

The Belgravian.

The Official Gazette

OF THE

Belgrave Harriers.

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6d.

Headquarters—

ST. JOHN'S HALL, RIDGWAY,
WIMBLEDON HILL.

Training Quarters—

Summer :

BATTERSEA PARK TRACK.

Winter :

“RISING SUN,”
EBURY BRIDGE ROAD, S.W.1.

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THE BRIGHTON RELAY.

An invitation to compete in the “News of the World” Brighton Relay, and the knowledge that it was necessary to avoid the last six places to ensure a run in future years, made a fitting and appreciated end to the Season.

On viewing the entries there seemed a very sporting chance of finishing in the first twelve places but a series of misfortunes decided that this was not to be. J. D. Andrews damaged a leg during the Easter holidays and our reserve experienced a very bad time in the race and lost no fewer than nine places. Actually his time was 2 mins. 22 secs. slower than any other competitor on his stage and this left too much for those following to regain, and proved sufficient to let us down three positions at the finish.

Of an entry of nineteen teams we actually finished fourteenth

It will be found however, that by taking an average of the order of actual placings for each relay, that we came out tenth best, equal with Essex Beagles. This is a fair test, for applying the theory to the other teams, it makes no other variations in the positions except three double inter changes, and places Herne Hill H. fifth, in which position they would doubtless have finished had their last man not collapsed.

The outstanding features of the race were some good running by H. W. Bruce, who was very prominent in the first stage, and J. G. Flatt, who on the long rise up to Merstham surprised all by making second fastest time, beating all but that of the Herne Hill runner.

H. E. Footer had been "honoured" (this he does not admit) with the stiffest part of the race, the hill climbing up to the top of the South Downs at Pyecombe.

In this task he fulfilled expectations by proving second best, beaten only by the Cambridge Harrier. But what of the last stage? We wonder if anyone is more surprised than K. B. O'Kell himself on examination of the result?

There remains but little more to say. The prospect of competing next year is not hopeless and with some little enthusiasm among a few more members, who might forego two or three weeks of the "Track," we shall find that we can show vast improvement on this year's performance, satisfactory as it may seem as a first attempt.

The following details will doubtless prove of interest.

Pos.		Time	Time
	NIGHTINGALE LANE. (4 m. 1056 yds.)		m. s.
5	H. W. Bruce	24 48	5th.
	MITCHAM COMMON. (4 m. 1056 yds.)		
11	J. Harris	26 48	12th.
	PURLEY CORNER. (5 m. 352 yds.)		
9	A. E. Smith	28 59	11th.
	MERSTHAM. (5 m. 352 yds.)		
7	J. G. Flatt	31 33	2nd.
	HORLEY. (6 m. 352 yds.)		
16	G. Easton	39 33	18th.

Pos.	CRAWLEY. (5 m. 176 yds.)	Time m. s.
17	M. Hasler	17th. 30 56
	HAND CROSS. (4 m. 704 yds.)	
16	W. L. Bayliss	12th. 25 59
	HICKSTEAD. (6 m. 218 yds.)	
16	A. D. Pyer	9th. 33 15
	PYECOMBE. (5 m. 486 yds.)	
14	H. E. Footer	2nd. 28 58
	FINISH—BRIGHTON. (6 m. 904 yds.)	
14	K. B. O'Kell	17th. 35 59

The second column of figures represents comparison of member's time with other competitors on the same Relay.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS.

On referring to the review of the prospects of our ten mile Cross-Country Championship and twenty mile Walk, contained in our last issue, it will be found that these events eventually resulted, as was expected, by the successes of the respective holders.

H. E. Footer scored his second win in the run, in time a matter of some nine seconds slower than that of the previous year, although this time more closely pressed by his "runner up" A. D. Pyer, winner in 1923 and 1924.

F. Rickards third victory in the walk was overwhelming. On a day by no means favourable he won by a margin of twelve minutes in the time of 2 hours 47 minutes 49 seconds. Over five minutes faster than last year and only 33 seconds slower than his time of 1924 when recording his first success in more favourable circumstances.

W. J. Hawker who finished second was making a welcomed reappearance after a lapse of some two years. Hawker has done good service for the Club on the Road for many years but has not been

exactly fortunate in Club Championships. It would appear that at the time when he was at his best, the Club was not possessed of the Trophies it has to-day. In consequence, although old records show that he won a Club 8 mile Championship at Raynes Park in 1913 we doubt if he received any intrinsic reward.

The customary details are appended.

10 Mile Cross Country Championship.
"MACHER SHIELD RACE."

(Holder—H. E. Footer.)

Pos.		Start H.	time	Actual	P.H.
1	H. E. Footer	scr.	60.35	60.35	2
2	A. D. Pyer	1.15	59.52	61.7	1
3	G. Still	4.15	60.38	64.53	3
4	L. Hartland	2.15	62.42	64.57	6
5	A. E. Smith	2.45	63.41	66.26	8
6	J. G. Flatt	3.15	64.15	67.30	9
7	M. Hasler	6.15	61.21	67.36	4
8	O. L. Borrett	6.0	61.58	67.58	5
9	C. J. Davis	8.30	63.5	71.35	7

20 Mile Walk Championship.
"R. W. RICKETTS SHIELD."

(Holder—F. Rickard.)

Pos.		Start H.	time	Actual	P.H.
1	F. Rickard	scr.	2.47.49	2.47.49	1
2	W. J. Hawker	11.0	2.48.49	2.59.49	2
3	R. W. Ricketts	7.30	2.58.38	3. 6. 8	5
4	C. Speechley	15.0	3. 0. 40	3.15.40	7
5	R. Tompkins	31.0	2.50.11	3.21.11	3
6	D. McDonald	29.0	2.54.53	3.23.53	4
7	C. Briggs	28.0	2.57.47	3.25.47	5

* * *

TRACK MEETING.

The first Club Track Meeting was held at Battersea, on Saturday, April 24th. The weather was cold and dull, and a heavy track was against fast times. In spite of this, however, some good form was shown. The outstanding feature being M. E. Odell's win in the 100 yds. handicap from Scratch.

The 880 handicap brought out the biggest field of the day, 31 actually competing of an original entry of 36. This race went to A. Martin, who thus repeated the feat of H. J. Coxhead last year, by following up a win in the 3 mile Road Race with this success. A. E. Chorley showed considerable improvement to finish second, whilst W. H. Williams, who was "well expected," was a close up third.

Eleven started in the 2 mile walk which went to J. B. Carne off 145, in the fast time of 14 mins. 50 secs.

Full results are appended.

100 YARDS HANDICAP.

Heat 1—M. E. Odell, scr., 1; H. W. Smith, 7½, 2; D. E. Jordan, 10½, 3; F. H. Difford, 4, 4; C. W. Bond, 8½, 5. 1 yard—1½. Time 10½ secs.

Heat 2—G. R. Maryon, 4½, 1; G. C. Fearn, 7½, 2; A. G. Willoughby, 27½, 3; W. D. Pritchard, 8½, 4; R. W. Best, 12½, 5; L. C. Smith, 1¼, 6. ½ yard—1. Time 10¾ secs.

Heat 3—F. Port, 4½, 1; W. H. Williams, 8, 2; H. V. Cox, 2, 3; S. L. King, 9½, 4; A. G. Brown, 13, 5. ¾ yard—½. Time 10¾ secs.

Heat 4—W. H. Gee, 9, 1; J. R. McKay, 2¾, 2; J. C. Clark, 9, 3; A. W. Bettles, 6, 4; T. H. Chandler, 15, 5. ½ yard—same. Time 10¾ secs.

Heat 5—C. T. Pollard, 3½, 1; R. Williams, 17½, 2; F. E. McKay, 10, 3; T. H. Needs, 4¾, 4. ½ yard—1. Time 10¾ secs.

J. R. McKay qualified for Final as fastest loser.

FINAL.

M. E. Odell,	scr.,	1
W. H. Gee,	9 yds.	2
G. R. Maryon,	4½	3
F. Port,	4½	4
J. R. McKay,	2¾	5
C. T. Pollard,	3½	6

Time 10¾ secs.

All six were well away and at 80 yards the limit man appeared to have a commanding lead, but gave way close home to Odell, who won by a margin of little more than a foot, with a similar margin between Gee and Maryon

1 MILE NOVICE WALK (Scratch).

A. Bye 1

Time 8 mins. 46 $\frac{2}{3}$ secs.

No other Competitor finished.

1 MILE NOVICE RUN (Scratch).

J. W. Hope 1

M. R. Capell 2

Won by 40 yards.

Time 6 mins. 16 secs.

880 YARDS HANDICAP.

A. Martin 60 yds. 1

A. E. Chorley 70 2

W. H. Williams 25 3

H. W. Smith 20 4

H. J. Coxhead, 30, 5; S. L. King, 65, 6; T. Pritchard, 55, 7; W. C. Bates, 55, 8; H. E. Nice, 6, 9; F. L. Buckingham, scr., 10; H. W. Bruce, 28, 11; A. Traquair, 70, 12. (31 ran).

Time 2 mins. 2 secs.

The limit man (W. Osborne, 95) set a fast pace and at the bell was 35 yards ahead of the field. This lead he maintained to the far side of the track, then tiring rapidly he dropped out 220 yards from home. Meantime Williams had moved up quickly and with 300 yards to go was prominent with Chorley, Martin, Traquair and Coxhead. Entering the straight Martin dashed into the lead and in spite of the efforts of Chorley, Williams and H. W. Smith, who had closed on the leaders, in the latter stages, held on to win a good race by 5 yards, 1 yard between second and third.

LONG JUMP.

G. H. Powell 19 ft. 3 ins. 1

C. T. Pollard 19 ft. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ ins. 2

G. R. Maryon 18 ft. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins. 3

1 2 MILE WALK.

J. B. Carne 145 yds. 1

A. H. East 190 2

J. G. Scammell 30 3

A. L. Fletcher 30 4

A. W. Godfrey, 295 & O. Horwood, 190, dead heat 5; J. N. Thomas, 305, 7; A. Martin, 460, 8. C. R. Briggs, 400, 9; T. A. Ball, 250, 10; C. W. Bond, 295, 0.

Time 14 min. 50 sec.

Little change took place in the first mile, excepting that A. H. East had quickly closed on the leaders and that C. W. Bond had retired. The limit man, A. Martin, was still leading in 6 min. 38 sec. and was followed by A. H. East, Briggs, Carne and Godfrey in that order with Fletcher and Scammell walking well together at the rear. At the end of the fourth lap East had gone to the front with Carne now second, Fletcher and Scammell, still together, fourth and fifth. Carne was gradually closing on East and at the bell led him a yard with Fletcher and Scammell now some 40 yards behind. From this point all four appeared to be 'all out' but 440 from home Scammel found a burst of speed that took him well clear of Fletcher and threatened to displace East. He failed in this by a few yards. Meantime Carne had opened out a larger gap and eventually won by 10 yards, same distance second and third.

I MILE RELAY (Scratch).

(440, 220, 220, 880).

J. Harris, J. Boyes,	}
L. C. Smith, H. J. Coxhead	
M. Hasler, J. B. Stewart	}
C. T. Pollard, F. L. Buckingham	
W. Bates, T. H. Chandler	}
F. Port, J. H. Bramble	
O. L. Borrett, T. Pritchard	}
J. R. McKay, H. W. Bruce	

Won by 20 yards, same.

Time 3 mins. 59 secs.

CLUB NOTES.

By the Hon. Sec.

Officially the Summer Season has started but we are still waiting for the Summer weather. Our Club member in the Air Ministry has certainly been correct lately with his forecasts, cold and unsettled.

* * *

We made a good start with our Summer ? fixture list on April 24th, in Battersea Park. The attendance was good and the racing interesting to the crowd.

* * *

We had two distinct styles of racing. The member who believes in getting fit early and picking up the proverbial worm and the brainy runner who wants the worm a little fatter before he attempts to annex it.

* * *

Owing to the industrial dispute we had to postpone our popular fixture with the Croydon, Epsom and Mitcham clubs. We hope to announce shortly the date of these races which will be held in Battersea Park.

* * *

We have to thank our old friend Mr. Joe Binks for a most enjoyable day on the Brighton Road on April 10th last. Summing up the "News of the World" Brighton Relay Race we did well, only one member failing to run up to form and we had to pay very dearly for his poor showing. On the other hand several runners found a little more and were quite prominent during the race.

Our first runner was Bruce by name, and emulating the historical personage he is named after ran in plucky vein.

We all know the fable of Bruce and the spider and our Bruce's legs resemble greatly the tentacles of that animal (?) They do cover the ground. Then came Harris, then our Novice Champion A. E. Smith, quite good, after him our little Jim took up the running. His effort was fine and I do hear he wants to run all the way next time. Hasler and Easton did their bit and then our Wally set his teeth, put his glasses straight and went after the leaders. Micky took over and judging by his face at Hickstead he was certainly trying to make up some lost ground. He handed over to our Bert of several names. I am afraid to put it in my notes in fear of the consequence should the printer spell it incorrectly. Herbert started his five miles stretch by jumping over two motor cars and was very glad to see the horizon on entering the last part of his relay. Ken was our last runner and although promised a hot sea water bath and a nice meat tea, all for nothing, he lost a place in the last relay.

After the race the runners sat down to tea as the guests of the "News of the World." The boys looked on with envy as the Birchfield runners were handed the gold soup plates (medals) and swore that nothing would stop them winning these prizes one year. Before presenting the cup Lord Riddell gave us quite a "TOUCHING" speech. The speech was so good that it gave me a lot to think about. On the

return journey our boys started a little card party inside the bus and remembering the speech I got outside. It was cold, but the 'touching' business inside was too warm for me.

* * *

The R.W.A. Championship has been postponed to a date yet to be fixed. It will now be a difficult matter to get our team together. I notice that some of the team are keeping in training and hope that their loyalty to the Club will be rewarded by another win for the Belgravians.

* * *

I would like to ask all the members to use their persuasive powers in endeavouring to find new members. We can do with a lot more. Also I should like to enlarge our honorary members list.

* * *

Time and the starter wait for no member and already our Social Sec. has booked up dates for our next season's dances.

* * *

A final word. Please assist the officials of the Club by handing in your fees with your entry forms. Thanks.

* * *

M. E. Odell achieved a meritorious "double" at Paddington on May 1st, by winning the 100 and 300 yards handicaps in fast times. These successes recall the Cambridge H. Good Friday Meeting of 1924 when he won the 100 off 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ in 9 $\frac{7}{10}$ secs and was subsequently narrowly beaten in the 300 final. Whilst it is early yet in the season it would appear that the Club's Grosvenor Cup is not going to find a new resting place for another year.

A few words will not be amiss on the R.W.A. Junior Walking Championship and the Surrey County Walk.

The former event, held at Bellingham on March 6th, found us in rather a bad way, for with two of our most promising "Juniors" absent it seemed that our chances were below the average, whereas seeing that we were second last year we should have been due for a "lift" in the placings. All things considered we did a little better than expected in being placed third with Woodford Green. The winners, Sheffield United Harriers, made a very good show and gained an easy victory.

The following shows the positions of our "A" team and the first home for the "B" team.

Pos.	Time
22	F. W. Thorn
26	S. A. Mannings
27	J. Rathbone
35	O. Horwood
43	J. B. Carne
52	C. H. Speechley
58	R. E. Wills
78	W. J. Fish (B)
79	V. J. Peacock
TEAM PLACINGS.	
1	Sheffield United H.
2	Surrey Walking Club
3	Belgrave H. (A)
	Woodford Green A.C.
	Pts.
	34
	63
	110
	110

The County Race failed to provide us with the opportunity of setting up that record of gaining both Cross Country and Road Walking Championships in the same year. In fact, it was a near thing that we held on to second position which has been our lot for the past 3 years. The redeeming features of the race were a good performance by R. D. McMullen who finished second, and the "come back" of W. J. Hawker to secure a place in the scoring four for the Club.

The Club entered our two 10 mile Champions in the A.A.A. Championships, held at Stamford Bridge on May 1st. R. D. McMullen did not compete owing to indisposition, but Bert turned out for the 10 mile run. I wish that the Editor could allow a little space in the Magazine for Snap-shots, as a photo of Bert's face would have been of some interest to the members. His facial expression was great when the Judges informed him that he had another lap to go when he expected the order to dismiss.

* * *

Here is the latest training news for the Surrey Championships.

L. C. Smith is doing well over hurdles and expects to go close for the 440 Championship. M. E. Odell hopes to find another yard in the 100 and may win. G. R. Dunckley is now in strong work and hopes to be placed. F. L. Buckingham is only doing light work. He may not start owing to teeth trouble and he is not finishing up his corn. K. B. O'Kell is expected to run in the mile now that the football season is over. Our strong man, G. H. Powell, is training hard for the Shot event and hurdles but laments that there is no javelin event. He guarantees to break more javelins than any other competitor. He hopes to be placed in the Long Jump.

All the distance walkers have been turned out to grass pending the new date for the National.

* * *

We have just heard from our

member A. G. Jones who migrated to Canada last March.

He has come to the conclusion that farming is not in his line and hopes to be with us again for next Season's Cross Country racing.

* * *

FELIX?

On Easter Monday, S. A. Manning might have been seen hurrying from Norwich to Ipswich, a distance of some 42 miles, intent only on arriving before any other of those who were competing in the Annual Walk of the Suffolk Road Walking Association for the T. E. Hammond Challenge Cup.

This was Manning's first attempt since his win of 1923 when setting up the existing record of 7 hours 1 minute. It may be recalled that the weather was like that of Summer and hot. In consequence of this and the retirement of his most dangerous antagonist at half distance Manning very wisely took matters easy and comfortable as possible and was content to stroll home the winner by some 18 minutes, in 7 hours 21 minutes 31 seconds.

Previous to this event he had set up a new record for the Felixstowe to Ipswich and back walk of 2 hours 53 minutes 20 seconds. This was nearly 15 minutes inside the previous best.

Both fine performances by a fine fellow who will pardon the heading suggested by the first half of one of his starting points.

HELP !!!

The Editor appreciates the fact that "The Gazette" might be more interesting and brighter in many ways. He finds, however, that old age, senile decay and more probably, general unsuitability for the work are not conducive to great improvement without help from outside.

Will then some budding Hugo, Voltaire, Dumas, Bottomley or Nat Gould show the way?

Efforts have been made previously to obtain literary contributions from Members, but without any great response. Surely some one will keep the ball rolling. You are not bound to foolscap paper, and only one side of the paper, whilst the Subject may be anything that is in any-way connected with the Club's activities.

Here then, are some tentative suggestions:—

What about a talk on "Style, and its relation to 9 minute miles in Walking," by A. H. East? or "The Relativity of 'Dog Yards' with the Sprinters even time," by C. Cook. "Stable Management and the correct placing of prospective winners," by G. F. Pepper. Even a "Recruiting Appeal for the London Irish," by A. D. Pyer, might be interesting and at the same time secure for him the sprinter he needs for "C" Company's Relay Team.

Who said "SHUN"?

* * *

We had with laudable optimism reserved one page of this issue for the list of Subscriptions to the "Gazette Fund." Unfortu-

nately owing to so many members anticipating the fact that we should be overwhelmed and in consequence withholding their portion we find that space is at a discount

Thanks are due to all those who have remitted for the various copies received and Specials to W. Griffin, 5/-; E. Gordon, 5/-; E. C. Rutter, 3/-; F. G. Thomson, 2/-; — Hayling, 2/-.

Further a sum of approximately £2 14s. will be realized by the sale of Scented Fixture Cards, thanks to the efforts of Miss M. L. Beales and Messrs. H. J. Coxhead, H. Evans, W. J. Fish, J. G. Flatt, H. E. Footer, H. Fearn, A. W. Godfrey, J. Harris, O. Horwood, M. E. Odell, C. J. Reid, R. W. Ricketts, W. Redgrave, L. C. Smith, A. Traquair.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Don't forget the Home County. On Saturday, June 5th, the Surrey County Track Championships will be held on the Cricket Club Ground, Guildford, at 3 p.m. Trains from Waterloo every 20 minutes. Cheap fare, 2/6 return. ROLL UP! ROLL UP!! ROLL UP!!!

Events—100, 220, 440, 880, 1 mile, 4 mile, 2 mile Walk, 120 Hurdles, 440 Hurdles, Long Jump, High Jump, Shot.

Entries may be handed to the Hon. Secretary.

NEXT CLUB MEETING at Battersea Park, Wednesday, June 23rd, at 7 p.m. Events—2 mile Running Handicap, 440 yards Handicap, 1 mile Relay, 2 mile Walk Handicap, 220 yards Veteran's Handicap, 75 yards Handicap.