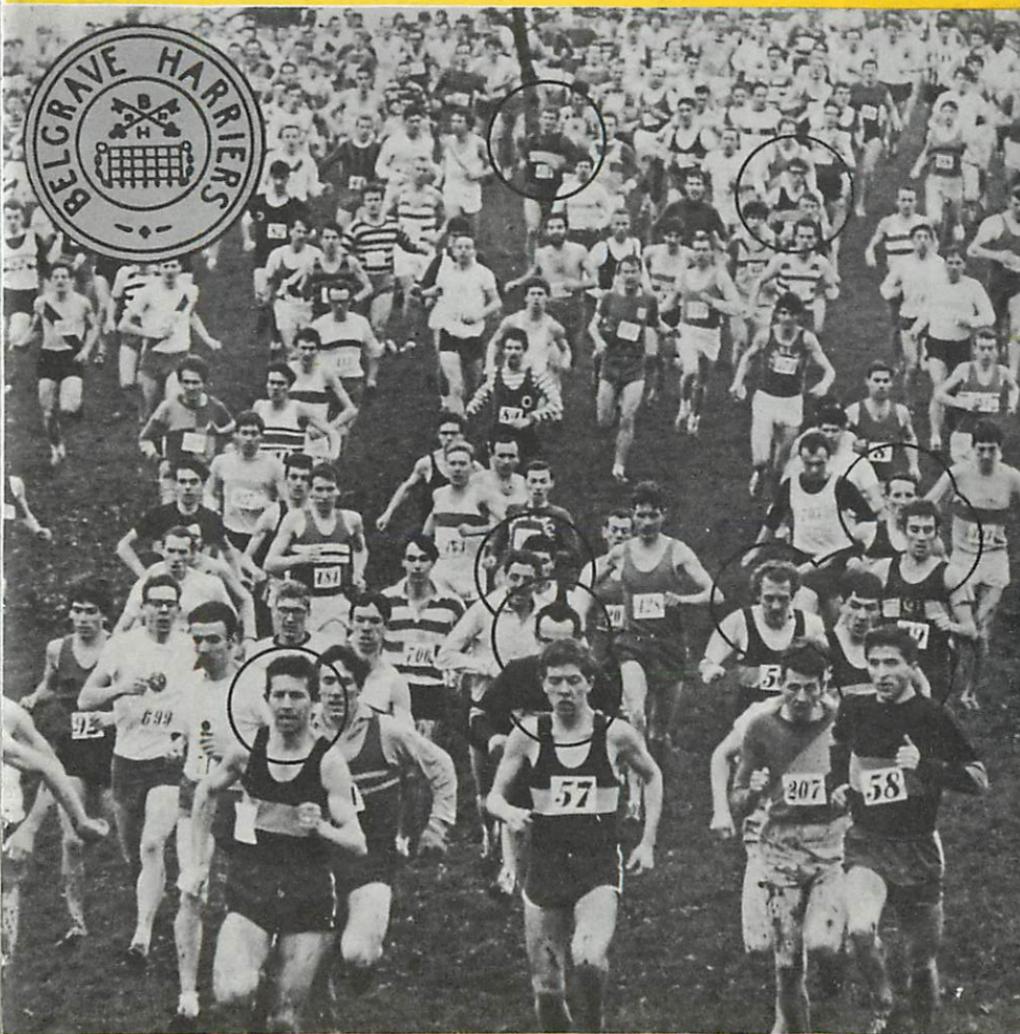


THE BELGRAVIAN



Official Gazette of
Belgrave Harriers

QUARTERLY

MARCH, 1968



PROWISPRICE (Photo by M. Jacey)—Gerry North splashes through a ford, between R. Grove and W. Adcock in the National Championships.
FIGHT COVER (Photo by R. J. Hirstead)—The "Southern" after 800 yards. Eleven of our twelve can be seen well to the fore.



THE

BELGRAVIAN

FOUNDED 1887

MARCH 1968

NO.165

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EDITORIAL

"He who pays the piper, calls the tune".

Have you ever heard athletes talk of anything but athletics? Are there any wives who doubt what the topic of conversation will be at social gatherings? And when it comes to the dedicated athlete, is it not true that those outside the understanding atmosphere of the athletic club would regard him as selfish, inward looking? Athletes may talk politics sometimes but other athletes never hear them do so—it is a non-political world. All the sadder then that international politics should be encroaching into it.

Several GOVERNMENTS have recently announced their withdrawal from the Mexico Olympics. No one knows what their own Olympic Committees thought, least of all the athlete's views. In the political arena it doesn't matter what they think. One

does not question the reasons for such actions, simply the procedures and their ramifications. Where will it all end? Will the United Nations soon be legislating on where international teams may compete?

Athletic Associations are bound by the laws of their country—those that are state sponsored are bound even tighter. We in Britain may have to hand the cap round at each Olympics, rely on commercial sponsorship and make do by our own efforts; but at least we run our own affairs, and the Government would get short shrift if it tried to speak for the AAA or BAAB. As tempting as it is to have lavish government support for athletics, is it really worth having the political strings that go with it?

On Thursday, March 14th, Mr Denis Howell, Minister of Sport turned down a back-bench suggestion that the Government should not continue to subsidise the British Olympic team for the 1968 Games in Mexico in view of the racially segregated team from South Africa. Mr. Howell told M.P.s, quite rightly, "British participation in the Olympic Games is a matter for the British Olympic Committee——". The significance of such questions being raised in the House of Commons should not be overlooked.

State aided sport will soon be widespread. Those who think this will solve all our problems would do well to ponder the events of recent weeks.

* * * * *

Our Hon. Secretary who has acted as Deputy Chairman of the Southern Counties A.A.A. during the current year, is to be nominated as President at the Annual General Meeting which will take place in May. This will be the first time a Belgravian has been honoured in this way. Les Cohen will again be nominated as one of the Vice Presidents.

WELCOME

Robert J. ATKINS.....(Surrey)
George BORKOWSLA.....(Middx)
Barry C. BURTON.....(Surrey)
Desmond M. CADDEN.....(Eire)
Nicholas A. CHAMBERLAIN.....(Surrey)
Derek COLE.....(Middx)
Roy W. DICKENSON.....(Middx)
Michael DICKSON.....(Scotland)

David C. EASTWOOD.....(Surrey)
Robert B. JOHNSON.....(Nigeria)
Peter R. JONES.....(N. Ireland)
Andrew KERR.....(Middx)
Peter D. MOLLAN.....(India)
James PARASKEVA.....(Cyprus)
Robert PUFFETT.....(Berkshire)
Patric W. SHEPHERD.....(Somerset).

2nd Claim

Mladen GAVRILOVIC.....(Yugoslavia)

4
HON SEC'S NOTES

The Track Season will be with us very shortly and we would once again ask all members to support our fixtures to the full as active athletes, or as helpers and officials, or as supporters. Particularly we would ask you to note our Championships date - Saturday May 25th at Hurlingham Park Track.

Other dates booked are :-

Sat. 23rd March	-	Tooting Track (Field Events Meeting)
Sat. 20th April	-	Battersea Park.
Wed. 1st May	-	" "
Wed. 12th June	-	" "
Wed. 26th June	-	" "
Wed. 3rd July	-	" " (Inter-Club Walk)
Wed. 17th July	-	" "
Wed. 31st July	-	" "
Wed. 7th August	-	" "

* * * * *

Please also note Sat. July 20th when our Open 20 miles Run will be held from Belgrave Hall, Wimbledon, and Sat. Sept. 7th in the evening, when the Borough of Wandsworth are sponsoring a 7 miles Road Run which we have agreed to promote on their behalf. The prize list looks like dazzling everybody, and refreshments for all competitors are a probability which should guarantee three dozen Belgrave entries at a minimum.

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There is likely to be a special prize for the first Wandsworth resident not gaining any other award; and now that the Borough of Wandsworth embraces additionally most of the area previously under Battersea Borough Council, we may expect keen competition to take this extra award.

* * * * *

In years gone by our Club drew tremendous strength from the district now falling within the London Borough of Wandsworth, and every street name carried recollections of Belgrave members. If, as is possible, their Seven miles run becomes an annual event it may well be the means of bringing a regular supply of new members to the Club. Many will remember that at least three "local lads" BERT FOOTER, ARTHUR PENNY and HARRY CHURCHER became International athletes many times over, in the intervals of assisting Belgrave to win Championship team titles.

* * * * *

For many years our Committee met at the "Feathers", Broadway, S.W.1. where we enjoyed adequate facilities in a very central position at no cost to the Club. Our December meeting at this venue was our last, however, for we understand a block of offices is to rise on the present site in the near future. If any member does know of a suitable monthly meeting place with this advantage of centrality, your Hon Secretary would be glad to hear from him.

* * * * *

We are always interested to follow the careers of those who have served the Club's teams well in the past; and the recent press announcement that ALBERT FROST, after eight years as Treasurer, has been appointed Financial Director of I.C.I. Ltd., (probably Britains largest company) calls for our congratulations and good wishes.

Probably Albert's best run for the Club was in the 1947 "National" at Apsley over a course covered with two feet, and more, of snow, when he finished 17th - not all that far out from being nominated as an International. This however did fall once again to LEN HERBERT (6th); and other members of our team on this most difficult day were :- DICK TOBIN 31, VIC BLOWFIELD 37, TED STIMPSON (this years President - none other) 51, STAN SALES 65.

Sutton Harriers, from the North, took our title from us, scoring 160 pts. We were second with 184 pts, and Reading A.C. took third medals.

* * * * *

In our last issue we printed a photograph of Club members outside Tom Sullivan's pub at Barnes, supplied by Albert Macher. For the record it should be noted that this photograph was taken in 1913 (not 1912 as stated) and in fact appeared in "LOTINGA'S Weekly" on 26th April 1913.

Incidentally we were very glad indeed to see Albert Macher and his daughter at our 10 miles C.C. Championship; and to see Albert present the "MACHER" Shield in the Hall after the race.

* * * * *

Charlie Speechley who has been a member of the Club since 1919, has been made Life Honorary Member of the Club to mark his many years support to Belgrave.

During the coming Track season it has been decided to promote two "pilot" Leagues of equal precedence, and as one of the major clubs in the country we have received, and accepted, an invitation to compete. This will involve two full scale meetings in the Midlands and one in London, and will demand 100% enthusiasm and support from our track and field athletes if we are to do ourselves justice.

Based on the experience and knowledge gained in this years "pilot" Leagues the new official National Leagues, with promotion and relegation, will commence in the 1969 season. Obviously any scheme of this sort will not achieve immediate perfection or be without its critics; and suggestions for possible improvements have been invited. One such that we have made (which was turned down in the pilot League arrangements) is the addition of a 6 miles event. Races at this distance are one of the great attractions of the major White City meetings and lead to tremendous interest. Can the Leagues afford to neglect this event? Any suggestion that the time taken (30 minutes or so) rules this event out is surely invalidated by say the inclusion of the Pole Vault which with twelve competitors or varying standards may take hours and hours.

The writer feels, too, that the Leagues should consist of twelve clubs each fielding one man per event, rather than six clubs with two athletes in each event. Twelve clubs would ensure a more widespread national appeal, bring more "star" athletes within the scope of one meeting, create less difficulty for the clubs in that the teams would be half the size. The difficulty here would be in deciding the minor placings in the short distance events; but with the goodwill of the clubs this should not prove insuperable - a system of cross heats should take care of it.

This is not the time or place to go into further detail on this matter of Athletic Leagues, but we may be sure there will be plenty of discussion on this subject in the months to come.

* * * * *

In 1969 the A.A.A. Championships will move from the time honoured July date to Aug. 1st & 2nd, and all championships are likely to be at metric distances. The equivalent of the mile will be 1600 metres, four laps, and not the usual 1500 metres we have seen hitherto in international events. Four laps of the amended track seems entirely logical, and the translation to metric distances inevitable following the pressures being exerted in governmental and industrial circles.

All A.A.A. championships will change, including Youths & Juniors; and Relay championships also and this is calculated to give the Clerk of the Course and groundsmen some worries on old established tracks.

Presumably Area and County championships will follow suit when practicable and in the fulness of time our Club Championships may also undergo changes.

We shall miss the magic of "All out for the Mile" - but no doubt there will be compensations.

* * * * *

Another change which will have much earlier application, (effective April 1st in fact) is that relating to team eligibility. New rules approved give athletes at School, College, Universities etc., opportunities, if desired, to represent their educational establishment in open competition (subject to conditions laid down); but to be eligible for their "open" club if the "closed" club does not compete.

The "qualifying" period (which applied to athletes changing their clubs if they had represented their first club in open team competition) of 14 mths is reduced to 9 mths. The County residential qualifying period is also reduced to 9 months, and some help given to athletes born abroad. To come in line with the above an athlete joining a club over twenty miles from his place of residence will now wait only 9 months instead of the 14 months previously required.

It will be interesting to see whether this general move to ease restrictive rules (generally speaking, introduced many years ago to avoid various abuses) will be found to function fairly and satisfactorily both for individual athletes and for clubs.

* * * * *

It is pleasing to be able to report that PAST - PRESIDENT TOM MORRELL is now making great progress following a heart attack just before Christmas, and should soon be with us again. Tom is one of those quiet workers for the Club who accomplishes so much without ever creating any sense of fuss, or calling attention to himself. His services in connection with prizes, issuing of numbers and collection of fees at our track meetings, recording and keeping account of the points earned by the competing clubs have been most valuable; as are the other duties he carries through unobtrusively but reliably. We shall welcome his return to Club activities with real pleasure.

A.A.H.



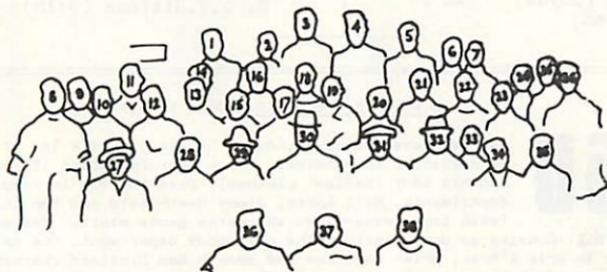
THE OPENING RUN — 1923

The photograph opposite is the last of the series kindly given to us by our former President and founder-Editor Harry Hare. Six of the group were to become Presidents of Belgrave Harriers - H. Evans, O. Horwood, J. Belchamber, W. Bayliss, H. Parker & W.H. Hare - the latter being the first of the six to receive that honour.

The picture was taken outside Belgrave Hall (then St. John's Hall) just before the opening five miles cross-country handicap of 1923.

On page 19 of the last Belgravian (Dec. 1967) the date of the group photograph should have read 1913. Tom Sullivan, in that photo, was a famous champion sculler who left England a few days after the picture was taken to coach the Berliner Ruder Club. No. 14. R. Hawkes, was Honorary Secretary at that time.

If any of our members are able to fill any of the gaps in the identification of groups pictured in the last three of four issues, the Editor will be pleased to hear from them.



1. H. Evans	11. J. B. Carne	21. -	30. T. W. Carne
2. J. J. Crichton	12. J. Bellchamber	22. -	31. H. E. Wills
3. A. L. Fletcher	13. -	23. C. W. Rust	32. A. Chatting
4. H. Ebbs	14. -	24. G. F. Pepper	33. A. Martin
5. S. da Costa	15. A. A. Rust	25. J. F. Satchell	34. H. Fearn
6. W. Pritchard	16. W. H. Hare	26. G. H. Powell	35. A. J. Lamm
7. O. Horwood	17. A. E. Smith	27. H. Parker	36. H. E. Foeter
8. T. Eaton	18. W. L. Bayliss	28. W. Savage	37. J. G. Flatt
9. W. J. Hawker	19. A. Griffiths	29. G. Tyrer	38. R. J. Jones
10. R. Fielder	20. J. Pritchard		

BOXING DAY MEETING - 1967

HARRY SHIELDS WRITES:

After the fug of Christmas activities, to those with energy enough, what compensations there were in this delightful gathering, on a lovely fresh sunny morning with its mixture of young in heart and young in body. The thought of some thirty years ago, Arthur Penny fresh from his reputed Christmas diet of fish, regularly winning the 2 mile handicap, now resplendent in his red starters cap escorted by that epitomé of courage, his wife Winn. Dave Shepherd, Norman Dewberry and many others not looking a day older. Tom Carter acting with the august majesty of a Cohen on the top of the Judges stand. Ted Stimpson, Our President, busily looking after the tape.

We all missed the solid presence of Tom Morrell and his unassuming "general factorum" in obtaining the prizes, being competitors steward, results recorder etc., and voiced our hopes to see him speedily restored to health.

With the exception of the walk, the events were well supported and very obviously enjoyed. The rich mixture of experience and the product of that academy of young athletes presided over by Reg Hopkins, produced keen and exciting competition. After all the pomposity one hears in connection with the "Byers Report", international athletes and so on, how refreshing it is to be in this atmosphere of true amateur athletics.

The whole meeting was suitably rounded off by a typical gesture of our "A.A.A.'s" timekeeper E. Ryan who by sleight of hand produced two aircraft construction kits to be added to the prize list for the younger athletes. Thank you Ted they were much appreciated.

(Cont'd overleaf)

RESULTS:**2 miles Handicap.**

1. P. Blairfish (450)	8:50
2. A. Mead (600)	8:58
3. V. Butcher (570)	9:5
4. L. Mann (300)	9:7
5. W. Curtin (420)	9:7
6. R. Moody (480)	9:8

(29 competed)

120yds. Handicap

HT. 1. J.J. Mitchell Scr.	12:9
HT. 2. L.A. Brooks 6yds.	13:1
HT. 3. L.J. Williams 22yds.	12:6

FINAL:

1. J. Mitchell (Scr)	12:3
2. J. Williams (22yds)	12:3
3. P. Gee (7yds)	12:7
4. A. Brooks (6 yds)	12:8
5. P. Smith (7yds)	13:0
6. J. Hamilton (10yds)	13:1

(15 competed)

Shot Handicap

1. J. Kelly (17'0")	45'2"
2. A. Brooks (15'6")	41'9"
3. A. Mead (16'0")	41'6"
4. L. Mann (17'0")	40'10"
5. J. Mitchell (9'0")	40'
6. W. Cousins (4'0")	39'9"

(13 competed)

A very good turnout for this event which could only be started after the tedious job of baling out about 50 gallons of water from the shot putt area, leaving our marker Dave Ansell being regularly splatted as the 16lb weight dropped in the mud!

3miles Walk Handicap

1. J. Moulin (Scr)	23:4
2. T. Cook (3:25)	24:1
3. C.V. Gittens (6:15)	24:15

BELGRADGES does it again!**£50**

For Belgrave - £49..1..6d. to be exact, and a lot of that is collected in pennies! Thank your President (Ironware) and his Lady (Ladies' clothes), Dave and Win in comparable departments, Bill Lucas, Jimmy Heathfield and Ben Lullam (with tape measure) on the natty gents stall. Freeman, Hardy & Bill Cousins go down great in the chiropody department, the natural huckster in Bric a Brac, Brian Hamilton and smooth Ron Linstead charming the pennies out of the purses - Commissionaire Bernard Merry let 150 people through the turnstile - Pat Mead on object d'art (she sells as well) and the other charmer Elizabeth Shippen in Haberdashery whilst mister runs W.H. Smiths, John Baker on toys and all the girls on clothes, Gwendoline Lucas, Mabs Thresher (again with tape) and Jean Manning. Also the indefatigable Bob Taylor and Gwen Cousins plus the welcome recruits Peter Hillier and friend, Philip Smith and friend and John Hall and Marjorie Pearson and Bob Glover. The various children who helped, and missed was Mrs. Savage who generally keeps us going with the rosy lee. Thank also the people who bought the jumble - good quality gear - a fine day and all the help mentioned or unmentioned.

Additions to BEST PERFORMANCES 1967 list in December issue.

2 Miles	3 Miles	6 Miles
9:08.4 J. Bicourt	14:13.0 F. Gilson (2nd C)	30:21.0 T. Hart
9:20.0 F. Gilson (2nd C)	14:46.0 C. Dabbs	30:50.0 C. Dabbs
9:36.0 C. Dabbs		
3,000 m. S'chase - 9:42.2	F. Gilson (2nd C)	

HILLINGDON '7'**HILLINGDON A.C. 5m ROAD R. 17th February 1968.****RESULT:**

1. T. Briault (Enf)	23:57	46. H. Satchell	26:37	99. P. O'Connor	29:01
2. Geoff North (Bels)	24:05	55. D. Brew	27:05	103. J. Baker	:16
3. A. Sunderland (Shaft)	:09	58. P. Hillier	:15	104. C. Keavey	:23
11. G. Dance (Bels 'A')	24:46	66. R. Glover	:35	105. G. Piddington	:26
16. L. O'Hara "	25:01	81. E. Penny	28:16	107. G. Biscoe	:36
19. T. Hart "	:11	92. C. Walker	:48	126. P. Sutton	30:52
29. C. Steer "	:43	93. J. Hall	:48	130. R. Beaumont	31:17
31. W. Kerr "	:49	94. W. Laws	:49	132. J. Walker	31:28
34. L. Mann "	26:02	96. C. Fairfield	:59	145 Finished	

TRAMS: 1. BELS 'A' 27 pts. 2. Baling & S'Hall 60 pts. 3. Poly H. 62 pts.

ROAD RUNNING

GORDON BISCOE WRITES:-

This being the semi-closed season of the year for road running there is not a great deal to report on, but one's attention is drawn towards the coming season and the many races this involves once again. The number of races available still increases and we have now reached the same situation as faces the track man, that there are in fact too many. With this in mind we must be selective in the number of races we support, in order to concentrate our efforts and not split them over different events in the same day. In order to do this it would be appreciated if all road runners when planning their 'campaign' for the coming season, would use the races listed in the summer fixture list as a basis to work on.

HOGS BACK

HOGS BACK 9 MILE—DECEMBER 16th 1967

The old cliché, 'we was robbed' would have been a reasonable comment following our failure to win this annual outing over the Hogs Back. For the second year, near ideal conditions prevailed, only this time our entry was stronger and our hopes higher.

However, fate was quick to deal its blow when just after the start Gerry North, whilst leading the field, was accidentally tripped from behind and received a badly gashed arm and thigh. After this serious shaking he was faced with the unenviable task of trying to re-catch the leaders in this class field. At around 5 miles there were only about six in front including brother Geoff. and a very strong Alan Rushmer (Tipton H.) leading the field. At seven miles, before the fast run down to the finish, only Rushmer remained in front, but the effort had taken its toll and, as the results show, by the time those last two miles had been covered Gerry had been forced to concede some of the places so gamely fought for. Geoff. fading a little over the final stages ran a great race, as did Peter Whewell to complete our scoring three.

Bill Dance ran well considering he started with hardly any warm up, arriving as did Pat O'Connor just in time to get their numbers. In fact their last minute timing (not for the first time!) prompted the question as to whether Don McLean's 'title' was in jeopardy!! It was good to see steeple-chasers John Bicourt and Dick Piotrowski out on the road, at what is a slightly longer than usual distance for them, as well as being a tough race. John recorded a time only a few seconds slower than last year (47m26s), when he was our first man home in 36th position. 'Old man' Mike Stearman on the come-back trail showed he meant business by giving Pat O'Connor a few uncomfortable moments and some of these watching food for thought.

RESULT

1. A.Rushmer (Tip.H.)	44:09	52.J.Bicourt	47:38	148.M.Stearman	51:46
6. G.North	44:50	87.R.Piotrowski	49:07	164.D.Jones	52:35
10.Geoff North	45:14	92.L.Mann	49:19	205.G.Piddington	55:15
20.P.Whewell	45:53	111.J.Dear	50:20	228.D.Bonser	56:51
24.G.Dance	46:08	145.P.O'Connor	51:43	233.W.Mathews	57:35

(261 Finished)

Teams:	1. Tipton H.	32 pts.	3. Herc-Wimb A.C.	36 pts.
	2. BELS 'A'	33 pts.	36. BELS 'B'	258 pts.
			(44 teams finished)	

MITCHAM 15

MITCHAM 15 m. 13th January 1968.

In the last few years this has not been a very successful race for us, mainly due to lack of support, and this year was to be no exception; with snow and ice in all directions making the thought of 15 miles on the road a rather miserable prospect. Our stalwarts who did come under starters orders were nearly all 'semi invalids' recovering from flu, injury or semi retirement! and are therefore to be congratulated for turning out at all.

Thus, as the results show, whilst athletic honours were not coming our way on this occasion perhaps we should mention that great team work in bulk buying enabled us to carry off a raffle prize for the second year in succession - enough said!!

RESULT:	1. W.Adcocks (Coventry G.H.)	78:11 (Rec)	71. L.Mann	101:10
	26. T.Hart	87:58	72. D.Bonser	101:23
	57. P.O'Connor	93:51	81. J.Hall	106:46
			(89 Finished)	

TEAMS: 1. Reading A.C. 21 pts. 11. BELGRAVE 117 pts.

YOUTHS & BOYS

The boys & youths would like to thank those seniors who help our section through the winter by helping to mark and marshal our cross-country races - not forgetting the ladies who serve us with tea and cakes afterwards.

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An appeal to all boys & youths to pay their subs. It is a costly business running a club, and our postage bill, carding all of you almost every week, comes to quite a large amount. It is our duty as good club members to help pay our way.

* * * * *

We have had some grand turn-outs at the track this winter with, on one occasion, 25 boys in attendance. This is most encouraging and augurs well for the coming track season. Training has been quite varied and during the snowy weather included a three hour snowball fight! Ideal for the throwers perhaps and, in Nigel Bacon's case, for his running also!

* * * * *

Reg Hopkins and Tom Carter have been taking movie films from time to time, and they hope to put on a show in the near future. Included will be a repeat of that film classic(!) "Belgrave Win the London-Brighton Relay".

EASTER WEEKEND HOLIDAY

Halls Green, Weald, near Sevenoaks, Kent - Cost £2
(for Boys aged 15 years or under)

This Easter we have been invited by the Oxford & Bermondsey Boys Club to their holiday camp in the country for a combined training and holiday weekend from Thursday evening 12th April until Monday evening 15th April. This is an established Boys Holiday Camp with all modern conveniences including cooked meals, dormitory sleeping, baths, showers, gymnasium, swimming pool, sports fields & library and is situated in lovely countryside. Things to do include canoeing and rock climbing. This is an ideal way to get to know one another and build up a fine Club spirit. Will those interested please contact Reg Hopkins.

Bill Curtin once again won the South London Schools Cross-Country Championships held at Wimbledon just before Christmas and so will now represent his area in the All London Champs, this unfortunately for us is on the same day as the final match in the North Surrey League when we would have liked his services in trying to hold our 11 point lead. Never mind, we wish him luck and know he will be out to win his way into the all-England race.

Another one of our Boys will be absent for the same reason. Richard Langley was the winner of the East London Schools Cross-Country Championships in 18.35 (180 Runners) helping his school to win the team event. This was a 3 mile cross-country race held at Hanault Forest.

Bill and Richard will not be meeting in the London Championships however as Bill is in a higher division. We can however hope to have two winners and, perhaps, two winners in the All England?

LATER!

TWO BELS AT STOKE

Bill Curtin and Richard Langley won themselves a trip to the English Schools cross country Championships to be held at Stoke on March 23rd. Bill gained his place by coming third in the intermediate division of the 'London' over four miles at Hainault on Saturday February 23rd. Richard also gained Third place, but in the junior division.

The Boys and Youths section are grateful to all those members who have passed on second-hand running shoes and clothing. It is put to good use and is much appreciated.

Match v Wimbledon College - 25th November.

Once again the College made us very welcome. Their boys have a great interest in running and seem to look forward to this meeting as much as we do. It is a pity that more of their very promising youngsters don't join Belgrave.

Bill Curtin was a convincing winner of the race restricted to boys under 15 years of age) but the College had 7 of the next 8 to finish and easily took the team result.

RESULT

1. W.Curtin (Bels)	16:22	11. C.Bond	17:58	18. L.Harris	19:10
2. C.Arnold (W.C.)	:43	12. R.Hopkins	18:03	21. S.Adams	:30
3. - Higgins (W.C.)	17:19	13. K.Agyeman	:15	23. S.Corrigan	20:34
6. G.Brown (Bels)	:43	14. E.McNally	:19	24. I.McNally	21:05
10.P.Jablonski "	:53	16. M.Caine	19:03		

Teams (8 to score)

1. Wimbledon College 53 pts. 2. BELGRAVE H. 83 pts.

Match v Surrey Beagles v Kent A.C. v Woking A.C. v Dorking A.C. Warringham - 16th December.

This was our first trip to this venue and, on unfamiliar country, Vic Butcher, Nigel Bacon & Robert Poole all went off course. The race was a mixed youths & boys event and Bill Curtin was the first boy to finish.

RESULT

1. J.Spooner (Dorking)	14:18	9. R.Hopkins	18:15	16. V.Butcher	23:25
2. P.Leitch "	:18	12. M.Kane	20:42	17. N.Bacon	25:31
3. W.Curtin (BELS)	:39	15. I.McNally	20:42	18. R.Poole	:37

Boys Team Result: 1. Kent A.C. 14 pts. 2. BELGRAVE 22 pts.

Jack Hampshire TROPHY

Boys 3 Miles CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - January 27th

Not favourite, Bill Curtin, had no difficulty in taking away the title from last year's winner Bob Poole.

Our course was very muddy in parts and the "Avenue" was flooded. Not that this worried the Boys who ran straight through the lot. The handicap awards went to Ed McNally (1st), Reg Hopkins (2nd) and Cliff Bond (3rd).

RESULT

1. W.Curtin (Scr)	16:06	8. P.Jablonski	(2:55)	19:37
2. R.Poole (0:40)	:40	9. R.Wells	(3:30)	:49
3. V.Butcher (1:00)	17:06	10. I.McNally	(3:45)	20:30
4. M.Harvey (1:15)	18:04	11. R.Coulman	(3:30)	21:16
5. E.McNally (3:00)	:27	12. M.Kane	(3:35)	22:04
6. R.Hopkins (3:10)	:42	13. F.Dunne	(3:30)	:28
7. C.Bond (2:55)	:52	14. I.Gillings	(4:25)	:34

A Dozen Bridges

On Tuesday evening 19th December some of our boys ran in a competition to help raise funds for a youth club who allow us to use their headquarters midweek. This youth club found sponsors to pay a shilling per bridge per boy who then tried to run as many bridges as possible in two hours. The competition was due to start at 8 o'clock but due to the unexpected large entry (75 boys) it was 8:20 before the "off". The finishing time had been fixed for 10 o'clock. The organizers and the large number of spectators were amazed at the ability of our boys who reached 12 bridges before 9:30 and at this point were brought to a halt because the organizers did not visualize any one reaching this far in two hours let alone 70 mins. and therefore had no marshals beyond this point. Only one other boy, who was not Belgrave, managed to reach so far before 10 o'clock.

N.Bacon	12 Bridges	70 mins.	I.McNally	12 Bridges	80 mins.
V.Butcher	12 Bridges	70 mins.	C.Savage	12 Bridges	80 mins.
R.Hopkins	12 Bridges	80 mins.	M.Harvey	12 Bridges	85 mins.
K.Savage	12 Bridges	80 mins.			

NORTH SURREY LEAGUE

Youths/Boys

FINAL TABLE

1. BELGRAVE HARRIERS.....	196 points
2. Mitcham AC.....	207 points
3. Walton AC.....	242 points
4. Hercules-Wimbledon AC.....	369 points
5. Croydon Harriers.....	490 points
6. Ranelagh Harriers.....	502 points
7. Surrey AC.....	609 points

Undoubtedly one of the most pleasing features of the season was our first win in this competition. Second last year was beyond our expectations, but to improve on it against the calibre of Mitcham and Walton—particularly when we were only third in our opening home match—hardly bore thinking of; except in the minds of our Youths and Boys of course! We moved up to second at Walton and then, with our tails up, actually won the last two fixtures. You now have something worth fighting for next season.

The first race of the season was reported in the last issue of "The Belgravian". The last three races went as follows:-

RACE No.2. - (Walton) Esher, December 9th.

Run in dangerous, icy conditions and a blizzard thrown in at the end for good measure, our lads really rose to the occasion and, led by Cliff Calderwood, split Walton and Mitcham in the team event - leaving us only 11 points down at the halfway stage of the competition.

RESULT

1. R. Martin (Walton)	16:48	10. W. Curtin	18:02	17. A. Chandler	N.T.
2. J. Capanda (Mit)	:54	12. N. Bacon	:13	22. V. Butcher	19:41
3. C. Calderwood (Bels)	:56	15. T. Day	:38	25. R. Hopkins	23:25
6. R. Crockford "	17:41	16. J. Hamilton	:41		

TEAMS

1. Walton AC	34 pts.	5. Surrey AC	152 pts.
2. BELGRAVE H.	45 pts.	6. Ranelagh H.	165 pts.
3. Mitcham AC	50 pts.	7. Croydon AC	165 pts.
4. Herc/Wim. AC	126 pts.		

RACE No. 3. - (Mitcham) Morden Park, December 30th

This was probably our best performance so far. Ten claret & gold vests in the first twenty four finishers! And Bill Curtin (still 2 yrs away from being a youth) finishing second, nine seconds ahead of the winner at Walton, R. Martin. Cliff Calderwood was well up again and when John Crockford led in a solid pack of Bels in 10th place there was no doubt who the winners were. Of the 52 finishers 25 were Belgravians! Now to hold that 11 points lead in the final fixture at Petersham.

RESULT

1. H. Hayes (Mitcham)	17:25	12. R. Poole (Bels)	19:20
2. W. Curtin (Bels)	:41	13. N. Bacon "	:26
3. R. Martin (Walton)	:50	14. V. Butcher "	:38
4. C. Stebbings (Cro)	18:12	15. T. Day "	:42
5. C. Calderwood (Bels)	:31	20. R. Hofstedt "	:50
10. J. Crockford "	19:00		

(52 finished - 25 Belgravians)

TEAMS

1. BELGRAVE H.	42 pts.	5. Croydon H.	92 pts.
2. Mitcham AC	64 pts.	6. Surrey AC	143 pts.
3. Walton AC	67 pts.	7. Ranelagh	146 pts.
4. Herc/Wim. AC	87 pts.		

RACE NO.4. - (Ranelagh) Richmond Park, February 24th

Once again our lads rose to the occasion and, despite being without Bill Curtin, held on to their precious 11 points lead to lift the title for the first time. They not only held their lead but won the race itself on last scoring man. The Days, Hamiltons, Crockford, Butcher and Bacon all excelled themselves to make the first 17.

RESULT

1. H. Hayes.....(Mitcham).....	11:31	10. J. Hamilton.....(BELGRAVE)....	12:29
2. B. Slocombe.....(Herc/Wimb)....	11:40	11. T. Day.....	12:29
3. T. Beagent.....	11:42	13. V. Butcher.....	12:36
4. M. Day.....(BELGRAVE).....	11:47	16. R. Hamilton.....	12:49
7. J. Crockford.....	12:12	17. N. Bacon.....	12:53

(45 finished—16 Belgravians)

Teams:-

1. BELGRAVE HARRIERS.....45 pts	5. Croydon Harriers.....134 pts
2. Mitcham AC.....45 pts	6. Ranelagh Harriers.....140 pts
3. Hercules and Wimbledon.....70 pts	7. Surrey AC.....157 pts
4. Walton AC.....74 pts	

SURREY YOUTHSEpsom Downs - February 3rd

Cliff Calderwood was a non-starter and this almost certainly pushed us out of the medals. Nevertheless our 5th place was two better than last year and Day ran well to lead our team home.

RESULT

1. H.Hayes (Wim.Coll) 16:55	30. N.Bacon (Bels) 19:06
2. R.Larder (G & G) 17:05	35. T.Day " :29
3. R.Martin (Walton) :06	36. R.Hamilton " :31
17. M.Day (Bels) 18:07	38. J.Hamilton " :45
22. J.Crockford (Bels) :24	

Teams:

1. S.L.H. 25 pts.	2. Wim.Coll. 50 pts.	3. Mitcham 50 pts.	5. BELS 63 pts.
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MATCH v WIMBLEDON COLLEGE - February 3rd

Bill Curtin repeated the win he scored over Arnold (W.C.) earlier in the season but the College took the team once again. The course was out and back, with a turn round the Queensmere, and Bill led from start to finish. Eddie McNally's improvement goes on and he is certainly a lad worth watching.

RESULT

1. W.Curtin (Bels) 12:48	4. E.McNally 14:25	12. I.McNally 16:00
2. C.Arnold (W.C.) 14:03	7. R.Hopkins :54	17. R.Gosbee 17:50
3. P.Dyson (W.C.) :24		

Teams:

1. Wimbledon College 24 pts.	2. BELGRAVE H. 41 pts.
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SOUTHERN YOUTHSParliament Hill Fields - February 10th

Although not fully recovered from an ankle injury, Cliff Calderwood elected to turn out for our team on this tough course but was unable to get within 100 places of his normal form. However, his plucky effort enabled him to close in our scoring four which finished 18th of the 50 teams concerned. Their score of 419 points was nearly 300 better than last year.

Michael Day ran extremely well to finish 45th and lead our lads home. He was only 6 seconds behind Mitcham's Capanda and 22 seconds behind Walton's Martin - both pace-makers in the North Surrey League races.

RESULT

1. D.Bedford (Shaftes) 16:39	88. J.Crockford	180. A.Chandler
2. C.Reed (Hadleigh) 17:19	139. N.Bacon	181. J.Hamilton
3. J.Lane (Feltham) :33	147. C.Calderwood	201. R.Hamilton
45.M.Day (Bels) 18:56	158. T.Day	(234 ran)

Teams:

1. Shaftesbury H....40 pts.	3. Mitcham A.C.....179 pts.
2. Cambridge H.....87 pts.	18. BELGRAVE H.....419 pts.

MITCHAM AC. YOUNG ATHLETES X-CITY RELAY. February 17th.

"Brian Hewson" Cup - 4 x 2 miles.

RESULT:

1. Shaftesbury H.	2. Mitcham AC.	7. BELS 'A'.	13. BELS 'B'	(28 teams competed)
Bels 'A'		Bels 'B'		Bels 'C'
P.Blair-Fish 10:43 (5)	A.Brooks 11:20 (12)	R.Hamilton 12:05 (16)		
M.Day 11:05 (6)	N.Bacon 11:53 (11)	A.Chandler 12:33 (17)		
J.Crockford 11:26 (7)	T.Day 11:59 (12)	G.Freeman 14:23 (17)		
C.Calderwood 11:07 (7)	J.Hamilton 11:52 (13)			
Fastest time of day:-	D.Bedford (Shaftesbury H)	9:38		

CURTIN 2nd in County

SURREY BOYS CHAMPS. MORDEN PARK—February 17th

Ten schools and nine club teams provided over 100 runners at the start line, and Belgrave had high hopes that Bill Curtin would be leading our team to victory.

Displaying his usual courageous running Bill went straight to the front and only Buckwell of Guildford could stay with him. They stayed locked together all the way until, with the finish close at hand, Buckwell (the elder by one year) swept past to take the lead for the first time and go on to break the tape. Bill's effort to shake off his opponent had left him nothing with which to respond and the winner's margin stretched to 10 seconds.

Robert Poole travelled down from Reading and finished eighth but Vic Butcher and Mick Harvey were not at their best and we had to be content with 4th place.

Bill is still eligible for this race next year and must be a hot favourite. To win the team title he will need all the support he can get---if our other runners train hard as a team we can do it.

YOUNG PROFILE *No: 1* CLIFF CALDERWOOD

Clifford Owen Calderwood was born at Isleworth, Middlesex on 17.12.49. But for his brother Dick (also a Belgravian) he would not be carrying a claret & gold vest in our Youth teams today. Cliff, who is a slight 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ stone and 5'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " tall, runs daily throughout the year and, apart from pre-race days, each session lasts a good hour. His ambition, in the short term, is to re-write the Belgrave Junior 3 miles and 6 miles records and, in the long term, to win a marathon race. One would expect a youth showing such singleness of purpose to admire most of all the Jim Ryun's, Kip Keino's or Ron Clarke's of the athletics world, but no, its still elder brother Dick - "It took a lot for him to get from 40 cigarettes a day to a 1:56.9 half mile in two years".

Cliff has no coach but works to a well thoughtout schedule which includes a Lydiard type jog of 15-20 miles every Sunday. His best marks to date from 880 yds to 6 miles are 2:11, 4:52, 10:48, 16:30 and 33:16 - times he confidently expects to slash this year.

The performance which has given him most pleasure so far was his winning of the Belgrave Junior Cross Country Championship this season, whilst still a youth. It seems fairly certain that he has far greater pleasures to come.

DISAPPOINTING NATIONAL

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS—Sutton Coldfield, March 8th

Although we scored 44 fewer points than last year, our 45th place in this year's championship was disappointing. After a season of some promise our team were unable to produce any fiery running and found to their cost just how tough the competition is outside the domestic calendar---only our first two lads finished in the first half of the field. Cliff Calderwood was still not fully recovered from recent injury and was well over 100 places outside his best form. Our team will benefit greatly from the experience if it has persuaded them to approach their training with even more determination.

RESULT

1. D. Bedford.....Shaftesbury H.)....15:07	185.J. Crockford	284.C. Calderwood
2. D. Wright.....(Jarrow AC).....15:25	211.M. Day	310.J. Hamilton
3. J. Harrison.....(Preston H).....15:29	276.N. Bacon	328.T. Day
	(443 started—436 finished)	

Teams:-

1. Wakefield H. 111 pts., 2. Cambridge H. 210 pts., 3. Shaftesbury H.217pts.,45. BELS
956 pts

News from the schools ~

Robert Poole recently helped his school relay team to success in a road relay organised by Reading A.C. - Bob getting second fastest of the day.

Our two boys from Kingston have been doing remarkably well in the Surrey Schools events. Clifford Bond finished 3rd in the Kingston & district (second years) after being wrongly directed. Robert Wells was 7th in the same race. Cliff also finished 15th in the Surrey County Schools, beating the two who had beaten him in the Kingston Race. He has had other good races also placing 7th amongst boys much older than himself, and in so doing winning himself a place in the school team for the County Race.

Steven Adams was second in a recent Schools X.C. Race.

In writing the following article your editor speaks only for himself and, in doing so, hopes to provoke sufficient feeling on your part to send in your views, for or against, on whether we have reached the time to

REMOVE THE SHACKLES!

Perhaps the greatest difficulty besetting mankind in this so-called space age is the inability to recognise and move with the times. Progress, however cynically one may view it, proceeds at an ever increasing rate and improvements that once took 2,000 years to achieve will soon be gained in a single generation. Civilization is in a state of flux and the codes of one year are often discarded by the next. Those that drag their feet for more than an instant will soon be left trailing in the wake.

Already there are signs in the athletics world of this failure to move with the times. Those Victorian citadels of power that worship the divine right of amateurism, the I.A.A.F. and the I.O.C., each year bog themselves down a little more as they fight their losing battle to preserve amateur laws and definitions that were framed to suit conditions at the turn of the century. Slowly but surely they are working their way into a tortuous situation that could eventually lead to a major split in world athletics.

With Avery Brundage floating gently in the clouds, reminiscing over his boyhood days, his Olympic committee have issued their latest amateur proclamation which, if enforced, would eliminate all athletes who have accepted prizes worth more than \$50, have received athletic scholarships or have spent more than 4 weeks a year in a training camp - that covers virtually all the top athletes in the world! Imagine the I.O.C. trying to invoke this rule against the national heroes of some lands. We could well be on the way to two Olympic Games - the official one and the unofficial one.

Meanwhile, the I.A.A.F. has not been standing still. Don Pain, their part-time secretary of this world-wide federation, is very cross at the practice of bringing into the arenas hold-all bags carrying trade names. "...we intend to stamp out this growing practice" he is reported as saying and, sure enough, an additional rule is hatched out. Not, of course, one that is in the interests of the athlete - only the rules first-ever devised did that.

Part of the new I.A.A.F. rule says "when and where it is proved that the name or the picture of the athlete was used for the purpose of this paragraph without his knowledge the indemnity to be collected from the person or persons responsible for the injury, privately agreed or stipulated by the courts, will revert to the Federation to which the athlete belongs". How's that for a gem! Who takes who to court? Supposing the athlete is innocent but doesn't wish to take proceedings against the Advertiser? Is he guilty unless proved innocent? A few test cases would prove most interesting but would only serve to show up the pathetic state of today's outlook.

Since the last world war the percentage of college-sponsored or state-sponsored athletes in the world's best performances lists has increased greatly. This trend will continue for as long as the Arthur Rows and the Berwyn Jones's of this world are discriminated against by rules that only sort out the "private" offender. Despite the barriers, one day we shall all be called just "athletes" with no strings - similar to table-tennis players, cricketers and soccer no doubt, tennis players - and the little man at the White City who spends his time sticking blank paper on hold-all bags will be out of a job.

Unfortunately there are signs that the rule-book formulators intend to go on burying themselves in more paper. Their only hope of survival is to join the Hockey Federation whose President is against league and knock-out competitions and dislikes "highly organised competition in an amateur game" - so much for hockey! When are we going to realise that the best athletes are only interested in meeting the best opponents and beating them on equal physical terms. We are not interested in our opponent's colour, religion, country's policy, class or how he amasses his "wealth", but simply in crushing him competitively. This is part and parcel of dedication, whatever the ethics, and those that don't like it can stick to the inter-club scene which will go on as always. Although there have been political withdrawals from time to time I have yet to meet the athlete who would refuse to compete against a "professional" on the grounds of unfair advantage, potential corruption, or his wealth.

Unwittingly, these international bodies are protecting the very elements they consider to be undesirable and are discriminating against the athlete who is unable to obtain "approved" sponsorship. It will not be long before ALL Olympic finalists will, by necessity, need to be students, civil servants or members of the armed forces.

An indication of this trend is the world's No. 1 shot putter Randy Matson. For some undisclosed reason he did not take his examinations in his final year at college and it has now been announced that he will have a year's special extension to take them. He will not be eligible for any N.C.A.A. competition but, coincidentally, his extra time occupies Olympic year 1968.

If Matson was an Eastern European he would also be able to rely on being looked after and would certainly undergo no hardship when he attended the lengthy training camps held by such nations. He would have no fear of being branded a professional, because communist countries simply do not recognise professionalism - what an admirable solution to the problem! It has already enabled the U.S.S.R. and other countries to field their World Cup squads in the soccer qualifying matches for the Olympic Games.

(Cont'd on page 30)

Failed by injuries and MITCHAM

Farthing Downs, Coulsdon - 6th January.

By a more margin of 5 points Belgrave lost the privilege of taking the Surrey Co. Championship for the third consecutive year. It was ironical that our team, as entered, was stronger than ever. Yet a series of unfortunate circumstances forced us into a desperate fight - a fight that required all our starters to run at best; and one that nearly came off.

Firstly, John Thresher (4th last year) had an injured ankle, then Charlie Dabbs (4th in our Club 7 four weeks earlier) went down with injury a few days before the race and, to crown it all, Bill Dance had spent most of the week in bed with 'flu'. With reserves also incapacitated, we couldn't even start a full team. Because of the battle ahead Bill gallantly insisted on turning out, but was probably unwise to have done so.

Mitcham got an excellent start and the rest of the race was spent in pulling them back. Inspiring our team out front was Gerry North, in great form, who took less than a lap to shake off Bob Holt, his main rival. Fairclough, Major & Bicourt gradually moved through the field and we soon had four in fifteen, so all depended on our last two scorers who were obviously better placed to gain points. Any two from three was the permutation we needed from Bill Dance, Derek Fernee and Chris Steer. The latter was the man expected to pull it out of the bag, after his forward running in the league match the previous week, but it was not Chris's day and certainly not his course and it was left to the other two to close in. Bill was obviously under the weather and it was apparent near the end that we would not see his usual final flourish.

Our first four ran particularly well and Tony Fairclough was passed by training companion Biscoe only in the last 200 yards.

There are so many "ifs" that space does not permit their enumeration, but it was comforting to see a full strength Mitcham team having to pull out all the stops before they could take advantage of our setbacks. Equally comforting, of course, to see Gerry North score his personal hat-trick.

RESULT

1. Gerry North (Bels)	36:49	10.A. Major	38:37	84.R. Glover	44:23
2.R. Holt (Herc/Wim)	37:42	11.J. Bicourt	:41	95.P. Hilliar	45:23
3.G. Biscoe (Mitcham)	38:02	31.G. Dance	40:30	103.A. Black	46:26
4.A. Fairclough (Bels)	:11	33.D. Fernee	:45		
5.D. Faircloth (Croy)	:17	35.C. Steer	:56	117 finished	
6.D. Holt (Herc/Wim)	:22	63.H. Satchell	42:46	10 teams closed in.	

TEAMS

1. Mitcham AC (3,12,15,17,18,20)	85 points	
2. BELGRAVE H. (1,4,10,11,31,33)	90 points	
3. Hercules/Wim(2,6,16,23,25,40)	112 points.	
4. S.L.H. 132 pts,	5. Ranelagh H. 204 pts,	6. Croydon H. 247 pts.

Middlesex ~

Parliament Hill Fields - 6th January

Our Cadogan AC section were obliged to run at Parliament Hill instead of Trent Park because of the Foot & Mouth epidemic. Despite the central venue, though, and one of our best turn-outs we were still without Trevor Hart, Bill Kerr and Pat Newell. Our best team would probably have taken 4th place, instead, we were 10th and last. Congratulations to the ever-present Laurie O'Hara who, in a good class field, was a praiseworthy 9th and to Jim Rimmer (48th) whose form is improving at an encouraging rate.

RESULT

1. T.Briault (Enf)	39:11	9. L.O'Hara	40:36	97. G.Pearson	48:52
2. M. Beevor (TVH)	:16	35.J.Dear	43:28	103.D.Gordon	50:33
3. S.Buchanan (Hill)	:57	48.J.Rimmer	44:48	104.J.Plummer	:52
4. M.Barratt (Eal)	40:08	81.J.Hilton	47:33	105.D.Newell	N.T.
5. R.Gomez (Sthgte)	:14	87.P.O'Connor	48:07		
6. A.Joslyn (Poly)	:15	94.D.Bonser	:37	(10 teams closed in)	

TEAMS:

1.T.V.H. 103 pts.,	2.Ealing & Sthall 104 pts.,	3.Hillingdon 119 pts.,
		10.CADOGAN 347 pts.

Berkshire & Kent ~

In the Berkshire Championships at Maidenhead DICK PIOTROWSKI split the Stevens brothers of Reading AC to finish an excellent 2nd. Meredith and Merriman, also of Reading, were a minute down.

In the re-arranged Kent Championships, held at Dartford on March 9th, Geoff. North finished 3rd behind Richardson (Blackheath) and Harland (Camb. H.).



T H E S U R R E Y

LEFT: Gerry North gives the "thumbs up" on his way to victory. (Photos: R. Linstead)
RIGHT: John Bicourt and Adrian Major work their way through to 10th and 11th.

DICK'S '10' ~ CLIFF'S '5'

Senior & Junior Championships - Wimbledon, January 20th.

The "Macher" & "Savage" shields are in new hands. Our bright young prospects, Dick Piotrowski and Cliff Calderwood pulled off the Club 10 miles and 5 miles championships respectively and impressed the onlookers with a brand of running that holds a bright future for both.

There were ten starters in the Junior event and John Kelly, runner up to Adrian Major last year, must have been hoping to step up a place before he joins the Senior ranks. John, in fact, was the only competitor to have also run in last year's race - but Calderwood was in no mood for sentiment and set about the opposition in relentless fashion to win in a time 2:45 outside Adrian Major's winning effort of last year. A pretty fit Tony Brooks popped up to split the two favourites and Kelly had to be content with a bronze medal to partner his silver of last year.

The Senior race produced over 30 starters, including the holder, Laurie O'Hara, out for his third consecutive win, Trevor Hart third last year and John Thresher, out to give his recently injured ankle a rigorous test.

The first of the four laps saw Thresher forcing an exceptionally fast pace and at 2 miles he was 30 yds clear of O'Hara, Piotrowski, Hart and Whewell who were also well clear of the field. On the second lap John eased up and retired at the halfway mark feeling it unwise to press his injured ankle any further.

Meanwhile O'Hara & Piotrowski had drawn away from Hart & Whewell who were at 15 yds intervals behind the leading pair. Apart from variations in the gaps it stayed this way to the end and was clearly a race between Laurie and Dick for the title. The pair were inseparable for the full distance and Laurie said afterwards how impressed he was with Dick's form. As the finishing straight was reached, everyone waited for the famous O'Hara finish but inseparable they had been throughout and inseparable they intended to remain. Only when informed they must be split did Laurie ease back inches from the line - an encouraging gesture that was appreciated by all.

(Cont'd on page 20)



COMMON HOUSE

OFFICIAL REPORT

THE HOUSE MET AT HALF PAST SIX O'CLOCK

PRAYERS

MK. SQUEAKER IN THE CHAIR

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE

The Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Dave Martin-Shepherd): I beg to move, that this house approves the raising of the Club Subscriptions to £83..9..2d. per capita per annum.

Mr. John Martin (Clapham): Perhaps -

Mr. D. Shepherd: Ignoring the flippant remark which the right Hon. Gentleman tosses in so lightly, I will explain the need for the proposed increase. My office has been aware for some time that Hon. Members are getting away with it inasmuch as their current subscriptions are not covering the cost of their keep. You do not need a breakdown on your current subscriptions, that was ably given to you by my goodself at our A.G.M., but a word about the structure of the proposed increases. Firstly, as defined in our rules section four, object of the Club, etc., we consider it right that more teams should be sent to first class fixtures, Hilton-Pullmanwise.

Mr. Reg. Hopkins (Bermondsey): I've had 18 youths in my banger, M.O.T. tested of course, which is two more than the Hon. Gentleman from Streatham, Mr. Tom Carter has.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Alf. Harley (Ruislip): Very public spirited of you - it is probably fortunate that our Hon. Member the Minister of Transport is still under treatment at the Alcoholics Anonymous Centre. But we mustn't expect our key athletes to be moved around like the general public and so I ask you to earnestly consider your Chancellor's proposals.

Mr. D. Martin-Shepherd: It has been pointed out by the Minister without Portfolio, Mr. William (known as Bill to all the Youths, Juniors and Field Events men who are placed in the Yacht 3) Lucas, the great benefit that trips abroad have for the individual - I beg your pardon - I mean the Club. Therefore, the money set aside for this will be doubled, hence the 2d. on the proposed increase. The nine shillings will cover the cost of reserving tracks, heat, light and water at the hall, whilst the eighty three pounds will provide much needed improvements for the Committee's comfort - this includes their beer naturally.

Secretary of State for Middlesex,

Mr. K. Stimpson: Frankly Hon. Chancellor, I think you are going a bit too far there, I mean can't we economise ourselves - (Cries of resign) let's face it we could cut down on the list of cheeses available for the Committee Room Traps.

Mr. Ron Langheim (Sunbury): Why don't we give it away.

Mr. K. Stimpson: It's nice to welcome back the Hon. Member. His constituents in Sunbury must be very proud he raises his voice between long periods of lethargy to say the same thing.

Mr. Ron Langheim: Zzzzzzzzzzz.

Mr. Pat Duncan (Economics Adviser to The Old Lady): I would strongly advise this House to act as a kind of unit trust, i.e. all the moneys that are received for so called Guilt Edged Government Stocks should be salted away very quickly into Equities - Victor Value even without the stamps are better than our best customer, B.S.A. - not - I repeat not, because we don't pay but my department sent 1,500 men, one section, all established, to do a market survey and even without the one and half million pound computer, I soon analysed the fact that for the general populace pineapple chunks have a greater turn around than 0.38 calibre revolvers.

Mr. George Piddington (Hayling Island): Whilst I do not wish to agrieve the Hon. Gentleman from the Treasury or expose my own limited intelligence - Wot the 'ell does he mean?

At this juncture the Chief Whip, Mr. Chris. (Kinky) Steer, moved an adjournment for lunch. For this, as with a division, he adjourns to a special small lobby with the recent elected Scottish Nationalist to multiply.

The Debate continued ...

Mr. A. Penstone (Minister of Housing): My department has made a thorough examination of the House and have come to the conclusion that great economies could be made by reducing the flow of water in the showers -

Mr. W. Dance (Northumberland and Durham): Does the Right Honourable Gentleman propose any curtailment of services in this way? Surely he realises that this would cause great hardship to those very people he was elected to represent.

Mr. A. Penstone: I hadn't finished.

Mr. W. Dance: Nevertheless -

Mr. Speaker (Mr. F. Jarvis): Will the Hon. member for Northumberland and Durham please give the Minister the floor.

Mr. A. Penstone: As I was saying -

Mr. J. Goswell (Lewisham): When we were in power we never had any trouble with water shortage. It seems to me that everyone has to suffer for the extravagance and bungling of the party opposite.

Mr. A. Penstone: The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Goswell) shows a complete lack of regard for the wider implications of the matter. As usual he and his party only concern themselves with their own section of society.

Mr. R. Hall (City of London): We're as public spirited as you - (Cries of Rhubarb, Shut up, Rubbish, etc.)

Mr. Speaker: Order, Order. There is no need to behave like children -

Mr. G. Biscoe (Chiswick) Send them to the kids' party, we need a comedy turn. (Uproar)

Mr. A. Penstone: We are simply trying to organise -

Mr. T. Carter (Streatham): You couldn't organise a sex orgy in a broth-

Mr. Speaker: Will the Hon. Member for Streatham withdraw -

Mr. T. Carter: I always do. Safety first you know. (Laughter, cries of Dirty Old Man)

Mr. A. Penstone: Anyway whatever you lot think I've already installed low pressure, economy size sprays on all the showers so there! (Loud boing, cries of resign, fascist, etc.)

Mr. N. Dewberry (Under Secretary of State at the Treasury): If we must make economies why don't we alter the showers at the Hall. (Ironic cheers and slow handclaps)

Mr. H. Shields (Outer Hebrides) Well I don't know. I mean Good Heavens, good gracious me, really well I mean to say Ho Ho, golly, I mean well it's - I mean to say well really -

Mr. T. Carter: What are you on about Harry?

Mr. H. Shields: What I'm trying to say is, well well I mean to say is (Cries of Get on with it)

Mr. H. Shields: No well really -

The Prime Minister: (Groan)

Mr. H. Shields: When the Prime Minister and myself were on a five thousand mile walk to Istanbul across the Pyrenees we used to bathe in icy cold streams. I don't see why you young fellows can't have a dip in the Rushmere after a run. I think it would be a jolly good idea to dismantle the showers completely. I jolly well wouldn't mind a cold dip.

Mr. A. Penney (Raynes Park): We're not all barmy like you. (Laughter, shouts of 'Want to bet')

President of the Board of Trade (Right Hon. Mr. Ted Stimpson): Well the thing is, gentlemen shall we get back to the business in hand.

The Home Secretary (Rt. Hon. C. Manning): In this present financial crisis, the fifteenth this year (or month or week, as the case may be) all I need hardly add thanks to the years (or months or weeks as the case may be) of misuse by our predecessors - I intend to take revolutionary measures -

Mr. C. Steer (Notting Hill): Like burning down Buckingham Palace?

Mr. Manning: I shall ignore that typically anti-patriotic remark. My proposal is to convert this noble house into a palatial casino where the elite can spend their evenings in luxury and comfort and thereby contributing considerably to the exchequer. Of course all other functions of the place would have to be suspended -

Mr. Steer: There you go again. Not only do you deprive honest workers of the opportunity of healthy recreation, you throw the place open to capitalistic money-grabbing scum.

Mr. Manning: The Hon. Member's views on honest to goodness private enterprise are well known. However, if he will listen to my other proposal which is to build an extension for the purpose of Bingo I think even his anxiety for the proletariat will be appeased. The new edifice will have many attractions not least of which will be a staff of fifty young ladies all of whom will be hand-picked.

Mr. Carter: By whom?

Mr. Manning: Me, of course. (Loud whistles from all sides of the House)

The Post-Master General (Rt. Hon. Mr. F. Webb): The economies my department will make is to stop putting stamps on all official letters, thereby saving seventy million pounds a year. This will also benefit the economy generally because of money members will pay in excess postal charges.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: Highly commendable I must say.

Mr. H. Shields: Well really I don't know - (Cries of 'Oh my God he's off again, get stuffed etc.)

The Minister of Propaganda (Mr. C. Shippen): One sweeping change which has long been overdue will be brought in shortly. Hitherto members have received the official organ, I refer of course to the 'Belgravian', absolutely free of charge. Therefore, I propose to introduce a fee for this publication. The charge I have in mind is purely nominal - a mere twenty five shillings - a small price to pay for this unique service.

Hon. Members: What ! ! ! !

Mr. Shippen: There will of course be a rebate for Old Age Pensioners and those who are chronically sick.

Mr. Donald Maclean (Oxford and Cambridge): If you think I'm actually going to pay money for that libellous rag ...

Mr. A. Penney: Your organ isn't worth the paper it's printed on let alone ... (General uproar, cries of resign, sounds of breaking glass, furniture, etc.)

Mr. C. McLennan (John O'Groats): I've had enough of this. I'm for a wee beer. (During the melee and flying chairs the Speaker was heard to declare the meeting closed)

3rd again in SOUTH of THAMES

Epsom Downs - January 27th

Last year, on our own territory, we had to give best to Blackheath and Ranelagh. With the "Heathens" scorers barred from this year event we were widely tipped as likely winners but, not for the first time, it didn't work out that way. Despite being without the Stevens brothers, Merriman and MacAndrew, Reading proved easy winners and established themselves as a serious threat to our Southern & National teams. To rub it in the Mitcham boys ran to form and took the silver medals.

What happened? Well, the whole team got a good start with Dick Piotrowski showing good form these days, well to the fore closely followed by John Bicourt and Peter Whewell, both surely destined for the first 10? At 2 miles Dick was 7th, John Bicourt 15th, Adrian Major 22nd and Peter 35th. The move through the field must begin; but as Bill Dance (48), John Dear (53) and Whewell made ground slowly so our leading two lost it and 5½ miles later our final points score was six greater at 186.

Except for Adrian Major who improved 34 places on last year most of the others were half a dozen places or so worse off. Perhaps it blew the cobwebs out of their system in time for the Southern!

RESULT

1. J. Bednarski (Swindon)	37:37	35. G. Dance (BELS)	39:52
2. D. Francis (Westbury)	:45	56. W. Kerr "	41:02
3. K. Harland (Cambridge H)	:51	89. J. Dear "	:55
4. A. Ashton (Reading)	38:19	115. H. Satchell "	42:22
21. J. Bicourt (BELGRAVE H)	39:21	152. L. Mann "	43:42
23. R. Piotrowski "	:27	166. R. Glover "	N.T.
25. A. Major "	:34	215. C. Keavey "	N.T.
26. P. Whewell "	:35	229. P. O'Connor "	N.T.

TEAMS

1. Reading AC (4,6,19,24,29,30)	112 points
2. Mitcham AC (9,11,31,33,41,51)	176 points
3. BELGRAVE H. (21,23,25,26,35,56)	186 points
4. Westbury 209 pts, 5. Windsor 258 pts, 6. Herc/Wim 306 pts, 7. Camb.H. 362 pts.	
(285 finished and 30 teams closed in)	

"Colman" Cup (12 to score)

1. Reading AC 774 pts, 2. Westbury H. 929 pts, 3. BELGRAVE H. 1152 pts.



Dick Piotrowski and Peter Whewell, our second and fourth scorers.

(Photos: R. Linstead)

SOUTHERN SILVER AGAIN

Parliament Hill Fields - February 11th

It has become normal practice to run these championships at Parliament Hill and the usual efficient arrangements of the G.L.C. made for a successful promotion.

The course was made difficult by being soft under foot and in parts it was very treacherous resulting in a number of falls.

The first race was for Youths in which we fielded a full team although none of our runners excelled themselves. Although we have a very keen crowd of youngsters it will be a year or two before we are really prominent in this class. Our team were 18th with 419 points.

Next came the Seniors and now that Portsmouth, who have beaten us into 2nd place the last two years, are a waning force we had hoped for a win - although we knew that Reading AC were extremely confident. Their confidence proved to be well founded and with excellent packing and strong running on the last lap they took the championship for the first time since the controversial race of 1937, with 138 points. Although on paper we had a stronger team than in preceding years our score of 179 was some 30 points more than in either 1966 or 1967. All our runners appeared to lack spirit. They lacked the fire and snap needed to win races such as this. It is to be hoped that there will be an improvement before the National on March 2nd. We have been beaten before in the Southern and have been successful in the National - it could happen again.

At the top of the first hill our team was well placed and the claret and gold was very prominent. At the end of the first lap we were well placed and scoring equal points with Reading. Peter Whewell whom we hoped to see near the front was well back but we learnt later that he had lost a shoe and was forced to stop to replace it. Laurie O'Hara was also badly placed due to a bad cold. However with Gerry lying 3rd and Geoff 8th and six in forty and three other runners handily placed we were not very worried.

The next time round Gerry was in the lead but looking tired and the rest of our scoring six, except Adrian Major, had fallen back. A quick estimate of the scores found us ten points down on Reading.

Soon after the start of the second lap Gerry had suffered a heavy fall and this later proved to have sapped his energy.

On the last lap Reading, encouraged by possible success, moved up whereas our runners were suffering badly and were losing ground and the gap between the two teams widened to forty points. Gerry finished a tired second to Ashton of Reading who really ran a blinder.

The Junior race provided no joy for our supporters. We are very weak in this age group and were unable to complete a team.

RESULT

OLYMPIAN

1. A. Ashton.....(Reading AC)....48:20 2. Gerry North.....(BELGRAVE)....48:47 3. R. Richardson.....(B'Heath)....48:57 4. D. Holt.....(Herc/Wim)....48:58 5. R. Holt.....(" ")....49:03 6. M. Batty.....(Thurrock H.)....49:17 17. Geoff. North.....(BELGRAVE)....50:15 28. J. Thresher.....(")....50:49	39. A. Fairclough.....51:14 46. G. W. Dance.....51:24 47. A. Major.....51:29 48. T. Hart.....51:30 69. P. Whewell.....52:32 72. L. O'Hara.....52:38 75. R. Donnison.....52:41 98. J. Bicourt.....53:32
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Teams:-

1. Reading AC.....(1,11,12,36,38,40).....138 points	
2. BELGRAVE H.....(2,17,28,39,46,47).....179 points	
3. Hercules/Wimbledon.(4,5,19,55,89,90).....262 points	
4. T.V.H. 313 pts, 5. S.L.H. 345 pts, 6. Portsmouth 346 pts.	

JUNIORS

1. J. Bednarski.....(Swindon)....32:33	118. R. Moody.....(BELGRAVE)
2. D. Faircloth.....(Croydon)....33:48	126. A. Brooks.....(")
3. D. Williams.....(Woodford)....34:02	150. D. McMillan.....(")

Teams:-

1. Windsor & Eton 41 pts, 2. Verlea 79 pts, 3. T.V.H. 88 pts; BELS d.n.c.i.

(Cont'd from opposite page)

RESULT.

1. J. Thresher.....(BELGRAVE)....28:54 2. Geoff North.....".....29:06 3. G. Biscoe.....(Mitcham)....29:17 4. D. Faircloth.....(Croydon)....29:17 5. D. Holt.....(H/W)....29:34 6. S. Badgery.....(Mitcham)....29:39 7. Gerry North.....(BELGRAVE)....29:44	10. A. Fairclough..(BELGRAVE)..29:53 11. A. Major.....".....29:54 14. P. Whewell.....".....30:13 18. R. Donnison....".....30:21 21. G. Dance.....".....30:45 38. C. Steer.....".....31:43 46. J. Dear.....".....32:03 (100 finished--25 Belgravians)
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Teams:-

1. BELGRAVE H.....168 pts	5. Croydon H.....390 pts
2. Herc/Wimb AC.....243 pts	6. Walton AC.....441 pts
3. Mitcham AC.....361 pts	7. Surrey AC.....500 pts

NORTH SURREY LEAGUE

Seniors/Juniors

FINAL TABLE

1. BELGRAVE HARRIERS	561½	points
2. Hercules-Wimbledon AC.....	866½	points
3. Mitcham AC.....	951	points
4. Walton AC.....	1180	points
5. Ranelagh Harriers.....	1199	points
6. Croydon Harriers.....	1338	points
7. Surrey AC.....	1359	points

Belgrave scored a hat-trick of titles with perhaps their easiest win so far. The points score was the lowest yet recorded because Race No. 2, usually held over Walton's course at Esher, was abandoned due to frozen conditions and a blizzard. However, this in no way affected the first three team positions.

Although in the three races we fielded 46, 23 and 25 runners respectively our ten scorers on each occasion were drawn from only 13 names, which illustrates the excellent support our leading runners are giving these fixtures.

Gerry North was a popular winner of the individual title with a low 9½ points and, with our Youths/Boys also winning their section, it was a clean sweep for Belgrave.

The league is now very well established as the premier Surrey league and the Mid-Surrey league as the second division. A policy of promotion and relegation was introduced this season and, as a result, Surrey AC go down (runners-up last year) and Herne Hill Harriers earn promotion. It is interesting to see that South London Harriers are considering whether to bid for entry. They had an opportunity to be founder members, which they turned down. Now they would have to obtain entry through the Mid-Surrey league. Nevertheless, their presence would be most welcome.

The first race of the season was reported in the last issue of "The Belgravian"; the final two races were as follows:-

RACE No.3. - MITCHAM (Morden Park), December 30th.

With our first fixture lead of 90 points still under our belts, it was gratifying to see the good turn out at Morden Park for the penultimate race. Belgrave eyes were focussed on the men of unknown form, Dick Piotrowski and Trevor Hart. Both ran well above expectations (it was Trevor's first race since last winter) and were our fourth and fifth scorers - things looked good for 1968. They were not the only ones to please. Bicourt & Steer displayed their best form and Roger Donnison produced his best running since joining us earlier in the year. Young-Blair-Fish (53rd) also looked good.

The Mitcham vests were dangerously prominent in the early stages of the race but, as our men went from strength to strength, the blue & white's faded - eventually being pipped also by Hercules/Wimbledon.

Once again Gerry North won the individual race, though this time having to share first place with the runner-up at Wimbledon, Bob Holt. Belgrave doubled their lead in the league table and go into the last race with a handy margin of 182 points - our highest ever.

RESULT

<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>1. Gerry North (Bels)</td><td style="text-align: right;">27:26</td></tr> <tr><td>1. R. Holt (Herc/Wim)</td><td style="text-align: right;">:26</td></tr> <tr><td>3. D. Faircloth (Croy)</td><td style="text-align: right;">:41</td></tr> <tr><td>4. F. Stebbings "</td><td style="text-align: right;">:44</td></tr> <tr><td>5. D. Holt (Herc/Wim)</td><td style="text-align: right;">:48</td></tr> <tr><td>6. J. Snowdon (Surrey)</td><td style="text-align: right;">:54</td></tr> <tr><td>7. A. Fairclough (Bels)</td><td style="text-align: right;">28:00</td></tr> <tr><td>8. J. Bicourt "</td><td style="text-align: right;">:04</td></tr> </table>	1. Gerry North (Bels)	27:26	1. R. Holt (Herc/Wim)	:26	3. D. Faircloth (Croy)	:41	4. F. Stebbings "	:44	5. D. Holt (Herc/Wim)	:48	6. J. Snowdon (Surrey)	:54	7. A. Fairclough (Bels)	28:00	8. J. Bicourt "	:04	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>12. R. Piotrowski (Bels)</td><td style="text-align: right;">28:25</td></tr> <tr><td>18. T. Hart "</td><td style="text-align: right;">:45</td></tr> <tr><td>21. C. Steer "</td><td style="text-align: right;">:55</td></tr> <tr><td>23. A. Major "</td><td style="text-align: right;">29:06</td></tr> <tr><td>24. R. Donnison "</td><td style="text-align: right;">:09</td></tr> <tr><td>47. J. Dear "</td><td style="text-align: right;">30:10</td></tr> <tr><td>49. W. Kerr "</td><td style="text-align: right;">:16</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">(106 finished - 23 Belgravians)</td></tr> </table>	12. R. Piotrowski (Bels)	28:25	18. T. Hart "	:45	21. C. Steer "	:55	23. A. Major "	29:06	24. R. Donnison "	:09	47. J. Dear "	30:10	49. W. Kerr "	:16	(106 finished - 23 Belgravians)	
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TEAMS

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RACE NO.4----- (Ranelagh) Richmond Park, February 24th

With the 'National' only 7 days away and a handy lead of points our runners did not intend to hurt themselves. John Thresher and Geoff North were a little short of racing and made the most of this sharpener---looking very impressive in the process.

Once again we took the team result and, at the same time retained the league title. Gerry North won the individual title with no difficulty.

Apart from our first two men, the runner to catch the eye was Roger Donnison whose steady improvement is most welcome.

(Cont'd at foot of opposite page)

' I WAS THERE '

No. 5: by Alf Harley

During over forty years of membership I have been privileged to be present at many of the Club's individual and team successes, all of which have given great pleasure and satisfaction - but the outstanding occasion, because it was the first time ever, was the winning of the English Cross-country team title in 1935. Even now I can recall the thrill, when acting as Disc-recorder, of accepting the numbered discs from our men, of rapidly totalling our score, of checking with the officials of other leading clubs, and the deep satisfaction of knowing that we really had won! Success was really ours.

Not that there was anything fortuitous about our success. Our Cross-country captain BERT FOOTER had directed all his efforts towards this eventual success for many years before. Other victories on the way were welcome, but no substitute for the Championship title that was to be ours.

Two years earlier, 1933, we had been placed second in the "Southern" at Chingford; and a fortnight later in the "National" at Alderley Edge, Cheshire we were placed for the first time. FOOTER and ARTHUR PENNY gave us a glorious start in finishing 4th and 5th and our team position was third with 233 points against Birchfield's 80, and the 101 of Salford H. The following season we scored our first Southern win at Taplow; and at the E.C.C.U. Championship held at Himley Park, with Penny 4th and Footer 9th, we were again placed third, but this time our score was 113 points, one point only behind the Northern Champions, SALFORD HARRIERS. Birchfield were again the winners, with 88 points.

So came March 9th 1935 when the Championship was staged at Beaconsfield. In the "Southern" a fortnight earlier at HASSOCKS we had displeased some of our supporters by finishing only second, beaten a point - but nevertheless we were quietly confident.

295 runners thundered from the pens and within the first few yards two of our men, BERT SHAW and HARRY SHIELDS were prostrate on the ground. However, they picked themselves up and chased the field.

At four miles JIM GINTY was leading our hopes in fourth position and we seemed well-placed, though accurate team scoring was impossible. We could see however that Surrey A.C. (who had beaten us in the "Southern") had their sixth man behind our eighth, that Salford had three men well up but the others were not prominent, that Birchfield Harriers, Champions on so many occasions, were far from happy with two men only in the earlier placings and CURRIE, Midland Champion, retired from the race.

At seven miles our confidence knew no bounds! Excepts for accidents the Title was ours! JIM GINTY, BERT FOOTER and DAN PATIENCE were more or less together in the first twenty places or so. A few seconds behind them, a most encouraging sight - ALF TAYLOR, HARRY SHIELDS and TOM CARTER running together in good heart. Not so far away were BERT SHAW, ARTHUR ALLUM and JACK FLOWER; and we rejoiced that our nine men were all in front of Birchfield's sixth!

On the last three mile lap many places were gained, the TAYLOR-SHIELDS-CARTER trio pegging back many positions. In the last mile our runners gave all they had and we finished with the remarkable scoring sequence of 11,14, 15,18,19,20 - six men in a range of ten placings.

Our next three soon followed in and we had our nine finishers in 57 scoring positions. Truly a great day! I can assure you it is no joke acting as disc-recorder when the Club runners follow one another in so rapidly - but it gives great satisfaction!

The congratulations poured in - the foundation had been laid on which many further victories in Championship events could be built, and on which we can still build. A really great day, a day of critical importance; for thereafter we competed as Champions. The minor successes of yester year no longer held importance - to take second place in the Championship was failure. Such was the significance of March 11th 1935 - things could never be the same again!

For the record I give the relevant detail below and you will be struck by the handsome nature of our win. A word of sympathy, even at this late stage, for ARTHUR PENNY, who was nursing a broken bone in the foot at that time, and so missed running and scoring on this eventful day.

1. BELGRAVE H.	(11,14,15,18,19,20) ...97 pts.	6. Polytecnic H.	...295pts
2. Salford H.	(2,4,28,36,39,45) ...154 pts.	7. Hallamshire H.	...356pts
3. Surrey A.C.	(12,16,23,31,33,41) ...156 pts.	8. Manchester A.C.	...378pts
4. Birchfield H.	(8,10,29,35,44,60) ...186 pts.	9. Aldershot Command AC.	...381pts
5. Sheffield U.H.	...217 pts.	10. Reading A.C.	...449pts

(28 teams closed in)

(Cont'd at foot of opposite page)

TRACK AND FIELD

RESULTS OF FIELD EVENTS MEETINGS HELD AT BATTERSEA PARK.

With two of our nine Sunday morning Winter competitions to go, I can confidently say they have been a success with a good turnout at every competition no matter how inclement the weather.

These competitions have included throws, jumps, hurdles and sprints with Arthur Penny as official starter. With the coming National league fixtures it was decided to tryout a 440 yds Hurdles race which suprisingly had 12 entries. Tony Brooks was the eventual winner in the fastest race with 62.0 secs. with Denzil Winsborrow, after falling, a close second. I am sure that three of the competitors for this event will break 60 seconds during the summer which will be very useful for our A & B strings in the National league.

DONT FORGET our 12th Open Field Events Meeting at Tooting Bec on Saturday 23rd March - start 1.30 p.m.

Bill Couzens.

November 26th

120yds.Hurdles(3ft.)

1.D.Winsborrow	16.4
2.B.Townsend	16.6
3.A.Brooks	17.6
4.A.Bent	17.8

Race 2.(2'9")

1.N.Bacon	19.6
2.R.Kibble	21.2
3.E.McNally	23.0

Race 3.

1.B.Quirk	20.0
2.S.Beadon	21.6
3.R.Hopkins	22.2

Race 4.

1.S.Adams	22.0
2.M.Waight	22.8
3.T.Lloyd	23.4
4.J.Kibble	27.4

60yds Race 1.

1.J.Mitchell	6.8
2.R.Cole	6.9
3.A.Brooks	7.2

Race 2.

1.A.Bent	7.0
2.D.Winsborrow	7.0
3.B.Townsend	7.3

Shot (Senior)

1.J.Martin	32'4"
2.C.Brooks	30'9"
3.J.Mitchell	30'8"

Shot (Yths)

1.M.Gavrilovic	39'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
2.M.Harvey	28'9"
3.N.Bacon	23'8"
4.V.Butcher	24'7"

Shot (Boys)

1.B.Quirk	28'1"
2.E.McNally	27'10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
3.G.Brown	19'11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

High Jump(Boys & Yths)

1.R.Hopkins	4'1"
2.S.Beadon	4'0"
3.N.Bacon	3'10"
4.M.Harvey	3'1"

Long Jump (Senior)

1.B.Townsend	17'9"
2.D.Winsborrow	16'10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

Long Jump (Jnr)

1.A.Bent	17'10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
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Long Jump (Youths)

1.E.Leniston	15'9"
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Long Jump (Boys)

1.R.Kibble	14'7"
2.R.Langley	13'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
3.A.Lloyd	13'3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
4.I.McNally	11'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

December 17th

60yds. Race 1.

1.J.Mitchell	6.5
2.D.Cole	6.7
3.A.Brooks	6.8
4.G.Borkowski	6.9

Race 2.

1.P.Gee	7.0
2.P.Smith	7.1
3.B.Townsend	7.2
4.J.Martin	7.3
5.A.Mead	7.4

Race 3.

1.N.Bacon	7.6
2.B.Quirk	8.0
3.R.Langley	8.2
4.R.Hopkins	8.4
5.M.Waight	8.4
6.I.McNally	8.9
7.T.Lloyd	8.9

Shot (Snr)

1.J.Martin	33'7"
2.B.Mitchell	30'11"
3.N.Dillon	23'9"
4.R.Hopkins	23'3"

Shot (Youths)

1.M.Harvey	25'1"
2.N.Bacon	24'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

Shot (Boys)

1.B.Quirk	26'3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
2.R.Hopkins	19'1"

Long Jump (Snr)

1.B.Johnson	20'6"
2.K.Mitchell	19'10 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
2.B.Townsend	19'10 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
4.A.Brooks	19'4 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
5.G.Borkowski	18'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

Long Jump (Youths)

1.A.Bent	18'6"
2.D.Cole	18'5"
3. Leniston	17'6"
4.N.Bacon	15'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

Long Jump (Boys)

1.B.Quirk	14'4"
2.R.Hopkins	14'1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
3.M.Waight	14'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
4.A.Lloyd	11'10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

"I WAS THERE" Cont'd

1.F.Close (Reading AC)	55m.1s.	18.A.E. Taylor (BELGRAVE H.)	57m.20
2.J.Flockhart (Sheltheston H.)	55m.12.	19.C.T. Carter	57m.21
3.G.W. Bailey (Salford H.)	55m.17.	20.H.W. Shields	57m.28
11.H.E. Footter (BELGRAVE H.)	56m.36.	37.A.R. Shaw	58m.6.
14.D. Patience	56m.59.	42.A.Allum	-
15.J. Ginty	57m.8.	57.J.E. Flower	-
(295 started)			

January 7th.

<u>60yds. Race 1.</u>	
1.A.Mitchell	6.5
2.D.Cole	6.6
3.R.Johnston	6.7
4. Jacobs	6.8
<u>Race 2.</u>	
1.A.Brooks	7.0
2.P.Gee	7.0
3.P.Smith	7.1
4.J.Martin	7.2
5.E.Lenniston	7.3
<u>Race 3.</u>	
1.R.Kibble	7.9
2.M.Bloice	7.9
3.R.Langley	8.1
<u>Race 4.</u>	
1.P.Shepherd	8.2
2.M.Waight	8.3
3.R.Hopkins	8.5
4.T.Lloyd	8.8
5.I.McNally	8.9

<u>Long Jump (Snr)</u>	
1.R.Johnston	19'1"
2.R.Couillault	18'4"
3.D.Winsborrow	18'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
4.G.Borowski	16'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
<u>Long Jump (Jnr)</u>	
1.D.Cole	17'3"
2.Lenniston	15'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
<u>Long Jump (Boys)</u>	
1.R.Hopkins	15'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
2.E.McNally	13'10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
3.I.McNally	13'3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
4.R.Langley	12'10"
<u>Triple Jump</u>	
1.R.Johnston	46'6"
2.R.Couillault	41'5"
3.J.Mitchell	38'8"
4.E.Lenniston	35'1"

<u>Shot (Snr)</u>	
1.N.Head	39'1"
2.W.Couzens	35'2"
3.J.Martin	33'0"
4.B.King	31'4"
5.A.Lerwill	32'0"
6.D.Winsborrow	28'11"
7.G.Borkowski	26'10"
8.R.Hopkins	23'5"
<u>Shot (Boys)</u>	
1.P.Shepherd	30'10"
2.E.McNally	26'7"
3.R.Kibble	25'8"
4.M.Bloice	24'1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
5.R.Hopkins	21'3"
<u>Discus (Snr)</u>	
1.N.Head	120'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
2.B.King	95'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
3.W.Couzens	88'1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
4.J.Martin	83'8"

January 28th.

<u>120yds Hurdles</u>	
<u>Race 1.</u>	
1.D.Winsborrow	17.0
2.C.Brooks	17.2
3.R.Couillault	18.2
<u>Race 2.</u>	
1.A.Bent	18.2
2.A.Brooks	18.8
3.S.White	20.0
4.S.Ipaye	21.0
<u>Race 3.</u>	
1.Tallis(Guest)	19.6
2.B.Quirk	20.0
3.K.Savage	22.8
<u>Race 4.</u>	
1.N.Bacon	19.6
2.R.Kibble	20.4
3.E.McNally	22.4

<u>440yds Hurdles Race 1.</u>	
1.A.Brooks	62.0
2.D.Winsborrow	62.8
3.S.White	68.0
<u>Race 2.</u>	
1.R.Couillault	65.2
2.C.Brooks	68.8
3.A.Bent	71.0
<u>Race 3.</u>	
1.J.Martin	65.3
2.P.Smith	69.1
3.S.Ipaye	75.8
<u>Race 4.</u>	
1.N.Bacon	71.5
2. Tallis	78.6
3.E.McNally	81.0
<u>Shot Youths & Boys</u>	
1.M.Harvey	25'11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
2.N.Bacon	23'8"
3.B.Quirk	23'3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

<u>Shot Senior</u>	
1.A.Kerr	46'2"
2.J.Martin	35'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
3.W.Couzens	34'10"
4.B.King	31'5"
5.C.Brooks	30'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
6.D.Winsborrow	28'11"
7.R.Couillault	26'5"
<u>High Jump Senior</u>	
1.S.Ipaye	5'5"
2.C.Brooks	5'2"
<u>High Jump Youths</u>	
1.N.Bacon	3'11"
<u>High Jump Boys</u>	
1.R.Kibble	4'5"
2.E.McNally	4'4"
3.S.Corrigan	4'3"
4.V.Butcher	4'0"
5.B.Quirk	3'9"
6.K.Savage	3'9"

February 18th

<u>60yds Sprint Race 1.</u>	
1.D.Cole	6.9
1.A.Brooks	6.9
3.A.Brewster	7.0
4.P.Gee	7.1
<u>Race 2.</u>	
1.D.Wade	7.1
2.P.Smith	7.2
3.J.Boyd	7.4
4.B.King	7.7
<u>Race 3.</u>	
1.R.Couillault	7.4
1.E.Lenniston	7.4
3.L.Mann	7.7
<u>Race 4.</u>	
1.M.Weight	8.4
1.R.Hopkins	8.4
3.S.Adams	8.6
4.K.Savage	8.6
5.C.Savage	8.9
<u>Race 5.</u>	
1.N.Bacon	7.3
1.M.Bloice	7.3
3.E.McNally	7.4
4.R.Kibble	7.4

<u>440yds Hurdles Race 1.</u>	
1.D.Winsborrow	62.8
2.R.Couillault	63.8
3.J.Martin	65.8
<u>Race 2.</u>	
1.E.Townsend	67.2
2.S.White	75.4(Fell)
<u>Race 3.</u>	
1.N.Bacon	71.8
2.E.McNally	78.5
3.R.Kibble	78.8
<u>Shot Senior</u>	
1.A.Kerr	45'1"
2.N.Head	38'4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
3.J.Martin	35'9"
4.W.Couzens	35'2"
5.J.Boyd	32'9"
6.G.Hill(Guest)	25'9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
7.R.Hopkins	24'1"
<u>Shot Youths</u>	
1.M.Harvey	26'1"
2.V.Butcher	23'10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

<u>Long Jump Senior</u>	
1.B.Townsend	19'10"
2.J.Boyd	15'11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
<u>Long Jump Youths</u>	
1.D.Cole	19'6"
2.E.Lenniston	16'1"
<u>Long Jump Junior</u>	
1.A.Bent	18'3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
<u>Long Jump Boys</u>	
1.R.Hopkins	15'3"
2.E.McNally	14'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
3.R.Kibble	14'7"
4.N.Bacon	14'2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
5.M.Weight	14'2"
6.M.Bloice	13'11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
7.L.McNally	12'10"
8.S.Adams	11'10"
<u>Triple Jump Senior</u>	
1. R. Johnson.....	46'-7"
2. R. Couillault....	42'-5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
3. A. Brooks.....	37'-7"

At the Redhill and Reigate winter track meeting in February, Jim Vivian won the 60yds in 6.7secs and the 150yds in 15.7secs.

WALKING

A word of congratulation to our new Walking Hon Secretary PAT DUNCAN, who has already conjured together a team to win the Garnet Cup Race. May he be equally successful in the Championship events which will soon be breaking over us.

Dave King, in his final year at Hull University, writes that exams will prevent him from competing until June but then he expects to be back fighting for his team place.

In the Southern Counties Track '7' both Bob Picton and Brian Ward broke 60 Minutes to win their '7' in the hour badges.

Ray Hall is on the trail back to fitness again, giving Carl Lawton a close shave in the SCAA six at Battersea the other week.

Bob Farley is another whose recent form suggests that he will be getting near the leaders over the longer ones this summer. "That old man" quite surprised some of our younger men.

CAMBRIDGE '7'

Bexley - Cambridge Harriers Open '7', December 9th.

With only a depleted team out handicap specialist Charlie MacLennan upheld the Club's good name by lifting the best prize.

<u>Result:</u> 1. J.Pedraza (Mexico) 50.13	30. R.Hall (Bels) 58.24
2. J.Webb (Basildon) 50.50	41. C.Lawton " 62.31
3. P.Nihill (Surrey WC) 51.58	46. D.Fotheringham 64.02
12. R.Barnes (Bels) 54.48	54. C.MacLennan " 66.15
23. P.Duncan " 57.31	56. B.Eglinton " 66.54
	<u>Handicap:</u> 1. C.MacLennan.

Belgrave 'Junior' Horwood Cup Championship, December 16th

Although he had little opposition to trouble him Carl Lawton's 58.40 compares well with other winners of this trophy. In the accompanying match Bob Barnes returned a powerful 54.35 to finish 1 minute behind Bill Sutherland of the Police.

<u>Result:</u> 1. W.Sutherland (MPAAA) 53.44	<u>Horwood Cup</u>
2. R.Barnes (Bels) 54.35	1. C.Lawton 58.40
3. J.Moullin " 56.16	2. D.Fotheringham 63.07
	3. C.MacLennan 66.20
	<u>Handicap</u> C.Gittens (19.00)
	52.56
	<u>Team:</u> Belgrave 78. Met.Pol. 93.

Belgrave Inter Club '7', December 30th

43 Walkers took this opportunity to work off their Christmas excesses with Paul Nihill leading them home in 52.42. Gerry Cameron improved on his recent form to take the Handicap with an actual time of 57.43

Team Result:

1. Belgrave 22. 2. Surrey WC 29. 3. London Vids 45. 4. Essex Police 102.
Match versus Police: Belgrave 167. MPAAA 234.

POLICE '7'

Imber Court, Met Police Open '7', January 13th

Usually this race attracts the largest field of the year but with snow and ice to contend with Doug Fotheringham found himself with a very much smaller field. The weather in no way affected the times and although John Webb won in 50.57 Trowbridge's latest find John Kirk caused quite a sensation with his second place in 51.06. Belgrave were without Middleton but Carl Lawton produced a personal best 56.13 to anchor us in second place 2 points ahead of Leicester.

(Cont'd overleaf)

Result:

1. J. Webb (Basildon)	50.47	40. D. Mayo	57.00
2. J. Kirk (Trowbridge)	51.06	43. R. Hall	57.40
3. A. Jones (Brighton)	51.17	51. P. Duncan	58.34
9. J. Moullin (Belgrave)	55.25	71. B. Ward	60.37
11. R. Barnes "	53.47	81. J. Keown	62.21
20. L. Duquemin "	55.25	110. T. Cooke	67.01
30. C. Lawton "	56.13	116. A. East	68.44
		129. S. Brown	75.40

Team: Met. WC 45. 2. BELGRAVE 59. 3. Leicester 61.

5 Miles Under 21 Championship. Olympic Cup.

1. C. Lawton 40.10. 2. B. Ward 42.02. 3. S. Brown 53.29.

Bob Farley suprised himself and the Handicapper by beating Gerry Cameron by over a minute. G. Farley (All. 7.30) 74.42.

Match versus Police :- Belgrave 10. MPWC 26.

CLUB '10'

Belgrave 10 Mile Championship. "R. Murphy" Shield. January 20th

Road Works at Tibbets Corner meant that the usual course had to be abandoned in favour of a three lap route which although hillier was very much better from the point of view of traffic. Bob Barnes, the holder, shot straight into the lead and although uncertain of just how far he had to cover walked magnificently to win in 76.13. Although the course was a little short a look at those behind Bob shows just how good his walk was.

Result:

1. R. Barnes Belgrave	76.13	10. R. Hall Belgrave	85.35
2. L. Duquemin "	77.33	11. L. Taylor MP	86.59
3. J. Moullin "	78.44	12. B. Ward MP	89.51
4. R. Middleton "	79.04	13. J. Keown Belgrave	90.21
5. G. Cameron "	80.27	14. K. Chamberlain MP	90.52
6. D. Mayo "	80.34	15. D. Fotheringham MP	92.06
7. P. Duncan "	81.58	16. R. Picton Belgrave	93.06
8. R. Farley "	82.12	17. B. Eglington "	96.43
9. C. Lawton "	82.49		

GARNET WIN

February 3rd. Bexley - The Garnet Cup.

Dave Mayo, Carl Lawton, Bernard Capener and Brian Ward gave Belgrave a magnificent start to 1968 by defeating strong opposition from Trowbridge and winning the Garnet Cup by just two points. John Kirk, a new find, moved straight into a lead which he increased by six minutes. Dave, Carl and Delaney of the Vidarians grouped further back and although walking together for much of the race Dave fought clear over the closing stages leaving Carl who although losing one place hung on grimly to his sixth position. Bernard, short of racing found the last few miles heavy work but with fourth Brian Ward walking really strongly the cup was ours.

Result:

1. J. Kirk Trowbridge	75.33	18. B. Ward Belgrave	86.47
2. D. Delaney L. Vidarians	81.50	22. R. Picton "	88.18
3. R. Mills Ilford AC	82.05	38. T. Cook "	92.17
4. D. Mayo Belgrave	82.32	40. D. Fotheringham "	92.54
6. C. Lawton "	83.34	67. J. Wilson "	104.12
14. B. Capener "	86.18		

Team: 1. BELGRAVE 37 pts., 2. Trowbridge 39 pts., 3. Southend 72 pts.

February 10th. Battersea - GLC '10'.

Walking superbly Paul Nihill took no less than 1½ minutes off Stan Vicker's record. Ray Middleton and Bob Barnes both recorded fast times but it was Carl Lawton, with a personal best, who pulled Belgrave through into second place behind an apparently unbeatable Net WC Team.

RESULT OPPOSITE



PHOTOS BY G. McGLENNAN

The 1968 "Garnet Cup at Bexley on February 3rd. Frank Jarvis (centre), this year's President of the R.W.A. (Southern), presents the Cup to Belgrave Harriers. Those seen in action are (8) Mayo, (6) Lawton, (3) Capener, (11) Ward, (9) Picton, (4) Cook, (5) Fotheringham. At bottom right, our scoring four join Frank in admiring their award.

1. P.Nihill	Surrey WC	71.24	32. B.Ward	Belgrave	85.25
2. J.Webb	Basildon	72.06	34. R.Hall	"	86.25
3. W.Sutherland	Highgate	75.05	46. D.Fotheringham	"	90.55
6. R.Middleton	Belgrave	76.41	48. T.Cook	"	91.13
7. R.Barnes	"	76.52	53. J.Keown	"	92.00
20. C.Lawton	"	81.46	58. J.Morris	"	95.07
27. P.Duncan	"	83.55	73. J.Wilson	"	102.29

Team: 1. Metropolitan 38 pts., 2. BELGRAVE 51 pts., 3. Surrey 60 pts.

February 17th. Croydon - Surrey WC 20 Kilos.

Len Duquemin showed good form by holding Nihill for most of a tough 20 Kilo Course. Scoring six a side Belgrave defeated Surrey by 5 points.

Result:

1. P.Nihill	Surrey WC	99.06	8. P.Duncan	Belgrave	109.07
2. L.Duquemin	Belgrave	102.10	10. R.Hall	"	112.10
3. P.Maidment	"	103.53	34. B.Eglinton	"	128.56
6. J.Moullin	"	107.45	13. R.Picton	"	115.28
7. C.Lawton	"	109.01	40. R.Puffett	"	135.37

Team: 1. BELGRAVE 39 pts., 2. Surrey WC 44 pts., 3. MPAA 88 pts.

1967 Rankings

Belgrave Walkers featured prominently in the National Rankings for 1967 with pride of place going to Ray Middleton who was placed in all but the 10 Miles.

2 Mile Track

R.Middleton 10th. 14.15

7 Mile Track

R.Middleton 10th. 53.25

1 Hr Track

R.Middleton 4th. 7m 1529 Yds.

L.Duquemin 10th. 7m 1290 Yds.

10 Miles Road

L.Duquemin 4th. 74.10

20 Kilos Road

R.Middleton 8th. 97.39

20 Miles

R.Middleton 3rd 2hrs 43m 24s

L.Duquemin 8th 2hrs 45m 51s

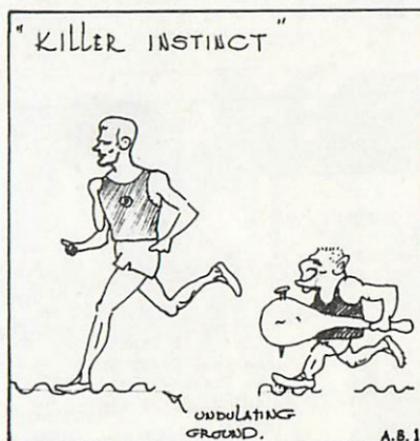
50 Kilos

R.Middleton 3rd 4hrs 29m 23s

L.Duquemin 4th 4hrs 39m 26s

J.Moullin 6th 4hrs 46m 23s

P.Duncan 10th 4hrs 50m 17s



REMOVE THE SHACKLES (Cont'd from page 15)

The professional-amateur distinction was drawn in most sports because of the unfair advantage of full-time training over part-time training. This still applies to a few sports but in athletics no such distinction exists. There are many many international athletes, swimmers and tennis players who would not spend any more time training than they do now, even if they did have all day, every day. My plea is not to stop the widespread breaches of these unnatural laws but to remove the shackles and discourage no one from taking part in sport. Give them all a chance by calling them just "athletes" and if they can earn pin-money in advertising or pro football good luck to them, because it won't be for long and when they lose their form they will bite the dust quicker than ever - athletically and financially.

In conclusion, I quote Leonard Cawley, whose comments on the croquet-putter dispute in the golf world could be applied to many of our sports. "And if the Rules of Golf Committees start telling us how we should even grip our clubs they will soon become like governments who wake up one morning and find themselves with no one to govern".

Can you hear us up there in the clouds, Avery?

HERE & THERE

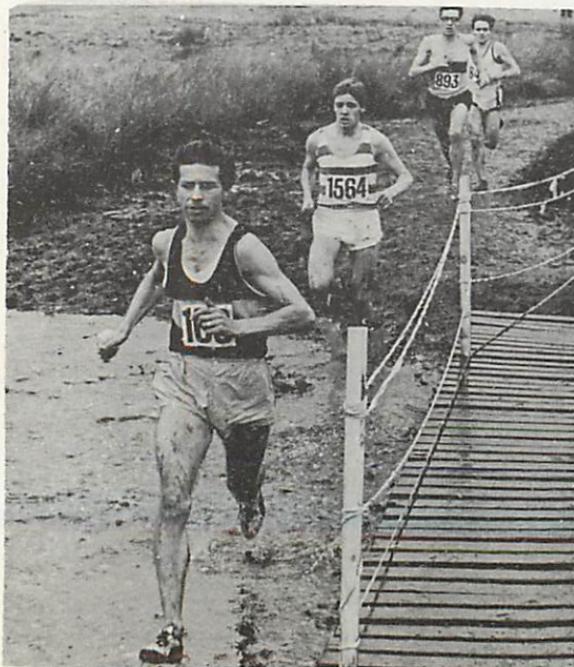
Congratulations to BARRY SAWYER on the birth of his Australian daughter. The joy of the occasion helped to temper the disappointment he suffered in December when gastro-enteritis broke his remarkable training sequence of 708 consecutive days. He didn't give up without a struggle though and timed his final run beautifully - just reaching the front door in time!

Congratulations also to RANGIT BHATIA on the birth of his Indian daughter. He hopes she will be India's answer to Mary Rand! Rangit recently finished 5th in the 5,000 m event at the National Inter-State Championships in Madras.

It is good to see FRANK SIMMONS out and about again. He came out of hospital on November 29th for what he intends to be the last time and, apart from some pain in his legs, feels fighting fit!

Is this to be Chris Stear's year? But of course it is. He has been biding his time waiting for the announcement to be made. He even took a job at the nearby B.B.C. in anticipation of it. And at last it came. "The Wormwood Scrubs running track will open shortly". Now he can swing into those lunch-time training schedules. It's especially convenient too when one's cell is on the ground floor anyway!

Members will be relieved to hear that TOM MORRELL is making good progress after his heart attack in early December. Tom, our President of 13 years ago, has never ceased to serve the Club in a multitude of ways. His readiness to take on the unpopular backroom jobs has always been appreciated and this dates back to those early days when the tin baths had to be filled and the pennies collected. During the war years, as helpers came and went, he continued to keep our HQ in a good state of repair and, for a good 16 years or so, stocked and sold Club clothing et. This latter job led to that unenviable task of obtaining medals, arranging engraving and buying handicap prizes for what must have amounted to several hundred events - and it only needs a couple of these arrangements to go wrong to incur the wrath of the side-lines! As with most long-serving officials he carries this burden resolutely and still has enough enthusiasm left over to assist our Hon Treasurer and act as competitors steward and/or recorder at all our home fixtures, summer and winter. These are just a few of the thoughts that come to mind on hearing of our Past-President's misfortune. Get well soon TOM, we look forward to your return.



In the National Championships at Leicester, Gerry North (11th) leads A. Rushmer (7th), A. Cox (9th) and R. Grove (10th) on the final lap.

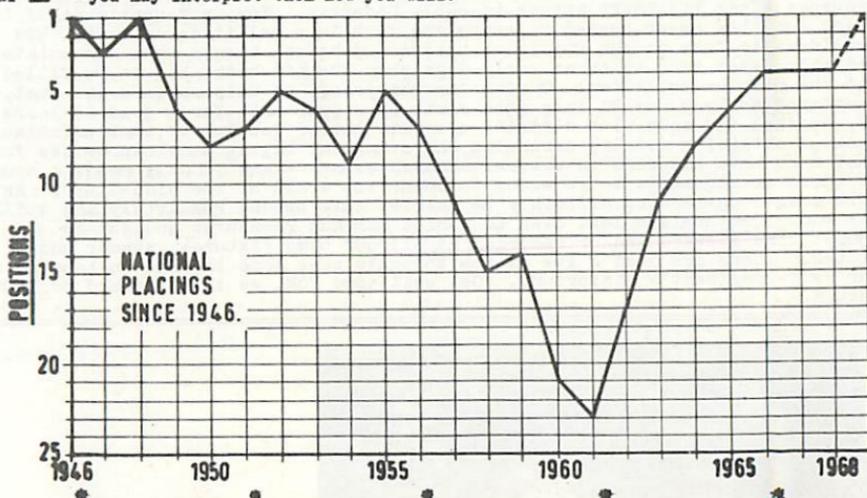
(Photo by R. Linstead)

A COUNTRYMAN'S JOTTINGS ●●●●●●●●●●

How wrong can you get! In the December issue I wrote "Portsmouth-----they are a spent force. Nth Staffs, now reputed to have broken up-----". Yet both teams pushed us out of National medals on the last lap of that fateful Sutton Coldfield course! Not because they were especially good but because our runners failed to click yet again. Coventry were deserved winners on the day and proved that 6 in 60 is now necessary to win the 'National'-----the 'retired' Basil Heatley closing-in in 63rd place. What went wrong? Well, Whewell and Fairclough at their best are both capable of finishing in the thirties or forties, and that alone would have given us a win. Poor Bill Dance, after 2½ laps of his best form to date, suffered calf muscle cramp and our supporters witnessed the unusual sight of Bill losing no less than 15 places on the run in.

It was ironical that the team who beat us in the Southern, Reading AC, should finish only seventh and that Portsmouth (only 4th at Parliament Hill) should finish 2nd! Pompey deserve all the praise they can get. For the second successive year every runner rose to the occasion and foiled the forecasters; they would certainly have repeated their win of last year if Tim Johnston could have got home from Mexico.

And so we have to wait for another year. Can we go on improving or is time running out? Are we doomed to hover on the fringe eternally or can runners like Major, Biccourt, Piotrowski, Williams etc give us a lift up into the medals next year? Like all clubs we have our ups and downs. The ups can be frustratingly "almost up" and the downs depressingly "very down". The following graph shows our 'National' placings since World War II-----you may interpret them how you will.



We have always enjoyed very friendly relations with our neighbouring athletic clubs, particularly Mitcham AC whose many successes in recent years have been largely due to the Mitchell brothers, who are former Belgravians. On more than one occasion recently though, I have heard the comments "of course, all our boys are local lads" and "no imports in our team" and "all Surrey runners at Mitcham". All said, we hope, in good humour, but one wonders whether the inference is that Belgrave rely on athletes "drafted in" from the rest of the country, whilst Mitcham raise their own. I wonder what Thresher, Fairclough, Major, Biccourt, O'Hara, Hart, Dabbs, Steer etc. think of that. Agreed that the North brothers, Dance, Whewell, Williams, Kerr and others have played parts of varying degrees in our success but they joined us on moving to London because they had to change their club. I wonder how necessary it was for Dunphy and Murray (Hercules), Kortenaar (Wimbledon) Smallbone (Epsom and Ewell) and-----almost-----Collins (Surrey) to change their's. I would have thought that a "local lad" is one who LIVES within comfortable distance of his club's facilities-----his place of birth or life history is quite irrelevant.

Many view the recently introduced 9 months qualifying period (instead of 14 months) for athletes changing clubs within a 20 miles radius of their home, as a go-ahead for widespread movement. A runner can now resign immediately after the 'National', qualify for his new club by Christmas and wear his new colours thro' all the championships from the County onwards. For the cross-country enthusiast this is no penalty at all.

JOHN BICOURT scored a fine win in the final race of the London Colleges Cross-Country league at Twickenham on March 8th. He beat Grice, Mouat, Stock and Buchanan in good time. JOHN is all set for an even better track season than 1967, when he recorded 8:57.6 for 3,000 metres steeplechase. He recently ran a time trial in 9:17-----pretty sharp for this time of the year-----and is now all set for the National Road Relay at Leicester and could well be one of our leading performers in that event.

4th AGAIN!

MEDALS ELUDE 'NATIONAL' TEAM

SUTTON COLDFIELD ---March 8th

This year's race proved without a shadow of doubt that nine miles is too far for most of the Belgrave team---the valuable points lost on the last lap when we should have been moving up were the difference between winning and 4th place. With one lap to go we were definitely second and still with a chance to overtake Coventry but at the end we were beaten back and missed the championship by 98 points and second place by only 23 points. This was a repetition of the Southern where Reading beat us in a similar manner.

After half a mile our runners were most prominent---Geoff North was 3rd and Gerry North, Thresher, Dance, Hart and Fairclough were in close attendance. What a change at 3 miles when only Gerry North was anywhere near the leaders and was running with his usual flair for the big occasion. From then on it became a dreary procession---only Gerry stayed in touch, the others looking tired and beaten. Tony Fairclough was unfortunate to suffer two falls one of which involved an argument with an irremovable post and in consequence he finished well below his usual placings. Bill Dance also suffered a muscle sprain which impaired his performance. Adrian Major in his first year of Senior competition ran well up to expectations to take 78th place and to show some of his more experienced club mates how it should be done.

There are no real excuses---the course was by no means difficult, being dry with fast going and this should have suited us admirably.

Gerry was unfortunate in the end not to get his colours again, being selected only as a reserve for the International in Tunisia later in March.

Many of our members will consider that 4th place (out of 84 teams to close in) for our Senior team is a good performance but to those of us who know the potential of our runners this was a most disappointing result. This is the third year in succession that we have occupied this position and although we move nearer to the leaders year by year there is no doubt whatsoever that our team this year could with the right preparation and right approach have won handsomely. Low winning scores are now a thing of the past---the days when a club could finish (as we did in 1946 and 1948) its six scorers in the first twenty places are gone. It would need almost a full international team to achieve this now that the standard generally has greatly improved and the size of the fields has gone up from 300 to almost a 1000 in twenty years. It is therefore only necessary to place the scoring six in the first sixty positions with the leading three in the first twenty five---by no means an impossible task for Belgrave with their present runners.

Unfortunately the whole approach to a National Cross Country win is indifferent---no one likes to be left out of the team but with a few exceptions the will and spirit to become the top cross country club in Britain is missing. Our teams are made up mainly of individualists (they are proud to call themselves this who do not achieve the fame they envisage in other spheres of athletics and consequently fall between two stools. If they trained wholeheartedly over the country perhaps the best of both worlds could be gained. Think of the prestige to the Club and its members and the resultant invitations to the Continent which are lost by a half hearted approach.

We fielded teams in the Youth and Junior races but as we are particularly weak in these classes at the present time there is little to be said except that Peter Blair-Fish who finished 108th in the Junior race ran reasonably well.

RESULT

1. R. Hill.....(Bolton Utd H.).....43:55	11. Gerry North.....45:06
2. M. Freary....." " ".....44:22	31. Geoff North
3. R. Fowler.....(Nth. Staffs.).....44:36	45. J. Thresher
4. R. Clarke.....(Bristol AC.).....44:42	78. A. Major
5. F. Briscoe.....(Leigh H.).....44:47	87. G. Dance
6. W. Adcocks.....(Coventry God. H.).....44:52	102. P. Whewell
7. A. Rushmer.....(Tipton H.).....44:54	139. L'O'Hara
8. J. Hogan.....(Walton AC).....44:55	160. T. Hart
9. A. Cox.....(Luton Utd AC).....44:57	179. A. Fairclough
10. R. Grove.....(Leicester Coll.).....45:00	(944 started; 856 finished)

Teams:-

1. Coventry Godiva H.....(6,27,47,54,59,63).....256 points	
2. Portsmouth AC.....(20,29,53,57,61,111).....331 points	
3. Nth. Staffs & St.....(3,19,58,75,81,100).....336 points	
4. BELGRAVE H.....(11,31,45,78,87,102).....354 points	
5. Manchester D.L.C.....(14,38,60,69,123,137).....441 points	
6. Bolton Utd H.....(1,2,13,132,174,175).....497 points	
7. Reading AC 524 pts, 8. Tipton H 525 pts, 9. Derby Cty 556 pts, 10. Leicester C.A.T. 586 pts.	

JUNIORS.

1. I. Stewart.....(Birchfield H.).....29:42	108. P. Blair-Fish
2. J. Bednarski.....(Swindon AC).....29:52	223. A. Brooks
3. A. Simmons.....(Luton Utd AC).....30:00	290. M. Dickson
4. J. Holden.....(Preston H.).....30:16	301. D. McMillan
5. N. Morrison.....(Shettleston H.).....30:23	(311 started—302 finished)

Teams:-

1. Mitcham AC. 126 pts., 2. Windsor & E. 139pts, 3. Birchfield H. 145pts, 36. BELS 922 pts.

SOUTHAMPTON-BOURNEMOUTH RELAY---Sunday, March 10th

As if the disappointment of the National was not enough! All set to show our mettle on the road, we had John Thresher within an ace of taking the lead on the third stage when the first six teams went off course to the extent of 2 minutes. First became fifth and although we fought back to 2nd our old rivals Portsmouth scored a hollow victory.

Adrian Major continued his good form with 4th place on stage 1, handing over to Gerry North, who, despite a troublesome knee, broke Trevor Hart's old stage record by 18 secs. Then came John's eventful run and it had to be Hyman of Portsmouth, seventh at the time and 70 seconds behind the leaders, who was the first to realise the race was going astray, took the right course and a lead his club held to the end. John ran the latter half of his stage with Francis of Westbury who was credited with the day's fastest of 28:34 against John's 30:42!

Laurie O'Hara took us up to 3rd, Geoff North maintained it and Bill Dance passed the Reading man and held off Bob Holt to finish a worthy second and a moral 1st.

Of the teams to go off course only Hercules/Wimbledon and ourselves got back into the first six. We also had the first 'B' team to finish.

RESULT

1. Portsmouth AC.....2:26:07			
2. BELGRAVE H.....2:27:42			
3. Herc/Wimb. AC.....2:27:51			
4. Reading AC.....2:28:04			
5. Windsor & E.....2:28:58			
6. Ealing & S.....2:29:34			
11. BELGRAVE 'B'.....2:30:54			
	'A'		'B'
	A. Major.....26:25		R. Donnison.....27:19
	Gy. North.....27:00		C. Dabbs.....28:22
	J. Thresher.....30:42		T. Hart.....29:15
	L. O'Hara.....21:36		J. Dear.....22:16
	Gf. North.....26:09		J. Biccourt.....26:48
	G. Dance.....25:50		R. Piotrowski.....26:54

Coming!

March 30th	— Brighton Front Road Relay plus Youths race.
April 6th	— Romford Half-Marathon.
" 13th	— BELGRAVE '20' Walk (Ricketts Shield)
" 20th	— Blackpool Road Relay and Fimbley 20.
" 27th	— NATIONAL ROAD RELAY, Leicester (Supporters wanted).

SUPERMAC!

The winter of disappointments was well underway. Weren't Belgrave going to win anything? Seven days between fixtures is an eternity and my nerves were already badly strained. I mean, you can beat your wife after a couple of disappointments but you musn't let it show too much. I confess that my behaviour for 3 days after defeat is despicable, but for three days prior to defeat it is less despicable, I have my friends back and we speculate about next Saturday. Wednesday is a hiatus—I just brood.

I had been having quite an enjoyable brood this particular hiatus and was almost tempted to unlock my wife from the cellar a day early. Weren't Belgrave ever going to hit the headlines this season, I thought, and idly twiddled the radio knobs. The rasping cacophony of sound was suddenly broken by the 10 o'clock "News and Comment" man. Perhaps, I thought, I could devise some means of drugging the opposition next Saturday or—"Mr. Maclean who is in the studio with us". I cocked one ear. "Mr. Maclean—I was right, that was the name he'd said—"what are the reasons for this spate of buying in the silver market?". "Well—"; the dulcet tones of Mac got no further. "It's him" I cried. My saviour had arrived. He had carried our colours over track, country and road; he had carried our written word to the local papers; he had put an inch on Belgrave chests when he dived into the freezing Thames for a rescue and now he was on the air. What a genius he is, why hadn't I thought of it before? But how could he plug Belgrave in a programme discussing the silver market? I sobered down, and Mac's closing remarks gradually became discernible—"but of course there will soon be greater speculation in gold, particularly claret and gold, Goodnight, and UP THE BELS!". My hero! He'd done it! I'm sure that's what he said and no one will talk me out of it—least of all my wife, who is eternally grateful.

BACK COVER (Photo by Ed. Lacey)—Geoff North and Beaver(Herc/Wim) lead an impressive bunch early in the National Championships at Sutton Coldfield. Following up are Cox, Adcocks, Turner, Moxom, Ashton, D. Holt and Hogan.

