

"Perfer et Obdura"

# Blackheath Harriers' Gazette

## TRACK CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE

This time last year I wrote my first pre-season message and stated that with everybody's help we could achieve our rightful position in the first three in the Southern League. Thanks to everyone's help we not only achieved this target but went one stage further and regained our status as a British League club. However, we must not rest on our laurels and our target in 1980 must be promotion from Division Five to Division Four of the British League. Our first league fixture is on May 3rd at Windsor and it is essential that all first team members and potential team members are fit and ready to compete the club. The teams will be largely selected on the basis of known form and it is essential that as many people as possible take part in the complete Senior Warm Up Meeting at Ladywell on Saturday April 19th. Don't forget that if you are not in the first team then we run a second team in the Southern League which is currently in Division Three but which is capable of promotion this season.

On an individual basis 1980 is a very important year for our internationals and everyone in the Club must give them maximum help in order that they can reach their targets of selection for the Olympic Games. It is 1964 since Blackheath last had a representative at these Games, and 1980 presents us with our best chance since that date. Tim Foulger has already achieved the qualifying standard in the high jump, Mike Winch is just a few centimetres away from the shot standard, and our other internationals Trevor Ulewelyn, Nick Brooks and Julian Spooner also have a chance. For the 1980 season we welcome in particular two new members to the club. Bill Foster who joined us from Harrogate and has already gained publicity for the club by finishing 5th in the 1500 metres, at the AAA indoor championships, and Chris Ellis who joins us from Southampton having already had British League experience. I hope they and all our members have a successful track season.

## TO: THE A.A.A. AMATEUR CLUB COMMITTEE

The committee of Blackheath Harriers received the report of D.J. Cole, dated December 1979, "Revision of the Amateur Laws" and as a result a small group representing a wide cross section of interests have produced the following thoughts which subsequently gained general agreement of the committee. These are now forwarded in response to the letter of Dr. Evans in Athletics Weekly.

It is emphatically believed that changes have to be made fairly rapidly but that the overriding concern must be the safeguarding of our sport, particularly from outside interests, and we earnestly trust that when detailed proposals are available there will be opportunity for discussion at all levels before adoption.

At "International" level we restricted our thoughts to the major spectator promotions of the IAC-Coca Cola type, of which we doubted if there would be more than half a dozen a year in the United Kingdom. For these we felt ("the governing body" should issue, for a fee which would exceed just the administration costs, a permit, part of the conditions of which would be that audited accounts of the meeting would be subsequently returned to the governing body".) We would expect both prizes, which might be cash, and appearance fees to be paid; if it is possible to enforce it would seem desirable that, where appearance fees are paid, all competitors should receive such a fee according to some pre-determined scale, though we anticipate problems here. At these and inter-nation matches we would expect there to be a published scale of reasonable expenses automatically paid to officials. At this level we anticipate there would be an international governing body with an umbrella role, as the I.A.A.F. now has.

At National Championships and in Leagues we see no objection to prizes, or prize money, if a sponsor so wishes to reward individuals.

We see no objection to cash prizes, nor any particular limitations, in all types of meeting where prizes are currently given, except that sponsors may prefer to give prizes as an advertising feature and to give higher value for the same outlay. Such meetings should receive permits, unless organised by approved organisations as is now the case, but all such meetings should be required to have accounts suitable for auditing available to "the governing body" by, say, four weeks after the event. Conditions for sponsorship of club events should remain more or less as now, and certainly no extra restrictions should be introduced; we are concerned that such sponsorship in fact covers a wide range of involvement, from effectively an individual making some form of donation up to fairly major income measured in thousands of pounds.

The one crucial factor seems to us to be "the governing body" which must be strong and have control of all levels of athletics. For this to be so it must be, and be seen to be, representative of all levels of the sport. We hope for a single body for all athletics in the United Kingdom; this body could (and should) delegate its power to more special or localised associations. We believe the opportunity this gives should be fully exploited to restructure, after due consideration, the organisation and representation in athletics from

national level, i.e., A.A.A., W.A.A.A., E.C.C.U., R.W.A., etc upwards

We would be happy to expand on any of the points raised above, but believe the sub-committee is best helped at this stage by an indication of our thoughts, hopefully as an encouragement in their difficult task.

Sunday 30th September 1979

"SUNDAY TIMES" FUN RUN

The following details have come to hand since we last went to press:—

Class 2B (over 60) 21st out of 674 teams!

7 Alan Brent	Gold certificate
19 Norman Dudley	Silver certificate
39 Gerry Rhodes )	
44 Lew Piper )	
46 Jack Parrott )	
52 Reg Kirk )	Bronze certificate
57 Johnnie Walker )	
68 Len King )	
70 Angus Tweedy )	
75 Edgar Frost )	

This was their first ??? (or so it seemed!)

Training recommences 3 September 1980 following the summer schedule of light ale and ??????

J.W. (who on request will provide further details of the Codhurst Cuties)

Friday 19 October 1979

MARYON WILSON SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP

Once again the Swimming Championship was held the night before the AGM and a quick look down the newcomers might have given one a clue as to the likelihood of the next President. The Maryon Wilson could become the highlight of the betting heathens' year.

The swimmers were seeded in three heats of four, with the known fastest swimmers in one heat, the known slowest in another and the new faces scattered about. This technique is based on years of study, muscle definition, badges on costumes, shaven legs and the odd question or two regarding holidays at the sea. One face did slip through this tough scrutiny: a cagey old so-and-so and a past President at that! Alan Brent had been training regularly for months prior to the event. After years of swimming to a second either way he knocked thirteen seconds off to record a time that he last swam in 1963. (Through gritted teeth — "Well done Alan", — *handicapper*). In the same heat our President-to-be safely saw the others home — from the rear.

The second heat provided the most successful, award winners with Mike Williams, Daryl Brand and PP. Alan Ball, P.P. Baldwin also saw the others home.

The last and fastest heat proved to be the most exciting for some years. Although Robert Farrish is again our worthy champion, John Hunter pushed him very close and the easy years ahead for Robert have changed dramatically if John continues to swim this way.

A very enjoyable evening for all finished off in the local hostelry.

Championship result

1. Robert Farish	36.5	5. Richard Farish	36.7
2. John Hunter	37.4	6. John Hunter	37.4
3. Mike Williams	45.5	7. Mike McFarrell	39.3

Handicap results

1. Alan Brent	23.8	9. Jim Farish	45.0
2. Daryl Brand	33.1	10. Mike Williams	45.5
3. Alan Ball	34.4	11. John Baldwin	55.5
4. Robert Farish	36.5	12. Brian Stone	82.8

27th October, 1979

BLACKHEATH HARRIERS v LLOYDS BANK v BANK OF ENGLAND  
5 MILES AT SPARROWS DEN

The annual Bankers match took place on a mild sunny afternoon over 5 miles at Sparrows Den. The race was combined with a match involving the Metropolitan Police A.C. The combined results were kept separate and are not recorded by the club.

One of the London's top policemen, Gilbert Kellard, started the event, giving precious time to following one of his many interests.

This is always a pleasant fixture. Nothing hangs on the result and it matters little who wins. It is just an excuse to enjoy a good afternoon's racing.

Scoring 8 a side, the club had the "A" team home within the first nineteen places and the "B" team took third place. D. Ives (Lloyds Bank) won the race in 25.13 closely followed by W. Foster and M. Athawes.

It was good to see Tony Weeks-Pearson running again and it is hoped this return to Hayes will be repeated.

Pos'n	Name	Club	Time
1	D. Ives	L	25:13
2	W. Foster	'A'	25:23
3	M. Athawes	'A'	25:38
5	T. Soutar	'A'	26:02
6	R. Cliff	'A'	26:13
7	P. Horwood	'B'	27:09
10	B. Swift	'A'	27:36
15	C. Lord	'A'	28:48
17	J. Hills	'A'	29:22
18	J. Nash	'A'	29:25
19	J. Wakeman	'B'	29:33
20	G. Botley	'B'	29:52
23	W.S. Hill	'B'	30:33
24	M. Williams	'A'	30:44
25	A.T. Weeks Pearson	'B'	30:46
26	P. Hunter	'B'	31:18
28	M. Jones	'B'	31:31
31	A. Tompkins	'A'	32:00
34	G. Wright	'B'	33:00
36	B. Bale	'B'	33:28

(Scoring 8 a side)

1	1st	Blackheath 'A'	76 Pts.
2	2nd	Lloyds Bank	91
3	3rd	Blackheath 'B'	182
4	4th	Bank of England	191

3rd November 1979

REIGATE PRIORY CROSS COUNTRY RELAY  
(6 x 2 1/2 miles)

This relay returned to the fixture list after a year's break. The course was the usual pleasant one over the North Downs and the weather was wet and misty, also usual for the race.

The club started two teams and at the end of the first leg the 'B' team (Ken Daniel) was five places ahead of the 'A' team (Martin Athawes). This was not the usual B.H. (expletive deleted) but deliberate team selection policy, as Ken is not yet eligible for first claim competition.

On the second leg, cross-country captain Tim Soutar sorted things out by moving the A Team from 11th to 9th position while Steve "New York Marathon" Cluney helped by taking the 'B' Team from 6th to 17th place! The third leg saw Richard Coles run the third fastest time of the day to bring the 'A' team into second place. He only managed to escape from the B.H. Social Club Jumble Sale, held at Hayes in the morning, by going for a training spin.

The new double club Champion (five mile and marathon) Chris Haines found himself in the 'B' team and moved impressively up to 12th.

On the fourth leg, Ian Wilson who had forgotten what it is like to take over in a relay near the front started in a state of shock but ran with such effect that Keith Penny of

Cambridge H. had to do the days fastest time to catch him. Pete Horwood ran steadily for the 'B' team to maintain 12th place. Leg five saw young Ray Wright, who we have heard was asleep all the way to the race and all the way home, wake up sufficiently to run a sound leg under some pressure but just drop to fourth a few yards before the end. Chris Lord held 12th for the 'B' Team.

On the final leg Andy Frankish, who is becoming a specialist last leg runner, did yet another good one and quickly regained 3rd spot which he held to the finish.

Peter Hannell brought the 'B' team home in 22nd place. He was racing the Salisbury '15' the next day and so only really went to watch at Reigate!

To finish third, which it is believed the Club has not achieved before, was just reward for the hard working team-members who were really very concerned that the wait for the prize presentation would cause them to miss the fireworks at Hayes later in the evening.

## RESULT

### Team

1. Brighton and Hove A.C.	78m 57s.
2. Cambridge Harriers	80m 09s.
3. B.H. 'A'	81m 33s.
4. B.H. 'B'	91m 53s.

### INDIVIDUALS

1. K. Penny, Cambridge Harriers	12m 38s.
2. A. Bristow, Brighton & Hove	12m 44s.
3. R. Coles, B.H. 'A'	12m 50s.

### B.H. 'A'

1. M. Athawes	11th	13m 40s.
2. T. Soutar	9th	13m 42s.
3. R. Coles	2nd	12m 50s.
4. I. Wilson	3rd	13m 33s.
5. R. Wright	4th	14m 01s.
6. A. Frankish	3rd	13m 47s.

### B.H. 'B'

1. E. Daniel	6th	13m 25s.
2. S. Cluney	17th	14m 41s.
3. C. Haines	12th	13m 43s.
4. P. Horwood	12th	14m 15s.
5. C. Lord	12th	14m 34s.
6. P. Hannell	22nd	21m 15s.

Saturday, 3rd November, 1979

## FOUR CLUB VETERANS' MOB MATCH AT COULSDON

The course for this traditional fixture was quite wet and grassy, especially in the plough area at the far end of the valley. For the first time John Roberts was running and he was quite easily, as did his club after a lapse of some years.

Only 68 finished, which was a poor entry.

### Team Result

South London H.	146
Blackheath H.	209
Blackheath H.	229
Thames H.	266

### Individual

1. J. Roberts (S.L.H.)	45.44	42. A. Tompkins	60.02
2. B. Savery	50.14	43. P. Critchley	60.06
3. D. Amner	51.00	47. D. Saunders	61.54
4. G. Crowder	51.42	49. B. Stone	62.17
5. J. Higgs	52.16	51. F. Dyter	62.58
6. J. Fiddes	52.29	58. D. Tingey	66.54
7. R. Farish	55.48	63. W. Lake	68.35
8. G. Hogg	57.50	64. J. Bennett	70.19
9. E. Shorrocks	59.02	65. C. Brand	70.44
10. B. Hoggood	59.41		

Saturday, 3rd November, 1979

## BRACKNELL '10'

1. M. McGeoch, Barry A.C., 51.42. 2. K. Bell, Wycombe A.C., 51.47. 3. R. North, Walton A.C., 51.56. 111. P. Hunter, Blackheath H., 65.54. 121. D. Allen, Blackheath H., 69.01.

Team (3 to score). 1. Walton A.C., 28. 2. Bracknell A.C., 45. 3. Reading A.C., 54.

Saturday, 10th November 1979

## SOUTH OF THE THAMES JUNIOR RACE, AT KNOLE PARK, SEVENOAKS

Each year more and more people become ineligible to run in the South of the Thames Junior and as these have not recently been Blackheathans our chances should improve. Such is the theory expounded annually, however, in 1979 the theorists were wrong once again. We travelled in hope but had no joy for our newly elected Club President, a past captain of the C-C section.

The day was bright and sunny and Knole Park was at its autumnal best. The race did not follow the County course but took a route on the other side of the park: a narrow path which occasioned much pushing, shoving and ill temper.

Heathens were well placed at the end of the first lap with several in the first thirty. However, by the end of the second lap only Martin Athawes and Tim Soutar had held these places, finishing 31st and 37th respectively. Our next finisher was a lowly 61st and we were sixth team, the same position as the previous year.

We had some consolation in again winning medals as the first Kent team, but none of our athletes stayed for the presentation, and the medals had to be collected by one of the Heathen officials working for the SoTT Committee. Perhaps we need more confidence in our ability, and then we will produce better results!

### Placings:

31, M. Athawes 28.42; 37, T. Soutar 28.52; 61, K. Daniel 29.25; 68, A. Frankish 29.33; 69, R. Wright 29.34; 72, I. Young 29.39; 82, B. Flannery 29.49; 126, C. Bird 30.42; 209, J. Wilkinson 32.42; 231, J. Cavanagh 33.23; 268, M. Peel 35.49.

### Teams:

1, Brighton 41; 2, Aldershot 43; 3, Epsom 93; 6, Blackheath 'A' 197; 38, Blackheath 'B' 780.

Saturday 10 November 1979

## BERNIE HAMES HALF MARATHON AT CHIGWELL

11. L. Atterbury 69.19  
169 finishers

Saturday 10 November 1979

## SURREY VETERANS' CHAMPIONSHIP AT RICHMOND PARK

I.E. O'Gorman (Blackheath) 37.21  
15. J. Mills 41.57

Saturday 17th November 1979

## BLACKHEATH HARRIERS v S. LONDON HARRIERS AT HAYES MOB MATCH FOR THE 'NICHOLLS' CUP

The annual "Nicholls Cup" Mob Match was run at Hayes on a rather bleak day following a week of heavy rain making the going wet and very slippery. The course was the usual 7½ mile and 51 Heathens finished but South London Harriers mustered 73 and 2 failed to finish.

Scoring 52 a side South London won comfortably with

2675 points to 2900 but there was great satisfaction when Richard Coles finished first in a fast time of 44.23. R. Cliff was first in the handicap whilst the runners up were no less than Past President Alan Ball and the current President in third place. Commenting on the race itself, as the numbers show the club were just leading in the first '30' no doubt due to the good packing of Wade, Young, Daniel and Wilson in the early twenties. Record must be made of the fact that, although Evans and Long of South London were second and third home, due to what was believed to be the misplacing of flags by the Addington Estate 'mob' in the vicinity of the 'Custard', these two gentlemen ran a slightly shorter distance than the remainder of the field, and so have been counted behind P. Irvine.

Finally, the reporter laments the fact that Rule 20 seems to be a thing of the past, as club attire was noticeably absent in the event — not for the first time! Once it was always a matter of great pride to wear the all black and shorts enlivened only by the entwined squares but more the pity, these standards seem to have vanished. To the spectator it also makes the identity of the protagonists much more difficult when one has to decide whether the chap running in what seems clothing borrowed from Jack Point is one of theirs or ours. It is of little consolation that South London were only a slightly better attired.

Pos'n	Name	Time	H/cap	Net Time	H/cap Pos'n
1	R. Coles	44:23	:82	44:23	6
2	A. Evans S.L.H.	44:36			
3	M. Long S.L.H.	45:24			
5	P. Irvine	45:55	1:20	44:35	7
8	R. Cliff	47:39	4:50	42:49	1
10	T. Soutar	48:04	2:15	45:49	18
11	C. Haines	48:11	2:15	45:56	21
13	P. Brencley	48:44	3:00	45:44	16
16	A. Frankish	48:53	2:30	46:25	28
17	M. Athawes	49:04	1:50	47:14	35
19	R. Richardson	49:17	2:00	47:17	37
22	D. Wade	49:26	4:00	45:26	14
23	I. Young	49:34	5:15	44:19	4
24	K. Daniel	49:35	2:30	47:05	31
25	I. Wilson	49:39	2:30	47:09	34
27	C. Lord	50:27	4:00	46:27	29
28	R. Wright	50:31	3:00	47:31	40
30	P. Horwood	50:49	4:30	46:19	25
31	C. Bird	50:58	4:40	46:18	24
32	A. Edwards	51:07	4:00	47:07	33
33	J. Baldwin	51:13	5:00	46:13	22
36	A. Davis	51:33	5:00	46:33	30
38	B. Swift	51:47	5:30	46:17	23
40	R. Savery	52:35	5:30	47:05	32
46	P. Shephard	53:08	5:50	47:18	38
47	D. Amner	53:11	5:35	47:36	41
49	J. Wilkinson	53:44	6:30	47:14	36
51	D. Fiddes	54:07	9:00	45:07	11
52	J. Hills	54:12	9:00	45:12	13
53	M. Peel	54:23	5:30	48:53	47
54	G. Crowder	54:24	6:00	48:24	45
57	J. Nash	54:49	9:00	45:49	19
58	P. Catley	54:50	7:25	47:25	39
61	J. Kavanagh	55:05	7:00	48:05	43
64	S. Cluney	55:23	9:00	46:23	27
65	R. Minting	55:24	7:00	48:24	46
67	D. White	55:31	5:00	50:31	49
75	J. Wakeman	56:37	9:00	47:37	42
76	A. Weeks-Pearson	56:58	6:00	50:58	50
77	P. Gray	57:06			
78	D. Allen	57:15	12:30	44:45	9
87	D. Hopgood	59:25			
93	G. Wright	61:19	16:40	44:39	8
95	A. Ball	61:31	17:35	43:56	2
101	W. Hill	62:24	11:00	51:24	51
102	B. Stone	62:26	18:30	43:56	3
106	D. Saunders	63:00	18:10	44:50	10
107	P. Critchley	63:02	18:40	44:22	5
108	G. Geere	63:44	18:00	45:44	17
109	G. Bulfin	64:35	16:00	48:35	48
117	D. Tingey	68:20	22:50	45:30	15
118	T. Bennett	70:07	25:00	45:07	12
119	T. Mallott	70:15	24:20	45:55	20
122	W. Lake	71:50	25:30	46:20	26
123	C. Brand	73:33	25:15	48:18	44

Sunday, 18th November, 1979

### 56th ANNUAL ROCHESTER 5 MILE ROAD RACE

**Individual** 1. K. Steere, Cambridge & Coleridge, 24.27. 2. P. Williams, Cambridge H., 24.31. 3. K. Penny, Cambridge H., 24.36. 33. K. Daniel, Blackheath H., 26.43. 103. S. Cluney, Blackheath H., 28.51. 152. S. Robinson, Blackheath H., 30.34. 155. D. Allen, Blackheath H., 30.39. 241 finished.

**Team** 1. Cambridge 'A', 24. 2. Hastings 'A', 91. 3. Ilford 'A' 95. 23. Blackheath H., 441. 35 teams finished.

Saturday, 24th November, 1979

### G.L.C. CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS AT PARLIAMENT HILL

**Individual** 1. G. McCullum, Shaftesbury H., 29.22. 2. R. Coles, Blackheath H., 29.36 (for the 2nd year running) 3. C. Reitz, Essex Beagles, 29.47. 13. P. Irvine, Blackheath H., 30.22. 40. M. Athawes, Blackheath H., 31.53. 45. K. Daniel, Blackheath H., 32.05. 50. C. Haines, Blackheath H., 32.14. 51. T. Soutar, Blackheath H., 32.17. 64. P. Selby, Blackheath H., 32.53. 78. P. Horwood, Blackheath H., 33.25. 82. D. Wade, B.H., 33.32. 240 finished.

**Team Result** 1. Shaftesbury 'A', 34. 2. Essex Beagles, 51. 3. Thames Valley 'A', 81. 4. Blackheath 'A', 90. 29 teams finished.

Saturday 24th November 1979

### CLUB VETERANS C.C. CHAMPIONSHIP AND VETERANS MATCH — OVER 10 KILOMETRES AT HAYES

This was a good day for the 1979 Veterans' Championship and Inter Club Match. It was a fine and clear day and the going was fast as the country had dried considerably since the previous week's Mob Match. Support from other veterans and for that matter, from our own club members was a little disappointing but nevertheless the 33 competitors enjoyed a good afternoon's racing. Two teams entered from the club plus members from Woodford Green A.C., a combined entry from Cambridge Harriers and Crawley A.C., and veterans from South London who returned to renew their acquaintanceship with Keston and its environs.

Scoring five a side the club "A" had a comfortable win gathering in its five scorers in the first seven. J. Baldwin, who has not been too well recently, made a good come back to win the event and was well supported throughout the race by R. Savery, D. Amner, G. Crowder and D. Fiddes.

Pos'n	Name	Time
1.	J.R. Baldwin	40.06
2.	J. Simmons	41.02
3.	K. Vine	41.07
4.	R. Savery	41.22
5.	D. Amner	41.34
6.	G. Crowder	42.21
7.	D. Fiddes	43.03
8.	J. Hills	43.09
12.	P. Vetterlein	45.20
22.	P. Critchley	47.43
25.	D. Saunders	48.23
27.	I.F. Smith	50.53
28.	A. Ball	52.08
29.	F. Dyter	52.33
31.	D. Tingey	53.41
32.	C. Brand	55.29

#### Team Results

1.	Blackheath H "A"	23 points
2.	Cambridge & Crawley A.C.	38 points
3.	South London Harriers	84 points
4.	Woodford Green A.C.	92 points
5.	Blackheath Harriers "B"	114 points

Saturday, 1st December, 1979

**INSURANCE A.A. FIVE MILE CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP AT HAYES**

1. R. May, 28.45. 23. R. Savery\*, 33.49. (2nd veteran) 34. J. Kavanagh\*, 34.58. 36. P. Catley\*, 35.07. 89 finished.

\*B.H. members.

Saturday 1st December 1979

**BLACKHEATH VETERANS v CAMBRIDGE HARRIERS at BEXLEY (5 MILES)**

1	J. Oliver	Cambridge Harriers	28:55
2	K. Vine	"	30:09
3	G. Martin	"	30:16
5	G. Crowder	Blackheath Harriers	31:50
11	D. Hopgood	"	35:20
16	J. Bennett	"	40:02
17	W. Lake	"	40:55
1	Cambridge Harriers	10 pts	
2	Blackheath Harriers	46 pts	

Sunday 2 December, 1979

**ROWING MATCH v RANELAGH HARRIERS**

The "Frankiss Cup" has been fought for annually since it was presented just fifty years ago. We were the holders as a result of a hotly contested event last year. On this 1979 occasion our team consisted of two "Richards", surnamed Jones and Donoghue both newly recruited to the club. Colin Brand was back in the boat and the quartet should have been completed by Ken Allen. Unfortunately, he suffered an arm injury and it was decided to put him in the cox spot. Our usual man at the helm, Ken McSweeney, therefore took the vacant place in the engine room.

Our team started all right but was soon in trouble. Apparently there was a disparity in pulling weights. This had the effect of our boat showing a strong inclination to turn to starboard (right to you landlubbers). In fact there was at one time a likelihood of our craft running ashore and finishing up in the local High Street! This tendency did not help our chances one little bit and in spite of helpful comments and/or abuse from supporters on the towpath we finished second.

The facilities and hospitality offered at the Thames Tradesmen's clubhouse were, as usual, excellent and a convivial lunch hour (or two) followed. Brian Stone handed over the "Frankiss Cup" to Ranelagh and also took the opportunity of presenting the "Lee Brand" tankard to Richard Jones. This tankard was purchased from donations made by fellow oarsmen in memory of Lee and is to be awarded annually to the youngest member of our crew.

Rex Lofts, the Ranelagh President, mollified our President's feelings by formally giving him the "St. John Matthews Cup". We held this as a result of the non-appearance of South London Harriers in this annual (theoretical) match. Unfortunately, SLH have been unable to field a team for some years now.

Let us think however about next year. 1980 is the centenary year for Ranelagh Harriers and it would be an admirable gesture on our part to mark the occasion by giving them a thrashing on the river. We have a nucleus of a younger team in the two "Richards" but our more mature rowing men would be delighted to stand down to make way for other younger folk. Somewhere in our ranks there must be two or three people with some interest and experience in rowing. If this includes you, gentle reader, please contact Colin Brand as soon as possible to arrange for some practice before next December.

Saturday 8 December, 1979

**BLACKHEATH HARRIERS v. ORION HARRIERS 7½ MILES, AT CHINGFORD.**

Twenty-two 'Heathen's gathered at Chingford for the

annual Mob Match against Orion Harriers, and it was gratifying to see a strong contingent among them from the Veteran section of the club. The conditions were ideal for cross country, cool, moist air, an occasional hint of sun and 'soft', leaf-strewn ground. Tension was running high as Orion were out to win on their home ground and used such devices as fielding more runners than Blackheath and cunningly marking the tortuous course with orange paper strewn on orange autumn leaves.

Once the local horses had been cleared from the start (a job for Chris Haines?) the field swept forward into the mysterious depths of Epping Forest. It soon became apparent that skills at Orienteering were of as much value as speed over the ground. Graham Martin, Bob Cliff, Tim Soutar and Geoghegan of Orion broke away from the field early on and equally quickly found themselves behind it after a few unscheduled but interesting detours into the lesser visited parts of the forest. Graham Martin ran strongly up the final hill to win in 44m.07secs ahead of Bob Cliff and Tim Soutar, who, to prove how easy it all was, managed a few spectacular somersaults on the muddier parts of the course.

The remainder of the club runners packed in well and our victory would have been more convincing but for the four members of the club who apparently became bored with the usual course and made a lengthy detour through the more scenic parts of the wood. Ian Young, who by his admission was responsible for this lapse, led the group home in 12th place. The handicapper should note this before the Club '10'. Colin Brand won the handicap with Bill Lake and Brian Stone 2nd and 3rd. Scoring 21 a side Blackheath won with 13 home in the first 20 by 398 points to Orion's 510. We also packed well at the back. A pleasant afternoon's racing in pleasant surroundings, but one word of warning — bring a compass, map and survival bag in 1981. I note from the result that Pete Hannell did not finish. Has he been seen since?

Pos'n	Name	Time	H/cap	Nett Time	Pos'n H/cap
1	G. Martin	44.07	3.00	41.07	5
2	R. Cliff	44.16	1.00	43.16	12
3	T. Soutar	44.34	1.25	43.09	11
5	M. Reynolds	47.57	4.00	43.57	13
8	J. Nash	48.50	4.00	44.50	15
9	G. Crowder	49.03	5.00	44.03	14
11	P. Catley	49.16	4.40	44.36	17
12	I. Young	50.07	2.15	47.52	19
13	C. Lord	50.25	2.15	48.10	20
14	B. Swift	50.32	2.50	47.42	18
15	C. Bird	51.15	2.30	48.45	21
17	D. Allen	52.02	10.00	42.02	8
19	P. Farrar	52.55	10.00	42.55	9
22	D. Hopgood	53.56	—	—	—
24	P. Hunter	55.00	10.00	45.00	16
28	B. Stone	55.22	—	—	—
28	B. Stone	55.22	15.30	39.52	3
33	G. Wright	56.10	15.00	41.10	6
34	P. Critchley	56.53	16.40	40.13	4
41	D. Tingey	62.22	21.10	41.12	7
43	C. Brand	62.36	27.00	37.36	1
44	W. Lake	65.05	26.00	39.05	2
45	T. Mallott	65.06	22.00	43.06	10
46	J. Broughton	66.22	17.00	49.22	22
47	P. Hannell	D.N.F.	—	—	—

Team Result Scoring 21 a side

1. Blackheath Harriers	398 points
2. Orion Harriers	510 points

**B.H. Handicap**

1. C. Brand
2. W. Lake
3. B. Stone

Saturday, 29th December 1979

**VETERANS INTER-CLUB SELF-HANDICAP 10 Km**

This festive event (it always falls conveniently between Christmas and New Year) is fast achieving the kind of popularity which induces a diary-note as a reminder for next

year — and that's encouraging. The particular fascination (apart from Furze Bottom for first-time visitors) is, of course, the self-handicap to a standard of 40 runs — not quite as difficult as it sounds as half the field of 46 got within 60 secs and twelve were within 30 secs, performances achieved mainly by old hands (if you'll pardon the expression). Newcomers tended to be anything from three to seven minutes adrift (with one notable of sixteen runs.) but they'll no doubt be looking forward to next December — there's a particular welcome for Wycombe Phoenix whose baptism this was.

The team result could hardly have been closer with the position of last scoring man being crucial.

The grateful thanks of all who ran and to Ken Johnson and his team who ensured that all got round safely, to George Brooks for continuing indispensibility and to Norman Dudley for pre-race research and analysis.

Pos	Name	Club	Time	Allee	Net Time	Error	H/cap
1	J. Geochegan	CH	38.08	2.30	40.38	0.38	15
2	A. Randall	SLH	39.23	3.00	36.23	3.37	40
3	G. Crowder	BH	40.58	2.30	38.28	1.32	34
8	D. Amner	BH	42.46	3.00	39.46	0.14	=4
12	G. Vooght	CH	44.02	4.00	40.02	0.02	2
16	P. Vetterlein	BH	44.57	7.30	37.27	2.33	38
18	A. Rolls	SLH	45.05	5.00	40.05	0.05	3
19	B. Stone	BH	45.09	6.00	39.09	0.51	20
22	T. Davis	CH	45.44	5.30	40.14	0.14	=4
35	F. Dwyer	BH	51.00	11.00	40.00	0	1
37	D. Tingey	BH	51.55	13.30	38.25	1.35	32
38	J. Roberts	BH	52.21	6.00	46.21	6.21	44
39	T. Mallott	BH	52.33	13.10	39.23	0.77	14
40	T. Richards	SLH	52.58	12.40	40.18	0.18	6
41	C. Brand	BH	53.54	14.50	39.04	0.56	22
43	J. Bennett	BH	56.14	14.00	42.14	2.14	36
46	C. Beer	BH	71.14	15.00	56.14	16.14	46

(Guest — P. Hannel BH 50.18)

#### Teams (Scoring 4)

1. S.L.H. (2,4,18,21)	45
2. Camb. H. (1,10,12,22)	45
3. B.H. "A" (3,8,16,19)	46
4. Woodford Green A.C.	74
5. Herne Hill H.	75
6. Belgrave Harriers	79
7. Veterans A.C.	81
8. Wycombe Phoenix	127
9. Blackheath H. "B"	138

#### Teams (Scoring 6)

1. Cambridge H.	103
2. B.H. "A"	109
3. S.L.H.	127
4. W.G. A.C.	136
5. B.H. "B"	243

Tuesday, 1st January, 1980.

### ERITH 6 MILE ROAD RACE

**Individual** 1. P. Martin, Hastings, A.C., 32.07. 2. D. Felsenstein, Shaftesbury A.C., 32.16. 3. P. Pope, Cambridge H. 32.56. 11. C. Woodcock, B.H., 33.59. 12. K. Daniel, B.H., 34.01. 22. P. Shephard, B.H., 35.15. 36. P. Catley, B.H., 36.10. 48. J. Kavanagh, B.H., 37.25. 63. M. Wilkins, B.H., 39.37.

90 finished.

**Team Results** 1. Cambridge H. 22. 2. Blackheath H. 80.

Saturday 5 January 1980

### KENT COUNTY CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS AT CANTERBURY

The 1980 championship was one of great disappointment. We all had the feeling that this might at last be the year of Richard Coles when he would be rewarded with his first victory in the Senior Championship. It was not to be. Richard was ill and unable to compete and the man whom Richard had beaten four weeks earlier in the IAC Cross Country at Crystal Palace, Kevin Steere, became the new Kent champion.

The rest of the team acquitted themselves well although Haines, the ace correspondent, was struck down early on

22.

with a mystery leg injury quite unconnected with the number of Heathens who had already passed him. Ian Wilson was our first finisher and ran strongly through the mud to earn 15th position. The course this year was a good test of cross country ability with mud and hills and our third team placing is probably an accurate reflection of our current standard.

In the Juniors we had only two starters in a race which saw a mere 36 finishers. The Youth race was dominated by Elliott AC which filled the first five places and whose 'A' and 'B' teams were first and second respectively. Our own team finished in sixth position.

Fortunately for the "Punch Bowl" VP there was a Heathen official to bring him back to Hayes in time for the evening festivities, otherwise he might still be walking home. Getting back seems to pose serious difficulties for some people.

#### Individual Senior

1. K. Steere	Invicta	34.15
2. N. Brawn	Invicta	34.32
3. R. Lawrence	Invicta	34.43
15. I. Wilson	B.H.	37.16
21. R. Richardson	B.H.	37.56
24. T. Soutar	B.H.	38.05
25. K. Daniel	B.H.	38.13
29. J. Wilkinson	B.H.	38.38
30. J. Baldwin	B.H.	38.42
32. C. Woodcock	B.H.	38.51
34. B. Flannery	B.H.	39.00
39. M. Athawes	B.H.	39.36
43. P. Horwood	B.H.	39.58
45. B. Swift	B.H.	40.09
49. A. Frankish	B.H.	40.30
50. P. Shephard	B.H.	40.30
55. C. Bird	B.H.	40.57
67. G. Crowder	B.H.	41.50
75. S. Cluney	B.H.	42.38
110. P. Farrar	B.H.	47.14
112. M. Williams	B.H.	47.43
114. B. Stone	B.H.	47.49
126. P. Critchley	B.H.	50.21
137. P. Hannel	B.H.	53.44
138. T. Mallott	B.H.	56.35

139 Finished

#### Team

1. Invicta	31
2. Cambridge 'A'	88
3. Blackheath 'A'	144
4. Blackheath 'B'	390

#### Individual Junior

1. G. Wrightman	Dartford	24.52
17. R. Wright	B.H.	28.30
25. T. Llewelyn	B.H.	29.35
36 Finished		

#### Team

1. Elliott 'A'	13
2. Dartford 'A'	28
3. Tonbridge	39

#### Individual Youths

1. H. Maytam	Elliott	15.00
16. M. Williams	B.H.	15.45
18. S. Searby	B.H.	15.48
38. E. Haynes	B.H.	16.34
40. M. Hudson	B.H.	16.46
47. S. Hannon	B.H.	16.55
66 Finished		

#### Team

1. Elliott 'A'	15
2. Elliott 'B'	32
3. Tonbridge	79

Saturday, 5th January, 1980

### PUNCH BOWL NIGHT

Tradition was well observed once again on this occasion of good fare and conviviality, although some of the details remain obscure for your correspondent due to what a school-master may be forgiven for describing as an alcoholic Hayes.

After one or two well-chosen remarks by the President concerning the poor turn-out earlier in the day at Canterbury, it was particularly appropriate that our first finisher in the senior race on that occasion should be installed as Chairman for the evening's proceedings, namely Ian Wilson, who resisted several attempts to immediately plunge him into 'hot water'.

The following toasts were proposed and responded to, Chief Arm Twister being P.P. John Baldwin:—

	Proposer	Respondent
The Club	T. Mallott	R. H. Thompson
The V.Ps.	R. Savery	M. Mahoney
The British League Term	J. Herring	J. Wilkinson
The Trail Layers	L. Roberts	J. Walker
The Gazette	M. Heinemann	G. Crowder
Centenary of 5 mile Trophy	C. Haines	M. Williams
The Wine Committee	T. Soutar	P. Hannell
The Power of Three		
The President	C. Brand	B. Stone

Most remarked on afterwards were:—

1. Harold Thompson : a high quality performance and a serious one!
2. Roy Savery : rather less bad than expected.
3. Les Roberts : exotically dressed with a string of gags which even overshadowed Johnnie Walker.
4. Max Heinemann : whose English put everybody else's in the shade.
5. Chris Haines : the usual string of irrelevant obscenities of which only an academic is capable.
6. Tim Soutar : obscure classical references.

In terms of words spoken, however, the most almost certainly came from a determined interjector, one of our more promising younger senior runners, whose name and whose behaviour indicate his provenance from a small island to the West of Great Britain noted for its heavy precipitation.

Saturday 12 January, 1980

### 10 MILE CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE ROWLAND CUP AT HAYES

The 86th race for the "Rowland" was run on a bitter day when one felt that snow was just over the horizon. The usual course starting from Wickham Court Farm was followed out via the pumping station. It was a well supported event as 33 Heathens braved the elements and the field included a wide spread of age.

Tim Soutar, running strongly, took an early lead covering the distance in 58.47. After taking 2nd place last year, he was determined and made sure of taking the honours this time.

As is the habit in recent years, the field included the President, last year's holder of that prime office also competed.

Special mention is made of D. Wade who came through well after starting late.

Pos'n	Name	Time	H/cap Pos'n
1.	T. Soutar	58.47	1
2.	R. Richardson	60.47	4
3.	R. Wright	61.34	2

4.	J. Wilkinson	61.58	3
5.	C. Haines	62.15	17
6.	B. Swift	63.19	15
7.	P. Shephard	63.41	10
8.	R. Savery	64.13	18
9.	M. Reynolds	65.10	21
10.	G. Crowder	65.25	9
11.	P. Catley	65.46	12
12.	F. Johnson	67.06	16
13.	K. Daniels	67.08	26
14.	R. Minting	67.51	6
15.	J. Hills	68.04	23
16.	S. Robinson	69.07	14
17.	M. Peel	69.52	28
18.	K. Whicheloe	71.13	8
19.	M. Jones	72.13	19
20.	A. Edwards (Guest)	72.29	
21.	M. Williams	73.05	20
22.	B. Stone	74.40	27
23.	P. Farrar	75.04	29
24.	G. Wright	75.51	24
25.	P. Critchley	76.24	11
26.	A. Nanna	78.12	30
27.	P. Hannell	81.29	5
28.	D. Saunders	82.13	25
29.	D. Tingey	82.52	22
30.	J. Bennett	85.05	13
31.	W. Lake	88.45	31
32.	C. Brand	89.00	32
	D. Wade	61.05	Late start

Saturday, 19 January 1980

### MOB MATCH v. RANELAGH HARRIERS AT PETERSHAM FOR THE 'PELLING RATCLIFF' TROPHY

Some runners derive their reputation from repeated success at a single race and the Ranelagh match, when run at Petersham, is one such race. Peter German took time off from training to show the regulars how it should be done. If it hadn't been for a second claim member, Peter Brenchley, he would have been our first man home as he was in 1978. Let's hope we see more of him in future cross-country seasons.

Bob Richardson also showed prominently and if he hadn't had trouble with his diary, and consequential double bookings we might have seen more of him later in the season. Next year the Secretary will put it in writing for you Bob or, alternatively, you could read your fixture card!

We finished 12 in the first 18 but from then on it was desperately close and we were finally adjudged winners by 61 points, the narrowest of margins.

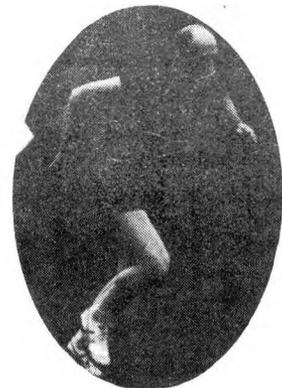
Pos'n	Name	Time	H/cap Pos'n
3.	P. Brenchley	41.24	16
4.	P. German	41.35	24
5.	R. Richardson	41.46	18
6.	I. Wilson	41.55	20
7.	J. Baldwin	42.02	12
8.	M. Athawes	42.06	22
12.	K. Daniel	42.48	9
13.	L. Atterbury	42.50	25
14.	G. Martin	42.55	33
16.	T. Soutar	43.05	39
18.	R. Wright	43.27	30
23.	I. Young	43.56	37
24.	B. Flannery	43.59	42
25.	B. Swift	44.03	26
27.	P. Shephard	44.27	21
31.	M. Reynolds	44.27	19
32.	P. Horwood	45.03	35
33.	C. Haines	45.06	43
36.	A. Frankish	45.25	40
40.	C. Lord	46.04	44
42.	R. Savery	46.16	36
44.	P. Catley	46.24	29
45.	G. Crowder	46.34	31
48.	R. Minting	47.22	27
49.	D. Fiddes	47.57	41
50.	T. Llewelyn	47.59	28
54.	G. Botley	48.20	10
57.	M. Peel	48.27	38
59.	J. Hills	48.41	34

# The final five closes the season

That ever-popular yachting handicap, the Closing Five brought down the curtain on the cross country season. Our candid cameraman was there and these were his startling results.



*Fancied favourites off to an early start.*



*The hare they didn't catch. Jim Bennet sets off 18 minutes ahead of scratch.*

*Note the spectators gear — in keeping with a yachting handicap.*



*"Oh! I've ripped me ..."*

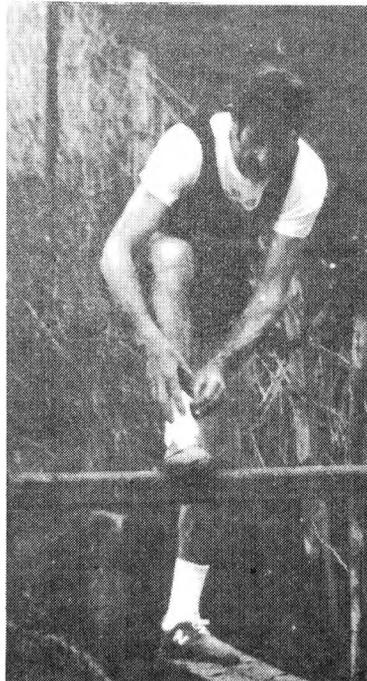
Brian Stone: President



*You've heard the rumours — well here's the evidence.*

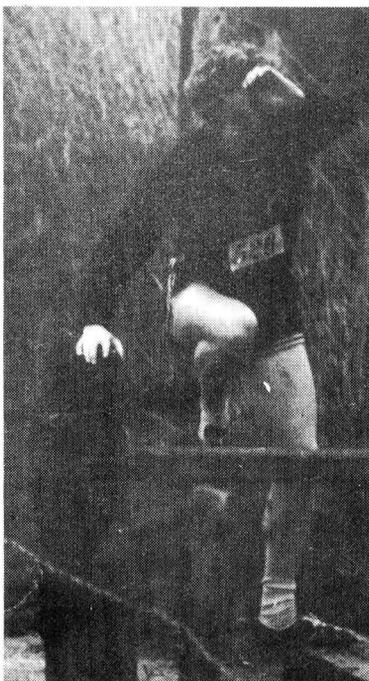
Dave Amner & Mike Peel

*"I say chaps, hold on! My sock's coming down."*



Brian Saxton

*"Oh dear, whoops, here I go again."*



John Hills

*All because the lady loved Milk Tray.*



Colin Brand: IPP

61.	K. Whicheloe	49.22	11
62.	P. Farrar	49.34	13
65.	M. Jones	50.40	15
66.	A. Tompkins	51.56	5
68.	B. Stone	52.17	8
70.	P. Hannell	53.43	1
72.	R. Ebbutt	54.07	6
73.	W. Hill	54.09	7
75.	P. Critchley	54.37	14
76.	A. Ball	55.35	32
78.	I. Smith	57.00	17
80.	D. Tingey	58.03	2
84.	D. Brand	60.37	23
85.	W. Lake	61.19	3
86.	C. Brand	62.05	4

BH 1671; RH 1732 scoring 41 a side

Saturday 26 January 1980

### SOUTH OF THAMES SENIOR CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP AT PROSPECT PARK READING

9 Competitors and 3 supporters namely the President, Peter Hannell and Allen Brent who was in an official capacity, made the journey down the M.4. to Reading.

With only 9 runners we had no chance of winning the 12 to score Coleman Cup. The well marked lap of grass with 2 short sharp climbs had to be completed 4 times.

The best placed Heathen was Ian Wilson in his highest position in this race for over 10 years. Our winter secretary made a nonsense of his pre-race prediction of finishing in the 150's by moving through the field throughout the race. Our last 3 scorers included the captain, tactfully placed. Chris Bird did not finish due to injury.

Following changes in the barring clauses the standard of this race is now very high, this can be seen from the first 3 placings:—

1st Nick. Rose Bristol A.C.	36min 26 sec.
2nd Peter Standing Windsor Slough Eton	36min 35 sec.
3rd Keith Penny Cambridge Harriers	37 min 55 sec.

The Blackheath team placing of 10th with 496 points could have been improved, but for injury and other various reasons for absence.

	Position	Time
Ian Wilson	28	39:50
Ken Daniel	59	40:43
Ian Young	83	41:33
Tim Soutar	101	41:51
Martin Athawes	104	41:57
John Wilkinson	121	42:17
Brian Swift	152	43:15
Peter Horwood	184	44:24
Chris Bird did not finish		

Teams		
1	Brighton & Hove A.C.	154 points
2	Westbury H.	189 points
3	Bristol A.C.	190 points
10	Blackheath Harriers	496 points

Coleman Cup Brighton & Hove A.C. 704 points

Note: Next year's Senior Championship will be a Blackheath promotion on 31st January 1981 at West Wickham.

Saturday, 2nd February, 1980.

### SOUTHERN VETERANS' CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS AT HARLOW

#### Age Group 40-49

At last Blackheath had a truly strong team and what's more we managed to get everyone of our youngest veterans out.

The largest entry yet set out over the 10,000 metre course, mainly undulating grassland (for the geographically inclined). It was difficult to judge your effort as it was a complete multi-lap lay-out.

Davis of Aldershot strode well into the lead as was expected; but Barry O'Gorman and John Baldwin never

left the chasing group, with Joe Clare not far behind, and Alan Davies in the mid-twenties. It was soon realised by those watching that great things were possible for Blackheath as our leading pair began to drop great names like Mike Barrett and Ron Gomez, and were fighting it out with Gerry North.

Although Davis came in over a minute clear, there were only seconds separating the chasing eight. In the 3-to score Blackheath had beaten the odds-on favourites, and in the six-man event we were 2nd by only 4 points.

**Individual** 1. T. Davis, Aldershot, 31.0.5. B.O'Gorman, B.H., 32.54. 7. J. Baldwin, B.H., 32.59. 10. J. Clare, B.H., 33.40. 23. A. Davies, B.H., 34.43. 47. G. Crowder, B.H., 35.38. 83. R. Savery, B.H., 36.51. 102. J. Hills, B.H., 37.45.

A. Tompkins, D. Hopgood positions and times unknown.

**Team 3-to-score** 1. Blackheath, 22. 2. Ealing, 32. 3. Cambridge, 58.

**Teams 6-to-score** 1. Ealing, 171. 2. Blackheath, 175.

**Over 50** No details available at the time of going to press.

Saturday 2 February 1980

### BLACKHEATH v BANK OF ENGLAND and HERCULES WIMBLEDON

A bleak, cold and wet day at Richmond Park was the setting for the annual match v The Bank of England but which was compensated by the superb facilities that the bank provided, including warm dressing rooms, hot showers, (*how nice!* — Ed) a free tea and free beer afterwards.

Only nine Heathens made the trip including Richard Coles having his first run out since a bad bout of Bronchitis. However it certainly did not seem to affect him as he easily ran away from the field and won by a clear margin.

Graham Martin also made a welcome return but unfortunately it was not his day, and after being a clear 2nd he went off course and got completely lost in the wilds of Richmond Park. He had to be found by fellow 'Heathens and therefore did not even finish. At least three other Heathens accompanied by a couple of Hercules Wimbledon lads who were guesting this year also went well of course, but at least eventually did find the finish even though it was from a rather different direction than intended.

Had Graham Martin finished 2nd we would have won the match. However, we were just pipped by Hercules who, after scoring 8 aside, won on countback, both teams having the same number of points.

1	R. Coles (Blackheath)	33:02
2	P. Purchase (Hercules)	33:07
3	David Williams (Hercules)	33:34
4	K. Daniel (Blackheath)	33:38
5	I. Young	33:42
6	C. Haines (Blackheath)	33:46
7	D. Wade (Blackheath)	33:53
10	L. Atterbury (Blackheath)	34:38
11	B. Flannery (Blackheath)	25:22
42	P. Hannell (Blackheath)	44.05

1	Hercules	86
2	Blackheath	86
3	Bank	150

Saturday 9 February 1980

### SOUTHERN C.C. CHAMPIONSHIPS AT PARLIAMENT HILL

Over the past year or so many brilliant performances have been given by our younger members. The exploits of some individuals have been impressive, to say the least.

However, one individual — although a name that forever rings in our ears when we open the local paper every Thursday — has always found it just beyond his means to become 'the' best in any one event. He has come mighty close, though!

Robert Farish's win in the Southern Counties Cross-Country championships this year was, without doubt, something very special indeed. This was, believe it or not, the first major title Robert has won.

It was a splendid individual performance which was made all the more impressive as one looked back over the names in the field that he beat. Figures such as Dave Bean (Folkestone), Dave Middleton (Herne Hill), and Dave Hoinville (Highgate), were left well behind.

Clearly, if current progress is maintained, Robert Farish could become a brilliant individual athlete. His faultless tactical running and thorough technical know-how is exemplary for a youngster of such tender years.

Robert's 'Southern Gold' was just reward for his efforts, and it is shameful and unforgiveable that not one member of the Senior Squad was at the presentation to applaud him receiving it!

#### Senior Individual

1. P. Flavel	Oxford City	46.49
9. R. Coles	B.H.	48.03
13. W. Foster	B.H.	48.26
55. P. Irvine	B.H.	50.18
79. I. Wilson	B.H.	50.56
86. J. Baldwin	B.H.	51.12
119. B.O'Gorman	B.H.	51.59

Times unavailable for the following competitors 169. T.Soutar, 175. I. Young, 183. C. Haines, 196. R. Cliff, 209. M. Athawes and B. Flannery. (320)

#### Team

1. Aldershot & Farnham	159
2. Invicta A.C.	261
3. Thames Valley	284
4. Shaftesbury	316
5. Blackheath	359
55 Team Finished	

#### Junior not represented

#### Youths Individual

79. A. Bicknell, 97. S. Searby, 146. M. Hudson, 199. I. Ketchin, 224. P. Galloway.

#### Team

1. Verlea	16
2. Brighton	90
25. Blackheath	519
36 Teams Finished	

#### Boys Individual

1. R. Farrish	B.H.	16.45
2. Barr Basildon		no time
46. G. Fernandes		17.45
89. A. Suckling		no time
142. A. Piper		no time
189. S. Pools		no time

#### Team

1. Cambridge	128
2. Stevenage	173
11. Blackheath	288
37 Teams Finished	

Friday 15 February 1980

#### YOUNG ATHLETES SECTION DINNER

The first-ever Young Athletes Section dinner, held at the club house, was an overwhelming success. Over 80 athletes, parents and guests attended what was felt by everyone to be a most enjoyable social occasion.

We were able to welcome such guests as Dave Powell from the Kentish Times newspaper group, and Ron Gobey and his wife from one of our neighbouring clubs, Herne Hill Harriers.

Hopefully, another such 'social' may be held sometime during the year.

Saturday, 16th February, 1980.

#### WOKING 10 MILE ROAD RACE

This race attracted a very large field this year on a mild day for February. A total of 353 finished, but only 4 Blackheath Harriers showed the Club colours.

There were some well-known names of the road scene competing and the likes of Bernie Plain and Dave Francis were not all that prominent.

First for Blackheath was Pete Catley, Steve Robinson, veteran John Kavanagh, who ran despite a hernia, and Alan Davies made up the B.H. quartet.

Let us hope that more members support this well-organised event next year.

1. J. Robertshaw, Newport, 48.44. 2. N. Sirs, Haslemere, 48.54. 3. M. Hurd, R.A.F. Wattisham, 49.11. 145. P. Catley, B.H. 57.58. 149. S. Robinson, B.H. 58.14. 224. J. Kavanagh, B.H. 61.45. 251. A. Davies, B.H. 63.12.

Saturday, 23rd February, 1980.

#### NATIONAL CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS AT LEICESTER

The Blackheath placings were perhaps a little disappointing compared with the Southern, especially at the sharp end of the senior team, where, however, our first 5 placed themselves discreetly in the same order. A number of rival South East England clubs finished comfortably behind us. There were the usual massive fields, remarkably well organised, and merely to take part remains a unique experience. Blackheath supporters were heard all around the course encouraging their men home.

Senior. 1. N. Rose, Bristol, 45.15. 82. R. Coles, B.H. 117. W. Foster, B.H. 190. P. Irvine, B.H. 255. I. Wilson, B.H. 322. J. Baldwin, B.H. 432. K. Daniel, B.H. 469. C. Haines, B.H. 508, I. Young, B.H. 768. T. Soutar, B.H.

1,627 finished.

Team. 1. Tipton, 206. 2. Gateshead, 353. 3. Invicta, 483. 20. Blackheath, 1,398

166 teams finished.

Junior. 241. R. Wright, B.H.

532 finished.

Youth. 259. A. Bicknell, B.H. 299. M. Williams, B.H. 320. S. Searby, B.H. 391. M. Hudson, B.H. 485. I. Ketchin, B.H. 538. P. Galloway, B.H.

628 finished.

Team. 1. Gateshead, 148. 2. Warrington, 152. 3. Bingley, 210. 64. Blackheath, 1,269.

96 teams finished.

5th March, 1980

#### BLACKHEATH HARRIERS INTER-SCHOOLS RACE FOR THE PARRISH CUP SPARROWS DEN, WEST WICKHAM

1. A. Guilder	HD	18:32
2. K. Minter	M	43
3. C. Sellars	M	44
4. D. Coney	M	49
5. A. Saker	M	52
6. *A. Bicknell	SD	59
7. A. Quye	SK	19:01
8. A. Burn	JF	02
9. L. Marsh	JF	13
10. A. Wilson	SK	18
11. S. Searby	SD	20
12. T. Berrett	SK	20

13. R. Mosley	SK	20
14. M. Wilkinson	SD	23
15. J. Maddans	SK	26
16. *J. Manning	JF	31
17. S. Thompson	SD	34
18. P. Hughes	M	45
19. M. Burkinshaw	HD	20:00
20. I Heard	M	06
21. A. Porteus	JF	09
22. P. Watson	SD	14
23. J. Sharma	SK	17
24. *M. Hudson	H	20
25. D. Elliott	SK	26
26. R. Bestley	SK	27
27. R. Burke	EL	32
28. M. Tomlinson	HD	34
29. M. Allen	SD	40
30. P. Millard	JF	52
31. C. Southern	HD	54
32. *R. Teale	CD	57
33. B Bussell	JF	58
34. P. Southall	JF	21:00
35. D. Brown	H	01
36. D. Burn	JF	02
37. L. Hurd	CD	04
38. M. Symonds	H	05
39. S. Mitchell	M	05
40. J. Best	M	21:07
41. *A. Hartley	H	07
42. R. Gwynne	SD	18
43. M. Mackenzie	SD	20
44. M. Bentley	EL	25
45. M. Colpus	SD	27
46. W. Holmes	SD	27
47. P. Fillier	HD	28
48. *A. Piper	CD	30
49. A. Milliner	HD	32
50. J. Duncan	SD	36
51. D. Cox	EL	37
52. R. Tocha	CD	38
53. M. Norris	H	39
54. G. Day	SD	41
55. M. Reid	HD	42
56. M. Holyoake	H	42
57. F. Magme	JF	48
58. I. Burnham	H	50
59. P. Whyte	SD	50
60. J. Bowles	H	50
61. D. Theobald	HD	51
62. C. Spray	SK	22:01
63. S. Harris	H	04
64. G. Airey	H	09
65. T. Waylor	SD	11
66. A. Leech	H	17
67. G. Jones	H	20
68. J. Porteus	JF	22
69. A. England	H	23
70. P. Stephens	CD	23
71. G. Wastell	SD	30
72. P. Catterall	EL	48
73. L. Andrews	SD	23:09
74. A. Jennings	CD	25
75. J. Wylde	HD	26
76. S. Bowes	JF	24:51
77. M. Donnell	JF	25:10

#### TEAM RESULT

1. Maidstone G.	14
2. Skidders	42
3. St. Dunstans	48
4. John Fisher	54
5. Howard	79
6. Skidders 'B'	89
7. Maidstone 'B'	117
8. John Fisher 'B'	133
9. St. Dunstans 'B'	136
10. Hayes	138
28.	

11. Charles Darwin	169
12. Eltham College	194
13. St. Dunstans 'C'	195
14. Howard 'B'	212
15. Hayes 'B'	227
16. Hayes 'C'	260
17. St. Dunstans 'D'	268
18. John Fisher 'C'	278

#### Rags Trophy

(Awarded to the 1st local Team)  
St. Dunstans

\* Blackheath members

Saturday, 8th March, 1980

#### TONBRIDGE 10 MILE ROAD RACE

**Individual** 1. K. Penny, Cambridge, 48.32. 2. Bremald, Invicta, 48.40. 3. Lawrence, Invicta, 48.52. 14. R. Coles, B.H. 51.05. 24. I. Wilson, B.H. 52.07. 35. R. Cliff, B.H. 53.59. 54. L. Roberts, B.H. 55.30. 83. D. Amner, B.H. 57.08. 91. P. Catley, B.H. 57.27. 108. S. Robinson, B.H. 58.23. 133. J. Kavanagh, B.H. 59.56. 134. C. Woodstock, B.H. 59.58. 169. B. Saxton, B.H. 62.51. 171. Nana, B.H. 62.56. 186. Barrington-King, B.H. 64.17.

232 finished.

**Team** 1. Invicta, 10. 2. London Irish, 27. 3. Cambridge, 31. 6. Blackheath 'A', 57. 20. Blackheath 'B', 236.

43 teams finished.

Saturday 8th March 1980

#### BLACKHEATH HARRIERS v SURREY WALKING CLUB THE JOHNSON BOWL

Pos'n	Name	Time
1	D. Jarman	54:59
2	R. Michell	59:50
3	M. Fullager	60:04
4	D. Rallton	60:33
5	L. Atterbury	62:14
6	N. Tanner	62:59
7	T. Sliwerski	65:47
8	W. Mantzer	66:01
9	W. King	66:10
10	P. Hannell	66:26
11	R. Green	66:49
12	R. Hague	67:28
13	S. Pearson	67:39
14	P. Browning	69:39
15	C. Brand	73:47
16	A. Tompkins	73:52
17	F. Butler	74:25
18	T. Mallott	74:31
19	G. Rhodes	77:21
20	P. Von Spey	84:16

C. Brand won the novices pewter

1. Surrey 47 2. Blackheath 58 Scoring 7 a side

Sunday, 9th March, 1980

#### NATIONAL VETERANS C.C. CHAMPIONSHIPS AT WOLVERHAMPTON

**40/49 Age group.** Another good performance by John Baldwin, this time being our first man home behind the winner T. Davis, who also won the Southern. With four men to score, Wirral had a sweeping victory and Ealing narrowly edged us into third place.

**Over 50 Age group.** Individually the North dominated although the usual three from Thames Valley packed well at the head of the field to win the team award.

P.P. Alan Ball seems to have a new lease of life and was

with sufficient energy to act as a recorder for the runners' race.

#### 40 - 49

1	T. Davies (Aldershot)	29:21	
2	D. Turner (Liverpool)	29:33	
3	S. James (Northern Veterans)	29:42	
4	J. Baldwin	30:06	
5	B. O'Gorman	30:21	
6	J. Clare	31:49	
7	A. Davis	32:33	
8	G. Crowder	33:28	(22nd o/45 out of 84)
9	R. Savery	33:42	
10	J. Hills	34:56	(35th o/45)
11	D. Hoppood	39:04	

12. Parish did not finish but 257 did

#### TEAM

1	Wirral A.C.	47 pts
2	Ealing & Southall	100
3	Blackheath	116

(24 teams closed in)

#### O/50

1	G. Rhodes (Newcastle)	32:19	
2	E. Kirkup (Rotherham)	32:40	
3	C. Simpson (Small Heath)	32:48	
4	A. Ball	38:41	(55th over 50 out of 85)
5	F. Dwyer	42:36	(8th over 60 out of 12)
6	D. Tingey	43:17	(26th over 55 out of 32)
7	J. Bennett	44:24	(10th over 60)
8	W. Lake	46:04	(29th over 55)

9. finished)

#### TEAM

1	Thames Valley	39 pts
2	Small Heath	42
3	Rotherham	42
4	Blackheath	293

(18 teams closed in)

Saturday 15 March, 1980

### CLOSING 5 MILES AT HAYES

The 1979/80 cross country season closed with the usual yacht handicap with limit man Jim Bennett taking full advantage of a good allowance of 18 minutes by easily winning the event. 33 Heathens and 1 guest participated, which bearing in mind it was the day of the Cambridge Farmers Road Relay, in which the club entered, was quite a good turn out. Appropriately the fastest time of the day came from the cross country secretary Ian Young with Alan Davies recording the 2nd fastest and the editor of the Gazette in third place. The course was the usual 5 mile run, the day grey and wintery.

The event settled the points handicap and for the first time since the Bennett cup was presented in 1930 the winner of the competition was the current President, Brian Stone, with a handsome margin of 14 points. The old hands (or is it feet?) Critchley, Tingey, Lake, past President Brand, and Crowder ran well throughout the season to take the immediate following places. (a clean sweep for the Vets — Ed.) V.P. Eric Reed watched the race and visited the clubhouse afterwards. Apart from a dinner it was his first attendance at Hayes this season. He does not change one bit, he tells your correspondent that he has not run recently because he is too lazy (his words) — at his age he's entitled to be. He enjoys life at Morden College, Blackheath where, to the pleasure of the Chaplain and the other residents, he continues to tickle the ivories. Ken Jobson, a former club officer in the fifties popped into headquarters to see old friends and acquaintances. Ken no longer runs, three daughters and a large garden occupy all his leisure time. He resides in France.

Pos'n	Name	Time	H/cap	Net Time
1	J. Bennett	41:25	18:00	23:25
2	P. Farrar	33:32	8:00	25:22
3	D. Saunders	37:58	12:30	25:28
4	C. Brand	43:42	17:30	26:12
5	F. Dyer	40:06	13:45	26:21
6	S. Robinson	32:58	6:30	26:28
7	T. Mallott	43:05	16:30	26:35
8	W. Lake	42:55	16:00	26:55
9	P. Critchley	38:29	11:30	26:59
10	D. Tingey	41:28	14:25	27:03
11	G. Crowder	31:58	4:35	27:23
12	J. Hills	33:27	5:45	27:44
13	H. Nana	34:45	78:00	27:45
14	J. Phelan	35:47	8:00	27:47
15	A. Davis	31:40	3:40	28:00
16	P. Hunter	37:13	9:00	28:13
17	R. Ebbutt	38:21	10:00	28:21
18	P. Hannell	37:38	9:00	28:38
19	I. Young	30:49	1:50	28:59
20	A. Calton (J)	39:14	10:00	29:14
21	J. Rayne	37:15	8:00	29:15
22	D. White	34:31	5:00	29:31
23	J. Sandford (S)	42:49	13:00	29:49
24	B. Stone	37:53	8:00	29:53
25	W. Hill	36:58	7:00	29:58
26	B. Saxton	36:00	6:00	30:00
27	B. Macrae	32:45	2:30	30:15
28	N. Painter	41:31	11:00	30:31
29	G. Butlin	39:32	9:00	30:32
30	A. Calton (S)	38:44	8:00	30:44
31	D. Allen	40:59	8:30	32:29
32	J. Sandford (J)	45:17	10:00	35:17
33	D. Searby	45:17	10:00	35:17
34	C. Elphick	45:08	8:00	37:08

#### BENNETT CUP

1	B. Stone	177 Pts.
2	P. Critchley	163
3	D. Tingey	150
4	W. Lake	148
5	C. Brand	139
6	G. Crowder	128
7	T. Mallott	120

### BLACKHEATHEN'S HALF-CENTURY

(St. Patrick's day in fact — Ed.)

On a relentlessly rainy Monday evening, over a five mile road circuit, embracing Peter Pan's Pool in the witching purlieu of Beckenham, Len King, in company with some 90 other insurance athletes completed the course just 50 years after his initial run in 1930.

To mark the occasion he was presented with an engraved silver tankard; and Len's recollection of "times" past confirmed that he was first man home from 1931-1948 (excluding the war years) and put up a record for the fastest time which stood for 21 years.

For this memorable feat Len had an "accomplice" companion club runner with a selection of jokes to beguile the time until the finish, at which point the recorders had retreated to the dry clubhouse and merely enquired the time from Len whose digital marvel luckily remained dry.

A further tribute was paid him by his election to Life Membership of CUACO — surely a more appropriate gesture would have been a paid-up life policy?

### KENT CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE 1979/80

Once again there is but a poor Blackheath response to record. Why members do not support these races remains something of a mystery as the standard of the leaders is very high, Kevin Steere winning two of the races from good fields, while at the back are some very slow runners; certainly the rest of Kent finds the league useful with over a hundred competing in each race this season.

The league season started at the flat, fast Tonbridge course on an overcast day, though the rain held off for the race. The club team spread through the field and consequently only managed ninth place, one behind Medway

'B' and with only four 'A' teams in the eleven following teams, though there were three clubs without a scoring "four". On a remarkably mild December afternoon Mote Park was graced by just two 'Heathens' prepared to run, though twelve other clubs produced a total of twenty-four scoring teams; there were two other incomplete clubs on this occasion. So to Dartford's sticky course after a morning of persistent drizzle which fortunately ceased for the race; strangely the course was not as heavy as has been known. Nine members made the short trip to Dartford so we were able to field two teams, but though, for once, selection was perfect we only managed sixth team place just ahead of the first 'B' team, that of Cambridge Harriers. This meant that we finished the season thirteenth with four 'B' teams ahead of us and only four 'A' teams behind, and a further three small clubs represented, but on no occasion completing a team.

The under 17 league attracted no 'Heathens' this season, though at the largest race fifty-two ran in eight teams from six clubs, with a further four clubs represented by incomplete teams. This competition, renamed the Youth League, is to be held in future with the Boys and Colts Leagues so hopefully our organisation will be able to cope rather better.

#### 13th October, Tonbridge

1. K. Steere (Dar) 29:40, 2. G. Huckwell (Dar) 30:29, 3 P. Williams (Cam) 30:52, 21. K. Daniel 33:40, 28 B. Flannery 34:11, 46 C. Lord 35:30, 59. S. Cluney 36:56, A. Tomkins (B) 39:41, 91 P. Farrar 40:07, 114 finished.

1. Cambridge 36, 2. Dartford 50, 3. Invicta 53, 9 BH 154, 20 teams closed in.

#### 1st December, Maidstone.

1. J. Patton (Kt) 25:51, 2. J. Wigley (Inv) 25:54, 3. K. Penney (Cam) 26:15, 18. P. Brenchley\* (2nd claim) 28:17, 20 R. Richardson 28:33, 113 P. Critchley 36:51, 124 finished.

1. Cambridge 24, 2. Invicta 34, 3. Elliott 57, 24 teams closed in.

#### 16th February, Dartford.

1. K. Steere 26:01, 2. G. Huckwell 26:01, 3. J. Patton 26:09, 18. K. Daniel 28:52, 22. M. Athawes 29:08, 30. A. Frankish 30:05, 56. G. Brooks 32:32, 60. J. Hills 33:04, 65 P. Farrar (B) 33:42, 82. W. Hill (B) 36:16, 86. P. Hannell (B) 37:12, 89. D. Hopgood (B) 37:26, 102 finished.

1 Invicta 28, 2 Dartford 34, 3 Cambridge 51, 6 BH 126, 17 BH 'B' 322, 19 teams closed in.

Final league positions: 1 Cambridge 194, Dartford 193, 3 Invicta 191, 13 BH 84, 25 BH 'B' 12, 27 teams scored.

Under league positions: 1 Elliott 57, 2 East Kent 44 3 = Judd & Medway 24, 10 teams scored.

### YOUNG ATHLETES SECTION WINTER REPORT

This has undoubtedly been a most successful winter for our young athletes section, both in terms of individual and team competition.

The outstanding individual performance was obviously Robert Farish's win in the Southern Counties Cross-Country Championships (reported elsewhere in this Gazette). However, as a team our main competition — the Herne Hill Harriers Young Athletes Cross-Country League — was the one which provided us with most success.

Our eventual second placing was in no small way attributable to some brilliant team and individual performances over the four fixtures. The winners, Elliott A.C., were certainly made to sweat in the last fixture when we convincingly beat them overall! Unfortunately though, we could only close four of the six-point deficit existing before the match.

Indeed, this final fixture was without doubt the finest team performance we gave all winter. We were third in the Colts race, but won both the Boys and the Youths races

convincingly — ahead of both Elliotts and our old rivals, Cambridge Harriers.

The overall result, although close, was a win to us although with the same number of league points as Cambridge we only edged in front by the odd match point in 463!!

Individually, we finished third in the Colts league, second in the Boys league, and second in the Youths league.

Certainly, we can comfort ourselves in the knowledge that we would have won the league outright but for a disastrous third fixture. This was when our two top Colts failed to finish and our Youths team — seriously depleted — slumped to their worst result ever.

The final league table looks like this:

1 Elliott A.C.	106
2 Blackheath H.	104
3 Cambridge H.	100
4 Mitcham A.C.	70
5 Medway A.C.	64
6 Herne Hill H.	63
7 Dartford H.	56
8 St. Joseph's College	51
9 Camberley & Dist. A.C.	40
10 Ashford A.C.	37
11 John Fisher School	24
12 Redhill & Reigate A.C.	11

Robert Farish took the individual Boys league title with his three wins and a second place, while Youths Captain, Antony Bicknell, was third in the Youths league.

Our other league competition — the Kent Boys and Colts league — saw another second for Blackheath.

Our Boys — although without Robert Farish for three of the four fixtures — finished runners-up in their competition behind Cambridge. The matches held at Hythe, Sevenoaks, Minster and Maidstone saw some worthy performances from our teams. Gavin Fernandes excelled in the Sevenoaks fixture when he won the race in magnificent style. Brian Stone graced us with his presence at this fixture and judging by the result — our first ever win in a County league match individually or as a team — we'd like to employ him permanently!

Our Colts finished third in their league — a good sturdy performance by this ever-enthusiastic band of capable athletes.

Indeed, the winter season has seen a vast improvement in many of our youngest members. Allan Hartley and Martin Osborne, who started out in front, are now being joined by other bright prospects such as Martin Bignell and the Dick twins — Simon and Antony.

However, our two most remarkable discoveries must be 11 year-old Lee Hale, who stormed home in our last winter fixture in Maidstone (Medway A.C. Relays), and Allan Tilley, who boosted our result no end at Herne Hill's March fixture.

The County championships this year were a very drab affair for us. The less said about the Youths result, the better! The Colts and Boys were no improvement. However, our Colts fifth team placing was respectable although our Boys' fourth was disappointing.

Individually, though, Allan Hartley (8th) and Martin Osborne (11th) ran superbly in the Colts' race, and were duly rewarded with a Kent vest for the inter-counties race at Shrewsbury.

Here, their 'County debut' was most satisfactory with both lads finishing in the top half of their race.

In the Boys' race, Robert Farish was again frustrated by the talent of Folkestone's David Bean and had to make do with second. He went to Shrewsbury, however, and revenge was sweet. In what must rate as one of his best races, Robert swept home in third place ahead of Bean and countless other high-talented runners.

Robert's more recent feat of qualifying for the English Schools' Championships at Newcastle through his second place in the Kent Schools' race (Bean first again!), lines him

up for a tough battle in the race being held just after this 'Gazette's' press deadline.

Again, the less said about the National (Clubs) Championships as far as our Youths' section is concerned, the better, but another 'national' held success for one of our Boys. Gavin Fernandes was tenth in the Great Britain National Catholic Schools' Cross-Country championships held early in the New Year.

On the domestic scene, our club championships provided an enjoyable Sunday morning's running in December. The Colts' title was carried off by Allan Hartley while the Boys' race was won by Gavin Fernandes (Farish wasn't there!), and the Youths' by Glen Denham.

Our two most successful trophy meetings of the season came in the space of two days.

The Crawley meeting saw our Minor Colts carry off third place medals, as did the Boys team. Robert Farish coasted home to another individual win for the gold — a feat he repeated the following day at the Camberley event.

Camberley saw us one step closer to those elusive 'gold's' in the Boys and Youths, as both teams took second place in their races. Anthony Bicknell performed very well to beat Glen Denham, finishing third overall.

This event nearly didn't happen at all for us though, with a certain team manager's car parked on the hard shoulder of the M3 with a decidedly flat rear off-side and spare tyre for over two hours!

So the season ends with us empty-handed as a club — a story of seconds and thirds — but rest assured this is in no way illustrative of the gallant efforts our youngsters have again made.

Once more it is the sad duty for the Young Athletes Secretary to bid farewell to a number of individuals who now move up to the Senior ranks. Although I am sure we will maintain contact through the future years, I must record my special thanks to such athletes as Antony Bicknell, Stephen Searby, Glen Denham, Robert Head and others — too numerous to mention — for their exceptional efforts for the section since I joined the club.

Finally, well done, everyone in the Young Athletes Section for a great winter — especially to Mr. & Mrs. Hartley, Mr. Osborne, Mr. Farish (special thanks to him) and the other loyal parents who have come to the rescue when we have been struggling for transport to matches. Any other volunteers?

Now for the track and field season, and our toughest test yet in the first division of the National League!

Following the 'rush-hour' last summer of great hoards of under-17's eager to join Blackheath, things have stabilized somewhat in recent months.

However, that is not to say that we have not seen any new faces join our ranks during the Winter months. Although numbers have decreased, the quality of talent we are recruiting these days remains high.

Possibly one of the most significant 'finds' just recently is Youth sprinter, Adam Fincher. Adam is taking up Athletics a little more seriously now, having decided to drop his dawn swimming sessions with Beckenham Swimming Club. He has much potential and needs only to polish up on one or two of the finer points of sprinting, and we could see some fast times this summer!

Another Colts middle distance runner has joined up as well. After his fine performance in the West Kent Schools championships earlier this year, Simon Tripp was soon handed a membership form which he duly signed. Simon joins a group of fast-improving Colts/Boys and should reap the benefits of competing with some of the best runners in the club of his age.

Two other 'distance' runners in their early teens — Stephen Card and Justin Williams (brother of Marc) — have also joined our happy band and are progressing well.

My thanks to Cross-Country Captain (Youths), Anthony Bicknell, for introducing schoolfriend, Stephen Thompson, to the club. It appears that this could add quite considerable strength to our Youths Cross-Country side.

Finally, I must also give mention to someone already in the club who has decided that important studies at school and Athletics cannot compete. Steve Hannon, who has decided to go flat-out for his exams at school and leave his running (at least for the present, anyway), is a sad loss to our Youths middle-distance contingent. However, we wish him well and hope that he achieves his ambitions — whatever they may be.

To Hon. Editor

Kent, 21.11.79

Sir,

Relaxing at the Open Night Supper after the S.L.H. match in company with some 90 others, I could not help reflecting that many then present could have helped that afternoon to defeat the "Auld Enemy" who outnumbered us in the field by some 50% and snatched a narrow victory — on our home ground too! Is it possible that some of the gallant 70 who heralded the "Opening Five" did not pay heed to the "November Necessity" which is or should be graven on all Heathen hearts?

However, not to end on a carping note may I say how much I appreciated the meal so splendidly cooked and so effectively organized by the AD HOC COMMISSARIAT whose appropriately bearded leader ensures that success is IPSO-FACTO achieved.

'heathenly  
PRO TEM.

#### **Congratulations**

Messrs. Gerry Rhodes, Harold Rhodes and Jack Stevens have all completed sixty years membership of the Club — still showing us the way.

**Grateful thanks** to Messrs. Haines, Horn, Mobbs and C. Wilson who responded to the appeal in the previous gazette and have enabled us to complete our set of gazette backnumbers ready for binding.

**Correction** to page 63 of the previous gazette. The Editor's amendment to the 6th line of the report of the veterans fixture on 29th September no longer applies.

**At Last.** The Multigym equipment is now installed and in use at the Clubhouse. Potential users are welcome to join the Wednesday night crowd.

# BLACKHEATH HARRIERS 100 x 1 MILE CLUB RELAY

SUNDAY JUNE 29th

Ring John Baldwin, 856 3011  
to make sure of your mile

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## R.W. PATTISON

We regret to report the death of our oldest Vice President and Life Member R.W. Pattison, who died in November at Ventnor, aged 93.

"Pat" as he was always known, joined the club in August 1905, during our Green Man era. In his earlier days he divided his athletic interest between Blackheath and Lloyds Bank with whom he was employed all his working life, at their St. James branch. He was a useful performer on the track in  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile events for both Clubs, and prominent in the Clubs cross country events such as the Mob Matches.

He served in the Royal Marine Submarine Service in the Great War, keeping an interest in athletics when possible and competing in the  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile for the Royal Marines in 1918.

After the war was probably "Pat's" most successful athletic period, when he was in the first team versus Oxford University in 1919, 3rd in the Club '10' in 1921 and in the Southern team in 1921 and 1922.

He served as an assistant secretary in 1921, 1924 and 1926 and became a Vice President in 1929.

After deciding to terminate his running activities he was still a staunch supporter of the Club events and his recitation at Club Smokers always caused great merriment.

It was regrettable that he was to lose his two sons, both Sutton Valance boys and in the R.A.F. Vincent being killed in action in 1940 and Bob with D.S.O. and D.F.C. surviving the war but dying some years later.

Pat and his wife moved to Niton on the Isle of Wight in 1953, where he still maintained his interest in athletics, helping Ryde Harriers as an officer in their fixtures, including their annual Marathon. He also served in the R.N. Mine Watching Service for some years.

There was always a welcome for visiting Blackheathens, and there are still some of us left who will remember the great hospitality given by Pat and his wife Nell at "Kingscote" and the games of bowls played on the lawn.

Eventually Pat moved to Ventnor, where his wife later died and he finally married & old friend to be together in a nursing home.

Pat was a Blackheath character and will be missed by his remaining contemporaries. We give our sympathy to his wife, two sisters and brother.

## COLONEL EDWARD REED

On October 31, 1979 Lt. Colonel Edward Reed died, aged 69 years, at his home on St. Marys, Isles of Scilly.

For those club members, who have never met him, this will be just a sad statement of fact. But for those who have, it could, upon reflection, become rather a strange announcement, for they will surely remember him as being so very much alive.

"He has a twinkle in his eye", observed the wife of a vice president. "He's a bit of a boy!" exclaimed a certain track captain.

Always one for good humoured banter, Ted could never resist the temptation of pulling the long leg of a very tall club discus thrower. And it was in such a mood that the old soldier came appropriately to the Sandhurst track fixture in May of 1964 for what was to be his last club function.

"You would have thought with all these facilities", he looked approvingly at the very attractive running track before becoming somewhat disparaging about the efforts of the cadets on it, "THAT THEIR standards would have been higher".

"I escaped all this"; his relief was evident as, at the end of the match, he turned his back on the track to walk, with others, across the parade ground, and into the Academy's gymnasium, "but Eric", he glanced sympathetically at his eldest brother, who had been at Sandhurst some 40 years before, "was not so lucky".

Yet it was the evening of that memorable day, in the convivial atmosphere of a Camberley pub, that brought forth the real zest for fun within him, for there, with the twinkle in his eye so obvious, he jocularly suggested to a small and sprightly member of the party that he should try and squirm his way under the bar's foot rail.

But the vice president concerned laughingly declined to make the effort, which was a pity for, if he had, we might all have been there now. And that would have been no bad thing.

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## EDITORIAL

It is the sincere hope of the Editor that this, his 2nd number as Editor, will reach its readers quicker and will be visually more attractive. While naturally anxious to preserve his own amateur status, he has been grateful to receive expert professional advice from I.P.P. Colin Brand and Gordon Wright, who has assumed major responsibility for the technical preparation.

A glance at the following pages will show a range of enthusiastic activity with varying degrees of success. It is of course due entirely to personal prejudice that the Editor highlights the Junior Veterans, but pride of place must go to our first major individual cross-country title winner since 1953, Robert Farish in the Southern Junior. What a remarkable family! More details inside.

Readers will also notice criticisms, one failure to attend presentation ceremonies and two, failing to wear correct Club uniform: see Rule 20 of the Club's Rules.

*Editor*