



SEPTEMBER 1959.

FOUNDED 1887

The  
**BELGRAVIAN**

The  
**Official Gazette**  
of the  
**Belgrave Harriers**

## THE BELGRAVIAN

The official gazette of the Belgrave Harriers  
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SEPTEMBER 1959

No. 139

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### EDITORIAL

Dear Fellow Members,

In all probability this is the last Belgravian editorial which will flow from this pen, for it is hoped that new editors will take over the magazine after September.

We feel that our contribution over the last few years, though small, has helped to ensure the recording of Club activities, successes and failures, and, we trust, in a manner and vein acceptable to most.

We have not pleased everyone all of the time and have not been immune from personal attack (once for something we didn't even write!). But the magazine is there for everyone to air his views and the greater the interest of any individual in Club affairs the more eager he becomes to expound his theories and invite criticism. And what better way than through the Belgravian?

We are indebted to Clive Shippen for his well prepared reports, to Alf Harley, whose knowledge of Club history is second to none and whose writings are always of such great interest, and to all those members whose contributions have enabled us to produce the magazine during our term as editors.

It is our hope that even greater support will be extended to the new editors.

In passing we must pay tribute to the great efforts being made by Les Stokell and Tom Carter in recruiting and training the fine band of youngsters who are now so successfully performing in Belgrave colours. Here lies our chance to build future teams of National class and we ask that all members, old and young, see to it that the necessary words of encouragement are given to these lads; we all know what it means to be noticed "by those who matter".

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### A.G.M. 1959

The Club Annual General Meeting is being held on Friday, September 18th at Belgrave Hall, Wimbledon. You have a duty to be there.

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Subscriptions become due as at September 1st.

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### HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES

We congratulate our Vice-President E.T. Ryan on qualifying to be added to the list of First-grade Timekeepers. He is a very worthy addition and we count ourselves fortunate on having his services and of our ever-reliable Dick Savage.

How nice to see our former President, and Hon. Secretary for 11 years, Wally Bayliss, at one of our evening meetings recently. Wally was a great figure in our Club life for many years and his wager (hush!) of a pound to a penny on Belgrave when they held a commanding lead in the Brighton Relay, which was lost in the last few yards, has become one of the Club legends. Let's see you again soon, Wally!

Congratulations to Vice-President Jack Bidgood on the award of the M.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. We know it to be well deserved.

We have had the very good fortune to be introduced to a private Athletics Clinic in the Knightsbridge area, equipped with the most modern apparatus and staffed by qualified physiotherapists with a very deep interest in our sport. Already one of our Olympic athletes has had successful curative treatment of an injury and other prominent members have received the benefit of the most modern treatments at nominal cost. We are indebted to our former Champion and member of many years standing, Don Brown, for this valuable introduction; and any members who feel they would benefit from the facilities available should, in the first instance, contact Don at Kensington 3336 for an appointment to be made.

Our Club benefits financially each year from the promotion of the Floodlit Meeting (this year on Sept. 30th) at the White City. You will help yourself athletically by witnessing one of the finest meetings of the season - as this promotion always is; and you will be assisting our Club and many others that we meet in sporting rivalry if you go along. Tickets at all prices are booked through Frank Webb, 50 Longford Avenue, Southall, Middx., but it must be done quickly.

#### SWARD TROPHY MEETING

May 9th brought round "The Sward" once again at Chiswick. On paper our team was, I think, the strongest we have ever been able to enter, but injuries, illness and other matters seriously depleted it. As we have no really adequate reserves we were unable to supply competitors in the 120 yds. hurdles, Pole Vault, Discus or High Jump. Tolson had pulled a muscle, Norman Caves had contracted tonsillitis, Andorka was sitting very important exams and Mal Ash threatened to retire; I was unable to change his mind.

However, those who did turn out put up some fine performances and I am sure that, with the help of our absentees, we could have troubled L.A.C. and T.V.H. who tied for the trophy.

Percy Porter gave us a good start with 4th place in the hammer (155'9"), Derek McCorquindale, in his first outing for Belgrave, showed his class and won the shot with 49'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ " and our Captain Dave Ansell took second place in the long jump with 21'4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " and, deputising for Norman Caves, 5th in the triple jump at 42'3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " (a personal best).

Charlie Jones had his first outing over the 440 yds. hurdles and was 5th in 58.8s. He is bound to improve a lot on this with more competition and increased confidence.

John Sams, who last year won the A.A.A. Junior 200 yds. hurdles, was running for the first time as a senior in the 220 yds. hurdles. I am sure he was disappointed at not reaching the final but National Service and shortage of training took their toll. Next year perhaps a win!

We also had Alan Black running only his second steeplechase as a senior. Unfortunately he bruised a heel on the third lap when landing from a hurdle and was forced to change his hurdling leg but with true Belgrave spirit he kept going and finished a very creditable 6th in 9m.53.7s.

John Ware was our javelin man and he threw up to his early season form but 158'4" was not good enough for a place in that class of competition.

We scored 19 points for 5th place out of eleven clubs.

As usual there were some relays and running events for which we had invitations. Our 4 x 110 yds. team failed to materialize and in the 4 x 440 yds. we were fifth. Frank Wright, Pat Fox, Alan Jackson and Brian Morris constituted our team. The medley relay saw us finish in 6th place. We had only three men in the two miles team race and finished well down but Malcolm Robinson ran a personal best of 9m.24s. to finish seventh.

C.J.

BELGRAVE AND BRIGHTON RELAYS - 1924 to 1959

The first relay race on the Brighton road organised by the "News of the World" took place in 1924. Belgrave did not merit an invitation to compete on this occasion and sixteen clubs, all Southern, took part with Surrey A.C. proving the winners in 4hrs. 50min. 0.2s. Each competing club fielded a team of ten men.

In the following year, Belgrave were still absentees, but Birchfield Harriers entered for the first time and proved equal to their great reputation by winning from a field of seventeen teams.

In 1926 we received an invitation to compete, following a qualifying race, and Hallamshire Harriers from the North were also in the field for the first time. We were never conspicuous at any time; seventh position at Merstham was our best, and at Brighton we were 14th. On the ninth stage (then 5 miles 486 yds. up Dale Hill) Bert Footer returned second fastest time.

In 1927 we again qualified, but in the relay itself we suffered grave disappointment for we were never nearer than ninth, and eventually finished 17th. Our one small mead of satisfaction was the running of A.E. Smith whose time on the Mitcham to Purley stage was third fastest.

In 1928 we were (not unexpectedly!) called on to qualify in a trial race once again, and this we did in emphatic fashion, winning the trial by over two minutes. In the Brighton Relay itself we managed to improve by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  minutes on our time of the previous year and finished 12th in the race. We were never higher than 10th and never lower than 14th throughout; and derived satisfaction from our evident solidarity even if brilliance was lacking.

1929 marked a turning-point and gave us our first set of medals in this race. For the first time we included in our team Arthur Allum and Arthur Penny (both to win International cross-country honours later) and the brothers Jack and Joe Flower. Our seventh position earned us the special award medals. Joe Flower excelled himself in running the second fastest over stage 2, and placed us second at Mitcham.

Even more improvement was shown in 1930, when we finished fourth and earned a set of place medals. Our star runners were Allum, who did fastest time over his stretch and Syd Warboys, running for the first time who was second fastest on the long fifth stage of those days of 6 miles 352 yards.

In the following year we actually finished fifth, but many thought our performance had more merit than that of the previous year. We suffered a bitter blow when Arthur Allum, having made four places in  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles and seeming all set to peg back more, sustained an ankle injury and had to concede two of the places gained. Arthur had great difficulty in finishing and had to be carried away once the change-over had been effected. In this race another of our future Internationals, Tom Carter, made his debut.

In 1932 the sporting papers advised the public that the Belgrave team had deteriorated and would not be in the first half-dozen - whereat we were secretly very pleased! The strongest field ever was promised; for all the leading clubs in the country were to be represented. Over the first eight stages we were either fourth or fifth - remarkable consistency. On the ninth relay yet another of our Internationals, that great character Bert Footer, showed his teeth and took us into third place, which was well held to the end by our Captain, Bill Webb. The two clubs to finish in front of us were Salford Harriers and Birchfield Harriers. Behind us were Aldershot Command A.C., South London Harriers and Surrey A.C. in that order, with fourteen other clubs following on. Every one of our runners set up a new Club record over his stage. Obviously the conditions must have been favourable, but here were ten magnificent performances.

In those days we had on the road a double-decker bus, which served as grandstand and dressing room. The inside was curtained off and we actually dropped our men at his relay point, picked up

our finishing runner and then passed through the field to the next change-over point and so on throughout the race. What a hopeless task it would be these days! Needless to say a very happy bus load of Belgravians returned to London on that day in April 1932.

In 1933 third position was again ours, and Salford Harriers, from Manchester, and Birchfield Harriers were again in front of us. But once again we were the first Southern club home, and the future hope of the South to win a sporting victory over the Midlands and North.

That came in 1934 - and how excited we were! April 14th was the date and the late Bill Rice was entrusted with the first stretch from Westminster and handed over third. Tom Carter held the position and next Harry Shields set about the opposition to some purpose. He quickly took the lead and also the baton carried by the leading team (the first Belgrave man to carry it). He still gripped it firmly and defiantly at Purley even though the Polytechnic Harriers runner got his nose in front in the last yard! Jack Flower (4th stage) had a three seconds lead over the Poly when handing over and 2 min. 2 sec. lead over Birchfield. Arthur Penny ran our fifth leg and finished 61 sec. ahead of the Poly with Birchfield nearly three minutes away; we were well on our way to our first victory! Syd Warboys increased our lead over the next stretch, and then we ran over successive stages two newcomers, Bert Shaw and Alf Taylor. Both ran well but nevertheless at Hickstead, Polytechnic and Birchfield had made some inroads into our lead. Bert Footer, on the Dale Hill stretch that he knew so well, ran brilliantly, recording second best time over the stage to hand over nearly two minutes in front of Poly with Birchfield four minutes further back. Our great little International handed over to another of that gallant band, Arthur Allum, who sped on his way over the last stretch of 6 miles 904 yards to return the fastest for the stage, and gave us a winning margin of 2 mins. 6 sec. over Polytechnic Harriers, and 4 mins 9 secs. over Birchfield. Great was our delight!

1935 - we were now English Cross-country champions and holders of the Relay Trophy, the challenged, no longer the challengers. Birchfield Harriers tried all they knew to give us a beating and at the commencement of the last stage were only 17 seconds behind, but we ran out winners by 37 seconds. Newcomers to our team were Jim Ginty (one of our finest runners ever), Dan Patience and Syd Ring.

Our hat-trick of wins was accomplished in 1936 and we were the first club to have three wins in a row, even though Birchfield could boast five wins in all. Two new boys in our team were Pat Parker and Ted Stimpson - both destined to become Cross-country Internationals. Our winning margin on this occasion was 13 seconds only from Birchfield - a most exciting race, marred only by the death of C. Young of Queens Park Harriers who was killed on the road. This was the first of the races to start from Mitcham and teams still consisted of ten men.

1937 was our Jubilee Year and naturally we wished to excel, but as so often happens at such times, we were doomed to disappointment. After taking the lead on the second relay (Pat Parker gained eight places) we held it all the way to Brighton and to within half a dozen yards of the tape, when Mitcham A.C. (represented by Dennis Brickwood, now well known as one of our members) managed to gain an inches win in almost the last stride! Birchfield were a mere 12 seconds behind us - what a race! Our team newcomers were Les Cohen and Bill Lucas, then a junior, but destined later to win Olympic and International honours.

In 1938 we slipped back to third position, Mitcham A.C. again winning, with Birchfield second. Those were the days of mass unemployment, and many Welsh International runners were finding their way on to the nursing staff of a certain mental hospital in S.W. London, whence they became members of Mitcham A.C. Much high feeling was caused at the time, but one thing is certain, and that is that there were some grand runners and sportsmen

among these Welsh runners. In our team for the first time were Len Herbert, due to become an International later, Harry Verney and Charlie Smart.

Mitcham's hat-trick of wins was recorded in 1939 when we were second and Birchfield third. All our runners on this occasion had previous relay experience and one of the best performances was by Charlie Smart on the fifth leg.

Then came War and it was "good-bye" to Brighton Relays until 1947. In our Diamond Jubilee Year we were again the winners, and in no uncertain manner, for we led on every stage except the eighth when we were second for a short while, but Len Herbert quickly took us to the fore again. Blackheath Harriers were second and Coventry Godiva third. Rather naturally there were new names in our team in Vic Blowfield, George Lucas, Stan Eales, Eric Herbert and Albert Frost. It is interesting to note that of our ten runners, six were past or future Internationals.

Our 1948 win owed much to Bill Lucas who started the last lap 31 seconds behind Birchfield and passed the finishing line twenty seconds to the good! Newcomers to the team were Tom Clinton, Ken Stimpson, Martin Williamson and Eddie Short.

Twenty-five clubs competed in 1949 and we accomplished our second hat-trick of wins, thus achieving more wins in the nineteen races held than any other club. Birchfield, Tipton and Reading A.C. finished 2nd, 3rd and 4th in that order.

On April 1st 1950, old friends of ours for many years past on track and country, Thames Valley Harriers, scored their first win. It was definitely not our day although we took the fourth set of medals, for Blackheath and Reading also anticipated us into Brighton.

The first of the National Relays was staged in April 1951 over the Mitcham to Brighton course, and we were the winners from Thames Valley H. by nearly three minutes. Our team ran in this order:- C.W. Walker, L.W. Herbert, A. Bedford, W.E. Lucas, J.C. Smart, E. Herbert, J.W. Brown, J. Bromley, E. Short and L. Adams. The Southern Relay held later in the year provided us with another win - our fifth win in the last six races - and the minor places were filled by Blackheath H. and Polytechnic H.

In 1952 Birchfield Harriers gained their first Relay win since 1931, beating us by 25 seconds with the Scottish Club, Victoria Park A.A.C. in third place. In this race Pete Newell made his debut, coming in as reserve on the fifth stage. He took us from tenth to fourth position and accomplished fastest time - what a reserve to have up one's sleeve! In the Southern Relay held later in the year we had yet another win by almost a minute from T.V.H.; Essex Beagles were third. Jack Brown, Arthur Bruce, Len Adams and Ray Tooby all broke stage records, with Eddie Short also doing so but finding one better runner on the day in Ken Norris of Thames Valley.

The National Relay of 1953 found us slipping back to fourth place behind Thames Valley H., Birchfield H. and South London H. Bill Lucas recorded fastest time over the eighth stage. In the Southern Relay held in October we finished second to Essex Beagles with T.V.H. third.

In 1954 the National Relay reverted to the old pre 1936 full length course from Westminster to Brighton (54 $\frac{1}{2}$ ). Our position was a meritorious second to South London Harriers with Essex Beagles third. Teams comprised eleven men and our team did exceedingly well although we were very conscious of the fact that five of our members were over 35 years of age, and of the need for some young replacements. The Southern Relay in October gave Herne Hill their first win with Thames Valley H. and ourselves second and third.

We move more into the days of recent history and 1955 found us fourth in the National Relay behind S.L.H., Poly and Sheffield. The Southern Relay gave us a real shock - we were sixth! From 1932 onwards we had always won a set of medals in this event and now we were turned away empty. In 21 consecutive races we had been inside the first four places (on nine occasions, winners) and this is a record any club would be glad to have; but this fall from grace was all the harder!

In 1956 we were fifth in the National event, S.L.H. winning for the third time in succession. We were happy to see two of our younger members Charlie Dabbs and George Flanagan performing so well. The Southern race gave us the chance of being in the "placings" once again, and we were third to Thames Valley H. and Herne Hill H. Jack Brown, as so often, ran splendidly for us.

The 1957 National race also found us in third place, with S.L.H. winning once again. Ours was a satisfying performance. The Southern relay in October had added distance due to the re-laying of the road round Gatwick Airport, and twelve runners constituted a team. Thames Valley H. had an easy win but we took second place with Woodford Green A.C. third. As we were 18th at the end of the first relay we did well to come through to second at the end of the race.

Last year we dropped to 11th in the National race and 6th in the Southern Relay.

This year, as recorded elsewhere, we were placed 11th again in the National Relay; and in October we shall be able to try ourselves out once again with the other chosen clubs in the South.

Our form in the last two years has borne no comparison with that of earlier days. It is true that many of our younger runners who by now should be establishing reputations in these relays have been prevented by injuries from turning out as regularly as we would have wished, but time is still on their side. In addition we have some excellent junior runners maturing and there can be little doubt that those golden days we enjoyed for so long can soon come back. But they will not return without plenty of purposeful hard work added to great enthusiasm and solid mutual team support in training, as well as in racing. These, we may be certain, will be forthcoming, and may we see their results soon!

A.A.H.

#### FINCHLEY H. 20 MILES ROAD RACE - APRIL 18TH

This very popular event again attracted a large entry and there were actually 163 starters. Some tremendously fast running ensued and the winner (O'Gorman of St. Albans) covered the course in 1h.43m.26s.- 3m.25s. faster than the previous record. With such a fast winning time many meritorious performances "down the field" are apt to be overlooked, but Colin Collis deserves special mention for his 11th place in 1h.50m.50s as does Bob Plummer for his best ever time of 1h.52m.54s.

In the team race we scored the same number of points as T.V.H. but our fourth scoring man finished ahead of two of their scoring members and so clinched first place.

11	C.N. Collis	1.50.50	51	J. Dooley	2.00.22
20	R. Plummer	1.52.54	52	H.A. Bishop	2.00.31
21	L.C. Bishop	1.53.19	57	D.W. Jones	2.01.35
23	E.M. Bishop	1.55.05	67	G.M. Pearson	2.04.52

Teams:- 1st Belgrave; 2nd Thames Valley; 3rd Walton A.C.

#### YOUR CLUB DINNER

Make a note of this date! NOVEMBER 14TH. Your attendance is requested at Barrington House, where our annual dinner is to be held. Here is your chance to meet all those members who, due to performing at different venues, you may not have seen during the season.

Tickets are 22/6 and in the words of your Social Secretary "terms can be arranged".

So come along and ensure that this is the best of all our dinners.

Other social dates to note:- Oct.24th, Social Dance; Dec.5th, Social Dance; Jan.2nd, New Year's Dance; Jan.10th, Children's Party; Jan.23rd, Social Dance; Mar.19th, Social Dance;

Lastly, do not forget the Brighton Relay on October 10th; coach seats can now be booked at 10/- each.

MATCH v. HERCULES A.C. 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY.

The evening commenced with the Club 7 miles walk Championship for the Frank Elson Cup. Notable absentees were Stan Vickers, the holder, and Eric Hall, last year's runner up. However, form had altered very little for Ray Hall, Hugh McGreechan and George Beecham, 3rd, 4th and 5th last year, filled the first three places this time in the same order!

Although the turnout of Seniors and Juniors for the match with Hercules was quite good, they were outnumbered by the boys and youths present. Les Stokell and Tom Carter have a most enthusiastic bunch of youngsters under their wings; it gladdened one's heart to see so much promising young talent in Belgrave vests.

A most exciting Senior 100 yds. was won by the versatile Charlie Jones in the good time of 10.2; Ron Holtum and S. Deane each clocked 10.3.

The half-mile was notable for the last lap performance of John Thresher. With just over 500 yds. to go John was boxed in by a group of runners 12 yds. behind the leaders. Entering the back straight for the second time he made his effort to catch the leaders. Rubbery legs in the last 40 yds. prevented his doing so and Malcolm Robinson passed him on the line. However, he was undoubtedly the fastest over the second lap and it's good to see him consistently breaking 2 minutes these days.

In the mile Derek Crookes gave a most welcome show of form by finishing third in a time of 4m.25.1s. Don Maclean also running well again did 4m.21s. and Alan Black 4m.25.7s.

The standard in the long-jump was also high. Dave Ansell, runner up in the Sward Trophy a few days earlier could only manage 4th place this time with a similar distance! Jim McGrath, our new member from Northern Ireland who seems to be another Mal Ash, jumped a most creditable 21'0" to finish 5th.

The junior sprints illustrated our sad lack of young sprinters but this was offset to some extent by the promising debut of Linley in the 440 yds. His time of 52.6s. should be out considerably under the guidance of Frank Simmons, as he has the stamp of a class runner.

Our junior Captain, Brian Kolbe performed creditably in both the 220 and 440 and is improving each time out.

Eric Penny ran a very well judged race to win the mile in 4m.45.7s., an encouraging early season time.

Result of 7 miles walk.

1, R.C. Hall 55.47; 2, R. Middleton 56.10; 3, G.S. Checkley 57.22; 4, G.E. Beecham 59.55; 5, S.C. James; 6, R. Barnes 63.37; 7, H.W. Shields 63.45; 8, F.G. Rolfe 66.26; 9, A. East 68.14; 10, D. Logan 68.49; Standards:- 1st Class-Nil; 2nd Class, G.Beecham, S.C. James

MATCH v. H.H.H. & Q.P.H. MAY 20TH.

Owing to a late start, and an already overcrowded programme for an evening meeting, the events had to be rushed through in double quick time; giving the appearance of some hybrid relay meeting. However this did not stop the athletes from putting up some good performances.

Sylvan Deane won both the sprints in 10.5 and 22.8 and a now free from injury Gerry Leroy made a welcome comeback to win both second string sprints in 10.4 and 23.5. Brian Morris and John Davies showed their class by centering home in the 440 and 880 respectively and virtually clinched the match for us.

An excellent start to the season was made by Norman Caves in the triple jump with 45'4", only 13" less than his highly ranked best of last year. Jim McGrath showed his versatility by adding the discus to his list of events, and continued his battle of the "half-inch" with Dave Ansell in the long jump. Jim and Dave seem to be inseparable in their long-jumping performances.

In the junior match Brian Kolbe (2m.4.5s.) was our only winner although Eric Penny was narrowly beaten in the mile. The junior section must be hungrily awaiting the arrival of some of our promising youths.

Les Stokell's lads did their duty in the youths match by beating Herne Hill. A few personalities will no doubt soon arise from their ranks and their progress watched with growing interest. Keep at it boys!

Match results:-

Senior 1st Belgrave 71, 2nd H.H.H. 44, 3rd Q.P.H. 21  
 Junior 1st H.H.H. 17, 2nd Q.P.H. 15, 3rd Belgrave 10  
 Youths 1st Belgrave 16, 2nd H.H.H. 11.

VANCOUVER TROPHY MEETING AT WOODFORD MAY 23RD

This meeting was inaugurated in 1955 by Woodford Green A.C. to commemorate the performances of Elliott and Johnson in the previous year's Empire Games at Vancouver.

The home club were virtually at full strength, but many athletes from some of the other clubs were conspicuous by their absence. Our own John Davies, Brian Morris, Clive Ryan, Frank Wright and D. McCorquindale were competing elsewhere, and with Stan Vickers Eric Hall, Norman Caves, Mal Ash and Andorke also unavailable our team could not be said to be truly representative of the name of Belgrave. Nevertheless, the lads who did carry our colours performed with considerable credit and had no small portion of bad luck.

Conditions would have been ideal but for a fierce wind which affected almost every performance.

Ron Holtum just failed to qualify for the final of the 100 m. recording 11.8 in his battle against both wind and competitors.

In the 200m. we were out of luck again when S.Deane, who clocked 22.7s. was also unable to qualify. However, Dave Carter joined the finalists with a workmanlike performance a provided us with a very valuable point.

In the 400m. C.Lindsay of Q.P.H. showed considerable speed and strength in negotiating the antics of the wind to record a phenomenal 47.7! How Brian Morris would have liked to have been there! Our own Alen Jackson (51.9) was also unable to reach the final but ran a sound race. When he has the courage to make his first 220 a little faster his times will undoubtedly improve.

Dave Mitchell and John Thresher, both of whom are new arrivals to the senior ranks, each narrowly missed qualifying for the 800m final. They both ran very spirited races and in a couple of seasons time should prove to be outstanding performers.

In the 1500m. Malcolm Robinson, our only entrant, found himself up against opponents such as Earl, Linford, Chapman and Ellis, but with his usual show of determination and ever-improving ability he secured a point with a time of 4m.2.4s., another best performance.

In many events we were unable to field two competitors, which meant a possible wastage of points before we started. The 5000m. appeared to be another such event when a call was put out for the runners to assemble. Simultaneously, a certain Irishman, red-faced and panting, burst upon the scene having, seemingly, run a four minute mile from Woodford Station. Having had his clothes virtually dragged from him John Moore was ushered over to the starting line where he just had time to take a deep breath before travelling a further 5000 metres. John must be congratulated on his running although his performance, of course, was not one of his best. Don Maclean ran well in the first half of the race but when it became obvious that he wouldn't score he eased down to save himself for the steeplechase, in which he had volunteered to run.

In the high hurdles Jim McGrath showed his prowess by qualifying for the final. Charlie did likewise in the 400m. hurdles and was a creditable fourth in 57.9s.

Both Percy Porter and John Ware did well in finishing 3rd and 2nd in the hammer and javelin respectively.

Jim McGrath led in the long jump until the final round where two competitors "pulled one out of the bag". Only 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " separated the first four! Both Jim and Dave Ansell, who was fourth, recorded 20'3", the wind accounting for a good two feet. Dave went on to a

fourth place in the triple jump while Jim completed a "Mal Ash" type performance by finishing third in the pole vault, narrowly failing at 12'0", an excellent days work.

Stan and Eric were sadly missed in the 3000m. walk, although Ted Smith and John Knifton gleaned a valuable three points between them.

Prior to the 3000m steeplechase Clive Shippen paid the penalty of insufficient warming-up by pulling a thigh muscle when negotiating a hurdle. Thus Don Maclean faced yet another race as our sole competitor as this time there was no late arrival to join him. In doing 10.21 Don left behind several fresher opponents.

As far as the match result was concerned Woodford Green were in an unassailable position quite early on. Of Belgrave's 32 points, 23 were obtained on the field and 9 on the track, from which you may form your own conclusions.

C.S.

#### R.W.A. 20 MILES ROAD WALK CHAMPIONSHIP - MAY 9TH

Held on a very hot day at Imber Court this race was notable for the way in which Tom Missen and Don Thompson, both of Metropolitan Walking Club, absolutely slaughtered the opposition. It was also notable for the performance of George Williams who came in at the last minute to replace Eric Hall, who had leg trouble. To finish fifth in such a class field at his first attempt over the distance deserves great praise.

Credit must also be accorded to Terry Clark, only just out of the junior stage, for his very fine effort in finishing ninth.

Although we lost the team race we did retain the Nijmegen Cup for the first club to finish eight men, indeed this is the fifth time in succession that we have won it.

5	G. Williams	2.59.17	45	H.W. Shields	3.22.58
9	T.B. Clark	3.01.46	48	J. Morris	3.24.06
13	G. Beecham	3.04.37	60	T. Luck	3.27.55
16	R.C. Hall	3.05.40	75	F. Rolfe	3.33.32
22	G. Checkley	3.09.04	78	J. Keown	3.34.51
31	B. Eglington	3.14.02	96	P. Wilson	3.42.25
36	C. Yescombe	3.17.21			
37	H. McGreechan	3.17.52			

Teams:- 1st Met. W.C. 23 pts. 2nd Belgrave H. 42 pts.  
3rd Woodford Green A.C. 62 pts.

#### SURREY CHAMPIONSHIPS - 29/30TH MAY.

Without doubt Motpur Park has an atmosphere all of its own. A fast track in a pleasant, well-sheltered setting, together with a large appreciative crowd of spectators reclining on the grassy banks and the usually fine weather, make this meeting a rather special occasion for competitor and onlooker alike. A large proportion of the crowd consists of semi-retired athletes, still dabbling, who have not yet managed to resist the lure of an athletic meeting. At one time they would have returned home determined to make a "come back", but now, alas, the County Junior and Youth performances are sufficient cause to not only turn this group to full retirement but to swell their ranks by the addition of many more disillusioned Seniors.

At Whitsun, Surrey's athletes allowed the Inter-County Trophy to slip across the river to their Middlesex rivals. But on this day they made it quite clear that it had gone for no more than a year's holiday. Performances were improving all round but most noticeably amongst the younger competitors.

Mitcham A.C. and Hercules A.C. were the most prominent but Belgrave were unique in being represented in every event - that is if one is allowed to count the announcer! Yes, Bill Luess was on duty once more. Bill's announcing is second to none and he must be congratulated on the way he carried this marathon task.

Highlights of the meeting were, a 1m.49.6s. "half" from Brian Hewson, a 48.7s. 440 by junior John Strechan of Hercules and a 13m.49.6s. conquest by his clubmate Ernie Earl over the redoubtable Mike Maynard in the three miles.

For many this meeting started and finished on Friday evening, and no less dramatically than in the Senior mile heats. County standard is 4m.24s., yet Giddings of Deptford Park failed to qualify for the final with a time of 4m.13.7s.! and our own Malcolm Robinson likewise with a personal best of 4m.19s. In the two miles walk Belgrave swept to victory by filling the first three places; George Williams winning from Ray Middleton with John Knifton a good third in his first year of senior competition.

On Saturday Clive Ryan and Charlie Jones comfortably qualified for the 440 final despite being drawn against each other in their heat and having to fill first two places. Clive recorded 49.9 and Charlie 51.0. In the final Clive was drawn on the outside lane, while the holder, Woodland of Hercules, was blessed with the inside. However, Woodland had to put up a Best Championship Performance of 48.4 in beating Clive's 49.4. Charlie was fifth in 51.3.

Eric Penny ran well on Friday evening to qualify for the Junior mile final but found the opposition too strong next day. The first four broke the Best Championship Performance and the first seven were inside 4m.23s.! Harvey of Mitcham (4.16.8) led from start to finish to win from Harper of S.L.H. (4.19.1)

Eric Shirley made his first appearance at the Championships and won the senior mile from A.S.Rogers of Mitcham in 4m.11s. - sixth man here clocked 4.14.4!

Sylvan Deane (10.4) was narrowly beaten in his 100 yds. heat, being passed in the last ten yards in a blanket finish.

The leading white-vested runner in the second heat of the 880 went by unrecognised as Belgravians cheered on Malcolm Robinson in the main bunch. When the first lap time of 54.8 was announced eyebrows were raised and on closer inspection it was seen to be Frank Wright. A barrage of voices carried Frank down the back straight and although caught in the final straight he qualified through second place in 1m.57.2s. - a good solo run. In the third heat John Thresher ran a personal best of 1.58.5.

Belgrave's only representative in the three miles was Don Maclean who recorded 14m.57.8s., and as the crowd left was seen to be reclining against a post in the centre of the arena in a rather deflated state - a fitting end to the day.

C.S.

#### OTHER COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

P.C. Eldridge, in his first season back from overseas performed a most creditable treble in the Beds. and Hunts. Championships at Luton, winning the 100 in 10.2, the 220 in 22.8 and the 440 in 51.7. His return is most welcome and we look forward to his services in future trophy meetings. Norman Caves made the total four for Belgrave by yet again winning the triple jump with 43'6".

In the Middlesex Championships at Enfield Dave Ansell was once more amongst the leading long jumpers and finished second with 21'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". John Davies, holder of the mile title, was unable to compete owing to other commitments.

#### RESULT OF BOYS AND YOUTHS MEDAL COMPETITION - 1959

Boys:-	1st	D. Pottinger	23 pts.	7th	D. Williams	6 pts.
	2nd	D. Wiseman	21 "	8th	R. Saunders	5 "
	3rd	E. Hawkins	14 "	9th	R. Nelson	5 "
	4th	N. Berry	14 "	10th	R. Thorn	4 "
	5th	J. Simpson	9 "	11th	Sturgess	4 "
	6th	R. Batchelor	6 "	12th	R. Williams	2 "
				13th	R. Dommett	1 "
Youths:-	1st	J. Williams	21 pts.	7th	Moritz	5
	2nd	D. Wade	20	8th	J. Jarvis	5
	3rd	A. Mead	15	9th	D. Cocks	4
	4th	D. Hammond	14	10th	J. Yeo	3
	5th	C. Page	10	11th	W. Perry	3
	6th	D. Cox	7			

CLUB TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS - JUNE 6TH

This year we held our meeting at Hurlingham Park and the general opinion seemed to favour this venue in preference to the rather dingy surroundings of Battersea Park with its fun fair and power station skyline.

Altogether it was a most successful meeting and some excellent performances were achieved. Most notable of these were the 440 yds. win in 48.7s. by Clive Ryan - a new Championship record, and the mile win of Malcolm Robinson in which Jack Brown's long standing record only just survived.

<u>SENIOR 100 YARDS</u>		<u>JUNIOR 100 YARDS</u>		<u>BOYS 100 YARDS</u>	
1	P. Eldridge 10.3	1	J. Peters 12.5	1	D. Crosbie 11.5
2	C.R. Jones	2	J. Grant	2	A. Mead
3	S. Deane			3	D. Wade
4	R. Holtum			4	D. Hammond
<u>SENIOR 220 YARDS</u>		<u>JUNIOR 220 YARDS</u>		<u>SENIOR 440 YARDS</u>	
1	S. Deane 23.4	1	B. Linley 24.8	1	C. Ryan 48.7
2	D. Carter 23.5	2	D. Crosbie 25.2	2	P. Eldridge 49.7
3	J. McNaughton 23.7	3	J. Peters 25.7	3	C.R. Jones 49.9
4	A. Cameron 24.3	4	D. Wade 27.1	4	G. Leroy 50.0
5	F. Wright 24.4	5	N. Perry 27.8	5	A. Jackson 50.8
6	D. Gordon 25.0	6	R. Grant 28.8	6	P. Pepe 51.3
<u>SENIOR 880 YARDS</u>		<u>JUNIOR 880 YARDS</u>			
1	J. Davies 1.56.8	1	T. Hart 2.05.0		
2	F. Wright 1.57.4	2	B. Kolbe 2.05.2		
3	R. Taylor 1.57.9	3	M. Smithers 2.10.0		
4	J. Thresher 1.58.7	4	R. Bagley 2.10.0		
5	D. Newell 2.00.0				
6	P. Pepe				
<u>SENIOR ONE MILE</u>		<u>JUNIOR ONE MILE</u>			
1	M. Robinson 4.18.6	1	E. Penny 4.41.4		
2	J. Davies 4.19.8	2	B. Kolbe 4.46.9		
3	P. Newell 4.23.0	3	D. Cocks 4.54.8		
4	A. Black 4.28.0	4	J. Hampshire 4.56.0		
5	D. Mclean 4.29.0	5	J. Yeo 5.11.4		
6	D. Mitchell 4.31.4	6	R. Bagley 5.13.0		
<u>TWO MILES WALK</u>		<u>JUNIOR 440 YARDS</u>			
1	G. Williams 14.14.4	1	B. Linley 53.0 (B.ch.p)		
2	T.B. Clark 15.14	2	A. Meade 60.1		
3	E.A. Smith 15.17	<u>JUNIOR HIGH JUMP</u>			
4	J.F. Knifton 15.22	1	M. Smithers 5'0" (Least no.)		
5	S.C. James 16.20	2	D. Wade 5'0" (of failures)		
6	H. McGreechan 16.51				
<u>WEIGHT PUT</u>		<u>DISCUS</u>			
1	D. McCorquindale 49'9"	1	J. McGrath 107'9"		
2	J. Whyte 36'8"	2	J. Ware 105'2"		
3	J. McGrath 36'4 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	3	J. Whyte 96'8"		
4	J. Ware 34'3"	4	W. Couzens 86'5"		
<u>LONG JUMP</u>		<u>JAVELIN</u>			
1	J. McGrath 20'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	1	J. Ware 156'10"		
2	C.R. Jones 19'11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	2	W. Couzens 146'6"		
3	J. Tibbets 18'1"	<u>SENIOR HIGH JUMP</u>			
4	A. Blackett 17'8"	1	J. McGrath 5'5"		
5	A. Stanborough 17'3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	2	A. Stanborough 5'4"		
6	B.T. Jones 17'0"				

Standards:- Senior 440, G. Leroy, A. Jackson, P. Pepe  
 Senior 880, J. Thresher, D. Newell, P. Pepe  
 Junior 880, R. Bagley  
 Senior mile, A. Black, D. Mclean, D. Mitchell,  
 J. Radford.

Weight, J. Ware.

2 miles walk, J.F. Knifton (1st class), S.C. James (2nd)