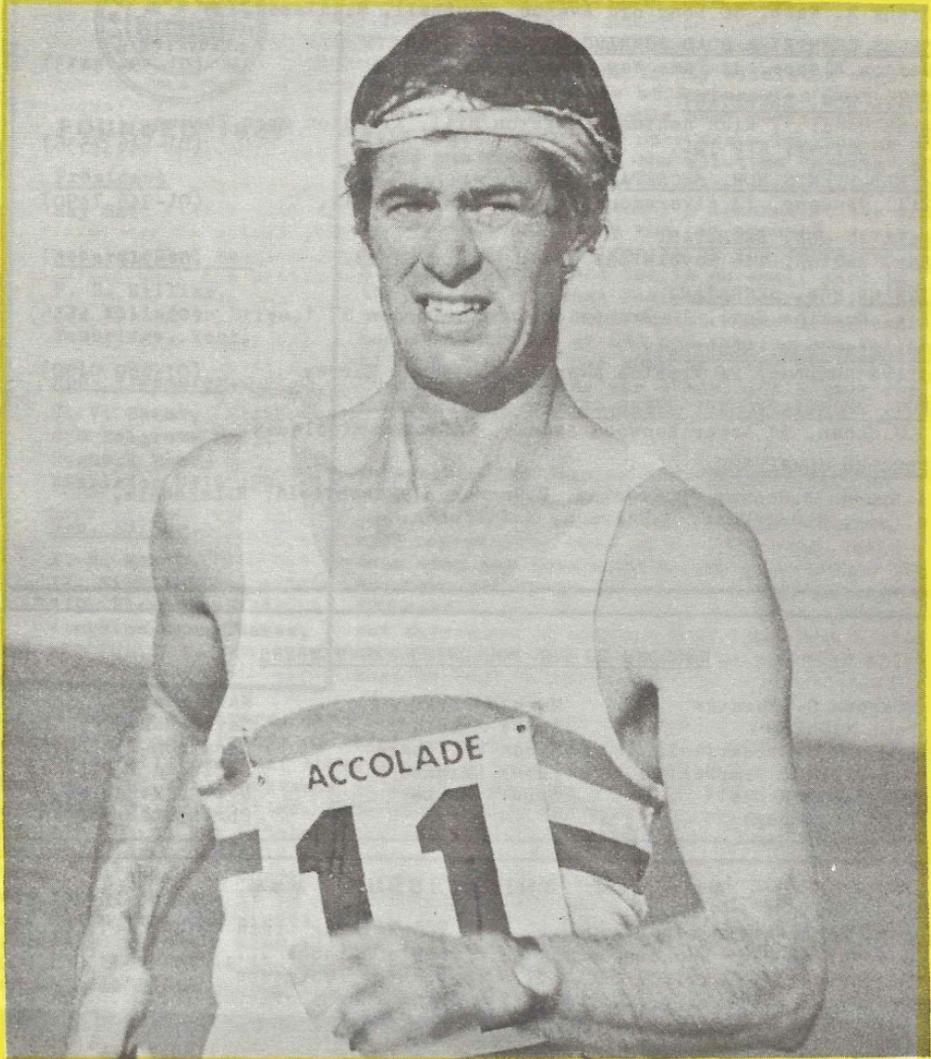


THE DECEMBER 1974 BELGRAVIAN



the official gazette of belgrave harriers •

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ELECTED COMMITTEE

A.Bruce, R.Conway, D.Crookes, B.Gorman, J.Heathfield, R.Langheim, W.Laws, W.Merryman, C.Pearson, K.Stimpson.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Stephen G. Forster	Mark Harris	Mark Lewis
Paul Manning	Scott J Wyld	David Hanks
Richard J Streatfield	Simon Pritchard	Jonathon R S Davis
Beresford I Campbell	Peter Gardner	Reginald F Pilcher
Desmond T Bennett	Robert Parks	Neil L Venables
John Wasbrough		Christopher Brown

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Front page: 1974 was a good year for Ray Middleton - winner of the London to Brighton, Hastings to Brighton and Accolade 8 Hour walks, setting five new world best performances in the latter. Photo: C.C.Sharon.

THE BELGRAVIAN

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COMMENT

All members will undoubtedly wish to offer their congratulations to Ray Middleton whose record breaking spree at Haringey on Sept 29th reaped him five new world best performances. This magnificent feat once again reminds us of Ray's stature; one of the all-time "greats" of the walking world. Unfortunately his deeds seemed to be almost totally ignored at the time by the national press who, it appears, would rather report "hooliganism on the terraces". Slowly, however, and due in no small part to the efforts of Press Secretary George Piddington, news of his achievement began to spread; and an interview on LBC one evening was followed by a visit to his home by the BBC, and a 20 minute recording was subsequently made for broadcasting from American and Canadian stations.

Once again the size of the "Belgravian" has been reduced and the photographs limited to just one on the front cover, a measure which will regrettably have to be continued. Lately each copy has been costing the Club around 20p. When one remembers that we have approaching 500 members and four issues per year, it does not take much to realise that important a link as it is, the Club's gazette is a luxury which must be kept in check.

First lady bus drivers, then the Stock Exchange and now... could the exclusively male facade of Belgrave Harriers be beginning to crumble. Of course we all know that there are many jobs in our club which would not be done without the assistance of our ladies. Now it seems their presence is gradually being admitted. Some months back two women joined as Honorary Members and at our October Committee meeting it was stated that it would be perfectly acceptable for ladies to use the ladies room at the Hall as a base from which to commence a road or country run. Immediately the chance was taken, and now it is not uncommon to see two "Belles" setting out from our HQ on training nights in the week and on Sunday mornings. Any other female joggers who wish to join them must remember to use the stairway OUTSIDE the Hall at the end of the side-alley, otherwise there are going to be some nasty shocks all round.

*We wish all members
A Merry Christmas and successful New Year*

Hon. Secretary's Report for 1973/74

And so we come to the end of another season. 1973/74 has been a funny sort of season. It seemed to promise so much in terms of athletic achievements in all our fields of interest but in the last analysis events did not live up to expectations.

To plot the main milestones during the year, the most consistently successful section was the walking section as has been the case in the last few years. But even the walkers have had a relatively disappointing season by their own exceptionally high standards. After all, the days when National Championships were automatically assumed to be Belgrave's own preserve are not so far distant (almost beyond living memory in other fields!). Possibly this is because the standard of top walking is getting higher or on the other hand a reflection that most of our leading walkers are getting older. Nevertheless there was a notable turn-out at last January's Commonwealth Games in New Zealand with four representatives, Carl Lawton for England, Len Duquemin and John Moullin for Guernsey and Allan Callow for the Isle of Man. Nationally we won the 10 mile Championship, were 2nd in the 50 kilometres event but were otherwise unplaced. Carl Lawton has regularly appeared in GB colours over the past year.

Once again the important point proved by the walking section is that team-work does count for a great deal. If only the same were always true of our cross-country teams. Admittedly competition is very fierce at top levels but I can't believe that our performances, particularly at National and Area level reflects the relative strength of our middle and long distance running talent. This point seems to be proved again and again by our road relay results which are consistently better than our winter form promises. Our performance in the Southern Road Relay, where our team finished 5th, only 16 seconds behind the 3rd placed team confirmed this. However, the standard of road running in the country as a whole was confirmed by the result of the National Road Relay, where the international standard of performances underlined the relative mediocrity of the Southern teams.

On the track an excellent start to the season gave way to a gradual deterioration in our results. It was really the year of the individual rather than that of the team. Strangely enough many of our best individuals are also marvellous team members, particularly Steve White and the ever-reliable Cliff Brooks whose Decathlon points are still improving. However, Philip Gee and his other hard working helpers invariably confessed their inability to get the best teams to the starting lines of various meetings due to a multitude of reasons of varying complexity. On the track side we should not leave out John Bicourt our only current British international, who went to both the Commonwealth Games and the European Games in Rome. I think John would admit that 1974 was a disappointing year which did not live up to the early promise of the Commonwealth race.

1973/74 was also the year of controversy, much of it surrounding the genial features of Charlie Manning the President for the year. Charlie's fund raising activities will go down into Belgrave history whereas he confesses that the same is not necessarily true of his athletic achievements. He has apparently raised something over £1,000 for the Club in the past year by various methods which haven't always met with universal sympathy. But I consider that his ability to shock us out of our general complacency is a valuable asset.

Looking to the future it is encouraging to note the strength of the junior section. Talking in stock-market terms this is the life-blood of Belgrave's future strength - our investment in the present. However it is arguable that the strength of this influx of youthful talent could be too much for our coaching system to accommodate - it has shown signs of being under severe strain on several occasions in the past. Undoubtedly talent will perform to its best ability if directed correctly and it is here that coaching comes in. We have in the past printed a long list of coaches in

.... continued on page 10.

A.A.HARLEY CLUB HONOURS BOARD

Unveiled at Belgrave Hall on Saturday, October 5th 1974 by Mrs. Harley.

The people of nations and of any organisations from earliest times have instinctive desire to record with pride the achievements they have accomplished in a tangible form. It provides a tradition and sets the standard for the future.

In the same way Belgravians have the same instinct for history and that the Club, whose existence is spread over more than 80 years, should have a permanent record of its unique and unparalleled achievements, unequalled by any other club in the land.

Not until the death of Alf. Harley, whose service over 44 years, 26 as General Secretary, could sufficient reason be found to raise the sum of money needed to provide a fit and proper memento, something pleasing to us all. Alf, with his great personality and unique qualities of athlete, companion, administrator, his lasting and deep interest in all facets of club life, made the occasion for such an appeal possible. Clive Shippen, whose efforts and major role in the design of the 'Honours Board', a magnificent addition to our Headquarters, referred to this in his preamble to the unveiling ceremony, in which he said, "Without other great Belgravians, internationals and solid club workers there would be no honours to record" The board is something in which we have all played our part.

Any description from me of the 'Honours Board' would be inadequate. It is there for all to see. The unveiling ceremony was splendidly arranged. Mrs. Harley carried it out with the dignity we have come to expect from her. The whole of her family attended, son, three daughters, son-in-law, and grandson, who I am sure is a split image of Alf as a baby.

Afterwards Mrs. Harley told me how deeply she felt and how impressed with the thought that had gone into making the occasion so simple and sincere. In her view the 'Honours Board' typified Alf completely - grand in design, modern and fitting in every way to a great club. She was sure he would have been absolutely thrilled.

Others will comment on how pleasing it was to see such a gathering of Belgravians at the Hall. Many had travelled long distances to be present. Thanks to Clive Shippen and all those who have made the fulfilment of such a dream possible.

HARRY SHIELDS

Dear Belgravians,

With a successful Honours Board Unveiling Ceremony behind us, and the fund now closed, may I thank you on behalf of the Committee for the wonderful response to our appeal. The total cost of the project was £284.70 and the magnificent sum of £304.35 was raised. The surplus will be allocated for updating the board in future years.

CLIVE SHIPPEN

Donations from the following are acknowledged:-

W.Ashford	J.W.Soswell	L.Marchant	T.Scrimshaw
J.V.Baker	E.W.Hall	A.Mead	W.Shepherd (Mrs)
G.Beacham	R.C.Hall	W.Merryman	H.W.Shields
J.Bidgood	W.H.Hare	K.Miller	C.Shippen
G.Biscoe	G.A.Harley (Mrs)	A.F.Mitchell	F.Simmons
C.Brooks	W.Harris	T.Morrell	C.Speechley
D.Brown	J.Heathfield	C.Munro	E.Stimpson
C.T.Carter	F.Jarvis	K,O'Kell	K.G.Stimpson
E.Carter (Mrs)	J.F.Keown	C.Pearson	F.Stone
G.Chantler	H.L.King	G.M.Pearson	A.Taylor
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T.Cotton	W.E.Lucas DFC	R.Plummer	S.F.Vickers
W.Couzens	B.Lulham	A.D.Pyer	F.R.Webb
N.Dewberry	J.McDonald	L.Pyer (Mrs)	W.G.Webb
E.Donovan	C.MacLennan	R.Readman	J.Wilson
G.Doubleday	C.E.Manning	R.Savage (Mrs)	P.Wright
E.A.Duffett			

grapevine

■ We are sorry to learn that JOE SCAMMELL (senior) has had to retire from his walking activities owing to illness. Joe has carried our colours for FIFTY YEARS (can anybody recall having seen him not wearing Club colours?) and in his early days he was a regular team man. Although his speed dropped over the years he nevertheless maintained a fine upright style. His son Joe (junior) visits him regularly to give him news of how we are doing. Our best wishes to you, Joe.

■ TERRY LEWINS and two other RAF athletes serving in Nebraska, USA, competed in the annual Pikes Peak Mountain Marathon in Colorado in August. The race takes in a 13.4 mile climb from 6,500 feet above sea level to 14,100 feet followed by a return down the same route. Terry finished 19th in 4hrs 40mins losing nine places by going off course three miles from the finish. The temperature was 87F. In the Mid-Western AAU Marathon at Omaha, Terry was 10th in 2hrs 46mins.

■ Go to a fixture on the Brighton Road and the chances are that you will bump into JACK "NOBBY" FLETCHER. For many years he was a member of our cross-country packs and has probably seen more "Brightons" than any other member. This year was a special occasion, he was right on the finishing post to cheer in RAY MIDDLETON.

■ Ray is not the only one in his family to be pacing out the miles recently. JEAN MIDDLETON took part in a sponsored walk at Peckham Rye Park to raise funds for Leukemia Research, in memory of Phil Embleton. She raised over £60, a mighty effort, and sends thanks to all those who so generously sponsored her.

■ A popular member of the Bels whilst domiciled in London in 1964 was KEITH ANGUS from Sheffield. Steadily, over the years, his performances have been improving and his latest success was a win in the Czechoslovakian Kosice Marathon classic. Conditions were appalling but he clocked 2hrs 29mins. 09secs. to beat a star studded field that included New Zealander Jack Foster, Commonwealth Games silver medallist.

■ And talking of Kiwis, on August 24th our own member from the land of the silver fern, GLEN HASZARD, competed in the Scottish Two Bridges Road Race (Kincardine - Forth), a distance of 36 miles 158 yards. He finished 43rd of the 65 starters in 4hrs 34mins 52secs.

■ It is good to see GEORGE CHANTLER about again. Last winter he had a serious illness and more recently his wife was ill. We congratulate him on being elected President of his local club Feltham AC.

■ One who would no doubt have been at the unveiling of the Alf Harley memorial were he not now living in Portugal is BEN KNIFTON. He writes of the pleasant climate and of enjoying a daily swim. He is a former Editor of the "Belgravian".

■ It's nice to see BEN LULHAM around again after a few years absence. It was 1965 when Ben coached his magnificent relay squad to a AAA Junior 4 x 110 yards victory at Hurlingham in 42.8.

■ CLIVE SHIPPEN has been made Vice-President of the South of the Thames Cross Country Association whilst GORDON BISCOE has been elected to that body's committee.

■ MARTIN SCOTT is back in circulation again and we hear he is raring to go! At the Surrey Supper, held in November, Martin was presented with a trophy for the most outstanding Junior performance of the Surrey County Championships - his long jump of 7.17 metres.

■ Another old walker still active is Syd James, former Surrey Champion. He is engaged in activities with the physically handicapped in his locality.

■ GORDON DOUBLEDAY is now recovered from last years's illness we are are pleased to say, and is now regularly on duty with his stop watch although advised by his doctor to avoid strenuous activity. Gordon was on hand at the 30 mile race at Walton a few weeks back when Mick Molloy set a new World Best time.

■ That well known veteran walker DAVE McMULLEN tells us that his father BOB McMULLEN, now over 80, is still active and well and enjoys a game of golf at Mitcham. Bob was a stalwart of our walking teams in the '20s.

■ GERRY NORTH was selected to play in the International Athletes soccer side in a match against Radio London and Radio Medway. Playing for the radio team was none other than CHARLIE GILLETT and we understand he had a pretty good game too. Final result - seven all!

Grapevine extra

The occasion of the unveiling of the Alf Harley Memorial brought to Belgrave Hall a number of members who were great friends of Alf and our reporter was soon mixing with them with notebook and pen. Here they are as they were spotted.

Perhaps first of all a mention should be made of those unable to attend and who sent apologies. Letters were read out from our Senior Past President, Harry Hare, a member of our walking teams who willingly turned his hand to any job that needed doing. Len Coleman, now living in N. Ireland. Charlie Smart, slowly recovering after a long illness. Ed. Donovan, our Vice President from the U.S.A. who has vivid memories of running with the club in his early days at Battersea. F.M.(Rodney) Stone, the only Belgravian to be the subject of the "This is Your Life" TV programme. When he was a policeman he performed many acts of bravery and courage which was the theme of his appearance. Naturally the subject of his walking was brought up and we had the pleasure of seeing on our screens the late Harry Evans.

In addition to the letters read out, a number of members had let us know that they could not attend. Bert Mitchell, one of our earliest marathon runners who now lives in Deal. Ken Miller, one of our Hon. Auditors. Chas. McLennan, said to be, "Out on a demo." Cliff Brooks, the best ten-man-team we have. Ray Plummer, a supporter of Belgrave for many years. Jim Rimmer, our holder of the Macher Shield, who, we hope, is going to have a horde after him eager to take the title. Arthur Welling, still active in performing and helping with the Veterans AC.

Bernard Eglinton, who still shows the Claret and Gold on the beaches and roads of N.Wales, and of course pops down for the odd race. Frank Simmons, always full of training advice. Double Olympian Eric Hall (50km 1956 and 20km 1960) and past winner of the hardest of all to win - the RWA 20 miles. Harry Hathway, not a member, but one who has helped as a timekeeper for many years. We learn that he has recently had an operation and wish him a speedy recovery. Track international Tommy Scrimshaw, who represented Great Britain on a number of occasions in the '30s.

Going round the Hall it was a pleasure to meet so many old friends. Alf Taylor, member of our first winning E.C.C.U. team title at Beaconsfield in

..continued on following page

GRAPEVINE EXTRA continued

1935, London - Brighton relay teams and winning Middlesex C.C. teams, he made the journey from Wellington, Somerset, where he now lives. Tom Cotton, former Trustee and Hon. Auditor, and one of the prime movers of the building fund which enabled us to buy Belgrave Hall. Jack Williams, accompanied by his wife, came up from Brighton - he still competes in veteran sprint races.

Syd King, a former Hon Treasurer and regular member of our walking training packs and teams; he too was accompanied by his wife, daughter of a former club stalwart the late Bill Redgrave. Percy Wright journeyed up from Southampton and conveyed verbal apology from our 1932 Olympic 50km champion Tommy Green (he was over 40 when he won the title). Alf Harley often used to visit Eastleigh as his firm had a branch nearby, and he would usually pop in and see Tommy. Percy still judges walking events in his area. We cannot imagine him "pulling" a competitor by calling out what was the finish for him in a certain race in the '30s, "Aht! Git on aht!"

Charlie Munro has officiated at cross country and track events longer than most can remember, now still going strong in his eighties. He is a Past President of the E.C.C.U. Denis Brickwood, whose sensational victory on the line in a London - Brighton relay was front page news in the "News of the World" and brought victory to Mitcham over the Bels. He later transferred to us and served as cross country captain. Looking very fit, he attributes this to playing squash.

Bill True is another who was a regular with the walkers, he knew everyone's form down to the last yard or second and served as Hon Handicapper for a good many years. Ken O'Kell knew Alf right from his early days in the club and they enjoyed many runs together and built up a lasting friendship. Len Marchant, one of the greatest all round runners we have had, he represented the A.A.A. and narrowly missed international selection. He now lives at Basildon but travels daily to the City.

Mrs. Savage, and of course Win, were there. Mrs. Savage had a serious illness last winter, from which we hope she has recovered and will not recur. Win, in the Savage tradition, still puts in plenty of work for Selsonia and ladies athletics. Bill Ashford, still working in Holland, made one of his week-end trips coincide with the function. Syd Spencer is often seen judging walking events. When he was a policeman at Chelsea he gained us many new members. He was a good long distance man and became a Centurion, by walking from Bath to London in 1952. Charlie Speechley, our oldest member, was involved in sport before World War I and took part in the trial for the 1908 Olympic Games at Diving! He still turns out in veteran events.

Jack Bidgood, now 70 and looking well, gets a double mention as he had been seen on the Brighton Road at Bolney (where else!). A member of winning London - Brighton teams, past winner of our own long distance championship and the police Barking to Southend walk.

As our "Grapevine" reporter prepares to rest, a bicycle bell is heard. Yes, it is Past President Bill Webb who has recently celebrated his 80th birthday. We close with a question, "has anybody seen a fitter and less likely octogenarian?"

No mention has been made of the bulk of the people present - they are those who are generally present at any Belgrave meeting and we all know who they are. If, of course, somebody has been left out - our apologies.

ERNIE JARVIS

We must sadly record the death of Ernie Jarvis, one time Club Champion over 100y, 220y and 440y. He was generally regarded as one of the fastest starters in the country during the late 1920s, and was a member of that famous Belgrave medley relay team some 40 years ago.

RAY HALL ~ PRESIDENT

To follow the pattern of election jargon, balderdash, gibberish, slang, etc., used to introduce political candidates appears a fashionable way to introduce our new President. It has the merit of being concise, again a word of many meanings, but here I proclaim and laud:-

Raymond Hall, 41 years old, married to a beautiful brunette, nee Pauline Norriss, a "Selsonian" and member of the 1954 Womens 4 x 110 yards relay team, with two young children - 10 year old Timothy and Geraldine who is five.

Ray hails from East Dulwich, has a long record of Public Service, is a respected Stock Exchange man and is buying a house in Surrey, the purchase of which he hopes to complete in the next 50 or if he becomes a bus driver in the next 10 years.

He does admit to making boobs. He joined Herne Hill Harriers as a runner, then Surrey Walking Club before becoming a "Belgravian" in 1953, which proved the soil in which he could blossom to full stature. For the Club he has been a continuous inspiration by his enthusiasm and has encouraged all to give their best. When living at Bexley, in spite of the inconvenience of travel, he could be relied on to be in constant attendance at Wimbledon and Battersea Park for training and club matches.

He has always taken new and young members under his wing and to undertake any job that required doing. The inspiration of his own performances and unobtrusive generosity of time and assistance to those having financial problems are corner-stones of his character.

For a long period of years he has been Walking Captain, Handicapper, Committee Member and all the unofficial posts of coach, transport manager, and propaganda chief, that crop up. He holds the Club record for the London - Brighton Walk of 7hrs 58 minutes 23 seconds, has the record for the Stock Exchange 25 mile walk with 3hrs 39 minutes 06 seconds, occasions which bring to mind many stories showing his character, while I have pushed a bicycle in attending him. His replies to my urges during his record breaking London - Brighton walk, particularly at the top of Dale Hill, cannot be printed. In addition he has been a member of many of our winning National Walk teams, the highlight probably being 3rd in the R.W.A. 50 Km Walk.

My feelings towards Ray are beyond expression. As a companion on strolls over many years my feelings are deep. We have never had a cross word. In times of adversity he comes to the fore.

Commencing from his early days in the Club with Stan Vickers, Jack Goswell George Beecham and others, Sunday strolls through the Kent and Surrey countryside were the order of the day and are full of sparkle and anecdotes. Three typical occasions that readily come to mind are:-

1. On holiday in Cornwall with Alf Harley. After a hard days walk, an unexpected magnificent tea in a monastery, sitting on the banks of a tributary of the river Fal, waiting for the ferry to take us across. Ray idly throwing stones into the water, Alf snoozing away. Beautifully warm, the lap of the water, the gradual setting of the sun. The place that passeth all understanding.
2. A day with the temperature well into the eighties. Towards the end of a 40 mile slog round Kent lanes, the road ahead giving the mirage of water, the final gasp at Godstone and the salvation of the London Transport canteen which we drank dry. The remarks of Ray and George Beecham when we boarded the train at Caterham on the wonder of moving without the torment of tired legs and sore feet.
3. Another, even hotter, summers day when Ray and myself staggered into Kemsing Station, glad to drink water and wet our handkerchiefs from the

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HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT continued...

our handbooks but how many do we see from week to week during the season. How many do our athletes recognise. I think this a terrific challenge and one which the present day senior athlete could undertake to replace his training - to put something back into the sport that has given him so much pleasure. Think about it - it is rewarding.

Looking through past copies of the 'Belgravian', that excellent chronicle of our activities, one has noticed the Belgrave Evening of Culture, the Bazaar and other such novelties. I feel all departures from the straight and narrow are rewarding as long as they are profitable and the proceeds can be used to benefit our sport. It could be that our ambitions will grow ever wider, even though I am sure we will not lose sight of the essential objective, which is to encourage all facets of athletics.

Finally I'd like to put in a word of thanks to all officials. They all do it in their own time, for their own reasons but again for the benefit of athletics. Support your committee. It's doing a good job and if you have any ideas please transmit them to a committee member rather than complain that nothing is ever done in Belgrave's name.

PETER HILLIAR
GENERAL HON. SECRETARY

£1,162.27

We've come to the end of the year of the fast buck and the end of my year of Presidency. I thank you all for being so tolerant of my bullying ways - it has produced results! Consider when I declared that we should aim to make £500 and now look at the record behind you. Thank you all, and in particular that small hard core who've made it possible - Gordon Biscoe, John Baker, Evelyn Stimpson and my daughter Linda, who have done more for this office than I have.

I would like to make these points:-

- 1) Don't imagine that I don't appreciate that there are those amongst us who want to belong to Belgrave Harriers to come up on a Saturday, have a run, and beyond that remain totally uninvolved. I do not condemn this thinking and wish it were possible for all of us to do the same but it is a luxury that we cannot afford on our present income.
- 2) Don't be overawed by the money we have made this year. With our potential it should be firmly put in its place - peanuts!
- 3) Don't let the searching questions your committee have been asking be obscured (i) our role in athletics at national level, (ii) the real future of Belgrave Hall, (iii) the promotion of all sections, (iv) expansion of facilities both indoors and out, (v) strengthening the club by concentrating on the wasteful dilution of local talent.

It is my final, pleasant task to hand over to your new President for 1974-75. The overwhelming choice - Ray Hall.

CHAS. MANNING

RAY HALL - PRESIDENT continued....

tap in the lavatory. My pleasure after some eight hours in eventually seeing Ray wilt, to get my own back on the long slog home via Eynsford and Farningham.

Never can one expect to again enjoy the comradeship of such a companion or a greater test to find the calibre of a man.

I recommend Ray as a man full of ideas for the future of the Club, a person commanding respect, of great personal integrity, a wonderful friend and companion worthy to be included in the Roll of great "Belgravians".

H.S.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Belgravian,

Thankyou for electing me your President for 1974/5.

We are without doubt coming to the crossroads as a club; please always remember we can only go forward or back, we cannot stand still.

The world is forever changing but with the exception of league athletics and the demise of trophy meetings and open handicaps, British athletics has changed little over the last 30 years. Opposition has grown to the traditional sports of soccer, rugby, cricket and athletics. The new generation of tennis, squash, swimming, hockey, golf, judo, table tennis and possibly the fastest growing of them all - badminton, are gaining from the change in the social climate, and are providing strong competition for the newcomer to sport and the school leaver.

During the past 15 years these new popular sports have received impetus from the new sports centres provided by local government around the country with their swimming pools, squash courts and indoor facilities for other sports. In this country, with its weather, we must give these sports an advantage over athletics for at least six months of the year. The questions are, how do we counter attack to meet the opposition? How do we provide for the change in people's outlook and expectations?

First improve the facilities at Belgrave Hall; we have at present out-line planning permission to build a second floor after inserting a steel frame. This would be the first major alteration to the Hall for 20 years. Then, the ladies facilities could be improved, and a larger refreshment area be provided. Without doubt, people would look forward to coming to Belgrave Hall in any weather, and we would not have the sad sight of a dozen women waiting outside in the cold for their husbands or boy friends. Perhaps following on from this we could have a ladies section and family membership

We need to sell ourselves to the schools in our area, that means the whole of south west London and north Surrey. The recent enquiry in 'Athletics Weekly' into why school athletic champions left the sport was enlightening but also proved that ability needs something extra to motivate it. The wastage is frightening and disappointing. We must provide a link between school and club, the problem here being that with 50% of teachers changing schools every year, the liaison must be kept going at all times. It is not a one year job, it is every year.

The talent (athletic of course) is available in our catchment area because Surrey is the champion county or region in the country. But the competition between clubs for these athletes is fierce, and in the end, this strength is fragmented between many clubs. Just think how many clubs are within ten miles of Belgrave Hall. This makes the Surrey clubs too small to compete with the Birchfields and Cardiffs, not only in physical size but also in financial stature. If and when we can provide the facilities and management, the youngsters will come.

I mentioned the number of clubs within ten miles of us. The number of these may be 12 with two walking clubs. That is far too many for the area. It means some will not survive or will have to merge with other clubs. Let them be driven to us by our improved facilities.

These ideas or thoughts of a madman need several things, the main item being money. The financial side is the problem, because in my crystal ball I can not see further expenditure by government departments on the assistance of sport. Also, sponsorships will be declining with the present lack of cash in industry. So if support is not coming from official sources, we must motivate ourselves to raise the money. That needs your support in all Club activities and the selling of draw tickets and football tickets. Also, it wants your shoulder to the wheel, your backing. We must become Club spirited, not a group of individuals. The Club has good facilities but they must be made better to become the best in the South.

The main question at all times, how fast can we run to put Belgrave back amongst the top clubs? Only time will tell.

RAY HALL PRESIDENT.

MIDDLETON SETS WORLD BESTS

JOHN KEOWN writes

Down the last 70 years many Belgrave walkers have by their deeds on the track and road carved a permanent place for themselves and the club in the history of race walking. One of these walkers is Ray Middleton who over the last 15 years has by his great performances both at home and abroad kept the name of Belgrave to the fore.

On Sunday September 29th in an international 8 hour track walking race at the all-weather track at New River Sports Centre, White Hart Lane, London. Ray crowned all his previous performances by establishing new World Best distances and times for 6, 7 and 8 hours, 40 and 50 miles. The previous records had been set by H.W. Whitlock (Met. WC) on October 5th 1935. Harold, now 70 years old, was present on this occasion as walking judge.

Ray, one of the great masters of the art of race walking, gave a majestic display of fast controlled walking. Few competitors can match the confidence which Ray has in his own ability or the faith which other walkers and officials have that he is always in control of a race. During the first three hours or so when John Lees (Brighton & Hove) opened up a gap of about 600 metres on the field, the faint hearted amongst us were comforted by the fact that many spectators who included a number of very knowledgeable walkers and officials said, "Don't worry, leave it to Ray, he knows what he is doing". How right they were! As Lees began to slow up a little after passing the 20 miles mark Middleton, who was now going through each lap in about 2m15s, relentlessly closed the gap between them until at 25½ miles he went into the lead and pressed onwards to victory, setting on the way five new walking records. His walking throughout the 8 hours was faultless. Although his lap times did vary during different stages of the race from 2m05s to 2m25s, his average time was just inside 2m15s.

Carl Lawton, our other competitor, began steadily, passing 10 miles in 5th place, 20 miles in 4th place and 25 miles in 3rd place. At this stage we had high hopes that both Belgravians would lead the field home, as Carl was moving confidently along some 2m40s down on Ray. But his luck was not to hold for as Middleton began to take command of the race Carl had a reoccurrence of some leg trouble which has plagued his racing career recently with the result that he was forced to slow up and eventually retire shortly after passing the 50km mark.

Just after 9.30am on the Sunday morning, 16 walkers, including the two Belgravians and one each from France, Holland and Ireland, were sent on their way. Although the weather was fine an overcast sky kept the temperature below average for this time of year. Ray began with a couple of fast opening laps of 2m03 and 2m00s before settling down to lapping at around 2m09s. His only complaint about the organisation was the fact that he could not hear the timekeepers. At 10,000 metres he was leading the field by only one second with a time of 53m04s. Shortly afterwards John Lees, Brighton's Trans-America Record Holder, went into the lead and gradually drew away from Ray and the others. There was a marked difference in the styles of the two leaders. John with his very straight legged action, chopped stride and aggressive arms across the chest, gave the appearance of a walker in a great hurry, whilst Ray, with his longer stride and fluid body movements, looked comfortable and more graceful.

Lees was almost a minute ahead at 10 miles which he passed in 1h24m56s. During the next 10 miles the leader gradually lapped the rest of the field. He lapped Ray just after the 20 miles mark which he reached in 2h50m59.2s (Middleton 2h53m02.6s). For another mile or so the gap between the two leading walkers continued to widen. Lees now began to tire and slow up a little whilst Middleton continued to reel off one lap after another in 2m15s. During the next four miles he rapidly made up ground on the Brighton man.

The 25 miles mark was passed by John in 3h37m35.6s and Ray in 3h37m59.6s. Another lap or two and the Belgravian was in the lead and well on his way to smashing Whitlock's 40 year old records. Each lap now took Middleton further and further away from Lees until he lapped him before they reached the 30 miles mark. Time at this point were 4h23m21s against 4h26m20s.

A check at 35 miles showed that Middleton only required to cover the next 5 miles inside 56½ minutes in order to break the 40 miles record. This he did by the wide margin of over 10 minutes. From this point on, to the end of the 8 hours, one record after another fell to Belgrave's walking postman

When the race, which was sponsored by Nicholas Laboratories the makers of 'Accolade', was 6 hours old the sky darkened and it looked as if a thunder storm would make the last 2 hours very difficult for both competitors and officials. After an anxious 20 minutes the heavy clouds dispersed temporarily and the weather remained fine until the last 5 minutes of the race when it rained.

Good performances came from a number of other competitors. Lees held 2nd place until 42 miles had been reached when Ken Harding (Royal Sutton Coldfield WC) who had walked a beautifully judged race took over. These two walkers retained their respective places until the end. During the last half hour a great battle developed between Charlie Fogg (Enfield) and the young Frenchman Alain Moulinet for 4th place. In the end the veteran Enfield International won the duel by finishing 223 yards ahead of his rival. Four competitors were inside the old record at 6 hours and 40 miles whilst three were inside those at 7 and 8 hours, and 50 miles.

	<u>OLD RECORDS</u>	<u>NEW RECORDS</u>
40 miles	6hrs. 07mins. 07 secs.	5hrs. 56mins. 29secs.
50 miles	7hrs. 44mins. 47.2 secs.	7hrs. 31mins. 06 secs.
6 hours	39 miles 473 yards	40 miles 581 yards
7 hours	45 miles 803 yards	46 miles 1264 yards
8 hours	51 miles 1042 yards	53 miles 352 yards.

1. R.Middleton (BELGRAVE) 53miles 352yds; 2. K.Harding (R.Sutton Coldfield) 52mils. 649yds; 3. J.Lees (Brighton) 51mils. 1353yds; 4. C.Fogg (Enfield) 51mils. 1040yds; 5. A.Moulinet (France) 51mils. 817yds; 6. P.Selby (Surrey WC) 50mils. 1482yds.

A word from your Treasurer—

We must thank Charlie Manning for his efforts in raising £1,162.27 during his term as President and also those who helped in the various activities.

The few members who remembered the date of the A.G.M. and attended will already know that the profit at the end of the financial year was £43. It will be seen therefore that we either continue fund raising on a large scale or cut our spending.

One way of bringing in funds is to sell at least twice as many AAA draw tickets as we do now. With our large membership a sum of £200 could be collected but members just cannot be bothered. At the time of writing Ron Langheim is very confident that last year's figure will be passed but I hope that next year you will make an even greater effort.

The Merton Show was a success in as much that we had plenty of help and made £144.97 profit. This would have been exceeded if more bottles had been donated by members. Let's have more support next year if the committee decide to run a stall at the show.

Remember, the money you spend will have to be raised or taken out of your own pocket. The decision is yours.

JOHN BAKER

WALKING

Not to give a mention of Ray Middleton's success in August and September would be a travesty, despite coverage elsewhere. His Hastings, Brighton and 8 Hour performances were all produced after he had virtually packed up as a result of his poor showing in the National 50km. Ray's motto could well be, "perseverance pays".

John Moullin is still not back in training, at the time of writing, after hospital treatment for a back injury. As a result we are now relying on up and coming hopefuls including Richard Tanner. Apart from our 100% strength team, individually some excellent performances have been produced by Richard and John Hall. Richard has won one of the police cadet championships and was in our Luton 2nd team, together with Alan Lucas, competing as a team member for the first time.

The result of the National Young Athletes championships were quite promising in the Youth section, although with a little bit more effort we would have been placed. With time Desmond Bennett and Cliff Woodward will prove worthy of their standing and we could have an exceedingly strong junior squad.

One of the downfalls, if it could be called that, occurred in the London - Brighton where, due to Dave King not having an attendant, we were forced into 2nd place with the same points as winners Brighton. We surely must have someone within our ranks willing to ride a bicycle to Brighton for a day out!

CARL LAWTON

Walking Secretary

2 Km: (Youths)

J.Dunsford, Jr. 9:20.8
S.Bennett 10:16
D.Bennett 12:27
C.Woodward 12:37

THE WALKING LISTS

1974



3 Km:

C.Lawton 12:53.8
J.Hall 13:38.8
M.Scammell 13:47.8
A.Lucas 13:54.6
J.Dunsford, Jr. 14:32
R.Tanner 14:38
D.McMullen 14:46
J.Dunsford, Snr. 15:05
D.Potheringham. 15:41
S.Bennett 15:51
J.Scammell 17:36
C.Gittens 17:42
A.East 18:56
M.Yates 19:18

5 Km:

C.Lawton 21:54.4
A.Callow 22:28 R
J.Moullin 23:41
J.Hall 23:43.6
J.Dunsford, Jr. 23:45 R
R.Middleton ... 23:53
M.Scammell 24:32
J.Scammell 24:54
J.Bromley 24:56
J.Dunsford, Snr. 25:08
A.Lucas 25:21
L.Evans 25:48
M.Bennett 26:00
S.Bennett 26:30 R
E.Stroud 27:05
N.Greaves 27:22
R.Picton 27:52
R.Carter 27:54

10 Km:

C.Lawton 45:16.8
A.Callow 48:04
R.Middleton ... 48:17 R
M.Scammell 49:13
J.Hall 49:17
J.Moullin 49:51
A.Lucas 51:12
J.Bromley 51:58
D.McMullen 52:14
M.Bennett 52:18 R
J.Dunsford, Jr. 53:08
J.Dunsford, Snr. 53:18
R.Hall 54:06
D.Fotheringham. 54:26
D.King 54:22
J.Morris 59:40

R.denotes that the performance was set on the road.

a belgrave one-two

SEPTEMBER 7th 1974 - THE 49th LONDON TO BRIGHTON OPEN WALK - 53 MILES.

Shakespeare must have had premonition of this year's Brighton when he opened 'Macbeth':-

"When shall we three meet again,
In thunder, lightning or in rain."

I met our President Elect, Ray Hall, who was looking after Carl Lawton, with his car windscreen wipers working double speed to clear the rain and a howling south-west gale, blowing the walkers to the gutters.

After leaving Gatwick the rain ceased but the wind increased in ferocity to the extent that on the many open stretches, the competitors staggered as though drunk in battling against its force.

My admiration for Ray Middleton and Carl Lawton is boundless. They went to the front shortly after Gatwick (28 miles), Carl having a slight advantage. Ray, whose consistency over a great number of years makes him legendary with Tommy Green and other names of the past, then took over in his powerful, rugged style. His strength enabled him to pull away to win in an excellent time, while Carl, showing the tenacity of a true top-class man finished an easy second.

The awe inspiring seas at Brighton, up-rooted trees on our way home and the state of my garden were convincing evidence of the worst conditions I have ever known. It was also the first occasion that I can remember us having the first two. In the team race we were equal on points but lost on the position of our last man.

H.S.

1. R.Middleton..... 8:17:50 J.Lees (Brighton) 8:41:43
2. C.Lawton 8:33:43

Team: 1. Brighton & Hove 26pts; 2. BELGRAVE H 26pts; 3. Surrey WC 30pts.

SEPTEMBER 13th 1974 - CRYSTAL PALACE - I.A.C./COCA-COLA INTERNATIONAL.

1mile: 1. R.Mills (Ilford) 6:09 World Best; 2. G.Lelieure (France)6:11;
3. B.Adams (Leics) 6:21; 9. C.Lawton (BELGRAVE) 6:47.8.

SEPTEMBER 14th 1974 - VICTORIA PARK - B.R.W.C. 10 Km.

1. B.Adams (Leics) 44:58; 2. P.Marlow (S'end) 45:39; 3. S.Gower (Ilf)
47:16; 5. R.Middleton (BELS) 48:17; 7. J.Hall

SEPTEMBER 22nd 1974 - SOUTHEND 5 MILES.

1. C.Lawton (BELS) 36:30; 2. K.Carter (S'end) 36:35; 3. A.Seddon (Enf)
37:26; 11. R.Tanner 41:08; 13. M.Scammell 42:08; 21. D.Fotheringham 44:09
36. J.Scammell 48:05 1st Vet.

Team: 1. Southend 16pts; 2. Ilford 31pts; 3. BELGRAVE H 48pts.

Boys 1500m: 1. D.Bennett 9:03; 2. C.Woodward 9:3.1

Nowadays we take Russian long distance walkers for granted and indeed their performances command the admiration and respect of the walking world. Russian walkers are, however, no new phenomenon. Going back to the 1934 London - Brighton Walk, one of the members of the winning Belgrave team was Paul Khlopin, a Russian. Formerly a cross country runner he took to walking. He was powerful, walked with determination and was a popular club member.

OPENING '5'OCTOBER 5th 1974 - WIMBLEDON.

1. A.Seddon (Met.Police)	36:37	12. J.Bromley	41:57
2. C.Lawton	36:45	15. D.Fotheringham	43:55
3. R.Middleton	38:53	16. E.Stroud	44:22
4. J.Hall	39:10	19. M.Yates	45:58
7. R.McMullen	41:28	21. J.Keown	46:10
8. J.Dunsford	41:31	26. J.Morris	48:00
10. A.Lucas	41:47	30. G.Beecham	52:47

Teams; 1. BELGRAVE 157pts; 2. Met. Police 194pts. H'cap: J.Keown.

BOYS & YOUTHS 2 MILE RACE.

1. J.Dunsford	15:43	4. N.Greaves	18:13
2. S.Bennett	17:27	5. D.Bennett	20:55
3. J.Warwicker	17:27	6. C.Woodward	21:55

CHIPPENHAM TO CALNEOCTOBER 12th 1974 - CHIPPENHAM, WILTSHIRE.

The visit to this lovely part of Wiltshire was rewarded by a splendid autumnal day. The trees and white horse on the hills were a joy with their colouring of gold, red, bronze which makes England a paradise for tourists.

We had a team of five in this ever popular walk, with Jack and Joan Goswell responsible for compiling the results. In the rush for the first mile Carl Lawton kept slightly behind the leading bunch, then on reaching the open road challenged for the lead to draw steadily away to win by 24 seconds. In a number of ways Carl reminds one of Stan Vickers, tall, long striding, superb arm action, yet there is a difference. Perhaps Stan walked with more of a killer determination and Carl with a steadier determination. Sufficient that their elegance of styles are rewards in themselves. We finished a creditable 2nd in the team race and it was good to note John Hall in a forward position, promising well for the future. Our President took an active part. H.S.

1. C.Lawton 43:29; 2. S.Lightman (Met) 43:55; 3. J.Lord (Highgate) 43:56; 10. J.Hall 47:15; 25. J.Dunsford 49:48; 28. J.Bromley 50:03; 45. R.Hall 51:54. 1st Vet - J.Bromley.

Teams: 1. Sarnia WC 28pts; 2. BELGRAVE H 48pts; 3. Nomads 66pts.

LAWTON WINS VAUXHALL'S OPEN '7' — BY 1sec!OCTOBER 27th 1974 - LUTON.

1. C.Lawton 52:16; 2. S.Lightman (Met) 52:17; 3. A.Seddon (Enf) 52:51; 8. R.Middleton 54:50; 27. R.Tanner 57:59; 29. A.Lucas 58:13; 42. J.Bromley 59:10; 48. J.Dunsford 59:52. D.Fotheringham,

Teams: 1. Enfield 38pts; 2. BELGRAVE H 59pts; 3. Ilford 62pts.

MORE 'PB's FROM LAWTON AND HALLOCTOBER 30th 1974 - CRYSTAL PALACE - S.C.A.A.A. OPEN 5Km.

1. S.Lightman (Met) 21:53; 2. C.Lawton 21:54.4; 6. J.Hall 23:46.6; 8. M.Scammell 24:32; 10. A.Lucas 25:21; 27. N.Greaves 27:22; 29. R.Carter 27:54

Desmond Bennett placed 36th in the National Boys walking championship.

NOVEMBER 2nd 1974 - IMBER COURT - INTER CLUB '7'

1. C.Lawton 51:45; 2. R.Dobson (S'end) 52:41; 3. P.Selby 53:29; 5. R.Middleton 54:17; 8. J.Hall 55:30; 11. R.Tanner 56:34.
 Teams: 1. Civil Service 29pts; 2. Met Police 65pts; 3. Stock Exchange 67pts
 4. BELGRAVE H 72pts.

ENFIELD OPEN '7' —ANOTHER NARROW WIN FOR CARLNOVEMBER 9th 1974 - ENFIELD.

1. C.Lawton 50:56; 2. R.Dobson (S'thend) 50:57; 3. S.Maidment (Yeovil) 51:34; 15. J.Hall 55:07; 28. J.Bromley 57:07; 33. R.Tanner 57:41; 40. J.Dunsford 58:51; 67. M.Yates 61:07; 75. D.Fotheringham 61:40; 701. J.Keown 66:07; 111. J.Scammell 68:40.

Teams: 1. Southend 38pts; ... 4. BELGRAVE H 66pts.

ray's a laugh

☆ **The Ray Middleton Radio Interview** ☆

I had arranged to meet Ray outside the Aldwych tube station at 5.45pm. Leaving the car at Havant, I decided to travel up to London during the day by train as I was eager to do some training at Battersea Park. All trains seemed to be running at any time other than the times that they should. Anyway I did an hours training and was surprised to find the dressing room at Battersea full of cab drivers. Further travel to Tooting was also chaotic with more rail delays and buses running in groups of fours. By now I had a sense that something was going to go wrong before the day ended.

I booked to the Aldwych only to find that the station was closed due to staff shortage. A dash down from Holborn, Kingsway and I was outside the Aldwych by 5.40pm. It was beginning to rain and I had no coat!

Six o'clock arrived but no Ray, and knowing he's a reliable bloke I guessed that something had gone wrong. A 500 yard sprint along Fleet Street took me to the studio of London Broadcasting, with the time now 6.10pm and the programme due on the air between 6.30pm and 7.00pm. After leaving a description of Ray I told the producer that I would make a relay dash to and from the Aldwych to see if I could find him.

Without my knowing, Ray had gone to Radio London in Oxford Street! He was welcomed in at 6.00pm and after about 20 minutes they decided that he was not at the right place. "We have a five minute programme, but only to give the horse racing results ", said an official. Ray eventually realised that it was London Broadcasting that he wanted, and with the clock approaching 6.30 he ran up and down the middle of Oxford Street with his hands in the air, trying to get a taxi. Alas, they were all at Battersea. Eventually he managed to get one.

In the meantime I was making my third return trip from the Aldwych, and by now was very desperate. I had just arrived back at the studio at 6.50pm and was met at the door by a secretary who said, "Quickly. Follow me. You are wanted." I sighed with relief to see that Ray had made it right on the line!

Afterwards he looked at me and said, "What do you want to do now George?" "I don't know about you, Ray, but I could do with a couple of pints" I replied. And so we adjourned to the nearest pub where we laughed it off.

Parting a little later I thought that's the day over. But no, my 8.50 train from Waterloo was cancelled - shortage of staff!

GEORGE PIDDINGTON

PHANTOM FOOTSTEPS



by Thumper

"It's been snowing", cried the girlfriend with a yelp of glee. "That won't stop me" I replied, and with a clunk of the front door I was out, thumping down the streets. Soon I was onto Prince of Wales Drive and with long, lanky strides the yards were eaten up.

This was back in 1962. I had taken up running for the first time to get fit for the runs organised by cycling clubs. The snow was only an inch deep but it was bitterly cold and I had plenty of gear on. The cold weather had driven everyone indoors and although it was only nine in the evening there was not a soul to be seen.

I felt fit. As I ran through to Nine Elms Lane, the moon had wisps of striated snow cloud across it making it look weird. There was a deep, dark stillness everywhere, with just a touch of mist coming up from the Thames. There I was alone on the London roads and with a good firm step I reached the Albert Embankment, on to Lambeth Palace and over Westminster Bridge.

Left and along to Millbank. The beads of sweat felt cold on my face. There was not a car to be seen, just grotesque shadows cast by the embankment lights. Gosh! It felt creepy, anyway I was on my way home now but what was that! Clip clop ... a horse and cab trotted by. Funny, I kept on going but weariness was beginning to tell. What was that chap doing on the corner with that flame on a stick? All these lights are electric.

I moved along the Grosvenor Road, still alongside the embankment. There was a murmur of voices and I looked back to see a large pack of runners catching me fast. There must have been about 30 of them. Before I knew it they were up with me. "Hallo young fellow, out for your evening trot" called one. "Keep going" cried another, and we all sped on to the Chelsea Embankment.

Now I had seen runners before but not all running in step with arms going back and forth like pistons on a great locomotive. All were dressed in long white shorts and floppy vests, and leaning slightly forward with eyes fixed well ahead, their feet hardly seemed to touch the ground. "What club?" someone said. "Bellevue Cycling Club" I replied. "Damn contraptions, keep to horses" came the reply. The chatter was on and off. "Dorando did well in the London Olympics, real stout fellow, what!" "Corned beef and penny a pint beer, that's the stuff to train on"

We flew over Albert Bridge at a speed that was almost sprinting. Gosh these blokes were fit. It was like running with a pack of guards officers. On up to the gates of Battersea Park and then I peeled off. "Cheers", I cried. "Cheerio fellow" came a reply. I pattered home in a daze flopped in through the door and sank into a chair.

"Done too much again" said Judy. She had a box of chocs. opened and the cushions arranged on the floor. I took off my shoes and started thinking. "The last Olympics were not in London", I said. "No, Rome", said Judy, her mouth full of chocolate. A horse and cab... a lamp lighter... corned beef... penny a pint beer... runners all in white, running like guardsman.

I put on my shoes and hobbled back to Battersea Park gates. There in the cold, clear, crisp snow was a sight that made my blood run cold, my legs go to jelly and my knees knock together like two stones in a tin can ... just one set of runners footprints - MINE!

— This cross country points competition is getting serious. With Messrs. Pearson, C.Manning and Mead being warned that any more arguments over the points allocated to them and they will have points deducted, more darstardly tactics were used. One Thursday night as the pack swept along a dark alley, the leading runners suddenly split, leaving Charlie Manning to run smack into a post at full tilt. A medical check up revealed severe bruising but no cracked ribs. Yes, it's going to be murder at the tail end of the club! 10'.

from the 'belgravian'

25 years ago

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, OCTOBER 8th 1949 Once again our popular President, Bill Webb, was elected to the premier office of the Club and this was received with unanimous acclamation.

CLUB 5 MILES C.C.HANDICAP, OCTOBER 29th 1949 The individual winner was Bill Lucas, and he finished full of running, and was followed home by Chas. Walker and Jack Brown. Mick Porter and Lew Bush also ran well as did J.H.Braggington, who is a first season runner over the country. The winner of the handicap was R.T. (Bob) Taylor, who is 20 years of age, and looks like developing into a real find for the Club. As he was once a member of the Poly., it looks as if Poly's loss will be our gain.

and 40 years ago

NOVEMBER 17th 1934 Cecil Penny on "brotherly love" and, in passing, our match v. 2nd Scots Guards at Wimbledon. Did I hear such remarks as "A snaky piece of work" emerging from the babel of voices after the match versus our ever-welcome visitors? How brotherly! Now, now, fellows! You must hand it to the veterans this time! To be placed first in a race of any description figuring on our fixture list, is a praiseworthy performance, and I believe I am correct in stating that this was Frank's first win in a cross-country race for the Club, so, sarcastic youngsters, hold your peace!

The race itself was not unduly exciting. Several of our visitors were prominent at the start, but principally due to lack of training, they soon fell back and the race resolved itself into a friendly battle between the brothers Patience (who led for a considerable way) and the Webb brothers, with the result as shown.

=1. W.G.Webb, F.R.Webb, D.Patience 31:20; 4. R.Patience 31:29; 6. A.Patience 31:59.

The following Belgravians appeared in the N.U.T.S. top 50 U.K. performers (seniors) for 1974

100m: 17th Steve White 10.6w/a. 200m: 5th Steve White 21.2w/a. 3000m:
26th John Bicourt 8:07.2. 5000m: 27th John Bicourt 13:57.6. 3000mSC: 2nd
John Bicourt 8:29.6, 48th Alan Black 9:16.8. 3000m Walk: 14th Carl Lawton
12:53.8. 10,000m Walk: 7th Carl Lawton 45:16.4. 20km Walk (road) 8th Carl
Lawton 93:01. . 50 km Walk (road) 7th Carl Lawton 4:31:44, 9th Ray
Middleton 4:32:15. Long Jump: 19th Steve White 7.19, 25th Martin Scott
7.17. Discus: 40th Glynn Ratcliffe 45.12m. Decathlon: 8th Cliff Brooks
6707pts, 26th Reg. Hopkins, Jr 5537pts.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR SUBS?

YOUNG ATHLETES

In the last issue of the 'Belgravian' we published a list of all youngsters who had qualified for an award under the AAA 5 Star Scheme. It is still not too late to apply for your certificate and don't forget, a badge is available as well for 25 pence. Apply to Leo Coy, 40 Jedburgh Street, London SW 11. for your certificate and if you want the badge as well, enclose a postal order for 25 pence.

You will be pleased to know that Belgrave will be entering the Young Athletes League next summer. All meetings will be held on Sunday afternoons and will cover every event - relays, hurdles, hammer and pole vault as well as the normal events. If you want to make the team now is the time to get training. Bill Couzens will be pleased to see you at the Friday night circuit and weight sessions at Belgrave Hall, 6pm.

The Boys and Youths competition will be held in a different format next year. There will still be eight events as before from which the competitors best five performances will count. However the events will be made up as follows:-

100m, 400m, 1,500m, 80m hurdles, Shot, Javelin, Long Jump, High Jump.

The events will take place early in the season on one weekend (Saturday afternoon and Sunday afternoon), further details to be advised. Once again the Boys events will be on a handicap basis.

In an open Youths pentathlon at Battlebridge track, Redhill on 31st August, Mark Shippen scored 1160 points to finish 6th. His best performance came in the long jump where he cleared 5.01 metres, a personal best. Other results were:- javelin 21.88; discus 20.10; 100m 13.9; 1500m 5:58.8.

SHANKS AND DANPURE FIRST HOME FOR BELGRAVE

OCTOBER 6th 1974 - PUTNEY VALE - KLG OPEN BOYS C.C. RACES.

With 20 boys turning out in rainy, cold conditions, this was one of our best ever forays to the KLG races over the other side of the Common. In the younger section, Simon Shanks steamed round the course to be first man home for Belgrave, five seconds ahead of Martin Cain who had the bad luck to miss the start and set off some 100 metres in arrears. Most outstanding however, was the mighty Philip Headley who at 10 years old in a race for under-14's finished an incredible 19th of the 70 starters. Another to excel was John Searle. As a team, we were 4th, just out of the prizes.

Richard Danpure spearheaded our 14 - 16 team which really consisted of shorter distance track men. Unfortunately David Bailey became ill immediately after the race but we are glad to report that he soon fully recovered.

12 - 14.

1. R.Carter (Hillingdon) 14:50; 14. S.Shanks 16:23; 15. M.Cain 16:25; 19. P.Headley 16:34; 23. J.Searle 16:49; 28. M.Shippen 17:03; 31. M.Munroe 17:32; 37. P.Murphy 17:57; 42. G.Gardner 18:15; 44. D.Hayter 18:17; 47. P.Miller 18:20; 49. C.Brown 18:27; 50. M.Smith 18:40; 53. D.Hicks 18:55; 58. W.Hicks 19:58; 63. D.Lawrence 20:53; 65. W.Venables 24:40.

14 - 16.

1. M.Martin (Bracknell) 12:56; 25. R.Danpure 15:32; 39. D.Bailey 16:33; 44. I.Beaumont 17:19; 47. S.Fletcher 18:11.

Meet

Martin Munroe, Simon Shanks and Andrew Byrne

Three youngsters who have shown early promise in their athletics are Martin Munro (13), Simon Shanks (12) and Andrew Byrne (11). They live in New Malden and originally met at Corpus Christi School although Simon and Martin now attend Beverley School.

Simon was the first to join Belgrave Harriers early in 1973, and it wasn't long before the other two followed his lead. At Beverley there is plenty of opportunity for Simon and Martin to exercise their talent with cross-country races and athletic matches nearly every week. They both play rugby, Martin for the school, and when one tots up their sporting efforts each week it looks quite impressive, with Tuesday their only non-active day: Sunday/cross-country with the Club, Monday/circuit training at school, Wednesday/1½ mile run, Thursday/3-4 mile run, Friday/the famous Friday night weight and circuit sessions with Bill Couzens at the Hall, Saturday/ race!

Andrew has become an exciting prospect during the 1974 season, improving on all his previous performances with ease. He captains his school soccer team, playing at centre-back, and is also a member of the district side. That's not all, for he has represented his school at cricket and, particularly of interest to us, placed 2nd in the Kingston District Sports in the long jump.

All three lads really enjoy their athletics with Belgrave but would very much like more inter-club competition on the track, preferably of the league variety that some of the other local clubs enjoy. Also, the chance to tackle events such as the hurdles, which have not been available up to now.

SURREY C. C. LEAGUE

OCTOBER 26th 1974 - WIMBLEDON.

1. M.Tomkins (HHH) 14:38; 15. A.Cook 16:00; 41. P.Gardner 17:39; 57. P.Thorp 22:36; 59. D.Richards.

Teams: 1. Herne Hill H 23pts; 2. Hercules Wimb. 51pts; 3. Aldershot, Farn. & Dist. 75pts; 5. BELGRAVE H 121pts.

A GOOD SEASON FROM PETER CROSBIE

Some great javelin throwing has come from Peter Crosbie this past summer. In a dozen major competitions he was beaten only three times including the English Schools Championships and the A.A.A. Youth Championships where he had a couple of off-days. Near the beginning of the season he set a new Club mark at the Camberley Young Athletes meeting, beating a 17 year old best by a little over a metre. He improved yet again in the Inter-County meeting and his 54.62 metres puts him in the top six youth throwers in the country.

Peter's performances for 1974 are listed below.

Blackheath H. Open Meet.1st	49.80	Inter-Counties Schools. 1st	51.68
Surrey Champs.1st	47:02	English Schools Champs.14th	44.50
Camberley Young Athletes Meet..1st	53.86	A.A.A. Champs..... 8th	48.76
London Schools Champs.1st	47.02	Inter-County Meet..... 1st	54.62
Southern Counties A.A.A.Champs.2nd	50.02	Thurrock Young Athletes 1st	51.13
Brighton Young Athletes Meet...1st	50.68	Crawley Young Athletes. 1st	47.94

THE MERTON SHOW

The participation of your club in the Merton Show had been envisaged for some time. We had an exploratory presence at the 1973 show and an evaluation of the most lucrative fund raising scheme at our Bazaar.

Planning was simple. Booking under cover stand space, we took two units, one for fund raising and the other (to placate those who thought we were a good social club with an athletic interest) was for the promotion of Belgrave Harriers. Prizes were put up, Hoopla was made, display panels set out, scaffolding was organized, transport arranged and an appeal was made for bottles for the bottle stall. We had such an overwhelming response for this appeal that we only had to purchase £53 worth to make a show commensurate with a club of our calibre! Our involvement gathered momentum and a full days work on Sunday left us all prepared for a 9 o'clock start on holiday Monday.

Now another element crept in - the weather. It bucketed down from early morning. With high winds and a little vandalism, marquees and tents flapped with torn panels. However, our spirits rose with the numbers of people coming in. The rain gave way to fine weather and things began to look up. After lunch it was all systems go and Belgrave took on the mantle of buskers extraordinary with waves of people flocking to our stall, until we wearily called it a day at 7 o'clock in the evening.

It was possible only because of John Baker and Carl and Barbara Lawton, rolling up 4,000 raffle tickets and putting them into straws, Gordon Biscoe, Ron Linstead, Jean Manning with daughter Ann, her sweet voice in contrast to brother Chris whose dulcet tones did nothing for fellow helpers, Linda, wanting to do everybody's job and absent for lunch (about 4 minutes - she couldn't stay away from all that money), Johnny Morris and son and the man of the year Ray Hall. Let us not forget Tom Carter (transport), Evelyn Stimpson (facia), Arthur Penny (scaffolding) and the ever present Bob Taylor.

It was a great effort that payed off - and it paid off to the tune of £241.30 gross to give us a net profit of £143.97. That's teamwork. Imagine what we could do as a club.

C.E.M.

Dinner and Dance

Even by our normal high standards the 87th Club Dinner and Dance, held for the first time at the Worcester Hotel, Worcester Park on November 23rd, welcoming Ray Hall to the Presidential office, was a tremendous success rated by many as the best they can ever remember. The six course meal was superb, the service faultless and the rooms magnificent. Well done Ted and Evelyn Stimpson - organisers supreme.

Official guests were His Worshipful the Mayor of the London Borough of Merton, Councillor B.N.Clifford, and Chief Superintendent E.M.Pitts of 'V' division whose long suffering constables put up with the traffic chaos when we hold our Belgrave '20' and road relays. In fact our local copper, Joe Hilsom, was a special guest. Many's the time he has stood on Copse Hill for up to 4 hours, holding up the traffic for our races. A more jovial chap you could not wish to meet.

John Bicourt was awarded the Tommy Green Cup once more, for the best performance by a Belgravian during the Club year ending 31st August, this time for his 4th place in the 3,000 metres steeplechase at the Commonwealth Games. A special award was made to that stalwart Ray Middleton for his World Record breaking performance in the Accolade 8 Hour Walk. The spontaneous and warm applause that greeted Ray came straight from the hearts of all in attendance; it was a moving moment.

Stephen and Peter Crosbie, two of our most promising younger athletes,

.... continued at the foot of following page

ROAD AND COUNTRY

JUNE 8th 1974 - BROOKMANS PARK, HERTS. - BROOKMANS PARK '10'.

1. P.Romaine (Holbeach) 49:44; 3. W.Weller 49:57; 6. L.Mann 50:35; 14. P.O'Connor 53:10; 51. D.Maughan 58:27; 56. P.Pringle 58:58; 106. W.Fairfield 65:11.

Teams: 1. TVH 20pts; 2. BELGRAVE H 23pts; 3. Holbeach AC 30pts.

JUNE 15th 1974 - WINDSOR - CHISWICK - POLYTECHNIC H MARATHON.

1. A.Usami (Japan) 2:15:16; 2. B.Plain (Cardiff) 2:18:32; 3. E.Lesse (EG) 2:18:44; 25. L.Mann 2:31:05.

AUGUST 3rd 1974 - BRACKNELL '5'.

1. J.Wigley (Invicta) 23:33; 14. G.North 25:03; 23. P.O'Connor 25:34

SOUTHERN 10 MILE CHAMPIONSHIP.

1. T.Johnston (Portsmouth) 48:54; 15. L.Mann 53:24; 51. G.Haszard 58:08.

AUGUST 10th 1974 - SHAFTESBURY H 10 MILES ROAD RACE.

1. B.Plain (Cardiff) 48:53; 25. L.Mann 53:24; 100. G.Haszard 58:08; 171. G.Piddington 64:19; 172. D.Bonser 64:31; 183. W.Fairfield 65:22.

Teams: 1. Ealing & Southall; 21. BELGRAVE H 286pts.

AUGUST 31st 1974 - WYCOMBE - THE 'FURNITURE FIVE'.

1. G.Tuck (Camb & Col) 24:00; 19. L.Mann 25:57; 30. C.Pearson 26:35; 93. G.Biscoe 31:51; 111. J.McDonald 36:43.

Teams: 1. Aldershot, Farn. & Dist.; 8. BELGRAVE H.

WALTON ROAD RELAY

SEPTEMBER 28th 1974 - WALTON.

A Team: P.O'Connor (5) 15:41; C.Pearson (4) 16:06; J.Phelan (3) 16:16; D.Jardine (5) 16:38; M.Manning (6) 17:33; L.O'Hara (4) 15:54.

B Team: P.Williamson (18) 17:41; C.Henn (16) 18:29; J.Flynn (17) 18:54; E.Thorp (17) 19:05; M.Best (16) 19:31; W.Laws (15) 18:20.

C Team: P.Wrench (21) 19:50; D.Jones (20) 20:18; J.Thresher (19) 18:10; A.Stroud (19) 19:47; C.Manning (19) 20:36; J.Davies (20) 17:35.

D Team: J.V.Baker (22) 22:12; A.Mead (21) 20:19; D.McLean (21) 23:32.

Teams: 1. Aldershot, Farnham & Dist 92:05; 2. Hercules Wimb. 95:29; 3. Aldershot Farn & Dist 'B' 96:31; 4. BELGRAVE H 98:08.

Three Belgrayians were in the record field of 93 in this year's London - Brighton Running Race, Sunday 29th September. The weather was very good and Bill Weller, who normally likes a long steady run on a Sunday, decided that a bit of company might help him go a bit further. He finished 24th in 6:20:21 not far outside first class standard. Glenn Haszard, our member from New Zealand, finished 69th to gain a R.R.C. certificate to say that he did the journey in 7:44:35. Our other starter, Paul Pringle, had to retire before the finish, a great pity as we know how hard and conscientiously he trains. Congratulations to Bill and Glenn, to run to Brighton is a feather in anybody's cap.

DINNER AND DANCE continued.....

attended thanks to the munificence of Mrs. Hampshire who once again provided two tickets in memory of Jack Hampshire, one time Junior Secretary. And amongst others present, Roger Mills, whose heroic efforts in reaching the finishing line at the Rome European Games after a punishing 20 kilometres were witnessed by millions on TV, and were rewarded eventually with the silver medal.

A marvellous evening. May there be many more at the same venue

bicourt takes '5³/₄'

SEPTEMBER 21st 1974 - WIMBLEDON.

With a 16 months long track season just behind him, which culminated in the European Games at Rome and the Coca-Cola meeting at Crystal Palace (8:31.2) the previous week, John Bicourt let down his hair at Wimbledon on 21st September and drove his sun tanned body through some good old English rain to score a clear win in the Autumnal 5³/₄ miles road race.

It was unusual to find poor weather for this race, especially rain. Unusual too to see the likes of Gerry North, John Stow and Trevor Hart spectating rather than racing.

Our new President sent 34 starters on their way, and a mile later a rather leisurely-paced group of eight led the field. Black, O'Connor, Pearson, Bicourt, O'Hara, Weller, Jardine and Coy. Quite surprising to see the latter two still there, but after the second lap of the Common they were 150 metres down; the front six still together.

Down Cope, Bicourt and Black forced the pace shoulder to shoulder and at the bottom John went clear, only Laurie O'Hara going after him. Alan Black had had it. Three hundred metres back Doug Jardine also attacked Cambridge, having just re-passed Leo Coy, and looked to be on a personal best if he could master the hills. Bill Laws had led the rest of the field but now had to give way to Pringle, Crookes and young Michael Manning.

At the 'kiss of death' Bicourt was eight seconds clear but O'Hara was still pushing him hard. Two hundred metres back Bill Weller had won a 10 metre gap over Pat O'Connor. Fully aware of Laurie's finish, John made sure that he kept well enough clear to avoid any last ditch battles and cruised home looking very composed, though he said afterwards, "that was my hardest race of the year" - which should be a comfort to Laurie.

The steady start, and the conditions, ruled out spectacular times though Doug Jardine still did a personal best and showed just what he could do with the right application. It was surprising that he didn't gain a handicap award but Paul Pringle and Charlie Henn chose this day also to run exceptionally well and thwarted him. Derek Crookes (what a fighter he is) and Michael Manning also had fine runs - and at the rear of the field "M" force (C.Manning, Maclean, McDonald and Mead) did the dirty on our Treasurer. No doubt he will get his revenge!

		C.S.	
1. J.Bicourt	28:24	18. C.Fairfield	34:55
2. L.O'Hara	28:32	19. R.Glover	35:10
3. W.Weller	29:03	20. G.Piddington	35:19
4. P.O'Connor	29:04	21. J.Flynn	35:37
5. C.Pearson	29:39	22. D.Davies	35:40
6. A.Black	29:46	23. B.Merry	35:43
7. D.Jardine	30:49	24. M.Best	36:11
8. L.Coy	31:40	25. P.Wrench	36:14
9. P.Pringle	32:34	26. A.Stroud	36:22
10. D.Crookes	32:37	27. R.Conway	36:27
11. M.Manning	32:55	28. J.Baker	36:50
12. W.Laws	33:22	29. P.North	37:17
13. D.Young	33:27	30. C.Manning	38:11
14. P.Williamson	33:54	31. D.Maclean	38:24
15. C.Henn	34:00	32. J.McDonald	39:16
16. E.Thorp	34:42	33. A.Mead	39:16
17. D.Bonser	34:47	34. J.V.Baker	40:40

Handicap: 1. C.Henn (7:45) 26:15; 2. M.Best (9:30) 26:41; 3. P.Pringle (5:45) 26:49

J U M B L E W A N T E D

A jumble sale will be held at Belgrave Hall on February 22nd, and we need all the jumble we can get to make it a success. Contact Bill Couzens 01-946 7490.

NORTH WINS YACHT '3'OCTOBER 5th 1974 - WIMBLEDON.

1. P.North	18:01	13:31	21. B.Stimpson (guest)	18:26	14:26
2. D.Davies	17:41	13:41	22. J.Flynn	17:31	14:31
3. C.Dabbs	16:11	13:51	23. G.Collins	18:34	14:34
4. D.Jardine	15:47	13:57	24. P.Wrench	18:51	14:41
5. C.Pearson	15:09	13:59	25. W.Laws	17:15	14:45
6. D.Crookes	16:54	14:04	26. K.Stimpson	19:46	14:46
7. D.Jones	18:37	14:07	27. C.Gillett	17:51	14:51
8. D.Young	16:48	14:08	28. E.Stimpson	21:52	14:52
9. M.Best	17:58	14:08	29. R.Coombs	18:14	14:54
10. A.Stroud	18:08	14:08	30. J.Stow	15:25	14:55
11. M.Manning	16:31	14:11	31. D.McMillan	19:12	15:02
12. J.Hilton	18:42	14:12	32. N.Kirmatzis	18:36	15:06
13. C.Manning	19:13	14:13	33. P.Gardner	19:07	15:07
14. A.Mead	18:45	14:15	34. A.Manning (guest)	18:38	15:08
15. L.Coy	15:57	14:17	35. J.Martin	20:29	15:29
16. S.Holmes	16:38	14:18	36. R.Langheim	23:35	16:05
17. E.Thorp	17:40	14:20	37. R.Hopkins, Jrn....	19:14	16:14
18. C.Henn	17:22	14:22	38. J.McDonald	21:29	16:29
19. A.Fairclough	15:54	14:24	39. D.Maughan	19:17	16:57
20. G.North	15:05	14:25			

Fastest: 1. G.North 15:05; 2. C.Pearson 15:09; 3. J.Stow 15:25.

WIMBLEDON '10'OCTOBER 5th 1974 - WIMBLEDON.

1. K.Penny (Camb H) 47:45; 15. W.Weller 52:13; 49. S.Barrett 57:52; 50. P.Pringle 58:15; 58. J.Dooley 59:34; 68. D.Bonser 62:54; 73. G.Piddington 64:15.

SURREY AC CROSS COUNTRY RELAYOCTOBER 12th 1974 - RICHMOND PARK.

A Team: J.Stow 16:33; C.Pearson 16:39; 3. D.Jardine 16:58; 4. G.North 15:51; S.Holmes 17:51; 6. M.Manning 17:55.

B Team: A.Mead 20:24; W.Laws 18:30; P.Crosbie 26:23; J.Flynn 18:42.

Teams: 4. BELGRAVE H.

WALTON '10'OCTOBER 12th 1974 - WALTON.

1. I.Thompson (Luton)/ T.Simmons (Luton) 47:23; 19. L.Mann 50:53; 21. P.O'Connor 51:04; 88. D.Crookes 58:57; 106. C.Henn 61:27; 111. E.Thorp 62:26; 114. G.Piddington 63:22; 116. M.Best 64:23; 121. P.Wrench 65:43; 130. C.Manning 68:10; 132. J.V.Baker 70:10.

the last thankyou

S.C.HOLMES
R.BOLAM
E.PENNY
F.WEBB (PAST PRESIDENT)

E.BISHOP
R.J.CARTER
J.WALKER

..... kindly donated to the (Past) President's Fund. Thank you all for your protracted support.

CHAS. MANNING

immediate Past President.

AAA 6 STAGE RELAYOCTOBER 19th 1974 - WIMBLEDON.

L.O'Hara 17:33 (12th); G.North 17:59 (12th); C.Pearson 18:26 (16th);
L.Mann 18:15 (14th); P.O'Connor 18:15 (17th); J.Bicourt 18:48 (18th).

Fastest: D.Black (S'heath) 16:51; K.Penny (Camb H) 16:52; K.Steere (Camb & Col) 17:00.

Teams: 1. Liverpool 104:08; 2. Invicta 104:50; 3. Cardiff 105:04; 18.
BELGRAVE H 109:16.

SURREY CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUEOCTOBER 26th 1974 - WIMBLEDON

1. P.Adams (AFD) 27:54; 2. B.Ford (AFD) 27:54; 3. L.Presland (AFD) 27:58;
14. L.O'Hara 29:14; 16. R.Richardson 29:18; 23. L.Mann 29:38; 25. P.O'Connor
29:40; 27. J.Stow 29:53; 35. C.Pearson 30:15; 36. A.Black 30:20; 52.
D.Jardine 31:10; 60. T.Hart 31:31; 61. A.Fairclough 31:31; 71. S.Holmes
32:02; 82. M.Manning 32:33; 87. J.Boardman 32:55; 92. P.Williamson 33:19;
101. W.Laws 34:26; 104. J.Flynn 34:44; 105. R.Coombs 34:45; 106. E.Thorp
34:57; 107. M.Best 35:15; 112. D.Bonsor 35:36; 119. C.Henn 35:57; 121.
G.Flanagan 36:14; 122. G.Piddington 36:14; 125. G.Collins 36:37; 126.
N.Kirmatzis 36:39; 135. P.North 37:32; 139. A.Mead 37:51; 141. C.Manning
38:09; 143. P.Wrench 38:24; 147. J.McDonald 40:20.

Teams: 1. Aldershot, Farnham & Dist. 123pts; 2. Croydon 299pts; 3. Hercules
Wimbledon 327pts; 4. BELGRAVE H 341pts.

NOVEMBER 2nd 1974 - EPSOM DOWNS - CROSS COUNTRY MATCH v NAT. WESTMINSTER.

1. A.Black 33:56; 3. J.Thresher 35:45; 4. J.Davies 36:53; 7. E.Thorp 38:42;
8. C.Henn 38:53; 9. B.Merry 39:38; 10. P.North 40:29; 11. A.Stroud 40:56;
13. D.Davies 42:40; 14. A.Mead 42:48; 17. G.Pearson 46:34.

Teams: 1. BELGRAVE H 'A' 28pts; 2. Nat. West. 41pts; 3. BELGRAVE H 'B' 52.

SOUTH OF THAMES JUNIORNOVEMBER 9th 1974 - LLOYD PARK, CROYDON.

1. C.Morrish (Invicta); 42. C.Pearson; 78. S.Holmes; 156. J.Flynn; 177.
E.Thorp; 200. D.Maughan; 202. C.Henn; 205. M.Best; 214. A.Stroud; 218.
P.Wrench; 230. K.Jones; 235. A.Mead; 256. J.V.Baker.

Teams: 1. Aldershot, Farnham & Dist. 59pts; ... BELGRAVE 'A' 453pts;
BELGRAVE 'B' 839pts.

NOVEMBER 16th 1974 - BROCKWELL PARK - INTER CLUB MATCH v HERNE HILL H.

1. A.Black 27:05; 3. L.Coy 28:30; E.Thorp

1. A.Black 27:05; 3. L.Coy 28:30; 8. E.Thorp 30:52; 10. P.North 31:51;
11. P.Gardener 33:03;

Teams: 1. BELGRAVE H (with a little help from their friends HHH) 45pts;
2. Herne Hill 60pts.

NOVEMBER 16th 1974 - EPSOM 10 MILE ROAD RACE.

1. Hurd (RAF) 49:31; 8. W.Weller 52:04; 11. P.O'Connor 52:29; 13. L.Mann
52:50; P.Pringle 64:??.

Teams: 1. Cardiff 20pts; 2. BELGRAVE H 32pts; 3. Croydon 39pts.

It is very nearly 5 years since we last published the top 100 performances
over our $5\frac{3}{4}$ mile road course. Thirty-seven runners then appeared in the
list compared with today's thirty-two. Bill Weller is the man to make most
impact since then with three sub-28 trips round the course.
Names to disappear are:- Dave Baulch, Charlie Smart, Barry Sawyer, John
Dear, Mal Robinson, Pete Bagnall, John Bromley, Ray Tooby, Archie Bedford
and Kelly Diprose.

all time top 100 over the '53/4'

1.	27:14	GEOFF NORTH	3/66	1	51.	28:15	C.Steer	(2)	3/66
2.	27:15	GERRY NORTH *	3/62	2			Geoff North	(3)	3/67
3.	27:20	Gerry North	(2)	3/67			W.Weller	(4)	9/73
4.	27:21	W.WELLER	9/71	3	54.	28:16	A.Major	(3)	3/67
5.	27:26	Geoff North	(2)	9/69	55.	28:17	Gerry North	(9)	9/67
6.	27:27	Gerry North	(3)	9/65			A.Major	(4)	3/68
7.	27:35	A.FAIRCLOUGH	3/69	4	57.	28:18	L.O'Hara	(9)	9/72
8.	27:40	A.MAJOR	3/69	5=			W.Weller	(5)	9/72
		L.O'HARA	3/73	5=	59.	28:19	Geoff North	(4)	3/64
10.	27:41	L.MANN	3/71	7			L.O'Hara	(10)	9/73
11.	27:42	L.O'Hara	(2)	3/71	61.	28:21	P.NEWELL		3/59 21
		Gerry North	(4)	3/73			L.O'Hara	(11)	3/66
13.	27:48	W.Weller	(2)	3/73			W.Kerr	(2)	3/67
14.	27:50	J.THRESHER	9/67	8	64.	28:22	L.O'Hara	(12)	3/65
15.	27:51	Gerry North	(5)	9/70	65.	28:23	B.BUXTON		9/67 22
16.	27:53	Gerry North	(6)	9/69			T.Hart	(5)	3/70
		W.Weller	(3)	3/72			J.PHELAN		9/73 23
18.	27:54	T.HART	3/71	9	68.	28:24	W.Kerr	(3)	3/63
19.	27:55	W.KERR	3/64	10			L.Mann	(6)	3/69
20.	27:56	R.BHATIA	3/60	11			J.Bicourt	(2)	9/74
21.	27:57	J.Thresher	(2)	3/69	71.	28:25	R.LINSTEAD		3/54 24
22.	27:58	L.O'Hara	(3)	3/68			P.O'Connor	(3)	3/69
23.	28:00	L.Mann	(2)	9/69			T.Hart	(6)	3/73
		W.CURTIN	3/71	12	74.	28:26	T.Hart	(7)	3/64
		L.O'Hara	(4)	9/71			A.Fairclough	(4)	3/66
26.	28:01	A.Fairclough	(2)	3/64	76.	28:27	F.GILSON *		3/66 25
		R.PIOTROWSKI	3/70	13=			R.Piotrowski	(2)	9/69
		P.O'CONNOR	3/71	13=	78.	28:28	C.Dabbs	(3)	9/63
29.	28:03	A.Fairclough	(3)	3/67			J.MOORE		3/64 26
		J.BICOURT	3/68	15	80.	28:29	C.WALKER		3/60 27
		L.O'Hara	(5)	3/70			A.Fairclough	(5)	9/67
32.	28:05	T.Hart	(2)	3/68			P.O'Connor	(4)	3/70
33.	28:06	T.Hart	(3)	3/66			P.O'Connor	(5)	9/71
		L.Mann	(3)	3/70	84.	28:30	W.Kerr	(4)	9/64
35.	28:07	G.W.DANCE	3/67	16			A.Fairclough	(6)	9/65
36.	28:08	C.DABBS	3/60	17	86.	28:31	C.Walker	(2)	3/55
		C.Dabbs	(2)	3/66			A.BLACK		3/64 28
		R.SMITH	3/70	18			T.Hart	(8)	9/66
		T.Hart	(4)	9/71	89.	28:32	P.CARTON		3/71 29
40.	28:09	Gerry North	(7)	3/74			L.O'Hara	(13)	9/74
41.	28:10	L.O'Hara	(6)	3/67	91.	28:33	L.O'Hara	(14)	3/64
42.	28:11	P.MORRIS	9/69	19			G.W.Dance	(2)	3/69
		L.Mann	(4)	9/71	93.	28:34	C.Walker	(3)	3/63
		L.Mann	(5)	3/74			C.Steer	(3)	3/64
45.	28:13	A.Major	(2)	3/66			M.THORPE		9/65 30
		C.STEER	3/67	20			A.Major	(5)	3/70
		P.O'CONNOR	(2)	9/69	97.	28:35	L.O'Hara	(15)	9/63
		L.O'Hara	(7)	3/72			C.Steer	(4)	9/67
		L.O'Hara	(8)	3/74			J.STOW		3/74 31
50.	28:14	Gerry North	(8)	9/71	100.	28:36	J.W.BROWN		3/61 32

* competing as 2nd-claim member.

Three outstanding runs from the '50s remain - from Pat Newell, Chas. Walker and the oldest, that remarkable run by Ron Linstead 20 years ago, 28:25 as an 18-year old. Will Bill Curtin's 28:00 set at the same age remain in the list in 1991?

Older members will remember how we eulogised over Charlie Walkers dozen runs inside the top 100. Now we have Laurie O'Hara with a stupendous 15 - What do you think, Charlie?

TRACK AND FIELD

Before going any further I must tell you that I have thanked Philip Gee on your behalf, for the two years hard labour that he has put in as Track Secretary. To manage a team whilst training and competing as well is tough and we are in his debt.

Now for the crunch! Browsing through some '74 league statistics put together by Leo Coy, the weaknesses in our side become apparent. Our sprint relay teams collected an amazing 97% of the possible points available to them, with the longer relay gaining 87%. Top individual events were the 200m (87%) and 100m (80%). Long jump, 400m, shot and both hurdles were in the 60-80% range - very respectable. 800m and upwards plus hammer, javelin and pole vault not so good with 50-60%, and high jump (47%), discus (38%) and triple jump (37%) proving the lowest.

It's not really bad but it is not the overall performance of a team on it's way up. Incidentally, let us not decry the efforts of anyone who has competed for us. I know only too well what it is like to garner a measly one or two points at the tail end of an 800 metres, knowing we need more.

Regularly in the "Belgravian" you will have read such phrases as: "Who knows where we are going?" and "How does Belgrave rate as a club now?". Steve White in the last "Spotlight" hit the nail right on the head with: "...unless there is some attempt to win the league and get into the National League one of the fundamental drives of athletics is denied - the will to win."

OK, the point has repeatedly been made. NOW IS THE TIME FOR THE ACTION TO BEGIN. I want you to give me your wholehearted support on seven occasions next year - six league matches plus the qualifying competition. Two tough clubs, Essex Beagles and Met. Police, have been promoted up to the "Nationals" but with the Haringey and Windsor teams growing ever stronger, and the rejuvenated South London H and unknown Royal Navy sides joining our regular rivals in the premier Southern League, things are not going to be any easier. If we pick up any other trophies next year they will be welcome but they will be incidental. It's those league matches we must concentrate on.

Of course by it's very nature, athletics tends to encourage individualism but team competition and tactical racing can be just as exciting and rewarding. On league days we must compete as a team, every member playing his important part and every member appreciating the role taken by others. It doesn't matter whether you aim to peak next summer for the Bodmin 120y Handicap, tossing the caber at the Knotty Ash Games, or the A.A.A. 5000m. Do so by all means but keep those league dates clear. League days must be TEAM DAYS. If you have the remotest chance of being selected, don't go out hammering 20-milers during the preceding few days - I might be dialling your number as next reserve on the list on Thursday or Friday night. If you have a big event coming up, how about offering to drop down a distance for a sharpener, because if Brendan Foster can run for Gateshead Harriers over 800 and even 400 metres, anybody in Belgrave can do similarly, and will earn the respect of their club-mates in doing so.

Already I have approached several of our likely middle-distance team members, and all seem keen to get to grips with the competition. Steve Crosbie, now triple jumping almost 14 metres in training (over 45 feet), has promised his support. We have launched an appeal, published in many of the South London newspapers, for "big men" to take up a field event and come and join Belgrave. Youngsters, David Didino for example, are beginning to make their mark, and it is even rumoured that Arnold Bentt is going to train this winter. Sprinters? - you've done us proud for many seasons - no retirements now, please!

continued on following page

I have two admirable "bully-boys" to help me get things going, Philip Gee (Track Captain) and Colin Pearson (Track Vice-Captain). On the Field Bill Couzens will be Field Events Secretary once more, backed up by Snowy Brooks

Contact Bill Couzens or myself whenever you feel the need (our addresses and phone numbers are on the inside front cover of this magazine). We care about Belgrave Harriers and we are certain that you do too, and look forward to seeing you in action in the arena next season.

Oh! and one more thing, a special note to those who are studying away from London. If necessary we will help you with travelling expenses (the Hon. Treasurer will wince when he reads this) and we can arrange to put you up for the weekend as well.

ALAN MEAD

Track Secretary

decathlon news ☆ ☆

It seems that a decathlon tradition is being forged in Belgrave Harriers these days, headed of course by Snowy Brooks. Reg. Hopkins, Jr. has firmly established himself and two more youngsters who have made auspicious beginnings in the event are Youths Ronnie McCrossen and David Didino.

Up at Meadowbank on August 24th/25th Snowy Brooks continued his quest for 7000 points with yet another Club record in the Scottish AAA Open Decathlon Championship. His second day total of 3025 points was his finest ever, the highlight being a PB throw in the javelin. The longjump, high jump and hurdles also gave him his best figures for 1974 and he finished up in 2nd place overall with 6707 points, behind M.Corden (Sheffield) 6943 and ahead of L.Spencer (Sheffield) 6228. - For the record: 100m/11.2, LJ/6.81, Shot/13.18, HJ/1.86, 400m/51.6, 110mH/16.3, Discus/37.24, PV/3.40, Javelin/49.94 1500m/5:01.9.

The Southern Counties A.A.A. competition took place at Crystal Palace the following weekend, August 31st/Sept 1st, with heavy rain on the second day. As stated in the 'AW', the senior competition "was comfortably controlled by the popular Snowy Brooks". He won by 163 points from C.Young of Worthing scoring 6577 points.

Ronnie McCrossen and David Didino, both Youths, with the latter only in his first year in the age group at that, showed great courage in tackling their first decathlon competition - the S.C.A.A.A. Junior Championship. All implements used were of senior men's specifications. Ronnie's 3748 points equals the figures set by Reg. Hopkins in his first competition at exactly the same age, a coincidence that points to a bright future and gives him a share in the Youths Club record. One can't help thinking that David Didino will improve on this mark, however. His 3106 points were notched up without the benefit of a pole vault score and he must have a full minute to come off his 1500 metres with a little training.

LEAGUE DATES FOR 1975

May 10th	Alexandra Park, Portsmouth. v Portsmouth, Plymouth, Ilford and Cambridge.
May 31st	Wimbledon Park. v. Aldershot, Windsor, Herne Hill and Oxford.
June 21st	Sutcliffe Park. v Kent, Hercules Wimbledon, Mitcham and Blackheath.
July 5th	Bracknell. v Wycombe, South London, Royal Navy and Feltham.
July 26th	New River, Haringey. v Haringey, Verlea, Highgate, Epsom.
Aug 16th	Brighton. v Worthing, Surrey Bels, Achilles and Shaftesbury.

CLUB RANKINGS 1974

100m:

S.White(w/a 10.6)	10.9
M.Marshall	11.1
C.Brooks	11.1
M.Scott (J)	11.3
C.Gillett	11.3
P.Gee	11.4
R.Hopkins,Jnr.	11.6
P.Whitby	11.7
P.Williamson	11.8
S.Crosbie	11.9
A.Mead	12.0
R.McCrossen (Y)	12.4
M.Pratt	12.6
J.McDermott-Roe	12.9
I.Beaumont (SB)	13.2
D.Bailey (SB)	13.2
M.Farraday (Y)	13.4
D.Didino (Y)	13.5
R.Danpure (SB)	13.5
M.Shippen (SB)	13.6

200m:

S.White(w/a 21.2)	21.6
M.Scott (J)	22.5
C.Gillett	22.8
M.Marshall	23.1
P.Gee	23.3
C.Brooks	23.4
R.Hopkins,Jnr	24.1
P.Williamson	24.4
A.Mead	24.5
S.Crosbie	24.9
P.Whitby	25.0
A.Bentt	25.2
M.Eaton	25.3
R.McCrossen (Y)	26.3
J.McDermott-Roe	26.4
J.Dunsford,Jnr.(Y)	26.7
P.Churchley (SB)	26.7
P.Crosbie (Y)	26.9
D.Bailey (SB)	27.0
D.Didino (Y)	27.6

400m:

M.Scott (J)	49.7
C.Gillett	50.1
S.White	50.6
C.Brooks	50.8
P.Gee	51.2
R.Hopkins,Jnr	51.5
P.Williamson	52.6
A.Mead	53.3
P.Whitby	54.0
J.Boardman	54.4
R.McCrossen (Y)	56.5
J.Dunsford,Jnr (Y)	56.6
P.Sullivan (Y)	57.3
D.Bailey (SB)	58.6
T.Staff (Y)	59.9
A.Cook (Y)	61.4
I.Beaumont (SB)	62.4
S.Fletcher (SB)	65.9
M.Munroe (SB)	66.0
P.Murphy (SB)	68.7

800m:

D.Wiseman	1:54.7
J.Stow	1:57.9
P.Carton	1:58.7
J.Boardman	1:59.2
C.Pearson	1:59.8
A.Mead	2:00.6
C.Gillett	2:01.0
D.Jardine	2:05.4
S.Holmes (J)	2:07.4
L.Coy	2:07.6
L.O'Hara (V)	2:07.8
D.Baines	2:09.0
P.Sullivan (Y)	2:09.3
R.Moody	2:11.8
C.Shippen (V)	2:12.0
T.Hart	2:12.6
K.Jones	2:14.0
M.Manning (J)	2:16.2
J.Dunsford,Jnr	2:16.8
B.Gorman (V)	2:18.7

1,500m:

J.Bicourt	3:50.9
J.Stow	3:54.0
J.Rimmer	4:03.8
P.Carton	4:05.6
C.Pearson	4:07.2
L.O'Hara (V)	4:09.8
J.Boardman	4:14.0
G.North	4:17.3
S.Holmes (J)	4:22.1
W.Kerr (V)	4:23.9
L.Coy	4:24.5
C.Shippen (V)	4:26.8
M.Manning (J)	4:29.2
T.Hart	4:29.5
D.Wiseman	4:36.0
L.Mann	4:36.1
J.Flynn (J)	4:41.4
N.Kirmatzis	4:44.5
R.Hopkins,Jnr	4:47.4
A.Cook (Y)	4:48.9

5,000m:

J.Bicourt	13:57.6
L.O'Hara (V)	14:48.0
J.Stow	14:50.0
J.Phelan	14:58.0
P.Carton	15:13.0
G.North	15:23.0
L.Mann	15:24.0
A.Black	15:24.0
C.Pearson	15:27.0
T.Hart	15:38.0
C.Shippen (V)	16:19.8
L.Coy	16:21.2
D.Jardine	16:26.6
D.Maughan	16:39.8
M.Manning (J)	16:50.4
G.Hazard	17:18.4
D.Crookes	17:23.0
F.Paget (V)	17:23.0
D.Davies	17:39.0
E.Thorp	18:17.6

3,000m:

J.Bicourt	8:07.2
L.O'Hara (V)	8:24.8
J.Phelan	8:50.0
C.Pearson	8:57.6
L.Coy	9:08.0
D.Maughan	9:24.0
R.Dixon	9:30.4
L.Mann	9:33.0
C.Shippen (V)	9:36.2
D.Jardine	9:46.0
J.Kelly	9:56.0
D.Crookes	9:57.0
L.Lindsay	10:04.6
S.Lloyd	10:17.0

10,000m:

J.Phelan	30:31.0
L.O'Hara (V)	31:41.6
L.Mann	31:49.4
G.North	32:11.2
L.Coy	34:15.6
C.Shippen (V)	34:19.0
D.Maughan	34:20.2
D.Jardine	34:42.8
D.Davies	36:49.8
C.Herrn (V)	37:05.6
R.Coombs	37:10.8
J.Flynn (J)	39:48.4

3,000mSC:

J.Bicourt	8:29.6
A.Black	9:16.0
J.Phelan	9:46.0
L.Coy	10:05.8
C.Pearson	10:10.6
C.Shippen (V)	10:12.4
L.Mann	10:30.8

110mH: P.Whitby 15.8 C.Brooks 16.3 R.Hopkins, Jrn ... 16.8 R.McCrossen ... (Y) 18.5 S.Crosbie 20.2 D.Didino (Y) 21.1 A.Bentt 21.3	Long Jump: S.White 7.19 M.Scott (J) 7.17 C.Brooks 6.93 R.Hopkins, Jrn ... 6.69 S.Crosbie 6.53 R.McCrossen ... (Y) 6.16 M.Marshall 5.81 S.Hartley 5.54 M.Eaton 5.45 I.Beaumont ... (SB) 5.38 P.Whitby 5.23 D.Didino (Y) 5.22 M.Shippen ... (SB) 5.01 P.Crosbie (Y) 4.87 M.Farraday ... (Y) 4.79 D.Hayter ... (SB) 4.49 D.Richards ... (Y) 4.30 S.Fletcher ... (SB) 4.27 D.Bailey (SB) 4.27 A.Cook (Y) 4.26	High Jump: C.Brooks 1.89 R.Hopkins, Jrn ... 1.85 A.Bentt 1.75 D.Didino (Y) 1.67 A.Cook (Y) 1.54 R.Danpure ... (SB) 1.52 R.McCrossen ... (Y) 1.50 S.Crosbie 1.49 M.Shippen ... (SB) 1.47 P.Crosbie ... (Y) 1.44 I.Beaumont .. (SB) 1.44 D.Bailey ... (SB) 1.39 S.Lane (SB) 1.35 D.Richards ... (Y) 1.34 G.Wallace ... (SB) 1.34 P.Clay (JB) 1.34 A.Smith (SB) 1.34 S.Fletcher .. (SB) 1.29 J.Heath (JB) 1.21 3 Junior Boys ... 1.19	
400mH: C.Brooks 55.7 R.Hopkins, Jrn ... 57.3 P.Whitby 59.4 P.Gee 61.7 A.Mead 65.4	Hammer: E.Barker 44.70 W.Couzens 32.18 J.Martin 24.76 C.Brooks 19.32	Pole Vault: C.Brooks 3.50 A.Bentt 3.10 R.Hopkins, Jrn ... 2.90 M.Shippen ... (SB) 2.75 A.Mead 2.40 R.McCrossen 1.80	Triple Jump: A.Bentt 13.00 S.Crosbie 12.67 M.Marshall 12.32 S.White 11.78 R.Hopkins, Jrn ... 11.73 I.Beaumont .. (SB) 11.63 S.Hartley 11.22 P.Whitby 10.55 D.Didino (Y) 10.38
Decathlon: C.Brooks 6707 R.Hopkins, Jrn ... 5537 R.McCrossen .. (Y) 3748 D.Didino (Y) 3106	Shot: C.Brooks 13.64 E.Barker 12.32 J.Martin 11.76 W.Couzens 10.14 R.Hopkins, Jrn ... 9.88 D.Didino (Y) 7.98 A.Ryan (Y) 7.97 R.McCrossen ... (Y) 6.65	Discus: G.Ratcliffe 41.74 C.Brooks 37.64 E.Barker 36.16 J.Martin 29.99 W.Couzens 27.74 R.Hopkins, Jrn ... 27.62 A.Ryan (Y) 25.90 D.Didino (Y) 25.84 R.McCrossen .. (Y) 21.68	Javelin: C.Brooks 49.94 P.Crosbie (Y) 49.60 J.Martin 49.20 W.Couzens 44.70 S.Crosbie 42.82 R.Hopkins, Jrn ... 41.45 R.McCrossen ... (Y) 34.78 D.Didino (Y) 31.24
4 x 100m Relay: M.Scott, M.Marshall, C.Gillett, S.White 43.4			
4 x 400m Relay: P.Gee, P.Williamson, C.Gillett, S.White 3:26.8			

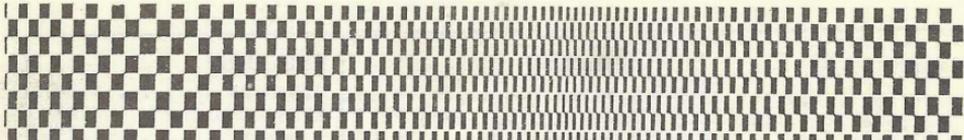
Amongst our second claimers some good times last season came from Keith May (400m/51.7, 800m/1:56.1, 1,500m/4:00.3) and Chris Barber (800m/1:52.0, 1 mile/4:00.9).

Don't miss the historic

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saturday, january 18th

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8pm - midnight

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the jaguars

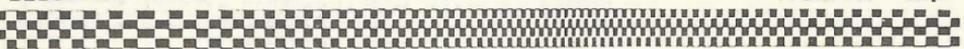
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