

APRIL . 1969.

The response for the Newsheet has been good, but if you are not on "the list" and wish to be kept regularly informed please let the editor, Ian Smith, know. As explained previously this service is free, but donations for this, or any other, reason to the Centenary Fund are of course always welcome! To save repetition throughout this newsheet the editor is prepared to act as a central agent for correspondence to any club official. I think I should also explain to those who have asked for each issue of the Newsheet already that it is hoped to have copies on display in various places, and I hope therefore that they will pardon the repetitive nature of appeals, which they so often have already answered.

CENTENARY NOTICES.

The Centenary Tie, which is causing much favourable comment, is now on sale for £1 at the clubhouse, from the Newsheet (post free), and one or two individuals. Some Centenary Tankards are also available at the clubhouse, but only to personal callers.

If you intend coming to the Centenary Ball at the New Inn on the 16th May you are advised to write to Richard Edmonds, immediately. Incidentally he has, at the time of writing, only three Centenary Goblets remaining. While dealing with Richard's "department" the Club Dinner will be on Monday 3rd. November at the Mansion House at £5. 5. Od. (inclusive); other details will be published later.

The 8mm. film now has about six cameras, but of course there is no limit to this number. It is of course preferable for Ken McSweeney to know in advance who his "camera men" are so that he can ensure the various events are adequately covered, so if you can help please let him or the editor know very soon.

CENTENARY SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

This meeting, as advertised in the last Gazette to elect our President for the Centenary Year, at 8.00 p.m. on the 26th. April, will be followed by a buffet supper. The grapevine tells us that many members will be coming to Hayes for this event, which could be one of the most memorable evenings of the Centenary Year. The formal proceedings will not take long; the informal part depends on you.

ATHELETIC EVENTS.

The first fixture of the 1969 season is at Oxford, against the University, on the 12th. April.

At Ladywell, the following week, we have the fixture which has opened our season in recent years, the "5 Club Meet", with the first event at 3.00 p.m. As usual at this meeting we will have Senior, Junior, Youth and Bgy. groups, covering most events, and of course everyone will get a run, extra races being run where necessary. This season the track section will be more extended than ever, so come along and let Norman, and his lieutenants, see your ability and state of fitness. Of course we will need every official we can muster on the day, don't wait to be "carded".

On 26th. April the round of Trophy Meetings starts at Erith Stadium, the Pirie for seniors and Heroules for the juniors. It is then only a half hour drive to Hayes for the Centenary Special General Meeting.

This brings us to the first Centenary Special Event at 9.00 a.m. on Sunday 27th. April at Croydon track. Our team will have as opposition in this 100 x 1 mile relay Cambridge Harriers, at Croydon, and Scottish Harriers in Wellington, New Zealand, the latter challenge being due, as many will guess, to Alan Stevens who joined us when he was in this country some years ago. The run in Wellington also starts at 9.00 a.m. on the 27th April, but of course they will finish before we start! The running order of our team is now being finalised, and those running or required as reserves should receive notification quite soon; the band of officials

is being recruited and again it is hoped to notify each person needed quite soon. The lap time of every runner will be recorded, as our check that 400 laps are actually covered, and to do this several reliable watches will be necessary. The intention is to divide the day into one hour shifts for officials, although it is hoped that many officials will be willing to do more than one shift, with breaks. The overall times will be taken by time of day chronographs. Refreshments will be available throughout the day at the track. In the evening there will be a buffet supper at the Clubhouse, Hayes, starting at about 7.00 or 7.30 p.m; any officials, runners or spectators who wish to come should sign the list, which will be at the track during the relay, by 3.00 p.m., so that an accurate figure is known to those preparing supper.

On the 3rd. May we have a very heavy programme. Our team having been beaten only narrowly into 7th place in the Southern Road Relay at Wimbledon on the 29th March, we hope to have our entry accepted to the National Road Relay at Leicester. Anyone able to go to support the team should contact Chris Haines (30, Swievelands Road, Biggin Hill, Kent) to book a seat on the club coach. Nearer home our track team compete at Epsom at a trophy meeting, support will again be very welcome, the first event being at 2.30 p.m; while from our clubhouse the Kent "20" will be run, starting at 3.00 p.m.

The first National League Meeting is at Twickenham on the 10th May, starting we think at 2.00 p.m., when our team will want plenty of vocal support, so anyone not competing or officiating at the Kent Athletic League match should endeavour to get to Twickenham track. The Kent League, at the United Services ground, Chatham, first event 3.00 p.m., does not cover every event at each meeting but will include events for Seniors, Juniors, Youths and Boys. The events at this first meeting will be 200m., 400m., 1500m., 5000m. (S/J only), 1600m. walk (Y/B), 2400m. walk (S/J) and 4 x 100m. relay, high and long jumps, shot, discus, hammer and javelin. The second Kent League fixture will be at Ashford North Modern School, Ashford, on the 24th May, again starting at 3.00 p.m; on this occasion the events will be 200m., 800m., 10000m., (S/J), 3000m. (Y/B), 5000m. walk (S/J), 2500m. walk (Y/B) and 4 x 400m. relay, high and long jumps, pole vault, shot, discus, hammer and javelin.

Entries for the Kent County Championships, to be held at the Crystal Palace on the 31st May, will have to be in by mid-May, and Norman Page will be happy to give you your entry forms. Let us have a really great turn out, to do even better than usual at this meeting.

This leaves only the first two of our Club Evening Meetings to be mentioned, both at Ladywell, first event 7.00 p.m., on the 14th May and 4th June. Each is another chance for 'Meathens to come forward and show their ability to Norman and his lieutenants. In recent years these meetings have not been well attended by competitors; in Centenary Year let us embarrass the officials by turning out in force - officials of course please turn up so that the evenings pass smoothly, and quickly. The events at the first meeting will be senior 100 yds, youth 100 yds, 3 miles, shot putt, triple jump, junior long jump and junior discus championships, plus 220 yds, 880 yds and 3 miles handicap events, and also an invitation mile and 4 x 220 yds relay for schools. At the second meeting we will have the junior 220 yds, senior 880 yds, youth 880 yds, junior javelin, junior pole vault, senior pole vault, long jump and discus championships plus 300 yds, long jump and pole vault handicaps, and also invitation 880 yds, high jump, long jump and discus events for schools.

OTHER NOTES.

There will be dances on the 31st May and on the 12th July (after the Kent and Southern Championships respectively) at 8.00 p.m., in the clubhouse to the "Senators". After the Brockman on the 26th July there will be the usual "Summer Supper" in the clubhouse

"200 CLUB". Watch the next Gazette for the details of a new competition where by coshelping the club you could win £50 each month.

The next newsheet will be issued when there is sufficient information to make a worthwhile issue; I trust you think this is, but any complaints, enquiries, suggestions or contributions to The Editor please, 4, Christchurch Rd, Dartford, Kent.