

THE MARCH 1975 BELGRAVIAN



the official gazette of belgrave harriers •

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

GENERAL HON. SECRETARY

Peter Hilliar, 22 Allington Drive, Tonbridge, Kent (07322-64168)

ASSISTANT HON. SECRETARY

Leo Coy, 40 Jedburgh Street, London SW 11.

HON. TREASURER

John V. Baker, c/o Belgrave Hall, Denmark Road, Wimbledon SW19 4PG.

ASSISTANT HON. TREASURER

Norman Dewberry.

MEMBERSHIP HON. SECRETARY

Frank R. Webb, 50 Longford Avenue, Southall, Middlesex.

CROSS COUNTRY & ROAD RUNNING HON. SECRETARY

Gordon Biscoe, 34 Pams Way, Ewell, Surrey. (01-393 4433)

TRACK HON. SECRETARY

Alan Mead, 17 High Ashton, Kingston Hill Kingston upon Thames,
Surrey, KT2 7QL. (01-546 7536)

FIELD EVENTS HON. SECRETARY

Bill Couzens, 13 Alverstone Avenue, London SW 19. (01-946 7490)

WALKING HON. SECRETARY

Carl Lawton, 146 Revelstoke Road, London SW 18. (01-947 4215)

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Reg. Hopkins Snr., 10 Brunswick Court, London SE 1 (01- 407 6535)

COACHING HON. SECRETARY

Clive Shippen, 24 Fryston Avenue, Coulsdon, Surrey (01-660 0480)

HON. SECRETARY SUPPORTERS CLUB

L.J.Cohen, 34 Lower Kenwood Avenue, Enfield, Middlesex.

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WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Leslie M. Dick	C.Mills	Virander S. Chauhan
Ralph Price	John I. Aska	John Dudman
Steve B. Sharp	Malcolm Brown	Mark J. Ferrari
Tony Willis	D.R.Dugwell	Brian F. Marmion
	William T. Almond	

~~***~~ IN THIS ISSUE ~~***~~

Grapevine	4	Walking	20
From The President	5	Joe Scamell, Snr., Obituary ..	23
Points	6	Spotlight On Carl Lawton	24
From The Belgravian	7	Young Athletes	25
Road And Country	8	Track And Field	28
Running Wild	15	Track And Field Records	29
Belgrave And The 'Brighton'...	16		

Front Cover: Ray Hall, Belgrave President for 1974-75, pictured passing the 'George' at Crawley during a London to Brighton Walking Race (see page 16). Cycling behind is Don Bartliff, Ray's attendant on this occasion.

THE BELGRAVIAN

MARCH 1975

NUMBER 188



FOUNDED 1887

President.

Ray Hall

General Hon. Sec.

P. B. Hilliar,
22, Allington Drive,
Tonbridge, Kent.

Hon. Treasurer.

J. V. Baker,
c/o Belgrave Hall,
Denmark Road,
Wimbledon SW19 4PG.

Hon. Editor.

A. R. Mead,
17, High Ashton,
119, Kingston Hill,
Kingston upon Thames,
KT2 7QL.

COMMENT

Half a century has now gone by since W.H.Hare produced the first edition of the Club's gazette in April 1925. The opening lines of "The Belgravian" No. 1 read:

"It has long been the desire of many of those 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 thus increasing their interest and developing the feeling of good comradeship which is so great a part of the Club's objectives."

Now, 50 years on, surely we can say that those original aims have been attained and kept to. The gazette's publication, thanks to successive Editors, has added much to our athletics and it is more than coincidence that nearly all of Belgrave's major club successes have come since that first issue. Of course, no one would claim that the regular appearance of "The Belgravian" has been directly responsible for any of our past triumphs, only individual determination and effort can cause that. But it has helped to provide us with heart. It has drawn us together and given us that comradeship during our competitive years and after, from which success can spring.

Long may it continue to do so.

EDITORIAL TEAMS 1925 - 1975

W.H.Hare	Apr 1925 - Jun 1927	H.Parker	Nov 1948 - Jun 1949
B.J.T.Knifton	Oct 1927 - Mar 1929	F.H.Elson	} Nov 1949 - Aug 1953
A.A.Harley	Apr 1929 - Sep 1930	S.C.Roberts	
A.A.Harley	} Oct 1930 - Jul 1931	S.C.Roberts	Jul 1954 - Oct 1956
H.L.Rollins		E.M.Bishop	} Jan 1957 - Sep 1959
A.A.Harley	} Aug 1931 - Aug 1933	H.A.Bishop	
F.R.Webb	} Sep 1933 - Sep 1938	L.C.Bishop	} Nov 1959 - Jul 1961
A.A.Harley		C.Shippen	
F.R.Webb	} Dec 1938 - Apr 1940	M.E.Robinson	} Jan 1962 - Nov 1964
H.W.Shields		C.Shippen	
G.S.Doubleday	} - 1940	D.E.Mitchell	} Feb 1965 - Sep 1967
F.R.Webb		C.Shippen	
A.A.Harley	} - Jun 1941	A.R.Mead	} Dec 1967 - Sep 1970
F.R.Webb		C.Shippen	
F.R.Webb	- Jun 1941	D.Maclean	} Dec 1970 - Sep 1972
H.W.Shields	Nov 1941 - May 1942	& Committee	
G.S.Doubleday	Oct 1942 - Jun 1946	A.R.Mead	Dec 1972 - present
S.F.Bradnum	Dec 1946 - Mar 1948		

grapevine

■ You can't keep the COLEMAN family away from a Belgrave Open Walk. JOE was scudding around the course on a motor cycle and it is good to see him about again and doing the important job of judging. Brother LEN made the journey from Northern Ireland and was promptly snapped up to do some recording. Whilst waiting for the tail-enders to finish Len had to say something so he gave an account of how he beat Joe in a A.A.A. Seven Mile Championship in the thirties.

■ Making a welcome visit south over the Christmas period was JOHN BLAIR-FISH who led our small team home over at Blackheath. On Boxing Day he teamed up with his brother PETER and sister to enter the Chipstead Pram Race and finished a worthy second behind one JOHN THRESHER.

■ Veteran walker LEN EVANS has been in hospital for an operation and it was good to see him around at Imber Court on the day of the M.P.A.A. Open Seven. He looked remarkably well and no doubt when he's given the OK he will be in action again.

■ STAN DAVIES is now living at Haverhill (Suffolk) and is hoping to get in touch with WILL SPENCER who is also retired in that County. They used to enjoy Saturday runs with FRANK WEBB and Co.

■ Several visitors managed to call in to CHARLIE SMART's home and see him before Christmas. He is progressing reasonably well after his illness and is determined to throw away those walking sticks eventually. - Might be an idea to hold on to them Chas., you're going to need something to prop you up if you get through all that Christmas booze too quickly. A nice thought from the "Dukes Joggers" was to present him with a book about antiques.

■ Congratulations to CYRIL GITTINS on becoming a Grade I Timekeeper. Although his first allegiance is to Queens Park H he rarely misses one of our Battersea meetings where his services are of great value to us. He is also an active walker (and runner, when the occasion arises!) and serves on a number of committees.

■ We are pleased to learn that HARRY HATHWAY is making good progress after a successful operation on his hip. He takes regular walks and hopes to be timekeeping again this summer. In our last issue it was stated that Harry was not a member. This is not so as in addition to being an S.L.H. stalwart he is also a Belgrave member. Our apologies to you Harry together with our best wishes for your continued progress.

■ REG. HOPKINS (young Reg that is) and JACKIE are to be congratulated on their recent engagement. Jackie faithfully supported our track and field team at each league event last season, even travelling down to Exeter. We look forward to renewing her acquaintance this summer and issue an invitation to all other girl friends and wives to come and support the team.

■ Whilst on the subject of the Hopkins family, we must mention how pleased we are to see SUSAN jogging at Battersea Park on a Sunday morning, a much prettier sight than brother Reg.

■ Everyone will be pleased to know that HARRY SHIELDS continues to make progress and a recent check-up showed a marked improvement. Not only do we see him at various meetings but he is always doing a job and although retired from work he has found many new interests. You just can't keep chaps like Harry down.

■ At the A.G.M. last autumn LAURIE O'HARA and GEORGE PIDDINGTON were elected Life Members whilst BERNARD MERRY, STEVE WHITE and ALAN MEAD became Vice-Presidents.

FROM THE PRESIDENT —

INTERIM COMMENT

Most of you know I work in the Stock Exchange, where pessimism and euphoria go hand in hand, so after five months as President I would like to pass a few comments or observations.

The work of the Club seems to fall on a certain few people, some elected officers and others who are always available when called upon. But these willing workers are rarely thanked or named or remembered by the members in general. When I mentioned that I would appeal in the 'Belgravian' for the future commitments of the Club, the census of the workers was, "You're wasting your time." But I cannot believe a club of our size and ability has such apathy. There must be many members who could or would help if asked.

For the past several years we have taken space in the Merton Show. This takes place in Morden Park. Last year we raised over £100 profit with a bottle and jar stall. This year the show will take place over two days, Sunday August 24th from 12.00 to 18.00hrs and Monday (Late Summer Holiday) 25th from 10.00 to 18.30hrs. (the times are in the modernists idiom). So those few I mentioned earlier will have to give up their whole weekend and holiday because the stall will have to be erected on the Saturday. If you can assist in any way, help with transport, give bottles or jars, help erect or spend a little time behind the counter, perhaps you will give half a day to help. Please get in touch with John Baker or myself. Don't leave it to those few I've already mentioned.

Personally, I was disappointed (or would the word disgusted do?) at our turn-out for the South of Thames Senior at Swindon. Only three competitors turned out and they were outnumbered by Belgrave Officials, six if I'm included. The excuses were pathetic and one wonders whether the work involved is worth it. You must give, in return for the work done, some enthusiasm and support. Belgrave cannot live on history. The team spirit must come from the grass roots. In my heart I feel so sorry for Gordon Biscoe who works so hard and gets very little support. Please apologise to him for letting him down. The first feelings I had were to write an obituary for the cross country section. Even support for the Southern has dropped (only seven in the senior race) and it could be that we will find ourselves in division 2 of the Surrey Cross Country League at the end of next season. Gordon was not the only one to have little support. Clive Shippen sent out 60 cards concerning a league fixture for the youngsters - two turned out!

Included with this 'Belgravian' is the notice of an E.G.M., to vote on the proposal to increase the subscriptions. We, like all organisations, are suffering from inflation. Just think of the increases in costs of electricity gas, water, rates (two minutes silence please) that will be coming during the year. We as a Club must be half a step ahead of the game. In the past few weeks the Club has booked tracks for the summer season and some of the charges have risen by 60%. Also in the near future it is hoped to improve the facilities at Belgrave Hall. At present the Building Committee are working on proposals and costs and these will be put before the Main Committee soon. It's agreed by everybody that our money should be spent on our main asset Belgrave Hall before anything else. I don't agree with a Past President who I heard to pass the remark, "If you improve the Hall it will be used only by a few old runners on Saturday afternoons." That remark was destructive and not constructive. We must look forward and not back. But the Club must at all times be financially viable. To the reader I will ask one question. "Do you personally in any way support fund raising within the Club (i.e. football tickets etc.). Sorry if I made you blush. If you don't agree with my comments come along on April 21st and state your reasons. Come and stand up and be counted.

continued on page 19

Points

Its time to chase a new leader. "Biscoe must go". As the instigator of the most abortive attempt to get runners out by the introduction of a points competition this was a hoot. It was the sloppiest bit of legislation dreamt up by a bloke

whats got marbles instead of the usual grey stuff in his head. It makes the the Social Contract look like it was iron law. Its another sop to the good runner at the expense of his inferiors.

Now, this is how it should be done. Fairly to give everyone an equal chance. The season starts with the Yacht '3' and/or the '5 $\frac{3}{4}$ '. Bill Lucas produces, in his inimitable and efficient (forget Peter North) style a handicap for nearly every Bel who's still warm. This list needs simply to be divided into three equal sections. Secondly the number of races; let's say for example 10 are nominated. Then, the first third start the season from scratch - the middle third are given 1 point per race, i.e. they start off with 10 points. The third group are given 2 points and consequently start off with 20 points.

All this means everyone starts off on equal terms. I would suggest that a further point per race be given to all Vets. and a bonus of 5 extra for me because I thought of it.

As far as administration goes it simply means that the handicap number is added on the big table that has to be prepared anyway from the first race. That's it.

So Gordon, make way for a more virile, dedicated, far-seeing man such as Doug. Maughan or John Plummer. Get in an unselfish worker like Doug. Jardine or Jim Rimmer. What's wrong with the intellectual talents of Paul Pringle and why can't Eddie Thorp or Alan Black display their talents of leadership? Remember - you've got a bloody good Vice-Captain. Doesn't he deserve better?

Editor's Note:

(i) Charlie Manning 'sat in' on the planning stage and when reminded about it replied that Gordon had just bought him a drink and that had completely upset his concentration.

(ii) He'll never beat me anyway.

(iii) A far better system would be to use the following simple formula on each competitor's record at the end of the season:

CHAS. MANNING

$$\text{Points} = R \left(1 + \frac{AO}{2H + 3Cr + 4C} \right) + 5S - 0.1P$$

Where R = No. of races in competition.

A = Average position up the field expressed as a percentage i.e. if you were 3rd out of 12 score 75%

O = No. of times officiated in the last 12 months.

H = No. of handicap prizes gained during current season.

Cr = Creep factor. No. of times seen pandering to Bill Lucas or Gordon Biscoe.

C = No. of times carded during season but failed to turn up.

S = Star rating - ranging from 10 for McDonald, McMillan, Glover, etc. to 0 for Pearson O'Connor and North.

P = Potential.

■ Veteran CHAS. HENN continues to run well over the country, year after year. One of the secrets of his success is now out, however. Contrary to normal advice about mixing cross-plys with radials, Chas. has been wearing studs on one foot and ripples on the other when the going is heavy!

■ As the cross country season draws to a close we must thank BOB TAYLOR for another winter of course marking. This onerous task, carried out in inclement weather as often as not, goes largely unrecognised by most of our runners. When travelling up to the Hall for the afternoon's race it is worth remembering that Bob is already out on the Common setting out the flags. And long after the winner has crossed the finishing line and the winter evening closes in, he will still be at work gathering up the markers.

from the 'belgravian'

25 years ago

APRIL 1950 OUR OWN HEADQUARTERS

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 finally came true.

and 40 years ago

THE ENGLISH CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP, BEACONSFIELD, 1935

A fortnight previously we had surrendered our Southern title to Surrey A.C. and whilst we had plenty of confidence that this result would be reversed, and that Salford would have to yield to us this time, we were not so optimistic as to think that Birchfield, holders for the previous seven years with eight internationals entered in the team, would be humbled and forced into fourth position! However, we anticipate. Let's start at the beginning.

Two hundred and ninety-five runners thundered from the starting pens, and in the first 50 yards Shaw and Shields had nasty falls over two prostrate Ealing men. They picked themselves up and had all the field before them. The first lap of one mile was soon covered, and then out into the country on the first lap of three miles of fast, undulating park land, with our boys fairly well placed.

At four miles we had another view of the runners. Jim Ginty was fourth at this point, and our other men all seemed to be weighing up their opponents and running strongly. An attempt to get an idea of the scoring was doomed to failure owing to the speed at which the men passed. We could see, however, that Surrey A.C.'s sixth man was behind our eighth. Salford had three men prominent, but where were the others? Birchfield seemed well beaten even here. Currie the Midland champion, had retired at $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and they had two men in the first bunch, the rest nowhere! However, we have been deceived before by the wearing of white vests and so were not unduly jubilant.

At seven miles it was obvious that, bar accidents, victory was ours. Ginty had fallen back a little and was running with Bert Footer, Dan Patience being a few yards in the rear - all in the first 25 places.

Over the last lap many places were gained, our Taylor-Shields-Carter trio, in particular, pegging back many opponents. In the last mile our boys gave all they had, and we had the remarkable scoring sequence of 11th, 14th, 15th, 18th, 19th, 20th places.

It must have been a proud moment when Bert Footer realised that one of his greatest ambitions had come to pass, and that he had led home a Champion team - not by a narrow, fluky margin - but with 56 points to spare.

1. Belgrave H (Footer 11, D.Patience 14, Ginty 15, Taylor 18, Carter 19, Shields 20) 97pts; 2. Salford H 154pts; 3. Surrey AC 156pts.

A.A.H.

ROAD AND COUNTRY

NOVEMBER 9th 1974 - BRACKNELL 10 MILE ROAD RACE.

1. B.Plain (Cardiff) 49:28; 10. L.O'Hara 52:10; 12. P.O'Connor 52:29; 13. L.Mann 52:34; 74. P.Pringle 61:16. 101 finished.

Teams: 1. Cardiff AAC 11pts; 2. TVH 20pts; 3. BELGRAVE H 29pts.

NOVEMBER 16th 1974 - PUTNEY VALE - VETERAN'S INTER CLUB 5 MILE C.C.

1. L.O'Hara 25:25; 2. J.Davies 27:52; 6. A.Bruce 29:28; 13. C.Walker (VAC) 30:05; 15. R.Coombs 30:36; 16. C.Henn 30:49; 22. D.Jones 31:49; 30. J.Heathfield 33:04; 31. J.Dudman 33:17; 39. J.McDonald 34:31; 41. K.Stimpson 34:47; 43. J.Plummer 35:10; 45. J.V.Baker 35:25; 49. R.Glover 37:30; 51. E.Stimpson 37:44; 53. C.Manning 34:48. 61 finished.

Teams: 1. BELGRAVE H VET'S 62pts; 2. VET'S AC 63pts; 3. Elliott Reed 87pts; 4. Herne Hill Vet's 116pts.

Surrey league race 2

NOVEMBER 23rd 1974 - LLOYD PARK.

1. R.Holt (Herc.Wimb) 26:54; 2. J.Roberts (SLH) 27:08; 3. P.Adams (AFD) 27:35; 16. C.Barber 28:55; 26. P.O'Connor 29:20; 32. L.Mann 29:42; 37. J.Stow 30:02; 40. A.Black 30:09; 41. C.Pearson 30:09; 66. A.Fairclough 31:07; 69. J.Thresher 31:19; 71. L.Coy 31:29; 76. S.Holmes 31:58; 86. W.Kerr 32:59; 100. D.Maughan 34:07; 104. E.Thorp 34:16; 105. M.Best 34:23; 108. D.Davies 35:06; 114. C.Henn 36:04; 116. A.Bruce 36:23; 118. P.North 36:27; 119. G.Collins 36:29; 122. D.Jones 36:58; 123. P.Wrench 36:59; 131. A.Mead 38:01; 138. C.Swain 40:30; 140. J.V.Baker 41:08; 141 C.Manning 42:25; 143 finished.

Teams: 1. Aldershot 230pts; 2. South London H 262pts; 3. Croydon H 280pts; 4. Herc. Wimb. AC 301pts; 5. BELGRAVE H 438pts; 6. Walton 463pts; 7. Herne Hill H 511pts.

NOVEMBER 30th 1974 - HAYES COMMON - VETERAN'S C.C. RACE v. BLACKHEATH H.

1. W.Hill (Blackheath) 39:58; 2. J.Davies 40:20; 4. W.Kerr 41:24; 13. C.Walker 46:13; 15. D.Jones 46:37; 16. G.Biscoe 46:44; 22. J.V.Baker 53:03. 26 finished.

Teams: 1. Blackheath Vet's 30pts; 2. BELGRAVE H VET'S 48pts.

Surrey league race 3

DECEMBER 7th 1974 - COULSDON.

1. J.Roberts (SLH) 27:05; 2. D.Faircloth (Croydon) 27:11; 3. R.Gevers (SLH) 27:22; 9. J.Bicourt 27:46; 10. R.Richardson 27:47; 18. G.North 28:23; 19. C.Barber 28:30; 28. P.O'Connor 29:06; 32. L.Mann 29:28; 35. C.Pearson 29:35; 46. J.Stow 30:01; 48. J.Rimmer 30:09; 69. L.Coy 31:19; 75. W.Kerr 31:38; 92. M.Manning 33:06; 93. R.Lettins 33:17; 96. M.Best 33:30; 101. D.Davies 33:59; 103. E.Thorp 34:06; 115. J.Kelly 35:41; 119. A.Mead 36:09; 128. R.Hall 39:01; 130. C.Manning 39:49; 132. J.Baker 40:13.

Teams: 1. Aldershot, F & D 243pts; 2. South London H 261pts; 3. BELGRAVE H 309pts; 4. Croydon H 335pts; 5. Hercules Wimbledon 401pts; 6. Walton AC 457pts; 7. Herne Hill H 479pts.

Richardson shows us how

DECEMBER 14th 1974 - WIMBLEDON - CLUB 7½ MILES CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP.

In heavy conditions that slowed down this year's times, second-claimer Bob Richardson won our 7½ mile race at a canter from Gerry North who sustained a heavy fall but nevertheless retained his championship. Fine running came from Colin Pearson who gained his first ever Club championship medal over the country. Also outstanding were John Davies and young Simon Holmes, whose steady and regular training over the past few months is beginning to pay dividends. New member John Dudman was another to run well, opening his account quite promisingly. A close handicap win went to Alan Mead who, amidst the mud, managed to rise above his regular rivals.

Whilst not wishing to detract from the performances of our older runners, amongst whom are some of the best veterans or near veterans in the country, the dearth of fresh young blood must be remarked upon. It is a situation difficult to remedy and not auguring well for the future.

1. R.Richardson	43:28	17. P.Pringle	54:35
2. G.North	43:52	18. P.North	54:40
3. L.O'Hara	44:36	19. J.Dudman	54:47
4. C.Pearson	45:38	20. A.Mead	55:01
5. J.Rimmer	47:12	21. A.Stroud	55:36
6. L.Mann	48:10	22. G.Piddington	56:04
7. J.Davies	48:20	23. W.Laws	57:14
8. S.Holmes	48:32	24. P.Wrench	57:16
9. C.Shippen	50:37	25. C.Walker (4:00 late)	58:00
10. M.Manning	51:57	26. G.Collins	58:42
11. A.Bruce	52:07	27. K.Stimpson	59:08
12. E.Thorp	52:15	28. C.Manning	59:14
13. C.Henn	53:13	29. J.Heathfield	59:25
14. W.Kerr (2:15 late)	53:19	30. R.Glover	59:46
15. M.Best	53:21	31. J.McDonald	60:06
16. L.Morris	53:29	32. J.Baker	63:16

H'cap: 1. A.Mead (14:30) 40:31; 2. S.Holmes (8:00) 40:32; 3. J.Davies (7:30) 40:50.

DECEMBER 21st 1974 - HOGS BACK 10 MILE ROAD RACE.

1. R.Holt (Herc. Wimb) 48:47; 116. D.Maughan 59:25; 147. D.Crookes 61:57; 179. G.Piddington 66:15. 214 finished.

DECEMBER 28th 1974 - HAYES - INTER-CLUB 5 MILES CROSS COUNTRY.

1. R.Coles (Blackheath) 29:18; 2. R.Richardson (Blackheath) 29:20; 18. J.Blair-Fish 34:15; 22. J.Dudman 34:40; 24. C.Henn 35:40; 27. A.Mead 36:36; 32. P.Wrench 37:39; 33. P.North 37:59. 38 finished.

Teams: 1. Blackheath 'A' 22pts; 2. Poly. H 58pts; 3. Blackheath 'B' 73pts; 4. Crawley 95pts; 5. BELGRAVE H 123pts; 6. Blackheath Vets. 140pts.

BELGRAVE MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIP

This year's Club Marathon Championship will be held in conjunction with the International Milton Keynes Marathon. This race will also incorporate the Road Runners Club Championship and takeover from the famous Maxol Marathon. Virtually the entire race will be held on roads closed to traffic - good news indeed, and as there will be no problems in holding up traffic for the race, the time limit has been extended to a very generous 4 hours.

The race will be held at Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire on Saturday, 5th July 1975, commencing at 15.30hrs.

'Something In The City'

JANUARY 1st 1975 - CITY OF LONDON NEW YEAR ROAD RACES.

We have always had members associated with the famous "Square Mile", and with New Year's Day a public holiday we saw some of our members in action there. The Road Runners Club promoted an Open 10 Miles Road Race over a seven lap course and shortly after one o'clock the race was on.

Bill Weller was with the leaders over the early stages with Laurie O'Hara consolidated in fourth place. As the second half of the race proceeded P.Flavel (Oxford City) and J. Jones (Windsor, S & E) drew away and dead-heated in 50:03 with Bill following them in 26 seconds later. Then over a minute of waiting for Laurie who was an easy fourth in 51:54 - nearly a minute ahead of the fifth man. So we had a good foundation for the team race, three to score, the race being decided upon aggregate times.

The team was completed by Doug. Maughan who finished 44th in 58:14. and this made us winners from Woodford Green (who, incidentally, would have won if the points system had been used) and Havering AC. It was good to see a good clubman and persevering runner like Doug. getting amongst the awards. Laurie had a second visit to the prize table (the presentation took place in the Jolyon Restaurant in London Wall) for the Veteran's Prize.

We also had a bonus in the Open 1 Mile. Our Manchester member Chris Barber won from a very "classy" field in a fine 4:06.7 - a great start to the New Year, in which we hope Chris will make many successful visits to the South.

FOOTNOTE: A.A.A. Rule 106 has been modified to allow organisers to decide a team race on the basis of team aggregate times but the normal points system is to be used unless the organisers have made it clear to everyone concerned that the time system is to be used.

=1. P.Flavel (Oxford City) 50:03; =1. J.Jones (Windsor, S & E) 50:03; 3. W.Weller 50:29; 4. L.O'Hara 51:54; 44. D.Maughan 58:14; 65. J.Dooley 60:55; 80. J.Hilton 64:01; 98 finished.

Teams: 1. BELGRAVE H 160:37; 2. Woodford Green 164:44; 3. Havering 168:11.

G.S.D.

County Championships

JANUARY 4th 1975 - GUILDFORD - SURREY COUNTY CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP.

1. R.Treadwell (S.Beagles) 40:31; 2. M.Beevor (Herc.Wimb) 40:40; 3. J.Roberts (SLH) 40:42; 12. G.North 42:20; 16. R.Richardson 43:46; 22. P. P.O'Connor 44:47; 27. J.Rimmer 45:24; 29. J.Stow 45:28; 45. C.Pearson 47:04; 57. A.Fairclough 48:09; 89. E.Thorp 52:08; 99. C.Henn 53:31; 117. A.Mead 58:40; 121. C.Manning 60:08; dnf R.Glover. 136 finished.

Teams: 1. Herc. Wimb AC 60pts; 2. SLH 94pts; 3. BELGRAVE H 130pts.

COCKFOSTERS - MIDDLESEX COUNTY CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP.

16. L.O'Hara; 99. M.Best; 102. L.Morris; 103. R.Cullum.

George Piddington clocked his best time for seven years on 24th November in the Basingstoke 6 miles road race. He recorded 39:27 and finished 58th of the 72 competitors. Two ex-Belgravians up ahead of him were Dick Piotrowski (Reading) 5th in 30:59 and Doug Brew (unattached) 38th in 35:42.

On November 11th George finished 29th in the Hampshire 10 miles road race championship at Southampton in 63:43.

The Stock Exchange cross country championship was held from our headquarters on November 30th. Winner was Keith May (2nd claim) in 27:55 with Doug. Maughan 4th in 30:30.

Mitcham 25km

~ Herbal Tonic!

JANUARY 11th 1975 - MITCHAM.

Mitcham used to be famous for its lavender and other herbs. Nowadays, particularly if you run in the Mitcham 25 kilos (15 miles plus) you are more likely to get a whiff of petrol with a dash of diesel. So, a fine afternoon plus a Belgrave team win gave us all a tonic on January 11th.

Over 100 runners faced the starter and after a couple of miles Laurie was hammering it out with men of much more tender years, however, he eased a bit and by 10 kilos the race was taking shape. Bill had settled nicely into fifth place (31:42) with Laurie and Pat running strongly together a few places later. Our other lads were all going steadily further down (mindful that there was also a trophy for six to score). At 20 kilos (roughly 3 miles to go) positions were much the same, but Eddie Thorp had to pull out owing to a toe injury. The winner was Keith Penny (Cambridge H) in 77:56, followed by European Games Marathon representative Bob Sercombe (Newport H) in 78:22. Bill held on to fifth position and Pat pulled away to finish ninth, two places ahead of Laurie. A convincing team win, 16 points to 41 (Croydon H) and 47 (Ranelagh H). However Croydon beat us for the Fry Trophy (six to score). Incidentally, the main team trophy is named after one of the marathon "greats" - Jim Peters. Laurie once again had a recall to the table for the Vet's Prize.

Our others enjoyed their run on such a fine day and we look forward to seeing them and others on what should be an even finer day for our own Open 20 Miles.

G.S.D.

1. K.Penny (Camb.H) 77:56; 2. R.Sercombe (Newport) 78:22; 3. M.Hurd (RAF) 79:31; 5. W.Weller 81:29; 9. P.O'Connor; 83:48; 11. L.O'Hara 83:57; 61. D.Maughan 94:14; 71. M.Beat 96:56; 72. P.Pringle 97:14; 76. S.Barrett 98:28; 82. D.Bonsor 101:33; 88. G.Piddington 104:20. 105 finished.

Teams: 3 to score - 1. BELGRAVE H 'A' 16pts; 2. Croydon H 41pts; 3. Ranelagh 47pts; 14. BELGRAVE H 'B' 154pts. 6 to score - 1. Croydon H 170pts; 2. BELGRAVE H 229pts; 3. Cambridge H 327pts.

Vets H'cap: 8. D.Bonsor (21:00) 80:33; 15. P.Pringle (14:00) 83:14; 18. L.O'Hara (Scr) 83:57.

The Duke's 'Bridges'

One evening back in the autumn, the classic Duke's Round The Bridges Race was held over the 2½ miles Chelsea Bridge - Albert Bridge circuit. The race is a yacht handicap open to all those who run at the Duke of York's Barracks, Chelsea, and a more unlikely bunch of cripples assembled at the north end of Chelsea Bridge for the start would be difficult to imagine. Homeward bound commuters halted spellbound as the hobbling, limping competitors warmed up, each making a desperate last minute attempt to influence the handicapper.

Once off, however, they tore down the Embankment like the wind, and as the field reached the coloured lights of Albert Bridge, twinklingly reflected in the dark Thames below, our Belgrave heroes - McDonald, Plummer, 'Boofer' Bruce, etc. - could be seen bounding along like young gazelles.

It all ended in victory for John Thresher whose storming finish up the Chelsea Bridge slope gained him the top prize - an ultraviolet lamp suitable for the treatment of 'injuries'. Doug Maughan was second and Alan Mead, who says he is trying to mould a handicap career on that of past master Dudley Gordon, took third.

Times and handicaps? Ah! That would be telling.

It's Gerry in worst ever conditions

JANUARY 18th 1975 - WIMBLEDON - CLUB 10 MILES CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP.

Our course is generally reckoned to be fairly easy but for this year's ten mile championship the conditions on the Common were the worst anyone could remember. Bitterly cold rain fell throughout. The open stretch out to the windmill was flooded and over by the cemetery was a sea of mud. Water cascaded down the hill by the windmill, the Avenue was completely submerged and worst of all the quarter mile finish to each lap along the horse ride was literally knee deep in water and thick black mud. Times of the leaders were up to six minutes slower than normal and of the 29 starters only 21 finished.

In conditions like these no one can stand up to Gerry North, the complete cross country runner. Colin Pearson had another excellent run and it was good to see Doug. Maughan up the field again. John Dudman improved again to take the handicap but really congratulations should go to every man who finished.

1. G.North	63:53	12. R.Cullum	75:00
2. L.O'Hara	65:41	13. R.Coombs	75:07
3. C.Pearson	66:06	14. M.Best	75:31
4. L.Mann	69:55	15. P.Pringle	77:48
5. D.Maughan	70:12	16. A.Mead	78:10
6. W.Kerr	71:02	17. C.Henn	78:39
7. J.Davies	71:27	18. D.Bonsor	79:35
8. L.Coy	72:05	19. C.Manning	82:29
9. A.Bruce	72:47	20. K.Stimpson	83:11
10. J.Dudman	73:09	21. A.Stroud	83:24
11. L.Morris	73:23		29 started.

H/cap: 1. J.Dudman (15:00) 58:09; 2. L.Morris (13:00) 60:23; 3. D.Maughan (9:30) 60:42.

All Time Record for Belgrave

JANUARY 25th 1975 - SWINDON - SOUTH OF THAMES SENIOR C.C.CHAMPIONSHIP.

Our current trend in enthusiasm, or lack of it! hit a new time low on January 25th at Swindon for the South of the Thames Championship when for the first time in living memory we were not only unable to complete a team but could not even get one to start!

The sorry tale is that of the 18 names entered and a potentially good team only three runners bothered to make the trip. Of course there were the usual quota of 'good reasons' and excuses but even considering that the South of the Thames is not now the attraction it was, over 300 runners from other clubs managed to start! The offenders may care to reflect that six Club officials plus the President's wife managed to get there and that the non-appearance of a team resulted in approx. £11.50 being wasted as part cost of hiring a coach and entrance fees.

My thanks to those who did turn out and keep our colours flying. G.I.B.

27. P.O'Connor; 133. D.Maughan; 173. J.Dudman.

John Blair-Fish's fell running record for the tail end of last season was 5th in the Glenurquhart Highland Games (3 miles/ 500 feet); 22nd in the Ben Nevis race (10 miles/4,400 feet) with 1hr 45mins., 18 minutes and 5 places better than last year in spite of suffering from tonsillitis; and 22nd again in the Langdale Fell Race (15 miles/ 5,500 feet) in 2hrs 33 mins

His running this winter has not been confined to pure country, for against country and road runners he won the Edinburgh University race up Arthur's Seat, Holyrood Park.

O'HARA BEATEN IN SOUTHERN VETS'JANUARY 26th 1975 - RICHMOND PARK.

1. R.Gomez (Haringey & Southgate) 32:17; 2. L.O'Hara 32:36; 12. P.Newall 35:11; 23. C.Shippen 35:54; 28. W.Kerr 36:13; 31. J.Davies 36:23; 180 started.

Teams: 1. Ealing & Southall 20pts; 2. BELGRAVE H 37pts; 3. Epsom & Ewell 62pts. 28 teams closed in.

FEBRUARY 1st 1975 - GOLDEN VALE A.C. OPEN 6 MILE CROSS COUNTRY.

Another good day for throwing Belgrave's money down the drain and wasting the Secretary's time. Fifteen people entered on this occasion with the net result that two turned out, and one entered on the day.

1. J.Patton (Birchfield) 32:59; 3. G.North 33:44; 27. W.Kerr 39:32; 41. R.Cullum 42:01.

Team: 1. Shaftesbury H 15pts; 2. Ealing & S. 26pts; 6. BELGRAVE H 71pts

BELS. 21st IN SOUTHERN CHAMPS.FEBRUARY 8th 1975 - PARLIAMENT HILL.

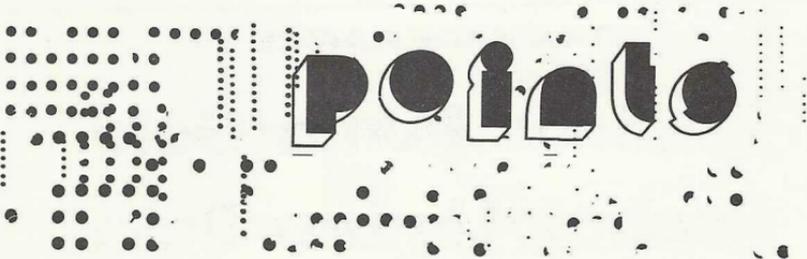
1. J.Goater (Shaftesbury); 18. J.Bicourt; 88. P.O'Connor; 219. C.Pearson; 223. L.Mann; 269. L.Coy; 283. D.Maughan; 305. W.Kerr.

Teams: 1. Shaftesbury H 129pts; 2. Thames Hare & Hounds 265pts; 3. TVH 276pts; 21.BELGRAVE H 1110pts.

Surrey league race 4FEBRUARY 15th 1975 - WALTON.

1. B.Ford (AFD) 31:18; 2. J.Roberts (SLH) 31:18; 4. G.North 32:07; 28. P.O'Connor 34:35; 31. C.Pearson 34:46; 44. L.Mann 35:46; 48. L.Coy 36:09; 58. M.Manning 37:48; 59. D.Jardine 37:49; 60. S.Holmes 37:50; 66. M.Best 38:44; 74. E.Thorp 39:36; 76. P.Gardener 40:45; 77. C.Henn 40:47; 81. A.Mead 41:34; 85. D.Jones 42:19; 86. G.Piddington 44:15; 88. R.Hall 45:19; 93. C.Manning 52:50.

Teams: 1. Croydon H 209pts; 2. Aldershot, F & D 274pts; 3. Walton 296pts; 4. South London H 319pts; 5. Herne Hill H 429pts; 6. BELGRAVE H 453pts; 7. Hercules Wimbledon 505pts.



As at February 15th with three scoring races to go the leaders were as follows:-

1. Colin Pearson	76	7. Chas. Henn	54
2. Michael Manning	63	=8. Simon Holmes	50
3. Martin Best	60	=8. Eddie Thorp	50
4. Alan Mead	57	=10. Gerry North	48
=5. Chas. Manning	56	=10. Lionel Mann	48
=5. Pat O'Connor	56		

Over 80 runners had taken part up to this date.

Surrey C.C. League Division 1

A most disappointing season ended with Belgrave down in 5th position, our worst ever, only 7 points down on Hercules Wimbledon but 100 points adrift of the top three clubs. 1971/72 was the last occasion when we won the league, in fact that was our sixth successive victory. Aldershot, Farnham & Dist A.C. who were second that year took over the following season and have not been headed since, whilst the Bels have slowly sunk - 2nd, 3rd and now 5th.

Hercules Wimbledon have also begun to wane and their 4th position is their lowest since 66/67 and 62/63 when they were also 4th. The Hercs. won the event in 64/65.

Walton have had a reasonable season after a spell in Division 2 since 1971. They are the only other winners of the league (in its first two seasons 62/63 and 63/64) and after returning to Division 1 this season have held on well just 77 points short of our own score.

Clubs of the moment, however, are Croydon and South London H., both creeping up gradually over the last few years. For Herne Hill H. it is time to face relegation again, although with their hordes of excellent youngsters, when they come back it could be with a bang.

Meanwhile, have we touched bottom or will we continue the downward trend - next year will tell.

FINAL LEAGUE POSITIONS

1. Aldershot, Farnham & Dist ..	875	5. BELGRAVE H	1,541
2. Croydon H	1,123	6. Walton AC	1,618
3. South London H	1,341	7. Herne Hill H	1,973
4. Hercules Wimbledon AC	1,534		

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RUNNING WILD



"OK it's 6.15, we can't wait any longer." "... Got your numbers, time-keepers ready?" "We're off!" The usual wisecracks come thick and fast as we leave Belgrave Hall.

Never mind the ebb and flow of Belgrave's cross country/road fortunes, the REAL action takes place on a Tuesday night on the 7 mile 'By-pass Run' returning via Cambridge Road and the 'Kiss of Death'. Invariably, heading the dozen or so runners who set out is Brian "I feel terrible" Gorman. Just let anyone get within a foot of him and he'll flinch and surge away again. It has been likened to touching a worm with a lighted cigarette.

But let us continue. Cannily plugging away in the middle of the bunch as the early jockeying for positions takes place, 'Boofer' Bruce can be seen, shepherding along his latest handicap springer. A mile out, along Parkside, and John Wasbrough makes a break taking Eddie Thorp with him. He'll come back.

A car pulls up at a side turning waiting to get out into the main road. "Round the back, always round the back, its much safer" cries a suddenly concerned Brian, as he leaps across in front, floodlit for a moment in the headlights. Those who did go round the back now have to work like stink to make up a 6 yard deficit.

Tibbett's Corner approaches. Will we go under the subway tonight? A sudden movement by anyone now and we'll all be darting across through the streaming traffic. But no, under we go. That's the last major road crossing and if we can only keep going at least we'll get back alive tonight. Up the other side and Bernard Merry's silhouette can be seen ahead. The crafty devil went over the top after all and now he has sneaked a 50 yard break, up with John.

It's eyeballs out now as we tear down Roehampton Vale at what is a suicidal pace for most of us, down past K.L.G. The early leaders come back and as Brian sweeps by, his rolling head turns for a second and he smiles charmingly at John, whispering "Die you ?@+:@, die!"

At Robin Hood Gate all hell is let loose for here begins the one mile flat out effort for those who are still in contact, all along the by-pass to the footbridge. The pace is always hottest here because Colin Pearson is probably doing 'strides' on the playing fields, and he'll see how good we look. The pack is now strung out over a good 1½ miles but tonight those at the back get another chance to catch up because John Stow has to be peeled off the side of a bus shelter after running into it at full speed.

Left at Fuller's Garage and soon Cambridge Road is being tackled. Only 'Boofer' and Stewart Barrett now cling leech-like to Brian but he puts in another surge. "Go get the swine, Stew!" Up the hill and along the Ridgway the battle rages until sprinting past the 'King of Denmark' Stewart just gets ahead and holds it into the Club hall. They burst through the door and Brian has to shake Stewart's hand in congratulations amidst the roaring laughter of those sane enough to avoid going out with this 'pack'.

It's not over yet though. 'Boofer' is 3rd but who will get tonight's handicap? Runners continue to stagger in for another 20 minutes. Poor Gerald Collins. It was his first Tuesday run from the Hall... "And my last!" he gasps.

Eventually the general consensus of opinion is that Bernard should be handicap winner for the week ahead of Peter North. Will they have enough strength left to turn out for the Club on Saturday though? Still that's not important, it's preparing for next Tuesday's dice with death that counts.

The cross country/road running secretary sits in a corner head in hands.

■ FRED PAGET arrived briefly back on the scene again having been forced out of running for a few months because of a foot injury. Not one to laze about though, Fred spent his enforced lay-off by returning to his second sport - rowing. Where's he disappeared to now? Who knows?

BELGRAVE AND THE 'BRIGHTON'

JOHN KEOWN writes

On Saturday 6th September 1975 Surrey Walking Club will promote their 50th Open London to Brighton walking race. Amongst the starters will be a number of Belgravians who will strive to uphold the proud tradition which Club walkers have established over this historic course since the turn of the century.

In 1897 Polytechnic Harriers organised the first Open Brighton Walk. There were 37 starters. The only Belgrave entrant was W. Poole who finished 7th in 9hrs. 38mins. 45secs. Six years later Club Hon. Secretary H.A.Smith finished 6th in 9hrs. 33mins. 08secs. in an Open Brighton promoted by the Hairdressers

A.C. To the modern walker the 'Brighton' of those far off days would seem very strange. Leading the field was a trap containing the timekeepers, closely followed by the baggage wagon known to all as the ambulance cart. A further horsedrawn carriage called a brake was used to convey the judges. All the competitors were surrounded by hordes of cyclists who both helped and hindered their progress by acting as pacemakers and adding to the difficulties of walking on a rough dusty road.

Surrey Walking Club, who had since their formation in 1899 held a number of time trials for club walkers over the Brighton course, decided in 1919 to promote an open race from Big Ben to Brighton sea front. With the exception of the war years 1939-45 this race has been held every year since, during the month of September. All the great British long distance walkers and many of those from abroad have competed in this race, including Olympic medallists Tommy Green, Harold Whitlock, Lloyd Johnson, Don Thompson, Norman Read and Abdon Pamich. Although the course has down the years followed the same general route from Westminster to Brighton, various changes to the road such as the construction of Gatwick Airport have meant that the length of the race has varied from just under 52 miles to just over 53 miles.

Right from the start Belgrave walkers began to make their presence felt in 'Brighton' races by taking 3rd individual place in 1920, 21, 23 and 24 through J. Bellchamber, J.H.Allen, J.Miles and E.A.Wall, and providing the winning teams in 1921 and 24. Further encouragement was given to take part in the race when in 1923 Bob Ricketts presented the "Belgrave" Cup for a Club Long Distance Walking Championship to be held in conjunction with the Surrey W.C. Open Brighton. Jimmy Bellchamber, the Club's first great long distance walker, finished 2nd in the Brighton and Back race in 1921 in 20hrs. 53mins. 35secs. and so became our first Centurion. In 1927 Tommy Green, who later won the first Olympic 50 km Walk, began to carve a permanent place for himself in the history of the 'Brighton' when he finished 2nd to the 21 year old Italian Giani in 8hrs. 26mins. 44secs. and led the Club to victory in the team race. Two years later he recorded the first of his four wins and again led Belgrave to victory. During the 1920's Belgravian J.N.Thomas, who began his race walking at the age of 44 with North London Harriers, became the first walker in history to finish three successive Brighton and Back races.

In 1930 Tommy Green broke Harold Ross's 1909 course record of 8hrs. 11mins. 14secs. by 8 minutes and 19 seconds. But for the sheer force of the wind and rain he encountered during the last 2 hours he would have broken 8 hours for the 'Brighton'. A year later Tommy again won the race with a time of 8hrs. 05mins. 43secs. just 2 minutes and 48 seconds outside his own record.

Ross's record was beaten for the third time in 1932 when 25 year old J.H. Ludlow of Derbyshire Walking & A.C. clocked 8hrs. 01mins. 06secs. Tommy Green was an early pacemaker but the effects of his strenuous efforts at the Los Angeles Olympics soon told on him and he fell away to finish 3rd. A year later he was back in winning form with a victory in 8hrs. 01mins. 19 secs. Belgrave completed a hat trick of wins in the team race (now four to score) in 1932, 33, 34. On 23rd/24th June 1933 A.G.White finished 3rd in the Brighton and Back with a time of 20hrs. 48mins. 16secs.

Before the 1930's were over two more individual medals were won by Club walkers; by F. Bentley in 1934 and F. Rickards in 1937. Both finished 3rd. Rickards also led the Club to victory in the 1937 race. On 7th September 1935 Harold Whitlock (Metropolitan W.C.) broke the 'Brighton' record and became the first man to beat 8 hours for the course which had been slightly shortened because of the reconstruction of the road at Bolney. His time was 7hrs. 53mins. 50secs. Harold won gold medals in the 50 km Walks at the 1936 Olympics and 1938 European Games.

After the Second World War Belgrave walkers slowly re-established the Club as a force to be reckoned with over the Brighton course. In 1950 the great A.J.Stirling Wakeley, who a year later won the Brighton and Back in 18hrs. 46mins. 00secs., led the Club to their first post war victory in the team race. Two years later 128 walkers, the highest number ever to compete in the 'Brighton', faced the starter. Despite the fact that the Club had 13 starters we could only finish in 4th team position. The following year Norman Guilment took Belgrave's first individual medal since 1937 when he finished 2nd. In 1954 the Club rounded off a triumphant season by taking both individual and team honours in the 'Brighton'. Norman walked a finely judged race to win by 2 minutes after 21 year old Don Thompson had led for 45 miles. Don, surely the best known British walker ever because of his famous triumph in the Rome Olympics 50 km Walk, scored the first of his nine wins in 1955 (eight in successive years). He broke the course record in 1956 with a time of 7hrs. 44mins. 52secs. and again in 1957 when he established the current record of 7hrs. 35mins. 12secs. Behind him Belgravian George Checkley was second in 1956 and 3rd the following year. The Club won the "Edward Knott" Team Shield in 1956, 57 and 58. George Beecham who was a scoring member of each of these teams later went on to collect four more first team medals. He was 4th in the 1958 race with a time of 8hrs. 37mins. 46secs. Belgrave's score of 13 points for four walkers in 1957 was the lowest on record. In this race Harry Shields finished 10th and outside the scoring four. Two years later he won the "Harry Preston" Cup which is awarded to the first veteran to finish the race.

London to Brighton walk ●●●●●●●●

BELGRAVE INDIVIDUAL MEDAL WINNERS

			h. m. s				h. m. s
1920	3rd	J.Bellchamber	8:52:19	1954	1st	M.N.Guilment	8:20:44
1921	3rd	J.H.Allen	9:16:53	1956	2nd	G.S.Checkley	8:29:52
1923	3rd	J.Miles	8:53:39	1957	3rd	G.S.Checkley	8:15:47
1924	3rd	E.A.Wall	9:11:33	1959	3rd	R.C.Hall	8:24:17
1927	2nd	T.W.Green	8:26:44	1963	2nd	R.C.Hall	8:07:12
1929	1st	T.W.Green	8:15:41	1964	3rd	D.King	8:46:07
1930	1st	T.W.Green (record)	8:02:55	1967	3rd	P.L.Duncan	8:39:20
1931	1st	T.W.Green	8:05:43	1968	3rd	P.L.Duncan	8:23:24
1932	3rd	T.W.Green	8:14:59	1969	3rd	G.Klopfer (ind)	8:19:22
1933	1st	T.W.Green *	8:01:19	1970	2nd	R.C.Middleton	7:50:47
1934	3rd	F.W.Bentley	8:28:34	1974	1st	R.C.Middleton	8:17:50
1937	3rd	F.Rickards	8:25:02	1974	2nd	C.Lawton	8:33:35
1953	2nd	M.N.Guilment	8:24:20				

* New course record of 8:01:06 established by J.H.Ludlow (Derby) in 1932

London to Brighton Walk ●●●●●●

WINNING BELGRAVE TEAMS

Started 1919	Team Scorers	No race 1939 - 45	Pts
1921	J.H.Allen, J.C.Chalk, R.W.Ricketts		12
1924	E.A.Wall, J.Bellchamber, S.A.Manning		13
1927	T.W.Green, J.Rathbone, S.A.Manning		13
1929	T.W.Green, F.Rickards, J.C.Bidgood		16
----- Scoring changed from 3 to 4 in 1930 -----			
1932	T.W.Green, F.Rickards, F.E.Bentley, P.N.Khlopın		21
1933	T.W.Green, R.Martin, J.C.Bidgood, H.Field		23
1934	F.E.Bentley, R.Martin, P.N.Khlopın, J.H.Allen		29
1937	F.Rickards, C.F.D.Sutton, W.Urry, R.Martin		43
1950	A.J.Stirling Wakeley, J.C.Bidgood, H.McGreechan, H.W.Shields		50
1954	M.N.Guilman, H.McGreechan, G.S.Checkley, H.W.Shields		16
1956	G.S.Checkley, M.N.Guilman, G.E.Beecham, H.W.Shields		20
1957	G.S.Checkley, R.Newson, G.E.Beecham, H.McGreechan		13
1958	G.E.Beecham, G.S.Checkley, H.McGreechan, H.W.Shields		26
1961	R.C.Hall, K.Bailey, G.E.Beecham, J.F.Keown		24
1962	D.A.Bartliff, G.E.Beecham, K.Bailey, J.Morris		26
1965	R.C.Hall, D.King, G.E.Beecham, J.Morris		48
1967	P.L.Duncan, D.King, J.F.Keown, J.Morris		28
1968	P.L.Duncan, D.King, G.R.Parley, G.E.Beecham		24
1969	J.Moullin, P.L.Duncan, D.King, G.R.Parley.....		31
1970	R.C.Middleton, J.Moullin, P.L.Duncan, D.King		13

The 1960's were great years for the walkers who wore the claret and gold. Although they failed to produce any individual winners they won the team race on six occasions, finished 2nd twice and 3rd once. They also won five individual medals. R.C. 'Ray' Hall, our Club President, finished 2nd in 1963. Ray, who was 3rd in 1959, won the Stock Exchange 'Brighton' in 1962 with a time of 7hrs. 58mins. 35secs. thus becoming the fourth walker in history and the first Belgravian to cover the course inside 8 hours. Third place in the open race went to Dave King in his first 'Brighton' in 1964 and to Pat Duncan in 1967 and 68. An American, G. Klopfer walking as an individual in Belgrave colours finished 3rd in 1969.

Ray Middleton ensured that the 1970's began on a high note for the Club when he became the fastest ever Belgravian over the historic Brighton course by clocking 7hrs. 50mins. 47secs. when finishing 2nd to Shaul Ladany (Israel). He also led the Club to their 20th win in the team race with a score of 13 points, equalling their previous lowest team score of 1957. In the next two years the Club finished 2nd in the team race. Belgrave only started four walkers in the 1973 'Brighton' and for the first time in the long history of this event the Club failed to finish a team. Despite the worst weather conditions for many years Belgrave bounced back to the top in 1974 when internationals Ray Middleton and Carl Lawton took 1st and 2nd individual places and the Club tied with Brighton & Hove A.C. on points in the team race but lost first place because the latter's fourth scoring man finished nearer the winner.

Down the years since W. Poole finished in the first Open London to Brighton race many Belgravians have followed in his footsteps. Some have only completed the distance once, others many times. The challenge which this Blue Ribbon event presents has ensured that all our long distance walkers, stars and others, have wanted to tackle the race at least once. Fifty Belgrave walkers have done so since 1946. Leading the table of 'Brightons' successfully completed since the last war are John Keown with 16 (consecutive); George Beecham with 15; Joe Wilson, Harry Shields and Bernard Eglington with 12 each; Gordon Doubleday with 11 (2 before the war) and Johnny Morris and Dave King with 10 each.

Belgrave and the Brighton -----

The success of the Club down the years in the 'Brighton' is only partly due to the efforts of our walkers. Little would have been achieved without the encouragement and support of a gallant band of helpers who ensured that the individual needs of each walker were continually catered for between Big Ben and Brighton seafront. Many Club members, and families and friends of members, have acted as helpers to each successive generation of walkers. Without their aid and encouragement there would be no Brighton success story. They provided the support necessary to enable Club walkers to give of their best. Unfortunately in recent years this support has been on the decline.

What a finish Belgrave walkers could write to the Club's success story over 50 years on the Brighton Road if on 6th September 1975 they could take all the individual medals and the team title! An impossible dream? Given that all our distance walkers are fit and available to compete and that there are no top class foreign competitors, that dream can become a reality. Ray Middleton and Carl Lawton are capable of repeating their successes of 1974 whilst John Moullin, absent through injury from the last 'Brighton', can grab 3rd place and give the Club the additional strength necessary to take top honours in the team race. Ray, given the right conditions, has the ability as he recently proved in the Accolade International 8 Hour Walk to break Don Thompson's 1957 course record of 7hrs. 35mins. 12secs.

From The President

In this magazine we would like to re-introduce photos again but costs have to be kept under review. It is still the best club magazine, good value included in your subs. We are indebted to our Editor Alan Mead.

Now to better things. An historic meeting took place towards the end of 1974. The major clubs in Merton met to discuss the local borough's request for an athletic representative on the newly formed Sports Council. After an informative meeting, the clubs agreed on Clive Shippen. What made the meeting interesting was that it was the first ever held between the three clubs and all agreed that it should be the first of many. It is a fact that all the clubs believe there should and will be mergers of clubs but no one person seems to have the answers on how it should be done.

Please note the following date in your diary - June 29th - for the 100 x 1 Mile Relay at Crystal Palace. You will have to beat me to get in the team. Perhaps we could have qualifying races for the scrubbers. Alan Mead is the man for information.

Any comments or protests about what I've written - you may telephone me at Leatherhead 76264.

RAY HALL President.

A word from your Treasurer—

Each of you will be receiving with this issue of the magazine an invitation to attend a Special General Meeting on April 21st to discuss subscriptions. As everything we use has steadily increased in cost it is inevitable that members will have to pay more. Even so, the senior subscription at £5 per year will still be small compared with other sports.

There are a number of members who have not paid the current year's subscription and in some cases the previous year's. They will find a subscription reminder in the envelope and I hope they will return it with their subs before June 30th. To issue reminders costs the Club money and also my time.

Elsewhere in the magazine you will find my request for bottles for our stall at the Merton Show. Remember what Charlie Manning said after last year's show in which the sum of £146 was raised. "That was a good team effort, just think what we could have done as a Club".

I noticed that Norman Dewberry was omitted to be shown as Assistant Treasurer in the last issue. Subs. can be paid to him at Belgrave Hall on a Saturday afternoon.

JOHN BAKER

WALKING

With the turn of spring and a New Year, our prospects are not now as bleak as they were six months ago. The new member to our ranks Martin Lewin has quickly transformed into an 'A' team star, giving John Hall a nudge in the process and helping us to team placings in the Cambridge Open, Met. Police Open and the Garnet.

John Moullin has made a welcome return after six months lay-off and hopes to be back in form by the National 10 miles. Even Bob Picton has made his reappearance as has Len Evans, in spectator capacity, after an operation.

Richard Tanner and Alan Lucas have both been consistent performers over the last few months and it is with regret that Alan has now returned to Australia. We extend our thanks to him for his services over the last nine months.

Despite our new team, we regret to announce the failure to win the Garnet, due to misfortune. John Bromley was involved in a car accident, now recovered, and John Hall automatically disqualified himself by finishing 3rd in the Scottish Championships last year. However, we were still good enough for 2nd with Alan Lucas, Richard Tanner, Martin Lewin (who deserved a medal for determination) and Martin Yates as the four.

It was an oversight in the last issue of the 'Belgravian' that no mention was made of Johnny Morris, John Keown and Eric Stroud, all of whom competed in the notorious 'Brighton' and hence doubled our number of finishers of the year before.

Looking to the future, the National 20 miles will be held in June in the Isle of Man. Travelling details will have to be arranged in advance so please give it some thought as it will involve a long Saturday.

CARL LAWTON
Walking Secretary

55th Annual Belgrave Open '7'

NOVEMBER 23rd 1974 - WIMBLEDON.

1. B.Adams (Leicester)....	51:37	48. J.Dunsford	60:08
2. R.Laird (U.S.A.)	51:54	73. D.McMullen	63:13
3. C.Lawton	52:48	83. D.Potheringham	64:34
17. R.Middleton	56:09	89. D.King	65:49
20. J.Hall	56:33	96. J.Keown	67:04
26. R.Tanner	58:00	98. R.Carter	67:33
40. A.Lucas	59:33	110. J.Morris	69:01
46. J.Bromley	60:00	126. G.Beecham	77:00

Teams: 1. BELGRAVE H 'A' 47pts; 2. Surrey W.C. 60pts; 3. Leicester W.C. 65pts; 15. BELGRAVE H 'B' 290pts.

Handicap: 1. R.Tanner (BEL) 47:20 (10:40); 2. G.Morris (Steyping) 47:33 (7:00); 3. R.Parkins (Medway) 47:36 (8:20).

First Belgrave Harrier in scratch race not gaining any other award: A.Lucas

Richard Tanner was fastest man in the LPR 9km at Blackheath Park on December 4th. He led the 34 strong field home in 44:24 with M.Scammell 5th in 46:09.

CAMBRIDGE OPEN '7'DECEMBER 14th 1974 - BEXLEY.

1. S.Lightman (Met WC) 50:57; 2. B.Adams (Leics) 51:35; 3. A.Seddon (Enf) 52:08; 4. C.Lawton 52:08; 20. B.Saunders 55:30; 24. R.Tanner 56:34; 29. M.Lewin 57:03; 30. M.Scamell 57:12; 36. J.Dunsford 57:59; 37. J.Bromley 58:11; 45. A.Lucas 58:46; 60. D.McMullen 60:59; 65. D.Fotheringham 61:37; 68. M.Yates 62:10.

Teams: 1. Ilford 34pts; 2. Surrey WC 41pts; 3. BELGRAVE H 68pts.

PHIL EMBLETON MEMORIAL 15kmDECEMBER 21st 1974 - BATTERSEA PARK.

1. S.Lightman (Met WC) 70:26; 2. A.Seddon 71:00; 3. C.Lawton 71:13; 7. J.Hall 74:36; 10. A.Lucas 76:21; 19. J.Dunsford 78:22; 20. M.Scamell 21. J.Bromley 78:57; 28. M.Lewin 81:32; 43. D.Fotheringham 86:21.

Teams: 1. BELGRAVE H 16pts; 2. Ilford 17pts.

BOXING DAY 3mDECEMBER 26th 1974 - BATTERSEA PARK.

1. M.Lewin 29:42; 2. R.Tanner 30:01; 3. R.McMullen 30:18; 4. D.Fotheringham 30:26; 5. J.Scamell 30:34; 6. J.Bromley 30:44; 7. M.Scamell 31:16; 8. C.Lawton 31:35; 9. D.Bennett 32:37; 10. S.Bennett 33:02.

Hall wins 'Horwood Cup' yet again !DECEMBER 29th 1974 - WIMBLEDON.

1. C.Lawton	57:02	8. J.Bromley	60:50
2. M.Fullager (Surrey WC).	57:30	9. J.Dunsford	61:00
3. J.Hall	57:47	10. R.Middleton	62:12
5. R.Tanner	58:28	14. R.McMullen	63:06
6. A.Lucas	59:40	16. D.Fotheringham	64:47
7. M.Lewin	60:27		

Inter-club Team Result: 1. BELGRAVE H 46pts; 2. Met. Police 85pts; 3. Surrey WC 105pts.

ESSEX BEAGLES JNR & YTH 3.75milesJANUARY 4th 1975 - CHIGWELL ROW.

Junior/Youths 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles: 1. G.Nibre (NSP) 28:46; 6. R.Tanner 29:54; 9. M.Lewin 30:41; 11. J.Dunsford 31:37.

Boys 1 $\frac{7}{8}$ miles: 1. S.Miley (Harb) 16:13; 15. D.Bennett 20:32.

MET. POLICE OPEN '7'JANUARY 11th 1975 - IMBER COURT.

1. B.Adams (Leics) 50:57; 2. C.Lawton 51:29; 3. A.Seddon (Enf) 51:44; 23. J.Hall 54:52; 24. M.Lewin 55:13; 35. R.Tanner 56:31; 46. M.Scamell 57:22; 56. J.Bromley 57:53; 60. R.Middleton 58:10; 80. D.McMullen 60:14; 116. R.Carter 64:31; 136. J.Keown 67:18; 155. J.Scamell 70:02.

Teams: 1. Ilford 41pts; 2. Brighton 58pts; 3. BELGRAVE H 73pts.

JANUARY 15th 1975 - CRYSTAL PALACE v S.C.A.A.A. OPEN 3km.

1. S.Lightman (Met WC) 13:00; 2. C.Lawton 13:00.8; 3. J.Lord () 13:22; 12. J.Hall 14:06.4; 15. R.Tanner 14:36; 25. M.Yates 15:39; 26. R.Carter 15:40.

Murphy '10' and Olympic '5'

JANUARY 19th 1975 - WIMBLEDON.

1. C.Lawton	78:03	14. D.McMullen	90:16
2. J.Lees (Brighton & Hove)	78:15	18. D.Fotheringham	92:20
3. C.Fogg (Enfield)	80:08	19. J.Moullin	92:38
4. J.Hall	80:41	20. D.King	92:55
6. R.Tanner	81:11	22. R.Picton	94:25
9. M.Scamell	84:39	25. J.Keown	96:01
10. R.Middleton	84:44	31. G.Beecham	101:58
11. J.Bromley	85:48		

Junior 5 Miles.

1. M.Lewin	39:16	3. J.Dunsford	41:55
2. R.Tanner	39:36	4. N.Greaves	45:55

LONDON VIDARIANS CHAMPIONSHIP

JANUARY 23rd 1975 - BATTERSEA PARK.

1. P.Nihill (Croydon) 76:04; 2. C.Lawton 81:45; 3. J.Hall 82:10; 4. A.Lucas 83:04; 6. R.Middleton 83:35.

Lucas leads Garnet Cup Team

FEBRUARY 1st 1975 - SLOUGH.

Through the wet winter, the walking section have held high hopes of winning the Garnet Cup for 1975. This race is junior by status. But hopes don't win championships. Luck helps but from Belgrave's point of view this disappeared the week before the race. Third place in a minor Scottish Championship ruled John Hall ineligible, a car accident put John Bromley on the side lines (delighted to see he's recovering from his injuries), the Irish had a demonstration so Doug. Fotheringham and Bob Carter were left behind in London to keep law and order.

Go west young man along the M4 to Slough. The Belgrave team was a mixture of youth and experience. It still had a chance to win on this mild February day.

Every one of the five Belgravians walked as well as could be expected on the day, our leading man being Alan Lucas. This likeable Australian walked his best race in our colours, always fighting his way through the field, finishing 4th and just one place short of his honours badge. A very solid performance and we are sorry to see that he is returning home soon but are pleased to have known him.

Our next man, Bob Tanner, has that old Belgravian theory that you must win every time. To go home from a race without a prize or a medal is sacrilegious. Feeling the after effects from his police cross country training, Bob faded a little in the middle of the race but fought back with great determination to finish 8th. His police colleague Martin Lewin, our third man, was suffering from a virus infection but he fought all the way, even suffering several attacks of sickness during the race. A very fine performance in his first ever ten mile race. I believe that with normal progress Bob and Martin can become Belgrave's next walking internationals.

The other member of the scoring team was Martin Yates. He walked his best race in our colours and with a little more class racing he could develop into a good walker.

These four received their first championship medals for second team and they were ably supported by Bob Picton making a comeback. **R.C.H.**

1. C.Fisher (Enfield) 78:37; 2. D.Johnson (Brighton) 78:40; 3. W.Wright (Southampton) 78:50; 4. A.Lucas 81:08; 8. R.Tanner 82:46; 14. M.Scamell (Newham) 84:54; 18. M.Lewin 86:08; 29. M.Yates 88:51; 39. R.Picton 92:04. 77 started.

Teams: 1. Brighton & Hove 46pts; 2. BELGRAVE H 53pts; 3. Surrey WC 58pts.

G. L. C. '10'**FEBRUARY 8th 1975 - BATTERSEA PARK.**

1. A.Seddon (Enfield) 73:23; 2. S.Lightman (Met) 73:50; 3. P.Nihill (Croy) 73:55; 5. C.Lawton 75:42; 20. M.Lewin 81:50; 21. R.Middleton 82:05; 26. J.Dunsford 84:45.

Teams: 1. Ilford 43pts; 4. BELGRAVE H 55pts.

FEBRUARY 12th 1975 - CRYSTAL PALACE - S.C.A.A.A. OPEN 5km

1. R.Mills (21:53.6; 2. C.Lawton 22:41.2; 8. M.Lewin 23:51.4; 13. M.Scammell 24:22; 31. J.Scammell 30:00.

7th WIN IN BASINGSTOKE '10**FEBRUARY 15th 1975 - BASINGSTOKE.**

1. C.Lawton 76:15; 2. S.Maidment (Yeovil) 76:23; 3. D.Stevens (Steyping) 79:22; 5. R.Middleton 81:37; 6. A.Lucas 82:03; 7. J.Hall 82:16; 12. J.Dunsford 85:06; 21. J.Moullin 88:24; 26. R.Picton 90:17.

Teams: 1. BELGRAVE H 13pts; 2. Trowbridge 34pts; 3. Steyping 48pts.

H'cap: 1. A.Lucas; 3. J.Dundford.

John Hall clocked 23:32.2 for 3rd place in a 5km at Crystal Palace on December 11th. Winner was Shaun Lightman (Met) 22:02.0

JOE SCAMELL, SENR.

We are sorry to record that Joe Scammell, Senr., whose illness was mentioned in the last 'Belgravian', died at his home in East London on 4th December. He was 74 years old and joined the Club in 1925 - almost 50 years of membership. He was a member of our walking teams for a number of years and helped us to many a win in Open races. As a measure of his individual performances he won a First Class A.A.A. Standard over the old Two Miles Championship and gained a Middlesex County vest (Middlesex was a very strong walking county in those days), he also held the Club Record for our five mile course. With the passing of years he continued to turn out for the Club and if the speed wasn't still there the style was and it was obvious that much of his earlier success was due to his fine style.

He was by nature quiet and reserved but travelled to Battersea or Wimbledon (quite a journey in those days) to compete and enjoy the company of the Bels. He would invariably stop for a handshake after the finishing line was crossed, such was the warmth of his character. We have, not so long ago, seen Joe, his son Joe, Junr. and grandson Michael competing in the same race - three generations! He was an inspector in the Electrical Industry by trade, before he retired.

The family received many letters of sympathy from people in the Club, and, amongst the tributes was one of red and yellow chrysanthemums from the Club. The gratitude of his family has already been conveyed to us for the many words of kindness received.

G.S.D.

■ Stateside Belgravian JOHN KNIFTON walked a scintillating race over 20km on September 29th at Pine Plains NY, U.S.A. He hit 10km at 45:11 and 8miles 350y in the hour and his final time of 91:30.4 places him 4th on the U.S.A. all time list.

SPOTLIGHT ON

CARL LAWTON

Carl was born in January 1948 and hails from the Dorset town of Shaftesbury which he left at the age of 19 to seek fame and fortune in the great world. This gives our first clue to his remarkable determination, partly hidden by a genial smile and the somewhat hesitant and shy manner which beguiles the tenacity which he adopts towards a job to be done and to his enormous athletic ability. One cannot use a question and answer technique with him. He is the exponent of expediency and those who have known him from the time he joined the club have more than a suspicion that especially in his early days money was tight. Yet rather than admit this he would cycle and walk enormous distances to a race meeting and still produce performances from 3,000 metres to London - Brighton that, given a points value, would make household names of the past seem small by comparison. Only Ray Middleton could compare.

Yet this man is still only 26 years old and at the threshold of his career. He fits into his working life an active administrative interest in the Club as a committee man, captain, walking secretary and one who steps in and does any job he sees wants doing. On race days he sorts out teams and gives out numbers in spite of the tension that must be present when he knows that the success of the team and the Club depends on his own performance. He is someone I am proud to know.

Ray Hall relates the story of speaking to Carl, in August 1967, dejected after being "pulled" in the Brockwell Park 5 miles. He had previously won the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Medal for walking. From this time the ugly duckling became a swan of immaculate style. His performances from a time of 57 minutes 33 seconds in the Belgrave Open of 1967 to the present day have been of steady and continuous improvement. Last October he won the Chippenham - Calne 6 mile race in a time only beaten in the Club by Stan Vickers during the year he won the European Games.

During 1974, apart from magnificent performances at shorter distances, he was 2nd in the Hastings - Brighton, 2nd London - Brighton, 1st Leicester 'Mercury' 20 miles, 1st Southern Area 10km track walk, 2nd Surrey 10km and 1st Surrey 3,000 metres. In all the National Championships, which with one exception, we either won or were placed, he was the king-pin together with his buddy Ray Middleton.

Amidst all this activity he has managed to court and win for his wife Barbara Inkpen, the first woman to have a high jump of over 6 feet ratified as a British Record. In many ways she has Carl's characteristics and is a delightful person. They never brag when doing well or complain when things are difficult, and are two grand people who deserve well of life.

The performance that has given Carl his greatest pleasure was his 3rd place in the Commonwealth Games Trial in which he set a new Club Record of 2 hrs. 34 mins. 44 secs. and was selected to represent his country in New Zealand.

Training for him is a matter of instinct, using the time he has available. My own hope is for him to have stability at work and that he continues to make use of his enormous ability with credit to his country, his club and himself.

With the exact opposite of my thinking of yesteryear, I hope that Barbara, together with our President's wife and many other ladies who do so much for the Club, can bring pressure for a women's section for Belgrave Harriers. Somehow I think that Carl and our President see hopes in this direction rather than amalgamating with other men's clubs.

HARRY SHIELDS

YOUNG ATHLETES

NOVEMBER 9th 1974 - RICHMOND PARK - COLTS INTER CLUB CROSS COUNTRY RACE.

14. J.Searle 20:07; 18. P.Clay 20:18; 28. M.Cain 21:52; 35. D.Worley 23:10;
42. P.Thorp 23:53; 53. S.Wyld 25:27; 55. S.Pritchard 25:27. 60 finished.

NOVEMBER 23rd 1974 - LLOYD PARK - SURREY CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE.

1. D.Clarke (Herc.Wimb) 14:17; 32. P.Gardener 17:23; 46. P.Manning 20:47;
47. P.Thorp 21:08.

Teams: 1. Hercules Wimb. 40pts; 2. Herne Hill H 60pts; 3. Aldershot 62pts;
7. BELGRAVE H 142pts.

DECEMBER 7th 1974 - COULSDON - SURREY CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE.

1. G.Shine (Herc.W) 14:19; 49. P.Headley 19:03; 52. P.Thorp 21:12.

Teams: 1. Hercules Wimbledon 35pts; 2. Herne Hill H 43pts; ..7. BELGRAVE H
160½pts.

Final Team Positions: 1. Hercules Wimbledon 126pts; 2. Herne Hill H 126pts;
3. Aldershot, F & D 226pts; 4. Croydon H 235pts; 5. South London H 346pts;
6. Walton AC 406½pts 7. BELGRAVE H 424½pts.

southern counties coaching course

On the 27th - 29th December three boys and myself attended a residential coaching course held at Crystal Palace Sports Centre, staying in the comfortable hostel especially built for this purpose. The course catered for Senior Boys up to the Junior Men's age group and covered all events. The events pursued by the four from Belgrave were: Triple Jump - Ivan Beaumont, High Jump - David Didino, 800 metres - Richard Danpure, and myself - Javelin.

The nucleus of the course were the 'practical sessions', these were simply where everyone split up into their own events. In charge of the groups were some of the best coaches in the country. They gave good clear advice on all aspects of the separate events. The practical sessions were hard work but enjoyable. To back up the advice films were shown of the world's best athletes. A small competition was run, competing against those in the same event. It took the form of a heptathlon and the seven events were, 60 metres box test (running and jumping), standing long jump, standing triple jump, medicine ball throw and 800 metres. Prizes were given for the first three in each event.

Overall the course is well worth going on. Apart from enjoying yourself, you also learn a lot about your event and other events and I personally recommend the course to any young athlete in the Club.

On behalf of the boys who attended the Course I would like to thank the Committee for their generous support.

PETER CROSBIE

Peter Gardener had a good race in the Wilsons School cross country championship. Staying back in the field while the early leaders ran themselves out, he then worked his way through and eventually won by some 500 metres.

MEET °° RICHARD DANPURE

Fifteen year old Richard Danpure goes to Rutlish School and became a Belgrave Harrier in 1974 after his father met some of our members in our secondary headquarters 'The King of Denmark'. He plays rugby for his school along with fives, basketball and of course athletics.

Soon after joining he began to make a name for himself by winning the senior boys high jump and 800 metres at our Club Championships, the former with a Championship Best Performance, and he went on to gain a A.A.A. 5 Star Award. He has had some advantage over other lads of his own age because of his above average height and weight but if he can continue to make headway when the others begin to catch up, then his success in athletics will be assured.

Now training at the Hall three times a week with Tuesday and Thursday road runs and weights on Fridays, he has no real preference for events but looks forward to the coming Sunday track sessions and the chance to tackle any event he can to find out his best.

He greatly enjoyed the residential coaching course at the Crystal Palace, although finding it hard work being the youngest person in the middle distance group. Most of his training on this course was repetition work over 150m/200m/600m and gave him some idea what real training is all about. He found himself so stiff after the first day that he could hardly move but would very much like to attend future courses if given the chance.

Richard's object is to enjoy his athletics. He likes belonging to Belgrave with its tradition and friendly atmosphere and when it comes to 'ribbing' he gives as good as he gets from the likes of Colin Pearson and Chas. Manning.

PETE GARDENER WINS YOUTHS CHAMPIONSHIP

DECEMBER 14th 1974 - WIMBLEDON.

Only three Youths took part in our three mile cross country championship and they unfortunately went off course, although each followed the same route. Peter Gardener reinforced his claim to be Belgrave's top Youth runner over the country by winning from Richard Danpure. Danny Richards kept going well for third place.

County Championships

JANUARY 4th 1975 - GUILDFORD - SURREY COUNTY CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Juniors: 1. I. Logan (Aldershot, F & D); 21. M. Manning 32:43; 25. S. Holmes 33:32; 38. P. North 37:58; 40. N. Kirmatzis; 39:28; 42 finished.

Teams: 1. Aldershot, F & D 30pts; 2. Herc. Wimb AC 38pts; 3. Mitcham 58pts; 7. BELGRAVE H 95pts.

Youths: 17. A. Cook 26:38; 35. P. Gardener 28:27; 55 finished.

Boys: 57. D. Bailey 18:24; 70. M. Cain 19:31; 84 finished.

Colts: 30. S. Shanks 15:09; 69. M. Monroe 16:35; 86. L. Johnson 18:43; 92 finished.

■ RANJIT BHATIA's name cropped up again recently. Living in Delhi, he successfully completed negotiations with the Indian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, enabling Kelvin Bowers to cross from Pakistan into India on his ultra-long distance run. Kelvin, who commenced his run in the U.K. on April 7th 1974 is running to Sydney, Australia.

TIGHT FINISH IN JUNIOR 5 MILESJANUARY 18th 1975 - WIMBLEDON.

In appalling conditions Simon Holmes just scraped home ahead of Michael Manning to win the 'Savage Shield' by one second! Behind these two the battle for the third place medal was just as fierce. Michael Scott, long jumper and sprinter, had chosen to make his cross country debut on a day when the mud and water were almost knee deep in places. His effort was successful and he too managed to reach home one second ahead of his rival Peter Gardener, only a Youth and whose plucky efforts fully deserved a medal.

1. S.Holmes	33:53	4. P.Gardener	36:27
2. M.Manning	33:54	5. N.Kirmatzis	38:04
3. M.Scott	36:26		

LONDON BOROUGH OF MERTON RACESFEBRUARY 1st 1975 - WIMBLEDON.

16 - 20: 1. G.Shine (Herc Wimb) 24:45; 2. S.Forster 24:55; 3. S.Holmes 25:01; 8. P.Gardener 28:07; 10. D.Richards 36:22.

14 - 15: 1. B.Marbion 14:48; 2. P.Clay 15:32; 4. R.Danpure 16:38; 5. D.Bailey 16:44; The first two were the only ones to complete the correct course, the rest ran further than was necessary.

12 - 13: 1. S.Boorman (Herc Wimb) 8:49; 9. S.Shanks 9:40; 27. J.Searle 10:15
29. A.Pilcher 10:21; 33. M.Munroe 10:32; 39. S.W.Crosbie 10:57; 44. P.Clay 11:51; 45. P.Welding 12:05; 50. R.Streatfield 13:32.

SOUTHERN CHAMPS.FEBRUARY 8th 1975 - PARLIAMENT HILL.

Juniors. 82. S.Holmes; 98. M.Manning; 120. J.Flynn; 145 N.Kirmatzis; 150. P.North. Team: 18th.

Youths: 61. S.Forster; 128. P.Gardener.

THE MERTON SHOW - AUGUST 24th & 25th 1975

A sub-committee has been set up to organise a bottle stall again at this year's Merton Show. As you know the team last year raised £146. This year we are including a childrens stall as well so will need in the region of 400 full bottles.

YOUR HELP IS REQUIRED. Please hand your bottles to the following members as soon as you can:

RAY HALL, GORDON BISCOE, LEO COY, RON LANGHEIM and CARL LAWTON.

Should you not be able to get to the Hall please send any donations to me and I will buy the bottles for you. You haven't had Charlie Manning pestering you to buy raffle tickets this winter so now is the chance to aid your Club funds.

DON'T DELAY - DO IT NOW.

JOHN BAKER

■ The 'Denmark Pot' for the Club Darts Championship was won by DAVE McMILLAN from COLIN PEARSON after a nerve racking final and some remarkable early rounds when all the favourites went out to the most unlikely players.

■ It just shows you what trouble a chap can get into if he's not kept busy. Only a few months after stepping down as track secretary PHILIP GEE has gone and got himself engaged to SANDRA. Congratulations to them both.

TRACK AND FIELD

The track and field season is again almost with us. Due to some confusion at National level the A.A.A. Decathlon Championship was arranged to take place on the same day as one of the league fixtures. You may well imagine the consternation this caused - the thought of a league event without Reg. Hopkins and Snowy Brooks! We immediately wrote to the powers that be, and, not entirely due to our own actions one feels, the date of the Decathlon was changed. Now for the bad news: it was changed to the day of the National League qualifying meeting which of course we must aim to reach. Further action is in progress.

Travel to the matches at Portsmouth and Brighton will be by coach. With the price of petrol as it is, if we all go together it will be cheaper all round. Supporters will be more than welcome at all the matches, so if you are not in the team but would still like to come along, contact one of us a few days before each date.

The final death knell of trophy meetings seems to have been sounded with the end of the 'Brockman', formerly one of the highlights of the season. Herne Hill Harriers have gamely fought a losing battle by promoting the Brockman Trophy Meeting in the face of declining interest in these type of fixtures. They feel the time has now come to call a halt and we are sorry to see it go.

Please support our inter-club matches this year. We appeal particularly to those who do not regularly make the first team. Whatever your standard we can provide competition for you, so study your fixture card and especially note our home fixtures.

If you still have not entered the Surrey Championships get in touch with us. We have the entry forms and will be pleased to hear from you.

Good luck for the '75 season.

BILL COUZENS

ALAN MEAD

Field Events Secretary Track Secretary

Amendments to the Club Rankings for 1974 published in the last edition of the 'Belgravian' are as follows:

3,000m: Lionel Mann 8:55.2, moving him up to 4th. 10,000m: Lionel Mann 31:14.8 (2nd). 800m: Philip Gee 2:04.5 (8th)

Boxing Day Handicaps

DECEMBER 26th 1974 - BATTERSEA PARK

120 yards Heat 1: 1. S.Crosbie (10y) 13.4; 2. P.Gee (5y) 13.4; 3. M.Munroe (22y) 13.5; 4. R.Coombs (17y) 14.6. Heat 2: 1. P.Crosbie (17y) 12.2; 2. P.Williamson (9y) 12.4; 3. R.Hopkins, Jr (7y) 12.6; 4. S.White (scr) 13.3; 5. S.Shanks (25y) 13.4. Final: 1. P.Crosbie 12.6; 2. R.Hopkins, Jr 12.7; 3. P.Williamson 13.1; 4. P.Gee 13.2; 5. S.Crosbie 13.0; 6. M.Munroe 13.3.

Shot: 1. J.Kelly (12'0) 42'8; 2. J.Martin (4'10) 41'4; 3. P.Crosbie (12'0) 41'4; 4. D.Didino (12'3) 39'7; 5. W.Couzens (7'6) 39'3; 6. R.Hopkins, Snr (15'3) 39'2; 7. P.Gee (12'6) 38'6; 8. M.Munroe (15'0) 37'5½; 9. S.White (12'0) 37'1½; 10. A.Mead (13'3) 37'1; 11. R.Hopkins, Jr (8'6) 35'5; guest - J.Aska 35'11.

2 miles: 1. P.North (700y) 9:08; 2. A.Mead (650y) 9:11; 3. R.Coombs (650y) 9:13; 4. J.Dudman (600y) 9:19; 5. P.Gardener (650) 9:21; 6. J.Searle (900y) 9:30; 7. J.Davies (450y) 9:30; 8. E.Thorp (550y) 9:38; 9. C.Pearson (200y) 9:43; 10. D.Gordon (750y) 9:49; 11. P.Williamson (500y) 9:53; 12. B.Gorman (350y) 9:54; 13. R.Hopkins, Snr (1000) 10:02; 14. C.Gittens (1000y) 10:15; 15. R.Glover (500y) 10:16; 16. R.Hopkins, Jr (500y) 10:23; 17. D.Didino (900y) 10:24; 18. L.Mann (scr) 10:24; 19. J.Kelly (350y) 10:25.

TRACK & FIELD RECORDS

seniors

100m	J.Mitchell	1967/1969	10.7
	J.Vivian	1969	
	C.Brooks	1973	
	w/a S.White	1974	10.6
200m	B.Morris	1961	21.6
	S.White	1973	
	w/a S.White	1974	21.2
400m	G.Leroy	1960	47.7
800m	D.Cocks	1964	1:49.6
1,500m	J.Thresher	1968	3:44.6
3,000m	J.Bicourt	1971	8:01.8
5,000m	Geoff. North	1969	13:44.4
10,000m	Gerry North	1970	29:33.0
Marathon	A.Brien	1972	2:18:45
110mH	C.Brooks	1972/1973	15.7
400mH	M.Ford	1970	53.1
3,000mSC	J.Bicourt	1973	8:26.6
4 x 100m	D.Merrett, I.Mayers, B.Walden, R.Holtum	1954	42.6
4 x 400m	P.Eldridge, B.Morris, G.Worrell, G.Leroy	1961	3:15.3
Long Jump	S.White	1972	7.41m
	w/a J.Mitchell	1969	7.46m
High Jump	J.Dodds	1936	1.92m
Triple Jump	D.Boosey	1968	16.22m
Pole Vault	H.Pfenninger	1970	4.19m
Hammer	P.Porter	1957	52.32m
Discus	G.Ratcliffe	1973	48.50m
Javelin	N.Head	1967	64.39m
Shot	D.McCorquindale	1959	15.65m
Decathlon	C.Brooks	1974	6707pts

In a S.C.A.A.A. Open Meeting at Crystal Palace on February 12th, the 3000 metres gave John Boardman and Doug Maughan the chance to show their early season paces. John got 17th and 9:21 whilst Doug., only a yard or so behind was given 9:26. Leo Coy made a promising start to his 1975 campaign over the barriers with a third place effort of 6:53.6 for 2000mSC.

■ Young SCOTT WYLD pluckily completed a ten mile run for charity a while back, with his father RON hanging on to him like grim death.

■ ARTHUR 'BOOFER' BRUCE sets out for South Africa again in May and while he is there of course he will again tackle that epic road run The Comrades Marathon - 54 miles from Durban to Pietermaritzburg.

juniors

100m	M.Marshall	1971	10.8
200m	S.White	1969	21.7
400m	S.White	1969	49.4
800m	P.Carton	1971	1:53.5
1,500m	J.Stow	1970	3:57.8
3,000m	J.Stow	1970	8:36.8
5,000m	P.Carton	1970	15:04.0
110mH	R.Hopkins, Jnr.	1973	17.0
2,000mSC	P.Breslin	1971	6:23.4
4 x 100m	J.Mitchell, D.Gleeson, C.Martin, J.Vivian	1965	42.8
Long Jump	M.Scott	1974	7.13m
	w/a M.Scott	1974	7.17m
High Jump	A.Bentt	1968	1.91m
	R.Hopkins, Jnr.	1972	
Triple Jump	R.Heward Mills	1971	15.47m
Pole Vault	M.Shippen	1974	2.75m
Discus	J.Grey	1949	41.96m
Javelin	G.Edwards	1955	55.45m
Shot	J.Jones	1954	16.18m
Decathlon	R.Hopkins, Jnr.	1973	5161 pts

youths

100m	M.Marshall	1970	11.0
200m	J.Vivian	1964	22.7
400m	M.Bloice	1970	51.3
800m	D.Cocks	1960	1:59.0
1,500m	W.Curtin	1969	4:04.4
3,000m	P.Carton	1969	9:07.0
1,500mSC	J.Bicourt	1962	4:44.0
Long Jump	J.Key	1954	6.64m
High Jump	R.Hopkins, Jnr.	1971	1.82m
Triple Jump	M.Marshall	1970	12.55m
Pole Vault	M.Shippen	1974	2.75m
Discus	J.Martin	1964	42.85m
Javelin	P.Crosbie	1974	54.62m
Shot	J.Jones	1952	14.75m
Decathlon	R.Hopkins	1971	3748 pts
	R.McCrossen	1974	

senior boys

100m	P.Green D.Bailey I.Beaumont	1971 1974 1974	13.2
200m	P.Barnard	1961	25.8
400m	R.Hudson	1961	52.9
800m	R.Hudson W.Curtin R.Langley	1961 1967 1968	2:05.0
1,500m	A.Cook	1973	5:01.0
Long Jump	I.Beaumont	1974	5.38m
High Jump	A.Mills	1968	1.63m
Triple Jump	I.Beaumont	1974	11.63m
Pole Vault	M.Shippen	1974	2.75m
Javelin	P.Crosbie	1972	42.22m
Shot	L.Iannucci	1974	10.45m
Pentathlon	M.Shippen	1974	1160 pts

junior boys

100m	S.Lane C.Smillie	1973 1973	14.2
200m	M.Munroe	1974	30.4
400m	S.W.Crosbie	1974	1:11.6
800m	A.Pilcher	1974	2:31.4
1,500m	G.Budinger A.Pilcher	1973 1974	5:32.0
Long Jump	M.Shippen	1973	4.15m
High Jump	P.Clay	1974	1.34m
Shot	M.Munroe	1974	7.79m
Javelin	S.W.Crosbie	1974	25.34m

■ PAUL WILLIAMSON, now at the University of East Anglia, has been training up to 40 miles per week and is hoping to go really well over 400m and 800m this year. Unfortunately he sprained his ankle pretty badly in the Eastern Counties Championship at Peterborough and had to drop out after 6 miles. Nothing too serious we hope.

■ Our dance in January starring the JAGUARS rock group was a huge success. Belgrave Hall was packed to its limit and the dancing was non-stop. A big thankyou to COLIN PEARSON for the organisation and may the Jaguars return again soon.

■ Amongst the spectators at the G.L.C. Walking Championship at Battersea was one of our police stalwarts of the thirties and forties, BOB READMAN. A former Club 20 miles Champion, Bob also won police championships including one at National level. He looked very fit and after asking after old friends was off round the course with SYD SPENCER - did they sign on any new members as they used to in the old days?

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