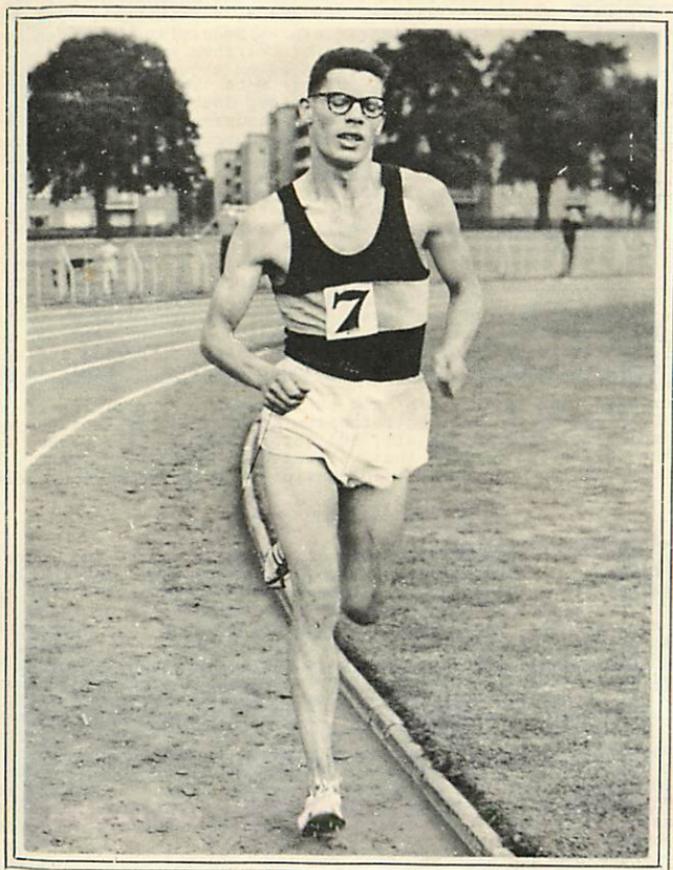


THE
BELGRAVIAN



Official Gazette of
Belgrave Harriers

MARCH, 1960.



THE BELGRAVIAN

FOUNDED 1887

JANUARY 1960

No. 141

EDITORIAL

President
T.C. Jones

Gen. Hon. Sec
A.A. Harley
7, Brickwall Lane
Ruislip
Middx.

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

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

Dear Fellow Members,

Since our last issue the 1950's have drawn to a close and another decade of success and failure, joy and disappointment, optimism and (in the latter stages) pessimism, has been written into the annals of Belgrave history.

The period commenced on a note of exultation, for on Jan. 1st 1950 we were the proud possessors of the Southern Counties, South of Thames Senior and Surrey County cross-country championships, besides being holders of the Surrey County and London to Brighton road relay titles. Five years later we were only strong enough to gain one win, and three places in the corresponding events, and little realised in our disappointment that five years hence this would be a performance worthy of great satisfaction.

Meanwhile our walkers were going from strength to strength and in 1957 took all three major titles; after having recorded successes in one or more of

these events in five of the seven previous seasons. A study of the Club Handbook will illustrate the fluctuations in our fortunes more fully, but it is quite apparent that our rate of progress during the last decade was considerably slower than that in the Athletic World at large.

Our main task in the 60's must be to regain our position of 10 years ago. Complacency and self satisfaction at our past are not the weapons with which to fulfil this aim, but determination, will-power, enthusiasm and the ability to realise that we must once again fight really hard to not only gain new honours but do justice to those we already hold.

FINANCIALLY YOURS.....

From the Hon. Secretary.

Yes, this great Club of ours is yours to enjoy, and yours to work for with all your might. It is your inheritance, but is also your obligation. It gives you much, it must take back a little from time to time. Financially you have benefitted from the efforts of those that have gone before. It now becomes necessary to show your appreciation by assisting in the present, particularly in the field of finance.

Last year's accounts, as presented at the Annual General Meeting showed that the total cost of maintaining and running the Club was £1,505.14.3. Against this, current subscription income was £332.19.6., so that theratio of expenditure to subscriptions was approximately 4½ to 1. Members were indeed getting super-value for their subscriptions! Fortunately we had other sources of income, apart from subscriptions, which reduced the excess of expenditure over income for the year to £252.0.2.; but obviously we must reverse this trend as quickly as we can for in addition to balancing our books we need further income for expansion and to carry out various progressive schemes now temporarily postponed.

Here are the ways in which you can help the Club financially, and thereby help yourselves.

(a) Pay subscriptions, entry fees and other dues without delay, and without waiting to be asked several times over.

(b) Take a financial share or shares in our Football Scheme as per details enclosed with the "Belgravian". You'll be on a good thing and your Club will benefit.

(c) Become an Agent for our Football Scheme if you can sell 10 or more tickets weekly.

(d) Support with all your efforts our other money-making schemes.

(e) Encourage friends, not interested in active athletics, to become Hon. Members; and persuade members of years ago to take up

Honorary membership.

(f) Make a donation to the Club General Funds, or any specific object, when you strike it lucky or your ship(s) come home!

(g) When you make a will remember to include a bequest to the Club. To conclude, do remember that your financial help to the Club is vital; and that in helping the Club you are helping yourself.

+ + + + +
An interesting series of Summer Track fixtures is being prepared, and possibly the most important date is that of our Club Track and Field Championships which will be held at Tooting track, on Saturday June 18th.

+ + + + +
Our Open 20 Miles Run is scheduled for August 20th this year; and our Annual Youths Road Relay, which has rapidly become the most important race of its kind in the country, will be held on Saturday Oct. 15th. A.A.H.

THE ANNUAL DINNER-DANCE

Members and friends to the number of 160 gathered at Barrington House, Gresham Street, in the City of London, for our annual function and an old cliché came to life in that "a good time was had by all".

The dinner received summary treatment from Belgravian appetites and the essential Toasts were then proposed. Our President gave the Loyal Toast, after which LIONEL WOODCOCK, the Hon. Secretary of the Race Walking Association, a former President of Surrey Walking Club and a member of the Surrey County A.A.A., proposed the toast of "The Club" in glowing terms. Bill Lucas in responding spoke of the glories of the past which had in some measure currently receded from Belgrave; but finished on a note of optimism and confidence in the younger element now developing within the Club.

Our Hon. Secretary proposed 'Our Guests' and spoke of the Club's pleasure in playing host to so many good friends from the world of Athletics- dedicated men who supported the structure of our sport and made things athletically possible for all of us. In particular he mentioned TOM HUNT, a member of Derby & County A.C. and this year's President of the English Cross-Country Union, who had travelled so far to be with us. We were honoured by the presence of HARRY BASSETT, President of the R.W.A., and many other distinguished personages. GUY BASAN, Hon. Secretary of the Association of London Athletic Clubs and also of the oldest club, the L.A.C., responded suitably.

Our immediate Past-President Frank Webb proposed the Toast of his successor in office, Charlie Jones, who made his response in well under first-class standard time. Stan Vickers received from the President's hands the "Tommy Green" Cup, awarded to the Belgrave Harrier accomplishing the best performance in the course of the Club year.

Then the dancing, and for some the chance to reminisce with old friends. It was a pleasure to see Ken O'Kell, a former Club Captain and Champion of the late twenties looking, if anything, rather younger. Former Presidents in John McKay and Ernie Duffett also seemed to have discovered the secret of perpetual youth; and there were many others we were glad to see at an annual function. It must be said there were many we should have liked to have seen who did not find it possible to come along.

Another year we hope all will be there- both young and old, united in support of a first-class function. The date in 1960 will be Saturday November 5th- at the Ardington Rooms, Clapham Junction. Mark your diary right away!

Our thanks for an excellent evening go to Bert Jordan and his sub-committee; to Syd Roberts on Toastmaster, and Tom Carter the M.C. A.A.H.

The season's last social will be held at Belgrave Hall on March 26th; this is the day of the Club's 5½ mile Road Race. The walkers have a match close at hand, at Mitcham, so it is hoped that quite a number of you will make this an enjoyable evening.

Cover photo by E.D. Lacey--CHARLIE DABBS, Club 7 and 10 mile champion.

MATCH V SHAFTESBURY H.V Q.P.H.V LOUGHBOROUGH COLL. A.C.- 17th OCT.

Owing to the lack of accommodation at Wimbledon, due to the popularity of our Open Youths Relay, this match was arranged at short notice and fifteen of our lads enjoyed a 5 miles race over a course consisting of a mixture of grassland, plough and hills.

John Moore, Jim Masters and Eric Gebbett were soon prominent and we seemed set for a close win, but we lost points when the leaders took the wrong turning. John Moore fought back to finish third and Eric Gebbett fifth position, but Jim could get no higher than tenth. We lacked sufficient scorers in the next fifteen places to clinch a victory, but can be fairly satisfied with our first performance over the country. The turnout was encouraging as we were also represented at Walton, and other members were helping with the Youths Relay.

Result:

Scoring 6 a side	1/ Shaftesbury H (2.6.11.12.13.14.)	58 points
	2/ L. Coll. A.C. (1.4.8.17.19. 30.)	79 "
	3/ BELGRAVE H. (3.5.10.18.23.24.)	83 "
" 12 "	1/ Shaftesbury H.	206 "
	2/ BELGRAVE H.	263 "
	3/ Q.P.H.	375 "

MAC NEARLY DOES IT.CHELMSFORD ROAD RELAY-24th OCT.

With one and a half laps of this six lap race to go Don Maclean had snatched third place after running the first half of his leg at a blistering pace. Iron (V.P.H.) & Ibbettson (Essex B.) were made to look very ordinary as Mac swept past, and it seemed as though Belgrave were assured of third place, with Mal Robinson yet to come. But it was not to be. Iron rallied strongly, Mac faded slightly, George Knight got cracking, and to rub salt into the wounds, White (Woodford) and Harper (Deptford) passed Mal on the run in. From third to seventh in the last 4 miles may have been disappointing but with a difference of only 29 seconds involved the excitement was tremendous.

Fifty- four teams started on the first of the 3¼ mile laps of this race, which is treated by many clubs North of the Thames as their premier road-relay. Eric Gebbett was with the leaders for most of the way and despite a lack of finishing speed was a creditable ninth; giving Charlie Walker a wonderful start with five men ideally placed for "picking off" in the 150 yards ahead. However, no one was more disappointed and apologetic than Chas. for his run this day, for with a time of 16:01 he could do no more than drop us to thirteenth.

John Moore likes a fight- at running that is! and set about the opposition as though he wanted revenge for Charlie. Seven went down for the count, and Jumbo Masters set off in a respectable sixth place. Jumbo had his usual steady run and gained a further position, it was then that Mac had his go!.

Result: 1/ Ilford A.C.	92:05	Gebbett 15:38	Masters 15:51
2/ St. Albans C.	92:13	Walker 16:01	Maclean 15:33
3/ Essex B.	93:43	Moore 15:25	Robinson 15:44
7/ BELGRAVE H.	94:12		

Fastest lap of the day- A.Perkins (Ilford A.C.) 14:37.

MATCH V MITCHAM A.C. V VETERANS A.C.

With excellent packing Mitcham ran out easy winners of this race, over 5 miles at Banstead. Pawsey and Gillett set the pace over a course which made full use of the hills and wooded countryside, and which included six stiles. In a bunch close behind were Gebbett, Masters, Walker and Robinson with Rogers and Simmons of Mitcham. With two miles to go the leaders, together with 'ghost' A. Perkins of Ilford, had broken from

from the field and raced home together.

Result : W. Pawsey 28:20 2/ M. Gillett 28:21 3/ B.Davies 28:41 Mitcham
6/E. Gebbett 28:50 7/ J. Masters 28:55 8/ M. Robinson 29:09 BELS.
1/ Mitcham A.C. 78 points. 2/ BELGRAVE H. 132 pts. 3/ Veterans 255 pts.

JUNIOR MATCH V MITCHAM A.C. V SURREY B.V S & CHEAM H.

Tony Harris, Mitcham's speedy junior, led the field all the way on the $3\frac{1}{2}$ mile course to set up a new course record. Mike Heck, our new member from Sheffield, looked quite comfortable and was ably supported by John Thresher and Brian Johnston.

Result: 1/ A. Harris (Mitcham) 18:23 5/ M. Heck 19:12 6/J. Thresher 19:18
7/ B. Johnston 19:23 (all Belgrave).

1/ Mitcham A.C. 24 points. 2/ BELGRAVE H. 48 pts. 3/ Surrey B 65 pts.

REDHILL & REIGATE A.C. RELAY- 7th NOV.

The Club entered seven teams for the Senior Relay (6x2 miles), held at Reigate Priory, but out of the forty-eight names submitted only eighteen presented themselves, plus four other keen types who were interested in running. On the first leg we started seven runners (one for each team) in the hope that we could make up the deficiencies with late arrivals. By the second leg, however, we were reduced to three teams and after the third we had only two left, who managed to complete the course in 10th and 34th positions.

Our first team, made up of Shippen, Black, Walker, Robinson, Stearman and Moore wandered between thirteenth and ninth before settling in tenth place - a position far below their capabilities. There seemed to be a complete lack of fire in their running and we found minor clubs like Brighton (A & B), Deptford, Hercules, Horsham and Croydon in front. This was an opportunity for a sharpening up run for the South of Thames race the following week, but the chance was thrown away by those who failed to appear.

Result: Surrey A.C. 62:10	Shippen 10:44	Stearman 11:15
2/S.L.H. 62:37	Black 10:38	Robinson 10:46
3/Brighton A.C. 62:46	Walker 10:46	Moore 10:35
10/ BELGRAVE H.		

Fastest of the day: H.V. Poord (Brighton A.C.) 9: 56.

SOUTH OF THAMES JUNIOR- 14th NOV.

This race was from the Guards Depot, Caterham, and the course consisted of one mile of flat grassland and two laps each of two miles made up of undulating country including a short stretch of heavy plough, which gave every opportunity for the faster men to get well established in the early stages.

The mass start of over three hundred runners was an impressive sight but, as has been the case for a number of years, our boys were pushed back by the weight of numbers and could not take up the forward places necessary to win races. At one and a half miles Charlie Dabbs was 26th with Don Maclean close behind 34th, then came a gap before Alan Black 60th, Clive Shippen 62nd and Mal Robinson 68th, appeared. At three miles there was some improvement. Dabbs had moved up to 20th, Maclean was 33rd and Clive had made many places to 39th, whilst Mal had passed Alan to 60th. A half mile later Dabbs had improved further to 13th but there was little change in the remainder other than Don Maclean, who had fallen back to 40th. During the latter stages, Chas. made even more places and eventually ran out in 10th position. The next man was Clive Shippen followed shortly after by Don Maclean and then Alan Black, who had fought back to 49th, giving us a total of 137 points to secure fifth place.

We started five teams of which four closed in. It is interesting to note that last time this event was held at Caterham, in 1953, S.L.H. took the title by one point from our selves. Although we were only 4th and fifth respectively this year, that one point margin still persisted.

Team Race:	1/ Mitcham A.C.	(2,3,19,34)	58 points
	2/ Reading A.C.	(5,20,21,24)	70 "
	3/ Portsmouth A.C.	(1,12,36,53)	102 "
	4/ S.London H.	(26,31,39,40)	136 "
	5/ BELGRAVE H.	(10,35,43,49)	137 "

10. C. Dabbs	30:56	61. M. Robinson.	126. D.F. Jones.	171 R. Glover
35. C. Shippen	31:33	104.M. Stearman.	128. J. Doolley.	183 J. Heathfield
43. D. Maclean	31.47	114.J. Thresher.	154. B. Sawyer.	197 A. Peckings
49. A. Black.	31:58	122.D.W. Jones.	162. E. Bishop.	200 K. Miller

MATCH V PARACHUTE REGT. WIMBLETON- 21st NOV.

The Red Berets had recently beaten many senior clubs, notably Blackheath and were keen to add our scalp to their impressive list. After a half-mile it looked very much as if they would, with five in the first half-dozen. On the approach to the golf-course, prior to the plunge into the woods, Dabbs, Black, Robinson, and Flanagan had pulled away taking Spacier and Burt of the Regt. with them. Just before the brook the position was unchanged, but on crossing it Dabbs, Black and Burt pulled ahead, and that was the way they passed the post.

It was encouraging to see the forward running of George Flanagan who, till the last mile, did not have trouble with his stomach.

The final positions resulted in a good win for Belgrave by 19-64 pts.

Result: 1/ C. Dabbs 28:54 3/Sgt.Burt 29:23 5/G.Flanagan 30:20 7/J.Thresher
2/ A. Black 29:09 4/M.Robinson 30:00 6/Lt.Spacier 30:26
8/ D.W. Jones.

TWO RACES IN ONE DAY.

LAST MINUTE CAR DASH TO ROCHESTER '5'-21st NOV.

With a star-studded field of over 200 runners warming up for the start of this annual event, five of the Belgrave six-man team were being driven at breakneck speed along the A2 in an effort to beat the starter's gun.

The announcer's final request for Belgrave to declare their team was drowned by the screech of brakes and slamming of doors (or vice-versa!) as the Bels. declared themselves in person. After a rapid change and a further dash to the start, the race was on- just thirty minutes after leaving Dartford.

After the excitement of this 'race' the second was a bit of an anti-climax for the Bels. whose six-man team for the day was Moore, Gebbett, Walker, Hollowell, Davies, and Stearman; with our Captain acting as team manager.

With Stan Eldon setting a furious pace up the long gruelling hill our lads soon felt the effect of an inadequate warm-up, but led by Moore they fought on through the field. After the half-way mark and turn for home, and two miles of down hill running to go, Brian Hollowell made full use of his long stride to improve his position in the nineties while John Moore and Chas Walker were leading him slightly. A mile from home Eric Gebbett caught John, now in the forties, and spurred him on to second efforts-Brian doing the same to Charlie in the sixties. It was here that John Davies, only a little further back, was brought to a standstill by an attack of stomach cramp and could only finish at a trot.

John Moore and Eric Gebbett ran particularly well, especially so when one realises that 13 of the 33 places in front of John were filled by Internationals.

Two things are certain for next year. The Bels. know how not to get to Rochester by road, and they are aware of the inadvisability of two races in one day!

ROCHESTER '5' Result:

1/ E.A. Earl (Hercules)	24:45 rec.	34. J. Moore	25:32
2/ F.D. Sando (A.P.M.)	24:47	37. E. Gebbett	25:36
3/ A. Perkins (Ilford)	24:50	60. B. Hallowell	27:20
4/ S. E. Eldon (Win & E.)	24:57	68. C. Walker	27:29
5/ F. Salvat (Finch.A.C)	24:58	94. M. Stearman	28:16
6/ D. O'Gorman (St.Albans)	25:05	134. J. Davies	---

Teams: 1/ A.P. Mills	60 points
2/ St. Albans	78 "
3/ Ilford AC	85 "
8/ BELGRAVE	199 "

BELGRAVE 3rd in L.C.C. CHAMPIONSHIPSPARLIAMENT HILL FIELDS-28th NOV

For the first time for some years we were able to field our strongest available team in this race. Drawing one of the outside pens gave us the advantage of a good start, and as the runners streaked up over the first hill the 'claret and gold' vests were prominent.

When the race was again seen after 2½ miles, Newell and Dabbs were close together in seventh and ninth places, closely followed by Chas. Walker, in 12th spot, with John Moore a few yards further back, 18th. These four were well backed up by Eric Gebbett, 22nd, Clive Shippen, 30th Mal Robinson, 31st and Don Maclean in 40th position. A mile later the positions were much the same with improvements by Clive and Mal, but a loss of seven places by Don. At 5½ our leading runners were still well to the fore, but over the last half mile we dropped a few positions and eventually scored 51 points to take third team medals. The general result was quite satisfactory and there is some consolation in the knowledge that scoring seven men would have given us a comfortable win.

<u>Results:</u> 1/ E. Earl (Hercules)	17/ J. Moore	<u>Team:</u>
2/ G. Brown (Highgate)	20/ E. Gebbett	1/ Highgate 26 pts
3/ M. Maynard (H.H.H.)	28/ C. Shippen	2/ Hercules 43 "
8/ C. Dabbs	30/ M. Robinson	3/ BELGRAVE 51 "
11/ P. Newell		
15/ C. Walker		

BOXING DAY HANDICAPS- BATTERSEA PARKCHARLIE JONES IN PINE FORM

Charlie Jones was the star of this meeting, with his 12.2 victory in the 120 yards handicap. Off 1 yard, he surged past 1½ man Sylvan Deane a yard from the tape in a time equal to 10.2 for the hundred. Fast running for December!

1/ C. Jones (off 1) 12.2; 2/ S. Deane (off 1½) 12.3; 3/ D. Ansell (off 7) 12.3.

The 3 mile walk was won by S. Jarlett who had too much in hand for Ray Middleton (off 1.50). John Knifton caught and passed his brother, off 8 mins, in the finishing straight to lead him in by 1 second.

1/ S. Jarlett (6-15) 20:39, 2/ D. Potheringham (5-15) 20:50
3/ J. F. Knifton (2:40) 21:06.

A field of 25 set off in the two mile handicap, and included quarter-milers up to marathon men. One of the latter, Joe Dooley, was first past the post with 9:15. He was followed by new boy Shakeford with a now regular handicap prize winner Don Newell, third. The fastest time was put up by scratch man Mal Robinson, 9:37.

1/ J. Dooley off 350 yards 9:15 2/ K. Shakeford off 400 yards 9:17
3/ D. Newell " 450 " 9:21 4/ J. Hilton " 450 " 9:24

The shot brought out former sprinter Ivan Mayers, still talking of another short season, who was second; the winner being Dave Butler.

1/ D. Butler — (18ft 6ins) -50ft lin. 2/ I. Mayers — (15ft 0ins) -48ft 7½"
3/ B. Jones — (19.. 0..) -47ft 5ins.

SPOTLIGHT

CHARLIE WALKER, affectionately known as "What do you think" Charlie, after his habit of enquiring after our chances at all stages of a race, has always been one of our top athletes since joining us in 1948.



Winning South of Thames Senior
SONNING, BERKS -1951

After his good country season of '51 Charlie set about the track in no uncertain manner. 5th in the Inter-counties mile, and 3rd when representing London v Gothenburg brought him representative honours for the A.A.A. on four occasions. Trackwise he never again showed this form, although two years later he gained a A.A.A.'s mile standard and in 1956, third in the Sward '2' with a personal best 9:18. Best marks are: 880 1:58.6, 1 mile 4:18.0, 2 mile 9:18 and 3 mile 14:30.4. If he decides to have a full track season who knows what he will do?

He has always been a formidable opponent on the road, Gordon Pirie will testify to this. When Pirie set up new figures for the T.V.H. Road Relay, Charlie stuck so close that only 1 second separated them at the finish. It was the same Pirie who, five years after, broke Charlie's Surrey Road Relay record. A cut finger early in 1953 (he is a carpenter with the M.O.W.) meant a long lay-off from training, but, this could not stop him from running in the 'Brighton'. An injection in the morning enabled him to run and Charlie has to date run 19 consecutive 'Brightons', and taken thirteen medals!

Despite a disappointing early season, and troubled with a foot injury I feel sure that come next April 9th we will see Chas. lining up for one of the Brighton legs, after asking "What do you think?".

M. E. R.

In his first year as a senior over the country, running for Surrey he finished 7th in the Inter-Counties. There are not many established stars who have finished so high, let alone their first attempt.

It would be true to say that he has performed best over the country, representing Surrey, the Civil Service and Southern Area on numerous occasions.

He came to the fore in 1951 when winning the Surrey & L.C.C., followed by his Inter-Counties run, and the South of Thames title. Accepting an invitation for the Festival of Britain Race, where he ran Gordon Pirie to a close finish, meant his withdrawal from the Southern and could unwittingly have cost him an International vest. We sent the same team to the National that finished 2nd in the Southern, so Charlie did not run- and it is largely on the result of this race that the International team is chosen.

He followed up his county form by placing second to Pirie the following year, and ran in the Inter-Counties in 1951, 52, 53, and 57. Previous to this, Charlie had won the Junior '5', in 1949; 1st in the L.C.C., and 2nd to Chataway in the South of Thames Junior in 1950.

Those of the track tend to hide his excellent performances thereon. He was only 19 when he figured in his first championship- taking 2nd place in the L.C.C. 1 mile, a title which he won the next year after a thrilling sprintfinish with Bob Taylor. Earlier that year he had gained a A.A.A.'s standard for 3rd in the Southern Mile.

After one of our established athletes, we turn to a promising Junior, **BOB BARNES:**

Bob climaxed his first year of serious racing with first place in the Belgrave Open '7' Handicap- an excellent performance for a Junior!



He entered the sport after being persuaded by fellow school-mate and Belgravian John Knifton, to enter the school's mile walk, where he finished second.

The next two years were spent winning school cross-country races. Instead of the country team benefitting from this period, John again persuaded him to walk; this time in the Middlesex Junior Mile, where he finished second to Brian Cornick.

After this he joined Belgrave.

Although, in his first walk for the Bels, he came under the judges' eye and very nearly gave up the sport.

Until the beginning of last year exams, kept him from any serious training. Then, being a member of the winning team at Woodford and at Regents Park he followed this with 10th place in the Middlesex '7', in 60:10. During the 1 hour race at Highgate, where he was sixth, he reduced this time to 59:08; quite an improvement in six months. He hopes to get this even nearer the 58 minute mark before the end of the winter season, when he has hopes over 10 miles.

In the 1958 National Junior '5' he finished 20th and was in the winning team. He was a

little disappointed, therefore, that although he finished 6th the following year we were unable to close in a team, and so relinquished our team title.

Since the Autumn he has trained from Belgrave Hall with Eric Hall, Ted Smith and John Knifton and attributes much of his recent good form to the help they have given him. Given time he has the determination necessary to prove himself one of our best walkers. M.E.R.

WEIGHT AND CIRCUIT TRAINING

(Mon & Wed 7:15-9:30, at Ravenstone Road School)
(2 mins Balham L.T. & S.R. Station)

This method of Winter Training is now proceeding smoothly twice a week at the Club Gymnasium. The attendances have been encouraging, and progress is being made, writes Frank Simmons. Those who come along are amazed at the skill and strength they have gained in handling weights

There is a good cross-section of the club attending but there is room for more. Especially those who originally made enquiries! Ray Hall keeps the walkers represented and is very keen. I only wish more would follow his example. A happy atmosphere prevails at all our sessions and amusing incidents are in abundance. "Samson" Glover makes the weights look like cardboard, while young Derek Wade attacks them with a vengeance. The laughs are by no means over when the 'old man' himself has to take his medicine!

We finish off our evening with a circuit of exercises: each man having a target time for completion in the region of 12-15 mins.

Come along and enjoy the keen healthy competition. Pick your own rival with whom to match your skill. Participate in this aid to your Athletics, remembering that 'Strength is Speed'. So if your desire is to run or walk faster and stronger, then this is one way to help acquire that ability.

WALKING

The 1959-60 season is now under way, and we have several athletes doing the hard work essential to qualify for the Olympics. Stan Vickers reigning European Champion, Eric Hall 7th in the 1956 Olympic 50 kms, and Ray Hall all figure in the 'possibles'.

CIVIL SERVICE 7 MILE

In defence of his title Eric Hall, although only at the beginning of his 'come-back', was too strong for Ray Middleton, and won with over two minutes in hand.

The winner of the match held in conjunction, was George Williams, who, walking very strongly was almost 30 seconds ahead of Eric. and Stan Vickers.

Civil Service Result:

1/ E.W. Hall	53:00
2/ R. Middleton	55:16
3/ R.E. Davies(L.T.R.)	55:47

Match:

1/ G. Williams	52:34
2/ E.W. Hall	53:00
3/ S.F. Vickers	53:01
4/ R. Middleton	55:16

1/ Civil Service	111 points
2/ BELGRAVE H.	173 "
3/ Stock Exchange	187 "

BELGRAVE OPEN '7' WALK

The 40th in our series of Open Walks at 7 miles, held on November 28th, was an important occasion and called attention in an emphatic way to the years of service the Belgrave Harriers have rendered to race-walking in general. One recalls, too, the succession of enthusiasts who have accepted the responsibility of promoting the event on behalf of the Club- and undoubtedly the most conscientious and efficient yet is the present Club Walking Hon. Secretary, Jack Goswell.

It was perhaps a little unfortunate that entries generally are down in open events this year and so we could not boast a record entry, but nevertheless there was a good field with the stamp of quality heavily upon it.

Ken Matthews of Royal Sutton Coldfield W.C., the dual A.A.A. Champion and R.W.A. 10 mile Champion, and winner of our event for the past three years, soon went into the lead, which he retained to the end to win comfortably. Our lads were content to pack well as a team; and once again we recorded a scratch team win, which carries with it the "Berman Cup". Stan Vickers (to finish second), Eric Hall (third, short of training and racing- but what pugnacity over the last mile!) and George Williams (how easy it all is!, fourth), gave us an impressive start, and with Ray Middleton not far away in 12th position team honours were won with only one other club having finished two men! Such was the nature of our win.

John Knifton recorded an excellent time for a young walker and Bob Barnes, twelve places behind him, and in immaculate style, showed that we have two of the best walkers of the younger school in this country. Their effort largely gave us a handicap team win; and Bob scored a great win in the Handicap event. Ted Smith received the prize for first unplaced team man.

So it was Belgrave, Belgrave almost all the way!
So passed another 'Belgrave Open' with full marks to Jack Goswell for his preparation and efficient organisation, and to Syd Roberts for his mastery of the result boards which gave a full race result for announcement in less than record time. Grateful thanks also to the Ladies who produced the duplicated result sheets- again in record time; and to all those who contributed to the Prize Fund which alone enables our event to continue on such a high standard.

A. A. H.

RESULT:

1/ K. Mathews (R.S.& C)	51:19	47/ H. McGreechan	60:21
2/ S.F. Vickers (Bels)	52:34	61/ G. Beecham	61:42
3/ E. Hall "	52:36	63/ R. Purkiss	61:58
4/ G. Williams "	52:51	72/ C. Yescombe	62:59
12/R. Middleton "	55:05	73/ D. Fotheringham	63:10
26/J. Knifton "	57:36	75/ J. Morris	63:17
28/E.A. Smith "	57:57	81/ M. Byard	63:57
38/R. Barnes "	59:11	93/ S. Jarlett	64:57

SCRATCH TEAM:

1/ BELGRAVE HARRIERS	(2,3,4,12)	21 points
2/ Metropolitan W.C.	(9,13,19,30)	71 "
3/ Ilford A.C.	(8,20,21,26)	75 "

HANDICAP:

1/ R. Barnes (Belgrave)	59:11	(all. 11:30)	time	47:41
2/ J.P. Moran (St.Albans)	59:03	(" 10:00)	"	49:03
3/ J. Brennan (Gosport AC)	57:46	(" 8:40)	"	49:06

Handicap Team:

1/ BELGRAVE HARRIERS	198 min 03 sec.	<u>Winning Team</u>
2/ Cambridge "	199 " 51 "	
3/ Lon. Vidarians W.C.	200 " 18 "	

MATCH V M.P.A.A. - 5th DEC.

This match over seven miles was arranged at short notice, and as a result of the previous weeks Open many decided to give it a miss.

Our two Internationals Stan Vickers and Eric Hall, walked together to finish in 56:30, followed by John Knifton 58:27 and Ted Smith 58:54. Scoring six aside we beat M.P.A.A. by 24 pts, to 54.

CAMBRIDGE OPEN '7' - 12th DEC.

The regular first team of Vickers, Hall, Williams, and Middleton walked away with the individual and team honours. They were fourth in the Handicap.

<u>Result:</u> 1/ S.F. Vickers	53:05	1/ BELGRAVE H.	16 points
2/ E. Hall	53:41	2/ Met. W.C.	54 "
3/ G. Williams	54:11	3/ Ilford	61 "
12/R. Middleton	56:02		

HORWOOD CUP

Winner of the 'Horwood Cup' Junior 7 mile was Bob Barnes, recent winner of the Belgrave Open '7' Handicap.

The field, which included a match with M.P.A.A., was smaller than usual, owing largely to Police duties- only 28 lining up for the start. Eric Hall was never really troubled and won the race comfortably, some thirty seconds ahead of Policeman C. Fogg, with Bob third. Lacking Stan Vickers and losing many who are first claim to the Police, we finished the match second.

HORWOOD CUP:

1/ R. Barnes	59:27	<u>Match.</u>	1/ E.W. Hall	57:49	1/ M.P.A.A.	89 pts
2/ D. Fotheringham	64:13	2/ C. Fogg (P)	58:03	2/ BELGRAVE	121 "	
3/ B. Stevenson	66:21	3/ R. Barnes	59:27			

7 MILE INTER-CLUB WALK- 2nd JAN.

1/ E.W. Hall	Bels. 55:08	16/ J. Morris	Bels. 64:28
2/ F.W. Butler	S. Ex. 58:04	18/ S. Jarlett	" 66:44
3/ C. Fogg	M.P.A.A. 58:27	19/ R.D. McMullen	" 67:18
4/ E.A. Smith	Bels. 59:55	20/ J. Keown	" 67:49
<u>Result:</u> 1/ M.P.A.A.	56 pts	2/ BELGRAVE	78 pts
		3/ Surrey W.C.	82 pts.

ESSEX BEAGLES OPEN YOUTH & JUNIOR

After leading for the first of the $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles Bob Barnes fell back to fifth place, which he maintained to the finish.

John Knifton was up with the leaders until the last hill, and finished only 13secs. behind the winner, Percy of Cambridge.

Bob and John were our only two out, so we relinquished our hold on the trophy.

RESULT. 1.S.Percy(Cambridge) 29:13 3.C.J.Manning(Highgate) 29:40
2.J.F.Knifton(Bels) 29:26 4.R.L.Barnes(Belgrave) 30:16

M.P.A.A. OPEN '7' - IMBER COURT - 16 JAN.

For the fourth year running in this popular event we easily took the scratch team award.

Stan Vickers and Eric Hall walked together and crossed the line in 51:20 for equal 1st.—much to the annoyance of some officials (there are many who do not realise that walking is a sport, and meant to be enjoyed)

With George Williams being passed by Clark(Poly) at 5 miles, when lying in 3rd place, and Ray Middleton walking home in 12th position, we had the low team score of 18 points.

RESULT: S.Vickers & E.Hall 4.G.Williams (Bels) --- 51:59
(Belgrave)---51:20 12.R.Middleton " --- 54:15
3.R.A.Clark(Poly)---51:38 23.R.Hall " --- 56:48

TEAM: 1.BELGRAVE 18pts 2.M.W.C. 39pts 3.Highgate 72pts
1st M.P.A.A. member on handicap without award: C.Yescombe 61:29(12:5)



Stan Vickers leads R.Goodall and G.Williams in Open '7'.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP 10 MILES WALK

It was not the fact that he beat Stan Vickers for the "Murphy Shield" that caused the surprise, but the manner in which Eric Hall achieved his victory.

Up Parkside, at the half distance, Eric had made up a 20 yard deficit on George Williams and Stan Vickers, and from then on was never again headed. Stan was then content to hold off George and take 2nd place. Ray Hall, who was walking very strongly, missed the turning at Coombe Lane and carried along the by-pass. Had he turned, his time would have been near 78mins, to easily take the handicap.

In his first Club 10 John Knifton did very well to take fourth place, and walked up Copse Hill like a veteran.

RESULT:
1.E.W.Hall 75:33 7.H.McGreechan 88:52
2.S.Vickers 76:18 8.J.Morris 90:53
3.G.Williams 77:00 9.M.J.Byard 91:15
4.J.Knifton 84:20 10.R.D.McMullen 91:48
5.R.C.Hall 86:19 11.C.Yescombe 92:11
6.E.A.Smith 86:53 12.D.Potheringham 92:38

Handicap: 1.M.J.Byard (18:30)
2. R.D.McMullen (19:00) 3.E.W.Hall (1:15)

Jack Goswell reviews the past few months:

We can now look back on the main winter season. Three of the five main "Opens" have fallen to our lads, beginning with the Belgrave Open. This was the first time we were at full strength. This was followed by Cambridge and Police events. We have had a fair amount of individual success; Eric Hall and Ray Middleton taking the first two places in the Civil Service '7'; Stan Vickers winning the Stock Exchange '7' and Ted Smith the Transport '7'.

Great improvement has been shown by Bob Barnes, and he should do well in the coming season. Johnny Morris and Malcolm Byard have also made great strides forward. It is a pity that Malcolm has soon to return to Sheffield. We can look forward to Ray Middleton, who has some fast pack-training behind him, moving up those few places to put him in the front rank of walkers. This is easily possible.

The main Championships now lie in front of us. The Southern "Garnet Cup" could well be ours, and the week following the L.C.C. '10'

road walk should prove no great obstacle to Stan Vickers, Eric Hall, and Ray Middleton.

Good Club Pack-training has always been the basis of success and I hope that everybody will endeavour to partake in this.

We look forward to a really good field in our Club 20 Miles Championship in April.

Best wishes to you all in the forthcoming Championships.

J.W.G.

A CAPTAIN'S MID-SEASON REVIEW

It would seem that the hopes and forecasts expressed in the last Belgravian were over optimistic, taken as a whole. Our hopes for wins in the L.C.C. Champs. and South of Thames Junior Race became disappointing 3rd & 4th places, while our 6th place in the Surrey County Senior must have ranked with our worst ever.

However, rather than being disillusioned, I remain optimistic for the evidence has shown my hopes to be no more than a little premature. "Rome was not built in a day", so however enthusiastic the lads are we must wait awhile before they click; and this should be just in time to greet those most promising runners, Alan Black and Ken Miller who soon move up into the Senior ranks. Their 3rd & 5th places in the Surrey County Junior were indeed good ones.

Our leading performers in the County Championships were Ranjit Bhatia, 1st Oxfordshire; Charlie Dabbs 11th Surrey; Pat Newell 17th Middlesex; and David Jones 17th Hampshire. Ranjit represented Oxfordshire in the Inter-Counties but Chas, although selected to run for Surrey, had to withdraw through knee trouble. Fortunately his lay-off was for no more than five days and he is now running as well as ever. David Jones is fast establishing himself as one of our leading performers and I look forward to his presence on the Brighton road. For one who lives as far distant as Chichester, David is an exceptionally good supporter of club fixtures. I would like to see his spirit prevailing through all Belgrave teams.

Our enthusiastic Vice Captain, Malcolm Robinson, has miraculously recovered from a foot ailment which on initial diagnosis he expected to prevent his ever running again. George Flanagan's recovery from his 2½ year old stomach trouble is very slow, but George is certainly not lacking in courage; many lesser men would have hung up their running shoes by now. Our glorious Devonian, Ken Venton, is beginning to show us the rewards of his hard training, and I anticipate that he and Brian Johnston will be showing us their real form in the coming road relay season.

Most of the lads are eagerly awaiting the return of Jack Brown from Cyprus. His experience will be most welcome to the newer members of our team, and his return to competitive running could well coincide with the commencement of another successful run of Belgrave performances over road and country. The spirit is there and the ability growing, so keep the movement going lads and success must come.

C.S.

Track Secretary, DAVE.M. SHEPHERD, say's;

Although we are still in the middle of the X-country season I am happy to report that the Summer Track Fixtures are being carefully considered, and it is going to be another full year of engagements.

I would like all members interested in Track Running to have, as part of their training, competition-running in our Match Fixtures. There is a run for any member who will turn up. I must thank those regulars who support our fixtures, and I hope enjoy the competition, and I would like them to bring another member with them during 1960.

Although we did not do too well at Trophy Meetings last year I look forward to better success in 1960, and hope that the Field Events section will give full support. Also the Juniors. Do turn up at as many fixtures as you can. By doing so you help us to help you! For the Youths, keep in touch with Les Stokell and Tom Carter, they will know all about the fixtures and will advise you of events in which to take part.

I hope that the 1960 Season will be a successful one for the Club and that you will keep in touch with Track Capt. Bob Taylor and Vice Cpts. C.R.Jones and M. Robinson.

BOYS & YOUTHS SECTION

Under the guidance of Tom Carter and Les Stokell the lads have made tremendous strides during the winter months. Regular Tuesday evening and Saturday afternoon pack training from the Hall with Tom has brought a tremendous team spirit, and with it an improvement in performance.

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MATCH V MITCHAM V SUTTON & CHEAM- BANSTEAD, 31st OCTCOCKS FALLS WHEN IN SIGHT OF VICTORY

Our boys had their first outing of the season on a cold, murky day against respected opposition in the Surrey County area.

David Cocks, who ran so well last track season, was well up with the leaders at the start, and was well supported by Yeo and Satchell. The leading group was soon reduced to three, with David still running strongly. At the start of the run-in there was still nothing in it, but a supreme effort took him to the front for almost certain victory. But tragedy lurked just ahead, for when only a few yards from the finishing line he crashed to the ground. He was quickly to his feet but was relegated to third place. Fortunately he did not sustain any injury.

Yeo and Satchell ran well together throughout, finishing 6th and 7th respectively; performances which show considerable promise.

Result: 1/ D. Manning (M) 11:13, 2/ A. Garcia (M) 11:14, 3/D. COCKS (B)- 11:15,
6/ J. Yeo (B) 11:40, 7/ H. Satchell (B) 11:43.

Team: 1/ Mitcham A.C. 12pts, 2/ BELGRAVE H 24pts, 3/S & Cheam 42 pts.

MATCH V SUTTON & CHEAM V WIMBLEDON A.C.
v. RAYNES PARK GRAMMAR SCHOOL-SUTTON 28th NOV.

With Hampshire and Morrison making their first appearances of the season, and packing well in with David Cocks, Belgrave swept the board in the Boys event.

Nine of our lads started, representing 'A' & 'B' teams, and Belgrave vests were well to the fore at the start. Cocks was running consistently as ever, and Hampshire was showing fine form close by. A little further back young Morrison was giving an eye-opening performance in setting the pace for a small pack, which included team-mate Yeo, Satchell who ran well in the recent Mitcham match, was on this occasion representing Raynes Park but did not look quite so happy this time, while Jarvis was running immeasurably better than on his previous outing.

With Belgrave 'A' assured of victory early on, interest was centred on the prospects of our 'B' team becoming runners-up. However, they settled for 3rd place after giving the last two scoring men of Wimbledon A.C. quite a fight.

Unfortunately our Youths do not at present have the strength of numbers enjoyed by our Boys. As a result, Taviner and Harris were our only two starters in the Youths event, but they ran very well to fill 5th and 8th places. The mounting successes of our Boys may well spur our Youths on to greater efforts.

Result: 1/ Lumb (Wimbn) 7:11 | 10/Brown (B'B') 8:03 | 1/BELGRAVE'A' 16pts
2/ Hampshire(B) 7:17 | 11/Jarvis .. 8:04 | 2/Wimbleton 33 pts
3/ Cocks .. 7:21 | 13/Satchell(R.F) 8:08 | 3/BELGRAVE'B' 52pts
4/ Morrison .. 7:41 | 15/Mead (B.'B') 8:18 | 4/R.P.G.S. 53pts
7/ Yeo .. 7:53 | 16/Merry .. 8:29 | 5/ S. & CH. ...

MATCH V GUILDFORD & GODALMING A.C.-GUILDFORD 9th JANJACKIE HAMPSHIRE SHOWS HIS CLASS

In an exceptionally exciting and tough three miles cross-country race Jackie Hampshire won in grand style from two Guildford athletes who were at that time unbeaten this season; thus gaining revenge for a defeat these two recently inflicted upon him.

The race was run in Artic type weather over the 'mountainous' regions of the Hogs Back. This was a day when our Seniors could muster only eight runners in their fixture at Epsom, so our Boys should be congratulated on going one better and fielding nine.

Harwood and Matthews of Guildford made it quite clear at the start

that they had no intention of relinquishing their unbeaten record, especially on their home course, but Hampshire and Cocks had other ideas. These four soon detached themselves from the rest of the field and a battle royal ensued. David was first to drop back, but Jackie was still running strongly and Matthews was forced to give way, leaving the other two to fight it out shoulder to shoulder for individual honours. With no more than 100 yards to go Jackie made his effort in the style of an experienced Senior to win by two clear seconds- a brilliant effort.

Morrison who is improving each time out, ran very well to gain sixth place, being well backed up by the rest of the lads.

With Guildford fielding eight runners and ourselves nine, it was agreed at the start that the team race should be decided on eight to score. However, two of our opponents dropped out and the result was declared with six to score- making Belgrave the losers by 5 points, instead of winners by a probable 2 points. However, the elation caused by Hampshire's run easily offset any disappointment at the match result.

Result: 1/J. Hampshire 17:55 5/D.Cocks 18:48 6/A. Morrison 19:08
 9/J. Redwood 20:13 10/J. Yeo 20:35 11/H. Satchell 20:38
 12/B. Merry 21:12 14/M. Smith 21:38 15/A. Mead 22:26

Match: 1/ Guildford & Godalming A.C. 37 pts 2/BELGRAVE H. 42 points.

SUTTON & CHEAM OPEN RELAY-23RD JAN.

Grand Team running wins Sutton & Cheam Open Relay.

With no more than 16 secs separating any of our runners, Belgrave's 'A' team pulverised the opposition with an outstanding display of team running. How the lads rise to the occasion!



JACKIE HAMPSHIRE
 Sth. London X-country
 and 1 mile champion,
 will represent London
 in the Inter-area
 schools X-country
 Championships at Liverpool in March.

Thirty four teams had entered for this 4X1½ mile cross-country relay, seventeen of which faced the starter, with three claret and gold vests prominent. Persistent rain had made the course very heavy, and it continued to fall for most of the race. Most spectators, other than those Belgrave supporters present, considered Mitcham A.C. to be favourites; a club exceptionally strong in young talent and victors over us in our opening fixture. First leg is generally quite a "tear-up" and Redwood had the task of getting us off to a good start. At all times he was dogging the leaders, and his was truly a great effort in gaining sixth place. Our model of consistency David Cocks set off on the second leg like a man inspired, picking off the runners one by one in the old Belgrave manner. It was only because he ran out of time and distance that one was allowed to escape. Hampshire wasted no time on the third leg disposing of this solitary escapee and then proceeded to open up an invaluable gap, the size of which must have been most comforting to young Morrison. With no one to trouble him his solo effort of 7:42 was most creditable, and he crossed the finishing line a clear 200 yards ahead of the runner-up. Hampshire recorded 4th fastest time of the day and Cocks, 7th. After two stages the "B" team were also well placed but dropped somewhat in the latter half of the race. Derek Wade ran well on the first leg to record the good time of 8:4, and Yeo's 8:10 for an intermediate stage was equally noteworthy. Smith and Jarvis were our only two runners in the 'C' team, which consequently was unable to close in.

1/ BELGRAVE H	30m-17s	Redwood	7:39	Wade	8:04
2/ Mitcham AC	30m-43s	Cocks	7:30	Yeo	8:10
3/ Purley GS	31m-01s	Hampshire	7:26	Merry	8:39
		Morrison	7:42	Brown	8:25

THE "BLACKSTAPPE SHIELD" 7 MILES C.C. CHAMPIONSHIPS-5TH DECFIRST TITLE WIN BY DABBS

Charlie Dabbs, running in his first cross-country championship for three years, moved away over the last mile from Pat Newell to win his first Senior title.

The field of thirty-three, minus the title holder Chas. Walker, who was injured, was led by Ron Linstead who set up a lead of some thirty yards by the half-mile. Leaving the road and on to the golf-course the leading bunch of Dabbs, Newell, Moore and Robinson was led by Don Maclean. The furious pace set by Mac through the woods was too fast for John Moore, who dropped back to join Eric Gebbett and Clive Shippen fifty yards behind. Off the hockey pitch and up the first hill Dabbs and Newell stormed ahead to lead by 100 yards at the Windmill. At this stage Mac set off in pursuit, intent on narrowing that distance. Meanwhile, Eric and Clive, at the half way point were going hard after Mal. The second lap brought about little change in the leaders. At the top of the hill by the Windmill Charlie surprised Pat and moved strongly away for a forty yard win. Mac had held his third place well and was followed home by Mal, with John Moore fighting hard up the finishing straight and just failing to catch Eric Gebbett.

Result:

1/C. Dabbs	40:51	7/C. Shippen	42:41	13/D.W. Jones	44:29
2/P. Newell	41:02	8/D.P. Jones	43:20	14/A. Bishop	44:54
3/D. Maclean	41:38	9/J. Davies	43:35	15/T. Hart	45:01
4/M. Robinson	41:56	10/J. Thresher	43:41	16/M. Stearman	45:37
5/E. Gebbett	42:26	11/E. Bishop	43:47	17/B. Sawyer	46:06
6/J. Moore	42:27	12/E. Short	44:05	18/F. Paget	46:22

Handicap:

1/ D.F. Jones
2/ E. Bishop
3/ D. Maclean

MATCH V WOODFORD GN AC V FINCHLEY H- WOODFORD 12TH DEC

With final placings of 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 6th Belgrave's Junior team scored a fine victory in wet conditions and heavy going, against notable opposition in Woodford and Finchley.

John Thresher, after an enforced period of light training, illustrated his great potential by being our first man home a short distance behind the reigning Middlesex Junior Champion, McLoughlin of Finchley. With Brian Johnston and Trevor Hart backing up well and the ever improving Eric Penny securing sixth position, Woodford and Finchley were well and truly put behind.

It was a different matter in the Senior race. Only one regular first team man was present; reasons for the absences ranging from the Civil Service Champs. to Christmas Shopping! With the aid of Ron Shipley, our second-claim member from Farnham A.C., and the ever present Don Newell, George Piddington and Chris Fairfield we were able to start 10 runners.

Woodford Green, virtually at full strength, easily took the team title and in a close fight the Bels secured second place from Finchley. Ron Shipley, after a bad spell at half way recovered well and only just failed to catch Chapman and Lewis of Woodford, who were 4th and 5th. Clive Shippen, after having fought a losing battle against Stearns, was 9th and our track captain Bob Taylor, 12th.

Result:

1/ P. Salvat (Finchley)	6/R. Shipley (BELGRAVE)	1/Woodford G 29 pts
2/ W. Heiberg (WoodfordG)	9/C. Shippen ..	2/BELGRAVE H 51 pts
3/ E. Major ...	12/R. Taylor ..	3/Finchley 63 pts

JUNIORS SHINE- SENIORS DULLSURREY X-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP-CHESSINGTON 2ND JAN

Alan Black, running with fire and determination surprised all but himself with third place in the Surrey Junior Cross-country.

The Junior race was run first over a so called five miles, but the winner's time of 17mins 50secs indicated a distance of nearer three miles. The weather was far from perfect, a drizzle having set in after a morning of continuous rain. The going was very soft and in parts the course was decidedly 'splashy'.

It was most encouraging to see four of our five runners well placed in the early stages of the race, and even more encouraging to find Alan Black leading the field at half-way, with Ken Miller almost on his heels in sixth place and John Thresher not far away in nineteenth position. Eric Penny, our fourth scorer, in his first year as a junior was plugging away steadily about fortieth, making headway in the typical "Penny" tradition. The next time the runners were seen was some 600 yards from the finish, where a very muddy gateway had to be negotiated. Alan and Ken were together in fourth and fifth places, but Alan pulling on his reserves sailed past the man in front to take third place, with Ken still fifth. John Thresher was looking very tired but had held on to his place by sheer will power- the final burst proved too much and he had to give way to three men. Eric Penny fighting gallantly was losing a little ground, but with a vocal encouragement of "Father Penny" the chip of the old block won in the end to move up and take thirty-second place. Mike Smithers was our other contestant further down the field. We thought we might have secured third team awards but on the final count in a low scoring race we found our 62 points placed us fourth, behind Walton A.C. (44), S.L.H. (44) and Mitcham (48). What a difference it might have been had Chris Thompson been there, in the form which gained him a high place in 1959.

DABBS FIRST RESERVE.

The story of the Senior race is far different. It was intended that the "elder brothers" should do three laps but a quick decision by the officials before the start added another lap and even then the final time was remarkably slow for a seven mile race. Only Charlie Dabbs ran to form- he was prominent in a strong field throughout and eventually took eleventh place, which secured him the reserve place in the County team for the Inter-Counties at Brighton two weeks later.

At three miles Charlie came through in twelfth place but we had a long wait before more 'claret and gold' vests appeared. The first was cross-country captain Clive Shippen in 39th place, with Eric Gebbett nearby 42nd. Then Chas. Walker 50th, Eddie Short 55th and Mal Robinson way back 67th. A further gap followed before Dennis Jones appeared 83rd, John Collier 90th and Mike Stearman 92nd. Don Maclean was having one of his days and was lying 120th and Alan Bishop completed our contingent in 125th place. The second half of the race produced an improvement in positions by the scoring six to the extent of approximately fifty places, but it was not enough to bring us anywhere near the placed teams and we had to be content with sixth. Not a very encouraging state of affairs!

Result:

1/ E.Earl (Hercules) 32:22	47/E. Short 35:31	Team: 86(5,8,9,17,)
2/ E. Shirley .. 32:28	69/M. Robinson 36:35	17/ S.L.H.(23,24,)
3/ M. Maynard (H.H.H) 32:29	80/D.W. Jones 37:12	2/Walton A.C.
11/C. Dabbs (Bels) 33:39	88/J. Collier 37:34	(6,7,14,32,34,50) 143
35/C. Shippen .. 35:09	89/M. Stearman 37:35	3/ H.H.H.
39/G. Walker .. 35:20	91/D. Maclean 37:50	6/ BELGRAVE H.
		(3,4,21,29,30,64)151
		(10,33,36,39,42,57)
43/E. Gebbett ;. 35:25	123/A. Bishop 41:03	Total 217

Junior Result:

1/ M. Gillett (Mit.) 17:50	1/Walton (6,8,12,17,)	43 pts.
2/ R. Harvey (Croydon) 17:56	2/S.L.H. (4,10,11,18)	43 pts.
3/ A. Black (BELGRAVE) 18:01	3/Mitcham (1,7,16,22)	46 pts.
5/ K. Miller .. 18:05	4/BELGRAVE (3,5,20,28)	56 pts.
22/J. Thresher .. 18:51		
32/B. Penny .. 19:34		
69/M. Smithers .. 22:43		

THE "MACHER SHIELD" 10 MILES C.C. CHAMPIONSHIPS-23RD JAN

DABBS MAKES IT A DOUBLE

Charlie Dabbs notched up his second title of the season when he easily won the Club "Macher Shield" from Charlie Walker.

A field of 28 lined up for the start and within half a mile Dabbs, Walker, Newell and David Jones were running together, 35 yards clear of the field. Charlie steadily pulled away from the bunch and by half-way had a clear 250 yards to spare from Chas Walker, a distance which he had increased to 660 yards by the finish.

The defending champion Pat Newell, who had been troubled with a back ailment for several weeks- it comes on after two or three miles- found the pain too much and for the first time in his athletic career had to retire.

Running evenly, David Jones did well to take third place and the handicap award. He had travelled up from his home in Chichester in the morning and within half an hour of the finish was on his way back.

Result:

1/ C. Dabbs	58:09	9/ J. Moore	63:30	17/ A. Penstone	68:36
2/ C. Walker	60:03	10/ J. Dooley	64:01	18/ K. Stimpson	69:10
3/ D.F. Jones	60:44	11/ J. Collier	65:27	19/ G. Stace	70:20
4/ E. Gebbett	61:33	12/ B. Maclean	65:56	20/ D. Newell	70:58
5/ C. Shippen	61:57	13/ L. Bishop	66:06	21/ R. Bolem	71:25
6/ R. Bhatia	62:11	14/ M. Stearman	66:51	22/ B. Sawyer	72:44
7/ E. Short	62:46	15/ A. Bishop	68:14	23/ J. Beaumont	75:53
8/ J. Davies	62:52	16/ W. Fairfield	68:32	24/ J. Baker	80:16

Handicap:

1/ D. Jones (3:15) 57:29, 2/ J. Dooley (6:00) 58:01, 3/ C. Dabbs scr.

A fast improving Ken Miller won the Junior '5' "Savage Shield". He reversed his Surrey Championship performance (5th to Alan Black's 3rd) by putting Alan a good 300 yds behind him.

Ken, Alan, and John Thresher quickly set up a lead and were moving away from the field all the time. Going through the brook Alan fell and Ken was quick to seize the advantage. The 30 yards he gained acted as an incentive for he increased the distance at the finish to have almost a minute in hand.

Result:

1/ K. Miller	28:53	4/ D. Crookes	30:49	7/ E. Penny	31:29
2/ A. Black	29:44	5/ K. Venton	31:05	8/ B. Johnston	31:41
3/ J. Thresher	30:09	6/ D. Mitchell	31:26	9/ R. James	32:18

MITCHAM '15'- JAN 9TH

Jackie Brown's record was at no time in danger during this race. His record was made in conditions little better than this year's, - nevertheless the day saw some good performances.

Our first man home was Eric Bishop, with brothers Alan and Len in 109th and 125th positions. Eric was followed in by Jim Heathfield, who is finding it very difficult to do any serious training now that he has changed his job. It was very pleasing to see 'new boy' Norman Stairs in his first distance race for us, running so well. More than anything experience plays a great part in this race.

Result:

1/ I. Edmunds (Bristol)	80:38	32/ E. Bishop	88:50
2/ J. Edwards	80:53	44/ J. Heathfield	90:18
3/ W. Pawsey (Mitcham)	81:58	45/ E. Short	90:22
4/ L. Jones (Southend)	82:39	48/ N. Stairs	90:36
5/ T. Smith (Ipswich)	83:08	52/ L. Bishop	91:17
6/ T. Wray (Lincoln)	83:23	61/ D.W. Jones	92:12

Fry Challenge Trophy (scoring six runners)

1/ T.V.H.	(9,10,14,18,19,63).....	133	points
2/ Mitcham A.C.	(3,20,39,50,54,72).....	238	..
3/ Epsom & Ewell	(15,27,47,55,58,56).....	258	..
4/ BELGRAVE H.	(32,44,45,52,48,61).....	282	..

WE RECEIVE LETTERS:

The following letter has been received from a firm of solicitors Messrs. Black, Blacker, & Blackest of 1887, Belgravia Side, Lowdown, SHERTS:

"Dear Sirs,

We have been consulted by Mrs Betty Jones who has shown us the issue of a journal entitled 'The Belgravian' dated November, 1959.

This journal bears on its front or title page a photograph or visual image with the caption 'The President'. Our client being the wife of the President of Belgrave Harriers is most concerned that such impression or image should be likened to her husband, in fact she is almost wondering who it is.

Our client has been advised that a photograph or visual image purporting to be a likeness of a named or designated person can be defamatory if not a true likeness or one which tends to bring him or one so close to him into disrepute.

Our client does not wish to make mountains out of molehills but she is desirous of protecting her interests and feels that her position should be appreciated by the Editors of the journal concerned and the Club on whose behalf it was published.

She would be quite content if she were convinced that the said photograph or visual image were likely to fade, but the production and quality of the said journal is such that she does not think this is likely. Therefore she instructs us today that she feels she should be compensated by heavy damages and an apology.

In regard to the latter word and entirely without prejudice to her rights our client might be prepared to consider the matter closed if an apology were made in writing with the concurrence of the author of the photograph or visual image, although she appreciates that a photographer cannot be held entirely responsible for what his camera produces. Perhaps publication of a further photograph, more likeable in the eyes of our client and something in a compensatory nature, which we leave to your imagination would adequately satisfy our client.

We should be obliged to hear from you in the course of your nefarious duties and failing this our client has instructed us to take the matter in our own hands and seek retribution with the utmost means at our disposal.

Yours faithfully,
Black, Blacker & Blackest.

Eds. "Well!...we're just lost for words-especially those sort! so let us quote the profound comments of the following distinguished gentlemen! Hon Sec."-----Charlie's most determined jaw on the front cover---but perhaps this was meant to be symbolic?"
Photo'r. Eddie Lacey. "Let's face it Charlie, your just not photogenic!"



See! --- Charlie always looks like this!!

Len Marchant, now with Southend A.C., writes-" I couldn't help but notice Bill Lucas's remarks re the 1959 Surrey Road Relay in the last Belgravian. The race he referred to was the 1951 Relay. Times of our runners: J. Bromley 14:31; A. Bruce 14:20; C. Walker 14:32; A. Bedford 14:35; E. Short 14:40 and B. Lucas 14:25. A winning aggregate of 87:03, which would have put the team nearly a minute in front of this year's winners!!".
Eds. Len is quite correct, although the diversion round the cricket-field would contribute a little to the slower times.

David August, from Nigeria writes of one of his races; an 880 for which he clocked 2:03. "...slow, but with a boiling sun, 90 in the shade, and a grass track, I was pleased".
And so he should be!

FROM " THE BELGRAVIAN"- 25 YEARS AGO

English Cross-Country Champions, 1935- BELGRAVE HARRIERS
 "....In the last mile our boys gave all they had, and we had the remarkable scoring sequence of 11, 14, 15, 18, 19 and 20th places..... Cheers greeted Bert Footter as he accepted the "Frank Wynne" Cup on behalf of the Club. Cheers again as he took the "Finch Wayte" Cup for the first Southern Club. Cheers yet again as Bert was called upon to receive the replica awarded to the first man of the first Southern Club to finish. A speech was demanded and Bert obliged in his best film-star manner and called for three cheers for the previous title-holders- Birchfield Harriers! Carried away by his enthusiasm, he led the cheering by waving the miniature cup above his head, and the lid dropped the four feet odd to the ground and bounced into the footlights- more cheers!

1/ BELGRAVE H (Footter 11, D. Patience 14, Ginty 15, Taylor 18) 97 pts	
	(Carter 19, Shields 20)
2/ Salford H .. 154 pts	17/ S.L.H. .. 624 pts
3/ Surrey A.C.. 156 pts	18/ H.H.H. .. 659 pts
4/ Birchfield.. 186 pts	27/ T.V.H. ..1074 pts

THE LIGHTER SIDE

BERT JORDAN writes:

As this is the first issue of the "Belgravian" for 1960, I would like to take this opportunity of wishing you all a very Prosperous and successful New Year.

The support of Socials and Dances so far this season has been very encouraging; the New Year's Eve Dance having a record attendance. Bill Lucas has as always been an able M.C., and this year we have had no trouble with the bar, always being able to get a licence.

I would like to thank all those who supported the raffles in aid of the Children's Party, especially those who gave the prizes. I am sure the children enjoyed themselves. The adults who attended enjoyed the 'puppet show' as much as did the children.

The Annual Dinner and Dance will be held at Ardington Rooms, Ilminster Gardens, Clapham Junction, on November 5th next. And it is hoped that as many as possible will be there.

The last of the socials for 1959-60 will be held at Belgrave Hall, on March 26th, and I look forward to seeing you all, together with your friends.
 A.T.J.

ALL THE RUNNERS!

To assist Club funds we are to hold a Grand Derby Draw. Books of tickets have already been sent to members. This Draw is registered under the 1956 Act which permits sending tickets through the post and the sale of tickets to non-members.

Generous prizes are offered and we are grateful to Past President, Frank Webb who will act as Promotor of the Draw. Address: 50, Longford Avenue, Southall, Middlesex, and he would be glad to hear from members able to dispose of a hundred or more tickets- the more the merrier! It is hoped that every Club member will dispose of at least 20 tickets among his relatives, friends and workmates. You may have the pleasure of selling or winning one of the prize-winning tickets, and your Club will benefit and your interests will be served.

FOR SALE

Are you in need of a track-suit top? If you have one now, could you do with another to keep for that 'Special' occasion? If so, a limited supply is available- all at the reasonable price of 35/-. They are in maroon, with gold edging around the crew collar, cuffs and bottom--- the Club colours.

Contact Malcolm Robinson, who is at Tooting track on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, at Hurlingham on Sunday mornings, or at his home address (occasionally!) 32, Arundle Terrace, S.W.13.