

We should perhaps start by congratulating ourselves, and wishing the club many happy returns; Thursday 23rd October, 1969 being its 160th birthday. Our celebrations, spread as they are over a year, have now reached their hectic half-way stage with a good response from members. About forty took part in the Commemorative Run from Peckham recently, a good proportion of these completing all stages of the run; a coach was hired taking runners and several spectators from Hayes to Peckham, it then kept pace at the various stage points, other members joined in, or watched, from cars. The Thanksgiving Service was well attended with St. John's Church filled for the simple service and the Clubhouse crowded for a more civilised tea than the usual scrum.

Since the last newsheet we have had the Club Road Relay, with more teams finishing than ever before and where we were second, after leading for the first three laps, to Hercules-Wimbledon who recorded their third successive win. A week later in the Johnston Relay we were sixth, and in the Walton Relay fourth. On the week-end of our relay we were well represented in the Kent Decathlon, T. Walhen, second in the open competition, and M. McFarnell, fifth (second in the County Championship) being our leading competitors; on the second day of this event it was sad to see the various Kent County Track Relay Championships decided in the absence of any Blackheath teams, perhaps the penalty for the activity of recent weeks. In contrast it was good to be at the Crystal Palace on the evening of 9th. October when Bob Richardson came second to the other British representative, T. Wright, with whom he had shared alternate laps in the first twenty of the 10,000 metres event against Finland; in the foreground during this event Tony Wadhams was winning the Triple Jump in the same match, with Graham Hamlyn his second string. Peter Hudson had competed in the Long Jump the previous evening. Amongst the 'heathens watching this match was Bill Western now elected one of the twelve Life Vice Presidents of the A.A.A. at the proposal of the Southern Counties, in recognition of the work he has put into athletics over the year.

Most recently 102 started in the club "5" and 100 completed the course, Bob Richardson winning by over 40 seconds, in 26:04, from Peter Horwood, Peter incidentally being announced at the A.G.M. as the new holder of the Lindsay Salver particularly for his performances from 800 metres to 1 mile on the track. Also at the A.G.M. in the evening, attended by 67 members, Eric Doorbar, Richard Edmonds and Bob Richardson were added to the list of Vice Presidents. Richard Edmonds became our hon. treasurer, John Philip 89 Amblecote Road, Grove Park, was elected track secretary, Bob Hawtin 187 Torridon Road, Catford, our press secretary, while we have a new assistant treasurer Fred Dudman and new cross country captain Nick Mandeville, but as yet no track captain - any offers? The elected committee members are J. Baldwin, T. Cavanagh, D. Gregory, I. Wilson, I. Ross, R. Rudd, B. Shapcott, P. Shephard and J. Withers.

The half year statement, at 30th. September, of the Centenary Fund was given at the A.G.M. from which the following details are extracted.

Cost 100x1 mile race . . . . .	£ 19	Donations . . . . .	£ 1229
Cost League Trophy . . . . .	£ 80	Fund raising events . . . . .	£ 118
Cost Track Meeting . . . . .	£ 197	Profit Goblets . . . . .	£ 43
Cost Thanksgiving Service . . . . .	£ 37	Profit Tankards . . . . .	£ 10
Cost Newsheet . . . . .	£ 11	Surplus Ball . . . . .	£ 56
Cost stock Ties . . . . .	£ 132	Interest . . . . .	£ 35
Cost stock Sweat-tops ) . . . . .	£ 112		
Cost stock Holdalls . . . . .	£ 15		
Cost stock Tankards . . . . .	£ 33		
Other Expenses . . . . .	£ 33		

The goblets are all sold and relatively few tankards remain, but there is a large stock of Centenary Ties (some 12 dozen) obtainable from the bar or the editor of the Newsheet at £1 each. Stocks of sweat-tops and holdalls are also tying up a great deal of money; contact Bob Hawtin. Gordon Monshall gave the surprising fact that only 190 members have made donations, this includes a good proportion of newsheet readers but if you have not done so yet why wait? It was suggested at the A.G.M. that donations might flow in faster if an aim were stated, but as was pointed out the final aim must be dependent on the likely total of the fund, so don't wait, send now to Gordon or the editor of this Newsheet, making cheques payable to Blackheath Harriers Centenary Fund, please. One member has offered £1 for every £500 the fund has, payable



members do this! There may be a fear in the minds of some members that this fund may be used to bolster the club's general fund, this will not happen. Despite the gloom of the past two years, with our income last year £1188 and expenditure £1300, our new level of subscription, as given in the recent Gazette, should rectify that for a few years anyway; taking all club accounts, B.H.H.Q., Wine, and general fund (excluding Centenary), our assets at 1st. September were £1021, our liabilities £245 of which £245 was owed to members who loaned money for the installation of the gas heated showers.

*as each new level is reached, which would seem....*

#### COMING EVENTS.

This last weekend in October, the nearest to our anniversary date, has appropriately a wide range of events. Of purely domestic interest is the Sunday Stroll from London Bridge Station at 10.30 a.m., not 11.00 as previously given, when a train will be taken to Peckham; the stroll will end with luncheon (13 shillings) at the Curlew Rowing Club at about 2.00 p.m. If you intend strolling or lunching and have not let Jack Sims know please do so, at 44 Northampton Road, Croydon, immediately. On the 25th. is the Vets Mob Match followed by the Vintage Cheese and Wine Party at 7.30 p.m. On the same day is the inaugural A.A.A. 6 x 4 $\frac{1}{4}$  mile Road Relay where we hope to run although we do not seem to have been invited. Our probable team, which looks very strong, is P. Horwood, I. Wilson, M. Willis or A. Weeks Pearson, R. Richardson, R. Hartin or A. Davis, and C. Haines.

The Winter fixture card came with the latest Gazette, use it and come to as many events as possible to run, to help, to watch or to meet old friends. To run, against South London and perhaps stay on and participate in events peculiar to such occasions in the evening. To help, at Ladywell on 2nd. November where we need an official: each competitor! To watch, you choose, the South of Thames race incidentally is at Sparrows Den, 3.15 p.m. start. To meet old friends, where better than the Manx House? 150 tickets sold and 30 guests invited, and the seating plan has to be finished on Monday evening, 27th. October, so hurry your 5 guineas to Richard Edmonds or it will be too late.

On the Coaching Day, 9th. November, Arthur Nye will be pleased to see you on the course or as a helper in any capacity, however limited you may feel. The day starts at Hayes at 10.00 a.m.

One other detail not previously given is that the Senators group will be at the next dance on 22nd. November at 7.30 p.m.

There are some additions to the published fixture list. On Sunday 7th. December is the rowing race with South London and Ranelagh; anyone with rowing experience in single sculls, doubles, fours or eights under A.R.A. rules please contact Ian Ross 33B Bridge Road, East Molesey, Surrey (01 979 8783) urgently. Ian is also arranging a rugby match against Parkhouse R.F.C. on Boxing Day, if you can play please contact him soon. The hockey match imminent, but Alan Brent would like a few names in reserve.

This leaves unmentioned the athletic event of the winter. It is assumed that on 29th. November all 'heathens' who can will be at Sparrows Den bringing friends and relations so that our runners will always be within sound of the cry "Blackheath" as they run the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  mile lap three times. The race is at 3.00 p.m.; more news will be in the next Newsheet, just before the event.

#### EDITORIAL COMMENT.

I referred earlier to the two years of gloom in our finances, but expressed hope for the future with the new levels of subscription. The thought occurs to me that if all readers of this send their subscription, if they have not already done so, to our new treasurer at 60 Brabourne Rise, Beckenham, then our current account as a club will look more healthy; nor will the treasurer have to waste money sending reminders, remember 60 reminders = £1 postage.

The Newsheet Editor still lives at 4 Christchurch Road, Dartford, Kent.