

MAY -- 1969

Our Centenary Year has started! Started successfully with a pleasant evening at Hayes for the Special General Meeting to elect Sydney Wooderson our Centenary President. As his almost final act as President Dudley Child announced that our track team had won the Gordon Pirie Trophy at Erith and our road runners the Herne Hill "10" earlier in the day, a happy lead-in to Centenary Year. The full details and reports of these events and the special meeting are left to the Gazette.

Newsworthy facts about the Newsheet are that 112 have been ordered, and many 'heathens' have offered their services as officials. Those who offered for Croydon have already performed their duties, as have some of those who offered for evening meetings; Tony Nash now has the list and will be contacting people for future events. These replies have given the editor a pleasant feeling of satisfaction, the effort is worthwhile; as a bonus he has been agent for the sale of 56 ties, and has received donations totalling over £200 for the Centenary Fund, the latter having been forwarded to Gordon Monshall. Incidentally it is not intended to acknowledge donations to the Centenary Fund, other than in the Gazette. The Newsheet Editor will be happy to add to any of the above figures, at any time!

#### RESULTS ROUNDUP.

The results of the 100 x 1 mile race are enclosed as a Newsheet Supplement since the Gazette cannot afford the space to publish them in full. The weather, while not perfect, was fairly kind to us, the crowd numerous and at times vociferous especially in the closing stages with the result in balance to almost the final mile, as inspection of the results will show; eight miles behind Cambridge and Croydon had an even closer tussle. As many will know we had considerable coverage in the National Press and on T.V., before and after, this event, and also of our Centenary. To round off what was in all ways an extremely successful day a social, enjoyed by 50 or 60 people, was held at the clubhouse and at which a large celebration cake was cut by our President's wife. Scottish Harriers in New Zealand, unable to run as planned, hope to have their run later in the year.

The details, and reports, of our other events are best covered by the Gazette, but briefly the outstanding result of Centenary Year so far is the tenth place in the National Road Relay thanks to fine runs by our team, new member Bob Falconer pulling away from our nearest rivals over the last 300 - 400 yards in an exciting finish; Bob Richardson was fifth fastest over the "long" leg. On the same day we could only make third in the Kent "20" Championship, being fifth in the open race, while the track team were fourth at Epsom. The following week in the National League we were sixth, but were hardly represented at the Kent League fixture; a brighter note on the track side however was the large turnout at our First Evening Meeting, despite the weather, when for the first time in several years each track event was well supported.

The Dinner Dance at the New Inn was an unqualified success, with the "absolute maximum" attendance figure raised three times in an attempt to let all the would-be celebrators in, but finally at 133 the list had to be closed before the event. Those who were too late will be more sorry if they talk to anyone who was there, we all had an excellent time. At 1.00 (or was it 1.30?) most of the 133 made their way to a candle lit clubhouse for a discotheque session.

#### COMING EVENTS.

On Saturday (24th. May) the second Kent League fixture takes place at Ashford at 3.00 p.m. No one who competed in the National League event may compete in this fixture, except as a guest, but let us hope we are numerically stronger than at the first meeting; anyone turning up will get a run, throw or jump. The events will be as listed in the last Newsheet: 200m., 800m., 10,000m. (S/J), 3,000m. (Y/B), 5,000m., walk (S/J), 2,500m. walk (Y/B), 4 x 400m. relay, high and long jumps, pole vault, shot, discus and javelin, but not the hammer as originally stated although triple jump events will now be held. The performances at Chatham for third, fourth and subsequent places in some events were very often poor compared to current results, so do come and have a go. Travelling by car take the Ashford

By --Pass to where it rejoins the old A20 from the town and then turn towards the town, past the Grammar School to a garage on your left about  $\frac{1}{2}$  -  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile along, turn sharp left along Essello (or Esseldo) Road when the North Secondary Modern School, the venue, will be on your right.

On the 25th. May the "Inter Counties" starts at the Crystal Palace moving to the White City on Monday. Several 'heathens will, of course, be competing.

It is too late to enter the Kent Championships at the Crystal Palace on 31st. May, first event 12.00; but now is the time to make arrangements to be there to support our seniors, juniors, youths and boys competing. The Southern Championships, also at the Crystal Palace, will be split, the youths and juniors competing on Saturdays 28th. June and 5th. July, the seniors on 12th. July. The Senior A.A.A. Championships stay at the White City (1st. and 2nd. August), but on Sunday 3rd. August the Crystal Palace sees the climax of our track season, the match against the Kent A.A.A., and the Southern A.A.A., in which we hope to include invitation events, and negotiations to this end are now in progress.

By now you should have the latest Gazette, and so will know the events for the Second Evening Meeting at Ladywell on 4th June; similarly you will know the events for the Third Evening Meeting, also now to be held at Ladywell, on 25th June. It was originally hoped to hold this meeting at Herne Hill track in association with 80 year old Herne Hill Harriers, but the cyclists want the stadium that evening, and they have first option. We hope to run a special over 30's 150 yard race and an over 30's 4 x 110 yard relay at the 24th June meeting, possibly with Herne Hill Harriers taking part.

With your Gazette you will have received the summer fixture list so that the remaining fixtures need not be listed here, but it is emphasised that no one should need to be carded to compete, particularly at non-trophy meetings; even for trophy meetings if you wish to compete ring Norman Page (01-856-6323), Bob Taylor (01-852-0608) or Peter Hudson (01-698-5518) to get the latest information. Officials and spectators of course are always needed, at home and away.

Three previously unlisted winter fixtures will be:-

25th. October	4 Clubs Veterans Race	.....	Hayes
7th. February	Veterans 5 mile Club Championship + match v. Belgrave Vets.		"
21st. March	Johnson Bowl and Inter Club Walk	.....	"

#### SOCIAL EVENTS.

You are reminded of the dances at the clubhouse after the Kent (31st. May) and the Southern (12th. July) Championships both at 8.00 p.m., both to "The Senators".

If you hope to attend the "Summer Supper" at the clubhouse after the "Brockman" on 26th. July, a word with Roy Morley in advance would be appreciated.

After the match on 3rd. August it is hoped to provide some entertainment at the clubhouse, possibly a barbecue but more details in our next issue.

#### CENTENARY NOTICES.

The Centenary Ties are still available from the Newsheet (post free) for £1, or from the clubhouse.

Centenary "Sweat Tops" have been obtained and will be on sale, along with Blackheath Harrier holdalls and all items of club uniform, at most track fixtures and other events, Bob Hawtin being the usual salesman.

"200 Club". Just a note, although not part of the Centenary Programme, that this club will not be launched yet.

The Editor of this Newsheet still lives at 4, Christchurch Road, Dartford, Kent, and is willing to act as "postbox" for any club official.

The next Newsheet will be prepared when there is sufficient material.