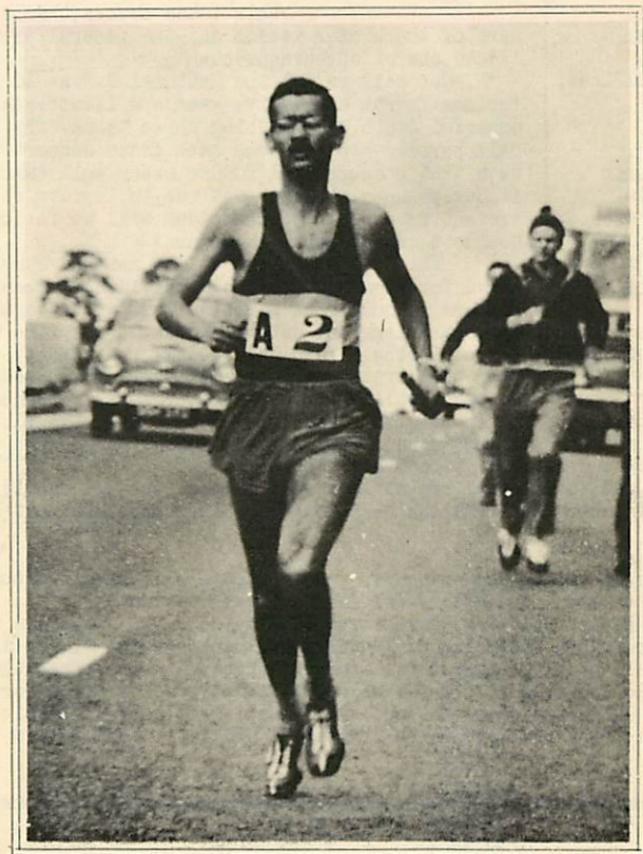


THE  
BELGRAVIAN



Official Gazette of  
Belgrave Harriers

MAY, 1960.



# THE BELGRAVIAN

FOUNDED 1887

MAY 1960

No. 142

## EDITORIAL

### President

T.C. Jones

### Gen. Hon. Sec

A.A. Harley  
7, Brickwall Lane,  
Ruislip  
Midx.

### Hon. Treasurer

S.C. Roberts,  
4, Derwent Avenue,  
N.18.

### Hon. Editors

C. Shippen  
M.E. Robinson  
147, Goldhawk Road,  
W.12.

Dear Fellow Members,

This issue covers the latter part of the Winter season and the general picture is indeed one of encouragement.

Our walkers won the National R.W.A. 10 miles for the fourth successive year and illustrated their powerful depth by finishing three teams. The Vickers Hall partnership receives such grand support these days that a successful future seems well assured. For if our younger walkers continue to improve at their present rate our club champions will be facing their toughest outings on home ground!

The cross-country section has had a season of mixed fortunes with several individual successes, but no team honours. But since we last wrote on the need for enthusiasm and determination, a surprise win was scored in the Ilford Road Relay. The effect on the team was quite remarkable. A spirit which had hitherto been dwelling with past successes, returned once more and the future was faced with confidence. Soon after, the club "5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " record was smashed by Bhatia and Dabbs and the season ended with a grand 4th place in the National London-Brighton Relay.

We feel the corner has at last been turned, but all should remember that the finishing straight can be a long one. The tempo must not be slackened.

\* \* \* \* \*

Two of our leading runners, Ranjit Bhatia and Charlie Dabbs, have set off to a record-breaking start for the track season.

On Easter Saturday Charlie was 5th in the A.A.A. 10 miles Championship at Hurlingham recording 51-15 for a new club record; whilst Ranjit astounded all but his closest followers by turning in on consecutive days a 4-8.7 mile and a 13-57.6 three miles in qualifying for the Oxford University athletics team, and putting himself in line for Olympic honours. We earnestly hope that all Belgravians will "go to it" and follow their example.

## JOE FELL

It is with profound regret that we announce the departure from this life of Joe Fell. Joe passed away on Friday morning, April 22nd, at the Battersea General Hospital. Our sincere condolences are extended to Mrs. Fell.

Joe had for many years been our Starter, following in his father's footsteps and upholding the family tradition. He was an official Surrey County Starter and was noted for his willingness to assist lesser organisations in their track meetings. His familiar figure will be sadly missed at all our fixtures.

R.I.P.

## HON. SEC'S. NOTES

Our present and our future depend on the enthusiasm of our members athletically; and the ability to continue to raise sufficient money to maintain and improve on Headquarters, to provide adequate competitive facilities for our members at all standards and in all age groups, to cater for the training and coaching of our members, particularly the young athletes; and to make our contribution in various ways to the well-being of Amateur Athletics generally.

Our finances can be helped, as follows:

- a) Donations to general or specific Club activities.
- b) Prompt payment of subscriptions, entry fees etc.
- c) An increase in the number of Honorary members, and in membership.
- d) An influx of new members into our Supporters Club Football Scheme, which needs next August and thereafter, a number of new Agents, and individual participants.
- e) Whole-hearted support and 100% endeavour in all our money-raising schemes.

Without adequate finance we shall stagnate and die after nearly three-quarters of a century. Our enthusiasm in all club activities, not least in money-raising must never permit this to happen!

Once again our Headquarters have been made available to other athletic bodies for their Championships and racing; and thereby a valuable contribution made to the welfare of our Sport. Bodies as diverse as the Stock Exchange A.C., London Breweries S.A.A., N.A.L.G.O., London University, The Fellowship of St. Christopher, Rutlish School have enjoyed our accommodation and courses.

Mention of courses reminds us of the tremendous debt we owe to Arthur Whitehead and his helpers for which we express our sincere thanks. Not only does Arthur normally take charge of the course arrangements for our visitors as above and for our Championship and racing arrangements, but fame being what it is, he is now asked to go further a-field and the Belgrave team goes into action in many places. Thus three Surrey County Championships have been pointed away from Wimbledon, and the South of Thames Senior Championship- and course arrangements mean also starting and finishing pen and funnel arrangements. In addition, preparation of Result sheets is another of the services rendered so willingly and so competently. Thanks a lot, Arthur, for all your help.

Incidentally, keeping equipment in order is almost a full time job in itself. 150 flags await repair-six were eaten by cows in the Surrey Senior race! Some help here would be appreciated!

ooooo000ooooo

Club Track and Field Championships will be held this year at Tooting Track on Saturday, June 18th. Mark this date in your diaries immediately and we ask for the fullest possible support from all members both in the matter of entries and attendance at the meeting.

ooooo000ooooo

We acknowledge gratefully the generous donations which have been recently forthcoming from Past Presidents, Vice Presidents and Life Members. Many of these gentlemen take little out of the Club these days but in many instances they continue to put back something very real in the form of services, encouragement, and £.s.d.

We are sincerely grateful to them for their example.

ooooo000ooooo

A. A. H.

## SOUTH OF THAMES SENIOR

On the 30th January 1960 the 61st Championship was run at West Wickham.

Our team was the best we had had for some time, for we still have runners who are barred for various causes.

The large field set off at a terrific pace and among the first 6 were soon seen Foord (Brighton), who won for the fourth time, Ernie Earl (Hercules), Tony Weekes-Pearson (Blackheath) and our own Charlie Dabbs.

After 2½ miles Charlie was 5th, followed by Ken Miller 28th, David Jones 46th, Ranjit Bhatia 53rd, John Moore 60th, Clive Shippen 61st, and Ken Venton 82nd, with the others at regularly spaced intervals within the first half of the field.

When next seen Charlie had lost a place but was still running well, while David Jones had had a bad spell and lost some 10 places; but Ranjit Bhatia who had started somewhat steadier was moving through.

At about 4½ miles a quick check on team placings showed we were scoring some 197 points- usually good enough for a place. Charlie was still 5th and looked full of running but not quite close enough to trouble the leaders. At about 6 miles he was still 5th but young Ken Miller although running well was feeling the pace and had dropped to 36th. Ranjit was still moving up and moved away from David Jones, Clive Shippen and John Moore who were having a battle for 5th and 6th man, had both moved up a place or two.

A close watch was also being kept on our more backward placings, for our chances of gaining the Coleman Cup for the first Club to finish its full 12 were very promising.

Unfortunately George Flanagan who had been showing some of his old running form by moving through to the eighties was beginning to drop many places, but our scoring six were still in the running.

At the finish, Foord came in sight a clear winner but we only had some 50 seconds to wait for Charlie Dabbs. A fine run to finish 5th. Ranjit Bhatia had moved steadily through the field to finish as our second man 39th, followed closely by Ken Miller 41 and David Jones 47th- both a little disappointed at dropping places in the second half of the race. Our scoring team was completed by Clive Shippen 56th and John Moore 57th. All had run well with more spirit than in the past and responded well to the shouts and hullabaloo kicked up by our few supporters. If we had had enough to place one every 200 yards round the course we must have won!

As will be seen below we narrowly missed a team place in a high scoring result and were only just out of a win in the '12' Cup.

A goodly number of supporters and a check on the backward slide in the second half of the race could well have made us winners of both.

### RESULT:

1. Foord (Brighton)	39.23	102. K. Venton	1. Hercules AC	208 pts
5. C. Dabbs	40.17	113. J. Radford	2. Walton AC	223 "
39. R. Bhatia	41.59	146. B. Johnston	3. Brighton AC	232 "
41. K. Miller	42.05	167. D.W. Jones	4. Horsham B.S.	237 "
47. D.F. Jones	42.13	199. J. Collier	5. BELGRAVE H	245 "
56. C. Shippen	42.25	200. G. Flanagan		
57. J. Moore	42.25			

T.C.J.

### FROM THE BELGRAVIAN---25 YEARS AGO

"..... on the last leg of the Brighton Relay..... Arthur Allum is running superbly. Four miles to go and our man is drawing away; two miles further and Birchfield are well in the rear. The Belgrave anthem startles the crowded streets and the Brighton populace are treated to yet another win by Belgrave. They must be getting used to it now. Relay or Walk, it's just the same!....."

# SOUTHERN COUNTIES C.C. CHAMPS.

Showing something like his old form Chas. Walker at 59th was our first man home in the Southern Championships, held at Parliament Hill Fields. After 2 miles he was lying in the 50's where he stayed- except for a brief period at the beginning of the last of the three laps, when he fell back to 70th. Close behind was Ranjit Bhatia in 61st place who had made his customary slow start, and had moved through the field at a steady rate seemingly unperturbed by the ground conditions or tempo of the surrounding competitors.

Charlie Dabbs, of whom so much was expected, found the sticky, hilly course too unsettling and dropped back from Walker till at half-way he lay in the 160's. Reduced to a slow jog he almost dropped out but forced himself to go on and in the latter stages recovered well to move up to 78th. David Jones, Clive Shippen, and Eric Gebbett were always together near the hundred mark and it was the last mile which enabled David to gain the few extra places for 97th, ahead of Clive at 107th and Eric, dropping slightly to 122.

The team were winners of the "Odling Smee" Cup for the first Surrey team to close in 12 men. But this was little consolation for the low 7th position in the main Championship.

## Juniors.

Ken Miller brought about a reversal of form when he was first man home in 25th position. He was backed up by Alan Black 67th, Ken Venton 75th and John Thresher 90th.

After half a mile it looked as though our lads were going to repeat their Surrey performance with Ken and Alan in the first dozen, but after a further 2 miles Ken lay 23rd, with John Thresher and Ken Venton in the 80's and Eric Penny at 152nd ahead of Alan, who had dropped to 181.

Vocal support gave Alan the encouragement he needed, for he worked through the field steadily and eventually took back 114 places.

Ken Miller's performance was particularly noteworthy as he ran most of the race in considerable pain from a foot injury.

Apart from him the team did not appear to be comfortable on the wet hilly course.

Results:	Senior	Junior	
1. T.V.H.....	150	1. S.L.H.....	73
2. S.L.H.....	212	2. Shaftesbury H....	105
3. Woodford Gn....	310	3. Surrey A.C.....	172
7. BELGRAVE H.....	524	7. BELGRAVE H.....	257
C. Walker 59, R. Bhatia 61,		K. Miller 25, A. Black 67	
C. Dabbs 78, D. Jones 97,		K. Venton 75, J. Thresher 90	
C. Shippen 107, E. Gebbett 122.			

## BLACKHEATH/POLY MATCH

Running through torrential rain and howling winds D.G.P. "Dippy Richards of Polytechnic Harriers ran home a clear winner from Mike Maynard (2nd claim to Poly) in this triangular match at Wimbledon.

Charlie Dabbs and Chas. Walker both ran soundly for the Bels. and were backed up sufficiently well enough for us to win the match.

Alan Black outclassed the opposition in the Junior match, but the team were unable to make it a double.

### RESULT:

1. D.J.P. Richards (Poly)	4. C. Walker (Bels.)	1. BELGRAVE HARRIERS
2. M. Maynard "	5. R. Webber (B' Hth)	2. B' Hth "
3. C. Dabbs (Bels)	6. A.J. Brent "	3. Poly "

## BELS COME OF AGE !!!

Charlie Dabbs in 76th place was our first man home in the National Cross-country Championships run at Dartmouth Park, West Bromwich.

After mid-week snow, the three-lap course was very slushy and in some parts, decidedly dangerous. At the halfway point in each lap the runners, after picking themselves up from out of the mud splash situated at the bottom of the descent from the plough, were faced by a "Black-country" slag-heap towering overhead.

The leaders set off at a fast pace with our team placed in the front half of the 600 odd runners. At the end of the first lap Charlie Dabbs and Chas. Walker lay in the 80's with David Jones and Eric Gebbett together 60 places back. Clive Shippen and Eddie Short were not finding the going to their liking and were 230 and 300 respectively.

The course was unsuited for spectators and it was not till the end of the second lap that we saw the runners again. Walker had moved ahead and was some twenty places in front of Dabbs, with Bill Bird, second claim to Bels., just ahead. David had moved ahead of Eric who was losing a little ground, whilst Clive Shippen and Eddie Short had maintained their positions.

With one mile to go Dabbs had drawn level and moved past Walker, who was fighting hard to beat Derek Ibbotson to the run-in.

David Jones was the third man home and made up five places in a fast last 100 yd sprint. Clive Shippen and Eric Gebbett had maintained their second lap positions as did Eddie Short.

The team's 21st position was very disappointing and their total of 1,111 points a club record! However, our older members will be pleased to note that we still managed to beat our old rivals Birchfield, who amassed 1,245 pts. in coming 24th. Sixty-one teams closed in.

Mike Heck was a surprise competitor for the Junior event, arriving ten minutes before the start quite unexpectedly. He had had a good race the previous day and was full of enthusiasm.

After half-mile he, Alan Black and John Thresher were in the first 20, and with Ken Venton and Eric Penny only a little way behind—a most promising start. But at the end of the first lap they were all back in the 100's; Alan having 'blown-up' at the top of the hill. The going did not suit the fast men.

At this point Trevor Hart discarded his warming-up shoes(!), finding them unhelpful. Although not a Tulloh he has the same habit of running bare-foot.

Over the last lap Alan moved slightly ahead; with Mike in 114th position. John Thresher, short of training, was back in the 180's with Ken Venton lying well back at 271.

The most satisfactory contest of the day was when Belgrave soundly trounced Herne Hill in a 'raid' on the train journey home!

### RESULT (SENIORS)

1. B. Heatley (Coventry)	221. E. Gebbett	1. Derby & C.	171 pts
2. J. Merriman (Watford)	247. C. Shippen	2. S.L.H.	315 "
3. S.E. Eldon (Windsor & E)	309. E. Short	3. Sheffield	354 "
76. C. Dabbs (Belgrave)	340. E. Bishop	4. Portsmouth	479 "
92. C. Walker "	383. D.W. Jones		
166. D. F. Jones "	410. L. Bishop	21. BELGRAVE	1111 "

### RESULT (JUNIOR)

1. A.E. Walker (N.Staffs & S.H.)	114. M. Heck	(Bels.)	1. Derby A.C. 73
2. J. Kenmore (Ballydrain H)	180. J. Thresher	"	2. Blackpool. 134
3. G. North (Blackpool & F.)	271. K. Venton	"	3. Tipton H. 143
70. A. Black (Belgrave H.)	295. E. Penny	"	4. S.L.H. 141
	322. T. Hart	"	25. BELGRAVE 635

In the Surrey Boys C.C. Champs. at Morden on Feb 20th, J. Hampshire was 4th; only 9 secs behind the winner. The Belgrave team finished 6th. Hampshire, Morrison, Hudson and Williams were 1st, 2nd, 4th and 7th in the Aristotle School Championships. Ken Redwood also won his school title.

## WALKING REVIEW

On Jan 30th Stan Vickers once again carried off the Stock Exchange 7 miles Championship with ample margin, and a week later our team in the Garnet Cup race at Hayes, Kent were placed fourth; John Knifton being our first man home in fifth position.

The London County 10 miles Championship held in Battersea Park fell easily to us with four men in seven scoring positions. Vickers 1st, Eric Hall 2nd, Middleton 6th, R. Hall 7th, Total 16 points tells its own story. On the same day at Southend, John Knifton and Bob Barnes were placed second and third respectively in a Junior event.

Feb 27th was County 10 miles Championship day and Belgrave showed up well. In the Kent race Stan Vickers had an easy win lowering course record. In the Surrey Championship held at Croydon there were unfortunate happenings, but Belgrave still won comfortably with 14 points. Eric Hall was indisposed and did not start; and bad pointing of the course permitted two of our walkers whilst in first and second positions to lose themselves and many effective minutes- so much so that they could never recover their position. A black mark to Surrey County here! Our winning team was Ray Hall 2nd, John Knifton 3rd, George Williams 4th, Ray Middleton 6th.

The Middlesex County Championship was held from Parliament Hill Fields and some of our members, walking as Cadogan A.C. showed up prominently but could be no match for the Metropolitan W.C. team. We were the second club to finish four men but the luck of the game gave Enfield A.C. second medals by one point, with Cadogan third. The team was Ted Smith, Bob Barnes, George Checkley and Hugh McCrechan. Barnes emphasised once again his great potential and another of our younger walkers who gave promise for the future was P. Tyson.

As a result of the County Championships we had men entered by Counties as follows: Surrey, seven; Middlesex, two; Kent, one; Hampshire, two, in the R.W.A. 10 miles and Inter-Counties Championships described elsewhere.

The Gosport A.C. Open 7 miles event gave us a one point win over Met. W.C.; Stan Vickers and Eric Hall heading the field.

On March 26th we had a win in an Inter-club event over 15 miles promoted by London Viderians W.C. at Mitchem. Eric Hall led the field. Ray Hall took second medal in the Stock Exchange A.C. 25 miles race.

In the Metropolitan W.C. Open 20 kilometres race in Regents Park, Vickers and Hall were once again 1st and 2nd, but we were unable to win the team event in which the promoting club were successful. Our Cyril Yescombe won the handicap.

We now look forward to the longer distances and shall do our utmost to regain the 20 miles and 50 kilometres Championships which were taken last year by Met. W.C.. We should also feel very proud to win the Nijmegen Shield once again- it has been in our possession a long while now.

We congratulate Stan on being awarded the "International Trophy" by the R.W.A. for the best performance in international competition during the past calendar year. It was given for his win at Berlin over 25 km when he well beat the field in record time over a well established course.

Congratulations also to Ray Hall on his engagement and best wishes to Terry Clark who sends his regards from South Australia where he is on R.A.F. duty.

A.A.H.

### Seen on a Sunday stroll

Two very weary Bels reeling along a road were asked to help push an old ladies bath chair up a steep hill for her. After much argument the old dear persuaded them that she wished to stay in the chair; so it was shouldered to the wheel- nothing happened. It was suspected that the brake was still on, but it was not! A few minutes later a small boy appeared and asked our lads to step aside, then he trundled the chair up the hill and out of sight. After a few more minutes he returned to offer them a lift----- Any one want to buy a bath chair?

## GOSPORT '7'

On the day of the National Cross Country Championships a small team of walkers travelled to Gosport for the Open '7'. Owing to last minute withdrawals we only had five starters but as things turned out this was ample.

After occupying an army barracks without opposition we established ourselves and reclined in the gym for the two hours we had to spare. 'Thinks' next time we shall plan our own trains). Eventually some nasty type decided we should get changed and show our legs—horrible sights! Percy Wright turned out in the briefest pair of shorts seen for years but was not deterred by sarcastic remarks about veterans and the good old days.

The race was started by a local dignitary and the local club went off like hares, however it wasn't long before our City gent made his take-over bid and was never headed. The team race was three to score, and with Met.W.C. down in force there was no easing up. Stan dragged Eric along for a couple of miles but then went off in a huff on his own; Ray Middleton was in the middle of a group just behind and Percy was leading son Bill. Stan was able to admire the sea-view although the breeze was not to his liking and he duly sailed in an easy winner in 50-55. Eric after a close shave, was second in 51-55. Met. had the next three so we had to wait for Ray who luckily knowing what was needed, nonchalantly let a place go on the line for 8th in 53-07 and we had won by 11 points to 12. Percy was cruising along to an easy vets. pot when with 300 yards to go another vet. passed him, this was too much for Percy and he showed that he was once a leading sprint man by tearing up the road to finish 30th in 59-25 to get his pot. Who asked him if it was his fastest seven? Bill Wright had an off day and was 46th in 63-21.

After Stan had rung the Press (or was it Billy Butlin?) we made the sea crossing back with real naval jargon from A.B. Vickers; it took him quite some time to regain his land-legs!

Our thanks are due to Wally Emery for laying on transport for our lone supporter and to that supporter for sustaining Stan with boiled sweets on the return journey—we always thought he was a bit of a sucker!  
E.W.H.

## BELS. WIN R.W.A. '10' AGAIN

Held on March 19th from the Met. Police Sports Ground at Hendon, Belgrave won this Championship for the fourth time in succession; and by tremendous margin.

Thus was the Club's powerful strength at this distance once again emphasised beyond all doubt; and in starting and finishing three teams—the only club to do so—our strength in depth was also amply demonstrated.

The race began at tremendous pace with A.A.A. Champion and R.W.A. Champion at the distance, Ken Matthews (R.Sutton Coldfield W.C.) in the lead and our Stan Vickers closely tucked in behind, with Eric Hall not far away. At a mile, however, Stan suffering from the aftermath of a severe cold was compelled to let Matthews go, and settled down to make sure of second place and lead a Belgrave team to victory once more. Eric was hardly ever out of third place and not very far back. George Williams pursued a very even way in excellent style. Ray Middleton, our fourth man also once again demonstrated splendid style and ease of movement; and with a little more strength and experience—which could come very quickly—there is no doubt he will trouble them all.

This scoring four of ours seemed to have the Championship well in hand but pressure came from a very gallant Metropolitan W. C. team, who lack effective numbers and yet with four walkers of very high merit, and little support, they manage to annex Championships and generally do well at all distances. So, once again for a long while they were our greatest rivals, but disqualification of one of their walkers put paid to their chances, and the minor placings were wide open and were eventually filled by

Sheffield United H and Leicester W.C..

Our quartet pursued their way evenly to the finish to give us an excellent team win with four in eleven scoring positions; and we had very adequate support further back should it have been needed. Among our younger school John Knifton and Bob Barnes did splendidly and here could be a Vickers and Hall of a few years time.

We are very grateful to all who did so well in the Club name. This was our sixth win in this Championship, the only other winners being Sheffield United H. who recorded eight successive wins from 1949-1956 inclusive. No other club has as yet been successful, and our initial win in the first Championship at this distance (at Sheffield in 1947) still stands as the best win yet. Our winning team thirteen years ago was 1. H.G. Churcher, 2. J.E. Rutland, 4. D. McMullen, and 6. J.G. Coleman giving us a score of 13 points which still requires a lot of beating !

The Inter-Counties Championship held in conjunction with the R.W.A. Championship this year as usual, saw a stirring struggle for the team championship and Middlesex prevailed by one point from Surrey, which team included three Belgrave men. Stan Vickers (Kent) took the second individual medal, and Eric Hall (Surrey) third.

R.W.A. CHAMPIONSHIP RESULT

1. K. Matthews ( R. Sutton- Coldfield W.C.)	70:57	73. J. Morris (Bels.)	88:38
2. S. Vickers ( Bels.)	74:09	82. C. Yescombe "	90:02
3. E. Hall "	74:39	86. M. Byard "	91:05
7. G. Williams "	77:58	97. G. Beecham "	92:17
11. R. Middleton "	79:27	101. J. Keown "	92:59
22. R.C. Hall "	81:57	112. A.E. East "	94:27
25. J.F. Knifton "	82:09	125. H. W. Shields "	97:10
26. R. Barnes "	82:33	126. J. Wilson. "	97:18
39. R.D. McMullen "	84:35	130. P. Wilson. "	97:41
44. E.A. Smith "	84:54	140. F. Denny "	103:48
50. G. Checkley "	85:15	(162 finished)	

TEAMS

1. BELGRAVE H.(2,3,7,11) .. 23 pts	8. Surrey W.C.....174 pts.
2. Sheffield(12,23,27,29) . 91 "	9. Lancashire W.C.....202 "
3. Leicester(13,14,28,40) . 95 "	10. Royal Sut. C'f'd. W.C.205 "
4. Woodford Gn. A.C.....104 "	
5. Metropolitan W.C.....113 "	13. BELGRAVE H (B)..... 237 "
6. Cambridge H.....126 "	23. " " (C)..... 464 "
7. Highgate H.....127 "	

oooooooooooooooo

We were very pleased to see so many supporters out for the National 'Ten' at Colindale. Besides the usual faithful band we saw several of the Club Elders. Also present were our worthy President and his wife. Charlie was given a nasty turn when Betty almost ran over her the 'A' team; later it was hinted that our over-whelming victory was perhaps due to Betty's lethal driving as she set about the rest of the field. Another who was introduced to the not so gentle art of walking was George Piddington accompanied by the new Club photographer(!)- a vast improvement on Eddie Lacey, and we hope she can also take photo's as well!

With tough trophy meetings ahead of us it is regrettable that we should lose the services of those fine athletes D.McCorquindale and C.R.Jones. Don, a 50 feet-plus shot-putter, is now in Canada and leaves behind a badly depleted field events section. Charlie, a good all-round athlete, has been the backbone of many Belgrave teams and given the club good service in his time. He is now a member of his local club, Woodford Gn AC. To both Don and Chas. we say thank you and good luck!



---

WEEKEND COACHING COURSE — MAR. 1960

## BOY &amp; YOUTHS

YOUNG ATHLETES WEEKEND COACHING COURSE.

A most successful course was held on Saturday and Sunday the 1st and 2nd of April. No less than 48 young Club athletes enjoyed and revelled in the concentrated instruction which was dispensed with good humour and practical example. The Saturday morning session at Belgrave Hall was followed most attentively; and was brought to an end by the showing of an athletic film which was followed in turn by lunch.

In the afternoon the scene transferred to Battersea Park Track and it was indeed a grand sight to see so many young athletes, many of such obvious promise, enjoying to the full the active programme which had been arranged. Nearly all the lads showed pride in their Club, displaying Belgrave lettering on their training tops, and it certainly was a heartening and impressive sight to see so many worthy young athletes beginning to shape their athletic destinies towards the Championships of the future under the Club Hon. coaches. Some specialist instruction followed with individual tuition and this was again carried out on the Sunday morning.

It is obvious that one week-end course of this nature cannot act as a magic wand and convert all who attended into super athletes overnight. It did however, point out a way and a method of attaining a high degree of physical fitness and athletic technique. Each individual must make up his own mind, do his own work, set his own targets, assess his own determination. Our Coaches will always be there to help; our general Club organisation there to provide unrivalled training, competitive and social amenities- so go to it! and let's see your name on our trophies in the future.

A great debt of gratitude is due to our President, Charlie Jones, and Tom Carter for the tremendous work they did, in which they were assisted by other Club Honorary Coaches in Frank Simmons (who never spared himself for a second) Mike Lyons, Bill Couzens, and to the specialist demonstrators who gave of their time.

It is certain that this Course did a great deal of good- it is equally certain that there must be others.

In conclusion may I repeat my request of a few month's ago; that any senior members who feel they can assist the Youth of our Club by coaching, instructing or by just giving the other Coaches a hand, should let me know. It can be most rewarding work.

A.A.HARLEY

BELS 4th IN V.P.H. ROAD RELAY (5x1 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles)

Twenty eight teams started out on this 5th Annual relay, but although our 'A', 'B', and 'C' team runners finished within 9 secs of each other, their 18th, 19th and 24th positions were too far back to cause any excitement. Cocks and Edwards soon set about putting this right and with fine runs of 7-40 and 7-53 brought the 'A' and 'B' teams to the change-over in 11th and 16th places. Redwood on stage three, firmly established himself in the "Hampshire" class by gaining five places with a superb 7-21. Jack himself recorded the same time on the next leg-taking us up two further places, and 7 minutes-41 secs later Morrison crossed the finishing line in fourth place to set the seal on a fine team performance. 135 runners took part and Redwood and Hampshire were 9th fastest of the day. Belgrave was the only club to finish three teams.

	'A'	'B'	'C'
1. HERCULES AC ... 36:45			
2. Q.P.H. .... 37:22	Wade .... 8:03	Brown ..-8:04	Smith ...-8:12
3. MITCHAM AC ... 37:53	Cocks ... 7:40	Edwards .7:53	Mead ... 9:33
4. BELGRAVE H 'A'. 38:06	Redwood . 7:21	Satchell.8:05	Simmonds.8:27
15. " " 'B' 40:36	Hampshire 7:21	Leaver...8:14	Dawson ..8:56
23. " " 'C' 43:51	Morrison. 7:41	Jarvis ..8:20	Merry ...8:43

## SPOTLIGHT



FOUNDED 1943

In June 1943 Syd Jarlett did a great service to the Club by signing on a sturdy Junior—H.A. Bishop. No doubt Alan's physique, which five year's later made him an obvious choice for the honour of helping the Olympic torch on its way to Wembley, recommended him to Syd, though I doubt if the latter realised he was signing on a potential 50-miler and, indirectly, a trio who would be a team in themselves.

After a season of sprinting, Alan tried his hand at half-miling and by 1945 had reduced his time for this distance to a promising 2.4, whilst still running some useful sprints and quarters.

At the end of the year two more Juniors joined the Club in rapid succession. The family likeness was such that they needed no introduction as Alan's brothers— Eric and Len. We soon learned that the resemblance was more than the superficial one of appearance. All three were endowed with the spirit that was to make them the backbone of our teams on track country and road for so many years. Theirs was—and is—the 'old fashioned' type of club loyalty found in the man who travels miles on a mid-week evening to run in a 'B' team 440 and arrives home having competed in the mile and the 4X110 relay.

In his first summer season Eric was placed 3rd in the club Junior half. Len proved himself first over the country, finishing 4th in the Junior 'Savage Shield' race whilst still a youth and taking 5th place in the Surrey Youths Championship. Later that year 'big brother' Alan achieved his first prominent Cross-Country placing when finishing 32nd in the South of the Thames 'Junior'; Len being 9 places in front of him and earning a winning team medal.



LEN, during London-Brighton Relay, 1953

1947-8 saw Alan and Len in the R.A.F., the former being able to manage some training, a 4.37 mile (still his fastest time) and a 3rd place in the Club 880 Championship. Len, out in Egypt, was less fortunate and was robbed of an opportunity of improving on his 21st place in the 1946 Southern Junior Cross Country Championships. Eric in the Navy, based at Chatham, was able to give Belgrave his usual support over a wide range of distances, achieving most success over the country with 7th place in the Surrey County, 27th in the Southern and 65th in the National Junior races. He still looks upon his Southern Junior placing as his best performance.

For the next few years nearly every Belgrave Cross-Country team for everything from mob matches to National Championships contained at least two 'Bishops'. On the track the three-man-team continued to perform in sprints and middle-distance, Alan and Len achieving best half-mile times of 2.0.0. and 1.59.6. respectively, and Len a 4.21 mile. It was significant that Alan was running more 2 and 3 mile races and that Len was making his mark in Road Relays, repeatedly gaining a place in our 'Brighton' team and in 1955 achieving fastest time of the day on the last leg of the 'National Brighton' and bringing us home in fourth place.

That year Alan took to the road in a big way. Few thought his large frame suited to the longer distances but he fooled them all by progressing from 15's via 20's and the Poly Marathon to 12th place in the London Brighton 52 miler in his first year of distance road running! Eric also started road work, contenting himself with 10-20 milers. Len followed suit two years later and since then at least one of the brothers has scored in nearly every one of our placed road teams. Last year the

Belgrave team which was placed 2nd in our open 20 was exclusively 'Bishop Harriers', a great club family success.

I must content myself with reporting only a few high-lights from these years. Alan has repeatedly beaten 2h 45m for the marathon and has won the Club '20' Championship. Eric, who must warrant the title of 'most injury prone Belgravian' has frequently persisted with training despite considerable pain. He has a Kent 20 mile Championship to his credit but was 'robbed' of a county vest on that occasion too because the selectors were too slow to realise that he had a county qualification. He earned a vest last year, however, and finished 37th in the Inter-County race. He has earned A.A.A. and R.R.C. First Class Certificates. Len has earned vests from both Surrey and Kent and among the many fine performances standing to his credit are: 3rd Belgrave '20' (1h 52m, Club Championship Record), 5th Isle of Wight Marathon (twice), 6th Poly Marathon, 7th A.A.A. Marathon. He holds the Club marathon record at 2h 30m 39s.

The manner in which the performances detailed above have been achieved impresses one even more than the successes themselves. The Bishops have never been angry young men and though always eager to gain a place in club teams, they have never been discouraged or disgruntled at being 'dropped'. They have met success with modesty and defeat with equanimity.

Their performances on track, country and road only represent a fraction of the Bishop's service to the club. Alan has acted as Track and Distance Running Captain and Eric as Hon. Auditor, Press Secretary and Treasurer's assistant, putting in an enormous amount of work buying prizes and medals and getting them engraved. For three years the 'Belgravian' was a Bishop Bros enterprise. They have had their full share of such difficulties as injury, studies and domestic upheavals but the Club has never been without their support. Brothers such as the Piries and the KIELYS may have achieved greater athletic prominence, but no family was ever more devoted to the welfare of their club. Mrs. Bishop too was a source of great encouragement to her sons and was greatly missed when she died just over a year ago.

There are some who consider the type of loyalty shown by the Bishops outdated in our modern, individualistic world of athletics, but I am sure that we should be a happier, better club if this spirit were more prevalent. It is unwise to dwell in the past, but who will deny that those times when the Bishops were Juniors and that benevolent dictator Ernie Duffett was 'Mr Running' as far as Belgrave was concerned, were Halcyon days? A little more of the Bishop attitude to our sport and the present era could be just as happy and successful. Few have put more into the Club than the Bishops and, by the same token, few have achieved more satisfaction from it. Let us wish them many, many more years of service and satisfaction.

C.N.C.

WHAT'S THAT? You haven't got a Club tie. Then Tom Morrell is your man, for he has a new stock of Terylene ties bearing the Club motif. At 9/6 each they are of excellent value. Let us see every member wearing one at all Club functions.



ERIC, at start of WALTON '15', 1955.

# A VICTORY IS TOLLED BY THE BELS.

## ILFORD ROAD RELAY (10 X 3½ mls)- 19th MARCH

If anyone at West Bromwich the previous week had forecast Belgrave to win this premier road relay doubts would have been cast on his sanity. Yet win they did! Not by a small margin in a mediocre time, but by a full 1½ mins and only 19 secs outside the course record. Before Pat Newell and Charlie Dabbs had been called on to run the last two legs Belgrave were already holding a 20 sec lead over their nearest rivals!

Conditions were cold with a strong breeze when the 38 teams started out on the first leg. Eric Gebbett and Jim Heathfield represented the "A" and "B" teams.

Eric held a forward position thro'out and his tenth position was only 19 secs behind the second man. Charlie Walker, once again beginning to show his old form, swept into the lead; only to be passed by Heath of T.V.H. who had moved up from 13th. However, Chas hung on and although 9 secs down at the hand-over he was our second fastest runner of the day the fastest being the man to whom he handed over- Ranjit Bhatia. Ranjit had left his studies at Oxford to run in this event and was on his way back before the race had finished- but not before he had well and truly left his impression on the race itself. Running in his amazingly relaxed style he opened up a formidable lead of 33 secs, and in so doing became the second Belgravian to have ever beaten 18 mins on this course.

Highgate, thro' George Brown, had taken over in 2nd place closely followed by V.P.H. and Blackheath. T.V.H. had dropped to 6th, Poly were 10th and Woodford (last year's record holders) 18th! John Davies, moved up from the 'B' team to take Clive Shippen's place, soon had Marlow of Highgate breathing down his neck and at halfway was forced to relinquish the lead. Acute stitch added to his troubles, and despite a strong finish his 19-05 had left us 33 secs in arrears with Mitcham right on our heels.

John Moore had not been seen in action for some time and on the next leg it was soon quite clear he was not showing the form of last year. In the last half mile he had to give way to Mitcham which left us third with Highgate 56 secs ahead. However, the halfway stage had been reached and the big clubs still behind us were Blackheath (5th), T.V.H. (7th), Poly (8th) and Woodford (11th).

Alan Black soon caught Gillet of Mitcham on stage 6 and running shoulder to shoulder they both passed the leader with a mile to go. In the last half mile the Mitcham lad made his effort and went ahead again by a margin of 14 secs.

Brian Hallowell produced an encouraging performance in taking us back into the lead once more and David Jones ran consistently in improving the margin to 20 secs; leaving Newell and Dabbs to do no more than underline our superiority.

By savouring the sweet smell of success once again the team's morale was boosted to great heights and all felt the corner had at last been turned.

Our 'B' team finished 16th, being second to T.V.H. 'B' (11th). Radford, Thresher and Heck recorded times close up on those of the slower 'A' team men and eight of the 10 runners broke 20 mins.

1. BELGRAVE H. ...	3:05:01
2. T.V.H. ....	3:06:17
3. BLACKHEATH H. ...	3:06:49
4. WOODFORD GN AC	3:07:20
5. MITCHAM AC	3:07:28
6. POLYTECHNIC H.	3:07:49

E.Gebbett .	18:11
C.Walker ..	18:04
R. Bhatia..	17:53

J.Heathfield	19:47
A. Bedford ..	19:28
M.Heck .....	19:13

J.Davis ...	19:05
J.Moore ...	19:08
A.Black ...	18:43
B.Hallowell	18:44
D.F. Jones .	18:53
P.Newell ...	18:04
C.Dabbs ....	18:16

J. Masters .	19:24
M.Stearman .	20:10
L.Bishop ....	19:36
E.Short .....	19:33
E. Penny ....	20:51
J.Thresher ..	19:10
J.Radford ...	19:12

Fastest time of day:-

G.Knight (Essex Beagles)  
17:29

# CLUB 5<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> MILES CHAMPIONSHIP

## BHATIA & DABBS SMASH RECORD

In the fastest and probably the most exciting Championship for many years Ranjit Bhatia recorded a fantastic 27-56.6 to chop almost half a minute off Pat Newell's existing record. Second man, Charlie Dabbs, ran well enough to win on any other occasion and was 13 seconds inside the old mark.

In ideal conditions a field of over 30 faced the starter for this most important race. For not only was there a Championship at stake, with Charlie Dabbs anxious to add this trophy to his 7 and 10 mile cross-country titles but the results would go a long way to deciding the National Relay team two weeks later.

The first circuit of the Common showed us that Dabbs, Walker and Bhatia were to have a ding-dong battle. Soon after came a bunch of runners in which Shipley (second claim member from Farnham A.C.) Gebbett, Robinson, Thresher and Hallowell were prominent. Going off down Copse Hill the three leaders were still locked together but the field behind had started to string out, although it was noticed that John Moore, Jim Radford and Archie Bedford who had started slowly were working their way through.

Up Cambridge Road the pace at the front barely slackened although both Dabbs and Walker were showing signs of wear, but Ranjit Bhatia was running perfectly relaxed and seemed to be hardly breathing. It was therefore no surprise when Ranjit left the others and slowly opened up a gap which he increased steadily over the last lap of the Common and down Lauriston Road. The final time showed that no less than twenty five seconds had been sliced off the record set last year by Pat Newell and that Charlie Dabbs who had whipped away from the other Charlie over the last mile or so had also easily broken the former best time. Charlie Walker who was third put up a personal best. What a pity Pat Newell, who was working, could not have joined in the fray—who knows what might have happened!

After the first three came Shipley in the good time of 29.14 and then followed our other stars in quick succession.

Ranjit's win also gave him first place in the handicap with second place being taken by Ken Shackelford, a relatively new member, who could with regular training be a useful addition to our teams. Third was Ron Linstead who showed a welcome return to form by finishing sixth in the scratch race in 29.32 after a long absence from our events. If Ron would only stick to his training and race more often there are but few members who could hold him in races of this type and his value in our road relay teams would be inestimable.

## RESULT.

1. R. Bhatia	27.56.6 (0.20)	17. B. Johnston	31.14 (2.30)
2. C. Dabbs	28.08 (SCR)	18. K. Shackelford	31.29 (3.45)
3. C. Walker	28.29 (0.20)	19. K. Venton	31.40 (1.45)
4. P. Shipley	29.14 (1.0)	20. J. Heathfield	31.44 (2.30)
5. E. Gebbett	29.26 (0.45)	21. E. Penny	30.29 (3.45)
6. R. Linstead	29.32 (1.30)	22. R. Braine	32.43 (3.30)
7. M. Robinson	29.36 (0.50)	23. K. Stimpson	33.06 (4.0)
8. B. Hallowell	29.38 (0.45)	24. D. Barker	33.18 (4.0)
9. J. Moore	29.42 (0.45)	25. W. Fairfield	33.28 (5.15)
10. J. Radford	29.43 (1.30)	26. R. Conway	33.36 (4.0)
11. C. Shippen	29.50 (0.45)	27. D. Newell	33.55 (5.30)
12. A. Bedford	30.08 (1.45)	28. A. Penstone	34.08 (4.0)
13. J. Thresher	30.28 (1.30)	29. C. Henn	34.20 (5.0)
14. J. Davies	30.37 (1.20)	30. R. Bolem	35.02 (6.30)
15. E. Short	30.53 (2.0)	31. R. Beaumont	35.32 (7.0)
16. M. Stearman	31.04 (2.45)		

Handicap:- 1. R. Bhatia (0.20) 27.37    2. K. Shackelford (3.45) 27.44  
3. R. Linstead (1.30) 28.02.

## BELS. GAIN HONOURS IN NATIONAL RELAY

In 1958 and 1959 we finished in eleventh position on both occasions and in the qualifying race for Southern Clubs in October 1959 we could do no better than sixth. This, combined with our poor season on the country produced little for the followers of Belgrave to enthuse about. Nevertheless those more intimately connected with our road running teams had noted that we had won the "Ilford" in fine style and that the performances in our road championships were well above the average. The wise men who write in the newspapers gave us not a mention and when Eric Gebbett awaited the ten o'clock strike of "Big Ben" there were few who would have offered odds on us being amongst the medal winners.

Eric had been entrusted with the first leg after his grand showing in similar position in the Ilford, and the selectors felt that they would get the best out of him this way, and so it was proving, for at the top of Cedars Road with only half a mile to go Eric was with the leaders and running strongly. However, lady luck intervened at this point and with only 800 yards to go he was sent sprawling over the road and could do no more than limp gamely home in twelfth place 35 seconds behind the leading team. Was this a bad omen and were we once more to languish in the second half of the race?

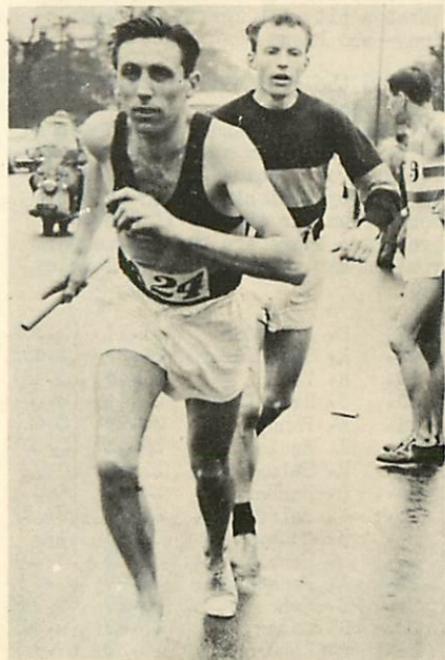
Brian Hallowell took over on the second stage and appeared to be running smoothly but there was that lack of fire which we have seen from him in earlier runs on the Brighton road and instead of making up some of the lost ground we were dropping even further behind. At Tooting Bec Brian seemed to be really struggling but a belated burst of energy enabled him to make a final determined effort across Figges Marsh and although

dropping one place the situation was not as bad as at first seemed likely. Nevertheless it was a disappointing performance from such a stylish athlete.

Pat Newell soon set about the opposition on the third leg to Purley and that quick stride began

to eat up the ground in no mean fashion. Manchester A.C., Bolton United and Woodford had to give ground and although Derby out in front and Coventry, through the good auspices of Basil Heatley, were going further away we were brought to within reach of our other dangerous rivals, Blackheath, Walton, T.V.H. and Birchfield.

Charlie Walker has probably had a better season than for some years and was in a confident mood and we looked for more gains. Our greatest enigma however was not at his best and when Mick Firth of S.L.H. swept past him without even a challenge we wondered what would happen. Charlie seemed to pull himself together when his namesake from Sheffield caught up and for some time he dogged his rival's footsteps aided and abetted by our more noisy supporters.



P. NEWELL hands over to C. WALKER after doing 5th fastest time on stage 3.

I don't think Charles had realised how long the hill is from Coulsdon to Hooley and it was a very tired Walker who handed over to John Moore at "The Joliffe" in tenth place, 2-34 behind Derby who were by now established at the front in what was to be a winning lead.

John Moore had not been at his best this year probably due to the distractions of the fairer sex or other such interesting pastimes but he certainly made amends for his earlier lapses by taking us up to seventh through Redhill and over the Earlswood Switchback- a good performance which gave him the sixth fastest time of the day on his leg and kept us within striking distance of all but Derby. It was on this leg that tragedy struck T.V.H.; Cameron collapsing with an injury when in 2nd place a mile from the take over.

Ken Miller, dogged by injury during the previous few months had come into the team only during the previous few days, when Malcolm Robinson was forced to withdraw. This was Ken's first Brighton but to see him run one would have thought he had been at it for years. The Sheffield man never knew what hit him and by the time we had reached "The Thorns" at Horley we were up to a more respectable sixth position. Ken's performance will I am sure earn him many places in our Brighton teams of the future.

David Jones was our runner on Stage 7. Twelve months ago no one would have even considered David as a Brighton prospect but hard work and determined effort have produced a most stylish and relaxed performer who has shown most consistent running throughout the winter. This race was to prove that to David that all his worries about his capabilities are completely unfounded. He ran a beautifully judged race which kept us in sixth position still within easy reach of most of the teams ahead, although now 4½ minutes behind Derby. This performance should give David much confidence for the future and he will without doubt be entrusted with more important stages very soon.

The most crucial part of the race was now to begin- those two long six mile legs over which we have fared so badly in the past few years. Charlie Dabbs who had run so well on this stage in October was again on this most important stretch and he set about his task in most determined fashion. Knowing that he was running well, he must have been badly jolted when Martin Hyman passed him at phenomenal speed on the way to a new stage record which took Portsmouth from tenth to fourth. Nevertheless Charles still produced the sixth best time of the day and gained one place in addition to knocking 13 seconds off his October Club Record.

Ranjit Bhatia, unfortunately running in his last Brighton, as he returns home in the summer, had been given this other vital stage after his inspired record-breaking run in our own road championship two weeks earlier. I have rarely seen a Belgravian run with such fire and spirit and his time of 28.56 (the third best of the day) sliced half a minute off the Club record besides being faster than such seasoned and star runners as Gordon Pirie and Bruce Tulloh. Although gaining no places it brought us within touching distance of Blackheath who were then in fourth position.

Jim Radford was next to run. Unfortunately, Jim in his enthusiasm set off far too fast and after a mile or so was definitely feeling the pinch. He continued to flog himself to the utmost and to some extent recovered over the last part of the stage but Blackheath and the clubs ahead had again widened the gap. I think Jim will have learnt his lesson for future races.

Clive Shippen who had also been troubled with injury during the preceding weeks took the Dale Hill stage and with a magnificent effort and more than his share of encouragement from the excited supporters again caught Blackheath to do second fastest time on his leg and to give Alan Black a small lead for the run into Brighton.

Alan using his head like a veteran gave us all some misgivings

by staying with the Blackheath runner for most of the stage. But with about half a mile to go he left the opposition with grand style to romp home in 4th place, also doing second fastest time of the day.

Considering our unfortunate start, we almost achieved the impossible by finishing so well up, but the bitter pill that must be swallowed is the fact that we were 6 mins-21 secs behind Derby, the winners- perhaps I am never satisfied!!!

#### RESULT

1. DERBY & CITY AC---4:33:18	E. Gebbett---21-43	D. Jones	19-24
2. PORTSMOUTH AC---4:37:35	B. Hallowell	26-28	C. Dabbs 30-43
3. S.L.H.-----4:38:25	P. Newell	29-22	R. Bhatia 28-56
4. BELGRAVE H-----4:39:39	C. Walker	26-34	J. Radford 20-58
5. BLACKHEATH H-----4:40:02	J. Moore	22-52	C. Shippen 20-35
6. SHEFFIELD UTD H--4:40:42	K. Miller	14-07	A. Black 17-57

Olympian.

## MITCHAM A.C. BOYS OPEN ROAD RELAY

I was pleased that I decided to see this event for I witnessed on a cold and breezy Sunday morning the results of the coaching of our past International Tom Carter, of the boys, who will without a doubt form the nucleus of our Senior teams in a few year's time. Thirteen lads between the ages of fourteen and sixteen turned up anxious to run in any position and any team to which they were allocated--there was no arguing about who should go first or last-- they were there to run and they left it to their coach to decide where their best efforts could be used-- the discipline was of the highest order and the running was also first class standard.

Hartup a new member took the first leg in the 'A' team and finished a creditable sixth in good company, about one minute down on the leaders. David Cocks one of our most consistent performers took the second leg and with one of the fastest times of the day (10.57) gained one place but brought us to only twenty one seconds behind Mitcham A.C. who had gone into the lead. Redwood took over and brought us to second with an excellent run of 10.45 (second fastest of the day). We were then only eleven seconds in arrears when Morrison took over for the last leg. Despite a gallant effort Morrison was forced back to third but in finishing only fourteen seconds behind Guildford & Godalming and six behind Mitcham we can consider our team to have performed admirably; especially when we were without Jack Hampshire.

The 'B' team finished eighth and the 'C' team 13th--this lowly position was due to Dawson unfortunately going off course which added about five minutes to his time.

We were the only club to start and finish three teams.

#### RESULT:

1. Guildford & Godalming A.C.	_____	44.32
2. Mitcham A.C.	_____	44.40
3. BELGRAVE HARRIERS	_____	44.46
8. " " ... 'B'	_____	48.49
13. " " ... 'C'	_____	55.43

#### INDIVIDUAL TIMES:-

A) Hartup (11.44)	Cocks (10.57)	Redwood (10.45)	Morrison (11.15.)
B) Wade (12.1)	Edwards (12.4)	Leaver (12.4)	Smith (12.40)
C) Hudson (12.35)	Dawson (17.37)	Jarvis (12.19)	Mead (13.12)

Also running; in Wimbledon A.C. team, as a guest, Davidson 13.13.

Olympian

## X-CTY. HON. SEC'S. REVIEW:

If I had written these notes four weeks earlier I would have declared that this winter season was the worst we had experienced for thirty years, but in the latter weeks we have won the Ilford Relay in near record time, our road championship course record has been shattered by two men, and we have secured fourth place in the National Relay in the face of very heavy opposition and certainly to the surprise of the majority of the athletic world. I realise that fourth is still a long way from a victory in this "blue riband" event but when it is considered that we were eleventh in both 1958 and 1959 the improvement is so pronounced as to make even me exuberant for our future.

We started the season way back in September with a moderate performance in the Surrey Road Relay which was followed by a much improved effort in the Polytechnic Relay at Chiswick in which we took fourth place against strong opposition. Our next major competition was the Brighton Relay for Southern Clubs on October 10th in which we finished sixth to qualify narrowly for the National race in April 1960.

The following weeks were devoted to cross country training and inter-club competition and on November 7th we endeavoured to field five teams in the cross country relay at Reigate Priory. As with most of our away fixtures the attendance was poor and we could muster only sufficient runners for two teams which finished tenth and thirty-fourth.

On November 14th we started five teams in the South of Thames Junior race at Caterham of which four closed in taking 5th, 30th, 35th, and 40th positions.

On November 28th in the L.C.C. Championship we kept our third position of 1958 despite an improved score. If we could have scored six instead of four we would have taken first place.

Our first club championships, the "Seven", was a triumph for Charlie Dabbs enjoying his first year as a senior.

The County Championships were held on January 2nd and as always our forces were split between Surrey and Middlesex; although our main strength lies in the former. Sixth place in the team race must however be considered as a very poor performance for a club of our size and standing. Charlie Dabbs again ran well and was included in Surrey's entries for the Inter Counties—an injury however prevented him from running.

On January 23rd we held our second Club Championship, the "Ten", and Charlie Dabbs again proved successful in a good time. This same young man showed that he was at the top of his form by securing fifth place in the South of Thames Senior at West Wickham on January 30th and assisted in the team taking a similar position. We narrowly missed the Colman Cup for the lowest score for all twelve runners. From this race emerged a new name which will I am sure appear in all our teams for some time. David Jones, who had finished third in our championship the previous week to surprise us all, again ran well.

The next major event was the Southern at Parliament Hill but our running was nothing to raise any enthusiasm over although we did secure the 'twelve' cup for Surrey clubs. A few weeks later we travelled to West Bromwich for the National, without such stars as Newell (unfit) Bhatia and Moore; both of whom are ineligible for birth reasons. The least we say about our 21st position the better.

And so to the road relay season once more and a complete transformation in the outlook of our runners. The half hearted attitude toward cross country took on a new look and in the Ilford we proved victorious in excellent time. This win provided the fillup needed after a dismal winter and led to our fourth position in the National Relay. It is difficult to reconcile such a performance without showing at West Bromwich but at least it proves we have the talent. Unfortunately we lose Ranjit Bhatia in a few months time, when he returns home to India. Our best wishes go with him—he has proved a most valuable asset and is on the threshold of becoming an

## SENIOR CLUB RECORDS

100 yds	I.Mayers	May, 1955	9.9s
220 yds	A.D.Sexton	June, 1954	21.7s
440 yds	A.D.Sexton	May, 1953	48.2s
880 yds	J.E.Davies	July, 1956	1:52.8
1 Mile *	B.Hallowell J.E.Davies	June, 1956) June, 1958)	4:10.6
2 Miles	J.W.Brown	Sept, 1956	
3 Miles	J.W.Brown	Sept, 1956	13:52.4
6 Miles	J.C.Smart	April, 1954	29:29.6
10 Miles *	C.Dabbs	Oct, 1959	52:06.0
Marathon	L.C.Bishop	June, 1958	2h 30m 39s
3,000m S'chase	C.Shippen	June, 1959	9:39.8
4 x 110 yds	D.Merrett, I.Mayers B.Walden, R.Holtum	July, 1954	42.6s
4 x 440 yds	B.Linley, C.Jones P.Eldridge, G.Leroy	Sept, 1959	3:20.7
2 Mile Walk	S.F.Vickers	July, 1958	13:33.4
7 Mile Walk	S.F.Vickers	Sept, 1958	50:09.0
120 yds Hdls	M.Ash	July, 1955	15.4s
220 yds Hdls	D.J.Merrett	June, 1955	24.3s
440 yds Hdls	G.Jarvis	July, 1949	55.8s
High Jump	J.Dodds	July, 1936	6ft 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
Long Jump	P.C.Luxon	Aug, 1954	23ft 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
Hop Step & Jump	N.O.Caves	July, 1958	46ft 5ins.
Pole Vault	M.Ash	June, 1956	12ft 9ins.
Weight	D.McCorquindale	June, 1959	51ft 4ins.
Javelin	W.C.G.Patrick	July, 1954	198ft 5ins.
Discus	T.J.Gaworski	May, 1956	154ft 10ins.
Hammer	P.L.Porter	July, 1957	171ft 8ins.
Decathlon	M.Ash	Sept, 1956	5,178 points.
* See Editorial			

international class athlete—we shall miss him greatly. We have however the prospect of the return of Jack Brown and the further improvement of many of our runners such as David Jones, Malcolm Robinson, Clive Shippen and Charlie Dabbs, plus juniors Alan Black and Ken Miller who move up to the senior ranks to inspire our hopes for 1960/61.

I view the next few years with great anticipation and see signs of a great revival in all spheres of our running activities. I hope I will not be disappointed.

W.E.L.