

THE

MARCH 1973

# BELGRAVIAN



the official gazette of belgrave harriers •

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## WINNERS

- A.A.A. Sprint Relay Championship, 1954
- English C.C. Championship, 1935-39-46-48
- National Road Walking Championship, 20 Miles,  
1924-25-28-29-38-39-52-54-57-60-69-70
- National Road Walking Championship, 10 Miles,  
1947-48-57-58-59-60-63-70-71
- R.W.A. 50 Kilometres Championship,  
1934-35-36-38-51-56-57-58-60-61-64-66-67-68-69-70
- R.W.A. 20 Kilometres Championship, 1968-69
- Southern Counties C.C. Championship, 1934-46-48-49-52
- A.A.A. Junior Sprint Relay Championship, 1965
- Southern Counties Sprint Relay Championship, 1953-60
- Southern Counties Junior C.C. Championship, 1935
- R.W.A. Junior Championship, 1920-22-30-33-36-38-39
- Southern Garnet Cup Walk Championship, 1953-56-64-68-71
- R.W.A. 5 Miles Junior Championship, 1958
- National Road Relay Race, 1951
- London-Brighton Relay Race, 1934-35-36-47-48-49-51-52-63
- London-Brighton Walk Team Race,  
1921-24-27-29-32-34-37-50-54-56-57-58-61-62-65-67-68-69-70
- Southern Marathon Championship, 1955-58
- Southern 20 Miles Run Championship, 1969-70
- South of Thames C.C. Championship, 1929-36-46-48-49-51-55-64
- South of Thames Junior C.C. Race, 1925-28-46-47-50-66-69
- Southern Junior Sprint Relay, 1949-52-65
- "Sward" Field Events Trophy, 1956
- Surrey Cross Country League, 1966-67-68-69-70-71
- Surrey Junior Cross Country League, 1968-70
- 76 Surrey County Relay/Team Championships

# THE BELGRAVIAN

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## COMMENT

It is with great sorrow that we have to record the death of Alf. Harley, a man who worked tremendously hard for his Club and athletics in general and who in return was held by all who knew him in high regard. Whatever the event, Alf. Harley always seemed to be there and it is almost impossible to visualise Belgrave's future functions without his dignified presence. The tributes to him have been many and included in this gazette are personal memories of those who have worked alongside him for many years and those who knew him only comparatively recently, some in length and some extracts from letters. All make plain the fact that in the history of Belgrave Harriers there has never been a greater man and there probably never will be.

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# GRAPEVINE

● When ALF HARLEY departed from us in January it was requested that no flowers should be sent to his funeral. Donations instead were to go to the Mount Vernon Hospital where Alf spent his last days. Spontaneous contributions were received from all quarters of the Club and we were able to send a cheque for £38.00 to Mrs. Harley for forwarding to the hospital.

Alf's funeral was held on Monday 15th January at Brakespeare Crematorium, Ruislip - the same day as the funeral of our other Past President, SYD ROBERTS, which was held at St. Annes on Sea, Lancs.

Although the majority of mourners were at Ruislip - 90 attended - the thoughts of all Belgravians were also with Syd on that cold and wet January day; a black day indeed for Belgravians.

● Are the County championship events losing their appeal? This years Surrey Junior and Youth races at Morden Park certainly seem to indicate that things are not all they ought to be. In the Youth race only three teams managed to close in but the Junior race was even worse - not one complete team made it to the finishing funnel.

● The South of the Thames Senior cross country race was held on Wimbledon Common towards the end of January and it was good to see so many Bels out to help mark the course and act as pointsmen. Which ever way one turned, it seemed, familiar figures were there armed with flags to guide the 300 odd runners around the course.

● News from Delhi, where RANJIT BHATIA has been nominated a member of the A.A.F.I. Committee to prepare plans for the reorganisation of athletics in India. He has also managed to persuade the A.A.F.I. to send two men to compete in the 1973 Maxol Marathon and is in fact going to concentrate on the marathon himself this year.

● Even further afield, in Australia, MICK HARVEY (21, Mount Street, Coogee, N.S.W. 2034) and MARTIN ELLIOTT (13, Forest Way, French's Forest, N.S.W. 2086) both seem to be settling down to Sydney life. They live a mere half hours drive apart and who knows, this note may well encourage them to get together for a training session. Could we yet see an antipodean section of Belgrave being formed.

● "A shake up for Surrey athletics?" cried a headline in the "Surrey Comet" of February 3rd, and rumours of club amalgamations are in the news again, this time between Surrey A.C., Walton A.C. and Epsom & Ewell H. The article went on to say that this could result in Surrey's first (?) 'super-club' and that both Surrey and Walton are suffering from declining membership and saw amalgamation as a possible solution. Latest gossip, however, hints that Epsom & Ewell H., already 400 strong and doing well, are not really interested.

We await developments with great interest.

● At the last count, taken at the end of 1972, it was found that Belgrave Harriers had 453 members on the books, comprised of 327 seniors, 29 juniors, 15 youths, 48 boys and 34 honorary members. Let us hope that many of our swelling band of boys will stay with us through to senior status, strengthening our Junior and Youth Sections on the way.

● Although meeting on the sad occasion of Alf Harley's funeral, Jack Goswell was very pleased to see FRED RICKARDS looking so well and hearty and defying his 73 $\frac{1}{2}$  years.

They last met in the mid-50's when Jack looked after him and his pupil George Checkley in his last walk in Club colours (was it the Birmingham Outer Circle 25 miles or the Leicester Mercury 20 miles race) and Jack well remembers his belief in 'rice pudding'.

Fred joined the club in January 1924 and during the years 1924/39 he won the Police Barking to Southend Walk no fewer than eight times. His very distinguished career also included - 1930 Norwich to Ipswich 42 miles, 1st in 7:11:48; 1931 and 1933 Guildford Cup 50 kilos, 1st; member of winning team in the National 50 kilos 1934/5/6/8.

Fred moved from the Slough area some years ago and now lives at 19, Davids Avenue, Palm Bay, Cliftonville, Kent, and how well the sea air must suit him. He would be pleased to hear from his old friends and walkers, particularly from TOMMY GREEN a great friend of his. How about it Tommy? He did travel to Southampton some time ago to look you up but had the old address and was unsuccessful.

Tommy's address is believed to be 19, Consort Road, Eastleigh, Hants.

So Fred, pleased to see you again and trust you keep looking so fit and well, and hear again from your old friends.

● Another who wishes to be remembered to his old friends is ERNIE DUFFETT. He and his wife are now living at 42, Springfield Court, Church Village, Pontypridd, S.Wales and are thoroughly enjoying themselves down in West Wales. Ernie is the Secretary of the local Senior Citizens Club and hopes to hold that office for as long as he was Running Hon. Sec. for the Bels - 25 years! He passes on his best wishes and says that he is with us in spirit if not in person.

● The end of an athletic era draws to a close as ex-Belgravian SANDY LAW closes up his shoe making business to move to Eastbourne. For many years athletes have gone to Sandy's shop in Revelstoke Road, Wimbledon for a pair of hand made to measure running shoes, possibly his most famous customer being Roger Bannister, the first man to run a mile in under four minutes.

Un fortunately in today's world individual manufacturers like Sandy find it increasingly difficult to compete with the mass production of shoes by the giants of the sports shoe business.

● Former Belgrave quarter miler JOHN COPE, who helped us to many inter-club wins in the days of Harry Shields' track captaincy, was recently appointed Deputy Chief Industrial Relations Officer by the London Transport Executive.

● The ubiquitous WILF WESCH is now Manager of the Sport Hotel Adidas at 8522 Herzogenaurach, Beethovenstrasse 6, West Germany. The luxurious hotel is equipped with facilities for a real sportsman's holiday. Wilf and Anne hope to be visiting England again shortly but in the meantime extend a warm invitation to Belgravians who are promised "an extremely comfortable stay".

● Congratulations to CARL LAWTON and best wishes to BARBARA INKPEN on the occasion of their marriage on March 10th. Let us hope that being married to a Belgravian, and a real 'case' at that, will not affect Barbara's international career as a high jumper.

● More congratulations are due, this time to PETER WRENCH and his wife ANN. Ann has recently given birth to a daughter, their second child. Rumours that Peter is only doing so well at work because he named his son Robin after his boss Lord Rubens are quite untrue.

# ALFRED A. HARLEY

*Harry Shields writes:—*

When the Vicar who was to officiate at the cremation telephoned for some details and to ask what I considered Alf's greatest characteristics, my mind went to my schooldays in which we learnt extracts from the Bible, more particularly that piece which includes, "and the greatest of these is Charity".

In the new English Bible, in the First letter of Paul to the Corinthians, Chapter 13, I note this now reads:- "Love is patient; love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful, nor conceited, nor rude; never selfish or quick to take offence; does not gloat over other mens sins, but delights in the truth."

The other quotation which came to mind was:- "Life is made up, not of great sacrifices or duties, but of little things, in which smiles and kindness and small obligations given habitually, are what win the heart and secure comfort".

Those of us who were able to attend the funeral of this great "Belgravian" could not fail to be impressed with the splendid and thoughtful "Oration" given by the vicar outlining Alfred's career and many qualities.

His devotion to his Club, Belgrave Harriers.

Administrative qualities so thoroughly and competently carried out in the whole spectrum of athletics.

His outstanding career during the War years with the R.A.F. and the human understanding he displayed.

The high regard in which he was held by his firm and business colleagues and the esteem of other organisations to which he belonged.

Above all the love he had as a husband and father.

In the September 1970 edition of the "Belgravian", Clive Shippen wrote a splendid "Spotlight" to mark the end of Alfred Harley's second term as President of the Club in recognition of his 26 years as Secretary and 44 years of service to the Club. Those members who read this "Spotlight" cannot fail to have been inspired by the unique qualities it portrayed and that the "Epitaph" of his passing must surely be "It is well finished".

Looking round at the large number who paid homage at his funeral, there were many from Athletic Bodies, from his firm and other organisations in which he held high office, but it was clear that first and foremost he was 100% Belgravian, in its full sense with no sectional bias.

There were many whose presence I missed, but knew they had written wonderful letters to Alf's wife and family.

The regard with which the Club is held by his family is only second to that held by Alf himself, and I have been asked to express their deep thanks for the support and many kindnesses they received during his illness.

All age groups of the Club were represented but I especially noticed those from Alf's earlier days, in the 1930's, Ken O'Kell, Bill and Frank Webb, Tom Carter, Tom Morrell, Albert Shaw, Tom Cotton, Tommy Scrimshaw and many others. I wondered at the thoughts going through their minds and how Alf would have loved to be there, shake their hands and have thoughts similar to my own.

## A. A. Harley

Tom Cotton, who, in the pouring rain at Shepperton camp, gave an exposition lasting many hours warning us younger members of the wiles and wickedness of women.

Ken O'Kell for his enormous enthusiasm in introducing new members.

Frank and Bill Webb for their comradeship on those wonderful all day strolls over Rammore and Leith Hill, with Frank no matter what the weather, emerging debonair as ever.

Tommy Scrimshaw for his outstanding athletic career and tussles with the great Tommy Hampson at Stamford Bridge.

To each and everyone, Alf's memories would be of the great times we had and the pleasure from each others company, the arguments we had and above all the enormous team spirit for the Club to succeed.

For myself the outstanding memories of Alf are peace. Sitting on the banks of the river Fal, listening to the lap of the waves, watching the sunset, waiting for the Ferry to take us to the other side.

Resting on Rinsey Head, near an old Cornish Tin Mine, in beautiful autumnal warmth and sunshine, watching the sea-gulls and shag-greens on the rocks, enjoying the colour of the heather and bracken and, except for the noise of the sea and birds, complete quietness and solitude.

I am sure these reflect the qualities deep inside Alf, the love of comradeship, beauty and serenity.

His passing will leave a large gap in many of our lives and his memory will always be with us.

An influence, impossible to evaluate, is how he helped to develop many of our lives. He was educated at the Upper Latymer School, Hammersmith when many of us had to leave school at 14 years to find our way through life.

His inspiration was the first experience many of us had to carry out administrative duties and service to our fellows.

Much of any success we may have later achieved emanates from his example.

As well as I knew Alf it was not until his funeral that I learnt he was a "Freeman of the City of London". Such was his humility.

It all brings to mind that lovely song:- "If I can help somebody as I pass along then my living will not be in vain".

Our deepest condolences go to his wife and family and we thank the Supreme Being for the opportunity of enjoying his comradeship and the benefit of his talents.

When I turned up at our old mid-week training headquarters, the "Rising Sun", Ebury Bridge Road, in the thirties I was greeted by a tall red-headed fellow and welcomed to the Club. Thus began a friendship which was sadly ended by the death of Alf. Harley. Alf believed that amateur sport played a part in our lives, his chosen sport was athletics, and the club of his choice - Belgrave. Not only was he an active athlete, first as a runner then as a walker but he was also Walking Hon. Sec., Hon. Editor of the "Belgravian" and on the Committee. He was obviously a man of great administrative and organising talents and these were unstintingly given both to Belgrave and other athletic organisations.

He had a deep admiration for what people like Bob Ricketts, Jimmy Belchamber, Oscar Horwood and many others had done to make Belgrave Harriers one of the strongest clubs in the country. Not only were our teams bringing championship honours to the Club but our administration

## A. A. Harley

and organisation were on a sound basis. He threw himself wholeheartedly into anything associated with the Club - a Social or Dance would find him there, if a few banded together to go to a "show" in town there he was. He was a great believer in the all-day Sunday stroll and was one of the regulars of a group of Belgravians who would tramp many miles over tough country in the Home Counties. These strolls sometimes extended into week-ends at youth hostels, indeed many of his holidays were spent with a Belgrave party.

Expressing his ideas and thoughts came easily to him whether written or spoken, one of his favourite topics being the future well being of the Club. We know that his views were sincerely held, and he in turn always respected other peoples views.

The Second World War saw the majority of members doing some form of National Service and Alf joined the R.A.F. where his administrative gifts were put to good use. He rose to the rank of Squadron Leader. He maintained close touch with the Club by corresponding with those at home and when the war was over he was soon back in his job of General Hon. Secretary. In due course he was honoured by being elected an Hon. Life Member, a Vice-President then President. His election as President for a second term of office is unique in Club history. It must have been one of his proudest moments when as President for the second time Alf and his wife Nancy greeted members and guests at the 1970 Annual Dinner.

He was on many committees right up to the top levels of athletic administration and thus he had an unrivalled knowledge of both athletes and clubs, and his opinions on Committee were always closely listened to. When he retired from active participation he would invariably be found judging or doing some other important job. In fact we can say that for many years no Belgrave event or committee meeting would be complete without him. He was known to many as Mr. Belgrave.

On a personal plane he was universally liked, a word for everybody, a laugh, a joke, or, if needed, a word of sympathy when the occasion arose. He was a representative of a large firm of printers and travelled a good deal and picked up a wide knowledge of all sorts of subjects and could hold his own in conversation whatever the topic. By encouraging others he played a large part in the Happy Club we are proud to be members of. Let us hope that the work and enthusiasm of Alf Harley will be as much an inspiration to others as was the inspiration of those whose example Alf so faithfully admired and followed.

There are many who feel that they have not only lost a fellow Belgravian but also a warm and loyal friend who radiated sincerity and good fellowship.

*Gordon S. Doubleday*

Many words will have been spoken and perhaps many written more eloquently than my written respects towards Alf Harley.

I first met Alf in the winter of 1935 and was, as a young man, deeply impressed by his desires and sound reasoning on behalf of Belgrave Harriers. Having been on many holidays with Alf, walking over many parts of England, I feel that I got to know him well. To listen to his reasoning and wisdom made me realise what a great Club personality we had. A person with a gentle but strong approach to various subjects, his wonderful ability to calm slightly heated discussions and to guide committees upon a good path to decisions, his democratic insistence that even the newest or the youngest should be allowed to air their views, made him into one of the Great Belgravians.

I am proud to be able to say with many more, "I knew Alf Harley".

*Frank Simmons*

## A. A. Harley

It is particularly difficult to realise that Alf Harley is no longer with us in Belgrave. He was a veritable embodiment of all that the Club represented and stood for and his untimely death has left us with a gaping wound which will be difficult to plug.

My first experience of Alf in action came when I was elected to the Belgrave Committee in September 1966. I had written to him a few months previously on a matter of club finance and although I was probably unknown to him at that time he had replied with his customary courtesy and in great detail. It seemed to me that no matter was too trivial to engage his interest. At that time, he suggested that I should stand for election to the Committee at the following A.G.M.

I was immediately impressed by his confident handling of Committee Meetings, not to mention General Meetings. What is more, he had a tremendous memory and a passion for detail that none could surpass. I never remember seeing him flustered at any time and the greater the odds against him the greater his confidence.

You may recall that I was bold enough to volunteer to succeed Alf as General Hon. Secretary in September 1970. After all, it seemed to be all so easy with Alf in the hot seat. I was soon to find out that it was by no means as easy as I had imagined but my transitional year was greatly assisted by Alf's second spell of presidential duty. He was always willing to give a helping hand and I can well remember his "little notes", which served to remind me of club business I might otherwise have missed. Needless to say, the notes sometimes amounted to four or five pages.

Given Alf's immense breadth of knowledge on all facets of amateur athletics, it might be supposed that he was unapproachable but nothing could be further from the truth. He was always only too pleased to sort out a point of legal or administrative detail and to assist a less experienced colleague who might otherwise have given way to panic. Even after he had retired from the Committee "top table", which he had occupied for some thirty-odd years, he was to be seen at Committee and Club athletic meetings through thick and thin and I cannot remember having seen him absent from two in succession.

I consider it a great privilege to have served the Club at the same time as a man of Alf's calibre. I feel we shall not see his like again but Belgrave will be able to take advantage of the tremendous volume of work he put in for the Club.

*Peter Hilliar*

"..... Although not being one of his closer friends I have always respected him and felt he was a great part of Belgrave. It seems so tragic that many other members cannot use our Club as something a little more than just an athletic club....."

Bob Glover

"..... I well remember Alf and myself kicking about with a rolled up paper ball on the wharf down at Tower Hill during our lunch hour in the City. My deepest sympathy to his wife and family....." Ernie Duffett

"..... He was the man who rekindled my interest in the Club after the war and during the last fourteen years that I have been coming home regularly, Alfred was one of the first people I contacted upon my arrival in London. We would have a drink and lunch together and he would bring me up to date on the doings of the Club. His passing has left a void I will find hard to fill....."

Edmund P. Donovan O.B.E.

## A. A. Harley

"..... There is no doubt that of all Belgravians he has been truly "the greatest". I easily recall his first introduction to the Club and the early days and meetings in his company. His intense interest, from the very beginning, to all its activities, indicated to me that he would make great strides towards an administrative career.

There is so very little that I could add to what has been expressed, so well, by so many, of his sterling qualities. " Harry Hare

"..... Alf was one of the first people I got to know at Belgrave Hall in 1957 and I am sure his loss will be really felt in athletic circles this winter. He was typical of the stalwarts behind the club athletics set-up in England who, through their quiet and dedicated approach manage to keep athletics going....." Ranjit Bhatia

"..... After a Belgrave dinner to which he had invited me a few years ago, I referred to "Lord Harley of Belgrave Hall, raised to the peerage for his services to athletics". Of course that was said in the fun of an after-dinner speech but I meant the sentiment and still do...."

Ron Goodman  
Gen. Committee Chairman A.A.A.

If you can walk with Kings  
and yet keep the common touch  
Rudyard Kipling.

As we go through life we meet many varied types of people. Some come into our orbit and pass without any apparent effect upon us. Others with some special quality have a much greater influence. It is not always possible to analyse what these qualities are but we all recognise them when we are in the presence of someone who has them, and we listen carefully to what they may have to say, knowing it will be of value.

Such a person was Alf Harley.

Watching Alf at work on committee or indeed at any other time we learnt a tremendous amount about how to conduct our affairs and at the same time glean much about human relationships. Alf was a living symbol of the democratic way of life. In my work with young people it is my earnest hope that what I have learnt from him, I can in some way pass on to them and like the proverbial stone in the pond, the reverberations will go on and on, perhaps the best memorial of all.

*Reg Hopkins*

Ball point pens bearing our club name are being purchased for resale at a moderate profit and to advertise ourselves to all. Buy one when you get the chance.

# WALKING

An 80% success was the result of the Open '7's with wins in the Luton, Belgrave, Cambridge and Met. Police races. Our only unfortunate error was in the Enfield but we still managed third. All this was achieved without any individual win and purely on team effort. Our highest placing came from Carl Lawton with third in the 'Cambridge'. Len Duquemin, John Moullin and Ray Middleton together with Carl were our ever consistent team despite an attempt by Allan Callow to split things in the 'Cambridge'.

Other consistent performances during the winter came from John Hall and Tom Cook. John for his consistent appearance and Tom for his consistent non-appearance. John progressed erratically and it was not until January that he began to smell 56 minutes. Since then he has meandered rather but if more time could be spent in races concentrating, he would improve beyond recognition.

Martin Bennett was another to star midfield with some excellent performances being thrown in. His best efforts were generally produced when he arrived late for race. Changing behind the fence at Imber Court and running down Enfield High Street at 2.26pm to mention just two.

John Dunsford had his days as did Dave McMullen, in between his complaints about his performances, despite his gold G.L.C. medal. Ray Hall began to regain his fitness but a stomach virus put paid to that. Len Evans, now prominent in Belgrave colours, showed that he could be reliable as one of our reserves in the summer season.

Bernard Eglinton made the long trip down from North Wales for the Belgrave Open '7'. Bob Picton showed just a little of what he could so easily be capable of in the Met. Police '7' and Bob Carter and Doug. Potheringham were generally oblivious but present.

John Bromley went into hospital for an operation in January and is now on the road to recovery and full fitness one hopes. There is still life in the old dog yet, especially with those veteran's prizes looming.

Johnny Morris and John Keown could not decide as to which of them was the most unfit.

The appearance of Eric Stroud could bring a bit of depth to our long distance side as could Paul Wiltshire to our sprint team. Pat Duncan did manage to put on a set of gear and compete in club races although questions were asked as to who the friend was under his shirt.

Welcome appearances were made by Percy Wilson and John Johnson, both of whom have suffered serious problems during 1972.

As to what the summer will bring in the way of results, we will wait and see, but with the Bels team still looking strong and with some promise in depth, we should be able to carry on the normal pattern. Since October we have had nobody disqualified which is especially promising with the new walking definition to be brought in to being at the end of August or thereabouts.

*Carl Lawton*

# Narrow win in Cambridge 'Open'

## DECEMBER 9th - CAMBRIDGE HARRIERS OPEN 7 MILES - BEXLEY.

A cool but dry day, which made a change from recent weather, was prevalent for the Cambridge Open. The competitors were already lining up to start as Ray Middleton casually made his appearance in his car, horn blowing furiously. Fortunately, due to the Bels efficiency, he was ready to start with the others in under two minutes.

Carl Lawton surprised all by making a sprint start and actually led for a mile before slipping back to 4th. Shaun Lightman took the lead after 3 miles and was never headed whilst Carl retook Amos Seddon for 3rd. Leicester packed their first three in nine but we powered in by one point with our usual scoring four despite the return of Allan Callow, and Ray Middleton leaving the road at one time to water the flowers. John Hall walked as though he was dragging his feet or had forgotten to take off his Fell boots. He was almost caught by Dave McMullen and Ray Hall. Bob Picton it seems is getting less fat and more fit, maybe he is aiming to do well in the 'Garnet'.

1. S.Lightman(Met. W.C.).....	51:37	31. J.Hall .....	59:05
2. M.Tolley (Leics.).....	52:04	35. D.McMullen .....	59:34
3. C.Lawton (BELGRAVE H).....	52:25	36. R.Hall .....	59:50
10. J.Moullin .....	54:47	58. R.Picton .....	63:10
11. L.Duquemin .....	55:01	70. D.Fotheringham .....	64:47
17. R.Middleton .....	55:56	79. R.Carter .....	65:40
21. A.Callow .....	56:45		

Team: 1. BELGRAVE H 34pts; 2. Leics.W.C. 35pts; 3. Camb.H.

Over at Wembley on the same day, John Dunsford finished 5th in the London Business Houses 7 miles championship in 58 minutes 35 seconds.

## DECEMBER 16th - MET. W.C. 15 Km CHAMPIONSHIP - BATTERSEA PARK.

With an open team match in conjunction, we turned out six walkers for this race. Shaun Lightman led from start from finish with Carl Lawton similarly holding 2nd place.

1. S.Lightman (Met.W.C.).....	68:48	9. R.Hall .....	80:16
2. C.Lawton (BELGRAVE H).....	73:36	10. J.Dunsford .....	80:34
3. J.Godber (Camb. H).....	73:49	11. R.McMullen .....	81:45
7. L.Evans (BELGRAVE H) .....	79:06	16. R.Picton .....	85:20

Team: 1. Metropolitan W.C.

## DECEMBER 26th - BOXING DAY HANDICAP MEETING - BATTERSEA PARK.

A mammoth turnout for the Boxing Day meeting unbeknown for many years was seen at 11pm on a pleasant but chilly morning. Twelve walkers lined up to battle amongst themselves and the Christmas spirit and all but one got away on schedule. Odd man out was John Moullin who was discovered hiding in the changing rooms. Cecil Gittins was first away followed by a stream of strollers all complaining that they had been badly handicapped. Last away was Carl Lawton who definitely had been 'done'. After the stipulated 3 miles, John Hall was first over the line, just pipping Jonathon Dunsford to the post. Third, not far behind would have been Carl Lawton but he still had a lap to go. However, this position went to Stuart Bennett with the rest of the field strung out over a lap. John Dunsford was sweeper up.

1. J.Hall.....	23:15	7. R.C.Hall .....	24:56
2. J.L.Dunsford .....	27:44	8. L.Evans .....	24:21
3. S.Bennett .....	28:11	9. J.Moullin .....	23:39
4. C.Gittins .....	29:12	10. L.Duquemin .....	23:06
5. M.Bennett .....	25:13	11. C.Lawton .....	23:18
6. R.D.McMullen .....	24:34	12. J.Dunsford .....	25:58



Left: Bob Carter.



Right: Len Evans.

Photo's by Charlie MacLennan

☆☆☆

## NOMADS OPEN '10'

JANUARY 6th 1973 - REDDITCH.

An unfortunate technical fault rules out the possibility of Belgrave competing as a team in the Nomads '10' at Redditch. However, our lads turned out bravely on a cold day. The course which is rather flat was slippery and muddy in parts due to its location around an industrial site.

Tolley and Court took an initial lead, opening up quite a gap but Court later managed to make a break to win comfortably. Len Duquemin and John Moullin were up in the thick of it in the first six for the whole race and at five miles Smallwood was disqualified leaving three Bels in six. With a mile to go Carl Lawton began to come into the picture and from his 6th place, gallantly won after losing valuable time at the start due to a road side conference, he moved through to 2nd by the finish, passing Adams in the last 200 metres. Ray Middleton was our 4th man but to no avail, despite having a clear points victory over Leicester.

- |                                |                                 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. R.Court .....(Nomads) 74:24 | 5. L.Duquemin .....(BELS) 76:23 |
| 2. C.Lawton .....(BELS) 76:08  | 6. J.Moullin ..... 76:58        |
| 3. B.Adams .....(Leics) 76:14  | 12. R.Middleton ..... 79:28     |

Unofficial Team result: 1. BELGRAVE H 25 pts; 2. Leicester 42 pts

# LEICESTER BEATEN AGAIN IN POLICE '7'

JANUARY 13th 1973 - IMBER COURT.

Two hundred and four starters lined up to compete in the Met. Police Open. Slightly fewer finished - apparently even less than should have done. A battle evolved between five competitors; Flynn, Lightman, Tolley, Court and Lawton. This group later split, with Flynn and Lightman breaking away to finish in that order. Court strutted in 3rd with Tolley and Lawton just behind. Positions of the previous week were reversed with John Moullin getting the verdict over Len Duquemin. Novice Ray Middleton finished well down the field but despite this setback we were still able to take the team by two points. As per usual it was a fast race, enabling John Hall to come in exactly on 56 minutes. Dave "I'll never break the hour again" McMullen only had 2 minutes 44 seconds to spare and Len Evans, Martin Bennett and John Dunsford also were under the hour. In 96th position was former Belgravian, now resident in Australia, G. Townsend, taking a brief holiday over here.

1. O. Flynn .....	(BAS)	50:07	53. R. McMullen .....	57:16
2. S. Lightman .....	(MWC)	50:24	55. L. Evans .....	57:34
3. R. Court .....	(NOM)	50:59	63. H. Bennett .....	58:15
5. C. Lawton .....	(BEL)	51:43	79. J. Dunsford .....	59:23
12. J. Moullin .....		52:55	107. R. Picton .....	61:53
13. L. Duquemin .....		52:58	144. R. Carter .....	65:52
20. R. Middleton .....		54:14	147. J. Keown .....	66:08
38. J. Hall .....		56:00	157. J. Morris .....	67:24

Team:- 1. BELGRAVE H. 50pts; 2. Leicester W.C. 52pts; 3. Enfield 67pts.

## Harry Churcher's Medals

The Club have been pleased to accept the kind offer of Mrs. Churcher of the late Harry Churcher's medals and have agreed to hold them in trust during her life time, after which they will become the property of the Club.

After collecting the medals one Saturday afternoon, I spent the rest of that evening and the following day collating and putting them together into their various club categories. Harry's great career was spotlighted in a previous 'Belgravian' but one realises more the length and greatness of this career when dealing with these medals.

Space does not permit a full length copy of the list but they start with a 1931 Belgrave H. Junior Walk Championship 1st gold medal and move through the years to a 1933 A.A.A. 2 miles on to a total of ELEVEN A.A.A. championship medals up to 1951, 31 Surrey County A.A. medals 1933/52, 12 Counties Athletic Union medals 1935/1951, 14 Southern C.A.A.A. medals 1933/1952, 8 L.B.H.S.A. medals 1937/1952 - all over 2, 7 or 10 miles, also 20 Belgrave H. "Junior", 2 and 10 miles championship medals 1931/1952 11 Polytechnic H "Kinnaird" team and individual medals 1938/1951, even 1 Surrey Walking Club medal.

This gives some idea of the scope of his career, the total being 13 gold plus 4 almost certain gold, 52 silver and the rest various metals bringing a total of 133 medals.

There was one puzzle I could not solve, One medal, not engraved, almost certainly gold and with a coat of arms and the motto "SINE LABEDECUS". I believe it is a medal from another country. Any ideas?

As one realises this collection is rather valuable and the Committee are now deciding how best to use them. They must be taken care of and preserved as a memento of a great athlete and Belgravian.

*Jack Gorwell*

# LAWTON WINS 'MURPHY SHIELD'

JANUARY 20th 1973 - WIMBLEDON - BELGRAVE 10 MILE CHAMPIONSHIP.

A tough battle was prevalent throughout this race with an early breakaway group of Lawton, Duquemin, Moullin and Callow, although Allan Callow fell of the back on the first laborious lap around the hills. The remaining three battled on with the lead being shared at intervals. Carl Lawton, on the second lap, began to fade but held on up the hills. On the last lap Len Duquemin took the lead on the downward section but could not hold on during the last climb and thus it was Moullin and Lawton who passed the church together. Nearing the Common Lawton managed to make a getaway and held on to his lead to the finish. Further back Middleton was walking his early season "quiet" one and John Hall was turning in another personal best.

1. C.Lawton.....	76:17	9. R.McMullen.....	85:38
2. J.Moullin.....	76:27	10. J.Duckett.....	90:16
3. L.Duquemin.....	76:34	11. E.Stroud.....	91:54
4. A.Callow.....	77:58	12. D.Fotheringham.....	91:56
5. R.Middleton.....	78:50	13. J.Keown.....	96:36
6. J.Hall.....	80:43	14. P.Duncan.....	97:12
7. J.Dunsford.....	82:15	15. C.Gittens.....	102:35
8. L.Evans.....	85:16		

Handicap Result: 1. J.Dunsford 72:45

Match v Metropolitan Police held in conjunction:

1. BELGRAVE H. 67pts; 2. Metropolitan Police 143pts.

## JUNIOR '5' GOES TO MARTIN BENNETT

BELGRAVE JUNIOR 5 MILE CHAMPIONSHIP.

This race was held in conjunction with the Senior event and the Junior contenders for the "Tommy Green Olympic Cup" matched strides for five miles with their elders. As has been the case over recent months, Martin Bennett held his own fairly comfortably. He was, however, a little worried by newly signed Paul Wiltshire but still managed to win clearly. Bob Carter was 3rd ahead of last year's winner Bob Whitehead. 5th and 6th positions were filled by the youngsters of the Club Jonathon Dunsford and Stuart Bennett who were told to race between themselves and not against the others. Apparently they did this to start with but found themselves passing others on the way round the Common. They finished together completing a time well inside "six in the hour" schedule. These two lads if carefully nurtured could bring great reward for themselves in a few years time.

1. M.Bennett.....	41:20	4. R.Whitehead.....	46:15
2. P.Wiltshire.....	42:24	5. S.Bennett.....	48:41
3. R.Carter.....	45:39	6. J.Dunsford.....	48:41

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## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR SUBS?

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photo's by Charlie MacLennan

☆☆☆

## Depleted Team in Garnet '10'

FEBRUARY 3rd 1973 - BEXLEY, KENT.

With John Bromley in hospital and John Dunsford losing his qualification for this race, last year's team was sorely depleted and the resultant performance was below our normal standard. John Hall was with the leading pack for the first four miles despite a heavy cold, and he gallantly held on for 7th position with the race being won by K.Emsley of Steyning. Bob Picton was our second man home with Doug Fotheringham and Eric Stroud, in only his second race for the Club, behind him.

1. K.Emsley .... (Steyning)	77:59	42. R.Picton .....	90:25
2. P.LeBas .....(So'ton)	78:26	54. D.Fotheringham .....	92:35
3. P.Hodgkinson ....(Cams)	78:48	60. E.Stroud .....	94:22
7. J.Hall .....(BELGRAVE)	81:29		

Team:- 1. Surrey 59 pts; 2. Camb. H. 71 pts; 3. Woodford Green 85 pts;  
7. BELGRAVE HARRIERS 152 pts.

**G. L. C. '70'**FEBRUARY 10th 1973 - BATTERSEA PARK.

This race, on paper, was much more promising than the "Garnet" had looked. If all went well Belgrave would have no difficulty in winning back the team trophy. In a field of ninety a leading bunch of four broke away leaving Lawton in 6th position with Ray Middleton and John Hall backing up. Four laps gone and Carl Lawton, who was by no means walking up to his usual standard, began to suffer but held on to his 6th. Ray Middleton came in 10th followed by John Hall with Dave McMullen (dare we say a sprightly 52) being 4th man to bring home the team to a comfortable win. John Dunsford was not quite as fit as he has been and could not catch McMullen over the closing stages. Paul Wiltshire put up a distinguished time and to quote one of the judges, "could be very good if he will get his arms right". Doug Fotheringham for the second week led home Eric Stroud, although Eric was walking better than his "Garnet" performance.

1. R.Dobson .....(Basildon)	73:47	23. R.McMullen .....	84:53
2. J.Webb .....(Basildon)	74:24	25. J.Dunsford .....	85:14
3. S.Lightman .....(Met.WC)	75:46	32. P.Wiltshire .....	87:29
6. C.Lawton .....(BELGRAVE)	77:40	43. D.Fotheringham .....	91:07
10. R.Middleton .....	78:49	45. E.Stroud .....	91:51
15. J.Hall .....	80:32		

Team:- 1. BELGRAVE H. ; 2. Surrey W.C. ; 3. Enfield.

***A 5th consecutive win in Basingstoke 'pot-hunt'***FEBRUARY 17th 1973 - BASINGSTOKE OPEN '10'.

A change in the weather brought warm sun to the road upon which Belgrave were to repeat their annual pot hunting session.

From the start Roy Court went to the front and stayed there over the tough undulating course to win in a record time. Carl Lawton, performing much better than during his G.L.C. turn-out the previous week, also finished inside the old record. John Moullin and Len Duquemin were close to Carl on the turn at 5 miles and held on to finish in that order. Steyning were allowed some thoughts of high placings for eight miles with Ray Middleton sitting back but then he powered through to 5th place. John Hall walked a rather sleepy sort of race and never got going but John Dunsford delighted in turning the tables on Dave McMullen again. Ray Hall, not too fit at the moment, was our 8th man.

1. R.Court .....(Nomads)	73:38	13. J.Hall .....	81:59
2. C.Lawton ....(BELGRAVE)	75:09	18. J.Dunsford .....	84:29
3. J.Moullin .....	76:23	22. R.McMullen .....	85:35
4. L.Duquemin .....	76:45	28. R.Hall .....	87:26
5. R.Middleton .....	78:55		

Team:- 1. BELGRAVE H. 10 pts; 2. Steyning 28 pts; 3. Enfield 49 pts.

Meanwhile over at Croydon, Allan Callow was finishing 3rd behind Paul Nihill in a 20 kilo's race.

1. P.Nihill (Surrey) 96:51; 2. P.Selby (Surrey) 97:17; 3. A.Callow 101:09

**LOOK!**

At the foot of page 45 if you are under 15 yrs.

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## County Roundup

### COUNTY 10 MILE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

#### HAMPSHIRE.

Len Duquemin turned in a stormer in the Hampshire '10'to win convincingly and beat John Moullin into the bargain. Held on the usual short downhill course, Len won in a sub 75 minute clocking.

1. L.Duquemin (BELGRAVE) 74:31; 2.J.Moullin (BELGRAVE) 75:47

#### SURREY.

Meanwhile, over on the steep hills of Croydon in the over distance Surrey '10', Carl Lawton was on to a hat-trick. He won by a minute from Peter Selby who had beaten him by two minutes at Battersea two weeks earlier. Ray Middleton failed to make the start due to his car breaking down north of Croydon. Belgrave just failed to retain the team title by a mere point. Dave McMullen and Ray Hall walked their way back into the county team and Eric Stroud turned in a commendable performance on the tough course. Morris and Keown fought a tough battle and finished in a dead heap, sorry, heat.

1. C.Lawton ....(BELGRAVE) 76:56	6. R.Hall ..... 87:03
2. P.Selby ....(Surrey WC) 77:57	11. E.Stroud ..... 92:41
3. D.Kellie .....(Camb) 83:58	14. J.Morris .....100:57
5. R.McMullen ..(BELGRAVE) 86:41	15. J.Keown .....100:57

Team:- 1. BELGRAVE H. 19 pts;

Team:- 1. Surrey W.C. 19 pts; 2. BELGRAVE H. 20 pts.

#### MIDDLESEX.

This was to have been held at Enfield but walkers arrived to find that the school to be used as changing rooms was well and truly locked. Hence no race was held.

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# CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

## JULY 7th

# HURLINGHAM PARK

# GRAND REUNION



At the Veteran's Dinner and Dance recently a grand reunion of the Belgrave Mile Medley Relay Team of 40 years ago took place.

Left to right.

DICKIE LAW (220y). Aged 59, retired Sub-Chief of Bournemouth Fire Brigade, now Fire Consultant to Ministry of Works. Ex-President of Bournemouth AC.

JACK WILLIAMS (220y). Aged 62, civil servant, took up Veteran Running after a 32 year rest. British (over 60) sprint champion 1971 and 1972 and double gold medallist in the over 60 sprints at both the Veteran Internationals at Crystal Palace and Cologne last year.

ERNIE JARVIS (440y). Aged 67, retired publican, probably the fastest man "out of the holes" in the late 1920's.

TOMMY SCRIMSHAW (880y). Aged 62, ex-international who ran so many times for Great Britain with the great Tommy Hampson, gold medallist at the 1932 Olympic Games.

Jack last saw Dickie a few days after he had joined the Bournemouth Fire Brigade and then didn't see him again until he had retired. The other chaps hadn't seen each other in 40 years. To mark the reunion they presented their old club mate CHARLIE SPEECHLEY with a plaque in admiration of his courage and sportsmanship.

# the silly page



SILLY LADY

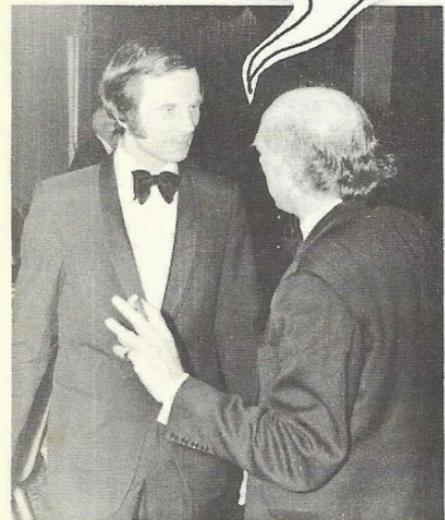
## SILLY STORY

...WHAT WE USED TO DO IN MY DAY...

SILLY MAN-REMEMBER? THEY ALSO LAUGHED AT HITLER-

AN EDITOR

A MRS EDITOR



IT WAS ERRONEOUSLY STATED THAT THIS WAS AN OUT-OF-WORK MUSICIAN TRYING TO GET A JOB WITH ANDRE PREVIN



I SUPPOSE I'D BETTER SMILE OR WITH MY LOOKS THEY'LL NEVER PRINT IT...

WHY DOESN'T THAT SILLY PHOTOGRAPHER DANCE WITH HIS WIFE...





SILLY CLUB  
H.H.H.

VERY SILLY CLUB  
HERC. WIM.

OOOH! MY GIRDLES  
KILLING ME



"WHAT'S A NICE  
BOY LIKE YOU  
DOING IN A  
PLACE LIKE  
THIS?"



P.S. SORRY ABOUT THIS BEING  
ON THE SILLY PAGE - IT  
SHOULD BE ON THE  
NAUGHTY PAGE

P.P.S. EEEEEERRRRR - I'VE FORGOT

P.P.P.S. NO I HAVEN'T - ARE THEY  
CANONIZING STOCKBROOKER  
NOW?

FOR SALE: Parrot, Likes children but will make do with cuttlefish and a bit of grass seed. Write: Box16283907576765492019867493776542217716

SEND NO MONEY to the Extremely Poor Society.

GOING AWAY THIS YEAR? Be sure to let us know - Ken and Alfie Stoot, Box 813, Block A.

NEW MEMBERS urgently required for suicide club, Watford area.

WELSHMAN will exchange 1927 mint condition bronze halfpenny for one exactly the same. Pointless Swaps Ltd., Swansea.

# ROAD AND COUNTRY

At the time of writing, with the 'National' the only cross country race left to go, one cannot actually look back and say that our record this season has been in any way impressive, having just lost the North Surrey League for the first time in seven years. True it was lost by only 13 points and it's very easy to explain it away by theorising as to what we could have done if other people had turned out, etc. But lost it was, through our inability to concentrate our efforts in the races that matter. This is surely the reason for many of our failures. Take the pathetic turn out in the Surrey Championship, only six runners from a club of over 450 members; or how about only nine runners instead of the permissible twelve in the Southern as a further example.



Is it too unreasonable to assume that anyone joining an athletic club and who has taken the trouble to train 50, 60, 70 or more miles per week would also wish to compete? Is it also too unreasonable to assume that those who are good enough to have been entered, and then subsequently picked to represent their club in the major events should take some pride in turning out? Apparently not, from some of the excuses and 'reasons' one is expected to believe. Now it's fully appreciated that everyone goes down with colds, 'flu and injuries from time to time but some of the recoveries from indispositions that strike after a training session on Thursday or Friday and then are cleared up by Sunday morning are truly remarkable.

Support for the teams is always welcome but to have members who have been picked to run, and are quite capable of competing, tearing round the course training and cheering on a depleted team is not going to endear them to anyone.

We are often told that the average age of our leading teams is high and although much improved of late, this is still basically true. However, it would be nice to think that in future some of these years of experience and wisdom could be put to good effect and that members will realise that no one is asked or expected to race every week but that we do expect a maximum team effort on the occasions that matter and that those concerned should realise which are the occasions that matter without having to be told, and gear their training accordingly.

It should not be assumed by the way, that any or all of the above remarks are being directed solely at our 'A' team runners, as a check on our record of percentage turnout (and wasted team fees) in races such as the South of the Thames Junior, etc., will show that our efforts have been far to slack at all levels.

Our past achievements and tradition has made Belgrave great but we cannot live on in the past and as soon as everyone realises that our future successes and trophies will only come by winning them and that we are not going to be given them by some Divine right, then the better for all.

Let's hope the coming road and relay season proves the point.

*Gordon Biscoe*

# Phelan Finishes First

DECEMBER 2nd 1972 - 7½ MILE CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP - WIMBLEDON.

It was a day for the lightly built men. Torrents of rain during the preceding week had turned the stretches of our course that follow the horse rides into a glutinous morass, and Bob Smith, who had been going like a rocket in the weeks leading up to the race and who was tipped by many as the next holder of the 'Blackstaffe Shield', had to give best to his more wiry rivals.

Revering in the conditions was John Phelan who grabbed a handy lead early on and at no time looked like losing it.

That handicappers nightmare, Doug Maughan, pulled another fast one and must now have ruined his chances of picking up further "pots" in this way. Still, the way he improves with each run (this time putting the wind up Doug Jardine amongst others) leads one to believe that he will be in amongst the the medals one day.

A special presentation in the form of a silver Elizabethan dish, inscribed with an English Rose, was made after the race to Tony Binda on the eve of his departure from the Belgrave fold.

1. J.Phelan.....	(1:15)	43:13	19. R.Freullett..	(9:00)	52:49
2. L.O'Hara.....	( :45)	43:31	20. R.Cullen ....	(9:30)	52:58
3. A.Binda.....	(2:30)	44:46	21. L.Morris ...	(10:30)	53:05
4. L.Mann .....	(1:30)	45:06	22. J.Davies ....	(9:00)	53:14
5. R.Smith .....	(1:00)	45:08	23. D.wiseman ...	(10:00)	53:35
6. P.O'Connor ....	(1:30)	45:24	24. C.Henn .....	(10:30)	54:39
7. T.Hart .....	(1:15)	45:59	25. D.Hurd .....	(10:00)	55:26
8. C.Shippen .....	(4:30)	47:52	26. M.Best .....	(13:00)	55:38
9. A.Fairclough ...	(3:00)	48:02	27. A.Mead .....	(14:00)	55:56
10. D.Jardine .....	(6:00)	49:43	28. C.Manning ...	(12:00)	56:23
11. D.Maughan .....	(9:00)	49:56	29. A.Stroud ....	(14:00)	56:54
12. F.Paget .....	(6:30)	50:31	30. D.McMillan ..	(15:00)	56:58
13. R.Dixon .....	(8:00)	50:50	31. K.Stimpson ..	(12:00)	57:31
14. S.Barrett .....	(9:00)	50:53	32. J.Baker .....	(17:00)	59:13
15. J.Dooley .....	(10:00)	50:59	33. G.Piddington.	(15:00)	59:53
16. R.Lettin .....		51:07	34. R.Carlsson ..	(12:00)	60:25
17. D.Davies .....	(8:00)	51:57	35. J.Plummer ...	(13:30)	63:30
18. D.McKeown .....	(9:00)	52:16			

Handicap:- 1. D.Maughan 40:56; 2. S.Barrett 41:53; 3. A.Mead 41:56

Match held in conjunction v. Polytechnic Harriers (10 a side):-

1. BELGRAVE H. 71 pts; 2. Polytechnic H. 197 pts.

## Bernard Merry to quit 'serious' athletics !

Bernard, the local boy who made good, dropped this bombshell recently after a training session. It seems that after 15 years of punishing training, ever striving towards the ultimate of his potential, he is going to round off an illustrious career that has included such highlights as: 3rd place out of four runners in the London Telephone Exchanges 1 mile championship (when it was unkindly said by some that 4th place went to a non-athlete), 1st in a keep fit class 1 mile, and that heroic performance on 25th March 1968 when he led the Belgrave 'B' team to victory over all other 'B' teams in the Tonbridge '10'.

Happily, Bernie is going to continue to run in our races but will not be showing that old fire and determination. Instead he is going to concentrate on his style and you can rest assured that just as soon as the 'dressage' is included in the Olympic athletic programme, Britain and Belgrave will be on to a winner!

DECEMBER 16th 1972 - MATCH v. BLACKHEATH H. v. HIGHGATE H. v.  
MITCHAM A.C. v. VETERANS A.C. - WIMBLEDON.

1. L.O'Hara ..... (BEL-V) 29:15	20. R.Freullett..... 33:51
2. M.Athawes ..... (B'HTH) 29:04	22. L.Morris ..... 33:56
3. G.North ..... (BEL) 29:29	24. M.Best ..... 34:06
4. C.Pearson ..... 29:36	25. D.Jones ..... (BEL-V) 34:16
5. D.Ferne ..... 30:12	32. A.Stroud ..... (BEL-V) 36:23
6. C.Shippen ..... (BEL-V) 30:55	37. R.Carlsson ..... 37:38
7. D.Jardine ..... 31:07	39. E.Bishop ..... (BEL-V) 38:58
13. D.Maughan ..... 32:30	44. A.Bishop ..... (BEL-V) 40:21
14. R.Callum ..... 32:34	46. S.Bastow ..... (BEL-V) 41:34
15. D.McKeown ..... (BEL-V) 32:51	47 finished.
18. F.Paget ..... (BEL-V) 33:25	

'B' Team Result ( 5 a side ) :-

1. BELGRAVE H. 19pts; 2. Blackheath H. 44pts; 3. Mitcham A.C. 57pts.

Veterans' Race ( 4 a side ) :-

1. BELGRAVE H. 15pts; 2. Blackheath H. 38pts; 3. Veterans A.C. 40pts;  
 4. Highgate H. 43pts.

Veterans' Race (8 a side) :-

1. BELGRAVE H. 77pts; 2. Blackheath H. 104pts; 3. Veterans A.C. 119pts.

DECEMBER 16th 1972 - HOGS BACK 10 MILE ROAD RACE.

- |                                    |                               |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Gren. Tuck ....(Camb/Col) 48:24 | 152. D.Crookes ..... 62:12    |
| 128. A.Bruce ..... ( BEL) 59:19    | 171. G.Piddington ..... 67:42 |

Team:- 1.Aldershot, Farnham & Dist. 29pts; 29. BELGRAVE H. 338 pts.

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# CARTON SHINES IN BELGRAVE GLOOM

## Surrey County Championship

JANUARY 6th 1973 - MORDEN PARK.

On an afternoon that was grim for Belgrave Harriers, Peter Carton provided the only highlight. John Lee of Croydon H. soon sped away from the main pack in the Junior 5 mile race, and with Peter the only taker, Lee tried everything he could to shake off his adversary. Several times he looked like doing so as he put in burst after burst but when they reached the hilly sections on each lap our man closed right up to his shoulder, looking strong and biding his time. Last time up the main incline and with about half a mile to go, Peter impressively let loose and the Croydon Harrier had no answer. A worthy champion!

It was interesting to note that not one club managed to close in a Junior team.

What colour medals would our Senior team take home this year? Silver, most people thought, although the odd optimists forecast that we would go even better. Twentythree Belgravians had been entered for the event but shortly before the race only three had arrived. By the time the starter had sent the field on its way our team had stretched to the minimum of six that are required to complete a team. Injuries and 'flu accounted for some but where were the rest.

Gerry North, only recently returning from injury himself, led our diluted team in to an ignoble 4th with not one of our number making the team for the Inter-counties.

### Seniors.

1. B.Ford .....	(AFD) 37:38	20. W.Weller .....	40:14
2. M.Beevor .....	(H/W) 37:52	24. A.Black .....	40:34
3. R.Holt .....	(H/W) 37:57	33. A.Fairclough .....	41:17
10. G.North .....	(BEL) 39:05	37. C.Pearson .....	41:50
		41. D.Ferne .....	42:10

### Team Result:-

1. Hercules Wimbledon A.C. 53 pts; 2. South London H. 104 pts;  
3. Aldershot, Farnham & Dist. A.C. 137 pts; 4. BELGRAVE H. 153 pts.

### Juniors.

1. P.Carton .....	(BEL) 25:13	3. R.Treadwell ....	(SY.B) 25:57
2. J.Lee .....	(CRO) 25:21	15. R.Langley.....	(BEL) 30:25

No team race.

## Middlesex County Championship

10. L.O'Hara ... (BELGRAVE H)	25. P.O'Connor .....
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### January 13th 1973 - VETERANS A.C. 5 MILES C.C. CHAMP. - WIMBLEDON.

1. L.O'Hara.. (course rec.)	24:48	17. C.Henn .....	30:43
6. F.Paget .....	28:30	19. E.Stroud .....	30:50
7. C.Walker .....	29:11	30. J.V.Baker .....	32:44
10. J.Dooley .....	29:54	J.Plummer .....	35:07
16. D.Jones .....	30:40		

### JANUARY 13th 1973 - MITCH 25 Km. ROAD RACE.

1. D.Faircloth .....	(CRO) 79:10	64. P.Pringle .....	93:58
6. P.O'Connor .....	(BEL) 82:33	83. D.Bonser .....	102:29
63. J.Hall.....	93:45		

Team:- 1. Berlin A.B. 14pts; 2. Hillingdon 43pts; 11. BELGRAVE H. 109pts

# a saturday saga ©

JANUARY 20th 1973 - BELGRAVE H. 10 MILES C.C. CHAMPIONSHIP.

I'll tell you a tale of great bravery,  
Of struggles 'tween more than mere men.  
And it all took place in that terrible race  
That they call - the Belgrave '10'.

Of course it was won by 'young Laurie'  
From Lionel, Trevor and Bob  
But nearer the back of the Claret-Gold pack  
Are the stories to make your heart throb.

John Baker went off like a rocket,  
George Piddington gave it the gun,  
But a steadier crowd led by battler Bert Stroud  
Knew it was only begun.

They both came back two miles later  
When Charlie and Don pushed on through.  
And now Dave McMillan, the hairy young villain,  
Had a bad patch and knew nowt what to do.

Halfway, and with a huge effort  
Up came Alan Mead  
With his eyes on a 'pot' to match the last one he got.  
Oh! How it made the heart bleed.

The wind increased its intensity.  
The runners' eyes became glazed.  
Three laps had gone and they now weren't so strong  
But the battle continued to rage.

Now was the moment of truth  
With two and a half miles to go.  
Some of them 'died' and fell by the side,  
Whilst others began to slow.

Many were already finishing,  
Paul Pringle and Joe Dooley were locked  
As they fought for the line (they both got the same time)  
- Sixty-eight, forty-eight they had clocked!

Back into the fray came George Piddington.  
Back into the fight came Dave Mac.  
And even John Baker, not ready for his maker,  
Cried, "Hooray, I'm not at the back".

Ten Miles of muddy, cold agony -  
It's over again till next year.  
Then our heroes will meet and again they'll repeat  
The struggle all Belgravians fear.

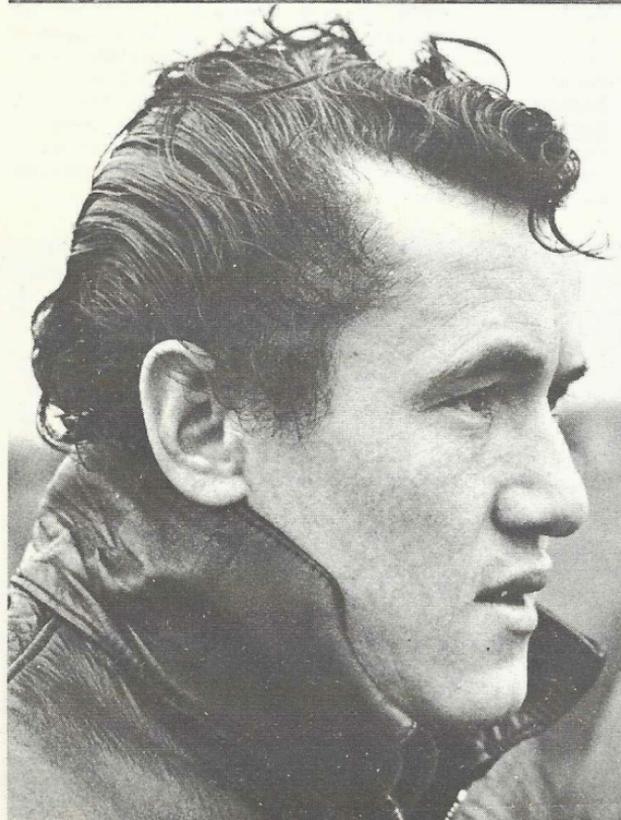
Photographs opposite by Ron Linstead.

Top left: It's pleasing to see Tony Fairclough back in action recently  
and not doing too badly either.

Top right: Gordon Doubleday - Past President, timekeeper and hard worker!

Bottom left: Cross country Vice-Captain - Gene Vincent, sorry, Colin  
Pearson.

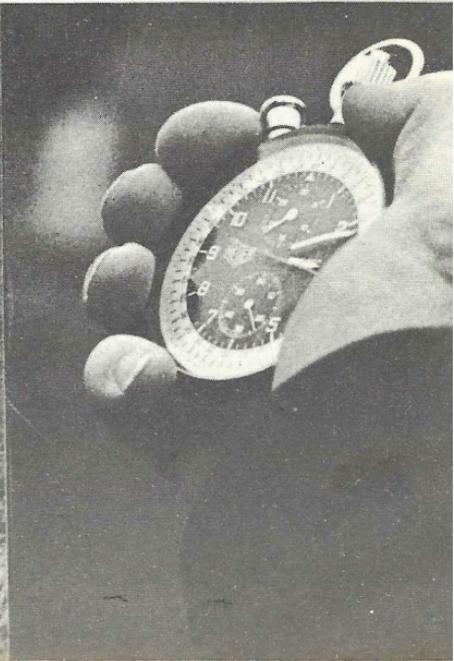
Bottom right: 'A' team regular - Lionel Mann.

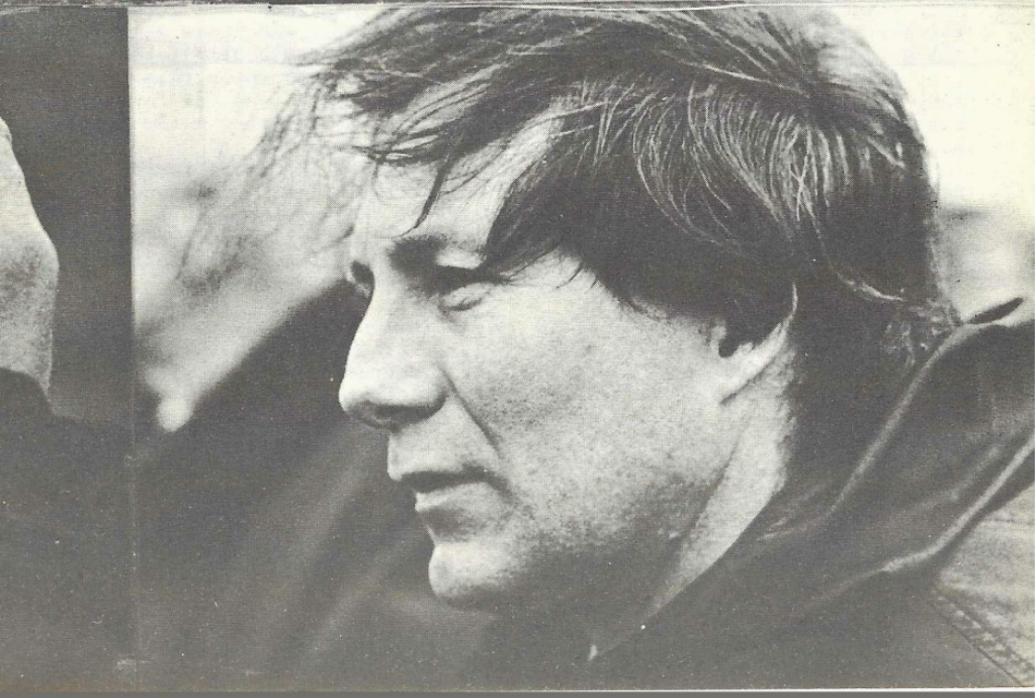




photo's by RON. LINSTEAD

Above: the men who make it all possible. First right: Trevor Hart gives his Middlesex vest an airing. Centre right: Fred Paget, who featured on the first roll of film taken by Ron Linstead of runners. The original camera is long since defunct but Fred runs on. Far right: John Stow found himself the only competitor for the Junior race so ran a couple of laps in the '10'. Bottom left: 'Aussie' Bob Smith, a first team regular. Bottom right: 'Glimpy' Jones another sports photographer but on this occasion acting as time-keeper.





BELGRAVE 10 MILE CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP continued.

A great run as usual by Laurie but what about Danny Wiseman! He is certainly coming on well. Anyone who wins a Club Handicap by three minutes must be getting fit.

For the real addicts we give you the lap times of the first dozen home in addition to the normal result.

RESULT:	H'cap.	lap 1	lap 2	lap 3	lap 4	
1. L.O'Hara .....	( 1:00)	58:38	14:25	14:33	14:44	13:56
2. L.Mann .....	( 2:00)	59:57	14:58	15:08	14:54	14:57
3. T.Hart .....	( 1:30)	60:27	14:52	14:30	15:44	15:21
4. R.Smith .....	( 2:15)	60:55	15:36	15:12	15:14	14:53
5. A.Fairclough ....	( 5:00)	61:53	15:10	15:10	15:22	16:11
6. A.Black .....	( 2:40)	62:08	15:18	15:40	15:37	15:33
7. C.Shippen .....	( 6:30)	63:53	15:50	15:50	16:02	16:11
8. D.Wiseman .....	(12:00)	64:26	15:58	16:04	16:13	16:11
9. D.Jardine .....	( 9:00)	64:27	15:59	16:03	16:13	16:12
10. S.Barrett .....	(10:30)	66:13	16:24	16:40	16:36	16:33
11. D.Maughan .....	( 9:30)	66:45	16:28	16:40	16:42	16:55
12. L.Coy .....	( 8:00)	67:02	16:24	16:40	16:46	17:12
13. J.Davies .....	(11:00)	67:11	21. C.Fairfield....	(12:00)	72:40	
14. J.Canning .....	( 9:00)	67:50	22. C.Henn .....	(14:00)	73:15	
15. D.Davies .....	(10:30)	68:18	23. D.Bonser .....	(13:00)	76:14	
16. J.Dooley .....	(13:00)	68:48	24. G.Piddington ..	(20:00)	76:56	
17. P.Pringle .....	(10:00)	68:48	25. D.McMillan ....	(19:00)	78:00	
18. R.Callum .....	(14:00)	69:24	26. A.Stroud .....	(18:30)	78:16	
19. L.Morris .....	(14:00)	69:25	27. J.V.Baker .....	(22:00)	79:54	
20. D.Jones .....	(16:00)	71:47	28. A.Mead .....	(17:00)	80:18	

Handicap:- 1. D.Wiseman 52:26; 2. R.Callum 55:24; 3. L.Morris 55:25

## BELS 3<sup>rd</sup> AFTER RECOUNT

### JANUARY 27th 1973 - WIMBLEDON COMMON - SOUTH OF THAMES SNR. CC CHAMP.

This year the South of the Thames Senior race came to Wimbledon Common and somehow about 300 runners managed to get changed in Belgrave Hall without too much chaos. In fact the whole thing went off quite slickly. Course markers and pointsmen were plentiful and a new 2½ mile lap gave some variety to our team who know the old route blindfolded.

After the courageous starter called everyone back for a false start they were away and streaking to the front in a short lived bid for glory was John Kelly but as the race progressed it was clear that Peter Carton would once again comfortably lead our team home.

Medway A.C. managed to finish with six men in the first twenty with Dick Newble 3<sup>rd</sup> and seemed to have an unassailable lead. Unfortunately for them, later checking revealed that two of their runners were ineligible and a recount of the points pushed them well down the list with ourselves scraping in as third team and Peter moving up to the bronze medal position just a week after his Inter-Counties run.

1. P.Adams ..(Ald/Farn & D)	37:42	68. A.Black .....	41:19
2. B.Donovan .....	(Cardiff) 37:57	134. D.Wiseman .....	43:30
3. P.Carton ... (BELGRAVE H)	38:25	156. C.Pearson .....	44:00
29. W.Weller .....	40:06	181. J.Kelly .....	44:35
41. J.Rimmer .....	40:22	188. W.Kerr .....	44:50
46. R.Smith .....	40:34	197. D.Maughan .....	45:08
49. P.O'Connor .....	40:42	201. F.Paget .....	45:23

Teams:- 1. Cardiff AAC 98 pts; 2. Aldershot/Farn. & D 132 pts;  
3. BELGRAVE H 226 pts.

Colehan Cup (12 to score):- 1. Aldershot/Farn. & D 953 pts;  
2. Portsmouth 1053 pts; 3. BELGRAVE H 1271 pts.



Richard Langley and Peter Carton, our sole representatives in the Surrey Junior Cross Country Championship at Morden Park. Both ran well to take 15th and 1st places but unfortunately there were no team medals for Belgrave or any other club for that matter as not one Junior team managed to get four men home.

FEBRUARY 3rd 1973 - MORDEN PARK - PRESTIGE RELAY (promoted by MITCHAM AC)

4 x 2 mile cross country relay - teams composed of 2 seniors and 2 youths.

1. Shaftesbury .....	45:18	3. South London H. ....	46:04
2. Brighton & Hove A.C. ...	45:58	5. BELGRAVE H .....	47:36
Youth R.Hopkins .....	(9)	12:54	
Senior T.Hart .....	(6)	11:16	
Senior G.North .....	(5)	10:47	
Youth S.Holmes .....	(5)	12:39	

Fastest laps: J.Roberts (SLH) 10:46; G.North (BELGRAVE) 10:47

FEBRUARY 3rd 1973 - WIMBLEDON COMMON - v. BLACKHEATH H v. CRAWLEY AC.

1. R.Richardson .... (B'ht)	28:13	14. D.Young .....	32:03
2. R.Hawtin .... (B'ht)	28:27	16. A.Bruce .....	32:12
3. L.Mann .... (BELGRAVE H)	29:12	17. R.Callam .....	32:19
4. D.Wiseman .....	30:33	18. F.Paget .....	32:29
7. D.Jardine .....	30:40	20. B.Merry .....	34:05
8. C.Pearson .....	31:08	21. R.Glover .....	34:19
9. A.Fairclough .....	31:45	23. C.Henn .....	34:46
10. D.Davies .....	31:52	28. C.Manning .....	35:34
11. S.Barrett .....	31:53	29. A.Stroud .....	36:01
12. J.Canning .....	32:01	32. K.Stimpson .....	36:58
13. C.Steer .....	32:02	37. R.Conway .....	38:35

Teams: (3 to score) 1. Blackheath 8 pts; 2. BELGRAVE H 14pts;

3. Crawley AC 23 pts.

(Veterans - 6 to score) 1. BELGRAVE H 54 pts;

2. Blackheath H 55 pts; 3. Crawley AC 62 pts.



A determined Peter Carton harasses John Lee of Croydon Harriers during the Surrey Junior Cross Country Championship at Morden Park. Peter took the title by 8 seconds. 'photo - Ron Linstead

☆☆☆

**FEBRUARY 10th 1973 - BELGRAVE VET'S v. VETERANS A.C. v. HIGHGATE.**

1. Harrison .....(Highgate)	27:35	15. B.Merry (Honorary veteran)	30:07
2. Rockall .....(Highgate)	27:53	17. C.Henn .....	30:41
3. Cox .....(Highgate)	28:15	20. J.Dooley .....(VETS)	31:05
4. F.Paget .....(BELGRAVE)	28:39	23. A.Stroud .....	31:38
6. A.Bruce .....	28:49	26. C.Manning .....	32:18
13. C.Walker .....(VETS)	29:41	35. J.V.Baker .....	33:22
14. W.Kerr .....(BELGRAVE)	30:07	42. J.Walker .....	34:27

Team: 1. Highgate 74 pts; 2. Vets A.C. 80 pts; 3. BELGRAVE VETS 94 pts.

## Another good one from CARTON but seniors sink to 11th in 'SOUTHERN'

Dave Bedford of Shaftesbury made it all look so easy but it was not our day. Amongst the multi-coloured mass that streamed away from the pens in lashing rain, there were only nine of our men and even then Gerry North was forced to come out with what was later diagnosed as tonsillitis after he had grittily kept going for six miles.

What would we do without the ever-dependable Laurie O'Hara? Once again he was the first Belgravian into the finishing funnel, twelve places ahead of John Bicourt who was up with the leaders at the crest of the first hill and then went to sleep until he found himself in the seventies with two of the three laps gone.

With the battle done, we found ourselves 11th of the 45 teams that closed in and, perhaps, with our "bad one" behind us we can hope for a better showing in the National, to be held over the same course.

Star of the day was our sole Junior representative Peter Carton, who strode in to a lonely 2nd place 50 seconds behind Coupland of Southampton & Eastleigh and 75 yards ahead of the next man. He looked quite untroubled and with a similar run on National day he must have a good chance of making the Junior International Team. What a pity that our once unbeatable team of Tony Binda, Bill Curtin and John Stow, backing up Peter if not battling with him for individual honours, has now disintegrated.

### SENIOR RACE

1. D.Bedford (Shaftesbury) 43:57	100. L.Mann ..... 49:21
2. L.Presland (Ald/Farnham) 45:35	114. J.Rimmer ..... 49:35
3. H.Altmann 45:43	131. R.Smith ..... 50:05
37. L.O'Hara ..(BELGRAVE H) 47:39	349. S.Barrett ..... 57:01
49. J.Bicourt ..... 48:06	dnf. G.North .....
73. T.Hart ..... 48:46	500 finished.
84. P.O'Connor ..... 49:02	

Teams:- 1. Reading A.C. 161 pts; 2. Cambridge H 252 pts;  
3. Shaftesbury 266 pts; 11. BELGRAVE H. 457 pts.

### JUNIOR RACE

1. N.Coupland..(S'hampton) 30:24	2. P.Carton ..(BELGRAVE H) 31:14
3. N.Saunders (Southgate) 31:27	

## KEEP US INFORMED

We have recently purchased and set up an addressograph system, which greatly eases the strain on officials when the 'Belgravian' or notices have to be circulated to all members (at least six times a year). Club records are now centralised and hopefully up to date.

However, the system's accuracy depends on you, the members. Changes of address must be notified to sectional secretaries and/or the General Hon. Secretary otherwise you will continue to complain that you are not receiving club literature!

# NATIONAL VET'S CHAMPIONS

FEBRUARY 18th 1973 - PERRY BAR PARK, BIRMINGHAM .

By winning the third National Championship for veteran runners on this cold and windy Sunday afternoon, Belgrave annexed the team trophy for the first time and furnished the individual champion also in the sprightly form of Laurie O'Hara.

Laurie didn't just win - he slaughtered the opposing runners. Belgrave didn't just win - they annihilated the opposing teams. It was that sort of day, Claret and Gold all the way. And it really was like the old days to hear the whistles of surprise at the presentation ceremony when our winning score of 29 points was announced.

The Group 2 (50-59) and Group 3 (Over 60) fields were combined and their race began at midday over three laps of a fast grassland course. We had no entries in these categories.

The premier event (Group 1, 40-49) was held at 1 p.m. over the same 10,000 metres course and 200 runners toed the line. A vicious start saw Laurie back in the twenties at the first turn, but as the field swept up a long slope into a bitter wind he moved through to the front group where Meadows (Portsmouth) was forcing the pace from Harland (Cambridge) - both newcomers to the ranks. Not far behind at this point, in the twenties, were Clive Shippen and Pat Newell running together, while in the ruck of the field Fred Paget and Arthur Bruce were well placed to provide team support if required.

On the second circuit, Harland opened up 20 yards in an effort to break clear, but Laurie was supremely confident and with marked coolness closed the gap and put in his own burst, which stretched and stretched and stretched to a winning margin of 34 seconds - a brilliant effort. Meanwhile, Clive was having his best race for a long while, making ground steadily to finish 10th, and closer to Laurie than he has been for many years; and Pat settled in to 18th which, with no racing of late, was an excellent performance. With three to score, that was that; but just in case something went wrong Fred and Arthur were fighting it out with the opposition in the sixties. It says much for their fine efforts that if our third scorer had failed to finish we still would have won with either of these two scoring. Further back down the field was the man who had more confidence in us than anyone - John Baker. He ran down that finishing straight like a man inspired. With over 20 runners behind him it was his day too!

But for Reg Hopkins giving the team a day of his leisure to ferry the team up and back, and Gordon Biscoe rising at 6 a.m. to ensure that everyone (including Reg!) met and departed on time, it is questionable whether a team would have appeared at all. Well, you know what it is like when you reach second childhood!

1. L.O'Hara ....(BELGRAVE H) 32:35	18. P.Newell ..... 35:08
2. K.Harland .....(Camb.H) 33:01	67. F.Paget .....
3. R.Meadows....(Portsmouth) 33:18	75. A.Bruce .....
10. C.Shippen ... (BELGRAVE H) 34:30	171. J.V.Baker .....

Teams. 1. BELGRAVE H 29 pts; 2. Springburn 87 pts; 3. T.V.H. 94 pts.

FEBRUARY 24th 1973 - WOKING 10 MILE ROAD RACE.

1. G.Pringer....(Southgate) 48:43	43. P.Pringle ..... 57:18
7. L.Mann .....(BELGRAVE) 51:59	55. D.Davies ..... 59:27
13. P.O'Connor ..... 52:18	66. G.Piddington ..... 64:29

Team:- 1. Epsom & Ewell H 62 pts; 2. BELGRAVE H 62 pts; 3. Woodf'd 68 pts

# SURREY C.C. LEAGUE (DIV. 1)

With the coming of Aldershot, Farnham & District to the Surrey Cross Country League it was hoped that a little more excitement would be injected into what, for the past seven years, has become a bit of a procession. It certainly was!

In the 3rd match at Streatham Common we were beaten by a mere 8 points with Les Presland, running with even more vigour since his move from Surrey A.C., providing the individual winner.

So, we went into the final act of this desperately close struggle just 18 points up and with our grip on the trophy gradually being loosened. With Gerry North still suffering from tonsillitis, John Stow stuck in a train at Raynes Park and our veterans girding themselves for the following days National Veteran's race, our chances became even slimmer. Over the Coulsdon course, still patchy with snow, the men from west Surrey romped home 30 points clear and gained an overall lead of 12 points.

Well done Aldershot! But keep that trophy polished.

## FINAL LEAGUE POSITION

1. Aldershot, Farnham & D..	863 pts	5. Croydon H .....	1481 pts
2. BELGRAVE HARRIERS .....	875 pts	6. Herne Hill H .....	1793 pts
3. Hercules/Wimbledon ....	1464 pts	7. Ranelagh H .....	1998 pts
4. South London H. ....	1466 pts		

## DECEMBER 9th 1972 - STREATHAM COMMON.

1. L.Presland .....	(AFD) 22:55	41. R.Smith .....	25:08
2. J.Lee .....	(CRO) 23:05	50. R.Dixon .....	25:43
3. P.Carton .....	(BEL) 23:15	73. D.Wiseman .....	27:00
4. R.Gevers .....	(SLH) 23:23	80. L.Coy .....	27:27
5. S.Badgery .....	(H/W) 23:30	81. D.McKeown .....	27:28
6. D.Ashbourne .....	(SLH) 23:35	83. B.Young .....	27:41
7. R.Richardson ....	(BEL) 23:41	84. S.Barrett .....	27:44
14. J.Bicourt .....	24:05	89. R.Freullett .....	28:08
19. J.Rimmer .....	24:14	97. D.Jones .....	29:16
24. W.Weller .....	24:25	105. A.Stroud .....	30:33
30. L.Mann .....	24:38	110. A.Mead .....	31:49
31. P.O'Connor .....	24:39	117. J.Baker .....	32:46
35. C.Pearson .....	24:55		

## Team Result:-

1. Aldershot, Farnham & Dist. (1,10,11,20,22,23,32,34,40,53)...	246 pts
2. BELGRAVE HARRIERS (3,7,14,19,24,30,31,35,41,50).....	254 pts
3. South London Harriers (4,6,16,18,21,38,44,55,67,69).....	338 pts
4. Hercules Wimbledon A.C. (5,15,17,27,28,33,43,48,62,63).....	341 pts
5. Croydon Harriers (2,12,13,26,37,46,52,57,59,64) .....	368 pts
6. Herne Hill Harriers (8,9,29,39,47,49,51,54,61,65) .....	412 pts
7. Ranelagh Harriers (25,36,42,45,56,58,60,66,68,70) .....	526 pts

## FEBRUARY 17th 1973 - COULSDON.

1. F.Briscoe .....	(H/W) 26:43	26. T.Hart .....	29:10
2. B.Ford .....	(AFD) 26:58	27. P.O'Connor .....	29:24
3. L.Presland .....	(AFD) 27:02	28. A.Fairclough .....	29:26
4. R.Gevers .....	(SLH) 27:02	49. C.Pearson .....	30:46
5. P.Carton .....	(BEL) 27:06	66. D.Wiseman .....	31:39
6. R.Richardson .....	27:10	79. C.Keane .....	32:38
15. L.Mann .....	28:34	80. B.Gorman .....	32:40
16. R.Smith .....	28:35	97. B.Merry .....	35:03
21. W.Weller .....	28:53	103. C.Henn .....	35:56
23. J.Rimmer .....	29:02	113. R.Beaumont .....	40:47

## Team Result:-

1. Aldershot, Farnham & D... 185 pts	5. Herne Hill H. .... 408 pts
2. BELGRAVE HARRIERS .....	215 pts
3. South London H. .... 368 pts	6. Hercules/Wimbledon .. 443 pts
4. Croydon H. .... 386 pts	7. Ranelagh H. .... 480 pts

# THE 'NATIONAL'

MARCH 3rd 1973 - PARLIAMENT HILL FIELDS - E.C.C.U. CHAMPIONSHIPS.

## SENIORS.

1. D.Bedford...(Shaftesbury) 43:55	235. R.Smith .....
2. R.Clark.....(Bristol) 44:07	240. J.Rimmer .....
3. A.Simmons.....(Luton) 44:26	298. P.O'Connor .....
55. J.Bicourt...(BELGRAVE H)	724. C.Pearson .....
86. G.North .....	dnf. D.Wiseman .....
137. L.Mann .....	Second-claim.
200. T.Hart .....	56. R.Richardson .....

Team: 1. Gateshead H 299 pts; 2. Bolton 305 pts; 3. Tipton H 355 pts;  
16. BELGRAVE HARRIERS 953 pts.

## JUNIORS.

1. N.Coupland..(Southampton) 30:21	15. P.Carton ..(BELGRAVE H) 31:27
2. D.Coates.....(M'bro) 30:29	48. J.Stow .....
3. B.Smith.....(Thurrock) 30:35	193. R.Lettin .....

## == BELS ANGELS! ==



Thrill to the roar of powerful machinery, the smell of hot engines and the sight of this leather clad triumvirate riding out from Belgrave Hall.

'Suzuki Al' and 'Fred the Ted' share the honours in the 250 c.c. class on their Suzuki and Yamaha machines but in the smaller 125 c.c. section, the Honda stable have the show to themselves thanks to the riding of Joe, the scourge of Chelsea, and Copper Canning, not shown in our picture.

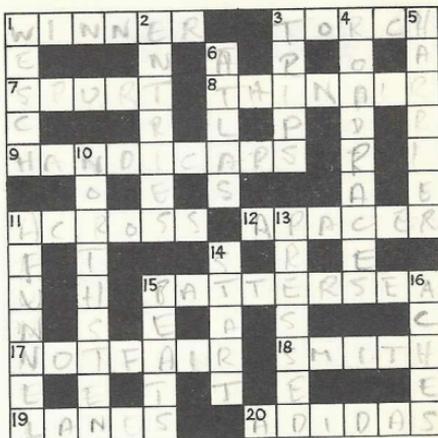
In the Junior Inter-County Cross Country race, held at Leicester in "Sutton Coldfield type" conditions, Peter Carton came home 8th and helped Surrey to an 8 point win over Northumberland and Durham.

For the first time in 21 years we had no Senior competitor.

# CROSSWORD COMPETITION

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \*  
 \*  
 compiled by John Dear

The prize for this next competition is "Champions in the making" a book written by celebrated American coaches Payton Jordan and Bud Spencer. This time however, your entries will be opened on May 1st and the Belgravian whose entry is the first correct one to be opened on that day will receive the prize. Address your entries to the Editor and mark the envelope "CROSSWORD". Entries will be quite acceptable if you send in your solutions in a list form ( just in case you cannot bear to mutilate your 'Belgravian').



## ACROSS

- Victor (6).
- Olympic Symbol (5).
- Uses turps. to hot up the pace (Anag.) (5).
- Experienced at high altitude (4,3).
- Types of races (9).
- Direction of this clue (6).
- Illegal for record purposes (1,5)
- Belgrave home track (9).
- Unsportsman like (3,4).
- Belgrave Aussie (5).
- Often drawn on the track (5).
- Sad Ida becomes a shoemaker (Anag.) (6).

## DOWN

- Belgrave Olympic walker (5).
- Makes up the programme (7).
- Received for running well - or losing ones balance ! (5).
- Alternatives to country and track (4,5).
- Cross country runner (7).
- Ancient weight-lifter. World champion ? (5).
- Gerry takes a Belgrave title (6,3).
- Finish on the country (1,6).
- Weights sometimes are (7).
- Begin with tarts. (Anag.) (5).
- Hammers a rival ? (5).
- Post race symptoms (5).

## THE HON. TREASURER SPEAKING -----

As you will have read in the last magazine we raised £67.37½ at the Jumble Sale held on November 18th. My thanks to Gwen and Bill Couzens who did the bulk of the work and to the club members and their families who helped to make it a success.

Now to my moan. There are far too many members who have forgotten to pay the current year's subscription and there are a few who still owe last year's. I have sent out reminders so there is no excuse. You may pay by instalments if you wish.

I still have a few copies of the club photograph left, price 30p. Money with your orders please.

# FROM THE BELGRAVIAN

## 25 years ago .....

NOVEMBER, 1947..... The ENGLISH SENIOR CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP was held at Apsley over a course almost knee-deep in snow. This was definitely not a fair test to the runners, although A.A. Robertson ran in really magnificent style and fully deserved his win. LEN HERBERT (our Southern Champion) finished 6th and so gained yet another International vest, while ALBERT FROST ran in great style to finish 17th and so gain his Club Honours Badge.

Sutton Harriers, the Northern champions, beat us for the team championship, although we retained the "Finch-Wayte" Cup awarded to the first Southern club to finish. Belgrave positions were as follows:

6. L.W.Herbert.....61:00	37. V.S.Blowfield.....64:52	80. E.H.Herbert....67:39
17. A.E.Frost.....62:58	51. E.S.Stimpson.....65:34	92. A.F.Mitchell...68:01
31. R.W.Tobin.....64:32	65. S.R.Eales.....66:30	

Teams: 1. Sutton H. 160pts; 2. BELGRAVE H. 184pts; 3. Reading A.C. 187pts;  
4. Blackheath H. 255pts; 5. Aylesford P.M. 256pts; 6. T.V.H. 300pts.

Highlight of the Race Walking season was the double win in the new 10miles National Championship. Following a succession of wins in open road races over a similar distance, everyone looked forward to the Bels giving a good account of themselves. With our scoring 4 in the first 6 and an aggregate of 13 points, it should be many years before the record is equalled, let alone beaten. Belgrave placings were:

1. H.G.Churcher...81:23	6. J.G.Coleman...82:41	31. H.G.Clayton...89:44
2. J.E.Rutland...81:48	12. C.F.Sutton...85:02	35. A.H.East.....90:58
4. D.McMullen...82:30	15. C.E.Churcher...85:41	44. H.J.Rouse.....93:55

## .....and 40 years ago

MARCH, 1933..... The three successive Saturdays, February 25th, March 4th and March 11th, brought with them three performances of outstanding merit which focussed the eyes of all the athletic world upon Belgrave and more than ever fortified our right to be considered the greatest all-round athletic club in the country. With February 25th came the 'Southern', our best team position yet - second; and as individual win for H.E. Footer with A.W. Penny third. All honour to Bert upon his wonderful success! It is very fitting that one who has done so much for the Club.....should be the first to receive the Club Honours Badge - even if Arthur Penny earned his one minute later!

On March 4th "that remarkable club Belgrave" - we quote the SHEFFIELD SPORTS ECHO - won the Road Walking Association Ten Miles Junior Championship at Birmingham and so once again became proud holders of the 'Garnet' Cup. This is our 4th win - a record superior to that of any other club in the country - and was an example of good team work. The score of 26 points is the second lowest ever recorded in the history of this competition, and the best Belgrave score yet.

4. H.G.Churcher...81:04	8. A.H.Field...82:30	27. C.E.Churcher...84:31
7. D.E.Brown.....82:26	11. A.A.Harley...82:52	30. C.Speechley....84:46

Further honours came on March 11th, when for the first time in our Club history we were placed in the National Cross-Country Championship; and had two men in the first five home, so securing International selection. Our heartiest congratulations go out to Bert Footer and Arthur Penny upon their well-deserved honour. We trust it will become an annual affair for them, and that in future years there will be other Belgravians to accompany them.

.....continued at foot of next page

# COUNTRYMAN'S JOTTINGS

Belgravians have not had a great deal to shout about over the country this winter. No medals in the Surrey County Championship for the first time in 8 years; a lowly 11th in the 'Southern' at Parliament Hill; and the loss of our Surrey League title, also for the first time in 8 years, hardly merits self-satisfaction. But base statistics can often cloud the picture, and there were several moments worth dwelling upon. There was the excitement of both South of Thames races - 4th in the 'Junior' and 3rd in the 'Senior'; pruned opposition perhaps, but still healthy for morale to see a goodly splash of claret and gold up front. There was the sight of a much weakened team in the final league race at Coulsdon, fighting to the death against a full strength Aldershot F.D. squad before going down by the smallest margin yet in the history of the league. And last, but not least, there was the sight of Peter Carton finishing inside the first eight whenever he ran, whether it was the Southern Junior (2nd), the Surrey County Junior (1st), the Inter-Counties Junior (8th) or the South of Thames Senior (3rd). Peter has been regularly fighting it out at the front and is surely on the brink of a successful career as a Senior. I have been most impressed with his mature approach to running. He covers merely half the mileage of his close rivals yet is able to channel his efforts so effectively. Unlike the others, he also has more in hand for building up his training in the years ahead. I feel sure that we have only seen the beginnings of the real Peter Carton and the coming track season is likely to underline this observation.

Talk of Peter Carton inevitably reminds us of the other members of that quartet which regularly put fear into the hearts of opposing boy and youth teams a few years back. "Come back Tony Binda!" is the first thought, for Tony had already shown that he was about to break through and provide Peter with close support before his move to the West Indies wrecked the possibility. But the lad who showed the best natural flair, on the track at any rate, was John Stow. John has kept in shape regularly enough to find that a solid year's work could also get him up to his rightful place in the forward position. What Peter has done, the others can still do. Is Bill Curtin listening?

From the young to the (relatively) old. What about this man Laurie O'Hara? Can he really go on achieving life-time bests every year now that he is in his forties? Against veteran athletes he is truly incincible, and many of his conquests have been against former internationals. Students of veteran running have had to re-write many of their theories since Laurie came on to the scene. For instance, how does he fit on to a graph of deteriorating form? How does one compare his best ever performance with his veteran bests where the latter are superior? As someone remarked when Laurie cantered the Veterans 'National' at Birmingham a few weeks ago "That lad looks to have a good future"!

Talking of Vets., it was good to see Belgrave win the National Veterans title at Perry Barr, Birmingham. This championship is not the push-over that some may think, and the ferocity of the running had to be seen to be believed. There were 200 starters in the 40-49 age group alone, and those with memories of Nationals of 20 years ago saw much to make them reminisce. There was George Rhodes (7th) fighting it out with Eddie Kirkup (8th) just as they did for England vests in 1955. And the diminutive Johnny Wild was there, just 5 places down on his 8th spot of 1956. The man they all feared in the late fifties was Gerry North, and Gerry has been making sounds that suggests he is out to hammer them again in 3 years time when he "comes of age".

4. A.W.Penny.....55:29	34. A.Allum	80. A.R.Shaw
5. H.E.Footer.....55:29	48. C.Mains	94. C.W.Tarne
	62. J.E.Flower	126. F.R.Webb

Teams: 1. Birchfield H. 80pts; 2. Salford H. 101pts; 3. BELGRAVE H. 233pts;  
4. Aldershot C.H. 288pts; 5. Wycombe P. 318pts; 6. Surrey A.C. 339pts.



The party was lovely. I liked the chocolate cake and the jelly the best. Uncle Tom and Auntie Ethel must have worked ever so hard. Uncle Reg enjoyed himself too. I've broken the car that Father Christmas gave me. I hope I can come next year.

photo's by Tony Fairclough.

# TRACK & FIELD

In just a few weeks the track season will be under way and sprinters and other "explosive" event men will be emerging from their winter hiding places eager for competition after dark and lonely nights of heaving weights and pounding sodden tracks. Our middle and long distance men will already be going through their road relay paces, prior to stepping on to the sacred tartan and cinder.

This season is going to take some planning, with the Surrey County relays as early as April 14/15 and the main championships a month later, through to Southern League meetings as late as the end of September. Then of course, for those who really make the grade, there is always the possibility of a trip to New Zealand in the middle of next winter for the Commonwealth Games.

The National Knockout competition kicks off in May and in the first round we have a fight on our hands with only two clubs to qualify for the subsequent round and with Hillingdon and Blackheath amongst our opposition.

Planning is definitely the key. Keep your fixture card to hand, know what you are going to do this summer and let your Track or Field Event Secretary know your plans, they are not psychic. Of course it is hoped that you will turn out as often as possible but if you are selected for a League, Trophy or Knockout match and you know you cannot make it, again, please let your Secretary know.

See you down at the track then and let's hope we can carry on from where we left off in '72 - winning!

*Alan Mead*

Track Captain.

Six Belgravians featured in the NUTS UK Top 50 list for Track and Field Events in 1972.

<u>STEVE WHITE</u>	.....	200m	.....	=36th	.....	21.9
	.....	Long Jump	..	=11th	.....	7.41m
<u>PETER CARTON</u>	.....	1500m	.....	=42nd	....	3:49.4
<u>JOHN BICOURT</u>	.....	3000m	.....	23rd	....	8:07.0
	.....	2000m SC	...	4th	....	5:45.0
	.....	3000m SC	...	3rd	....	8:34.8
<u>CLIFF BROOKS</u>	.....	Decathlon	..	11th	....	6389pts
	.....	400m H	.....	=43rd	.....	55.4
	.....	Long Jump	..	49th	.....	7.00m
<u>REG. HOPKINS</u>	.....	High Jump	..	=27th	.....	1.91m
<u>RODNEY HEWARD-MILLS</u>	.....	Triple Jump	..	4th	.....	15.77m

In the Junior lists Peter Carton came out 3rd fastest over 1500 metres and was also 8th over 800 metres with 1:52.9 . Reg. Hopkins High Jump best gave him =10th.

BOXING DAY HANDICAP MEETING.110 metres.

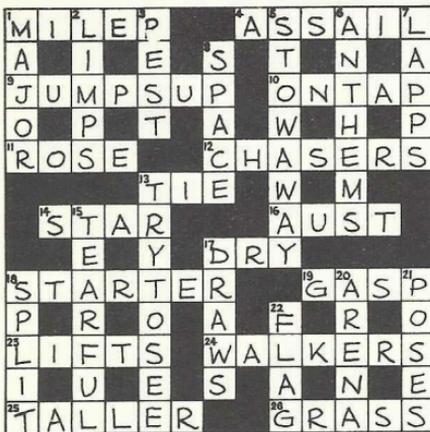
1. C.Brooks .....	(Sc)	12.5	4. P.Gee .....	(6)	12.7
2. P.Crosbie .....	(20)	12.6	5. S.Crosbie .....	(12)	13.0
3. J.Martin.....	(15)	12.6	6. P.Hubert .....	(10)	13.1

Shot.

1. J.Kelly .....	(14'0")	44'1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	5. J.Martin .....	( 4'9 )	40' 1"
2. A.Mead .....	(17'3")	41'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	6. P.Hubert .....	(14'0")	39'11"
3. P.Gee .....	(14'9")	40'9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	7. W.Couzens .....	( 8'0")	38'9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
4. C.Brooks .....	(Scr.)	40'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "			

2 miles.

1. J.Canning .....	(680)	8:21.8	9. R.Smith .....	(140)	9:09
2. S.Walters .....	(800)	8:41.2	10. D.McKeown .....	(580)	9:09
3. D.Davies .....	(550)	8:46	11. R.Glover .....	(500)	9:17
4. R.Freullett .....	(600)	8:52	12. L.Coy .....	(450)	9:22
5. R.Cullen .....	(580)	8:54	13. C.Fairfield .....	(550)	9:35
6. J.Davies .....	(500)	8:57	14. B.Gorman .....	(260)	9:42
7. A.Mead .....	(650)	8:58	15. J.Kelly .....	(280)	9:45
8. S.Barrett .....	(500)	8:58	16. C.Keavey .....	(450)	10:18

**Result of December crossword competition ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆**

The first AND only absolutely correct solution to the crossword competition in the last issue came from JOHN ROBERTS of SOUTH LONDON HARRIERS! Colin Collis saved face for Belgrave to a certain extent with only one letter wrong in his entry and Bob Barnes was not far behind with just two letters incorrect. Anyway, as promised John was offered space in this issue to say what he liked and he has taken the opportunity with this short but pertinent letter.

Dear Alan,

I hope you don't mind an outsider entering your Crossword-Contest but I thought that if as many Belgravians entered for it as contested the Surrey Senior Cross-Country, you'd be a rather Cross-Man when you came to mark up the entries.

Yours acrostically,

John Roberts SLH

# Belgrave all time best performances

100m	J.Mitchell J.Vivian	1967/1969 1969	10.7
200m	B.Morris	1961	21.6
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	2hrs.18:45
110m H	C.Brooks	1972	15.7
400m H	M.Ford	1970	53.1
3,000m SC	J.Bicourt	1972	8:34.8
4x100m	D.Merrett, I.Mayers B.Walden, R.Holtum	1954	42.6
4x400m	P.Eldridge, B.Morris G.Worrall, G.Leroy	1961	3:15.3
Long Jump	S.White	1972	7.41m
High Jump	J.Dodds	1936	1.92m
Triple Jump	D.Boosey	1968	16.22m
Pole Vault	H.Pfenninger	1970	4.19m
Hammer	P.L.Porter	1957	52.32m
Discus	T.J.Gaworski	1956	47.19m
Javelin	N.Head	1967	64.39m
Shot	D.McCorquindale	1959	15.65m
Decathlon	C.Brooks	1972	6389 pts

- Times for the 200m, 800m and both relays were recorded over the imperial distances but have been listed above as no superior marks have been set over the shorter metric equivalents.
- All field event marks with the exception of the Long Jump have been converted from feet and inches.
- Wind-assisted performances have not been included, e.g. John Mitchell's 7.46m Long Jump.
- Any queries regarding the above best performances would be welcomed by the Editor.

## A GOOD START FOR "SNOWY".

"Snowy" Brooks has started making his presence felt early this year, for on January 27th during an indoor 'half-decathlon' at Cosford, he chalked up a win with 3453 pts. This is how his performances measured up:-  
60m 7.1; Long Jump 6.67m; 60m Hurdles 8.8; Shot 12.64m;  
800m 2:12.3 .

## junior best performances . . . . .

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
2,000m SC	J.Bicourt	1964	6:33.0
Long Jump	J.Mitchell	1965	7.08m
High Jump	A.Bentt R.Hopkins Jnr.	1968 1972	1.91m
Triple Jump	R.Heward-Mills	1971	15.47m
Javelin	G.M.Edwards	1955	55.45m
Discus	J.Grey	1949	41.96m
Shot	J.P.Jones	1954	16.18m
4x100m	J.Mitchell, D.Gleeson, C.Martin, J.Vivian	1965	42.8

## . . . . . 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	W.Curtin	1969	9:13.8
1,500m SC	J.Bicourt	1962	4.44.0
Long Jump	J.P.Key	1954	6.64m
High Jump	A.Bentt R.Hopkins Jnr.	1966 1971	1.73m
Triple Jump	M.Marshall	1970	12.55m
Discus	J.Martin	1964	42.85m
Javelin	M.D.Draper	1957	53.42m
Shot	J.P.Jones	1952	14.75m

## and some notable boys performances

400m	R.Hudson	1961	52.9
800m	R.Hudson W.Curtin R.Langley	1961 1967 1968	2:05.0
High Jump	A.Mills	1968	1.63m
Javelin	P.Crosbie	1972	42.22m

# YOUTHS & BOYS

It is with great satisfaction that I report the Junior section is once again springing into life with new members joining almost every week. It does seem as if we are in the same position we were in just a few seasons ago, when, although we could not at that time claim to have many successes, there was a great spirit in circulation among the young members. This was the springboard from which our winning Youth and Junior teams sprang later on. It looks like history repeating itself, all it needs is for each member to train painstakingly, have patience and not to look for immediate success but to be content to improve outing by outing.

## COLTS

We have had a good turn out from these lads for most of our Winter fixtures. Very pleasant to see has been the steady progress made by Adrian Cook. We hope this will continue as we see in him a future Team Captain. Backing him up so well has been James Roberts, another very good prospect. Two others I must mention from this section are Gary Wallace and Gary Budginger, two youngsters who are prepared to give everything in a race and wear their Club colours with pride. Simon Nelson is another we have great hopes for after his brave efforts in the Surrey Boys Championships.

Nice to see Ian and Martin Gillings in action again, we hear they have been doing some great running at school.

If we were to give a medal for perseverance it would have to go to Ivan Beaumont. Never seeming to have the success we all feel he deserves he nevertheless always turns out regardless of the weather or conditions. He has, without doubt, all that it takes to make the grade.

## BOYS

Turning now to our Boys section, although not large in number, this section too is coming to life. With Steve Waters, Tony Ambler, Toby Staffs and Steve Watts we now have the nucleus of a winning team.

## YOUTHS

We can just manage to raise a Youth team from Simon Holmes, Reg Hopkins, David Cobb and the occasional odd member, but with the recent joining of twins Pat and Anthony Jenkins I now feel our strength will grow.

Congratulations to new member Simon Shanks on completing his first cross country race in such a brave fashion.

*Reg Hopkins, Smr.*

Junior Hon. Secretary

### OPEN TRACK & FIELD EVENTS FOR BOYS UNDER 15

Sunday, May 13th at 2.30 pm

Wimbledon Park Athletic Track

Make a note now of this meeting and ask your friends to come along as well, they can compete whether they are members or not. Entries taken on the day.

# ADRIAN COOK wins Boys C.C. Championship

DECEMBER 16th 1972 - WIMBLEDON.

1. A.Cook .....	16:20	4. J.Roberts .....	19:11
2. A.Ambler .....	17:53	5. I.Beaumont .....	20:11
3. S.Walters .....	18:34		

FEBRUARY 3rd 1973 - MORDEN PARK - SURREY BOYS & COLTS C.C. CHAMPS.

BOYS. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  MILES.

1. P.Barr .....	(Epsom & E) 13:18	67. T.Staffs .....	16:30
41. S.Walters ..	(BELGRAVE H) 15:14	72. P.North .....	17:11
55. A.Ambler .....	15:45	79. M.Murphy .....	18:12
66. I.Gillings .....	16:27		

Team: 1. Epsom & E 28 pts; 2. Mitcham AC 42 pts; 3. South London H 74 pts;  
11. BELGRAVE H 208 pts.

COLTS 2 MILES.

1. G.Ribbons ..	(Mitcham AC) 10:53	77. J.Roberts .....	12:45
40. H.Nelson ..	(BELGRAVE H) 12:16	99. R.Beaumont .....	13:02
66. M.Gillings .....	12:39	109. R.Budinger .....	
75. S.Nelson .....	12:44	110. M.Pallen .....	

Team: 1. Sutton & Cheam 32 pts; 2. Therfield School 43 pts;  
3. Aldershot, Farnham & D 48 pts; 13 BELGRAVE H 248 pts.



## MEET JAMES ROBERTS

James is 13 years old and joined us early in 1971, following the example of his near neighbour and friend Adrian Cook. He has already proved to be one of our most reliable youngsters, turning out to run in Belgrave colours whenever he can and often arriving up at the Hall carrying his Leeds United bag, all set for a training run.

He plays both cricket and football at his school, Davis's School at Hampstead, and also gets great enjoyment from his running, favourite events being 400 metres on the track and 2 miles cross country. When it comes to cross country James prefers the "real thing" as opposed to the many courses that involve so many laps around a playing field, and the muddier it is the better.

Last year he gained his AAA 5 star award in the under-13 age group and hopes to qualify for the under-14 award this coming summer.

Recruiting of youngsters should be one of Belgrave's top priorities, says James, but just as it should be, sport is not the only interest in his life. He is fond of all types of music and takes regular piano lessons.

## REG. HOPKINS takes "Overseas Cup"

### DECEMBER 2nd 1972 - YOUTHS 3 MILES CHAMPIONSHIP - WIMBLEDON.

It was just as well Poly. H. had been invited to compete in a match held in conjunction with our Youths Cross Country Championship over 3 miles, as we could only manage to field four runners. Poly. supplied a further ten making it a much more interesting race.

Although outnumbered, our lads did us proud with Reg Hopkins leading the field home to take the match race, championship, and spearhead our team to a narrow win. I bet there are not many 1.91m high jumpers throughout the country who can say that they are also cross country champions!

1. R.Hopkins .....	16:33	3. S.Walters .....	19:00
2. A.Ambler .....	18:43	4. J.Roberts .....	19:42

Team Result (scoring 4 a side):-

1. BELGRAVE H. (1,4,5,7)	17pts;	2. Poly. H. (2,3,6,8)	19pts.
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## SURREY CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE

### DECEMBER 9th 1972 - STREATHAM COMMON.

1. R.Payne .....	(HHH) 16:02	42. S.Walter .....	20:05
2. H.Jones .....	(RAN) 16:04	59. I.Beaumont .....	22:48
3. G.Richardson .....	(APD) 16:14	61. G.Budinger .....	23:44
16. R.Hopkins .....	(BEL) 18:05	62. G.Wallace .....	23:44
34. S.Holmes .....	19:37	64. S.Watts .....	24:13
37. A.Ambler .....	19:53		

Team Result:-

1. Aldershot, Farnham & D.	31 pts	5. Ranelagh H. ....	123 $\frac{1}{2}$ pts
2. Croydon H. ....	69 pts	6. South London H. ....	123 $\frac{1}{2}$ pts
3. Herne Hill H. ....	73 pts	7. BELGRAVE H. ....	131 pts
4. Hercules Wimbledon A.C.	79 pts		

### FEBRUARY 17th 1973 - COULSDON.

22. S.Walters .....	16:53	54. S.Watts .....	20:03
32. A.Ambler .....	17:45	- S.Shanks .....	22:05
44. J.Roberts .....	18:34		

Teams:-

1. Herne Hill H .....	46 pts	5. Ranelagh H .....	113 $\frac{1}{2}$ pts
2. Aldershot, Farnham & D.	49 pts	6. South London H .....	131 pts
3. Hercules/Wimbledon ...	60 pts	7. BELGRAVE H .....	132 pts
4. Croydon H. ....	98 pts		

### FINAL LEAGUE POSITION.

1. Aldershot, Farnham & D.	182 $\frac{1}{2}$ pts	5. Ranelagh H .....	452 pts
2. Hercules/Wimbledon ....	266 pts	6. South London H .....	461 $\frac{1}{2}$ pts
3. Herne Hill H .....	273 pts	7. BELGRAVE H .....	556 pts
4. Croydon H .....	329 pts		

### MARCH 3rd 1973 - PARLIAMENT HILL FIELDS - E.C.C.U. CHAMPIONSHIP

#### YOUTHS.

1. R.Crabb.....(Swindon)	22:16	317. S.Holmes .....	
2. B.Moss.....(Notts)	22:25	362. R.Hopkins .....	
3. J.Odlin .....	(N. London) 22:30	365. D.Cobb .....	



## MEET ADRIAN COOK

At 14 years of age Adrian already shows signs that he has embarked upon a promising athletic career. He lives locally, attending Raynes Park High School, and became a Belgravian two years ago when introduced by Ron Linstead.

Although he is interested in most sports and is a supporter of Brentford Football Club, his preference is for cross country running. Last year he came fourth in the Surrey schools race but was too young to be entered in the All-England race. This season he started off very well with a win in the Merton schools championship but found the slippery going a bit too much for him in the Surrey event.

No long term aims yet of course. He intends to carry on running a couple of times a week and just "let it come". He would like to gain more knowledge of track running and thinks it would be a good idea to have a few more track get-togethers for our youngsters.

This coming summer we intend to run the AAA 5 Star Award Scheme in conjunction with the Youths and Boys medal competitions and the open meeting on May 13th but if you wish to be tested on any other occasion do not hesitate to contact Reg. Hopkins Snr., whose address you will find on the inside cover of this magazine, or turn up at any of our home fixtures at Battersea Park.

Many of you may have come across this scheme at school but for those of you who haven't, this is the idea.

The competition is designed to take in all age groups from under 11 years to under 20 years. Points are scored for each event you wish to take part in, depending upon the standard you manage to attain in each event. The points for your best three performances (which must be two field events and one track event or vice versa) are added together and you will gain an award ranging from one to five stars in value, in the form of a certificate. Cloth or metal badges suitable to wear on your tracksuit are also available.

It is also possible to gain a decathlon star award by competing in ten different events.

So, we look forward to seeing you down at the track this summer - good luck!



## flashback photo ! 40yrs

This picture was taken during the 1931 - 34 period and shows some famous Belgravians of that time. We have no record of the race concerned except to know that J.E.FLOWER (right) was the winner.

W.L.(Wally) BAYLISS, our then General Honorary Secretary, is the timekeeper, while W.H.(Harry) HARE, Past President and Honorary Treasurer, acts as recorder. The man gaining a sneak preview of the result is the ubiquitous TOM CARTER, and the man with the eyeful, A. (Micky) WALKER.



## JOIN THE REGULARS

Belgrave Hall is open for your convenience every:-

Sunday at 10.30 am

Tuesday and Thursday at 6.00 pm

Saturday at 2.00 pm

And when you make your next visit why not take the opportunity to call in at Brian's famous restaurant on the 1st floor. Try the speciality of the house, succulent sausages with onions in freshly baked rolls. Or savour the hamburger delight, a meal in itself, specially cooked to a secret and ancient Belgrave recipe. For those with more simple tastes, you will not find a finer cup of tea throughout the land.



Spending a Sunday rambling through the countryside of the Home Counties is the best way to relax after a hard Saturday's race. We meet approximately once a month at 9 am, outside Wimbledon Station. Keep an eye on the notice board at Belgrave Hall for details of our next stroll. All will be most welcome and it should be noted that the accent is on enjoying the day out as opposed to covering phenomenal distances.

# S. C. (SYD) ROBERTS

It is with great sorrow that we have to advise the death on January 10th of Syd Roberts at the age of 66 years, after a distinguished career as a walker then administrator for the Club and the R.W.A. Our sincere condolences go to his widow in her sad loss and we are grateful for having had the assistance and comradeship over nearly 36 years of a true 'Belgravian' and gentleman.

Syd joined the Club on 4th March 1937 and was soon making his mark in a very strong walking fraternity at that time. In May 1938 he finished 5th in the Barking to Southend Police Championship in 5:38:02 and led the winning team, B Div., home. This was the year when Belgrave had F. Bentley 1st in 5:1:11.4, F. Rickards 2nd, A. Readman 3rd, S. Roberts 5th, R. Martin 6th and five others amongst the finishers including F. Jarvis 44th.

At Manchester in 1939 he was a member of our winning Club team in the R.W.A. National Junior 10 miles. Like many others, the war took care of 1939/45 for him but afterwards Syd took over as Walking Secretary and soon helped to once again bring Belgrave to the fore by his wise administration and help for all.

I still have the letter he sent me, pointing out all the snags when I was taking over from him as Walking Secretary in 1952. Syd then moved to the office of Club Treasurer which he held from 1952 to 1962 and during these years he did a 1st class job in reorganising the membership book and finances - no mean job. He was elected to the highest office as Club President in 1957/58.

During these years Syd was also an active member of the S.R.W.A. Committee and held various offices. On the parent body of the R.W.A. he was really active, acting as Chief Recorder at many national championships, Judge Sub-Committee Secretary, then the first National Coaching Secretary for R.W.A. in 1963/64 an office he held with distinction.

In the late sixties he underwent a serious operation. After a period of convalescence he moved to St. Annes on Sea, Lancs., and it was from there that he and his wife travelled the 30 miles to Hulton, Manchester on the occasion of the R.W.A. 20 miles championship in 1972. It was a great pleasure to greet him once again and speak with them both. Quite contented and although a lot slower moving, he maintained that he was improving all the time.

Little did I realise that it was to be the last time I would see him. The sport of Race Walking and Athletics in general is the poorer for his passing.

The R.W.A. President and other members of the N.R.W.A. represented the Club at his funeral on the same day as Alf Harley's, Monday 15th January 1973 - a black day for the Club with the passing on of two fine English gentlemen.

*Jack Goswell*

Laurie O'Hara, International Vet's 5000m champion and first man home in the National Veteran's Cross Country Race, has accepted an invitation to compete in the United States Masters Meeting at Los Angeles. Watch out for further news.

# ☆☆ CENTURIONS ALL ☆☆

A Centurion is one who, as an Amateur, has walked in competition, in Great Britain, 100 miles within 24 hours.

To become a Centurion is the ambition of every long-distance walker. Most Walking Clubs in Great Britain can claim a number in their membership, and Belgrave, with its great traditions and record is no exception. We recently mourned the death of Ernest Neville, Centurion Number 7, who was associated with a number of Clubs and was one of our Vice-Presidents.

I have been unable to check which of the early Centurions were Belgravians, for example when I was competing in the North some years ago a chap wearing a Centurion badge said that he was a member of the Bels in his racing days. Coming to 1921 we find that Jimmy Belchamber finished second in the Brighton and Back race in 20:53:35 to become No. 64. Jimmy was a Past President of the Club and served in many offices, for instance for many years he was Hon. Auditor. He loved walking and covered many miles in his nativeSussex. Our own 50 Km Championship carries a cup named after him.

Five years later Jim Chalk did a fine 19:03:30 for 100 miles in the "B and B". Jim was a staunch Belgravian and figured in many winning teams. After he had retired from competition he walked miles to come and support our teams on the road, invariably accompanied by his dog.

After World War II the first event at the distance was a 24 hours walk at the White City in 1946. It rained for many hours and Colin Sutton clocked 20:44:11 to become No. 125. Colin was a great performer at all distances, an R.A.F. pilot during the war he re-enlisted after a short spell as a civilian and was killed by a sniper in Malaya. In the same race was Bob Martin, a policeman who also figured in many of our teams, and who clocked 22:16:57 to become No. 127. He was killed in an accident whilst on a motor-cycle patrol a few years later. The above four, now departed, showed the way for other Belgravians to follow.

The first post-war "B and B" was eagerly awaited by the writer who fulfilled an ambition when he heard Ernest Neville call, "23:26:41" at the 100 miles point to become No. 142. When he is not timekeeping he still enjoys a walk (Wimbledon Common and Richmond Park are close at hand) followed by a warm bath!

1948 saw a 24 hours race at Motpur Park which resulted in a Belgrave win for Jack Stirling-Wakeley, whose death was recently reported. He covered 100 miles in 18:56:13 to become No. 143 and went on to cover 122 miles 1411 yards. Three years later he won the "B and B" in 18:46:0. In the same race Joe Wilson walked his usual sound race to become No. 164 in 21:04:46. Joe needs no introduction and is often at the roadside judging or helping with the feeding, or, indeed, giving his Club vest an airing. Joe always wears a Belgrave vest when competing - do you? Further down the field came Harry Stallard, a Dover based enthusiast who worked hard for the sport in his area, in 23:20:04 to become No. 173.

In 1952 another classic route was walked, Bath to London (Chiswick) and Chelsea policeman Syd Spencer recorded a very fine 20:09:45 for badge No. 181. A solid Clubman who was a regular in "Belgrave" and Police teams for a good many years. Now retired, we often see him judging. In the same race Fred Herring, an R.A.F. man gained badge No. 191 in 21:50:00. We haven't seen Fred for a number of years but he did a lot to encourage Race Walking in the R.A.F. before retiring.

In the 1955 "B and B" there were 31 new Centurions, amongst them three Belgravians. Harry Shields followed up a great career as a runner (twice a member of winning E.C.C.U. teams) and an equally great one as a walker (member of winning team in R.W.A. 50 Kilos Championship) to become No. 235 in 20:02:22. Harry is still a well known official at Running and Walking events, he is also handy with the measuring tape and at raking the long jump pit! With brother Joe qualifying in the 1951 race Percy Wilson took his turn to become No. 246 in 21:53:55. Like Joe you cannot keep him away from the sporting scene, he recently had a spell in hospital due to a stroke but is now fighting his way back to fitness. Completing the Club trio was Frank Jarvis in 23:25:22, No. 258. Frank was another "regular" in Belgrave and Police teams. Nowadays he is kept busy as General Hon. Secretary of the R.W.A. Another to qualify in this race was Les Fairman in the colours of Poly. H. Now a Belgravian and well known figure at Belgrave Hall he walked a fine race to become No. 232 in 19:31:33.

The next "B and B" (1963) saw two Belgravians doing the journey stride by stride, Cyril Yescombe (another Police stalwart) who died tragically a few years ago and Bernard Eglinton, former runner from Derby and R.A.F. man. They came through the 100 miles point in torrential rain in 21:28:57 earning themselves badges 344 and 345. Bernard now lives in N. Wales and occasionally makes a welcome appearance.

In 1965 the M.P.A.A. promoted a race on a lap course at Chigwell and amongst those to qualify was Doug. Fotheringham in 21:31:09 for badge No. 373. Doug. is still going strong - if not stronger! The older he gets the faster he goes! He is the Hon. Sec. of the M.P.A.A. Walking Section.

The Surrey W.C. 100 miles at Ewhurst (1971) is of recent memory, when our own John Moullin won in a phenomenal world-class performance of 16:55:44 to become No. 462. Lower down the field, stride for stride, came John Keown (473) and John Morris (474) finishing together in 20:49:27. They took second team prize and are still active, further anecdotes unnecessary!

We have many potential Centurions in Belgrave who, when the time comes, will add to the list. Good luck to them! They will need it.

*Gordon S. Doubleday*

## missing walk times in club rankings

Bob Barnes writes and asks, "Why no ranking lists for Walking in the last 'Belgravian' ?". Well, Bob there are no real excuses and before anyone else writes, apologies are due for the missing Walking times in our 'Belgrave All Time Best Performances' in this issue.

Does anyone amongst the Walking Section usually keep a record of these things? If not, perhaps some statistically minded stroller would be good enough to keep a list during 1973 for all the regular track walks plus, of course, for the Olympic distance road events. Meanwhile, if anyone can come up with some best times over metric distances, we will be pleased to publish them in the next issue.

The Editor

# POSTBAG

30 Everard Road,  
Ringwood East,  
Victoria,  
Australia 3135.

..... It was really great to receive "The Belgravian", I had almost given up hope of ever seeing the familiar red and gold cover again. It's always nice to know how the "Bels" are faring on the home front. If you happen to drop into "The Denmark" after training, please give my regards to Colin Pearson and Co. I guess there must be a lot of new faces in the Club by now.

We are half way through our track season here and I'm doing quite well, although the winter season with its longer distances always suit me better.

Hope we see Carl over this way next year for the Commonwealth Games, or perhaps even Ray. If ever a fellow deserves a trip it's Ray.

I will be starting teachers college this year and as yet don't know how much time I'll have to train. Plenty I hope, as Australia will probably send a full team of walkers to New Zealand.

Hope the year goes well for you, and of course sees the maroon and gold colours well to the fore in British Athletics again.

Till later, all the best,

Regards,

Dave De Bondi

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This following letter was received by our President but will be of interest to all.

Dear Clive,

Will you please convey my sincere thanks to all Belgravians for the very generous donation for Mount Vernon Hospital - which I feel is a great tribute to Alf.

I know this is as he would have wished, instead of flowers withering away the money will be used in a very worthwhile cause.

With renewed thanks,

Very sincerely,

Nancy Harley.

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## WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Samuel Bastow .....	Running	Colm Keane .....	Running
David A. Carlsson .....	Running	Leslie S. Jones .....	Running
Stuart J. Bennett .....	Walking	Richard Law .....	Honorary Member
Richard A. Lettin .	Field & Running	James L. Mead .....	Running
Alexander J.H. Nixon .....	Running	Michael O'Malley .....	Running
Paul D. Wiltshire .....	Walking	Michael J. Bumstead .....	Walking
Derrick C.W. Young .....	Running	Stephen Fernandes .....	Running
Paul Gaywood .....	Running	Thomas F.E. Marchant ....	Walking
Martin Green .....	Running	Horace Nelson .....	Running
Anthony Jenkins .....	Running	Simon Shanks .....	Running
Patrick Jenkins .....	Running	M. Walters .....	Running
Anthony Wildman .....	Running	Edward M. Thorpe .....	Running
Peter Fitzpatrick .....	Running		

## PAST PRESIDENTS

H.Morton Garr	(dec)	W.L.Bayliss		T.C.Jones	
G.O.Haig	(dec)	F.G.Thomson	(dec)	L.J.Cohen	
H.T.Blackstaffe	(dec)	H.Evans	(dec)	A.W.Penny	
H.Brown	(dec)	R.J.Savage	(dec)	D.M.Shepherd	(dec)
D.Fitte	(dec)	H.Parker	(dec)	W.E.Lucas, D.F.C.	
A.F.W.Macher	(dec)	W.G.Webb		J.W.Goswell	
R.Murphy	(dec)	A.A.Harley	(dec)	R.T.Taylor	
R.W.Ricketts	(dec)	E.A.Duffett		F.Jarvis	
W.H.Hare		F.H.Elson	(dec)	E.S.Stimpson	
E.Gordon	(dec)	T.F.Morrell		F.Simmons	
J.B.Belchamber	(dec)	H.W.Shields		G.S.Doubleday	
J.R.McKay	(dec)	C.T.Carter		A.A.Harley	(dec)
O.Horwood	(dec)	S.C.Roberts	(dec)	A.D.Pyer	
		F.R.Webb			

## VICE - PRESIDENTS

W.J.Asniord	T.W.Green	G.W.Piddington
J.V.Baker	R.C.Hall	R.Plummer
R.Bhatia	R.Hopkins	G.H.Powell
J.C.Bidgood, M.B.E.	B.J.T.Knifton	T.Pritchard
G.Biscoe	B.Lulham	A.Readman
D.E.Brown	J.McDonald	E.T.Ryan
W.Couzens	C.MacLennan	T.H.Scrimshaw
S.Davies	C.E.Manning	Mrs. E.R.Savage
E.P.Donovan, O.B.E.	A.F.Mitchell	Mrs. D.M.Shepherd
P.L.Duncan	C.J.Munro	F.M.Stone
B.Eglington	K.B.O'Kell	W.G.True
H.F.Footer		J.Wilson

## LIFE MEMBERS

W.L.Bayliss		G.H.Powell
J.C.Bidgood, M.B.E.	R.C.Hall	T.Pritchard
C.T.Carter	W.H.Hare	A.D.Pyer
C.E.Churcher	F.Jarvis	F.Rickards
L.J.Cohen	T.C.Jones	H.W.Shields
J.G.Coleman	H.F.King	C.Shippen
L.J.Coleman	S.J.King	F.Simmons
T.H.Cotton	W.E.Lucas, D.F.C.	E.S.Stimpson
W.Couzens	G.M.Pearson	A.E.Taylor
N.R.Dewberry	C.E.Manning	R.T.Taylor
G.S.Doubleday	R.C.Middleton	S.F.Vickers
E.A.Duffett	T.F.Morrell	C.W.Walker
H.E.Footer	C.J.Munro	F.R.Webb
J.W.Goswell	G.A.North	W.G.Webb
T.W.Green	A.W.Penny	P.G.Wright
E.W.Hall	A.Penstone	

photo - Ron Linstead



Rising stars? Leo Coy and Stewart Barrett  
match strides during the Club '10'