



JULY 1957

FOUNDED 1887

The
BELGRAVIAN

The
Official Gazette
of the
Belgrave Harriers

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JULY 1957

No. 131

THREE NATIONAL TITLES IN ONE YEAR !

By the magnificent victory of our walkers in the R.W.A. 50 kilometres event at Preston we become the first club ever to have held the three Senior National road-walking team titles in one year - a brilliant achievement!

This latest win was accomplished, be it noted, without the assistance of Eric Hall, who was forced to retire from the race owing to the extreme heat. We extend our sympathies to Eric, who, with more favourable weather conditions might easily have completed a superlative double, as he had already won the 20 mile title.

Congratulations to those members who showed the Belgrave colours to such fine effect in gaining win and place medals in the track championships of FIVE counties, a remarkable feat! Most notable were the brilliant doubles of Brian Morris (Sussex 220 & 440 yds.), Ivan Mayers (Middlesex 100 & 220 yds.) and Clive Ryan (Surrey Junior 100 & 220 yds.).

Another noteworthy performance was that of B. Morris and G. Leroy in finishing 1st and 2nd in the Kinneird 440 yds. final, both inside 50 sec. Morris followed this up a week later when finishing a very close second in the Southern 440 with a time of 48.6 sec. In view of these splendid efforts our chances of annexing the forthcoming A.A.A. 4 x 440 yds. relay are very bright indeed.

It now seems that we have first class performers in almost all the events in which a club of our standing participates, and the days when we lost matches due to our inability to put competitors in certain events are gone. A particular instance springs to mind here, when, a few years back we won almost every track event against L.A.C. and still lost the match. Thanks to Jack Chappell, Bill Merryman and Charlie Jones, the result of such a match now would be quite different.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Don't forget to send in your entries before Aug. 3rd. We would like to see as large an entry as befits a Club of our strength and size.

IN MEMORIAM

It is with deep regret that we report the death, at an early age, of Stan Czusick, as the result of a sudden illness. Stan, a most likeable and popular athlete, was a Pole; his regularity and keenness for turning out in cross-country and road events was an example to all.

R.I.P.

BELGRAVE 37th ANNUAL 7 MILES OPEN WALK 24th NOV.1956

We were again favoured with fine weather for this popular event, the rain keeping off until after the finish. Our grateful thanks are due to all officials and helpers, who, despite petrol rationing, ensured a well organised event. Once more the ladies did fine work selling programmes and Arthur Whitehead was host to a Belgrave Hall 'overflow'; we are indebted to them. Also to all those who generously supported the Prize Fund I say "THANKYOU". Without their help this event would not be staged.

The largest entry of the season, 248, included 55 Bels, and we finished SIX teams! 176 walkers started.

We were out to regain The Berman Cup, and right well we did, with 27pts. to Woodford's 34. The individual title went to Ken Matthews, Royal Sutton Coldfield, who won easily from George Meadows of Highgate and Williams of Ilford.

Packing well, our lads put their team in the first twelve positions with Ted Smith 7th, Dave McMullen 8th, George Checkley 9th, Syd James 11th and Bob Newson 12th!

Ray Middleton, on leave from the R.A.F. was 29th, a fine show; he was rewarded by winning the handicap. Also with Trevor Luck, Ted Smith and George Checkley he figured in the winning handicap team. Charlie Speechly was walking in his 37th Open, he competed in the 1st.

All in all a fine days walking.

Result:-

1st Belgrave "A"	27pts.
2nd Woodford "A"	34 "
3rd Highgate "A"	46 "
10th Belgrave "B"	200 "
14th Belgrave "C"	268 "
21st Belgrave "E"	464 "

Handicap Team Result :-

1st Belgrave "A"	202 mins. 58 secs.
2nd Surrey W.C. "A"	204 " 10 "
3rd Highgate "A"	204 " 20 "
8th Belgrave "B"	208 " 30 "
18th Belgrave "C"	221 " 05 "
21st Belgrave "E"	240 " 58 "

NATIONAL CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPSParliament Hill March 9th.

Any Northern or Midland competitors who expected civilised parkland conditions in the first 'National' to be staged in London for many years, were sadly disappointed, for a veritable sea of mud faced them from start to finish.

A mild, cloudy afternoon, an enthusiastic, well controlled crowd of spectators and enormous fields; the value of a season's hard training was now to be put to the test by over 1500 runners.

First to taste the conditions were the youths, and the usual hard fought, closely bunched race was well dealt with by the recorders; competitors pouring in at well over a hundred-a-minute. Under the conditions our lads performed well, and we were glad to see that Arthur Penny was able to get a good turn-out. In a very large field, A. Black, following his unfortunate mishap at Epsom, ran well to finish 66th with K. Miller, D. Taylor and J. Radford all finishing in the first half of the field and within 16 places.

The senior race provided the largest field of the day, when 771 runners were soon swarming up the steep hill at the start. At first sight our chaps did not seem well placed and were well split up. Jack Brown was lying about 36th with Eric Gebbett leading the rest of the team in about 120th position.

A course of this nature however, called for restraint in the early stages, when many spent too much energy endeavouring to move up before they had even allowed the field to settle down.

There our men showed that at least they could hold on to their positions, and after 3 miles Jack had moved up to the twenties, Eric was running extremely well, just outside the hundred; Dave Baulch, Ray Tooby, Chas Walker and Len Bishop were our scoring team in that order. Chas seemed comfortable, but quite unable to move up and was soon to be in danger of being caught by Len.

Jack's progress was a treat to watch, for from 6 miles he slowly went through to pass Kelly, Hicks, Heywood, our second claim member Bill Bird, running a 'blinder', and was soon lying about 15th. This was cross-country running of a type we had not seen from him before, for none would call him a mudlark and never before had he showed such cool tactics.

The finish saw Jack in 11th place, with Gebbett our next man home 114th, Dave Baulch 141st, Ray Tooby, who had manfully stood up to a course for which he was not physically suited 147th, whilst Chas Walker held on to finish 173rd from Len Bishop 181st. It was clear from the team result, in which we finished 11th, that with P. Bagnall, P. Newell, and with Chas occupying a position more worthy of his undoubted ability, we could have finished in the first six. However, 11th was a creditable performance out of 69 teams to finish.

Others to finish were, C. Shippen 205th, J. Heathfield 340th and D. Hooper 362nd.

In the junior race we saw a new Pirie, for the manner in which North slammed the field in such conditions, was a revelation. It seems almost a travesty of justice that he was not awarded his international vest.

None of our lads looked very happy in the mud, and considering that 1200 runners had already torn the course up, who could blame them! However, Flanagan ran extremely well to gain 40th place, but one wonders how much better he would perform with a less loping action; his style was definitely unsuited to the going.

Stevens ran a very steady race, and hung on grimly in the closing stages, when obviously very tired, to be our second man home, 143rd, a fine performance in a big field. Tupper and Couzens completed our team, scoring 204 and 254.

As a team we finished 30th out of 58. However, the great thing was that we had a full team, and we feel sure next year will be a different story when a little more welding has been done.

NATIONAL 10 MILE WALKING CHAMPIONSHIP.

Coventry March 9th.

A high-spirited party of eighteen travelled up by train for this event. In view of our good form throughout this season, we were confident of regaining the team title, held for the past eight years by Sheffield U.H. We were without Syd James, and Dave McMullen was not at his best, owing to an attack of flu. First-class dressing accommodation was provided at a boy's school on the outskirts of Coventry. The only fly in the ointment was the weather; it rained incessantly for the whole afternoon, making conditions very unpleasant.

One hundred and fifty walkers started at 2-20 p.m. and Stan Vickers went straight into the lead, closely followed by Matthews of Sutton Coldfield. Eric Hall was in the first ten, while the rest of our lads were in the middle of the field. One man (not a 'Bel') was actually disqualified in the first fifty yards!

Passing the mile in 7m.12s., the two leaders were still together, but at three miles Stan had opened up a gap of twenty yards. Shortly afterwards Matthews was disqualified and thereafter Stan was not headed.

Eric Hall was now fourth and when the third man was ruled out he quickly moved up to second place, about 200yds. behind Stan.

A quick check at 4½ miles proved that we were already on top, with 36pts. to Met.W.C.'s 50 and Sheffield well back. Our

scorers at this point being :- 1, S.Vickers; 2, E.Hall; 16, Ted Smith; 17, George Checkley. Bob Newson and Dave McMullen were close behind, followed by G.Beecham, H.McGreechan and J.Coleman.

At a further check three miles later, the team position was almost the same, with Belgrave 39pts to Met.W.C's 55 and Sheffield still a long way behind.

Stan was now moving perfectly although Eric had gained slightly on him. At this stage Eric's second place was being threatened by Chaplin of Coventry and Allen of Sheffield, three times winner of this event, who was moving rapidly through the field. Fortunately for Eric this threat didn't materialise, as he was able to hold off Chaplin, while Allen faded and fell back to fifth place.

Still moving effortlessly Stan went on to win by 16sec. from Eric with Chaplin 42sec. further back. Ted Smith was an untroubled 17th and George Checkley 20th, to complete our scoring four. We actually finished 7 in 29 - a great performance and a splendid example of Belgrave team spirit. How jubilant we all were when the team result was announced!

At the presentation, by the deputy Mayor of Coventry, Stan received the plaque awarded to him by the R.W.A. for exceeding eight miles in the hour at Parliament Hill last September.

We made a very hurried journey to the station to catch the 6-17, somewhat handicapped by having to carry a very large cup and a shield. There was even greater evidence of high spirits on the way home, and justifiably so, after such a resounding victory.

Don Brown, Alf Harley and Harry Evans who travelled with us must have felt well satisfied with the result, and Alf reminded me of his words of four years ago, when he said "keep at it, and you will have a champion or champions come along". How right he was, for here we were with 1st and 2nd individuals and a winning National team. Our training and team spirit have certainly paid handsome dividends and to every member of our team I say "Well done, as fine a victory as any in the long history of the Club".

J. Goswell.

Finishing positions and times :-

1	S.F. Vickers	76.51	29	R.C. Hall	84.32
2	E.W. Hall	77.07	50	H. McGreechan	85.47
17	E.A. Smith	81.40	53	J.G. Coleman	87.21
20	G.S. Checkley	82.52	54	G.E. Beecham	87.21
23	R.D. McMullen	83.52	72	R.H. Switzer	90.23
24	P.J. Miller	83.52	75	C. Edwards	91.01
25	R. Newson	83.57			

Team result :-	1	Belgrave H.	37	pts
	2	Metropolitan W.C.	50	"
	3	Sheffield U.H.	60	"

ILFORD ROAD RELAY - MARCH 16th

In a large field we were off to a good start, when Eric Gebbett ran in 7th on the first stage, 30 seconds behind the leaders, Blackheath. Eric handed over to Ray Tooby, who moved up well to place us 3rd, despite clashing with Redrup of Wycombe Phoenix who broke the lap record.

Our next man, however, Jack Brown, was to have none of this, and proceeded to smash Redrup's record and put us in the lead with a scintillating run. Dave Baulch ran well to hold our lead but on the next stage, Len Bishop had to give best to Ellis of T.V.H., and we were now second.

A rather unhappy looking 'Jumbo' Masters, whom we welcomed back after a long absence, hung on to our position but we had slipped back on times. However, Colin Collis, running at a distance well below his usual, and George Flanagan consolidated our

position with well judged running.

On the 9th stage, Dave Maclean found this flat course well to his liking and produced a fast time, though without altering our position. With Norris on the last stage for T.V.H. Chas Walker ambled round and we finished 2nd to Thames Valley with Herne Hill 3rd.

Times :-	E. Gebbett	18.37	J. Masters	19.15
	R. Tooby	18.26	C. Collis	18.38
	J. Brown	17.29	G. Flanagan	18.40
	D. Baulch	18.50	D. Maclean	18.36
	L. Bishop	18.46	C. Walker	19.01

CAMBRIDGE ROAD RELAY - MARCH 23rd

On an almost spring-like day, about thirty teams competed in this popular event. We fielded two teams, and our first stage runners were Len Bishop 'A' team, and G. Stevens 'B' Team, who both ran well, on a stage when positions are rather close, finishing 6th and 18th respectively.

Ray Tooby moved up to 4th place on the next stage, and Chas Walker, with an almost identical time, ensured that our next man, Jack Brown, was within striking distance of the leaders. Once again Jack established a new lap record, but failed to catch Heywood of H.H.H. who also put up a very fast time.

The 5th stage run by Jumbo Masters, saw us drop to 3rd place behind T.V.H. and H.H.H. and our last man, Eric Gebbett, although running well was unable to improve on this.

Our 'B' team were unfortunate in that McLean had a very bad cold and lost 13 places and 5 minutes on the second stage. However, without his sporting run they would not have been able to finish a team.

Times :-	'A' Team 3rd		'B' Team 23rd	
	L. Bishop	18.34	G. Stevens	19.31
	R. Tooby	18.44	D. McLean	24.36
	C. Walker	18.46	W. Couzens	20.48
	J. Brown	17.44	T. Paget	21.44
	J. Masters	19.14	R. Conway	21.37
	E. Gebbett	18.48	E. Short	19.44

One recalls the days when we had 4 teams in this race!!

SILK PURSES AND SOWS' EARS

Which are you? They say you cannot make one from the other, but if the first represents the international class athlete and the second the "scrubber", the impossible can be achieved. Who would have thought when Eric Hall was finishing in the middle of Junior 1-mile walk fields that here was a budding Olympic walker?

There are others who, if they have not reached the "silk purse" grade have produced an article of high quality rayon. One is Eric Gebbett, who finished 8th in our youths cross-country championship in 1950 (13th and last was the now well known R. Darohambaud) and has achieved 2h.33m.17s. for the marathon and holds the club record for stage 5 of the Brighton relay. Another is Colin Collis, who, although finishing 135th out of 140 in the 1946 National Youths cross-country and has yet to beat 4m.50s. for a mile, has "produced" a 1h.51m.58s. "20" and a 2h.56m.35s. "30".

How is it done? Methods of training vary but one thing is common to all those not endowed with natural ability who have made good and that is QUANTITY of training. One must be prepared to give anything from 1 to 3 hours, 6 or 7 times a week, for month after month. Bad weather, sore feet, social inconvenience

and a hundred other difficulties must be overcome. Not everyone is prepared to make these sacrifices, but perhaps more would if they felt sure the results could be achieved. They can.

We have temporarily lost the services of Jack Brown. We must make some more silk purses if we are to maintain our high standard of performance in middle distance running. We have plenty of sows' ears and plenty of material that would need less drastic adaptation. In Chas Walker, Dave Bauloh, Ray Tooby, Pat Newell and Brian Hallowell, to name but a few, we have runners of the class of which champions are made. All that is needed is for them to set their sights higher in terms of mileage and standard of performance. Let everyone take as his motto "It can be done"- and it will.

Percy Verence.

Is Belgrave Hall taken for granted ?

My contribution takes the form of an appreciation of the luxury of Belgrave Hall, and the great variety of country on it's doorstep.

For twenty years I, together with many others I'm afraid, took all this for granted. It was not until I moved right away from the vicinity of Wimbledon that it was brought home to me, in no uncertain manner how very fortunate are the active members of the Club.

As you may know, there is in existence a South East Essex cross-country league, formed by five clubs, Brentwood A.C., Hadleigh Olympiads, Chelmsford A.C., Hornchurch A.C. and Southend A.C.

I have just completed my first winter season over here, competing in four of the five league matches, and I couldn't help making comparisons, as surely Darchambaud of S.L.H., and George Knight of Essex Beagles must have done; they turned out for Chelmsford and Brentwood respectively while I ran for Southend. I am sure the clubs concerned would not object if I say that compared with Belgrave Hall things are pretty grim!

Brentwood and Hornchurch use children's schools, though I must admit that hot water is on tap at Hornchurch. Chelmsford have a fair-sized hut with a small plunge-bath. I was one of the lucky people back early - I wouldn't like to say what it was like for the tail-enders!

Unfortunately I missed the Hadleigh match, but I'm told they also use a hut.

For the league match, Southend have probably the best accommodation - the modern Belfairs School - and although the showers are only chest-high to adults, the water is hot. The school canteen is also available. The only fly in the ointment is the fact that the start is half-a-mile away.

With regard to the courses, there is even less comparison. Of necessity, they are unimaginative, being hemmed in by building developments - no Wimbledon Common or Richmond Park here!

In my opinion Chelmsford have the best course, with varied country, 2-300 yds. of plough on each lap and the usual brand of Essex mud, but never really out of sight of buildings.

For training and club championships Southend use a small hut, (about the size of the Belgrave Hall committee room) on the golf course at Belfairs. Water is heated over a primus stove and we wash one leg at a time! The ceiling is so low that on more than one occasion I have knocked it while taking off my shirt and put the lights out! Every time I go there I am reminded of the days at the "Rising Sun", not only by the rather primitive conditions but by the same feeling of comradeship and club spirit that used to hit you as you entered the back room of that pub in Pimlico. I only hope we can build that same spirit at Basildon, but I feel we won't until the cross-country section gets going, which can't be too soon for me.

This may sound like so much sob stuff to some people but the atmosphere I've been talking about was there at Belfairs

on 23rd Feb., when we had finished the club 10 miles championship in the worst weather of the season. After five laps of continuous ankle-deep (and sometimes knee-deep) mud, back to a small drum of hot water. I was second to Roy McCalla, so once again was lucky enough to get washed while the water was still reasonably clean. So can you wonder why I make comparisons.

After having enjoyed the finest winter accommodation and some of the best country that any club in the land can offer, if I ever hear anyone bemoaning their lot at Belgrave Hall again I'll recommend them to a couple of helpings of the South East Essex League, and all that it implies. I'm sure Ken Cuff will back me up.

Len Marchant.

CLUB 5½ MILES ROAD RACE 30th MARCH.

1 C.W. Walker	28.50	12 D. Paget	32.50
2 P. Bagnall	29.00	13 W. Speight	32.53
3 D. Baulch	29.37	14 P. Matthews	32.56
4 J. Masters	30.09	15 K. Stimpson	33.09
5 E. Short	30.26	16 S. Hunt	33.12
6 R. Taylor	30.38	17 E. Stimpson	33.21
7 J. Dooley	30.58	18 A. Jordan	34.38
8 L. Marchant	31.39	19 T. Morrell	35.14
9 D. Manning	32.34	20 C. Manning	35.40
10 L. Rolls	32.37	21 P. Pallent	35.45
11 M. Stearman	32.41		

YOUTHS' 3 MILES ROAD RACE 30th MARCH.

1 A. Black	15.30	5 Hart	16.54
2 G. Stevens	15.39	6 Hiscock	17.09
3 K. Miller	15.47	7 E. Penny	17.52
4 W. Cousens	16.43		

WIGMORE "15" MARCH 30th

We were without the services of Jack Brown for this race but still felt fairly confident of winning the team race. Walton A.C. however, had other ideas, and defeated us by four points.

A pleasing feature of this event was that all our runners who had competed here before (five) improved upon their previous best time; some by considerable margins.

Placings and times :-

6, C.N. Collis	1h.23m.11s.;
8 E.J. Gebbett	1h.23m.27s.
11 L.C. Bishop	1h.24m.59s.
37 H.A. Bishop	1h.30m.55s.
47 A. Penstone	1h.32m.28s.
55 W. Wortley	1h.35m.15s.
86 R. Conway	1h.44m.28s.

Team result :- 1st Walton A.C. 20pts; 2nd Belgrave 24pts.
3rd Southend A.C. 37pts.

BELGRAVE DINNER

Saturday November 16th 1957

We are breaking new ground this year and have booked the Mecca Restaurant in Barrington House, Gresham Street, London E.C.2 for our annual function. This is a very smart and capacious restaurant in a newly erected block of office property in the City of London, and to those of you who work in that area it may already be well known as a resort for morning coffee or for lunches with prices ranging from those paid by the proletariat to those within the expense accounts of City Directors. The décor

is excellent and the facilities for dinner-dances first class, with adequate bar space providing drinks at nominal prices.

The situation is within easy walking distance of Bank (Northern & Central lines) and St.Pauls (Central line) stations and extensive car-parking facilities are available.

We are forced to increase the price beyond that of previous functions owing to the trend of rising prices throughout the catering trade, but we are confident that the extra shilling or two will not be missed by members and it will be well worth the much improved food and the ideal setting.

Tickets are now available at 19/6d. per head and we hope that everyone will apply as soon as possible and support your Social Committee in the endeavours they are making on your behalf.

Remember that this year is our 70th anniversary and we would like to make the occasion a worthy one for a Club with such a long life as ours.

7 MILES "HORWOOD CUP" (JUNIOR) CHAMPIONSHIP.

15th December, 1956.

The following result should have been included in the last issue of the Belgravian but owing to it's late arrival this was not possible.

1	T. Luck	60.15	7	C.H. Speechley	66.30
2	D. Stevens	60.38	8	W.J. Ferguson	67.44
3	J. Knifton	60.42	9	B. Stevenson	67.55
4	D. Fotheringham	63.40	10	D. Logan	69.27
5	J. Keown	65.24	11	D. Russell	70.17
6	J. Wilson	66.26			

Handicap result :-

1st	J. Wilson(9.35)	56.51
2nd	C.H. Speechley(9.30)	57.00
3rd	B. Stevenson(10.30)	57.25

LONDON SHIPPING 10 MILES ROAD RACE

Hayes, 20th April

On what was more like a June day, with temperatures in the 60's our team crushed what little resistance was offered, to win both individual and team awards.

At 5 miles Jack Brown had "lost" the field and looked set for another easy win, Colin Collis followed in 5th position from Chas Walker, Dave Bauloh, Eric Gebbett and Len Bishop. Our first 6 men at this stage were within the first twelve positions.

The effects of his early effort slowed Jack down on the second lap, but he still ran out a clear winner from Haslam of T.V.H. in a new course record. Collis was 5th and Len Bishop who had moved up six places, finished 6th. A tired Walker was our last scoring man, while Eric Gebbett demonstrated his dislike of warm weather by falling back over the last few miles to finish 9th. Incidentally our next four men could have taken 2nd team award.

1	J.W. Brown	54.01	11	D. Bauloh	60.00
5	C.N. Collis	57.38	14	E.A. Short	61.05
6	L.C. Bishop	57.45	42	R. Conway	70.43
7	C.W. Walker	57.56	51	Baker	81.05
9	E.J. Gebbett	58.58			

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR SUBS.?

It is very disturbing to learn that over one hundred members have yet to pay their subscriptions for the current year. This is not the true Belgrave spirit. Will those concerned please do the necessary.

NATIONAL LONDON TO BRIGHTON RELAY

April 13th 1957

by Olympian

We more than excelled our expectations by taking third place behind South London Harriers and Thames Valley. It had been generally expected that Sheffield United with their all-round strength and a sprinkling of "stars" would also finish in front, and that the best we could hope for was a fourth position. The boys however, ran like heroes especially in the latter part of the race and more than compensated for an off-day by Pete Bagnall on the first leg. Pride of place goes to Jack Brown for his excellent run on the seventh leg which gave him a stage record. This was made with no help whatsoever as the team in front were well out of sight for most of the leg and those behind were never with Jack. It should also be recorded that other notabilities on this stage were Sando, Driver, Heatley, O'Gorman, Keily and Ingles, all of whom beat the previous record and all of whom gained assistance in battling with the opposition. It is sad to relate that this will almost certainly be Jack's last run on the Brighton road for at least three years as he has now moved to Cyprus with the Civil Service.

Now to the story of the race, taken individually stage by stage.

1st Pete Bagnall

A very fast start from Old Palace Yard along the Embankment with most of the twenty runners bunched together and Pete nicely placed. At Chelsea Bridge the leaders made a break and Wood (Sheffield), Mayatt (Aylesford), Gilligan (Pembroke) and Eales (Tipton) opened up a thirty yards lead from seven others (including Pete) by Queens Road Circus. Before Cedars Road Wood and Gilligan had gone ahead and at this point Bagnall was having a bad time back in 14th position. However, a desperate effort over the half mile brought us up to 13th, almost one minute behind Pembroke for whom Gilligan had taken an 8 seconds lead over Ken Wood. Ahead of us were such dangerous teams as Sheffield, Poly, Woodford Green and Victoria Park (Scotland). Fortunately S.L.H. and T.V.H. were also in the dumps.

2nd Charlie Walker

Conditions perfect for a fast run with twelve teams ahead strung out at regular intervals. Just right for Charlie who likes opposition such as this and he really rose to the occasion, and despite an early set-back when Cameron (T.V.H.), running very strongly, passed and went away, he made progress to such an extent as to take us up to 7th and at the same time produced a Belgrave best for the stage. Poly, with a first-class run by D.J.P. Richards, were in the lead with T.V.H. second, Cameron having made up twelve places, and Sheffield 3rd. We were then 52 seconds in arrears.

3rd Len Bishop

With all due respects to Len this was not his sort of stage, but it is easy to be wise after the event. He battled to the end but had to give way to five teams, amongst whom was S.L.H. represented by Ibbotson who did the fastest time of the day and moved up from 10th to 4th. At Purley we were 2 min. 10 sec. behind Sheffield who had again taken the lead, with T.V.H. still second, 13 sec. back, and Poly third.

4th Pete Newell

A new complexion, as far as we were concerned, came over the race from the moment Pete took his baton. He set about the opposition as if his life depended upon it, and took us through to fifth, only 1 min. 29 sec. in arrears. This earned him the second fastest time of the day, surpassed only by Darchambaud who was 3 sec. faster. It was however, a Belgrave best and was only 12 sec. outside the stage record held by none other than

Ken Norris.

5th Eric Gebbett

Eric continued the good work through Redhill and quickly passed Poly to take us into fourth place. Unfortunately the three leaders were running close together, over three hundred yards ahead, and Eric had no opportunity of getting to grips with them. His time of 22 m. 8 s. was the second fastest of the day, only one second slower than Barden of Sheffield, and was also a Belgrave record. Sheffield were again in the lead with T.V.H. second and S.L.H. third.

6th Ray Tooby

Ray took over 86 sec. behind the leaders and ran steadily throughout. The three teams in front were however battling together and naturally made progress as a result. Ray was therefore forced to give ground, although retaining his fourth place, and at Lowfield Heath we were 2 min.12 sec. behind S.L.H., who had gone into the lead through a good run by Laurie Reed, 2 min.6 sec. behind Sheffield and 2 min.1 sec. down on T.V.H. Nevertheless, Tooby can be said to have performed well and it is good to see him back to something like his old form.

7th Jack Brown

Ahead of Jack were Ingles of T.V.H., Driver of S.L.H. and Walker of Sheffield, all battling together. Ingles and Driver soon dropped Walker but Jack was making headway on all these runners and at the end of the stage was again within 2 min. of the leaders and only 27 sec. behind Sheffield, who had dropped to third. As previously mentioned Jack made a stage record by knocking 32 sec. off the former time - a magnificent effort.

8th Colin Collis

Good running in fifteen and twenty mile races is not the qualification for taking the second longest leg of this event against opposition such as Ken Norris, Mick Firth and Johnny Nichols, all of whom are seasoned international performers. It is essential that this stage should be given to a "faster" man, to combat the star performers from other clubs. Colin unfortunately was not at his physical best, but drove himself to the last ounce to hold his position, which he did successfully, although losing much ground on the leaders. At the end of the stage we were 4 min. down on T.V.H. who had taken a 35 sec. lead over S.L.H. Sheffield were exactly 2 min. ahead of us.

9th George Flanagan

Not deterred by the big gap ahead with no one in sight, George set about his task in workmanlike manner and by steady running closed the two-minute gap with Sheffield by no less than 60 sec. and pulled back fifteen seconds on T.V.H. the leaders. S.L.H. however, through Scovell, moved further away by another 20 sec. At this point there was little doubt that the winners were to be either S.L.H. or T.V.H., but Belgrave still stood a chance of taking third, as Sheffield appeared to have put their faith in running all their best men on earlier stages and were definitely flagging. George's time was the second fastest on the stage.

10th Dave Baulch

A spirited performance by Dave brought third place well within our grasp and gave him the fastest time of the day on this stage. Our supporters gave the runner no peace - he was goaded, cajoled, egged on and shouted at for practically every inch of the $4\frac{1}{4}$ miles and rose to the occasion in great style. This was one of Dave's best runs for the Club.

11th Brian Hallowell

We have always made a point of allocating the last stage to one of our faster track men and on a number of occasions it has paid dividends. This was no exception, for Brian soon ate up the 25 sec. gap between himself and the Sheffield runner, and across Preston Park took over third place and went on in fine form to consolidate this position. This was Brian's first attempt on the Brighton road, and if this is a pattern for

the future we can expect great performances. His time of 17.19 was first class, surpassed by very few other runners, and was accomplished with the ease of the natural athlete.

Result :- 1st South London Harriers 4 hrs. 25 min. 52 sec.
2nd Thames Valley Harriers 4 hrs. 27 min.
3rd Belgrave Harriers 4 hrs. 28 min. 59 sec.

The winning time was a new course record, while T.V.H. and ourselves were within the former record.

Individual times :- Bagnall 21.14; Walker 25.06; Bishop L.29.41; Newell 24.36; Gebbett 22.08; Tooby 25.43; Brown 32.20; Collis 30.40; Flanagan 20.09; Baulch 20.05; Hallowell 17.19.

SURREY COUNTY 20 MILE ROAD RACE

This event was held on the 4th May. Our hopes of retaining the team title received a setback when Colin Collis arrived and announced that he would not be able to run owing to a leg injury. We were also without the services of Geoff Pearson. However, with the minimum of three runners we did as well as could be expected, although Walton's margin over us was greater than the result would suggest, owing to the questionable practice of deleting individual positions when arriving at the team result.

Eric Gebbett ran far above his usual form to win in the very fast time of 1 hr. 48 min. 49 sec. and was in fact the first Club member to win this race since 1939. Len Bishop, in his first race over this distance also performed very well.

Result :- 1st E. Gebbett 1.48.49; 4th L.C. Bishop 1.52.37;
9th H.A. Bishop 2.00.10.

WALTON A.C. 10 pts. BELGRAVE H. 11 pts.

FIRST TRACK MEETING

The track season opened at Battersea Park on Sat. 27th April with a Captain's versus Vice-Captain's training match, which was held in conjunction with a Ladies' Meeting.

A goodly number of members and supporters turned up, and some very interesting racing ensued. The Field Events Section however, were conspicuous by their absence, as will be seen by the fact that Ivan Mayers won the Shot Put in addition to completing the double in the sprints. Other notable performances were put up by D. Carter, who was runner up in both sprints, and Clive Ryan, who won both the Junior 100 and 440 yds.

Whilst there was no actual scoring, it would seem that the honours were fairly evenly shared by the two teams.

Results :- Captains Team (A), Vice-Captain's Team (B)

100 yds. Senior-1, I. Mayers; 2, D. Carter; 3, B. Morris 10.0 s.

100 yds. Junior- 1, C. Ryan(B); 2, C. Cornelius(A). 10.6 s.

Mile Senior- 1, C. Walker(A); 2, J. Masters(B); 3, F. Paget(B) 4m.33.6

440 yds. Junior- 1, C. Ryan(A); 2, G. Leroy(B); 3, P. Dollemore(A) 57.2s

Mile Junior- A. Black(A); P. Miller(B); J. Radford(B) 4m.37s.

880 yds. Senior- R. Tooby(A); H. Boreham(B); G. Stevens(B) 2m.1.8s.

220 yds. Senior- I. Mayers(B); D. Carter(A); B. Morris(B) 22.7s.

4 x 110 yds. Relay 1 "A"(Mayers, Carter, Dollemore, Holtum)
2 "B"(Jones, Morris, Butler, Ash)

Javelin- R.Liggins(B) 172'1"; J.Ware(A) 138'10"; Melsh(A) 129'10"

Shot- I.Mayers(A) 35'4"; J.Ware(A) 34'3"; R.Glenn(B) 34'2"

Long Jump- J.Kadjei(B) 21'1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "; I.Donaldson(A) 16'10"

SOUTHERN COUNTIES 7 MILES TRACK WALKING CHAMPIONSHIP

Battersea Park, 30th March.

1.	S.F. Vickers (Belgrave H.)	52m.23.6s.
2.	C. Williams (Ilford A.C.)	53m.50.6s.
3.	G. Meadows (Highgate H.)	54m.16.4s.
11.	R. Newson (Belgrave H.)	56.59
12.	R.C. Hall "	57.41
16.	R.H. Switzer "	59.02
25.	C. Edwards "	62.00

Stan's winning time was a new record (of course!), the previous best being 53m.09.6s.

YOUTHS 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ MILES OPEN

1.	R. Bygraves	Highgate H.	23.05
2.	S. O'Connor	Cambridge H.	23.36
3.	S. Cameron	Queens Park H.	24.50
4.	B.J. Knifton	Belgrave H.	25.00
7.	B. Cornick	"	29.23

JUNIOR SIX MILES OPEN

1.	J. Edgington	Coventry Godiva H.	47.53
2.	T.R. Gough	Metropolitan W.C.	49.11
3.	W. Parr	Trowbridge	50.44
4.	T.B. Clark	Belgrave H.	51.41

REGENTS PARK 15 MILES OPEN WALK

1.	S.F. Vickers)			(Scratch)	1.56.15
1.	E.W. Hall)	Belgrave H.	1.56.15	(2.10)	1.54.05
3.	R.F. Goodall	Woodford G.	1.58.55	(Scratch)	1.58.55
10.	R. Newson	Belgrave H.	2. 5.22	(10.30)	1.54.52
11.	G.S. Checkley	do.	2. 6.15	(9.00)	1.57.15
20.	N. McGreechan	do.	2.10.02	(12.00)	1.58.02
22.	R.C. Hall	do.	2.10.27	(15.00)	1.55.27
26.	C. Edwards	do.	2.11.55	(20.00)	1.51.55
29.	G.E. Beecham	do.	2.12.33	(12.00)	2. 0.33
42.	B. Eglinton	do.	2.15.32	(12.00)	2. 3.32
52.	F.C. Rolfe	do.	2.18.20	(21.00)	1.57.20
54.	C. Yescombe	do.	2.18.50	(24.30)	1.54.20
57.	R. Switzer	do.	2.19.47	(16.00)	2. 3.47
64.	H.W. Shields	do.	2.21.05	(19.00)	2. 2.05
90.	C. McLennan	do.	2.26.47	(24.00)	2. 2.47
118.	C. Snook	do.	2.38.12	(22.00)	2.16.12

Team result

1st	Belgrave H. "A"	11 pts.
2nd	Metropolitan W.C.	19 pts.
3rd	Woodford Grn. "A"	21 pts.

145 started - 127 finished

"SWORD" TROPHYChiswick, May 11th.

For our defence of this Trophy we were without Dick Harris and Dennis Merrett of last year's team.

The first result to come through showed a fine effort by Percy Porter in the Hammer with third place. His throw of 168'2" was a personal best. Whilst this was going on Mal Ash had started a long effort in the Pole Vault. He was not in such good form as last year but secured fourth place with 12'0" - losing third only on failures.

"Iron Man" Mal's next effort was in the 120 yds. Hurdles. He got through in his heat and later in the afternoon finished fourth in the final.

Percy Luxon was meanwhile making his effort in the Long Jump. Although jumping a foot more than last year - when he was second - he could finish only fourth with 21'11" and after these events we were rather well down in the team scoring.

John Jones, who last year threw almost as well as Dick Harris, took his place and while not at his best got fifth place with 44'0" in the Shot. It now became apparent that L.A.C. and T.V.H. were after our blood.

The javelin was a tragedy for us. Roy Liggins was throwing as well as ever in distance, but was having difficulty with his run-up and the strong wind, and did not get a recorded throw.

Next event was the 220 yds. Hurdles which Dennis Merrett won last year. Charlie Jones had put in some training over the hurdles to add to his sprinting and our hopes this year were on him. Having drawn the outside lane in his heat it looked a gamble on his chances of getting through in what was his first real effort at this event. However, we were not disappointed - he won in 26.7 s. The winner and placed men in the other heats had done faster times and it remained to be seen if Charlie could improve in the final. In no uncertain fashion he did, being second in 25.9 s. to Metcalf's (Achilles) 24.6 s. - a meeting record.

Meantime Mal Ash was high jumping and seemed determined to better his previous efforts. His 6'0" was a fine jump to gain first place and we were now chasing the leaders.

Eddie Short who had taken fourth place in the Steeplechase last year, ran again. He said that he was not so fit as last year but was running gamely. On the last lap he was gaining places and managed to finish sixth. Unfortunately when his time was given - 10 min. 10.8 sec. - we realised he had not beaten Standard, and under the rules of the competition did not get the point. Nevertheless a good effort.

Norman Gaves was our man in the Triple Jump. He was lying second until the last round but although improving, two others put in better jumps and he was relegated to fourth with an effort of 43'1".

Last year we had no competitor in the 440 yds. Hurdles but Pat Fox had been persuaded to have a go this year. Although completely without experience in this difficult event he put in a game effort but could not reach the final. Kane (L.A.C.) having taken second place in the final to bring his club into the lead on points we now found that the last event might well be the decider.

Ted Gaworski was our man in the Discus and although pleading lack of training comparable with last year, when he took third place with 145'10", he was determined to do his best. If he could win, and Savage (L.A.C.) and the T.V.H. man were no better than 5th or 6th, then we could win. Ted put in a fine throw to eventually take second place but the other two were fairly well placed.

A final tot up of points showed that L.A.C. had won with 37½ with ourselves and T.V.H. tying with 34 points each. A check up a little later on showed that with a little luck we could have won again. However, well done lads and better luck next time.

During the course of the meeting there were a number of relays and other events not included in the Trophy. Our 4 x 110 yds. team of Mayers, Carter, Jones and Holtum took second place in the final to T.V.H.

We seem to have gathered a fine quartet of 440 men in Dollimore, Jackson, Leroy and Morris. They won their heat in 3 min. 22.4 sec. and went on to beat the rest in the final in 3 min. 23.7 sec. All ran exceptionally well but I think a special mention must be made of Gerry Leroy on the third stage in the final when he caught the Achilles man, bided his time, and then passed him to hand over a winning lead to Brian Morris.

In the Medley relay we gained a creditable third place.

T.C. Jones

NATIONAL 20 MILES ROAD WALKING CHAMPIONSHIP

The oldest of the R.W.A. Senior Championships was held at Colindale on May 11th.

A grand "treble" by Belgrave was inscribed on the record books, making it one of the most memorable days in the Club's history.

Eric Hall won the individual title after a convincing display of speed, tactics and stamina. Our team came through inexorably to score an emphatic win whilst our complete team of 8 won the NIJMEGEN SHIELD for the third time in succession - a record - all finishing in the first 28 team scoring positions, surely another record! Another noteworthy achievement was that we started two full teams, 16 walkers, and all finished!

Our confidence in Eric as the potential winner was strengthened when at 5 miles he led with Goodall of Woodford Green, a previous title holder. By 10 miles he had increased the pace and led in exemplary style by 150 yds from Olympic team mate Albert Johnson of Sheffield; Goodall was a further 200 yds away.

Eric suffered the inevitable bad time between 12 and 13 miles and Johnson was soon on his shoulder, whereupon Eric, with characteristic tactics shot away from the surprised Johnson whose turn it was to fall back.

Our man led by 39 sec. at 15 miles, and looking all set for victory, strode on, increasing his lead eventually to finish smiling, in 2 hrs 45 min. 12 sec., a comfortable winner from Chaplin of Coventry Godiva, who had displaced Johnson with a fast last lap. And so we honour Eric Hall for a splendid performance; over 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.p.h. for 20 miles, the first Belgrave man to win the title.

In the early stages Metropolitan W.C. disputed the team lead with us but we knew they had no margin of safety and would require tremendous luck to prevail at the end. This was not forthcoming and with the retirement of one of their men soon after half way our lead was safe. Only the actual composition of our scoring four remained in doubt.

George Checkley walked soundly throughout, never seeming to falter; Bob Newson was a powerful third man and Hugh McGreechan prevailed over George Beecham for fourth position.

Bernard Eglinton, back from service in Germany was always ready to step into the breach if needed and Cyril Yescombe maintained his progress. To Ray Switzer a special word of praise on his first 'National' and also C. Edwards, who promises to develop into a first class distance walker.

It is not possible to conclude without acknowledging the great help and support given by Club men on the course, without honouring a really great Club Captain and National Champion in Eric Hall, and without again recording our great debt to Jack Goswell, whose tremendous work over a number of years has helped so much in bringing about this marvellous treble win. How pleased Jack was and rightly so!

P.S. Whilst our "B" team beat the first selections of four well known London clubs, our "A" team second four could have taken fifth place.

		Result					A.A.H.		
		h	m	s			h	m	s
1	E.W. Hall (Bel.A)	2.45.	12	28	R. Switzer (Bel.B)	3.08.	03		
2	G. Chaplin (Cov.)	2.46.	24	31	C. Edwards	do	3.09.	49	
3	A. Johnson (Sheff.)	2.47.	12	35	F. Rolfe	do	3.10.	44	
7	G. Cheokley (Bel.A)	2.51.	28	42	H.W. Shields	do	3.12.	29	
12	R. Newson do	2.59.	57	63	M.N. Guilment	do	3.19.	17	
13	H. McGreechan do	3.01.	25	80	J. Wilson	do	3.26.	53	
16	G. Beecham do	3.03.	57	85	C. McLennan	do	3.29.	59	
23	B. Eglinton do	3.06.	28	88	S.C. Spencer	do	3.31.	38	
27	C. Yescombe do	3.07.	48	95	P. Wilson	do	3.39.	57	
Teams:-		1	Belgrave H.	33	pts.				
		2	Woodford Gn. A.C.	51	"				
		3	Metropolitan W.C.	68½	"				
		4	Sheffield U.H.	86	"				

The Champion of Champions

With our recent win in the R.W.A. 20 miles Championship, our aggregate total of National Senior Championships is now twenty, a record superior to that of any other club in the country.

The 20 miles Championship was instituted in 1911; we have ten wins to our credit in the 35 Championships held. The 50 kilometre Championship, started in 1932, has given us seven wins to date in nineteen races held, and in the 10 miles Championship instituted in 1947, we have recorded three wins in eleven years.

Our nearest rivals in the Championship Stakes are, as one would suppose, Surrey Walking Club with a total of 14½ wins (11½, 3, nil). Next come Sheffield United Harriers, 10 wins (2, nil, 8) and Woodford Green A.C., 5 wins (3, 2, nil).

Other Championship team winners include Herne Hill (2) (walking section now defunct), Derby W.&A.C. (defunct) 2, Leicester W.C. (2½), Birmingham W.C. (2), Polytechnic H. (2), Surrey A.C. (1) and Middlesex W.C. (defunct) 1.

Many old-established clubs that come to mind have yet to win their first Senior Championship.

Our splendid record in the three Championships of the Race Walking Association (celebrating its Jubilee in September next) is a great tribute to our walkers, past and present. What the future holds none can tell, but we may be sure that Belgrave will be playing a prominent part, inspired by the traditions and sportsmanship of those who have gone before.

A.A.H.

We have now reached the close of the short distance road season and I think we can look back on a very successful six months. We have won three opens, the National 10, and finished second in the National Junior 5. These results have been a just reward for some very hard training and it is true to say that all our races are won or lost on the hills of Wimbledon.

To those of you who are going on to the track I wish to thank you for your support during the winter and if you support Ted Smith in the same manner then we should have a bumper year.

To the Juniors, you have had the best year so far but can do still better. Just keep on training and don't be afraid to ask for advice - that's what the Seniors are for!

Many thanks to Jack Goswell and Don Brown for your help and I hope that the results have been satisfactory. Also a special vote of thanks to the host of officials and supporters who are to be seen at Wimbledon and elsewhere when the boys are walking.

Eric Hall.

Result of Club 20 miles walk Championship, 20th April:-

1st	Eric Hall (holder)	"	2h. 54m. 23s.
2nd	Bob Newson	"	2h. 58m. 41s.
3rd	George Beecham	"	3h. 1m. 13s.

Result of 5 miles Junior Championship:-

1st	Nic Milsum	39m. 14s.
2nd	John Knifton	40m. 11s.
3rd	Ray Middleston	40m. 12s.

MATCH AT BATTERSEA PARK 13th MAY

Seniors v. Herne Hill and Metropolitan Police
 Juniors v. Herne Hill and St. Mary's College

Considering that the Middlesex County Relays were being held on the same evening, there was a good muster of Club members. Field Events men, however, were nowhere near full strength. There was a very noticeable shortage of officials but some very rapid whipping up resulted in a fairly punctual start. The meeting opened with the two short sprints. In the Junior event our runners Hennings and Ryan scored maximum points but in the Senior we had to be content with points for first place with Charlie Jones. The Juniors repeated their score in the 880 yds. but in the Senior event the Herne Hill men were too strong for our two, Dooley and Fox, and so went ahead on points.

Next followed a 2 miles Club Handicap Walk in which there were 16 starters and after an interesting tussle between Eric Hall, fresh from his National "20" title win the previous Saturday, and Ted Smith, Eric proved the winner. Ray Hall walked exceptionally well to finish third and won the handicap with Ted Smith second and Joe Coleman third.

The Junior mile was won by a St. Mary's College runner in 4m.41.4s. with K. Miller 2nd and E. Penny 4th.

We were short of good milers in the Senior event, Herne Hill again taking maximum points, with Bill Bird 3rd. In the Junior 440 yds a new member, Venton, running in his first race for the Club was placed 4th, and in the Senior event Herne Hill again took maximum points with Glenn and Fox scoring 3rd and 4th for us.

Ryan and Hennings again took first two places in the Junior 220 yds. but C. Jones had to be content with 2nd place to Gibbs of Herne Hill, whilst Morris, who is now a recruit at the Police Training School scored 4th place for the police.

In the field events Mal Ash and P. Luxon secured maximum points for us in the long jump with 22'1" and 21'10" respectively. The matches resulted as follows:-

Seniors - 1 Herne Hill H.	41 pts.	Juniors - Belgrave H.	34 pts.
2 Belgrave H.	30 do.	St. Mary's	19 do.
3 Met. Police	17 do.	Herne Hill H.	13 do.

Congratulations to the Juniors on a very fine performance. There were some weak spots which should be taken note of, and which, with the material we have could easily be remedied.

LEICESTER MERCURY 20 MILES OPEN WALK 25th. MAY.

This race resulted in an exciting battle for individual honours between Eric Hall and D.W. Thompson of Metropolitan W.C. with Eric just holding off his opponent to win by 3 sec. in 2hrs. 51mins.

Splendid backing up by Bob Newson, Ray Switzer and George Beecham ensured us of a clear team victory over Leicester W.C. by a margin of 12 pts.

What time Eric would have put up if Albert Johnson the 1956 winner had not been forced to retire is a matter for conjecture,

but his performance was all the more meritorious in view of his injury sustained in the match for London v. Paris the preceding week; that cost him a week's training.

			h	m	s
1.	E.W. Hall	Belgrave H.	2.	51.	00
2.	D.W. Thompson	Metp.W.C.	2.	51.	03
3.	G.W. Chaplin	Cov.God.	2.	53.	55
8.	R.E. Newson	Belgrave H	3.	04.	27
13.	R.H. Switzer	do.	3.	09.	16
15.	G.E. Beecham	do.	3.	09.	24
19.	B.Eglinton	do.	3.	12.	48
22.	H.W. Shields	do.	3.	15.	31
34.	M.N. Guilmant	do.	3.	24.	47

Team result.

1st	Belgrave H.	26	pts.
2nd	Leicester W.C.	38	"
3rd	Sheffield U.H.	56	"
4th	Poly. H.	84	"

POLYTECHNIC MARATHON AND CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

June 15th.

On a day when the temperature was probably higher than for any previous "Poly" competitors fidgetted and chatted whilst awaiting the starter's gun in the picturesque grounds of Windsor Castle.

A sharp crack and what to the uninformed public appeared to be a mass of "Mad dogs of Englishmen" commenced its long journey to Chiswick.

The overture to the main proceedings was provided by the Austrian Wagner, whose precipitous flight from the rest of the field might, but for his nationality, have earned him the title of "The Flying Dutchman". Whilst he sped, his rivals waltzed comfortably behind, sporting a multitude of styles in protective headgear. We followed in the comfort of a car, for which we were very grateful to Joe Stevens - it was obvious that he had been on this course before.

On to the 5 mile point, where Wagner was singing his swan song behind the leaders and our own Len Bishop was creeping up to the front. Discretion was the better part of valour and the old hands Wally Wortley, Alan Bishop, Geoff Pearson, Alf Byford, Arthur Penstone and John MacDonald were making certain that their race would last the full distance - good team stuff!

Steady as the pace was, the leaders were gradually dropping all sorts of big noises, but not our marathon novice Len, who had the "audacity" to lead at 13 miles and refused to drop a yard until 17 miles, when he lay 6th in the company of Hicks, Kelly, Smith and Co.

Heads were getting wet, throats dry and feet scorched. By 20 miles we still had five men in the race, four of them in the first 40 positions. Retirements were plentiful, but after all, the conditions were enough to break even the toughest.

Experience was telling and the leaders, all Northerners, dropped Len and Weekes-Pearson, who were now to battle for the Southern Title. A tired, struggling Len tottered along the Great West Road; Weekes-Pearson had passed him going strongly and now Len hung on grimly to enter the stadium in 6th position, ahead of previous title-holder W. McMinnis in 2hrs.47min.08sec.

Runners were now coming in at various intervals, although only a small number beat 3 hrs. But caution prevailed, and looking quite composed, Pearson, Wortley and Alan Bishop ran in close together in positions. We had secured 3rd team place in both the Open and Southern races.

Len was, of course, an easy winner of the Club Championship

and so becomes the new holder of the "A.F. Mitchell" Shield.

We offer our sympathies to Arthur Penstone in having to retire at 14 miles, or do we ? He travelled the last 12 miles in the luxury of a coach.

		h.	m.	s.
Result:-	6	L.C. Bishop	2.	47. 08
	29	G.M. Pearson	3.	06. 03
	31	W. Wortley	3.	07. 30
	33	H.A. Bishop	3.	09. 33
	58	J. McDonald	3.	25. 03

Open team race:-	1st Thames Valley H.	33 pts.
	2nd Blackheath H.	59 pts.
	3rd Belgrave H.	66 pts.

Southern team race:-	1st Blackheath H.	17 pts.
	2nd Thames Valley H.	21 pts.
	3rd Belgrave H.	35 pts.

R.W.A. 50 Kilos. CHAMPIONSHIP.

A few enthusiasts travelled to Leyland, Lancs to see the Club make walking history on June 15th; they were well rewarded. Our boys scored their eighth win in the twenty team championships held over 50 kilometres to date (the next club, Surrey W.C. has three wins). Our team recorded the best-ever score, one point less than our 1956 record. We completed a trio of Senior Championships in one season - never before accomplished by any club; truly an eventful day !

At 3 p.m., in a temperature of 85 degrees, the field faced the testing, 3 lap course. The sun was to prove the greatest test, as no shade existed on the course, except in the closing stages. We started a full team of eight, with Ray Switzer and Norman Guilmant as individuals. Our hopes rested on Eric Hall, second last year at Enfield where it rained throughout. He promised well, when after a steady start he took the lead at 5 miles, but before long the heat gripped him, and he lost places. These he regained, but by 20 miles he had fallen back and was taken out to avoid unnecessary physical punishment and possible damage to his future, still as bright as ever. We were disappointed, as indeed was Eric, but he will lead us to many a victory still.

Fortunately we still had a wealth of talent. Our lads had taken up prominent positions early on and George Checkley seemed always in the first six. Don Thompson (Met.W.C.) held a good lead over George Chaplin (Coventry Godiva) after two laps, with our George, who had not been without his troubles, some minutes away third. George really got going over the third lap, his last 10kilos being the fastest on that lap; he actually gained one minute on the leader !

Despite a bad patch, Chaplin rallied to hold his second place and George finished third, a very excellent performance. Meanwhile, George Beecham, revelling in the sunshine, came through to fourth with Hugh McGreechan and Bob Newson completing our scoring team in 6th and 7th positions.

Support, if necessary, was always at hand, for Cyril Yescombe scored 8th (actual 11th) and earns our hearty congratulations on gaining his Honours Badge; our sympathies to Bernard Eglinton on missing his by one place. With Harry Shields storming through, we finished 7 men in the first 15. Ray Switzer finished 22nd in his first attempt at 50 kilos; a good performance from one who will be a future tower of strength. Norman Guilmant, short of training retired after two laps, but he will soon be up the front again.

Altogether a noble team effort. Belgrave strength completely eclipsed the other clubs. If awards were made to team managers (as deservedly happens in Tug-of-War events) then a platinum medal, dinner-plate size would be forthcoming to "JACK GOSWELL" our Team Manager cum Hon. Secretary cum Coach cum everything else, for his wonderful organisation. He wisely arranged overnight accomodation in Preston, obtained two cars to attend the race,

and looked after our boys admirably.

Charlie MacLennan and Ray Hall, on cycles, were unsparing in their efforts; how many gallons of water were sponged away, or gallons of beverages consumed is anyone's guess. This was team work at its very best.

A special word for George Checkley, perhaps overshadowed by Olympic Walkers of late, but having claims to greatness in his own right. His performance in being in the winning 10 miles, 20 miles and 50 kilos teams in one season, is truly unique. We must also remember his 2nd place in last years Brighton Walk and his two Police Championships this season and congratulate ourselves on having such a grand, modest sportsman among us. He will hold the "Belchamber Cup" for the Club Championship held in conjunction, with second and third medals going to Beecham and McGreechan.

			A.A.H.		
			h	m	s
1	D.J. Thompson	- (Met. W.C.)	4.	41.	48
2	G. Chaplin	- (Godiva)	4.	48.	10
3	G. Checkley	- (Belgrave H.)	4.	50.	28
4	G. Beecham	- do	5.	00.	19
6	H. McGreechan	- do	5.	04.	16
7	R. Newson	- do	5.	06.	20
11	C. Yescombe	- do	5.	17.	00
13	B. Eglinton	- do	5.	19.	50
15	H.W. Shields	- do	5.	23.	12
22	R.H. Switzer	- do	5.	34.	36

Teams :-	1	Belgrave H.	16	pts.
	2	Sheffield U.H.	51	"
	3	Essex Beagles	80	"

The holder's time was approximately 17 minutes slower than last year, which gives some idea of the conditions prevailing.

FIELD EVENTS GOSSIP by T.C. Jones.

We welcome three new members, Ted Arnold, Terry Lynch and Clive Taverner. The latter are youths and the former a discus and hammer man, and we hope we shall soon be seeing the results of their efforts.

In the reports of the various matches will be seen the performances of the Field Events men so far, but we should specially mention other fine efforts as follows :-

Percy Porter	1st Essex County Hammer 160' 11" (Record)
	2nd Southern Hammer 160' 10"
	4th Inter Counties Hammer 168' 11", and a personal best of 169' 2" in a Hammer Circle Competition
Ted Gaworski	1st Surrey County Discus 134' 8"
Norman Caves	1st Bedford County Triple Jump 45'
	4th Southern Triple Jump 45' 7"
Roy Liggins	2nd Kent County Javelin 177' 6"
John Powell Jones	1st Welsh Shot 45' 4" (Record)
Malcolm Draper	1st Middx. County Youths Javelin 175' 3" (Rec.)
John Roche	1st South London Schools (13-15 yrs.)
	High Jump 5' 2"
	1st London Schools High Jump (13-15 yrs.)
	5' 3" (Record)
John Ralston	2nd South London Schools High Jump (13-15 yrs.)