



"Perfer et Obdura"

# Blackheath Harriers' Gazette

110/111th SEASON: 1979-80

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**EDITORIAL**

Sackcloth and ashes first! Despite fond hopes the last edition of the Gazette was severely delayed, due to pressing professional commitments in turn of a crucial assistant and the editor himself. It is perhaps also not too late to mention that the pages in No. 598 of August-October 1979 were wrongly numbered, and should have been from 1 to 16. This was corrected in No. 599 by another crucial assistant.

Attack being the best form of defence, let it next be said that this Gazette is a very incomplete record of recent club activity, for which the editor in no way accepts responsibility. The officials in question are given one written reminder in good time of the relevant deadline; there is no time nor should there be the need for more.

Keen-eyed readers will have noticed that despite the date-line little on the fixture card for July is recorded here, and the bulk of the results from earlier have been shamelessly copied from the Courier, the editor of which is clearly nastier or more efficient or both!

On a slightly different tack it must be said that recent improvements at the club headquarters have been much appreciated, and of course any critic lays himself open to the invitation to do something about it himself. Nevertheless, adequate changing and washing facilities are fundamental in any club such as ours. Hopefully the gents' changing room is at the top of the list for a facelift, and could perhaps be granted an adequate rubbish bin without delay. Club morale is likely to sag if we can't have a reliable supply of hot water for the colder weather. How much did we pay for this installation, which seems to compare most unfavourably with that of various friends and rivals?

**WINTER CAPTAIN'S PRE-SEASON EXHORTATION**

It has become as much a sign of encroaching winter as the falling leaves and the short evenings: yes, the Winter Captain's annual attempt to stir his cohorts into action.

Last season proved to be moderately successful. We obtained respectable positions in the Southern and National (which rank us nationally at least as highly as the "Trash and Field" Boys) and qualified for the National Road Relay. However, as we learned, especially in the last event, the hard way, there is still room for improvement.

But the success of the club does not rest with its first team. As a club with a tradition our Mob Matches remain important events and opportunities for everyone to make his contribution. It has been said we fail to provide sufficient fixtures for our non-Championship contenders. I disagree, but am willing to be proved wrong. If you feel we are not catering for you, study your fixture card and turn up for the events listed. If you need more details 'phone Ian Young or myself. Until we begin to attract more members to the fixtures we provide we won't dilute enthusiasm any further by arranging more. Don't wait to be contacted, turn up and make your presence felt.

Finally, the SLH Mob Match will be held at Richmond Park on 15th November in conjunction with Ranelagh Harriers' Centenary Match. What better occasion to prove our supremacy in South London! Please consider yourself selected for this match. I look forward to seeing you there.

T.S.

## REPORTS AND RESULTS

*Saturday, 15th March 1980*

### CAMBRIDGE HARRIERS' ROAD RELAY AT BEXLEY

1. Aldershot, Farnham and District: 90 mins. 37 secs.;  
2. Bolton United Harriers: 91 mins. 26 secs.; 3. Thames  
Valley Harriers: 92 mins. 17 secs.; 7. Blackheath Harriers  
'A': 94 mins. 17 secs.; K. Daniel 16-06, R. Richardson  
15-36, R. Coles 14-45 (3rd fastest), F. O'Gorman 15-44,  
J. Baldwin 16-00, C. Haines 16-06. 17. Blackheath  
Harriers 'B': 99 mins. 12 secs. C. Woodcock 16-15, C. Bird  
16-41, A. Frankish 16-22, L. Roberts 16-13, B. Swift  
17-14, P. Shephard 16-27.  
27 teams finished.

*Sunday, 16th March 1980*

### CROYDON HARRIERS ROAD RELAY AT CRYSTAL PALACE

Won in 82 mins. 39 secs. 3. Blackheath Harriers 'A':  
84 mins. 27 secs. M. Athawes 10-19, I. Wilson 10-29,  
A. Frankish 10-35, L. Roberts 10-41, R. Coles 9-44  
(fastest), P. Horwood 11-12, C. Haines 10-52, K. Daniel  
10-35. 6. Blackheath Harriers 'B': 88 mins. 17 secs;  
C. Woodcock 10-32, T. Llewelyn 11-34, C. Bird 10-53,  
S. Cluney 11-05, P. Shephard 11-02, B. Swift 11-31,  
S. Brooks 10-54, I. Young 10-46.  
13 teams finished.

#### Medway Relays at Maidstone.

Youths: Won in 19 mins. 18 secs; 7 teams finished.  
5. Blackheath Harriers: 19 mins. 52 secs; M. Williams  
6-29, R. Head 6-49, A. Bicknell 6-34.

Boys: 13 teams finished.

7. Blackheath Harriers: 21 mins. 13 secs; R. Teall 7-09,  
A. Piper 7-15, S. Roberts 6-49.

Colts: Won in 21 mins. 36 secs. 15 teams finished.

2. Blackheath Harriers 'A': 21 mins. 50 secs. M. Osborne  
7-16, M. Bignell 7-24, A. Hartley 7-10. 6. Blackheath  
Harriers 'B': 22 mins. 36 secs; L. Hale 7-45, M. Hale 8-07,  
A. Dick 7-44.

*Saturday, 22nd March 1980*

### ORION HARRIERS '15' AT CHINGFORD

#### Individual

1. A. Simmons (Luton United) 1 hr. 30-38; 2. D. G.  
Horton (Harlow) 1 hr. 36-25; 3. G. L. Meredith (Cam-  
bridge H) 1 hr. 36-31; 24. P. Shephard (Blackheath H)  
1 hr. 42-53; 26. B. M. Swift (Blackheath H) 1 hr. 43-28;  
32. A. M. Davis (B.H., 4th veteran) 1 hr. 44 - 46;  
99. M. L. Peel (Blackheath H) 1 hr. 54-56; 149. D. H.  
Hopgood (Blackheath H) 2 hr. 09-38; 156. P. C. Hannell  
(Blackheath H) 2 hr. 12-37.

266 entries, 196 started, 178 finished.

Romford Half Marathon: Won in 66 mins. 46 secs.

20. I. Wilson: 71 mins. 32 secs.

Team (aggregate time of 3)

1. Walthamstow A.C. 'A' 4 hr. 54-25; 2. Luton United  
4 hr. 54-54; 3. Cambridge Harriers 4 hr. 56-18; 4. Rane-  
lagh Harriers 'A' 5 hr. 03-22; 5. Woodford Green A.C.  
5 hr. 06-14; 6. Blackheath Harriers 5 hr. 11-07.

*Sunday, 23rd March 1980*

### BLACKHEATH HARRIERS' WINTER TRACK MEETING AT CRYSTAL PALACE

Note: Track events attract mass entries and are run in  
several heats. Winning times and times of club members  
are given.

(a) Senior: 100: 11.2, R. Lyston, R. Pinson 11.7. 600:  
80.9, G. Brooks 85.5, J. Powell 94.7, 3000: 1st R. Coles  
8-20.7, T. Nana 10-49, N. Painter 11-29. L. Jump: 1st  
R. Weaver 6m 66, 6th N. Burrows 5-85, 8th R. Lyston  
5-77. H. Jump: 1st T. Llewelyn 2-03. Shot: 12-63, 2nd  
C. Ellis 12-49. Discus: 40-00, 5th C. Ellis 34-00.

(b) Junior: 100: 11.4, I. Simmons 12.0, M. Moss 12.5.  
600: 1st T. Llewelyn 84.1, R. Head 88.2. 1000: 2-38.8,  
R. Head 2-48.1. Shot: 14-29, 4th D. Brand 9-87.  
Javelin: 53-02, 3rd D. Brand 40.94.

(c) Youths: 600: 88.7, S. Tutt 97.7, S. Poole 98.3,  
M. Simmons 102.3. 1000: 2-42.4, I. Ketchin 2-51.5,  
M. Hudson 2-54.2, A. Piper 3-11.9. L. Jump: 1st G.  
Mitchell 5-88, 7th N. Casey 4-86, 8th S. Poole 4-56,  
9th J. Beale 4-32, 10th P. McDonald 4-32. Javelin: 52-90,  
9th T. Mallott 29-26, 10th G. Penfold 21-84.

(d) Boys: 100: 12.5, P. McDonald 12.7, M. Casey 13.1,  
G. Barnwell 13.3, S. Matteson 13.9, A. Jordan 13.9,  
J. Beale 15.1, L. Hale 15.4, C. Suckling 15.6, G. Mortimer  
15.9, A. Hartley 18.3. 600: 92.4, A. Suckling 93.0, G.  
Bennett 102.4. 1000: 2-45.5, J. Martin 3-00.5, R. Teall  
3-04.9, M. Bignall 3-07.8, A. Hartley 3-15.4, R. Mitchell  
3-21.8, S. Dick 3-22.3, A. Dick 3-24.0, G. Griffiths 3-30.4,  
M. Checkley 3-30.4, S. Tripp 3-35.5, H. Dunns 3-37.5.

*Saturday, 29th March 1980*

### THE WORTHING '10'

Won in 49 mins. 59. 17: F. O'Gorman 52-20 (1st  
veteran), 31: L. Atterbury 53-41, 33: C. Woodcock 53-49,  
153: P. Hannell 66.00. 1st = Hastings 36, 5th = Black-  
heath 81.

*Sunday, 30th March 1980*

### KENT A.C. 10 MILE OPEN ROAD RACE AT SIDCUP

1. P. Gaden (Torbay A.C.) 50-04 (course record), 2. M.  
Paul (Cambridge H.) 51-40, 3. B. Haratsis (L.S.E.) 52-05;  
Blackheath places: 10. L. Roberts 53-48, 21. P. Shep-  
heard 55-32, 30. P. Catley 57-07, 45. S. Robinson 59-57,  
60. P. Bennington-King 62-37, 62. T. Nana 62-59, 71. C.  
Ferguson 63-45, 83. P. Hunter 66-02. 99 finished.

1st = Cambridge 'A' 11, 2nd = L.S.E. 32, 3rd = Cambridge  
'B' 50, 4th = Blackheath 'A' 61, 15th = Blackheath 'B'  
193.

*Wednesday 9th April 1980*

### SOUTHERN 10,000 METRES CHAMPIONSHIP AT CRYSTAL PALACE

Won in 28-57.4., 7. R. Coles 29-52.4.

*Saturday, 12th April 1980*

### SOUTHERN ROAD RELAY AT WIMBLEDON

1st: Aldershot F.D. 4 hr. 11-01, 2nd: Thames Valley  
Harriers 4 hr. 12-58, 3rd: Brighton A.C. 4 hr. 14-10, 9th:  
Blackheath Harriers 4 hr. 22-22. (individual performances  
not available).

### WALTHAMSTOW A.C. ROAD RACE FOR OVER 35s

Won in 22-54, 10: P. Shephard 24-05, 24: G. Crowder  
25-01 (results incomplete).

Sunday, 13th April 1980

### CROYDON A.C. 50 x 1 MILE RELAY

1st: Blackheath 4 hr. 22-10.4, 2nd: South London 4 hr. 23-34.8, 3rd: Croydon 4 hr. 28-02.0, 4th: Epsom and Ewell 5 hr. 14-30.0. Fastest individual: 4 mins. 20, R. Coles 4-29 (3rd fastest), M. Athawes 4-31, P. Irvine 4-33, J. Wilkinson 4-40, K. Daniel, R. Wright 4-41, R. Cliff, P. Shepherd 4-43, A. Frankish, F. O'Gorman 4-44, D. Cocker 4-45, G. Giles 4-46, G. Brooks 4-47, P. Horwood, C. Woodcock 4-49, T. Soutar 4-51, G. Denham, T. Llewelyn 4-54, B. Macrae 4-55, R. Head 4-57, S. Cluney, M. Peel 4-58, C. Haines, I. Young 4-59, D. Wade 5-02, J. Powell 5-08, D. Amner 5-09, S. Robinson, D. White 5-11, G. Crowder, J. Nash 5-13, J. Hills 5-14, J. Wakeman 5-22, P. Hannell 5-28, C. Shorter 5-30, J. Raine 5-31, I. Simmons 5-32, R. Ebbutt 5-37, T. Walhen 5-40, N. Painter 5-44, R. Tompkins 5-46, P. Hunter 5-50, M. Williams 5-53, M. Carroll 5-54, A. Tompkins 5-57, A. Ball 6-07, T. Mallett, R. Mitchell 6-09, P. Nash 6-43, P. Farrar 7-07.

Sunday, 20th April 1980

### KENT COUNTY RELAY CHAMPIONSHIPS AT CRYSTAL PALACE

Senior: 4 x 100: Won in 44.2, 3rd: Blackheath 44.7. Medley: Won in 3-36.1, 2nd: Blackheath 'A' 3-37.3, 8th: Blackheath 'B' 3-49.3. Junior: 3000m team: Won in 8-33.4, 11th: A. Bicknell 9-27, 15th: S. Searby 9-43. Boys: 4 x 100: Won in 50.0, 2nd: Blackheath 50.2. Youths: 4 x 100: Won in 47.0, 6th: Blackheath 49.8. 3000m team: Won in 8-58.6, 3rd: R. Farish 9-05.2 13th: M. Williams 9-37, 14th: S. Thompson 9-38, 17th: G. Fernandes 9-40, 20th: A. Tilly 9-44, 32nd: I. Ketching 10-06, 33rd: M. Hudson 10-09. 2nd: Blackheath 47 points.

### FINCHLEY '20'

Won in 1 hr. 44-45, 30th: M. Peel 1 hr. 54-22.

### BRECKLAND '10' AT THETFORD

Won in 50-37, 12th: J. Clare 55-25.

Wednesday, 23rd April 1980

### SOUTHERN COUNTIES A.A.A. v. WALES v. LOUGHBOROUGH v. CAMBRIDGE AT CRYSTAL PALACE

High Jump: 1. T. Foulger 2m.05, 2. T. Llewelyn, 2m.00.

Saturday, 26th April 1980

### A.A.A. 12 STAGE ROAD RELAY AT SUTTON COLDFIELD

1. Bristol A.C. 4 hr. 00-37, 27th: Blackheath Harriers 4 hr. 22-37; F. O'Gorman 28-17, M. Athawes 15-06, R. Coles 26-35, K. Daniels 15-27, I. Wilson 28-16, R. Wright 16-09, R. Cliff 28-40, A. Frankish 15-24, L. Roberts 28-03, I. Young 16-00, C. Haines 28-38, J. Wilkinson 16-02.

### HERNE HILL '10' AT BROCKWELL PARK

Won in 49-22, 51st: J. Hills 59-37, 54th: S. Robinson 60-25, 61st: M. Peel 61-10, 89th: P. Hannell 66-27, 91st: D. Hopgood 67-24. 102 finished. Blackheath 9th out of 14 teams.

Wednesday, 30th April 1980

### S.C.A.A.A. v. SURREY v. BOROUGH ROAD COLLEGE v. R.A.F. AT CRYSTAL PALACE

High Jump: Won in 2m.05. 3rd: T. Llewelyn 1m.95.

Friday, 2nd May 1980

### U.A.U. CHAMPIONSHIPS AT OXFORD

High Jump: 1st: T. Foulger 2m.00.

Saturday, 3rd May 1980

### BRITISH LEAGUE AT WINDSOR

May 3rd saw Blackheath Harriers return to the upper ranks of British athletics as we contested our first British League fixture since August 1972. This match was approached not without a few worries as no fewer than ten of the first choice team were missing for one reason or another. The overcast afternoon opened at one o'clock with the hammer and the pole vault and an early opportunity to assess the club's chances. Mike Winch and Chris Ellis (in his first appearance for the club in league competition) both threw lifetime bests of 47.56m and 36.32m respectively and finished 2nd in the 'A' and 3rd in the 'B'. In the pole vault Nick Latchem and the evergreen Jim Day competed and here we won the 'B' string through Jim. The long jump was next and we won both strings through Bob Weaver (on countback) and Ian Simmons.

The track events now got under way and Martin Caroi won the 'B' string 400 hurdles in 57.6. The 800 metres 'A' race saw Bill Foster third in 1.54.5. In the 100 metres we were third in both races with Richard Lyston and Bob Pinson, the times meaning nothing as there was a headwind in the straight. The steeplechase saw track captain Andy Frankish run his best time for two years 9.37.5 to finish 4th in the 'A' race with Bob Cliff 2nd in the 'B' race. This result meant that with seven events gone Blackheath were for the first time in the lead in a British League fixture.

The discuss resulted in wins for both Mike Winch, 51.00m, and Chris Ellis, 40.02m, and they followed this up in the shot with a win by Mike in 18.29m and a second for Chris in 12.15m. Back on the track saw two third places in the high hurdles, and in the 400 metres a fast finishing Trevor Llewelyn came 4th whilst in the middle of a tough high jump contest. The 1500 metres saw our one bad result of the day as, due to absentees, John Wilkinson had to run, having already run 57.6 for 400 metres hurdles, and Gavin Giles was called in at the last minute from the B team; they both finished sixth. In the 200 metres Richard Lyston was 4th in the 'A' and a fast finishing Bob Pinson second in the 'B'. The final individual track event saw Richard Coles just losing out in the 5000 metres to Peter Adams (Aldershot) and Martin Athawes taking second place in the 'B' string. In the high jump Trevor Llewelyn finished second in 1.97m. attempting 1.99m after his 400 metres run. In the javelin Colin Brand beat Tony Mason and they were 5th in the 'A' and 4th in the 'B' respectively. The triple jump saw Nick Burrows fifth in a tight contest and a tired Ian Simmons (his fifth event of the afternoon) sixth. The result of the meeting had now been settled with Aldershot comfortably ahead of us, but we were even further ahead of third placed Windsor with the relays to follow. The 4 x 100 relay saw us in 3rd place and the scene was set for the final event, the 4 x 400 relay. The first two legs by Glen Brooks and Bill Foster saw us in third place some twenty yards down on Oxford, the leaders. Ray Wright took over and ran a storming 50.5 leg to handover to anchor man Trevor Llewelyn still ten yards down but in a comfortable second place. Trevor running his best ever relay leg closed the gap and then proceeded to go well clear, and recorded an impressive 48.95.

A good all round team performance saw us first in the field events and second on the track. Ian Simmons/was the hardest worker of the afternoon, whilst Mike Winch with his unselfish attitude was an inspiration to everyone. The next match is in three weeks at Aldershot and a stronger team must be capable of a win against the home club which will put us well on the way to promotion to Division 4.

**Match Result:**

1st Aldershot 268; 2nd Blackheath 235; 3rd Windsor 198; 4th: Oxford and Bedford 188; 6th Swansea 180.

	Winner	'A'	
HT	58.70	2 M. Winch	47.56
LJ	6.87	1 R. Weaver	
DT	51.00	1 M. Winch	
HJ	1.99	2 T. Llewelyn	1.97
SP	18.29	1 M. Winch	
PV	4.20	4 N. Latchem	3.00
TJ	14.00	5 N. Burrows	13.12
JT	60.92	5 C. Brand	45.30
400mH	54.4	4 J. Wilkinson	57.6
800m	1.53.9	3 W. Foster	1.54.5
100m	11.5	3 R. Lyston	11.9
3000mSC	8.52.0	4 A. Frankish	9.37.5
400m	50.5	4 T. Llewelyn	51.4
1500m	3.53.8	6 J. Wilkinson	4.07.9
200m	22.3	4 R. Lyston	23.5
5000m	14.38.8	2 R. Coles	14.40.9
4 x 100	42.9	3 Blackheath H	44.6
4 x 400	3.25.7	1 Blackheath H	

	Winner	'B'	
HT	47.10	3 C. Ellis	36.32
LJ	6.37	1 I. Simmons	
DT	40.02	1 C. Ellis	
HJ	1.90	4 I. Simmons	1.75
SP	12.98	2 C. Ellis	12.15
PV	2.90	1 J. Day	
TJ	13.44	6 I. Simmons	11.99
JT	52.98	4 T. Mason	44.26
400mH	57.6	1 M. Carroll	
800m	1.55.8	4 R. Wright	1.57.4
100m	11.5	3 R. Pinson	11.8
3000mSC	9.35.0	2 R. Cliff	9.56.5
400m	51.1	5 G. Brooks	52.4
1500m	3.58.9	6 G. Giles	4.15.2
200m	23.1	2 R. Pinson	23.5
5000m	14.56.1	2 M. Athawes	15.30.6

**SOUTHERN LEAGUE AT WEST LONDON**

100; 11.0, 2nd: N. Lambert 11.1. (11.2. 4th: P. Ashen 11.6.) 200: 22.6, 3rd: N. Lambert 23.6. (22.7, 3rd: P. Ashen 23.8.) 400: 50.3, 5th: M. Mahoney 55.2. (52.0, 4th: M. Moss 54.9.) 800: 1.59.9, 4th: A. Bicknell 2.04.5. (2.05.6, 5th: M. Williams 2.10.0.) 1500: 4.04.9, 5th: C. Bird 4.20.3. (4.11.2, 5th: P. Horwood 4.52.4.) 5000: 15.23.8, 3rd: P. German 15.43.1. (1st: L. Roberts 15.55.2.) 110H: 16.4, 5th: R. Ebbutt 19.8. (1st: D. O'Connor 17.9.) 400H: 59.5, 5th: R. Ebbutt 71.6. (61.6, 5th: L. Roberts 74.3.) 3000SC: 10.08.2, 4th: L. Roberts 10.25.1. (10.38.0, 4th: D. Wade 11-13.2.) L Jump: 6m60, 2nd: G. Mitchell 6.15. (6m 19, 2nd: D. O'Connor 5.75.) T Jump: 13m 31, 3rd: D. O'Connor 11.73. (12m 72, 3rd: G. Mitchell 10.60.) H Jump: 1m 80, 3rd: G. Mitchell 1.75. P Vault: 3m 90, 5th: R. Ebbutt 2.30. (3m 60, 4th: T. Boam 2.00.) Shot: 11m 33, 2nd: D. Gray 10.18. (9m 94, 3rd: D. Brand 8.94.) Discus: 36m 22, 4th: D. Gray 36.74. (36m 06, 5th: D. Brand 19.56.) Javelin: 64m 90, 4th: D. Brand 41.8. (42m 20, 3rd: T. Boam 37.26.) Hammer: 31m 38, 4th: D. Gray 24.96. (26m 44, 4th: D. Brand 19.40.) 4 x 100: 44.5, 3rd: Blackheath 45.7. 4 x 400: 3.33.3, 5th: Blackheath 3.45.6.

('B' results shown in parentheses).

**Results:**

1st: Thames Valley Harriers 135, 2nd: Dartford 126, 3rd: Worthing 109, 4th: Barnet 84, 5th: Blackheath 83.

**A.A.A. MARATHON AT MILTON KEYNES**

Won in 2 hr. 14.00. 104th: I. Wilson 2.38.22. 195 finished.

**CHICHESTER TO PORTSMOUTH 25 km.**

Won in 1 hr. 24.23. 5th: C. Haines 1.28.15. 27th: I. Young 1.36.09, 98th: P. Hannell 1.53.56. 102m: P. Hunter 1.55.12 128 finished. 1. Walton 2, 11: Blackheath 91: 25 teams.

*Sunday 4th May 1980*

**YOUNG ATHLETES' LEAGUE AT WIMBLEDON**

Youths: Blackheath individual winners: 100m 'B': A. Keyes 11.9, 200 'A': P. Ashen 23.2, 1500 'A': R. Farish 4.16.8, 'B': M. Williams 4.18.7, 100H 'A': P. Austridge 15.4, 400H 'A': P. Austridge 60.7, L Jump 'B': P. Ashen 5.67, H Jump 'A': G. Mitchell 1m 75, 4 x 100: 47.6, 4 x 400: 3.48.7. Boys: 400 'A': R. Ashdown 56.1, 800 'B': J. Martin 2.23.8, 1500 'A': A. Suckling 4.37.7, 'B': J. Martin 4.44.0, 3000 'A': D. Brown 10.08.5, 80H: S. Allwood 12.9, L Jump 'B': P. MacDonald 5m 05, Shot 'B': M. Grace 10m 75, Discus 'B': S. McGowan 24m 50, Hammer 'B': M. Grace 20m.

**Results:**

1st: Herne Hill Harriers 212, 2nd: Blackheath 207.

*Monday 5th May 1980*

**TED PEPPER MEMORIAL RACE AT BECKENHAM**

1st: P. Gaden (Torbay) 33.55, 2nd: M. Couldwell (New Zealand) 33.59, 3rd: B. Thompson (NZ) 34.10, 5th: R. Coles 34.51, 10th: L. Roberts 35.41, 11th: F. O'Gorman 35.43, 16th: C. Woodcock 36.27, 17th: J. Baldwin 36.35, 19th: R. Cliff 36-47, 20th: A. Frankish 37.06, 27th: C. Haines 37.29, 29th: D. Wade: 37.48, 32nd: P. Shephard 37.58, 38th: I. Young 38.40, 41st: S. Cluney 38.53, 50th: P. Catley 39.22, 54th: D. Amner 39.35, 67th: C. Shorter 40.19, 70th: D. White 40.36, 72nd: J. Kavanagh 40.43, 86th: S. Davis 41.27, 89th: R. Savery 41.37, 92nd: B. Fincham 41.58, 96th: P. Barrington-King 42.20, 99th: A. Nana 42.37, 102nd: G. Botley 42.56, 107th: P. Hannell 43.34, 112th: R. Donoghue 44.17, 119th: A. Tompkins 45.26, 120th: D. Allen 45.29, 130th: J. Powell 46.47, 140th: T. Mallott 50.58, 143rd: C. Brand 54.49. 144 finished.

**Results:**

1st: Blackheath 'A': 42, 2nd: Blackheath 'B': 83, 3rd: South London Harriers: 138.

*Sunday 11th May 1980*

**KENT '20' AT BECKENHAM**

1. C. Woodcock 1 hr. 54.52, 4. I. Wilson 1.56.18, 5. P. Shephard 1.56.38, 7. F. O'Gorman 1.57.13, 26. M. Peel 2.10.48, 34. R. Savery 2.16.23, 38. G. Crowder 2.20.29, 46. P. Hannell 2.29.38. 52 finished.

**Results:**

Open: 1st Blackheath 12, 2nd Epsom and Ewell 46. Kent: 1st Blackheath 15, 2nd Cambridge 23, 3rd Invicta 28.

*Saturday 17th/Sunday 18th May 1980*

**KENT COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS AT CRYSTAL PALACE**

Senior: 100: Won in 11.0, 3rd: R. Pinson 11.3, 8th: R. Lyston 11.5. 200: 22.3, 5th: R. Lyston 22.9, 8th: R. Pinson 23.3. 400: 49.8, 5th: D. Cocker 51.3. 1500: 3.57.0, 2nd: R. Coles 3.58.1, 6th: M. Athawes 4.09.4. 5000: 14.13.6, 3rd: R. Coles 14.22.0, 6th: P. Brenchley

## SURREY COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS AT MOTSPUR PARK

1st in Shot and Discus: M. Winch.

*Saturday 17th May 1980*

### ISLE OF WIGHT MARATHON

Won in 2 hr. 33.51, 32nd: C. Haines 2.52.31, 66th: M. Peel 3.04.49, 112th: P. Hannell 3.20.00. 217 finished.

*Saturday, 17th/Sunday 18th May 1980*

### KENT COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS AT CRYSTAL PALACE

Senior: 100: Won in 11.0, 3rd: R. Pinson, 11.3, 8th: R. Lyston 11.5. 200: 22.3, 5th R. Lyston 22.9, 8th: R. Pinson 23.3. 400: 49.8, 5th: D. Cocker 51.3. 1500: 3.57.0, 2nd: R. Coles 3.58.1, 6th: M. Athawes 4.09.4. 5000: 14.13.6, 3rd: R. Coles 14.22.0, 6th: P. Brenchley 15.16.0, 8th: I. Wilson 15.29.6, 10th: P. Shephard 16.00.6. 110H: 1st: M. Carroll 16.1. 400H: 55.0, 3rd: M. Carroll 56.3, 5th, 5th: J. Wilkinson 58.6, 3000SC: 9.16.9, 2nd: A. Frankish 9.29.9. 3000 Walk: 13.12.8, 7th: A. Pickering 16.42.4. L Jump: 7m 27, 2nd: R. Weaver 6.79, 5th: P. Davies 6.13. T Jump: 15m 45, 2nd: P. Davies 13.17. H Jump: 1m 95, 5th: M. Cannon 1.90. P Vault: 4.40, 2nd: J. Day 3.00, 3rd: J. Wakeman 3.00. Discus: 53.70, 3rd: C. Ellis 39.56. Javelin: 58.14, 3rd: C. Mason 47.88. Junior: 100: 11.3, 2nd: D. Lazaro 11.7, 4th: D. O'Connor 11.7. 200: 21.6, 3rd: D. Lazaro 22.8. 800: 1.54.6, 3rd: R. Wright 1.55.4. 1500: 3.55.5, 8th: R. Wright 4.03.8. 110H: 1st: J. Adkins 15.7, 2nd: I. Simmons 15.8, 3rd: I. Holder 15.8. L Jump 7.06, 5th: I. Simmons 6.57, 7th: D. O'Connor 6.37, 11th: I. Holder 5.72. T Jump 13.39, 5th: D. O'Connor 12.33, 6th: I. Holder 12.30. H Jump: 2.00, 5th: M. Cannon 1.85. Youths: 100: 10.8, 2nd: P. Ashen 11.2, 4th: E. Chambers 11.3. 200: 22.0, 2nd: P. Ashen 22.5, 3rd: E. Chambers 22.8. 1500: 4.00.8, 6th: M. Williams 4.13.9. 400H: 1st: P. Austridge 59.0. 1500SC: 4.35.2, 10th: M. Hudson 5.06.3. L Jump: 6.53, 2nd: G. Mitchell 6.51. H Jump: 1.90, 2nd: G. Mitchell 1.83. Shot: 12.06, 3rd: G. Cussen 11.70. Javelin: 49.54, 3rd: T. Mallott 38.16.

*Sunday 18th May 1980*

### ENGLAND v. WALES v. HUNGARY v. NETHERLANDS AT CWMBRAM

High Jump won in 2.18, 4th = T. Foulger 2.05, 7th = T. Llewelyn 1.95.

*Wednesday 21st May 1980*

### PHILIPS' NIGHT OF ATHLETICS AT CRYSTAL PALACE

High Jump won in 2.20, 7th = T. Foulger 2.05, 10 = T. Llewelyn 2.00.

Youth 4 x 100 A.A.A. Relay Championship won in 43.07, 4th: Blackheath 45.04.

*Saturday 24th May 1980*

### BRITISH LEAGUE AT ALDERSHOT

The story so far: having gained promotion convincingly at the end of last season the club had successfully survived its first match back in the National League and arrived at Aldershot for the second of the four fixtures lying second in the table to the host club. Unfortunately, as seems to be a club failing, we were not able to field our strongest team and the question thus became not whether we could win the meeting but whether we could retain our position in the League and with it a strong chance of promotion

And so it turned out, the first few track events confirming that we would not be able match Aldershot's strength. As is becoming, fortunately, something of a habit for them, the field events men rattled up a large number of points, with the ever consistent Mike Winch producing three formidable performances including a personal best in his 'weak' event, the hammer despite a heavily strapped throwing arm. Nor can Chris Ellis's performance in support be overlooked, though the highlight of the afternoon must have been Tim Foulger's League Record in the High Jump with able assistance from Trevor Llewelyn comfortably ensuring maximum points.

Though there were no equivalent performances from our athletes on the track there was no lack of effort expended. The results show where our problems lie and it should be pointed out in fairness that there are one or two events in the field which could be usefully strengthened.

The shock of the day must have been our failure to win the 4 x 400 relay. This reporter cannot remember the last time he saw us lose one of these relays and is still not convinced that it was not a mere mirage produced by many Tuesday evening training sessions at the Railway Bell!

The outcome was therefore, as predicted, a solid second place. It had been an afternoon of consolidation but nevertheless, watch out Division Four!

100: 'A': Won in 10.7, 5th: R. Lyston 11.0; 'B' 11.0, 5th: N. Lambert 11.4. 200: 'A' 21.7, 4th: R. Lyston 22.8; 'B': 22.3, 3rd: R. Pinson 23.5. 400: 'A': 49.6, 4th: D. Cocker 51.5; 'B': 50.9, 2nd: J. Wilkinson 51.7. 800: 'A': 1.53.0, 6th: G. Brooks 2.02.0; 'B': 1.54.2, 6th: R. Coles 2.01.2. 1500: 'A': 3.46.9, 6th: M. Athawes 4.03.6; 'B': 3.53.0, 4th: K. Daniel 4.04.5. 5000: 'A': 13.51.3, 2nd: R. Coles 14.35.0; 'B': 14.50.2, 4th: I. Wilson 15.30.2. 110H: 'A': 14.9, 4th: M. Carroll 15.9; 'B': 16.1, 3rd: I. Simmons 16.4. 400H: 'A': 54.5, 3rd: M. Carroll 56.0; 'B': 57.5, 2nd: J. Wilkinson 58.8. 3000SC: 'A': 8.58.9, 3rd: R. Cliff 9.31.5; 'B': 9.30.6, 2nd: A. Frankish 9.39.0. L Jump: 'A': 6.93, 3rd: (Blackheath) 6.86; 'B': 1st (Blackheath) 6.51. T Jump: 'A': 14.25, 4th: P. Davies 13.08; 'B': 13.50, 4th: M. Carman 11.99. H Jump: 'A': 1st: T. Foulger 2.15 (League record); 'B': 1st: T. Llewelyn 2.05. P Vault: 'A': 3.50, 3rd: N. Latcham 2.90; 'B': 3.20, 3rd: A. Sherry 2.60. Shot: 'A': 1st: M. Winch 17.74; 'B': 1st: C. Ellis 12.13. Discus: 'A': 1st: M. Winch 54.10; 'B': 1st: C. Ellis 41.72. Javelin: 'A': 60.60, 4th: C. Morris 53.74; 'B': 53.74, 4th: T. Mason 47.40. Hammer: 'A': 50.00, 2nd: M. Winch 48.44; 'B': 49.40, 2nd: C. Ellis 34.64. 4 x 100: 42.8, 3rd: Blackheath 44.1. 4 x 400: 3.20.6, 2nd: Blackheath 3.22.1.

### Results:

1. Aldershot 267, 2. Blackheath 232, 3. Oxford 212, 4. Swansea 197, 5. Winchester 195, 6. Bedford 154.

### KENT COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS AT ERITH

Senior: 10000m: 1. C. Woodcock 33.10.9, 2. P. Shephard 33.50.7. Boys: 100: 12.2, 4th: N. Casey 12.2. 400: 1st: R. Ashdown 55.2. 800: 2.12.9, 3rd: A. Suckling 2.14.5. 80H: 1st: S. Allwood 12.7. H Jump: 1.60, 6th = G. Barwell 1.46. Colts: 800: 2.23.3, 3rd: R. Mitchell 2.28.3, 10th: S. Tripp 2.41.3. 1500: 4.56.0, 9th: C. Suckling 5.15.0.

Sunday 25th May 1980

### YOUNG ATHLETES' LEAGUE AT CROYDON

1. Blackheath 253½. Individual Blackheath winners:—  
Youths: 100 'B': P. Johnson 12.6. 200 'A': P. Ashen 24.0; 'B': A. Lavinga 25.2. 800 'A': R. Farish 2.06.6; 'B': M. Williams 2.09.3. 1500 'A': R. Farish 4.14.3; 'B': M. Williams 4.24.3. 400H 'A': P. Austridge 6.0.0; 'B': J. Hunter 67.0. L Jump 'B': D. York 5.38. P Vault 'A': J. Cunningham 2.80; 'B': R. Hoare 2.50. Shot 'A': G. Cusson 11.95; 'B': T. Mallott 9.43. Discus: 'A': A. Fairburn 25.96; 'B': P. Ashen 21.34. Hammer 'B': A. Fairburn 22.16. 4 x 100: I. Blackheath 47.9. 4 x 400: 1. Blackheath 3.44.0. Boys: 400 'B': S. Dwobeng 58.9. 1500 'B': J. Martin 4.53.3. 3000 'B': D. Brown 10.15.2. 80H 'A': S. Allwood 13.3; 'B': P. MacDonald 14.0. T Jump 'A': D. May 10.94; 'B': C. Brighton 9.79. H Jump 'A': M. Battle 1.51; 'B': A. Neill 1.48. Shot 'A': M. Bullock 10.20; 'B': S. Allwood 9.82. Discus 'A': M. Bullock 23.50; 'B': G. Barwell 21.94. Hammer 'A': M. Bullock 21.55; 'B': A. Jordan 18.74. 4 x 100: I. Blackheath 50.6. 4 x 400: 1. Blackheath 3.57.0. Colts: 100 'A': R. Codd 14.5. 200 'A': R. Codd 29.5. 800 'A': R. Mitchell 2.29.2. 1500 'A': C. Suckling 5.06.8; 'B': G. Griffiths 5.33.5. 4 x 100; 1. Blackheath 58.6.

In Philadelphia, U.S.A; J. Spooner: 800 in 1.47.8 (new club record).

### INTER-COUNTIES VETERANS' 10 km ROAD RACE AT LEAMINGTON

1. J. O'Brien (W. Glamorgan) 31.41, 2. P. Flynn (Warwick) 32.24, 3. A. Lennon (Cheshire) 32.31, 24. G. Crowder (Kent) 35.37: only Kent representative!

Sunday 25th/Monday 26th May 1980

### INTER-COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIPS AT BIRMINGHAM

Discus: 1. M. Winch 53.80. Shot: Won in 21.03, 2nd: M. Winch 18.74.

Monday 26th May 1980

### FAVERSHAM 17 KILOMETRES

Won in 53.24. 6th: F. O'Gorman 57.46 (1st veteran) 1: Invicta 7, 3: Blackheath 59.

Saturday 31st May 1980

### SOUTHERN LEAGUE AT WIMBLEDON

100: 11.5, 3rd: C. Afele. ('B' 11.8, 3rd: M. Moss). 200: 23.2, 3rd: C. Afele 24.1. ('B' 23.6, 3rd: M. Moss 24.8). 400: 52.0, 4th: J. Powell 54.3. ('B' 53.1, 5th: M. Mahoney). 800: 1.57.7, 4th: R. Farish 2.01.9. ('B' 2.00.1, 4th: C. Bird 2.03.8). 1500: 4.03.3, 3rd: P. German 4.07.2. ('B' 4.07.3, 2nd: G. Giles 4.08.0). 5000: 14.56.0, 2nd: L. Roberts 15.20.2. ('B' 1st: J. Baldwin 15.22.0). 110H: 18.1, 2nd: D. O'Connor 18.1. ('B' 1st: R. Ebbutt: 19.7) 400H: 61.7, 4th: M. Mahoney. ('B' 64.5). 3000SC: 1st: T. Soutar 9.58.8. ('B' 2nd: C. Haines). L Jump: 2nd: P. Brooks 6.12. ('B' 4th: D. O'Connor 5.91). T Jump: 13.03, 2nd: P. Brooks 12.80. ('B' 12.48, 2nd: D. O'Connor 11.78). H Jump: 1st: P. Brooks 1.88. ('B' 1.65, 2nd: D. O'Connor 1.50). P Vault: 1st: J. Day 3.00. ('B' 1st: J. Wakeman 2.80). Shot: 12.34, 3rd: D. Gray 9.97. ('B' 10.76, 2nd: D. Brand 9.27). Discus: 4th: D. Gray. ('B' 4th: C. Brand). Javelin: 50.12, 2nd: C. Brand 43.08. ('B' 41.28, 3rd: D. Brand 39.36). Hammer: 38.14, 3rd: D. Gray 25.22. ('B' 27.52, 3rd: C. Brand 20.64). 4 x 100: 46.1, 2nd: Blackheath 46.3. 4 x 400: 4th: Blackheath 3.35.7.

#### Results:

1. Hercules Wimbledon 125, 2. Blackheath 124, 3. Stevenage 117, 4. Mitcham 98, 5. Watford 70.

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Sunday 1st June 1980

### GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE GOLD CUP 1ST ROUND AT CRYSTAL PALACE

This meeting was organised by the club under the able directorship of Andy Frankish and turned out to be a splendid match full of interest and excitement. The athletes must be congratulated on performing to a high standard and the officials on the efficient running of the meeting.

B.H. have qualified for the semi finals of the G.R.E. Gold Cup for the first time since 1975 and on the performances here and with (so our track captain informs us) another 9 or 10 athletes as yet unused so far this season, we could appear in the televised final for the first time ever if we qualify at Cwmbran on the 10th August.

The main opposition in the match would obviously come from Epsom & Ewell of the third division in the national league but Gloucester snapped at our heels for most of the meeting and with only two to qualify there were anxious faces amongst the management of the team but we prevailed and in the end were unlucky to finish 2nd to Epsom by only two points, the result depending on the 4 x 400 relay.

In the match itself our success was built around Mike Winch. What a splendid club man he has turned out to be, winning the Hammer (his best throw ever by nearly 2 metres) Discus and Shot! A welcome winning return was made by Ray Harradine in the Javelin. Our other field events competitors secured us a massive advantage in that sector: young Bob Weaver, not yet at his best, second in the Long Jump, Tim Foulger winning the High Jump and trying for a cup record, and veterans Jim Day and Nick Burrows doing their bit.

On the track our only winner was Richard Coles at 5,000m but Bob Cliff can approach 9 mins in the 'Chase if he believes in himself and practices his hurdling. Trevor Llewelyn just missed the magic 50 sec 400m but will do it this year and Martin Carroll's 55.6 in 400 hurdles was a season's best. Sprinters must train harder or something, although there is some improvement. John Wilkinson should take more rest the night before competition! The 4 x 400 provided a fitting climax to the meeting, Croydon Harriers with International Bob Benn returned a very fast time and inflicted a rare defeat on our team but 3.20.8 with Brooks and Spooner missing is not bad.

An encouraging sight was the number of Blackheath athletes in the non-scoring events, some running faster than the team members, a good innovation this. The meeting was analysed over pints of 'Stones' at Headquarters by the Senior Pros.

100: 10.8, 5th: R. Lyston 11.4. 200: 22.3, 4th: R. Lyston 23.3. 400: 53.7, 49.1, 3rd: T. Llewelyn 50.1. 800: 1.55.4, 4th: J. Wilkinson 1.56.2. 1500: 3.52.2, 5th: M. Athawas 4.09.7. 5000: 1st: R. Coles 14.50.8. 10000: 31.28, 3rd: I. Wilson 32.21.9. 110H: 15.4, 3rd: M. Carroll 16.1. 400H: 53.7, 2nd: M. Carroll 55.6. 3000SC: 9.29.1, 2nd: R. Cliff 9.33.9. L Jump: 6.82, 2nd: R. Weaver 6.69. T Jump: 13.91, 2nd: N. Burrows 13.35. H Jump: 1st: T. Foulger 2.10. P Vault: 4.00, 5th: J. Day 3.00. Shot: 1st: M. Winch 17.90. Discus: 1st: M. Winch 53.40. Javelin: 1st: R. Harradine 56.56. Hammer: 1st: M. Winch: 50.26. 4 x 100: 43.1, 4th: Blackheath 44.5. 4 x 400: 3.15.8, 2nd: Blackheath 3.20.8.

#### Results:

1. Epsom and Ewell 96, 2. Blackheath 94, 3. Gloucester 78, 4. Croydon 67, 5. Crawley 53, 6. Corby 50.

Non-scoring races: 100 'A': 11.3, 3rd: R. Pinson 11.4, 4th: I. Simmons; 'B': 1st: C. Afele 11.8, 2nd: P. Davies 12.0. 200 'A': 22.4, 2nd: P. Ashen 22.8, 4th: R. Pinson 23.3, 5th: I. Simmons 23.4; 'B' 23.1, 2nd: D. Cocker 23.8, 3rd: M. Carroll 24.0, 4th: C. Afele 24.2, 5th:

J. Wilkinson 24.8; 'C': 24.3, 2nd: P. Davies 24.4. 400 'B': 54.2, 3rd: S. Searby 54.8, 4th: K. Daniel 55.2. 800 'B': 1st A. Bicknell 2.01.1. 1500: 4.06.4, 3rd: M. Williams 4.13.8, 4th: G. Denham 4.17.6, 7th: P. Farrar 4.27.4.

*Saturday 7th June 1980*

#### SOUTHERN LEAGUE AT WINDSOR

100: 11.0, 2nd: P. Ashen 11.1. (11.6, 2nd: C. Afele 11.6). 200: 1st: P. Ashen 22.4. (1st: M. Moss 24.1). 400: 52.7, 3rd: C. Afele 54.1. (1st: J. Powell 53.2). 800: 1.59.3, 4th: A. Bicknell 2.01.4. (2.00.2, 5th: C. Bird 2.07.0). 1500: 3.58.6, 4th: P. German 4.06.9. (4.09.8, 4th: P. Horwood 4.16.4). 5000: 15.01.8, 2nd: J. Baldwin 15.04.0. (15.23.2, 2nd: P. Brenchley 15.34.4). 110H: 16.2, 4th: D. O'Connor 17.8. (16.5, 2nd: R. Ebbutt 19.5). 400H: 56.6, 5th: R. Ebbutt 65.0. (1st: J. Powell 61.9). 3000SC: 1st: T. Soutar 9.35.2. (1st: G. Giles 9.43.1). L Jump 6.51, 2nd: D. O'Connor 6.33. (6.25, 2nd: P. Brooks 6.06). T Jump: 13.23, 2nd: P. Brooks 12.94. (13.08, 2nd: N. Burrows 12.70). H Jump: 1.95, 2nd: P. Brooks 1.90. (1.75, 4th: N. Burrows 1.60). P Vault: 1st: J. Wakeman 3.00. (1st: J. Day 2.90). Shot: 13.00; 5th: R. Harradine 10.69. (11.35, 4th: D. Gray 10.39). Discus: 37.64, 5th: D. Gray 29.08. (33.40, 5th: D. O'Connor 23.70). Javelin: 67.02, 3rd: R. Harradine 48.74. (1st: C. Brand 43.50). Hammer: 42.44, 5th: D. Gray 27.46. (34.62, 5th: D. Brand 19.88). 4 x 100: 1st: Blackheath 44.7. 4 x 400: 3.34.3, 3rd: Blackheath 3.35.9.

#### Results:

1. Basingstoke 136, 2. Blackheath 118, 3. Windsor 101. ('B' team results shown in parentheses).

*Saturday 14th June 1980*

#### 6 MILE ROAD RACE AT CANTERBURY

Weather conditions were unhelpful: exceedingly hot with a very strong wind. The course was fairly hilly, and much of it was through orchards.

#### Results:

1. M. Gratton (Invicta) 28.55, 2. M. Brameld (Invicta) 29.33, 3. R. Harbisher (Longwood) 30.07, 41. P. Catley (Blackheath) 34.06, 51. J. Kavanagh (Blackheath) 35.15. 94 finished.

('B' team results shown in parenthesis).

#### VETERANS' 10 km. ROAD RACE AT HENDON

The dentist and the secretary set off unsportingly fast, and took no part in the close and sporting contest among the teacher, the insurance salesman and the fireman. Greater experience in uphill struggles just carried the day.

#### Results:

1. P. Campbell (Essex Beagles) 32.36, 24. C. Shorter 35.51, 29. D. Amner 36.01, 43. G. Crowder 37.04, 44. R. Savery 37.05, 45. B. Saxton 37.08.

*Saturday 14th/Sunday 15th June 1980*

#### U.K. CHAMPIONSHIPS AT CRYSTAL PALACE

H Jump: Won at 2m 22, 4th: T. Foulger 2.10, 9th: T. Llewelyn 2.05. Shot: 1st: M. Winch 18.96.

*Sunday 15th June 1980*

#### "AN OFFA WE COULDN'T REFUSE"

#### The Offa's Dyke '15'

'twas a day of mixed humours that saw the advanced guard of the Heathen army leave their south eastern homeland for the meagrely charted territories to the far west, territories which they hoped would yield treasures of unimaginable proportions. The day aged visibly as the miles passed and became lost behind hill and woodland and over the eastern horizon. With every new frame of the changing landscape the voyagers' hearts pumped a little faster.

Camp this night had been carefully planned, as indeed had the whole operation, by captain Igor Wilson, a survivor of many a similar campaign since entering the service of the Black Masters just after the beginning of time. Brian 'the Swift of Foot', Alan 'the Fell Alan' Davies, 'Little Pete' Hannell, Les 'the Ferret' Roberts and Igor himself established themselves at Poston Hill not 3 leagues from the site where the battle was due to commence on the morrow. Meanwhile, in the nearby township of Peterchurch, another faction brave and true - Ian 'the Young One' and Robert 'the Cliff Hanger' - had put up at a local inn with their womenfolk under the guise of travelling athletes.

The elements grew ever more dire, plumbing the depths of foulness at the precise moment that tent erection commenced; even in these distant lands the Laws of St. Sod prevailed. However, the prospect of an adjacent ale house serving roast bull soon restored the troops' spirits, such a hostelry was indeed found, the Pandy Inn in nearby Dorstone, where a most revelrous evening was enjoyed by all.

Those who slept through a cacophonous dawn chorus and the extreme bladder pressure of many pints of Theakstones awoke to a most unexpected warmth and glow permeating through the canvas - the sun! "Oh, bliss!" thought the aesthetes. "Oh, xx!!!?" harmonised the warriors who feared a combination of two feet of best Anglo-Gallic quagmire under foot and beating sun on the backs of their necks.

Camp was broken after another hearty meal and the troops made tracks for Hay-on-Wye. By one of the clock the town was already beginning to feel the weight of the amassing warriors in their multi-coloured vestments. Many an anxious eye was cast northwards to view the first line of the natural defence which the enemy employed to such effect each year. Little practice sorties were taking place all around. Instructions were issued to those new to the fray and mounting tension was reflected in the absence of both rolled tissue and paper hand towels in the town conveniences as warrior after the warrior endeavoured to flush his anxiety down the corporation sewers.

The Heathen advanced guard had now been bolstered by reinforcements who had driven hard from London on the Sunday morning in the company ox cart of one Michael 'Iron Thighs' Peel. With him were the formidable trio of Barry 'The O'greman', Bill the Wader, and Sir Christopher Oakhampton.

At the appointed hour the starter's bow and arrow twanged and the motley throng surged through the narrow streets, all hell-bent on getting an early bead on the elusive prey. Up hill, now down, on road, rough track, cobble and grassland the combatants from all corners of the nation moved as one in pursuit of the Great Offa. After the first ridge was topped many of the leaders started to realise the error of their early zeal and slipped back along the now meandering string of slavering mortals. But the Heathens were moving well and progressing steadily through the pack, demonstrating extreme sureness of foot over the rutted pastures and boulder-strewn paths and through the great poultrices of bovine excrement that welcomed them to the numerous farmyards they had to cross.

At 15 miles lay the township of Kington, and it was here that it was decided that Offa had once more evaded capture and that continued pursuit would be futile. First to reach Kington was Mike Gratton, a bowman from the Invicta horde who arrived in 1 hour 27 minutes. The Heathens had kept well to the fore and had 8 of their number in the first 45: Les 'the Ferret' 16th in 1-36.51, Barry 'the O'gremman' 21st in 1-38.41, Bill the Wader 27th in 1-39.53, having been sent round the town, presumably by an Offa sympathiser, Sir Christopher Woodcock 33rd in 1-40.56, Robert 'the Cliff Hanger' 37th in 1-42.10, Brian 'the Swift of Foot' 41st in 1-42.49, Igor Wilson 43rd in 1-42.51, Ian 'the Young One' 45th in 1-45.05, Michael 'Iron Thighs' Peel 153rd in 1-58.38 and 'Little Pete' Hannell 203rd in 2-09.06. Unfortunately Alan 'the Fell Man' Davies had to be relieved of duty at about half distance due to the recurrence of an injury sustained in previous combat.

Despite this close formation, however, they were too late to gather bounty. All the plundering had been done by the first 12 to arrive, but it was recognised that the O'gremman was the third warrior of more than 40 battle-torn winters to reach the jousting grounds at Kington, and for this he was presented with a new quiver and a pair of fighting socks. That their doublet pockets remained empty worried not the others as their minds had quickly turned to the journey home and the prospect of another evening of unrivalled bacchanalia in some wayside hostelry on the track back to London. In order to avoid the skirmishes which were bound to break out as the mutual goal of Offa faded from the mind and inter-army rivalries resumed, the Heathens made their way back through the byeways of Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire, and it was in the hamlet of Ford near Stow-on-the-Wold that the vision that each was carrying in his mind's eye was realised: the Plough Inn. The garrulous innkeeper and his serving wench clearly appreciated the needs of war-weary troops, and soon had the mead and gruel flowing down their necks. A warmth returned to the bones, cheeks glowed, contentment abounded.

It was agreed by all that despite the escape of Offa for yet another year, and despite the Heathens not having arrived in time to enjoy the raping and pillaging at Kington, all in all it had been a memorable experience. They lost the battle but won a truly excellent week-end and would, to a man, take up arms and return again next year.

*Friday, 20th/Saturday 21st June 1980*

#### **SOUTHERN CHAMPIONSHIPS AT CRYSTAL PALACE**

Boys' 400: 2nd: R. Ashdown 53.2.

*Saturday 21st/Sunday 22nd June 1980*

#### **WELSH CHAMPIONSHIPS AT CWMBRAM**

H Jump: 1st: T. Llewelyn 1.95.

*Friday 11th/Saturday 12th July 1980*

#### **ENGLISH SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS REPORT**

'Eventful' is one word that could be used to describe this year's English Schools Championships in Liverpool – certainly as far as those representatives from Blackheath were concerned! Having decided to drive up on the Thursday evening, two sets of proud parents and a rather anxious young athletes secretary piled into a red Chevette and headed north. After braving the London peak hour traffic (hairy, even with a good driver behind the wheel!) the order of the day turned out to be a grand tour of Merseyside's A-roads before eventually arriving at the hotel in Kirkby. Navigator Farish, back seat driver Ashdown and wife (or should I say "and husband?!"), closely followed by yours truly, checked in and headed for some shut-eye.

Friday was the first day of the championships at the local sports centre, not far from where we were staying.

First on was 400m hurdler Paul Austridge. Panic was not the word for describing his feelings on arriving at the stadium. The Kent coach had evidently broken down and groups of athletes bundled into taxis going to the track. Paul arrived ten minutes before his event and really didn't know whether he was coming or going! Obviously not – he qualified for his semi-final with his second fastest ever time of 57.5 seconds!

In row G of the spectators stand, the tension mounted as Rob' Farish appeared on the far side for his 1500m heat. Two hundred metres to go – "He's left it too late" – "It's the first three and he's fourth" – "Oh I can't Look!" . . . . For fifteen minutes after the race, dejection ruled over row G as it appeared that Robert had finished fourth – just outside the necessary third to go through to the final. A face appeared above the railings: "Close wasn't it?" said Rob'. "Never mind", we said, "What do you mean?" he said, "I'm through!"

Robert had, in fact, scraped through in third place in a finish that saw all the first four finishers in a line as they broke the tape. Meanwhile, the first tragedy of the championships had occurred over at the long jump pit. Grant Mitchell had got it all wrong in his event and had not reached anything like his normal form. He failed to reach the final.

Paul Ashen, running the 200m, was another Harrier who was inexplicably off-form on the day. He finished fourth in his 200m heat, but just managed to qualify for his semi-final as a fastest loser. It all went wrong for him as well though, in the semi-final, as he made his exit from the championships in a lowly eighth place – hardly indicative of the tremendous talent Paul has shown in the past.

The scene was set for the first day's grand finale – the Junior 400m and the entrance on the national scene of Robin Ashdown.

Silence in Row G, the tension mounted, "You might've known it", I opined, "lane . . . . . eight!" Off they went with me pulling a muscle in my finger as the gun fired, nervously starting my watch. The dialogue from row G after this was a little confused (to say the least) so I think it suffice to say that he won – just – in a respectable 53.5 seconds. Robin was in the semi-finals.

The Friday evening was comparatively uneventful compared with last year's pub' crawl in Nottingham! I'm sure Brian Ashen felt the absence of the gay 'Bruce' barman he met at Nottingham last year!

The following morning saw Paul Austridge make his exit from the championships. He was eliminated from his semi-final in fifth place clocking a nevertheless respectable 57.7 seconds.

Next came Robin Ashdown's semi-final – he needed first or second to go through to the final – but none of us were thinking of that. He had done well already. What a load of defeatists! Row A (we'd moved down on the Saturday from Row G) sat up in amazement as Robin hit the home straight in third. "Oh no, not again – I can't go through this all over again", whined someone who would now like to remain anonymous. Robin crossed the line second, sailing into the final later that day with a personal best 53.0 seconds.

Robert Farish was the one other remaining interest for Row A in the championships, and what a race his final turned out to be! Rob ran superbly and everyone's heart was in their mouth as he bulleted up the home straight in fourth place. He took third with 20 metres to go and second with 10 metres to go – could he take the title? Not quite, but second in 4-00.4 was enough to earn Robert an England vest for the schools home international at Lincoln the following week.

While all this had been going on, the St John Ambulance contingent had been kept busy with the other young star we were all there to see. After his heat, Robin Ashdown limped off the track with a massive blister on his left foot – so massive, that he was at one point doubtful about running in the semi at all! Now, with the final

fast approaching, Robin was in a lot of trouble with an open gash under his foot protected only by a makeshift dressing. But he was in the final, and nothing was going to stop him running after all the training and preparation for this one, highly-esteemed event. Only able to hobble round the back field to warm up, Robin faced an apparently impossible task. But what a fantastic effort he put in for the race! He finished fifth in 53.7 seconds and was actually annoyed with himself for not placing higher! Truly a tremendous effort.

So that was that. Another English Schools had come to an end – a tournament which this year provided Blackheath harriers with mixed fortunes. However, no matter what the results there is little doubt that all our athletes this year will be there again in 1981, anxious to improve still further on their achievements of 1980.

Next year the championships are being staged in Yeovil, Somerset.

J.P.

## YOUNG ATHLETES' SECTION SUMMER REPORT

Our main aim this year was to establish our young athletes Track and Field team in the first division of the National Young Athletes League's Southern area, and 'establish ourselves' we did! After our five league matches we found ourselves in third place and heading for the national auxiliary final at Cophall Stadium. What a fantastic year our youngsters have had! Following in the footsteps of our seniors, the Boys and Colts did us proud in the South East Counties League as well. They won the championship with a match to spare.

We opened the year at Wimbledon and the much-awaited clash between Blackheath and local rivals Herne Hill. This match was a real thriller, providing drama which continued even after the last event had been completed. Although we were announced at the time as outright winners by two points, a recount snatched victory away again in favour of Herne Hill. Revenge was sweet, however, as we thrashed Croydon after they beat us last year and deprived us of the second division championship.

Our next match in the league was at Croydon and our own promotion. Here we enjoyed a very comfortable win with the second-highest points total (at that stage of the season) ever scored in the division.

Having been elevated into third place with this win, the crunch came in a thrilling battle at Guildford. This was when we met reigning Southern Area Champions, Brighton, fourth-placed Tonbridge, and Surrey Beagles. In the end, Blackheath, Tonbridge and Brighton were so close that each club scored in excess of 200 points. Much to our dismay, Tonbridge were announced as winners with 224 points, but we were second – ahead of Brighton – with 216. Brighton were third with 209.

Having slipped to fifth spot, we needed a win at Wycombe where our fourth fixture was staged, to lift us back into the vital top four. This we achieved, although it wasn't easy with Oxford not far behind us.

On to the final match then at Feltham. The crunch! Here, we met host club Hounslow who had not lost a match all year and were top of the division. Challenging us also were Crawley – in fifth place and looking for a place in the auxiliary final – and Sutton and Cheam – seventh in the division of 16 clubs. This was obviously our crucial match, but what a disaster it nearly turned out to be! We needed second place in the match to qualify for the auxiliary final, but with well over half the team unavailable on the day we looked doomed to failure. However, we just managed to scrape through in second place after all with some fine performances from athletes who were in some cases doing four track events during the afternoon.

This report was written before the final had taken place, but it certainly promised to be a cracking fixture – no matter what the result.

Meanwhile, the Boys and Colts had been doing exceedingly well in their own competition in the South East Counties League.

Our campaign in this competition opened at Deangate. Here, we won the overall match and shot straight to the top of the league's first division.

There was nothing to touch us in this league in 1980. The second fixture at Tenterden saw another convincing victory for Blackheath and an even wider gap at the top of the league table.

We had only to win the third fixture at Erith in July to ensure the title came to Hayes before we even arrived at the final at Ladywell. This we did, thus securing the first major title for Blackheath's young athletes section in some years.

It is unfortunate that the final match of the league clashes with our National Final at Cophall in September, but with a B team being selected our account was by no means settled after the Erith result.

1980 has also been a year of more outstanding individual success. None more so than Robert Farish – again! Robert missed the County championships in May due to holiday, but he certainly made up for this later in the year as he scooped the Southern Counties Youths 1500 metres title at Crystal Palace. Robert's time in the final astonished everyone. Clocking 3 minutes 58.5 seconds, he proved himself to be one of the fastest lads in his age-group around, even though he has still another year as a Youth. In the English Schools Championships at Liverpool, he excelled again to take second place in the 1500m final. This earned him an English Schools vest for the home international at Lincoln. While running for his country, Robert improved yet again to clock 3-58.2 in another second place.

A full report on our youngsters' exploits at the English Schools event is given elsewhere in this Gazette, but we must not ignore some brilliant performances in the area competitions.

Robin Ashdown is one Blackheath youngster who has caught the eye this year. At 14 and a second year 'Boy', his 400 metres running has impressed everyone. Robin won the Kent County title with a championship best of 55.2 seconds, and improved for the Kent Schools championships where he improved their championship best to 54.3 seconds. In the Southern Counties championships at Crystal Palace, Robin suffered his first ever defeat over the distance. He finished second with a nevertheless stunning 53.2 seconds.

Paul Ashen has also shone again this year. He took two silver medals in the sprints in the Southern Counties championships and also the Kent County championships. Most impressive is the way Paul has improved over 200m. This year has seen Paul slice nearly a second off last season's best to his current fastest of 22.4 seconds.

Paul Austridge – last year's Boys 80m hurdles Southern Counties Champion – turned his attention this year to 400m hurdles. This was obviously a turn for the better for Paul. He has already collected both Kent titles for the event, gained third in the Southern Counties championships with an amazing 56.2 seconds, and all this in his first year as a Youth!

Grant Mitchell has taken the long jump world by storm this year. He won the Kent schools title with 6m 73cm – over half a metre ahead of his nearest rival. Grant's improvement this year has been incredible and he is clearly a future prospect for the British League team if he carries on like that.

Most important to me though, must be the terrific team spirit that has surrounded our successes. The determination and willingness shown by a large proportion of this year's teams has helped in no small way the job of managing and administering a very large number of club members. Thank you one and all!

This year has provided Blackheath with another huge influx of new faces in the Young Athletes Section, swelling the population at Hayes still more than before. Most significant however, is the number of these new members that are appearing in our league teams – surely indicative of the higher standard of athlete we can now attract?

Colts' sprinters Ian Brooks (Langley Park school again) and Michael Brown (yet another Langley Park product) have added much-needed strength to a previously weak area, while senior team mates in the Boys section, Nick Casey and Dave May, have carried on their good work. In the Youths' team, Paul Ashen has recently been joined by Errol Chambers — a very capable sprinter from Kent A.C. and one of the fastest in the county.

The middle distance scene has also seen some changes in our regular squad. Robert Farish has of course held his team place but an impressive entrance by Allan Tilley and Steve Thompson at the beginning of the season has provided back-up that was previously lacking in the 3000m. In the Boys' section, Andrew Suckling's partnership with John Martin was eventually broken by Stuart Roweth. Stuart (Langley Park) has added strength in depth in the Boys' distance events — something that had been annoyingly absent earlier in the year. Colt Dave Sweeting (where do Langley Park get them from?) was one of the most valuable finds for this middle-distance section. He has been challenging A string runner Clive Suckling in recent fixtures and Clive holds the club record for 1500m!

The entrance of Raoul Codd, however, must rate as the most dramatic in the young Athletes' Section's Colts team for a long time. Raoul already holds three club records over 200m, 400m, and 800m and his potential suggests that much more is to come.

The field events looked as if they could be our main problem at the beginning of the season, but thanks to a number of very capable throwers joining the club, this shortcoming has been largely overcome. Sean McGowan has dominated the Boys' throws all year with some superb performances in the Javelin, Shot and Discus, while Mark Bullock has been a more than satisfactory back-up. In fact Mark was beating Sean by the end of the season and taking the A string in two of the three events. In the Youths' team, the previously rather lonely Tim Mallott has now been joined by the very capable Richard Gaines, Gary Cussen and Allan Fairbairn. All three of these Youths have proved themselves in the National Young Athletes League and look as if they will be challenging for a place in one of the senior teams in the next year or two.

In the jumps, Lawrence Bobb's comeback in the long and triple has brought in some very welcome 'firsts' with Carl Brighton consistent in the B string events. In the Boys high jump Andrew Niell has formed a strong partnership with Robin Ashdown which has been rarely beaten by league opposition. In the Youths team, Grant Mitchell has again anchored the scoring, but last year's discovery in Dave York has helped in no small way in the long jump. The club's tradition of a 'high' standard of high jumping has also continued here, with the arrival of Darren Russell.

So things look fairly rosy for the future in Blackheath and the senior team can be comforted by the fact that there are some very talented athletes moving through the lower ranks at the moment.

J.P.

*Sunday 13th July 1980*

#### HORSHAM 10 MILE ROAD RACE

1. P. Standing (Windsor, Slough and Eton A.C.) 48 mins. 46 secs, 2. F. Tota (Crawley A.C.) 50.55, 3. J. Bicourt (Belgrave) 51-40, 44. P. Catley 58-10, 60. P. Cluney 59-09, 62. C. Shorter 59-17, 64. J. Kavanagh 59-24, 88. G. Crowder 61-08, 122. J. Gibbins 64-56, 136. P. Hannell 67-16, 142. P. Hunter 67-51. 174 finished.

1. Walton A.C. 55, 2. Cambridge Harriers 56, 3. Horsham 63, 12. Blackheath 'A' 166, 16. Blackheath 'B' 274. 24 teams finished.

**Stop press: Results received too late to be classified chronologically.**

*Sunday 8th June 1980*

#### YOUNG ATHLETES' LEAGUE AT GUILDFORD

Blackhet

Blackheath individual winners:— Youths: 100 'A': P. Ashen 11.3; 'B' E. Chambers 11.6. 200 'A': P. Ashen 22.9; 'B' E. Chambers 23.5. 400 'B': P. Austridge 54.0. 800 'A': R. Farish 2.04.1; 'B': 2.06.3. 1500 'A': R. Farish 4.14.2; 'B': M. Williams 4.25.2. 400H 'B': R. Hoare 63.6. 1500SC 'B': M. Williams 4.56.6. L Jump 'A': G. Mitchell 6.12; 'B': P. Ashen 5.76. H Jump 'A': G. Mitchell 1.75; 'B': D. Russell 1.65. 4 x 100: 47.1. 4 x 400: 3.53.2. Boys: 200 'A': R. Ashdown 24.6; 'B': D. May 25.7. 400 'A': R. Ashdown 56.1; 'B': S. Dwobeng 58.7. H Jump 'A': R. Ashdown 1.55. 4 x 100: 50.3. 4 x 400: 3.53.2 (?). Colts: 200 'B': R. Mitchell 30.1. 800 'B': S. Tripp 2.37.3.

**Results:**

1st: Tonbridge 224, 2nd: Blackheath 216, 3rd: Brighton 209.

*Wednesday 11th June 1980*

#### CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS AT LADYWELL

Senior: 400: A. Frankish 54.5. 5000: P. German 15.06.4. L Jump: P. Brooks 6.49. Shot: C. Ellis 11.77. Junior: 400: I. Simmons 52.9. L Jump: I. Simmons 6.56. Youths: 400: G. Mitchell 55.5. Shot: G. Mitchell 9.36. Boys: 400: M. Speed 57.0. L Jump: T. Farish 4.27. Shot: T. Farish 8.04. Colts: 400: R. Mitchell 65.4. L Jump: R. Mitchell 3.85. Handicaps: 100: P. Brooks 11.1. 1200: P. Hannell 3.02.4. 5000: C. Woodcock. L Jump: P. Brooks 7.24. Shot: T. Mallott 12.75.

*Saturday 14th June 1980*

#### KENT SCHOOLS' CHAMPIONSHIPS AT TENTERDEN

Blackheath winners:— Senior 110H: D. Adkins 15.2 (club best performance). Intermediate: 400H: P. Austridge 59.6. L Jump: G. Mitchell 6.73. Junior: 400: R. Ashdown 54.3. 80H: S. Allwood 12.3.

*Sunday 15th June 1980*

#### SOUTH EAST COLTS' LEAGUE AT TENTERDEN

Boys: 100 'A': N. Casey 12.2; 'B': D. May 12.3. 200 'B': S. Dwobeng 25.8. 400: 'A' R. Ashdown 58.3; 'B': S. Dwobeng 57.7. 800 'A': A. Suckling 2.11.8; 'B': Roweth 2.15.8. 1500 'A': Roweth 4.47.4. 80H 'A': S. Allwood 12.3. L Jump 'B': C. Brighton 5.00. H Jump 'A': R. Ashdown 1.55; 'B': R. Barwell 1.45. Shot 'A': S. McGowan 11.26; 'B': S. Allwood 10.64. Javelin 'B': J. Carter 28.22. 4 x 100: 50.8. 4 x 400: 3.49.0. Colts: 400 'A': R. Codd 62.9. 1500 'B': Sweeting 5.15.2. H Jump: Smith 1.15. 4 x 100: 1st: Blackheath 56.4, 2nd: Blackheath 60.2.

*Wednesday, 18th June 1980*

#### CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS AT LADYWELL

Senior: 200: R. Pinson 23.0. Mile: R. Coles 4.18.9. T Jump: N. Burrows 13.51. Hammer: C. Brand 20.02. Junior: 200: J. Spooner 23.2. Mile: R. Farish 4.24.0. T Jump: D. O'Connor 12.61. Hammer: D. Brand 19.11. Youths: 200: S. Lloyd 29.0. T Jump: K. Geraughty 10.28. Hammer: T. Mallott 17.44. Boys: 200: R. Ashdown 24.4. Mile: A. Suckling 4.53.9. T Jump: D. May 11.43. Colts: 200: R. Mitchell 29.4. Mile: C. Suckling 5.29.2. Handicaps: 800: J. Wakeman 1.53.2. T Jump: R. Ebbutt 13.78. Hammer: J. Wakeman 31.30.

Saturday 28th June 1980

### BRITISH LEAGUE AT CWMBRAN

'A' - 100: 10.8, 6th: R. Lyston 11.3. (10.9, 4th: R. Pinson 11.1). 200: 21.8, 5th: R. Pinson 22.6. (22.4, 4th: R. Lyston 22.7). 400: 1st: N. Brooks 49.0. (50.9, 2nd: J. Wilkinson 51.4). 800: 1st: J. Spooner 1.59.2. (1.56.1, 3rd: R. Wright 1.57.1. 1500: 3.48.8, 5th: J. Spooner 3.59.3. (3.53.6, 6th: K. Daniel 4.05.0). 5000: 14.20.6, R. Coles 14.54.1. 110H: 14.7, 4th: M. Carroll 15.8. (15.9, 2nd: I. Simmons 15.9). 400H: 54.9, 2nd: M. Carroll 56.6. (1st: J. Wilkinson 58.0). 3000SC: 9.03.6, 4th: T. Soutar 9.32.2. (9.27.6, 3rd: R. Cliff 9.43.2). L Jump: 7.25, 2nd: R. Weaver 7.03. (6.73, 2nd: I. Simmons 6.56): T Jump: 13.98, 3rd: N. Burrows 13.48. (13.85, 4th: M. Carroll 12.08). H Jump: 1st: T. Foulger 2.06. (1st: T. Llewelyn 1.95). P Vault: 1st: P. Aubrey 3.60. (3.00, 2nd: N. Latcham 3.00). Shot: 1st: M. Winch 17.65. (11.84, 3rd: C. Ellis 11.84). Discus: 1st: M. Winch 54.62. (1st: C. Ellis 42-02). Javelin: 60.81, 4th: R. Harradine 54.39. (55.65, 3rd: C. Morris 52.01). Hammer: 60.08, 2nd: M. Winch 48.92. (38.06, 2nd: C. Ellis 35.28). 4 x 100: 43.5, 5th: Blackheath 44.3. 4 x 400: 1st: Blackheath 3.18.2.

#### Results:

1. Blackheath 251, 2. Bedford 225, 3. Aldershot 211, 4. Swansea 209, 5. Oxford 195, 6. Windsor 168.

('B' team results shown in parentheses).

Sunday, 29th June 1980

### 100 x 1 MILE RELAY AT CRYSTAL PALACE ET AL

Highgate 8 hours, 26 minutes, 12 seconds, Blackheath 8.46.07, Belgrave 8.51.25, Croydon 8.57.29, Portsmouth 8.57.48, Cambridge 8.59.50, Woodford Green 9.10.42, Ilford 9.23.48, Walton 9.35.57, HMS Collingwood 9.46.38, Depot Regt. RA 9.48.12, Milton Keynes 9.57.17, Veterans 9.58.16, Basingstoke 10.02.01, Devon and Cornwall 10.04.02, Middlesbrough 10.13.04. Fastest individual: 4.09, fastest u. 17: 4.35. Fastest lady: 4.50, u. 17 5.17. Blackheath times: J. Spooner 4.16, R. Coles 4.20, N. Brooks 4.24, M. Athawes 4.28, J. Wilkinson 4.29, G. Martin, R. Wright 4.34, R. Cliff, K. Daniel 4.35, G. Giles, J. Herring 4.36, T. Soutar 4.38, P. Farrar, B. O'Gorman 4.40, A. Bicknell, L. Roberts, C. Woodcock 4.41, B. Swift, I. Wilson 4.42, D. White 4.44, C. Haines, R. Minting 4.45, C. Denham, M. Peel, I. Young 4.46, P. Horwood, C. Lord 4.47, R. Head, B. Macrae 4.49, A. Frankish, K. Lowe 4.50, C. Bird 4.51, G. Botley, S. Cluney 4.52, J. Powell 4.53, T. Llewelyn 4.54, D. Wade 4.56, R. Savery 4.57, S. Searby 4.58, N. Burrows 4.59, D. Amner 5.02, M. Reynolds, C. Shorter 5.03, A. Child, S. Davis, I. Lazaro 5.04, R. Farish, D. Fiddes, R. Turney 5.07, M. Carroll, R. Morris 5.09, A. Davis, B. Saxton 5.10, J. McFarnell, J. Wakeman, M. Williams 5.11, S. Roberts 5.12, N. Campbell, M. Cannon, G. Crowder 5.14, P. Barrington-King, M. McFarnell 5.15, G. Moore, C. Ware 5.16, S. Poole 5.18, R. Melik 5.19, J. Raine 5.20, R. Michel 5.21, A. Edwards 5.22, S. Robinson 5.25, A. Brooks 5.27, P. Hannell 5.28, A. Croft 5.29, D. Brand, M. Davies 5.30, A. Sorrell 5.34, R. Ebbutt, I. Simmons, R. Sollis 5.38, D. O'Connor, P. Vetterlein 5.39, A. Baldwin 5.40, C. Poole 5.41, M. Adams 5.45, G. Gibbons 5.48, R. Lyston, P. Parsons 5.50, N. Painter 5.52, S. Herring 5.53, D. Taylor 5.55, P. Davis 5.58, B. Stone 6.06, P. Gander 6.12, F. Dyter 6.15, C. Morriss 6.33, W. Lake 6.36, A. Brent 6.51, R. Green 6.55, G. Geere, P. Long 7.32.

Blackheath 'B': 61 miles completed in 5.33.19. - J. Oliver 4.41, G. Gibbons 5.39, T. Farish 5.46, T. Bailey 5.49, M. Jones 5.53, T. Mallott 5.54, R. Hayday, D. Hopgood, B. Stone 5.57, G. Wright 5.59, W. Hickey 6.01, W. Hill

6.02, M. Heinemann 6.04, R. Green 6.05, G. Geere 6.09, M. Edmonds, T. Sullivan 6.14, B. Pinson 6.18, C. Wood 6.20, P. Saxon 6.21, A. Hayday 6.22, C. Brand 6.23, P. Stack 6.24, M. Skippon, I. Smith 6.26, D. Harker 6.30, S. Adams 6.36, G. Woodcock 6.41, C. Edmonds, N. O'Gorman 6.44, P. Jukes 6.47, A. Brent 6.54, A. Pickering 6.56, G. Downs, R. Hickey 6.58, D. Sullivan 6.59, J. White 7.00, P. Baigent 7.06, M. Raine 7.07, J. Gregor 7.17, S. Wright 7.21, D. Stoffle 7.27, P. Long 7.29, N. Dudley, A. Peel 7.30, R. Haines 7.31, S. Poole 7.35, M. Wilson 7.39, J. Woodcock 7.46, T. Sullivan 7.47, O. Poole 7.56, M. Poole 8.02, K. O'Gorman 8.06, L. King 8.15, D. Edmonds 8.20, B. Wilson 8.26, C. Wood 8.28, E. Parsons 8.38, M. Walker 8.46, J. Parrott 8.57, J. Haines 9.06.

### WINTER SEASON: EARLY FIXTURES

- Saturday 13 September:* Dartford Road Relay.  
*Sunday 14 September:* Southern Counties Veterans' 10 mile Road Championship at Crawley.  
*Saturday 20 September:* Club Cross-Country Relay at Hayes.  
*Saturday 27 September:* Southern Counties Veterans' Relay Cross-Country Championships at Woodford. Hewitt-Jones Road Relay at Walton.  
*Saturday 4 October:* Southern Counties 6 stage Road Relay at Crystal Palace. Mob Match v. London University at Parliament Hill. Young Athletes' League at Herne Hill.  
*Sunday 5 October:* Fernand Beauce Trophy at Crystal Palace.  
*Friday 10 October:* Maryon-Wilson Swimming Race at Beckenham Baths.  
*Saturday 11 October:* At Hayes:  
(a) Club photograph at 2.30 p.m. followed by Centenary 5 mile Championship.  
(b) AGM of BHHQ Ltd., at 6.00 p.m. followed by Club AGM.  
Kent Cross-Country League at West Malling.  
Southern Counties Veterans' Road Relay at Bexley.  
Westerham Stroll.  
*Sunday 12 October:* A.A.A. 6 stage Road Relay at Melton Mowbray.  
*Saturday 18 October:* v. Lloyds Bank at Hayes.  
V. Bank of England, Metropolitan Police, Dartford and Ranelagh at Hayes.  
Unigate Marathon at Harlow (including Kent and Club Championship)  
Kent Boys' and Colts Cross-Country League.  
*Saturday 1 November:* Priory Relay and Youths' Race at Reigate.  
Veterans' Mob Match v. Orion, South London and Ranelagh at Chingford.

### NOTE FROM CROSS-COUNTRY CAPTAIN ON RUNNING IN PACKS

BLACKHEATH is very fortunate to have a club house so near the Green Belt, and farmland which with co-operation we are able to use freely. It is up to us all to ensure that our rights and privileges are not abused.

Cross-country racing is a team event, and we have always felt that the best and strongest team spirit is developed by training together in Packs, that is also the best way to control our ever growing strength, whilst running over the farmers' land.

We have Packs with Pack leaders to suit all styles and speeds. Please train with them and do not run around the country as an endless trail of individuals. If on rare occasions you are late, don't miss your run, but do please keep to the trail, or the recognised course, and do not take short cuts across land we may have been requested not to use.

In all runs from Hayes—keep together in Packs, and remember united we stand, divided we fall.

Yours 'Heathenly,

ROY A. MORLEY.

Saturday, October 22, 1955

### MATCHES v. CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY HARE & HOUNDS

#### FIRST TEAMS AT CAMBRIDGE

We travelled to Cambridge for this match and only arrived at their Headquarters after completing a circular tour of the town.

The race was over  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles instead of the usual 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  and proved to be a fast one, although conditions underfoot were far from ideal after several days of rain during the previous week. Cambridge, possibly favoured by the shorter distance and the fact that we could not field our strongest team, proved too strong for us and it was evident soon after the start that the superior packing of our hosts would decide the match. They eventually finished five in the first six although G. R. Last was the individual winner. Last took the lead about half a mile from the start and won comfortably by over 100 yards but our next man home was Brent in seventh place followed by B. G. Stone.

After a very enjoyable tea Norman Page assumed the role of pack leader to take the team at a fast pace back to the station to catch the London train.

#### ORDER OF FINISH

Pos n.	Name	Club	Time
1.	G. R. Last	Blackheath Harriers	24.19
2.	P. Palmer	C.U.H.&H.	24.52
3.	M. Palmer	C.U.H.&H.	24.52
4.	R. Forster	C.U.H.&H.	24.52
5.	J. U. Shearn	C.U.H.&H.	24.58
6.	J. W. Rickett	C.U.H.&H.	25.04
7.	A. J. Brent	Blackheath Harriers	25.13
8.	B. G. Stone	Blackheath Harriers	25.53
9.	G. Crowder	C.U.H.&H.	26.05
10.	W. J. Jones	C.U.H.&H.	26.14
11.	A. W. Wood	Blackheath Harriers	26.23
12.	Robinson	C.U.H.&H.	26.47
13.	A. C. Brill	Blackheath Harriers	26.50
14.	G. E. Geere	Blackheath Harriers	27.58
15.	J. E. Wither	Blackheath Harriers	28.00
16.	B. J. Blaber	Blackheath Harriers	28.53

#### TEAM RESULT

1.	Cambridge University Hare & Hounds	(2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9) ...	29 points
2.	Blackheath Harriers	(1, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14)	54 points

Albeit with the decorum becoming a modest journal such as this, an appeal was splashed — we are indebted to a well-known contemporary politician for the technical phrase — across the front page of the last issue of the "Gazette" at the Hon. Treasurer's special request. Unhappily this attempt at mass hypnotism has not unloosed many purse-strings. The Gazette Fund is below par; and one issue more than was originally contemplated has become necessary, thus increasing the cost of the year's publications. The Prize Fund also languishes; and ailment has entirely failed the Headquarters Fund for a month. What about it?

### SECOND SUNDAY STROLL, Sunday, September 7.

Meet at the George and Dragon, Farnborough, 10.30 a.m. Will members assist in the arrangements by informing W. S. Smith, 3, Newquay Road, S.E. 6, of their intention to be present?

July 4 and 5, 1930.

#### A.A.A. CHAMPIONSHIPS, STAMFORD BRIDGE.

If confined to 'Heathen activities, the Jubilee Championships might almost be summarised in one word—Page; but we will take the less outstanding performances of his brethren in black first. H. S. Smith ran well in the steeplechase, finishing 10th. His method of hurdling is original but effective; nevertheless we think he would save much in time and effort if he concentrated on this aspect of the event, for he has already acquired sufficient pace on the flat. Holmes and Glover also competed and clung together in brotherly intimacy till near the end. The critic could not himself leap over a mound of hay; nevertheless, the license of his calling impels him to remark that the jumping of these young gentlemen reflected more credit on their powers of endurance than upon their technical acquirements.

C. J. R. Woods was somewhat unfortunate in drawing the strongest heat in his event, the half-mile; and a lapse in handling the baton went a long way to placing our team second to the Polytechnic in the sprint relay; we were beaten by a yard. The Poly eventually won this event with some ease. We had, however, the satisfaction of beating the formidable Achilles A.C.

Cross, who nearly won a Southern standard at Oxford, aspired to the A.A.A. 4-mile. Alas, one of those strong, silent men from a northerly clime appeared in all his barbaric splendour. One Virtanen, a Finn, ran all men off their legs in six laps, Mr. Cross included. But no doubt Mr. C. will be all the better for the ordeal in future.

Beardon ran well in his heat of the hundred, but naturally few club onlookers had eyes for anyone but Page.

The latter won his first heat comfortably in 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  sec. In the second round he beat Jack London (who was not, however, at his best) in the same time. The final was unfortunate. The Southern blood of Signor Toetti would not allow him to remain set, and after a false start he got a comfortable flyer. Berger, the Dutchman, chased him down and won well; and Page and Englehart hung on grimly—the latter getting up to third. Page was fourth, two yards behind Berger, having covered the distance in 10 $\frac{1}{10}$  sec. London never seemed to run; possibly the ragged start rattled him. Our youngster is certainly the best of all our post-war sprinters; he was steadiest on the mark among the six finalists. He is not yet quite in the highest class as a sprinter, but with patience in improving his technique such a consummation cannot be delayed very long. We fancy that his industrious mentor, A. G. Hill, experienced many paternal qualms when he beheld his charge fairly lined up for the final of one of the blue ribbon events in British athletics.

**Tuesday, September 5th.**

## LAST EVENING MEETING

AT THE  
**CRYSTAL PALACE.**

EVENTS:—

**One Mile "Pash" Challenge Cup Race.**

Entry Fee, 2/6.

**100 Yards Level Race,**

Open to all Members who have never won a prize in a race up to and including 300 yards since leaving school.

ALSO A

**Handicap, distance 300 Yards.**

Entry Fee, 2/- one, or 3/- the two events.

## SWIMMING.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th,  
AT LADYWELL BATHS.

**Plunging and 60 Yards Handicaps.**

Entries (Fees, 1/- each Event), to TOM CRAFTER.  
8.30 for 9 p.m. sharp.

## Impertinence.

Lloyd's,  
London, E.C.

DEAR SIR,

Allow me to compliment the Committee on the unique position they have selected for the club badge on the uniform—the left breast of the knickerbockers (*vide* rule 15 in new Book of Rules). Strikes me as being a really original idea.

Yours, etc.,

OBSERVANT ONE.

Members are ~~was~~ reminded that new members elected now, upon payment of their subscription of 10s. 6d., are free of the Club until September 30th, 1906.

During the winter CLUB RUNS are held every Saturday from headquarters, the "Green Man" Hotel, Blackheath Hill, at 3.30, and ROAD RUNS are held every Wednesday evening at 7.30 from the same venue.

CHESS, DRAUGHTS, WHIST, CRIBBAGE, BRIDGE and BILLIARD TOURNAMENTS will take place under the able supervision of T. Morgan, to whom entries should be made in due course.

SMOKING CONCERTS will take place as usual after the principal contests.

IAN WILSON

Congratulations to Ian on his appointment as Chairman of the South of the Thames Cross-Country Association.

We trust that his onerous duties in this field will not preclude his devoting attention to the washing facilities at Headquarters from time to time.

ANDY EDWARDS

Fresh from his triumphant 5 minutes 22 seconds in the Crystal Palace 100 x 1 mile relay Andy Edwards made a quick sprint up the aisle in late July. Miss Anne Ricketts was the lucky lady. Congratulations and best wishes to the couple.

ONE YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

*The Athletic Club of Tring*

presents its

TRING FESTIVAL

ANCIENT FOOTRACES

(Est. 1979)

(Under A.A.A. & W.A.A.A. Laws)

TUESDAY, 24th JUNE, 1980

5Km ROAD RACE at 7.00 p.m. for fun runners, joggers Round Tablers and quaint pedestrians of either sex and any state of decay. Prizes: Assorted medals, certificates and T-shirts for the first Team of 4.

Also 10Km ROAD RACE at 7.30 p.m. for the winged of foot.

Venue: Pendley Sports Centre, Cow Lane, Tring. Beautiful well measured course, food and ale in idyllic surroundings.

BE MORE ALERT NEXT YEAR!

POSTBAG

Ian Ross, that much travelled 'Heathen, greets old friends with his new address:—

14 Richardson Avenue,  
Dynnyrne,  
Tasmania, 7005,  
Australia.

No mention of any athletic activity!

*From Past President Hammill*

Dear Mr. Editor,

Browsing through the Club History the other day I noticed that the club team which won the Kent County 20 mile Road Running Championship in 1939 is given as G. J. Gosling, G. F. Brooks, L. G. Toms and myself. This is an error as Gosling ran as a member of Dartford Harriers. In fact he did not join the club until after the war.

I may perhaps be allowed to remark that this team was quite a notable one as it contained 2 future Presidents and a Vice-President, and 41 years on all 3 are still going strongly in club life!

Yours faithfully,

L. E. Hammill.

JIM DAY

Jim finished 3rd in the pole vault in the European Veterans' Championships in Helsinki with a height of 3m 10. After 27 years he has decided to retire from competition.

He has been Kent champion 5 times, National Veterans' champion twice and Southern Veterans' champion 5 times.

## OBITUARIES

We regret to announce the deaths of H. Bellman, a member since 1913, of L. Pendered, a member since 1923 and at one time club treasurer, and of Humphry Nunns, to whom a tribute follows.

### HUMPHRY N. NUNNS

Humphry, with no 'e. in his christian name despite the attempts of many reporters, came to us from the Royal Marines in September 1945. He must have benefited from the legendary fitness of that famous corps, for seldom has anyone made such an impact in his first season. He started by winning the '5' then the last of the wartime 4-club mob matches, and then the Kent, gaining probably the fastest Honours Badge on record. He only managed 3rd in the '10', never his best distance, was our 5th scoring man in the first post-war National at Leamington Spa, and almost won the Bennett Cup points handicap at his first attempt - quite a winter! Came the summer and he was 2nd in the mile and 3rd in the 2 miles among many other track achievements.

During the next few years, while never quite reaching international status, he epitomised the spirit of the athletic side of the club while the fixture list was rebuilt as near as possible to the happy pattern of pre-war years. High points of the early season were the Oxford and Cambridge matches - 2, 3 or even 4 teams, home and away on the same day. Later season climaxes of course were the Kent and the Southern, with the many inter-club and schools' matches spread throughout, and the pleasant variety and friendly rivalry of the Trophy meetings, not forgetting the high-spot visit to the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst. How far away all that seems today, with the all-pervading, stultifying league competitions which have almost squeezed out such friendly events!

Humphry was there whenever called upon with supreme loyalty to the several captains for whom he ran, first but by no means being Dick Choat, still active in the west country. He was a "must" for our first team until the late 50s, but somewhere along the line a strange thing happened. He discovered the Johnson Bowl, one of our oldest trophies for the 7¼ mile walking championship. With his customary enthusiasm and dedication he tried his feet at walking, and to everyone's astonishment, including his own, he took several minutes off the mediocre winning times of previous years. He proceeded to an unrivalled record of 11 wins in the 14 years up to 1965. This new-found prowess not only brought him awards in the Kent 10 mile Walk and selection for the inter-counties many years after his corresponding cross-country honour, but it fired his enthusiasm for a third stage in his athletic career - he caught the 'Brighton' bug.

Most contemporary Blackheath walkers, and those of 50 years earlier, had joined our good friends Surrey Walking Club, but Humphry resisted all persuasion and proudly wore his rather grey Blackheath vest 6 times between 1966 and 1974 in the country's premier long distance walk, the S.W.C. Open London to Brighton (53 miles). With generous help from his family, Heathen friends and others, he came very close to his coveted 1st class standard, which he would undoubtedly have achieved had he been able to spare the time for adequate distance training instead of his regular home-to-work stints.

The climax of his distance walking arose from his determination to join that most exclusive of clubs, the Centurions, for which he had to race-walk 100 miles in 24 hours. This he achieved in the S.W.C. 10-lap 100 miles at Ewhurst in June 1971, with his dedicated wife Barbara cycling much of the way in attendance. Again it was fitted into his full life with none too much training, and again the standard award just eluded him by less than 10 minutes in 20 hours!

So much for Humphry the athlete; what about Humphry the man? Many will remember his voracious appetite when opportunity offered, a possible reflection of some degree of privation engendered by a none too generous employer, until he found sanctuary in later years with a more understanding American bank. Yet he never seemed to add an ounce to his lean frame, and it was a dreaded wasting disease to which he succumbed at much too early an age.

Despite his great club spirit he took little part in our social life, and there is no doubt that his strong Christian faith and his devotion for over 30 years to the work of Christ Church, Chislehurst was of greater importance to him. A way in which the two came together was the countless miles of "training" as he delivered the church magazine to save postage. The service there in March was more of a thanksgiving for his life than a requiem at his departure. The courage and cheerfulness of his wife Barbara, who greeted all who came, will long be remembered by the congregation which almost filled the church, and included many of his 'Heathen contemporaries.

N.D.