932, when incidentally both Stan Belton and Tom Carter were in the respective teams,

and were still in this year's, I am sure that no one will begrudge Surrey their success.

Seeing that we had been placed third in the Junior race, and were second in the Youths event, our second team placing here equalled our record of 1938, when we were also placed in all three of the County cross-country events.

Placings and times of all our members who competed, were:—  
 2, L. W. Herbert, 49.27; 5, C. L. Stokell, 49.40; 12, W. E. Lucas, 50.26; 14, E. A. Short, 50.31; 16, J. H. Wood, 50.33; 19, C. T. Carter, 50.43; 23, J. H. Bragginton, 51.9; 29, K. R. England, 51.34; 30, F. K. Blunden, 51.43; 33, S. Davies, 51.46; 43, L. A. Adams, 52.31; 44, E. M. Bishop, 52.36; 46, H. A. Bishop, 52.43; 62, G. Durrant, 53.58; 75, E. G. Popplewell, 55.32.

Team result.—1, Surrey A.C., 49 pts.; 2, Belgrave H., 57 pts.; 3, Herne Hill H., 137 pts.; 4, South London H., 145 pts.

### MIDDIX. COUNTY C.C. CHAMPIONSHIPS

Held at Trent Park on January 7th our members with a Middlesex qualification were running for their second claim club Cadogan A.C.

In the Junior event they finished seventh in the team race, and R. T. Taylor was our first man home in 18th position which was quite good.

Others to finish were—39, R. F. Budd; 53, A. Housego; 62, J. Housego; 67, R. J. Wolton.

In the Senior race the Cadogan A.C. were the holders of the team title, but they came badly unstuck on this occasion and eventually finished fourth although they only lost third place by the narrow margin of one point.

Derrick Burfitt was second in this race last year, but this time could not get nearer than eighth with Vern Blowfield ninth.

As the first seven home included such runners as Alec Olney, D. J. Thompson, H. J. Hicks, and Ron Hughes, all English Internationals, our lads can be said to have run well in such company.

Team placings were as under:—8, D. R. Burfitt; 9, V. S. Blowfield; 20, E. S. Stimpson; 23, M. E. Heard; 25, S. Charlton; 58, K. G. Stimpson and G. R. Chantler, A. Smith, J. McDonald and A. W. Saville also completed the course.

### METROPOLITAN POLICE A.A. OPEN 7 MILES

Imber Court, 14-1-50

This race produced the largest field so far of the season and of the 205 starters, Harry Churcher soon went to the front and walked a very fast race to finish well ahead of Jim Morris who was making one of his rare appearances. Harry's time was only five seconds outside his own course record. Backed up by Bert East, Bob Readman and Bert Clayton, we once again succeeded in winning the scratch team race. The race marked the return of Jack Rutland to racing after a long break, and although he was fairly well down the field, it was pleasing to see him out once again. Positions as follows:—

1. H. G. Churcher .. .. .	51.48	107. D. Heath .. .. .	62.14
6. A. H. East .. .. .	54.34	108. W. Wesson .. .. .	62.38
13. A. Readman .. .. .	55.55	117. S. Goold .. .. .	63.06
20. H. G. Clayton .. .. .	56.26	118. G. Atkinson .. .. .	63.07
21. G. Oliver .. .. .	56.26	123. H. McGreechan .. .. .	63.26
28. C. E. Churcher .. .. .	56.59	126. P. Wilson .. .. .	63.38
29. P. Sapcote .. .. .	57.15	132. E. Hall .. .. .	64.00
40. J. H. Robins .. .. .	58.05	140. S. Spencer .. .. .	64.52
44. J. Bellchambers .. .. .	58.24	145. H. Jeffery .. .. .	65.28
48. J. C. Baker .. .. .	58.32	146. B. Mitackis .. .. .	65.31
57. G. Bentley .. .. .	59.06	147. J. Sheldon .. .. .	65.50
64. J. C. Bidgood .. .. .	59.23	149. H. Shields .. .. .	65.58
65. B. Shepherd .. .. .	59.25	152. J. G. Scamell .. .. .	66.24
69. F. Tasker .. .. .	59.49	161. B. Waghorn .. .. .	67.19
78. J. Rutland .. .. .	60.24	163. W. E. Ives .. .. .	67.49
101. D. M. Skinner .. .. .	61.55	165. C. Speechley .. .. .	68.05
102. R. Frazer .. .. .	61.56	168. F. S. Herring .. .. .	68.29

Scratch Team.—1st Belgrave H. "A" 38 points. Churcher, East, Readman, Clayton.

### MATCH v. SHAFTESBURY HARRIERS

Held at Totteridge on January 14th, and this was another "B" team fixture although several of our first team men went along for a training spin. It does one good to get out over country that is different to our usual runs over Wimbledon Common and Richmond Park, as so often when our men get a heavy course or one with several obstacles, they seem to lose ground in consequence of same.

D. C. Lee of the home club was an easy winner and he was followed home by John Bromley and then came four other Shaftesbury men, and so scoring six a side the home club were easy winners.

Placings and times of our runners were as under:—2, Bromley, 48.6; 7, Cuff, 54.12; 8, Bishop, E., 56.24; 9, Bishop, A., 56.27; 11, Taylor, A. E., 57.43; 12, Taylor, A. W., 59.53; 13, Fox, 63.4; 14, Jefferson, 63.10.

### MATCHES v. SOUTHGATE HARRIERS

Held at Clay Hill, Enfield, on January 14th, we had a Youths and Junior match against Southgate Harriers, and managed to win both events.

In the Youths race D. G. Maclean was first home, followed by P. W. Adams and J. E. Godfrey, but Harry Greene had bad luck seeing that at one time he was in the lead with Maclean but they went off the course, and although Maclean managed to regain the lead Greene found the effort too much for him and finished further back. G. A. Simpson also ran well as did P. Courtney and it looks as if we have the makings of some good boys among these youngsters.

C. W. Walker won the Junior race followed home by Len Bishop and with our other men packing well, we managed to beat the home team once again.

Southgate very kindly provided our lads with tea and cakes after the run and we hope to entertain them over our own course next season.

Full placings for each race are given below:—

YOUTHS.—1, Maclean, 26.22; 2, Adams, 26.30; 3, Godfrey, 26.35; 5, Simpson, 26.50; 8, Greene, 26.58; 9, Courtney, 27.10; 13, Cornell, 27.58; 15, Rice, 28.0; 16, Butt, 28.20; 19, Udall, 28.41; 21, Macklin, 29.10; 22, Jones, 33.30.

JUNIOR.—1, Walker, 31.0; 2, Bishop, 31.25; 5, Lacey, 32.12; 6, Evison, 32.25; 7, Wolton, 32.33; 10, Budd, 33.10.

### THE INTER-COUNTIES C.C. RACE

Held at Leicester on January 21st and there was an entry of 24 Counties from all over England.

We had the following entered for their respective Counties—(Surrey) L. W. Herbert, C. L. Stokell, W. E. Lucas. (Mid dx.) D. R. Burfitt, V. S. Blowfield. (Kent) J. W. Brown, and entered for Cheshire was our old member N. A. Graves.

On the day Len Herbert and Les Stokell were non-starters, and Bill Lucas was first home of our members competing and this certainly seems to be a race in which our lads are not inclined to shine.

Placings and times of our lads are given hereunder:—52, W. E. Lucas, 39.50; 78, D. R. Burfitt, 40.35; 105, V. S. Blowfield, 41.3; 113, J. W. Brown, 41.22. (198 finishers.)

### 5 MILES IN 1 HOUR TALENT SPOTTING WALK

On Saturday, January 21st, we staged a Talent Spotting Walk for beginners at Wimbledon. The race was over a measured level five-mile course. No prizes were given, but a Certificate issued by the Road Walking Association, duly attested and signed, was to be presented to all competitors finishing the race within one hour.

The enthusiasm of those responsible for advertising the race was amply rewarded by a magnificent entry of 80, and of these, 60 faced the starter. It was a cold day and a keen wind was blowing, but otherwise the conditions were favourable.

There were no disqualifications, and only two retirements, whilst of the 58 finishers, 57 beat the hour. Seven beat 45 minutes, and the race was

notable for many thrilling finishes. So close were some of these that the same time had to be recorded for the 1st and 2nd; for the 3rd and 4th; and also for the 6th and 7th; 11th and 12th; and 13th and 14th places. Yet although so many joyous bitter-end battles were fought, they were all conducted without infringement of our definition of Walking.

In fact, the style throughout was of a very high order, and the promise shown by a large percentage of the competitors augers well for the future of our sport.

The start was a fairly fast one and at a mile the first half-dozen were not far apart, but thereafter, A. Johnson of the R.A.F. Halton—a tall stylish walker—forged ahead and soon led by 40-60 yards. He kept the lead for most of the journey, but with about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles to go, G. Towers, also of the R.A.F. Halton, made his effort and began to close the gap. With a half-mile to go they were level and it was only in the last few yards that Towers, who was very strong and had walked a well judged race, managed to get a stride ahead and won in the good time of 43 mins. 10 secs.

Meanwhile, Eastwood and Cummings, also of the R.A.F., were having a similar neck and neck fight for the 3rd place. The 5th man was about 30 yards behind them, and 100 yards further back a like tussle for the 6th place was being waged between another R.A.F. man and H. Jeffery, the first Belgrave to finish. Here, also, about a yard separated 6th and 7th.

The result was a great triumph for the R.A.F. lads from Halton, as they filled all the first six places, and were backed up by others finishing 13th, 14th, 21st and 28th. Fifteen R.A.F. lads from Uxbridge also walked well, and it is indeed pleasing to find that our sport has taken root firmly and is flourishing strongly in this branch of the Services.

Another gratifying feature was that about fifty of the sixty starters were in the neighbourhood of 20 years of age.

So from every point of view the promotion was an unqualified and outstanding success. An especially welcome competitor was J. Bidgood, the son of our dual long-distance champion, whilst it was also pleasing to see George Powell—for many years our field-events expert, all-rounder and many times champion—giving his javelin a day off and trying himself out at still one more branch of athletics.

*Following the success of the five miles race, it has been decided to hold a similar race on Saturday, April 29th, 1950, in which competitors will be invited to walk SIX miles in one hour. This is an excellent opportunity for members to bring along their friends for a "Try out." The last race produced 60 starters and we look forward to a field of similar size on April 29th.*

### **"MACHER" SHIELD RACE**

The Club 10 miles cross-country championship was held at Wimbledon on January 28th and we were sorry that Albert Macher was not present. Frank Thomson, our old President, and Teddy Gordon, another past President, were there to witness the race and we were also honoured by the presence of E. J. Holt, the Surrey County president.

The field this year was smaller than usual, it was a very cold day and the thoughts of running 10 miles did not appeal except to the hardest among our members.

Len Herbert was also a non-starter and on the first lap Derrick Burfitt developed a blistered heel and so wisely withdrew.

At the half-distance there was a group of four runners with Brown, Blowfield, Bill Lucas and Steve Charlton all nicely together in under the half-hour, which is good running for our five miles course.

When they came in sight again Jack Brown was out in front followed by Charlton, who was running in borrowed rubbers, then came Bill Lucas and the holder Vern Blowfield came in fourth.

Frank Abberton, who we were pleased to see turning out again, had a sprint to the finishing line with Jim Bragginton, and then came Ted Stimpson followed by Stan Davies.

The actual time was faster than last year but the gaps between each man seemed too big to think about securing major honours in the big open races to come.

Steve Charlton had certainly run a "blinder" and deservedly won first handicap award and Jack Brown had also improved on his recent form over the country, to take second place in the handicap.

Stan Davies took third handicap prize and Len Adams was another to do well and should improve with each season.

We should like to thank Joe Turner who acted as Timekeeper, Les Cohen, Charlie Munro and George Clay who assisted at the finish, and also Arthur Whitehead who very kindly placed his cottage at the disposal of the Judges and supporters so that they could shelter from the cold winds while awaiting the return of the runners.

Full placings and times are given below:—

Pos.	Name	Act. time	Start	Hcp. time	Pos.	Name	Act. time	Start	Hcp. time
1.	J. W. Brown ..	59.31	2.15	57.16	16.	A. Smith ..	66.10	7.30	58.40
2.	S. Charlton ..	60.3	3.30	56.33	17.	J. McDonald ..	66.25	5.15	61.10
3.	W. E. Lucas ..	60.37	2.0	58.37	18.	G. S. Doubleday	67.21	8.30	58.51
4.	V. S. Blowfield..	61.40	Scr.	61.40	19.	E. M. Bishop ..	68.8	5.40	62.28
5.	F. J. Abberton..	62.10	1.30	60.40	20.	A. T. Jordan ..	68.33	10.0	58.33
6.	J. H. Bragginton	62.11	4.0	58.11	21.	D. G. Woodhead	69.6	8.30	60.36
7.	E. S. Stimpson..	62.42	1.45	60.57	22.	J. E. M. Shields	72.12	6.15	65.57
8.	S. Davies ..	62.45	5.20	57.25	23.	T. C. Mitchell..	72.23	11.15	61.8
9.	G. Durrant ..	63.9	4.15	58.54	24.	A. Penstone ..	73.45	11.15	62.30
10.	C. T. Carter ..	63.22	3.45	59.37	25.	F. M. Mitchell..	73.48	11.30	62.18
11.	L. A. Adams ..	63.49	5.50	57.59	26.	E. D. Lacey ..	73.59	10.45	63.14
12.	M. F. Porter ..	64.13	3.30	60.43	27.	A. W. Taylor ..	74.24	11.45	62.39
13.	H. A. Bishop ..	64.34	6.15	58.19	28.	S. Jefferson ..	75.10	11.0	64.10
14.	K. A. Cuff ..	65.56	7.0	58.56	29.	D. C. Hills ..	76.15	11.15	65.0
15.	C. Abberton ..	66.4	6.15	59.49					

### CLUB 3½ MILES YOUTHS C.C. RACE

Held at Wimbledon on Saturday, January 28th, 1950.

Held at Wimbledon on January 28th and a field of 17 faced the starter, as included among the runners were three lads from the C.R.M. Police and one lad from the Malden Youths.

Ray Tooby set a fast pace going out across the Golf Links and when he came in sight of the finish, was leading by a large margin. Young Maclean was second and close on his heels came P. W. Adams and J. E. Godfrey.

The handicap in conjunction was won by G. A. Simpson and Godfrey and Adams deservedly took the other awards, while a fastest loser's prize went to Ray Tooby.

It is good to see so many of our Youths turning out over the country on such a cold day, and it is to these that we look to for our senior teams in the years to come.

Placings and times are given below:—

Pos.	Name	Act. time	Start	Hcp. time	Pos.	Name	Act. time	Start	Hcp. time
1.	R. C. Tooby ..	20.11	Scr.	20.11	8.	E. J. Gebbett ..	23.23	2.15	21.8
2.	D. G. Maclean	21.3	0.30	20.33	9.	R. A. Butt ..	23.29	2.45	20.44
3.	P. W. Adams ..	21.5	1.0	20.5	10.	M. F. Jones ..	23.30	3.0	20.30
4.	J. E. Godfrey ..	21.8	1.15	19.53	11.	E. S. Udall ..	24.51	2.0	22.51
5.	G. A. Simpson..	22.6	2.45	19.21	12.	G. Burg ..	24.51	4.0	20.51
6.	J. Connelly ..	22.59	2.0	20.59	13.	R. Darchambaud	25.44	3.30	22.14
7.	P. Courtney ..	23.11	2.15	20.56					

### CLUB 10 MILES CHAMPIONSHIP WALK, 28-1-50

The Club 10 miles Championship for the Murphy Shield attracted an entry of 28. Although quite a good number, we missed a few of the usual faces. In view of the "Garnett Cup" Championship the following week most of the "Juniors" walked well within themselves saving a little bit up for the next week. As usual Harry Churcher was soon to be seen at the front and although Bob McMullen hung on for the first few miles, Harry eventually made a getaway to retain the title once more in the good time of 76 mins. 22 secs. Bert East showed that he still has plenty of speed after 25 years racing and was a good third. Going back a little

further we saw some good walking by Alan Robins, P. Sappcote, Frank Tasker, Ted Evans and in particular D. Skinner, who made it quite clear that he is going to develop into a very useful team man. But for a bad time at one period owing to a bruised toe he would have been very well placed. As it was he only missed a handicap prize by one second. We have another promising youngster in Eric Hall. Not yet 18 he has every appearance of showing some of them the way home in a year or two. Three members of the M.P.A. turned up to combine with our police members for a match in conjunction which resulted in a win for the club by 145 points to 207, scoring 13 a side. At the conclusion of the race Dick Murphy, who had assisted throughout with transport for judges, presented the awards.

Times and placings as follows:—

1.	H. G. Churcher	.. ..	76.22	Scr.	76.22	B
2.	D. McMullen	.. ..	78.15	3. 0	75.15	B
3.	A. H. East	.. ..	79. 6	5.20	73.46	B
4.	P. Sappcote	.. ..	81. 1	6.50	74.11	P & B
5.	A. Readman	.. ..	82. 0	4.50	77.10	P & B
6.	C. E. Churcher	.. ..	82.27	3.50	78.37	B
7.	L. Smith	.. ..	83.54	—	—	P
8.	J. E. Rutland	.. ..	84.20	4. 0	80.20	B
9.	J. H. Robins	.. ..	84.35	6.30	78. 5	B
10.	S. James	.. ..	84.58	6.10	78.48	B
11.	J. A. Bellchambers	.. ..	84.59	8. 0	76.59	B
12.	J. C. Bidgood	.. ..	85.34	8.45	76.49	P & B
13.	G. E. Bentley	.. ..	85.34	7.15	78.19	P & B
14.	F. Tasker	.. ..	85.51	9.35	76.16	P & B
15.	G. E. Oliver	.. ..	86.38	7. 0	79.38	B
16.	W. Woods	.. ..	87. 5	—	—	P
17.	E. Evans	.. ..	87.10	12. 0	75.10	P & B
18.	A. J. St. Wakeley	.. ..	88.26	11.0	77.26	B
19.	D. Skinner	.. ..	88.43	14.30	74.13	B
20.	D. J. Heath	.. ..	89. 3	11.15	77.48	B
21.	G. E. Atkinson	.. ..	89.45	10.15	79.30	P & B
22.	J. Wilson	.. ..	90.30	13.15	77.15	B
23.	P. Wilson	.. ..	91.27	13.15	78.12	B
24.	E. Hall	.. ..	92.29	15.30	76.59	B
25.	H. Shields	.. ..	92.42	18.30	74.12	B
26.	S. Goold	.. ..	93.27	15. 0	78.27	P & B
27.	H. N. Jeffery	.. ..	95.59	15.30	80.29	B
28.	S. G. Spencer	.. ..	97. 2	16. 0	81. 2	P & B
29.	B. Mitackis	.. ..	97. 2	16. 0	81. 2	P & B
30.	P. C. Collins	.. ..	99.24	—	—	P
31.	F. S. Herring	.. ..	99.38	15. 0	84.38	B

Handicap.—1. A. H. East.  
2. P. Sappcote.  
3. H. Shields.

Match result.—13 a side.  
Belgrave H., 145 points.  
M.P.A.A., 207 points.

## 10 MILES "GARNETT" CUP ROAD WALKING CHAMPIONSHIP (Previously known as "Junior") Coventry, Saturday, February 4th, 1950.

The usual fine arrangements for these road walking Championships were in evidence throughout the day and a good day's sport and comfortable travelling was enjoyed by all. For our own little contingent we are all agreed that in spite of our two disappointments and the financial distress of Syd James (owing to his great interest in cards) we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

To describe the race briefly, we had a very early shock when Bert East was disqualified in the first half mile. Although this must have dismayed the first four Belgrave lads who seemed to be the only team men to know of this upheaval of our plans, they set to straight away to endeavour to make up the loss. First George Oliver, who incidentally, walked splendidly and calmly throughout the race, followed by Alan Robins, with Syd James being virtually driven along by Tony Bellchamber who battled most gallantly only to suffer disqualification when he seemed set for a good ten miles performance and which could only have been through a very short lapse as at eight miles he went past me in great style only to be pulled out about 100 yards further on. At the half way our boys were leading by about 12 points and things looked very rosy. Frank Tasker was in a fearful temper with the club whippers, but walking all the

better for it. In the last *Belgravian* we suggested Frank Tasker should take the bit between his teeth and have a go, but instead he indulged in a most revolting display of gnashing of teeth at well meaning supporters. Jack Baker came next but at the half distance George Bentley who owing to his recent heavy studying has been unable to get fit, retired. Ted Evans, walking as an individual at his own expense for experience sake, showed up to advantage. Although all our lads fought well, Sheffield crawled closer and when Tony was pulled at eight miles, we dropped back to third place. Tasker thus became our fourth man and realising he was our most important competitor, he really set to and even passed Syd James who fell back a little after he lost his driver. We must congratulate Sheffield in this their third win in this event, a performance never accomplished before and to Cambridge Harriers for a very gallant second and, of course, to our own for maintaining the Club's splendid record in this race which although it has been re-named the "Garnett" Cup Race, still remains in the hearts and minds of many as the "Junior." Placings as follows:—

1. R. Hardy, Sheffield U.H. ..	80.43	28. S. James .. .. .	90.08
9. G. E. Oliver .. .. .	85.58	45. J. Baker .. .. .	92.01
19. J. H. Robins .. .. .	88.15	49. E. Evans .. .. .	92.23
25. F. W. Tasker .. .. .	89.19		

Team Championship.—1, Sheffield U.H., 53 pts.; 3, Belgrave H. 67 pts.

*It is pleasing to note that R. S. Kemp who finished second is now a member of Belgrave Harriers.*

### SOUTH OF THAMES CHAMPIONSHIP

The 51st annual South of Thames C.C. Championship was held over a 2-lap course at Farningham on February 11th, and there was a field of 210 runners comprising 20 teams.

Owing to the numerous barring clauses our team was well below our usual strength and then Eddie Short after being in the first twenty at the half-distance suffered an injury to his ankle and although pluckily completing the course he finished well down the field.

Jim Bragginton was our first man home in 31st position and for his first season over the country, this was quite a good performance. Mick Porter was our next man but the rest of the team were much too far back to have any chance in the team race.

This was won by Westbury Harriers with a good score of 73 points, with Portsmouth A.C. scoring 122, and Surrey A.C. third with 136. Westbury also won the Colman Cup and so we lost both these trophies.

Placings of our team were as under:—Bragginton, 31; Porter, 48; Adams, L., 83; England, 101; Bishop, A., 106; Short, 114; Bishop, E., 125; Cuff, 128; Smith, A., 150; Bishop, L., 165.

Team position.—12, Belgrave H., 483 points.

### YOUTHS C.C. MATCH

On February 11th, we sent down a team to run against the John Fisher School and the Wandsworth County School were also competing.

In a four a side contest we emerged winners by scoring 16 points to Wandsworth's 31 and John Fisher's 42.

First home was D. G. Maclean running for his School, the Wandsworth County, and P. W. Adams was second, with R. J. Wolton third.

Placings of our club members were as under:—Maclean, 1; Adams, P., 2; Wolton, 3; Simpson, 5; Greene, 6; Courtney, 7; Grieves, 8; Butt, 9; Udall, 11. (21 finished the course.)

### BANSTEAD WALK

February 18th, the date of our match with Surrey W.C. was fine and bright, but cool, and a very enjoyable race was held over this very sporting  $11\frac{1}{2}$  miles course. A match between Surrey W.C. and the Met. Police was held in conjunction, so we had quite a number of our police members present to assist us in the match against the home club.

Harry Churcher, who we rarely see in races over 10 miles, went into the lead soon after the start, with McMullen hanging on to him for about

two miles, after which Harry gradually increased his lead, until about two miles from the finish he had an advantage of nearly 150 yards. However, the extra distance and the stiff climb in the final mile or so, caused Harry to flag a little, and when they came into view about 200 yards from the finish Harry and Mac were together, and they finished abreast in 1 h. 37 m. 28 s. Three Surrey men filled the next places, followed by Charlie Churcher, in 1 h. 41 m. 7 s., over four minutes slower than in last year's race, which he won.

The match finished up in our favour with a score of 287 to S.W.C.'s 308. A pleasing feature of the event was the number of Belgrave supporters present at the start and finish, though it is not a convenient course for spectators to see much of the intermediate phases of the race.

Times of Belgrave men:—

H. G. Churcher .. ..	1h. 37m. 28s.	J. Wilson .. ..	1h. 49m. 37s.
R. D. McMullen .. ..	1h. 37m. 28s.	D. Heath .. ..	1h. 49m. 41s.
C. E. Churcher .. ..	1h. 41m. 7s.	P. Wilson .. ..	1h. 51m. 39s.
P. Sapcote .. ..	1h. 42m. 46s.	E. Evans .. ..	1h. 53m. 6s.
J. C. Bidgood .. ..	1h. 43m. 34s.	A. Atkinson .. ..	1h. 53m. 9s.
G. Bentley .. ..	1h. 44m. 49s.	H. W. Shields .. ..	1h. 53m. 25s.
A. Readman .. ..	1h. 44m. 58s.	S. Goold .. ..	1h. 55m. 12s.
G. Oliver .. ..	1h. 47m. 45s.	B. Mitackis .. ..	2h. 0m. 43s.
F. Tasker .. ..	1h. 49m. 7s.		

Result.—Belgrave, 287 points; S.W.C., 308 points. 17 a side.

### MATCH v. T.V.H.

Held at Wimbledon on February 18th, and this was styled a "B" team fixture but as included in the Thames Valley team were such runners as Les Field and Alec Olney, the field was really much stronger than usual.

Over our five miles course Field finished a good winner in 30 mins. 8 secs., and Archie Bedford ran well to finish a close second with Ches Walker also well up. Alan Bishop also ran well but our fast course suits his style of running.

Scoring 12 a side we came out winners by 139 points to the Valley's 164, but they actually had a much larger number competing than we could muster.

Positions and times of our runners were:—2, Bedford, 30.20; 3, Walker, 30.35; Poole, 30.56; 6, Bishop, A., 31.35; 8, England, 32.8; 13, Woodhead, 32.45; 15, Lacey, J., 32.49; 16, Saville, 33.6; 17, Cuff, 33.13; 24, Laing, 34.40; 26, Savage, 34.42; 28, Taylor, A. E., 35.7; 31, Fox, 36.9; 32, Taylor, A. W., 36.37.

### THE SOUTHERN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Southern Counties cross-country championships were held on February 25th at Rodmill Farm, Eastbourne.

In the Youths' race of one lap there was a field of 233 runners comprising 38 teams, and for our team to gain second place was indeed a very fine performance.

D. G. Maclean ran a splendid race to finish fourth in the individual race and he chased home R. C. Tooby of Dartford, who is well-known to our lads being a second-claim member.

With P. W. Adams running the race of his life to score 11th, and with Harry Greene 41st and G. A. Simpson 54th, we scored 110 points to beat many more fancied teams including South London H.

Team placings of our lads were as under:—D. G. Maclean, 4; P. W. Adams, 11; H. E. Greene, 41; G. A. Simpson, 54; J. E. Godfrey, 101; P. Courtney, 151; E. S. Udall, 165; R. A. Butt, 170.

Team result.—1, Thames Valley H., 65 pts.; 2, Belgrave H., 110 pts.; 3, South London H., 128 pts.; 4, A.A. Aborfield, 173 pts.; 5, Polytechnic H., 195 pts.; 6, Shaftesbury H., 227 pts.

The Junior race run over two laps followed after the senior race and by this time some of the mud had been trodden down but the course was still water-logged in parts and very heavy.

Ches Walker was our first man home closely followed by Mike Stearman and on such a course both these lads had run well. R. T. Taylor

also did well in his first big race but Len Bishop found the going very heavy as did Abbott but John Lacey kept plugging away and Evison and Budd, two comparative newcomers to our ranks, performed quite well in a field of 219 starters.

Our team placing was fifth which was quite a big improvement on last year and as 37 teams were competing, our lads can be said to have done very well.

Scoring positions of our lads are as follows:—22, C. W. Walker; 24, M. J. Stearman; 46, R. T. Taylor; 99, L. C. Bishop; 102, D. J. Abbott; 106, J. A. Lacey; 130, R. B. Evison; 171, R. F. Budd.

Team result.—1, South London H. 28 pts.; 2, Thames Valley H., 43 pts.; 3, R.M.A. Sandhurst, 69 pts.; 4, Reading A.C., 158 pts.; 5, Belgrave H., 191 pts.; 6, Cambridge H., 192 pts.

A field of 340 runners turned out for the Senior race run over four laps and the fact that only 318 finished, shows what a gruelling course it proved to be.

Not only had the runners to contend with running through water at different parts of the course but they also had at the end of each lap an uphill climb of about 300 yards through thick mud about a foot deep. Needless to say many of the runners lost their shoes and several finished in their bare feet.

Les Stokell who finished in tenth place was one of these and Jack Brown also came in minus his shoes. Vern Blowfield after making a fast start had a bad time and fell right back but came through again later on to finish in the first 100.

Ted Stimpson ran his usual dependable race and Steve Charlton also did well as did Stan Davies, our new Track Captain, and with four in the first 33 we should have gained a place, but our fifth and sixth counters were too far back and so we had to be content with finishing fourth in the team race.

We managed to once again win the "Oddling-Smee" Cup awarded to the first Surrey club finishing its complete team of 12 men, and to finish these in the first 109 home was indeed a good all-round performance.

In congratulating Thames Valley on their win we are indeed pleased to see one of our oldest friends coming out on top and many of our older members will remember the triangular contests over the country between Ashcombe, Thames Valley and Belgrave.

Team positions, that is deleting individuals, of our runners were as follows:—10, C. L. Stokell; 21, E. S. Stimson; 29, S. Charlton; 33, S. Davies; 70, J. W. Brown; 75, J. H. Bragginton; 83, V. S. Blowfield; 85, F. K. Blunden; 88, M. E. Heard; 104, R. F. Towndrow; 105, C. T. Carter; 109, G. Durrant.

Team result.—1, Thames Valley H., 89 pts.; 2, Aylesford Paper Mills, 113 pts.; 3, Blackheath H., 218 pts.; 4, Belgrave H., 238 pts.; 5, Woodford Green, 307 pts.; 6, Essex Beagles, 346 pts. (35 teams started, 31 closed in.)

#### COUNTY 10 MILE WALK CHAMPIONSHIPS—March 4th

*Surrey.* Held at Croydon.

Individual Championship.—1, H. G. Churcher, 76.50; 2, R. McMullen, 81.05; 4, C. E. Churcher, 83.35.

Team Championship.—1, Belgrave Harriers, 15 points. Churcher, McMullen, Churcher, East.

*Middlesex* (Cadogan A.C.).

Team Championship.—3rd Cadogan A.C., 45 points. Readman, 5; Rutland, 10; Oliver, 14; Bentley, 16.

*Hampshire.*

Individual Championship.—1, H. G. Kemp.

Congratulations to the following on gaining their County Colours.

*Surrey.*—H. G. Churcher, R. McMullen, C. E. Churcher, A. H. East.

*Middlesex.*—J. Rutland, A Readman

*Kent.*—J. H. Robins.

*Hampshire.*—H. Clayton, P. G. Wright, G. Warr.

## MATCH v. SURREY BEAGLES

On March 4th we sent along a "B" team to Woldingham for a match against the Surrey Beagles, Dartford Harriers and the Tonbridge A.C.

We only had six turn up and it was decided to score five a side, and Dartford emerged winners with 32 points, with the home club scoring 36, ourselves 77, and Tonbridge 93.

Whenman and Booker of Dartford came home together in the lead followed by Len Herbert and then came three Surrey Beagles. Alan Bishop was 13th, Arthur Bruce 16th, A. W. Saville 22nd, M. Tween 23rd and R. J. Fox 32nd. Eric Bishop also went over but arrived too late to take part in the race.

It is nice for these smaller clubs to have matches against more well-known opposition and it is a pity that the fixture was not better supported by our members.

## THE "NATIONAL" CHAMPIONSHIPS

Held at Aylesbury on March 11th, the E.C.C.U. Youths, Junior and Senior Championships were well supported and once again the question of whether the entry to these events should be restricted, was hotly debated. It is nice to give all who want to a chance of a run, but with the small laps they use for these events, there is the question of runners being lapped and also the long hold-up in the finishing funnel which sometimes results owing to the officials being unable to cope with the large number of competitors.

In the Youths race there was a field of 325 runners and D. G. Maclean did very well to finish in 20th actual position. He was well supported by Harry Greene but Adams and Simpson did not do so well as they did in the Southern race. However, our team position of seventh was very good and a big improvement on previous results.

The Junior event saw a field of 361 turn out and our lads were never in the first flight but Ches. Walker ran fairly well but here again Mike Stearman did not do so well as at Eastbourne.

Jack Lacey ran quite well as did S. G. Brooks and Evison also looks like improving with more experience.

The Senior race saw the huge field of 493 runners and the leading positions never changed after the first lap and it was quite refreshing to see a bunch of four Southern runners behind Aaron, the winner, and it was a pity that Vern Blowfield was not among them as many think he could have been if he had run.

Sutton Harriers from Cheshire, once again won the team championship and with five in 25 these Sutton lads certainly do pack well and it takes us back to 1935 at Beaconsfield. Then the "Bels" team positions were—H. E. Footer, 11; D. Patience, 14; J. Ginty, 15; A. E. Taylor, 18; C. T. Carter, 19; H. W. Shields, 20. This was real "Sutton" packing which nowadays seems to be a lost art so far as the South is concerned. If our lads will only buckle down to doing their training together and cultivate the real team spirit, then perhaps we can repeat our 1948 victory when we have to travel North next year for this race.

Here are the finishing positions of our teams with individuals deleted:—

Senior.—C. L. Stokell, 47; S. Charlton, 55; S. Davies, 73; J. W. Brown, 77; J. H. Bragginton, 99; E. S. Stimpson, 100; F. K. Blunden, 156; M. E. Heard, 196; C. T. Carter, 198. Teams—1, Sutton Harriers, 142 pts.; 2, Leeds Harehills H., 241 pts.; 3, Shettleston H., 242 pts.; 4, Birchfield H., 243 pts.; 5, Reading A.C., 254 pts.; 8, Belgrave H., 451 pts. (48 teams closed in.)

Junior.—C. W. Walker, 40; M. J. Stearman, 79; L. C. Bishop, 150; J. A. Lacey, 153; S. G. Brooks, 201; D. B. Evison, 210; R. J. Wolton, 245; R. F. Budd, 246. Teams—1, East Cheshire H., 79 pts.; 2, Royal Signals, 107 pts.; 3, Thames Valley H., 112 pts.; 4, South London H., 122 pts.; 21, Belgrave H., 422 pts. (50 teams closed in.)

Youths—D. G. Maclean, 18; H. E. Greene, 30; P. W. Adams, 88;

G. Simpson, 104; J. E. Godfrey, 140; H. Cornell, 235; R. A. Butt, 255; E. S. Udall, 297. Teams—1, Sutton Harriers, 76 pts.; 2, Winton H., 80 pts.; 3, Liverpool H., 105 pts.; 4, Tipton H., 131 pts.; 5, Bingley H., 161 pts.; 7, Belgrave H., 240 pts. (49 teams closed in.)

## 10 MILES NATIONAL ROAD WALKING CHAMPIONSHIP

Regents Park, March 18th

Congratulations to Sheffield United Harriers. A splendid win both in individual and team honours, achieved by a young and enthusiastic team who we know will be formidable opponents for many seasons to come. On paper our own team looked good and we ourselves hoped we would be the ones to achieve both honours, but a resolute team in Sheffield decided otherwise. At the start of the race Sheffield received a serious blow in the disqualification of Proctor who joined in an extremely fast start with his team mates Allen and Hardy and our own Harry Churcher. At 1½ miles Harry held a lead of 30 yards and we already began to think of double honours as our team was very well placed. However at 4½ miles Harry developed a very bad stitch which allowed Allen to get away and at five miles he held a lead of 40 yards, but a quick check showed our team leading by 21 points to 29. Harry never recovered from his bad time and at six miles Allen was well away and walking in grand style. Harry battling gallantly could make no impression but at this stage the team race looked extremely rosy for us for we were scoring 29 points to Sheffield's 46 and all our men looking well. Here we must mention George Oliver who walked the same steady race as in the "Garnett" Cup 10 miles. Unfortunately our hopes were dashed when we learnt that Dave McMullen who had walked splendidly up to then had been ruled out at 8½ miles. This shook our team men badly but Captain Charlie put in a grand effort and picked up places whilst our supporters got busy with their whips and flogged our team into life again. But it was of no avail, Sheffield had beaten us. Jack Rutland is mentioned in despatches and also G. Warr who is improving quickly, but the hero of the day was Bob Readman who although feeling the effects of the National Police Championship two days previously battled to the finish to score for us. I know certain runners are reading this article and waiting for the mention of a certain *incident* during the race, but I don't intend to report it except to say that as a result of this incident "somebody" is now well and truly *initiated*.

Results as follows:—

Team Championship.—1, Sheffield U.H., 41 points; 2, Belgrave H. "A" 51 points. Churcher, Churcher, Oliver, Readman.

As a point of interest our "B" Team who finished 12th were the first team to score in their eighth man in 97th position.

1. L. Allen, Sheffield U.H.	.. 74.38	72. H. Clayton	.. .. . 89.21
2. H. G. Churcher	.. .. . 76.45	74. G. Warr	.. .. . 90.00
6. C. E. Churcher	.. .. . 81.52	80. H. McGreechan	.. .. . 90.17
16. G. Oliver	.. .. . 82.44	84. P. Wright	.. .. . 91.02
27. A. Readman	.. .. . 84.08	89. J. Robins	.. .. . 91.34
38. J. Rutland	.. .. . 85.25	103. J. Wilson	.. .. . 92.44
44. J. Bidgood	.. .. . 85.48	104. W. Wesson	.. .. . 92.44
58. S. James	.. .. . 88.15	112. S. L. King	.. .. . 93.31
59. J. Bellchamber	.. .. . 88.25	115. S. Spencer	.. .. . 93.55
60. P. Sapcote	.. .. . 88.30	122. H. Jeffery	.. .. . 94.46
61. F. Tasker	.. .. . 88.34	123. S. Goold	.. .. . 94.59
66. A. East	.. .. . 89.01	143. W. Ives	.. .. . 98.47
70. E. Evans	.. .. . 89.18		

### ALL BELGRAVIANS WISH A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO—

**DICK SAVAGE** who has for some time been on the sick list with synovitis. We hope that this will now under new treatment soon improve and we will again be having the assistance in many capacities that he always readily gave.

**HARRY PARKER.** We are deeply sorry to hear of the illness of our esteemed Past President, Harry Parker, especially as it has prevented him attending the Southern and the National Cross Country Championships in

his year of office as President of both the E.C.C.U. and S.C.C.A. Harry has been confined to his room for weeks and at times is in pain, but, to quote his own words, he is fighting back. When visited he was all agog for the latest Club news and asking after all and sundry. Yes, the old saying crops up again "Once a Belgravian, always a Belgravian." Harry will be most pleased to hear from any of his many friends in the Club (especially if you have any results). Let us hope that he is soon restored to health again and back with us.

**FRANK THOMPSON.** Another of our Past Presidents and one of our Trustees and I believe the oldest living member. Frank has not enjoyed robust health during recent years but in spite of this he always strives to attend Belgrave Hall and other venues on important occasions although living as far away as Slough. Recently Frank has had a very serious setback in health and caused us to worry about his welfare. Our Secretary visited him in hospital and has since had a letter from Frank to the Club and which amazingly gives us hope that Frank will again visit us and we hope very soon. His whole life has been devoted to athletics and especially to our Club, and just to prove that we are uppermost in his thoughts he sends us the following article on the very first edition of the *Belgravian*. Good show, Frank. We are all thinking very kindly of you and especially the older members who are always enquiring for news of you. They and all Belgravians, and in fact everybody connected with the sport in which you and your work is so well known and revered, join me in wishing you once again "*Good health and good luck and God bless you.*"

## The Belgravian

---

No. 1

July, 1925

Vol. 1

---

This was the heading of the first publication of the Club Gazette. Of the list of officers shown on the first page, all are still with us except the President, R. W. Ricketts. They are F. G. Thompson, Hon. Sec.; J. R. McKay, Hon. Treasurer; W. L. Bayliss, Asst. Hon. Sec.; L. C. Smith, Social Hon. Sec.

In the introduction the Hon. Editor wrote: "It is the desire of many of our members mostly concerned with the management and welfare of the Belgrave Harriers, that we might have a periodical publication whereby the activities of the Club could be more closely presented to our members and friends." So the *Belgravian* was born and has now reached its 25th anniversary after overcoming all the difficult periods during the opening numbers.

We hope that the following extracts from the efforts of the first Hon. Editor, W. H. Hare, will be of interest to the old members, many of whom are still with us, and the younger members who, we hope, in another 25 years will still retain the Belgrave spirit that was built up on the grit and determination of the "Old 'uns" to succeed.

The first issue contained the heading "Cross Country." This included a review of the season which should remind present members of runners who have been representing the Club for 25 years. In the Championship races we were second in the South of the Thames Race, 3rd in the Surrey County. The Blackstaffe Shield was won by K. B. O'Kell and the Macher Shield by H. E. Footer. A splendid team of Club members.

Bert during this season was first man home for the Club in every open race. In the South of the Thames Junior we were placed 3rd, rather a long way behind Surrey A.C. Mention was made of A. B. Pyer, who finished first in 1923 and 1924 in the Macher Shield Race.

Road Walking. It is easier to gain a reputation than to maintain it. This was the feeling of our walkers after their success in the National Championship the previous year, but they showed their prowess by

retaining the title in 1925 with F. Rickards, E. G. Cooper, G. Wall and W. H. Hare.

Mention was made of our Open 7 Miles Walk. In 1925 it was said that this event was now firmly established. After 25 years we are going stronger than ever. We won the team race and gained 1st and 3rd places in the open handicap with J. Rathbone and A. East.

I am reminded of press space so I will just mention one or two matters of interest.

Firstly—Fred Rickards—a stalwart. His performances over long distance walks are written elsewhere but he must be mentioned for his pluck. Rickards competed in the Police Championship Walk from Barking to Southend, winning it six times consecutively, and twice in addition in other years. In the Ricketts Shield Race Rickards finished first in 2.53.17, winning by 4 minutes.

Another interesting comparison must be recorded. In the Belgrave 10 Miles Championship of that year, A. H. East was placed 3rd in the handicap and in 1950 won the handicap in the same race.

### THE WALKERS GET TOGETHER—For Food, Wine and Talk

On Wednesday, March 1st, an impromptu but very enjoyable evening was spent by 32 members of the Walking Section at the Headquarters of Cadogan A.C., namely "The Denmark," Old Brompton Road. Mine hosts were our old friend and fellow Belgravian Len Rollins and his charming wife, who furnished us with a most sumptuous supper and wines, etc., at a most reasonable charge and in most comfortable and pleasant surroundings. Our President, Treasurer and Secretary were our guests for the evening. A few suitable toasts were proposed and rollicking-well responded to. Matters of interest were discussed and an official welcome was made to "Sir" Harry Shields and one of our new members, Gordon Beecham. We were all agreed that a most pleasant evening was spent and we intend that more will follow. The one regret of all present was that Len Rollins was unwell and unable to join us, but we did enjoy the presence of Mrs. Rollins, who worked hard to help us make our evening a success and who most tactfully retired when speeches were indulged in, some of which included some doubtful anecdotes. *Watch out for our next evening.*

### OVER THE COUNTRY

by *Observer.*

A review of the cross-country results shows that we have fared none too well this season from a team point of view.

Starting with the South of Thames "Junior" race we finished fifth as against last season's fourth place, while we lost both the Surrey Senior team and individual titles.

Our Middlesex members also lost their team championship and were beaten out of a place, but we did manage to secure places in all three Surrey County championships over the country.

We were holders of the South of Thames Senior title, but as the winning scoring team are barred, there was some excuse for our dropping to 12th place in this year's race.

The Southern Senior title was also lost and here again we were beaten out of a place, but our Juniors showed a big improvement on last year's 18th position when finishing fifth this time. Also our Youths improved from 17th position to 2nd place this season, and this is really the outstanding performance by our cross-country section.

In the "National" we dropped from sixth place last year to eighth this time, but our Juniors improved from 24th to 21st, while our Youths who were 29th last year finished a very creditable seventh this time out.

To try to find the reason for our dropping off is partly explained when we find runners like Len Herbert, Derrick Burfitt, Bill Lucas, Frank Abberton, Reg Ruddick and Eddie Short not taking part in the big races and although we are a club of considerable numerical strength, it takes time to build up a really strong team.

Also we find these days that many of the lads deem fit to bring along their wives and girl friends on race days, and although we are always pleased to see these at our Club socials, I personally think that on race days a chap should concentrate on the job on hand and not have any females to distract him.

Of course, the wives may threaten to go home to mother, the only snag here being, that when they come back they usually bring mother with them!

A hope for the future is the considerable promise of our Youths section, under Micky Pyer's tuition, and a return of the old club spirit among all classes of members, both those who have gained their International honours, and those who are hoping that they may one day wear the red rose on their running vest.

A general striving in that direction must result in an improvement as a team and I trust that the day is not too far distant when Belgrave will once again be the premier cross-country club in the country.

### FIELD EVENTS NOTES

A new summer season approaches and it behoves all the Field Events men to get down to hard training in an endeavour to make this a really good season.

Unfortunately we have lost the services of two of our seniors: Geoff. Jarvis, the hurdler who is a regular in the R.A.F. and Geoff. Wood who won our Hop, Step and Jump Championship a year or so ago. Both have joined new clubs, but whilst regretting the loss of their services and companionship, we wish them well with their new clubs. John Grey who put up a new record in the Surrey Junior Discus has also left us, and we trust he will continue improvement and develop to international standard which we expected of him.

We have a few new performers: one, Murray, a Shot and Discus man, who is a fireman, and he should strengthen our teams. We shall also be glad to welcome back to the fold Arthur Allen who has now finished his Army service. He was a promising Javelin thrower as a Junior and now having reached Senior status, we hope he will prove himself to be one of our best.

If the two Fleming brothers have recovered from injuries, we shall be pleased to see them performing again.

Bill Sutton, Jock Mackenzie and Ans Bergvalds will be available for the Shot and Discus backed up by Doug. Childs, Terry Bateman, Len Higgins, Doug. Vine and others. Sid Jones is, I understand, getting back into training.

In the Javelin we shall no doubt see our old stalwart George Powell performing again and also Charlie Melchior. If Alan Dunn is now fully recovered from his arm injury he should be our first string backed up by Bateman, Higgins and Bergvalds. Arthur Allen it is hoped will show 150 to 160 feet in this event.

Again we seem to be short of High Jumpers but things will not be so bad if our Champion Eddie Mackenzie and Steve Gibson can turn out regularly. We still want more Seniors so that we do not have to rely on Juniors for Senior events.

In the Long Jump and Hop, Step and Jump, Les Christmas is again available, and we hope will show improvement. Now that Pete Lowe has recovered from his injury we look forward to having him in both these events. Steve Gibson can do really good performances in the Long Jump and Geoff. Barker in both events should make us stronger than for some years.

In spite of the loss of Geoff. Jarvis we have a few hurdlers coming on. Hunter, Robertson, Bailey and Harry Turner are new members as Seniors and Jim Purdy and Pete Hunt two promising Juniors.

We have of course lost some of our Juniors to the Services, but there are a number of new ones to take their places. Gowland for the Javelin,

Shot and Discus. Dave and Ian Law for the Shot and Discus, and another promising Javelin thrower is Delger.

Our Junior High Jumpers look to be the strongest we have had for years. Sinton did 5 ft. 6 in. last year and with Cooper, Jim Purdy (our best Western Roller), Steiner and Nettleton, we look really strong.

We shall have to rely on Peter Sexton and Sinton for the Long Jump, but there are a number of others who could do well in this event if they really set their minds to it.

We shall have our usual Handicaps during the summer, and are including a 120 yards Hurdles (3 ft.) and 220 yards (over 2 ft. 6 in.) Hurdles to encourage those interested in hurdling. Don't forget your entries as we want full support in the Handicaps.

A new Championship is being instituted this year for Juniors, namely, the High Jump. This, I think, is a good move and we want all the entries possible to show that you Juniors are really interested. If there is good support it may be possible to have more Field Events Championships for them in the future.

The "Poly" Sward Trophy meeting is on Saturday, May 13th, and whilst early in the season, we want our best team out, so get down to training now.

Surrey County are putting on a 220 yards Hurdles Championship for the first time this year, and we want the Club represented in this.

The Club Championships will be held on the usual date. Standards have been altered for High Jump (now 5 ft. 2 in.), Javelin (125 ft.), Hop, Step and Jump (37 ft.) and Discus (90 ft.). This is warranted owing to the number of standards gained last year.

Details of Special Coaching will be found on another page of this issue. All Field Events require an intense study of technique and this will be a fine opportunity to acquire it. I should like to see all Field Events men both Senior and Junior turning up. I can let you have any details you want.

One final word—don't forget your entries for handicaps. Unless these are received in time you will not be handicapped. It makes it much easier for the handicapper if he has all entries, and in addition don't forget that particulars have to be supplied to the printer for programmes. Entries should be sent to your Secretary Bert Machell with fees.

CHARLIE JONES,  
*Field Events Capt.*

## THE TRACK SEASON

We open our programme with a Club meeting at Tooting Common Track on April 15th, which although rather early in the season will give those members already in training a chance of some competition.

We also have matches arranged for each Saturday in May, with a Club meeting at Tooting on May 22nd, start at 7 p.m.

The Surrey County Relay Championships are all being held at Tooting on May 20th together with the 6 miles run, 7 miles walk, 220 yards low hurdles and the County Pentathlon.

On the following Saturday also at Tooting there are the Surrey Youths Track Championships, and with the Senior and Junior Championships being held at Motspur Park on June 3rd, the Surrey people are thus disposing of all their events in the short period of three weeks.

We have again been invited to compete in the "Kinnaird" Trophy contest at Chiswick on June 17th, also for the "Reading Gazette" Trophy at Palmers Park on July 22nd.

June 19th we have a combined meeting at Tooting with the London Olympiades A.C., and I hope that our members will give their full support to this promotion.

August 5th at Tooting is the Club Championship Day, and this year we have two new Junior Championships, these being the 440 yards for the "Plummer" Bowl, a very fine new trophy, and the high jump for those under 19 years of age on day of competition.

We have a very full list of fixtures with both old and new friends, and it is to be hoped that all members will help our new Track Captain, Stan Davies, to turn out full teams for all these matches, no matter what the results may be.

The Southern A.A.A. Championships are being held at Southampton, while the Southern Junior events will be at the Polytechnic Stadium, Chiswick, on July 8th with the Senior 4 x 110 yards relay at the same meeting.

The A.A.A. Junior Championships are at Port Sunlight, Cheshire, together with the senior relays and 2 miles walk, and it is hardly likely that many in the Club will be able to support these events so far from London.

Highlight of the track season will be the European Championships in Brussels from August 23rd to the 27th, and we are hoping that a few Belgravians will be in the English team and that we may be able to get up a party to go across and give them our vocal support.

All entries to Club races and any enquiries should be sent to our Running Hon. Sec. as under:—

E. A. Duffett,  
57, Harcourt Road,  
Thornton Heath,  
Surrey.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

It will be of interest to all Belgravians that George Clay, our Senior Coach, has now qualified as A.A.A. Hon. Senior Coach. Our congratulations may be a little belated but none the less sincere.

**VESTS AND BADGES.** All members should note that a few Club vests are still available in sizes 34, 36, 38 and 40 at 10s. 6d. each. Vest badges 2s. 6d. and coat badges 2s. Club ties should be available some time during the summer. Information regarding track suits, vests and badges, etc., can be obtained from T. Morrell, who will be in attendance at Tooting Bec Track on Sunday mornings and Tuesday evenings throughout the summer season.

Congratulations to Alf Harley, our nominee, and Les Cohen, nominated by the London Business Houses S.A., on being elected to the A.A.A. Southern Committee.

We note with interest that Ernie Duffett has been re-appointed one of the official A.A.A. Handicappers for the forthcoming season.

Congratulations to the following:—

Eddie Short selected to represent the English Universities at Glasgow in the Varsity C.C. International Race on March 18th.

Harry Churcher 1st and Dave McMullen 2nd in the London Business Houses Championship.

Archie Bedford, who won the London Transport 5 miles Cross Country Championship.

Bob Rodman, 1st in the M.P.A.A. 10 Miles Championship and 3rd in the National Police 10 Miles Championship.

The team of Belgrave Policemen who won the M.P.A.A. 10 Miles Team Championship—Sapcote, Evans, McGreechan and Atkinson.

Harry Greene 1st in the Inter Schools race for the Densham Cup.

Ken England and Jim Kennedy on their recent marriages.

**DAMAGE TO HALL.** As you will now have learned, the Belgrave Hall is now entirely your property. Reports have been received of minor wanton damage and your committee earnestly request all members to co-operate fully in preventing further damage.

**A.A.A. CHAMPIONSHIPS.** July 14th-15th. Tickets may be obtained, as soon as available, from Frank Webb, 50, Longford Avenue, Southall, Middlesex, at 3s. 6d. each. Early application is advised and only applications accompanied by cash can be considered.

**OVERSEAS CUP.** It is regretted that there was a very poor response to the appeal in our last issue for donations to this cup. We are nevertheless grateful to C. T. Pateman, A. Penstone, F. H. Elson and R. Towndrow.

Special welcome to Ron Kemp, who will in due course prove a great acquisition to our teams. He followed up his second place in the "Garnett" Cup Championship at Coventry with an easy win in the Hampshire 10 Miles Championship. A few days ago he married, and we wish him and his wife many years of happiness.

A twenty-two-year-old walker of very great promise, Geoff. Gregory, has recently joined us and it may confidently be said that he is destined to win championships and appear in future winning Belgrave teams. Walking as an individual, he was 12th in the "Garnett" Cup Championship and recently won the Tobacco Trades A.A. Championship with ease. A hearty welcome to Belgrave, Geoff.

Alan Sexton, R.A.F.; Peter Baldwin, R.A.F.; and B. L. Chitty, Army Signals; have recently entered the services and wish to be remembered to all members and friends.

Frank Kurton, now a Sapper in 42 Survey Engineer Regt. M.E.L.F., writes from Fayid in the Suez Canal Zone of Egypt and wishes to be remembered to all Belgrave friends and hopes to keep up his running in spite of the heat.

The friends of Max Quackenbos will be pleased to learn that he is now a proud father—a girl. "Quack" (our pre-war Junior Captain) does no competitive running now and marvels at how some of his old friends keep it up. He sends best wishes to all.

We are greatly indebted to one of our members, Mr. R. Plummer, who has recently presented the Club with a handsome silver bowl for perpetual competition. It has been decided to institute a Junior 440 Yards Championship and the trophy has been allocated to this event. Mr. Plummer is Hon. Treasurer of the London Federation of Boys Clubs and has always been interested in the welfare and activities of the young brigade. It is particularly appropriate therefore that this splendid new trophy should be identified with a new Junior Championship, and it is to be hoped that it will be the means of encouraging our younger athletes to a high standard of performances.

Once again our headquarters have been used by a number of sporting bodies, Boy Scouts organisations, etc., for their various championships, and we regard these services as something contributed by Belgrave towards athletics.

Harry Churcher was the recent recipient of a carved wooden shield presented by the Club to mark his world's records for five miles set up in 1948 and 1949. Appropriately the carving shows the Belgrave Badge eclipsing the world, and an engraved silver tablet gives details of the performances.

The shield was carved by an old friend and member, Herbert Bignall, and is certainly a fine piece of craftsmanship.

Peter Martin has accepted an invitation from the Committee to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of B. L. Chitty on his being called to the Services. We are anxious that the younger members should play their part in the legislation of the Club and carry on the good work in the old tradition.

*FINALLY—Remember the date of the six miles walk, APRIL 29th, when we hope to have a large field of UNATTACHED walkers.*