

"Perfer et Obdura"

Blackheath Harriers' Gazette

111th/112th SEASON: 1980-81

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EDITORIAL

Greetings! Yes, yet another masterpiece has hit the streets, and — hopefully — it is not too late in this issue for the Editor to wish members a Happy New Year. If it is, well I'm sure it wasn't the Editor's fault!

Could I begin by asking all correspondents to please note the deadline for copy for the next issue. The new administration believes that it is better to get a Gazette out on a regular basis rather than have it held up for one or two pieces of news.

Therefore, if your contributions are not sent in time for any particular issue it cannot be guaranteed that they will be included. News is news — not stories out of the past!

This Gazette contains news and results from the 1980 summer season and should have cleared the airy hefty backlog of results not yet published. With a little luck, the next issue will contain some up-to-date material.

However, it does appear at the time of writing this column that the results in the next issue might not be so bright as they could be. The turn-outs to Cross-Country fixtures are far from good this year and it seems that our numbers in mob matches are showing a downward trend. There is a lot of prestige attached to these fixtures, so where are all these Cross-Country runners who used to so enthusiastically take to the mud and slush each winter?

The Track and Field season is not far away now either! P.P. Bob Taylor will soon be advertising his winter track meeting, so perhaps our track athletes (and field as well!) might benefit from a run out in one of our coming fixtures.

If all goes to plan, there should be some field events facilities at Norman Park by the time you receive this Gazette. It is certainly a dream come true for Blackheath that a track has been installed so close to Bourne Way — and an all-weather track at that!

Bromley Council must be persuaded that it is for everybody's sake that lighting and a full range of facilities is made available in the very near future. A sure way to help them on their way is to use the track. It is open throughout the daylight hours, so even if you can't make it during the week, a Sunday morning session must surely be possible for most?

Norman Park's track is the most valuable property in the area for Blackheath — USE IT!

HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT, 11th OCTOBER 1980

Mr. President, gentlemen.

I have pleasure in presenting the 111th Annual Report of Blackheath Harriers for the year ending August 31, 1980.

Membership at that date was 690, consisting of 160 life members, 330 seniors and 200 juniors. During the year there were 44 deletions and 25 resignations. 111 new members were elected.

We do not seem to be able to move away from the 700 membership figure, but with the club starting its second year in the British League and also a determination to establish ourselves at the new track in Norman Park, we need a steady expansion of membership — especially in the senior category.

The Norman Park facility will be our best avenue of attack in building and consolidating our position as "the" athletic club to belong to, but it is going to need a vast outlay of time and money. So we

need to start now in order to establish ourselves as Bromley's athletics club. So get recruiting, get involved in our plans for Norman Park.

Another year has passed and we have lost some of our older members through bereavement. So let us think of our past and traditions that these members helped build as we remember R. W. Pattison — our oldest member, aged 93, who joined us in 1905. Also Lieutenant-Colonel E. Read, J. M. Robin, P. A. Evenden, E. Lester, E. Mott (a member for 70 years), H. Bellman, H. Nunns, L. Pendered and W. Clark.

Of course, the other sad blow to the club was the death of the steward's wife, Jane Selby. Jane's cheerfulness will be greatly missed by us all — especially when getting back late from a winter Saturday's training run, knowing you would be all right for a cup of tea. Our sympathy goes to Stan in his loss.

This year I am happy to report some improvement in our fortunes in cross country with the previous year. Once again we were third team in the Kent, but came a very creditable fifth in the Southern and 20th in the National. We also won two out of the three mob matches.

The veterans had a successful season winning the Southern team prize and gaining third place in the National.

The one worrying feature of the season was the continuing lack of juniors moving up through the ranks to take the place of those senior team members who ought to be thinking of hanging up their running shoes.

Once again we did not field a junior team in either the Southern or the National. One of the big tests of our increasingly numerous young athletes section will, to my mind, be whether they stick with the club and represent us at the senior age level. It would certainly prove a relief to some of our more sprightly veterans who are still called upon to run for the club.

Early in the season we suffered a setback when we lost to London University on their home ground because one of our 'experienced athletes' was tasting the bucolic delights of Parliament Hill, rather than making his way to the start of the race! The gentleman in question is evidently a pot-hunter (as well as the pot-keeper) because a fortnight later he not only made the start of the Club '5', he also won it! It should, however, be remembered that he had sent six of his closest rivals to Southport to run in the AAA six-stage relay to enhance his chance of success.

In the South of the Thames Junior race at Knole Park we finished sixth, and won medals as the first Kent team. We then suffered a mob match defeat against SLH. This was particularly disappointing as we were running on our home ground. SLH also managed to field 20 more runners than we did and — as the die-hard reporter in the Gazette laments — even those of ours that did turn up seemed to have left their club kit at home!

At the GLC championships we were fourth team, thanks mainly to an extremely fine run by Richard Coles who was second for the second year running. Richard underlined his fine pre-Christmas form by finishing very high in the inter-area championship at Crystal Palace. He beat Kevin Steere who went on to win the 1981 Kent Championship. Unfortunately, Richard caught bronchitis and was unable to run in the Kent. In his absence the team packed extremely well and won third place.

As I mentioned earlier, we won both the other two mob matches. Route-finding was a problem in

Epping Forest and, luckily for me, the Cross-Country secretary was better at writing this part of the report than he was at finding his way! He even took three other Blackheath Harriers off course, but despite his efforts at sabotage, we still managed to win comfortably. In the Ranelagh match, the score was desperately close in spite of us finishing 12 in the first 18.

A special mention should go to our Cross-Country Captain, Tim Soutar, who decimated the opposition in the Club '10', but then forgot the old dictum that you are only as good as your last race!

The Southern was our most successful event with Richard Coles finishing ninth in only his first race after his illness. Bill Foster was 13th and Peter Irvine was 55th. In all, five of the scoring six finished in the first 100, compared with only one the previous year. The team was fifth.

At the National we did slightly less well than in the Southern but still finished 20th. Local rivals Invicta were the third team. Once again, Richard Coles was our first finisher in 82nd place.

I have noted that many of the potential senior team have been running marathons during the summer months, so I hope all these miles will provide an even stronger and fitter team in the coming months.

The track season opened with a trip to Ostend at the beginning of April and saw our strongest ever team finish fourth out of 56 teams, only 4.7 seconds behind the winners. The first Saturday of May saw Blackheath's return to the British League at Windsor for the first time since 1972. Despite the absence of several top athletes, we achieved a comfortable second place behind regular rivals Aldershot. The second match took place at Aldershot three weeks later, and we again finished second behind Aldershot.

A gap of five weeks saw us in Wales for the third match at Cwmbram and, with our strongest team for 10 years and possibly ever in the league, we had a comfortable victory — our first ever in the British League. With Aldershot slipping up, finishing third, the league title depended on the last match, although both Aldershot and Blackheath were sure of promotion.

Two months later saw the team at Oxford for the closest match of the season and, although Oxford won the match, we finished second to clinch the league championship and so move into Division Four for 1981.

Particular mention must be made of Mike Winch and Chris Ellis who scored a maximum 80 points in the Discus, although it must be said that this was a team effort which was typified by the club record for the 4 x 400 metres relay at Cwmbram of 3 mins. 16.8 secs. by Trevor Llewelyn, Ray Wright, Julian Spooner and Nick Brooks.

The GRE cup saw us second in our home fixture at Crystal Palace and qualifying for the semi-finals at Cwmbram in August. We finished fourth in this semi-final — our best ever placing — and in the process defeated Southampton, a Division 2 side.

The 'B' team competed in the Southern League, division three, and missed promotion by half a league point! A marginal last place in the first match left us with too much to do and, although we won three of our last five fixtures, we finished sixth, with the first five promoted. A failure to clear a height in the 'B' string high jump at the first fixture cost us dearly.

With members in some events being unable to command a place in either team we have entered a third team in the Southern League, division six, for

next season.

Individually, 1980 was a disappointing season with all our Olympic hopefuls being unsuccessful in their ambitions of going to Moscow. Mike Winch continued the season as Britain's number two Shot putter and, with the retirement of Geoff Capes, takes over as number one.

Mike culminated the season with internationals in Tokyo and Peking, winning a bronze medal in the latter. The only other international representations were by Julian Spooner in the Great Britain junior team in Italy, winning the 800m, and by Robert Farish in the England team in the schools international at Lincoln, where he finished second in the 1500 metres.

The young athletes of the club have again enjoyed another year of outstanding success, both during last winter's Cross-Country season and this summer's Track and Field season.

In the Herne Hill Harriers young athletes Cross-Country league, it was only a disastrous result in their penultimate fixture that denied our youngsters the overall league title.

Instead, they finished a nevertheless highly creditable second to champions Elliotts AC, but — more important — ahead of local rivals Cambridge.

Individually, we collected one gold medal (Robert Farish won the individual Boys league) and a bronze medal (Antony Bicknell was third in the Youths league).

In our other winter competition, the Kent County Boys and Colts league, weakened teams excelled beyond all expectation. In the Colts league we finished third and in the Boys league we were second.

Special mention must go here to 14-year-old Gavin Fernandes who ran brilliantly in the Sevenoaks fixture to give us our first ever winner in a county league match — obviously an exhibition run in front of a very impressed club President who stood among the spectators that day!

Despite a very weak showing in the County southern and National championships, the highlight of the winter season for the young athletes section must have been when Robert Farish strode home to take the Southern Boys Cross-Country title at Parliament Hill. Our first southern 'gold' in 27 years, this was again well prompted as our last champion was none other than Brian Stone!

Rounding off the winter season with trophy matches at Camberley and Crawley, which saw us return loaded with medals, we soon found ourselves opening our account in our newly-found status in the first division of the National Young Athletes league, southern area.

Having only been promoted from the second division the previous year, our youngsters, so it seemed, would be faced with a mammoth task. However, the apprehensive approach at first was unnecessary. In our first match at Wimbledon Park, we came to within five points of defeating Herne Hill — fourth in this year's national final!

From here the results got better and better. Our home match at Croydon saw a very convincing win for us, while at Guildford — although we beat reigning southern area champions Brighton, we were edged into second place by a very strong Tonbridge side in a nail-biting meeting.

In our penultimate fixture at Oxford, we again emerged top, by a 50-point margin, which left us needing second place at least in our final fixture at Feltham to qualify for the runners-up final at Hendon in September.

This we did — but only just. League champions Hounslow strode away in first place, leaving us and

Crawley to battle for second. With the weakest team to date we just managed second — which gave us fourth place in the first division, way above our wildest pre-season dreams.

Blackheath had reached a national final for the first time, but clearly, if we were to make anything of the occasion, we needed to field our strongest team possible.

We were reasonably well off on the day, but some incredibly strong opposition proved too much. We slumped to last place of the eight competing clubs. It was nevertheless a magnificent achievement by our youngsters to even reach a final such as this.

Meanwhile, our Boys and Colts had been busy proving themselves in the South East Counties League. They reduced the division one competition to farce with some brilliant performances, and had the overall league title as well as the Boys league title sewn up in the third of the four fixtures — following in the footsteps of their seniors, perhaps?

Even though the final match coincided with the national final at Hendon we were still able to send a team of reserves to Ladywell and — incredibly — these took third place in the match.

Again, individually it was a season to remember. And again Robert Farish takes pride of place. He took yet another Southern gold — this time in the Youths 1500m championship, clocking 3.58.5 — and all this as a 15-year-old, first-year youth!

Robert had a terrific season. In the English schools championships at Liverpool he took second spot, thus gaining an England vest to compete in the schools home international at Lincoln in July. In this match he was again second, clocking another personal best time of 3mins 58.2secs.

The English schools saw six Blackheath youngsters travel up with the Kent team. Grant Mitchell competed in the long jump after winning the Kent schools championships with a championship best performance of 6m 73cm, while Paul Austridge ran the 400m hurdles, and Paul Ashen the 200m. Paul Austridge again impressed in the Southern championships — he took the bronze in 56.2secs — he too is a first-year in the age-group.

However, the English schools was something of a nightmare for our other representative, 14-year-old Robin Ashdown. He won his 400m heat but suffered bad blistering on one foot, which meant he had to run the semi-final severely handicapped. He didn't do badly though — he qualified for the final in second place in a personal best 53.0secs.

Despite an ever-worsening gash on his foot, Robin's eventual fifth in the final was no mean achievement. He has done even better since, though. In a Southern counties open meeting at Crystal Palace, he clocked 52.8 secs — estimated to be the second-fastest time for his age in the United Kingdom this year!

These, though, are only the stars. Obviously, there are many, many more youngsters who have in no small way helped steer our club to the great successes it has enjoyed recently.

Despite the recent decision by our young athletes secretary to retire from the position, I am sure that everyone in the club will give our young athletes all the support we can — they surely deserve it?

However, before leaving the young athletes, mention must go to the small band of helpers that have also put in so much work for our youngsters this year. Club members Richard Farish, Terry Mallott and Brian Hartley have helped in no small way along with other assistance from the hard core of three or four parents who have supported the section throughout the year.

We have had a fair representation on the road, with what appears to be a mini-revival of distance running. Apart from '10's and '15's numerous members have run marathons and there are some who are still building up their training for an attempt in the Harlow.

Our congratulations to Chris Woodcock who won the Kent 20 mile championship. We have one or two individuals who are good but we lack team strength. This is another area where we should try to improve, as a successful team in road running carries a lot of prestige and will attract talent. I do not intend to deride the club runners and indeed it would be great to enter vast numbers in all the road runs.

The main items of our general athletic year have been covered, but there are so many more that took time and involvement to stage. The winter track meeting organised by Bob Taylor needed many helpers and as usual was a terrific success with hundreds of entries. The **Ted Pepper memorial race** (main organiser Mike Peel, although others helped) is surely already well established after only the second year. The **100 x 1 mile relay** was a major organisation task, with Ian Young this year being the main co-ordinator. A great day at Crystal Palace, where many friendships were renewed was had by everyone.

The **cross-country relay** on September 20 saw John Hills as the main organiser. 46 teams started. The results, by the way, were all printed and the prizes ready to be presented before the runners were out of the showers!

The **Westerham Stroll**: in last year's report I promised to mention somebody that had completed this year's walk. So, "well done" Alison Brand and all the others, though we all know you only do it for the 'spread' at Lew Piper's. By the way, I'm talking about this year's walk, not this year's walk!

There are still many more items to mention which are equally important to the life and existence of the club and, of course, the involvement of the various members. If I just list quickly some of the other things that go on in a year it will give our new members a good idea of what it takes to keep us in the style we have become accustomed to.

The **Social Club** have contributed so much to our hardware needs in the Kitchens, and of course straight, lovely money. Thank you very much to all the Social Club.

The **Table-tennis section** is ticking over nicely and won the Bromley summer league, division four, and of course attracted new members.

The **rowing match** in which we came second is said by some to be the fault of some person who wore a high collar shirt which resulted in the boat going in circles! Just a bit of fun, Shorty, sorry, I mean Ken!

The 'heavy mob' now have a brand new **multi-gym machine**, and it is a great asset in keeping our field men fit, but also is an attraction to prospective members which has already borne fruit. This machine cost lots of pennies — about one hundred and seventy-thousand of them — a large part of them coming from Lee Brand's Memorial Fund, but it is surely a worthwhile implement to remember Lee by?

Other events included the club dinner, organised by Tony Oldfield, the bonfire night, the wine committee, which put on so many functions — nearly two a month every month. There have been quite a few members help here but the main ones were Gordon Hickey, Chris Haines, Pete Hannell and,

of course, our President, Brian Stone, who still had to get involved. Mrs. Daniels our cook, again did a great job — thank you, Mrs. Daniels!

Programme sales at Crystal Palace organised by Mike Peel provided a very healthy contribution to Club funds. Thanks must go to the programme-sellers too.

The schools race, again run on a Wednesday, was a good draw and is good publicity to the youth in this area. The 200 group is nearly always fully backed and is a steady income to the Club.

A final mention should go to trail layers, time keepers, judges, organisers, committee attenders and so on.

Regarding maintenance of the building and surrounding area, Stan Selby, our steward, has certainly worked hard on the outside and it looks very nice with the neat grass and surrounds.

There are so many functions being performed to keep the Club going, so my apologies for those not mentioned this year and a message to those who think they would like to help in any way, please ask.

ROBERT WEEKS-PEARSON MEMORIAL FUND

Notice is hereby given that the Robert Weeks-Pearson memorial fund is to be wound up on February 28, 1981. Any enquiries regarding the fund should be made to the Treasurer or the President before this date.

THE PRESIDENT



Ian Fife Smith was born on August 21, 1933, and educated, appropriately, at Roan School, Blackheath. He is the second President in recent years from that school.

Ian was elected to the club on January 7, 1952, and in that year he won the club junior 440 yards championship. Between 1953 and 1955 he won the club 100 yards championship three times, as well as winning the 220 yards and 440 yards titles in the same period.

In 1964 he was elected to the club committee and has served prominently thereon since then. Between 1971 and 1976 he was club secretary. Ian has been a member of the Kent County A.A.A. committee for some years and is secretary of the Kent cross-country league.

A very methodical person, Ian Smith pioneered the task in the early seventies of defining the various duties of club officers to cut out ambiguity, and to ensure that nothing should be overlooked. His founding and editorship of a club newsheet, the 'Blackheath Courier', will ensure him a place in volume two of the club's history.

Our new President is a thinking man, and a great innovator and organiser. Let us hope he will think of and organise, some success for the club during 1981.

TREASURER'S REPORT, 1980

Since I took over as Treasurer in October, 1975, the number of members in the club has risen from 600 to 700. The turnover on the club account has risen from £1750 to almost £9000, and we are still not as financially sound as I would have liked! We have a 'Capital Account', which I emphasize should only be used to finance projects which will be repaid in full.

I was told that the Treasurer's job would only take about an hour every Sunday together with the odd Wednesday evening. However, recently it has required an hour every night to keep the books straight and attend to the correspondence and so on, so I'm wondering how long it will be before the Treasurer's job becomes full time! I have a feeling that the taxman thinks we run a business with full-time officials already!

To me there appears to be too few club members doing too much, and we really need a few more new faces helping with jobs on the committee. We may then be able to be a little more efficient and therefore able to run things more smoothly and profitably.

Income increased last year, but this was swollen by the amount received from the 1979 sponsors. However, expenditure rose by 25 per cent!

The biggest problem was the increase in the rateable value of the clubhouse from £500 to £1088. This meant that we had to pay £350 per annum more to the council, and our rent to B.H.H.Q. Limited also rose by a similar amount. This was in spite of the fact that we have been overpaying for the past eight years due to a misinterpretation of the resolution passed at the 1971 A.G.M. This, of course, has not been queried by the directors of B.H.H.Q. Ltd.!

The Young Athletes Fund was started in 1971 and last year we spent so much on getting athletes to meetings and so on, that we had a deficit which wiped out the fund. The under-18 subscription rate of £3 produced about £480 which just covered the deficit, but we are not a separate club yet and I should like to point out that all members' subscriptions are also required to cover the club's other overheads.

Young athletes have to be indoctrinated into the finest traditions of Blackheath Harriers and should not expect to be cosseted and spoon-fed. We might then be able to keep them on our books when the magic age of 16 arrives and exams and the opposite sex appear to take priority!

What we urgently need are new fund-raising ideas. So 'heathens, go away and put on your thinking caps and let the committee know if you have any ideas.

Now on to last year! First, I would like to thank all members who made donations to club funds. They help a lot and are greatly appreciated. Mike Peel and all the others who have continued carrying out our obligations to sell programmes at Crystal Palace meetings have done so very successfully. We were even praised for our work at the AAA's annual meeting! Mike also organises the Ted Pepper race which made a welcome profit this year.

John Hills has now taken over from Fred Dudman to organise our Cross-Country relay and has continued to make a profit. Bob Taylor manages the mammoth task of trying to keep our very successful winter track meeting under control and came up with another profit — marvellous work!

Chris Haines and John Baldwin kept the 200 Club almost fully subscribed raising between £1100 and

£1200 — all for club funds. Also, Ian Young had to manage without a major sponsor for the 100 x 1 mile relay and much hard work went into producing a very small profit. I do feel that we have been let down by those athletes who competed but did not raise any sponsorship themselves from their cards. Club funds have hence suffered and our profit will be over £2000 less this year.

Looking at the other side — Cross-Country expenses will be minimal this year with most major fixtures fairly close to home. The track section managed to keep their expenditure to 1979 levels even with two trips to Cwmbran but next year we have three teams to finance, so costings will have to be looked at shortly.

The road-running section is gradually becoming more successful, so will cost slightly more to finance. The inter-schools race, now organised in its new format by Chris Haines, is successful and runs at negligible cost to the club.

I would like to thank all those members who have helped me by producing funds when required, or accounts of their expenditure in legible form, and also those who spend so much time and their own money in helping the club. I would also like to thank the Auditor, Jim Bennett, for doing the extremely difficult task of agreeing my figures and producing the accounts! I wish my successor all good fortune in his task and hope he gets plenty of help from everyone.

Looking at the income and expenditure account it is clear that a lot of income will not be received again next year :—

| | £ |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Life membership | 175 |
| R. W. Pattison Bequest | 50 |
| Interest received | 692 |
| 100 x 1 mile Relay 1979 | 2213 |
| Lottery | 167 |
| TOTAL | £3297 |

The only expenditure that will not recur next year will be the cost of the 'Multigym' — £406.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Due to lack of space, the income and expenditure account and the balance sheet are not printed in the Gazette. However, if members who have not yet seen one wish to do so, these are available on application to the Treasurer.

AWARDS, 1980

The following awards were made at the A.G.M. at Hayes: J. Sims Salver—T. Soutar;; Lindsay Salver—M. Winch; Reynolds Pewter—C. Woodcock; Wooderson Trophy—R. Farish. Merit Awards: M. Athawes.

Junior honours badges were awarded to: P. Ashen, R. Farish and P. Austridge.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1980

The following four proposals were adopted under item six on the agenda:

1. Any form of discount scheme for prompt payment of annual subscriptions be discontinued.

2. That as from the date of the Annual General Meeting of 1980, the annual subscription rate for ordinary members be increased to twelve pounds, with over 18-year-old members paying 33½ per cent of this rate (£4).

3. The original proposal as circulated on the A.G.M. notice was amended and agreed in this form: "Subscription rates shall be determined from time to time by a specially called meeting of the General Committee. Notice of a proposal to alter the rates shall be given 21 days in advance to all members of the Committee, and a quorum at such a meeting shall be 20. The rates shall be advertised in each issue of the Club Gazette and on all membership application forms."

4. The Committee shall have the power to award life membership in particular cases on a recommendation by the President, Hon. Treasurer or Hon. Secretary.

OFFICERS, 1980-81

For a full list of the officers elected at the October annual general meeting for 1980-81, turn to page 13.

1980-81 FIXTURES

The following additions or amendments have been made to the current fixture list for 1980-81:

- Feb. 21 *CC v. Vets AC at Nat. West ground, Epsom Downs. Southern Vet's championships, Hastings.*
- Mar. 14 *Closing '5'.*
- Mar. 15 *National Vets championships, Birkenhead.*
- Apr. 4 *Open night.*

REPORTS

SOUTHERN LEAGUE, DIVISION 3, 1980

The past athletics season in terms of promotion has been a case of 'so near and yet so far' for Blackeath Harriers' 'B' team who were competing in the third division of the Southern League.

The team's final position was sixth. As the top five were promoted, we were somewhat frustrated at being edged out on this occasion.

The main reason for our position not being higher was that we finished last in our first fixture at West London Stadium. Just to make a point, one more point in that match would have lifted us into one of those elusive promotion placings!

Individually, one name springs to mind as the most consistently outstanding athlete throughout the season — Peter Brooks. Although absent for the first match, he certainly made up for it in the remaining fixtures by competing in anything between four and seven events in one afternoon! He always ensured a high placing in each event as well!

Other names that spring to mind include Daryl Brand and his father, P.P. Colin, who formed the backbone of the throwing events. As for the athlete with the most stamina, that title must be given to Les Roberts. In one afternoon, Les would be quite willing to compete in anything from 1500m upwards — and sometimes did the lot!

Looking forward to next season, the general feeling is that with so many talented youngsters coming into the team, promotion is a foregone conclusion — let's hope so!

October 31, 1980

NEW YORK ROAD-RUNNERS CLUB

HALLOWEEN 8 kms.

A field of some 500 runners was dominated by the English remnants of the previous Sunday's New York City marathon. They placed first, second, fourth, fifth, 14th and 19th.

The course, out and back on the dark, eerie paths of New York's Central Park, tracing out the final miles of the marathon, was undulating enough to test the best. The battle up front between Hassel (AFD) and Logan (AFD) lasted until the closing half-mile before daylight could be seen between the two.

Runners were invited to come suitably attired for the occasion, and in true American spirit, fully-clad gorillas — with numbers, of course — to an Indian in full regalia, turned up for the run. Others included Batman and Robin, Superman, three blind mice and numerous fairies (not this Gazette reporter, however!).

Not to be outdone, one competitor duly paid the entry fee for his dog and — kitted in number and tee-shirt — ran on leash as 'H. Baskerville'.

Just to complete the occasion, the race was presided over by 'Mr. New York Running', Fred Lebow, the President of the New York Road Runners Club.

Needless to say, despite the efforts of the racers up front, the second half of the field was intent on having a good time and the mixture made good entertainment for all.

As always, the organisation and hospitality was first class from digital clock to the apple dip at the finish.

Placings were: 1, T. Hassell, AFD, 23.56; 14, S. Cluney, Blackheath, 27.02.

October 12, 1980

SOUTHERN BIATHLON CHAMPIONSHIPS, FELTHAM

Men (over 18): 5. Brian Fincham, 1615 points; 6. Steve Cluney, 1390; 8. Richard Farish, 901.

Teams: 1. Blackheath Harriers, 3906 points.

Men (under 18): 2. Robert Farish, 2544 points.

Men (under 15): Tim Farish, 1440 points.

The biathlon consisted of a Cross-Country run and a swim. Cross-country courses were mainly flat grassland which was of little assistance to the runners. Scoring is biased in favour of swimmers, so entry and success was dominated by that sector. Robert Farish's fine run set the stage for his fine second place only 48 points adrift of the winner. All sections yielded some astounding swim times, even more frightening for the running fraternity in attendance!

In the senior section we became the first Athletics club to collect a senior championship, all the more astounding as we gave at least seven years away.

Our first team place now qualifies us for a place in the national biathlon championship at Crystal Palace in late November. A groan was emitted from all team members at this news! Due to poor time-keeping (much like track meetings) the seniors found themselves running and swimming within the hour instead of the traditional minimum break of at least two hours! The final result was welcomed with much pleasure, though, as it meant we could all go home — some had been there since 8.30 a.m. and it was now 6 p.m.

NATIONAL FUN RUN

For the third year running the weather proved sunny and inviting and Hyde Park attracted 16,046 entries. Blackheath provided 19. Sprinkled sociably among the various age categories were John Hills, Max Heineman, Phil Saxon, Peter Long, George Downs, Gordon Gibbens, Roy Savery, Steve Cluney and P.P. Terry Sullivan.

The solid entry of the ten 'Blackheath geriatrics' planned to arrive well before their start (1.45 p.m.) so that they might absorb the atmosphere (ladies 19—24 and 25—30 categories) before doing their own thing! George and Dorothy Brooks added a touch of sanity to the proceedings, and when field glasses were produced we wondered if starters and odds would be quoted! From his vast handicapping experience, George forecast the placings correctly except for one.

September 7th, 1980

National Young Athletes League, Runners-up Final, Cophall Stadium

What a tremendous climax to the programme! Having battled through a hectic league season, our youngsters had reached the runners-up final of the National Young Athletes League for the first time in our history.

The scene was Cophall Stadium, Hendon, the weather was bright and oh, so hot! With an all-weather track and top class competition, it promised to be a cracking meeting.

Most club members will know by now that the eventual result was not a happy one for Blackheath, but as can so often be the case, the result sheet did not anything like illustrate the admirable efforts made by our team. We finished eighth of the eight competing teams, but we nevertheless impressed in many of the events.

Our only outright winner was Paul Ashen, who won the 200 metres. Even he was overcome by some incredibly high class sprinting from the Essex Beagles camp in the 100 metres, however.

Robert Farish broke the two minute barrier in the 800 metres for the second time in five days, but he too was just unable to pip the winner despite a blistering burst over the final 200m.

The new Gazette Editor, then Young Athletes Secretary, was given a nasty shock after the Boys 3000m. Richard Teall ran himself to exhaustion—again—and had to be carried into the first-aid room to recover. Little recognition is given in headlines to club members that rarely gain first places—perhaps one of the greatest flaws in present-day journalism! However, Blackheath can count themselves lucky that plucky individuals like Richard are prepared to flog themselves to near exhaustion even if a first place is unlikely.

It was poetic justice, therefore, that Richard earned a bronze medal for his efforts having finished sixth overall in his race.

Another Blackheath Harrier, 12-year-old Raoul Codd, certainly captured the attention of the crowd as he stormed in for the finish of his Colts 800m race. In one of the closest duels of the afternoon, Raoul shrugged off his Cannock challenger by the thickness of his vest to clinch first 'A' string place.

Paul Austridge was another Blackheathen who enjoyed a highly successful afternoon. He set the

It was amazing when the race got under way how fast some of the 'oldies' got going, although for some the initial burst lasted only for a couple of hundred yards!

Judging from the frequent shouts of "up the 'heath", support was not lacking from fellow-'heathens along the route—including Angus Tweedy, having thoughtfully omitted to bring his kit, but remembered his camera to record the scene.

This year's 'freshmen', Frank Dyter and John Bennett, acquitted themselves well, scoring eight and 11th respectively, waiting for Alan Brent to chase them in at 13th position. Other placings were: 41, Norman Dudley; 49, Gerry Rhodes; 59, Lew Piper; 62, Reg Kirk; 63, Johnnie Walker; 71, Len King; 79, Jack Parrott. Teamwise, we gained 27th position with 186 points from 906 teams closing in.

Thanks again to George and Dorothy for their support and it is to be hoped that more ladies will come along next year and make this a 'family' affair.

ball rolling for us in the first event of the day. He finished third in the 400m. hurdles 'A' string with an outstanding run of 57.6 seconds.

In the later 400m. 'A' string race, Paul finished fifth, clocking 53.6 seconds, but improved for his first leg of the 4 x 400m. relay to lead the field home after the first circuit.

It was an agonising afternoon for Grant Mitchell in more ways than one. Our Kent Schools long jump champion and record holder was suffering from an injured ankle for most of the meeting, but still managed to get through three events. He finished third in the long jump, fourth in the high jump and rounded off the day with a determined effort in the 4 x 400m. relay.

Again, the unhappy situation of there being too many names to mention in the space available raises its ugly head. However, a report on our youngsters' big day cannot end without at least including the names of some stalwarts who have supported the young athletes teams through thick and thin this year.

These include Clive and Andrew Suckling, Richard Mitchell, John Martin, Stuart Roweth, Allen Hartley, Marc 'I'll do any number of events' Williams, Steve Thompson and many more in our middle distance squads.

Nicholas Casey, David May, Robin Ashdown, Stephen Dwobeng, Martin Speed, Andrew Jordan, Grant Barwell, Errol Chambers and Paul Thomas formed the foundations of our sprint teams.

On the field, too, there have been many fine efforts. Mark Bullock, Carl Brighton, Sean McGowan, Lawrence Bobb, Jim Carter, Gary Cussen, Tim Mallott, Darren Russell, Andrew Niell, James Cunningham and Richard Hoare are no exceptions.

So our team at Cophall need not be too down-hearted over the result. Everyone gave their best and did the club proud — **Blackheath Harriers were represented in a national final and that is what matters!**

For pictures of our young stars in action at Hendon, turn to the centre pages.

The final league table in Southern area division 1 of the National Young Athletes League, 1980, reads as follows:—

| | Match Pts | Lge Pts |
|---------------------|--------------|------------|
| Borough of Hounslow | 20 | 1274 |
| Herne Hill H. | 19 | 1184 |
| Tonbridge AC | 18 | 1061½ |
| Blackheath H. | 17 | 1110½ |
| Brighton & Hove AC | 16 | 1067½ |
| Crawley AC | 15 | 1054 |
| Oxford AC | 13 | 904 |
| Sutton & Cheam AC | 13 | 820½ |
| Wycombe Phoenix H. | 12 | 902 |
| Croydon H. | 9 | 763 |
| Aldershot F. & D. | 9 | 750 |
| Surrey Beagles | 9 | 732 |
| Hercules W. AC | 8 | 816½ |
| Hastings AC | 8 | 652 |
| Bracknell AC | 7 | 685 |
| Elliott AC | 7 | 659½ |

FULL RESULTS

('B' string results shown in parenthesis).

Colts: 100m: 7. I. Brooks, 14.3 (7. R. Mitchell, 14.8); 200m: 3. R. Codd, 27.7 (5. I. Brooks, 29.8); 800m: 2. R. Codd, 2-24.2 (2. R. Mitchell, 2-32.2); 1500m: 7. C. Suckling, 5.10 (4. G. Griffiths, 5-13.3); 4 x 100m: 5. Blackheath, 55.8.

Boys: 100m: 8. N. Casey, 13.2 (7. D. May, 13.1); 200m: 8. N. Casey, 26.8 (7. M. Speed, 27.1); 400m: 6. M. Speed, 59.0 (7. D. Flagg, 61.7); 800m: 6. A. Suckling, 2-18.0 (7. S. Roweth, 2-19.0); 1500m: 6. A. Suckling, 4-34.7 (6. S. Roweth, 4-53.0); 3000m: 6. R. Teall, 10-09.9 (No 'B' runner); 80mH: 5. S. Allwood, 12.5 (5. S. McGowan, 14.2); Shot: 3. M. Bullock, 13.38 (4. S. McGowan, 10.26); Discus: 6. M. Bullock, 28.34 (6. J. King, 23.68); Javelin: 8. J. Carter, 27.10 (No 'B' thrower); Hammer: 6. M. Bullock, 23.26 (8. J. Carter, 18.36); Pole Vault: 4. A. Neill, 2.15 (No 'B' vaulter); Long Jump: 7. C. Brighton, 5.46 (5. L. Bobb, 5.41); Triple Jump: 5. L. Bobb, 12.06 (6. S. Allwood, 10.59); High Jump: 6. A. Neill, 1.55 (3. M. Battle, 1.50); 4 x 100m: 5. Blackheath, 49.9; 4 x 400m: 7. Blackheath, 4-05.7.

Youths: 100m: 2. P. Ashen, 11.4 (4. E. Chambers, 12.2); 200m: 1. P. Ashen, 23.6 (7. E. Chambers, 25.4); 400m: 5. P. Austridge, 53.6 (7. P. Ashen, 57.6); 800m: 2. R. Farish, 1-59.5 (5. S. Thompson, 2-14.2); 1500m: 8. S. Thompson, 4-28.3 (7. M. Williams, 4.36.7); 3000m: 6. A. Tilley, 9-44.7 (3. G. Fernandes, 10.00.4); 100mH: J. Hunter, disqualified (7. R. Hoare, 16.8); 400mH: 3. P. Austridge, 57.6 (6. R. Hoare, 65.8); 1500m S/C: 8. M. Hudson, 5-05.0 (7. A. Tilley, 5-17.2); Shot: 8. I. Kavanagh, 9.56 (No 'B' thrower); Discus: 8. J. Hunter, 21.92 (6. T. Mallott, 20.64); Javelin: 7. I. Kavanagh, 45.10 (5. T. Mallott, 39.46); Hammer: 8. T. Mallott, 20.26 (No 'B' thrower); Pole Vault: 6. R. Hoare, 3.00 (4. J. Cunningham, 2.80); Long Jump: 3. G. Mitchell, 6.39 (5. D. York, 5.84); Triple Jump: 8. J. Bailey, 11.26 (7. D. York, 11.09); High Jump: 5. D. Russell, 1.75 (4. G. Mitchell, 1.70); 4 x 100m: 4. Blackheath, 46.7; 4 x 400m: 7. Blackheath, 3-43.4.

SPONSORSHIP

For latest details of the sponsorship deal being negotiated between Blackheath Harriers and Express Dairies Ltd., turn to page 14. We have already run a very successful event in association with Express and we are hoping for even better things to come!

LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE

The Press Secretary has again urged club officials to inform him promptly of any news for publication in the local press. Press releases are written weekly each Sunday afternoon and items must reach him as early as possible. Members' co-operation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

YOUNG ATHLETES: COMMENT

Although this Gazette is mainly aimed at covering the news and views relating to the recent summer season (Editor's note: I hope it will be 'recent' when this issue hits the streets!), a brief but important note about the early stages of the winter season concerning our young athletes is called for.

Whether there is a Young Athletes Secretary or not, turn-outs to matches during the Cross-Country season have no reason to fall. It has been with increasing concern that the now Editor of this Gazette has witnessed a drop by more than half on last season's turn-outs to races.

A small (too small!) but willing band of parents have a massive task on their hands. At the moment it is a struggle to field ONE full team in either age-group, let alone the 'C' and 'D' teams that were enthusiastically taking to the mud last year.

PLEASE use your fixture cards, PLEASE keep a note of match dates in your diaries. Remember, the more people we turn out the better for the club. Let's not allow our recent successes to fade — help the club by co-operating in every way you can.

Every young member's parents should have received a letter from the President late last year asking for support. Please take notice of his appeal—even if it is only once during the whole season, once is better than never!

So come on all you young Blackheathens, pull together and help keep Blackheath the great club it is.

September 19, 1980

YOUNG ATHLETES PARENTS EVENING

What a tremendous response we had for the young athletes parents evening-cum-social in September! Well over 100 athletes and their mums and dads turned up at Hayes for what was by all accounts a highly successful occasion.

Thanks have to go to our 'guests of honour'. Charles Elliott, Trevor Llewelyn and Chris Ellis kindly agreed to come along and chat to the parents during the evening.

All the certificates won at Copthall Stadium earlier in the month, and the trophies won in the South East Counties League last summer, were presented along with the young athletes Club Colours for 1980.

Robert Farish won colours for his win in the Southern Counties Cross-Country Championships last February. Stephen Allwood was also honoured for his efforts in the County championships when he carried off the gold medal for the 80m hurdles.

Robin Ashdown earned his colours with his win in the County 400 metres final and his second place in the Southern Counties Championships.

Back on the Cross-Country scene, Gavin Fernandes was given his Colours for his win in the Sevenoaks Kent County League fixture in January, while Allen Hartley and Martin Osborne were rewarded for their selection to the County team in the same month.

Thank you one and all who attended.

NATIONAL YOUNG ATHLETES LEAGUE, 1981

The National Young Athletes League has been completely restructured for competition in 1981. Blackheath will compete in the new Eastern Premier Division. From this division the top two teams will go forward to the national final and third and fourth places to the runners-up final. The bottom four clubs will be relegated into smaller area divisions — south east, south, south coast or south central.

The clubs due to meet Blackheath in the Eastern Premier Division will be:

Bexley Borough AC, Borough of Enfield, Brighton & Hove AC, Crawley AC, Croydon Harriers, Essex Beagles, Havering AC, Herne Hill Harriers, Medway AC, Surrey AC, Surrey Beagles, Sutton & Cheam Harriers, Thurrock Harriers, Tonbridge AC and Worthing AC.

RESULTS

August 31, 1980

CORNWALL '10'

There is nothing like a short ride to your local road race! Six people made their way, separately, to Falmouth at the end of August — much to their mutual amazement and to the obvious delight of the organisers!

The current dietary vogue of having a few jars the night before was followed to the letter! But those who stayed in Mevagissey lost sleep with two to a bed and seagulls at 6 a.m. To add to their problems, the course turned out to be one of Britain's more arduous '10's, and the day was hot!

The runners left Penryn Rugby Club, ran down through Penryn and along the Fal estuary. Up and around the back of Falmouth and along the sea front past the startled sunbathers, on we went, along the pretty route to Pendennis Castle and back to Penryn to finish up a one mile long, one in eight, hill!

Everyone ran well, but were not among the medals. Paul Barrington-King, obviously upset by missing the hour by seconds, slashed his finger on his razor, and we all spent the early evening in Truro Hospital waiting for the pubs to open.

Some returned immediately to London, driven by James (Hunt) Hannell, to start work the next day. The others made their way home leisurely over a couple of days. Duchy of Cornwall A.C. were delighted to receive such distinguished guests and we promised to bring a 'proper' team next year.

Final placings: M. Clements 58.30; P. Barrington-King, 60.01; K. Whicheloe, 61.16; M. Williams, 63.11.

October 12, 1980

WALTON '10'

Although the course was extended by 180 yards to make it exactly ten miles, conditions at Walton were ideal for fast times. The Blackheath turnout was good and several runners secured personal bests.

Notably, Steven Robinson, fresh from altitude training on Dartmoor, low altitude Paul Barrington-King, and Keith Whicheloe beat the hour for the first time.

Chris' Woodcock was the first Blackheath runner home followed by Barry O'Gorman and Bill Wade, who finished still looking for the hills! Not over

the moon with this race were Pete Catley, John Kavanagh (reported to be running almost inside Keith Whicheloe's shoes) and newly-elected road race commandant Mike Peel. He was very worried about being last man home. To Mike's relief he was followed by Tony Nana who still ran a personal best despite being ill all week.

Despite running the last two laps with Micky Clements on her shoulder, Leslie Watson still broke the hour. In a similar situation most women would have broken 50 minutes. Mick wins the handicap prize for using only one hand for running. Bagman for the day was Mike Williams who took lots of blurred photographs and shouted inaccurate lap times to confuse the runners!

Overall result: 1, J. Goater, Shaftesbury H., 48.14; 47, C. Woodcock, 52.24; 75, B. O'Gorman, 53.57; 110, D. Wade, 55.25; 134, S. Robinson, 56.59; 139, P. Catley, 57.14; 141, P. Barrington-King, 57.18; 156, J. Kavanagh, 58.22; 166, K. Whicheloe, 58.55; 170, M. Peel, 59.08; 211, A. Nana, 61.27. 312 finished.

July 19, 1980

BELGRAVE HARRIERS 20 MILE ROAD RACE

For the 29th annual 20-mile road race, Belgrave Harriers used the usual three-lap course which runs around Wimbledon Common, down the A3 and returning up Copse Hill.

The heavy rains, which have been a feature of this summer, held off, but the humidity was high and there was a strong head wind on the long downhill stretch of the A3.

This year's race incorporated the inter-counties '20', so it was a strong field — one which included six Blackheath Harriers.

The six were Les Roberts, Ian Wilson, Chris Woodcock, Barry O'Gorman, Bill Wade and Geoff Crowder. Woodcock and Wilson were also representing Kent in the inter-counties event.

The race started and the field quickly spread out. The experienced figure of Woodcock, and novice Roberts, shot off. Ian Wilson ran a strong third five miles and caught Les on the final long descent of the A3, but this spurred Les on and he pulled away to finish a creditable 27th in his first '20'.

Ian Wilson held 28th and Bill Wade ran well to clinch 37th, completing the Blackheath scoring team of three.

From these placings the experienced Blackheath members felt that third team place might have been theirs. They were mistaken, however. When the team result was announced, Blackheath were a clear first! (Your Gazette reporter believes that this was the first Blackheath team win in a long distance race for many years. Let's hope that this is the start of even better things to come!)

Placings were as follows: 1, A. Holden (Tipton/Lancs.), 1.43:56; 27, L. Roberts, 1.54:44; 28, I. Wilson, 1.55:11; 37, D. Wade, 1.57:11; 41, F. O'Gorman, 1.57:29; 104, G. Crowder, 2.16:02. 152 finished.

Teams:

1, Blackheath, 43; 2, Swansea, 62; 3, Banbury, 70. In the inter-counties race, Kent finished seventh team. Ian Wilson was 23rd in the individual race and F. O'Gorman, representing Surrey, was seventh.

REMINDER

Have you signed the President's book yet?

BLACKHEATH HARRIERS CROSS-COUNTRY RELAY, SPARROWS DEN, 1980

(Cumulative times shown in parenthesis)

A-team: Lap 1: M. Athawes, 11.38 (11.38); Lap 2: C. Haines, 12.00 (23.38); Lap 3: R. Coles, 11.10 (34.48); Lap 4: T. Soutar, 11.56 (46.44); Lap 5: L. Roberts, 11.35 (58.19); Lap 6: A. Smith, 12.11 (70.30).

B-team: Lap 1: C. Bird, 12.22 (12.22); Lap 2: C. Woodcock, 11.57 (24.19); Lap 3: R. Farish (Youth), 11.58 (36.17); Lap 4: D. White, 13.08 (49.25); Lap 5: R. Farrar, 13.27 (62.52); Lap 6: J. Baldwin, 13.07 (75.59).

C-team: Lap 1: M. Peel, 12.43 (12.43); Lap 2: N. Burrows, 12.56 (25.39); Lap 3: B. Macrae, 13.07 (38.46); Lap 4: R. Morris, 13.58 (52.44); Lap 5: L. Fletcher, 14.14 (66.58); Lap 6: P. Hunter, 14.13 (81.11).

D-team: Lap 1: P. Hannell, 14.23 (14.23); Lap 2: F. Dudman, 16.49 (31.12); Lap 3: D. Taylor, 15.09 (46.21); Lap 4: J. Powell, 13.42 (60.03); Lap 5: M. Goodwin, 14.04 (74.07); Lap 6: D. Fiddes, 14.00 (88.07).

E-team: Lap 1: R. Savory, 13.38 (13.38); Lap 2: G. Gibbens, 15.05 (28.43); Lap 3: A. Tompkins, 15.27 (44.10); Lap 4: D. Hopgood, 15.18 (59.28); Lap 5: W. Hill, 14.48 (74.16); Lap 6: R. Farish, 13.53 (88.09).

Young athletes team: Lap 1: R. Teall, 13.19 (13.19); Lap 2: A. Piper, 13.54 (27.13); Lap 3: M. Bignell, 14.06 (41.19); Lap 4: A. Hartley, 13.44 (55.03); Lap 5: T. Farish, 14.56 (69.59); Lap 6: M. Osborne, 14.25 (84.24).

Richard Coles ran the fastest leg for Blackheath, clocking 11 minutes 10 seconds. The fastest leg of the day came from Paul Williams of Cambridge Harriers. Paul timed 11 minutes 05 seconds. John Wigley was the man in the middle with a lap of 11 minutes 06 seconds.

Cambridge Harriers 'A' team were the first team home while Blackheath's 'A' team battled to a fine second thanks to a great effort on the final leg. Invicta 'A' were third.

Other Blackheath teams were 11th (B), 24th (C), 34th (Young athletes), 35th (D) and 36th (E).

August 2, 1980

DARTFORD HALF-MARATHON

1, K. Penny, Cambridge Harriers, 1:07.24; 52, G. Shorter, 1:19.19; 62, P. Shephard, 1:20.47; 65, P. Catley, 1:21.15; 85, C. Ware, 1:23.56; 87, S. Cluney, 1:24.13; 93, J. Kavanagh, 1:24:50; 104, P. Barrington-King, 1:26.20; 139, M. Williams, 1:30.28; 175, A. Edwards, 1:37.02; 180, D. Hopgood, 1:37.51; 191, A. Tomkins, 1:40.58; 213, S. Robinson, 1:46.41; 223, J. Sanford, 1:51.22.

Mike Peel, Roy Savory and Andy Edwards were among the 59 competitors who failed to finish. There were 295 starters.

June 29, 1980

THURROCK '10'

1, J. Wigley, Invicta AC, 49.39; 51, P. Catley, 59.40; 60, J. Kavanagh, 60.39; 74, P. Fincham, 62.02; 136, P. Nana, 75.14. 143 finished.

September 7, 1980

NIKE-OREGON CLUB TRACK MARATHON

1, Dick Quax, Athletic West, New Zealand, 2:10.47; 119, S. Cluney, Blackheath Harriers, 2:40.56. 809 finished—31 broke the 2 hours 20 minutes barrier, and 67 were below 2 hours 30 minutes.

August 30, 1980

WITNEY '12' ROAD RACE

1, B. Ford, AFD, 60.56 (Course Record); 79, S. Cluney, 71.58; 82, M. Clements, 72.13; 84, D. Wade, 72.17; 136, A. Davis, 76.29; 232, P. Hannell, 83.47. There were 307 finishers. Blackheath finished 19th team with 299 points. Duncairn Harriers were first with just 32 points. 40 teams closed in.

September 13, 1980

GREENWICH '11'

1, P. Gaden, Torbay A.C., 54.32; 10, C. Woodcock, 59.25; 38, P. Catley, 64.48; 45, F. Johnson, 66.20; 56, D. Hannell, 69.19; 61, D. Allen, 69.45. There were 100 starters of whom only four failed to finish the course.

November 1 1980

VETERANS' MOB MATCH v. ORION v. RANELAGH v. SLH, CHINGFORD

1. J. Gedghegan, Orion, 44m. 57s.; 2. B. Hercoc, Orion, 46-12; 3. A. Davis, BH, 46-24; 4. C. Shorter, BH, 46-26; 5. M. Laker, SLH, 46-38; 6. J. Mercer, Orion, 47-02; 7. R. Reavell, Orion, 47-53; 8. B. Hicks, Orion, 48-44; 9. R. Jones, Orion, 49-11; 10. D. Martin, Ranelagh, 49-15; 11. J. Hanscomb, Ranelagh, 49-15; 12. D. Tunstall, Orion, 49-34; 13. K. Powley, Ranelagh, 49-41; 14. G. B. Crowder, BH, 49-52; 15. J. Kirk, Ranelagh, 50-02; 16. T. Salthill, SLH, 50-03; 17. R. Savery, BH, 50-08; 18. D. Amner, BH, 50-13; 19. A. Randell, SLH, 50-20; 20. M. Tomlins, Orion, 50-35; 28. D. Hopgood, 54-27; 32. G. Gibbens, 55-27; 45. F. Dudman, 61-36; 47. D. Tingey, 62-18.

Teams: 1. Orion, 65; 2. Blackheath, 161; 3. Ranelagh, 171; 4. SLH 212.

July 23, 1980

BLACKHEATH v. OLD GAYTONIANS v. TWICKENHAM v. LONDON AC v. BANK OF ENGLAND v. THAMES HARES AND HOUNDS, AT ROEHAMPTON

('B' string results shown in parentheses).

100m: 2. T. Llewelyn, 11.6 (5. T. Soutar, 17.0); 200m: 2. T. Llewelyn, 23.8 (4. T. Soutar, 35.3); 400m: 4. K. Daniel, 56.2 (3. T. Soutar, 81.7); 800m: 4. K. Daniel, 2.03.5; 1500m: 5. T. Soutar, 5.24 (3. S. Cluney, 5.24.0); 5000m: 4. T. Soutar, 16.17 (4. S. Cluney, 17.42.0; 4 x 100m: 4. Blackheath, 50.7; 4 x 400m: 2. Blackheath, 3.56.5; Long Jump: 3. T. Llewelyn, 5.91; Triple Jump: 3. T. Llewelyn, 12.15; Shot: 5. C. Brand, 10.19; Javelin: 2. C. Brand, 47.40 (5. P. Davies, 25.52).

Teams: 1. Old Gaytonians, 120½; 2. Twickenham, 94½; 3. London AC, 86; 4. Blackheath and Bank of England, 57; 6. Thames Hare and Hounds, 9.

News from near and afar: To Ken and Liz Allen, a boy — James Andrew Jonathan — in the first week of November!

Our best wishes to the proud father and the relieved mother. Another oarsman, perhaps (at last!).

June 28, 1980

BRITISH LEAGUE, CWMBRAN

('B' string results shown in parentheses).

400mH: 2. M. Carroll, 56.6 (1, J. Wilkinson, 58.0); 800m: 1. J. Spooner, 1.59.2 (3. R. Wright, 1.57.1); 100m: 6. R. Lyston, 11.3 (4. B. Pinsen, 11.1); 3000m Steeplechase: 5. J. Spooner, 9.40.1 (3. B. Cliff, 9.48.2); 110mH: M. Carroll, 15.8 (2. I. Simmons, 15.9); 400m: 1. N. Brooks, 49.0 (2. J. Wilkinson, 51.4); 1500m: 5. J. Spooner, 3.59.3 (6. K. Daniel, 4.05.0); Long Jump: 2. R. Weaver, 7.03 (2. I. Simmons, 6.56); Hammer: 2. M. Winch, 48.92 (2. C. Ellis, 35.28); Discus: 1. M. Winch, 54.62 (1. C. Ellis, 42.02); Pole Vault: 1. P. Aubrey, 3.60 (2. N. Latchem, 3.00); 200m: 5. B. Pinson, 22.6 (4. R. Lysten, 22.7); High Jump: 1. T. Foulger, 2.06 (1. T. Llewelyn, 1.95); Shot: 1. M. Winch, 17.65 (3. C. Ellis, 11.84); Triple Jump: 3. N. Burrows, 13.48 (4. M. Carroll, 12.88); 5000m: 1. R. Coles, 14.20.6; Javelin: 4. R. Harradine, 54.39 (3. C. Morris, 52.01); 4 x 100m: 5. Blackheath, 44.3; 4 x 400m: 1. Blackheath, 3.18.2.

Teams: 1. Blackheath, 251; 2. Bedford, 225; 3. Aldershot, 2.11; 4. Swansea, 209; 5. Oxford, 195; 6. Windsor, 168.

August 23, 1980

BRITISH LEAGUE, DIVISION 5, OXFORD

Although Blackheath were second in this match. we just managed to edge out Aldershot in the final league table with 21 points to their 20, hence winning our first British League division championship.

Results: (B string results shown in parentheses):

Hammer: 4, M. Winch, 42.30; (3, C. Ellis, 35.72); 400m hurdles: 2, M. Carroll, 56.3; (1, P. Brookes, 56.7); 800m: 1, J. Spooner, 1.53.2; (3, J. Wilkinson, 1.53.8); 100m: 4, R. Pinson, 11.7; (3, P. Ashen, 11.4); 3000 S/C: 4, T. Sautar, 9.33.2; (2, R. Cliff, 9.39.6); 110m hurdles: 3, D. Adkins, 16.0; (1, I. Simmons, 16.0); 400m: 2, J. Spooner, 49.0; (2, R. Wright, 50.5); Discus: 1, M. Winch, 52.66; (1, C. Ellis, 42.08); Long Jump: 5, I. Simmons, 6.38; (2, G. Mitchell, 6.38); 200m: 5, R. Pinson, 23.1; (1, P. Ashen, 22.8); 1500m: 6, K. Daniel, 4-06.8; (5, M. Athawes, 4-7.9); Pole Vault: 5, J. Day, 3.00; (1, P. Davies, 3.00); 5000m: 5, R. Coles, 14-26.3; (P. Brencley DNF); High Jump: 1, T. Llewelyn, 2.05; (2, P. Brookes, 1.85); Shot: M. Winch, 17.59; (C. Ellis, 12.68); Triple Jump: 5, P. Davies, 13.12; (4, N. Burrows, 12.56); Javelin: 4, C. Morris, 53.26; (2, R. Harradine, 51.68); 4 x 400m: 1, Blackheath, 3-20.1; 4 x 100m: 5, Blackheath, 44.4.

Match scores: 1, Oxford, 248; 2, Blackheath, 240; 3, Aldershot, 221; 4, Bedford, 192; 5, Swansea, 181; 6, Windsor, 178.

Final table: 1, Blackheath, 21 points, 2, Aldershot, 20; 3, Oxford, 15; 4, Bedford, 11; 5, Swansea, 9; 6, Windsor, 8.

September 21, 1980

INTER-COUNTIES MATCH, CRYSTAL PALACE

100m 'A': 4. R. Pinson, 11.3; 'B' 1. P. Ashen, 11.3; 800m 'B': 2. J. Wilkinson, 1.57.3; Discus: 3. C. Ellis, 40.52; Long Jump: 3. R. Weaver, 6.64; 110mH: 5. M. Carroll, 17.1; 3000m Steeplechase: 8. A. Frankish, 9.55.4; 1500m: 8. R. Coles, 3.59.6.

Team results: 1. Kent, 255 points; 2. Sussex, 213; 3. Hampshire, 194; 4. Oxfordshire, 167; 5. Essex, 158; 6. Hertfordshire, 146; 7. Wiltshire, 93.

August 10, 1980

JUNIOR AND YOUTH INTER-COUNTIES

MATCH, MOTSPUR PARK

100m 'B' (J): 6. I. Simmons, 11.9; 110mH 'A' (J): 2. D. Adkins, 15.6; 110mH 'B' (J): 2. I. Simmons, 16.0; Long Jump 'A' (J): 5. I. Simmons, 6.14; 100m 'B' (Y): 1. P. Ashen, 11.2; 200m 'B' (Y): 1. P. Ashen, 22.5; 400mH 'A' (Y): 2. P. Austridge, 57.5; Long Jump 'A' (Y): 2. G. Mitchell, 6.53.

Teams (Junior): 1. Surrey, 276 points; 2. Sussex, 233; 3. Essex and Kent, 219; 5. Middlesex, 214; 6. Hampshire, 200. Youths: 1. Surrey, 266 points; 2. Essex, 241; 3. Kent, 228; 4. Middlesex, 214; 5. Sussex, 213; 6. Hampshire, 187.

CLUB OFFICERS, 1980-81

President, I. F. Smith; *Hon. Secretary*, F. Dudman; *Hon. Treasurer*, R. Ebbutt; *Hon. Asst. Secretary, Cross-Country*, I. Young; *Hon. Asst. Secretary, Track*, M. Carroll; *Hon. Asst. Secretary, Road*, M. Peel; *Junior Team Captain*, vacant; *Hon. Asst. Secretary, Officials*, J. Baldwin; *Hon. Asst. Secretary, Minutes*, vacant; *Hon. Asst. Secretary, Press*, J. Powell; *Hon. Asst. Secretary, Trophies*, C. Haines; *Hon. Secretaries, Wine Committee*, P. Hannell, C. Haines, G. Hickey; *Hon. Asst. Treasurer*, P. Shephard; *Winter Captain*, T. Soutar; *Winter Vice-Captains*, R. Wright, W. Hill; *Summer Captain*, A. Frankish; *Track Vice-Captains*, J. Wilkinson, R. Harradine, R. Ebbutt; *Hon. Editor*, J. Powell; *Hon. Asst. Editors*, P. Stenning, I. Friend; *Hon. Archivist*, R. Thompson; *Hon. Cross-Country Handicapper*, D. Hoppood; *Hon. Track Handicapper*, A. Frankish; *Hon. Field Handicapper*, J. Day; *Hon. Auditors*, J. Bennett, I. Young.

General Committee: J. Hills, K. Daniel, R. Coles, D. White, G. Brooks, P. Austridge, R. Soutar, P. Davies, S. Cluney.

PAST PRESIDENTS

S. C. Wooderson (1947 and Centenary), G. H. Wilkinson (1948), S. A. Field (1953), C. A. Wiard (1954), W. H. M. Vercoe (1957), V. W. Beardon (1959), I. R. D. Cockburn (1961), I. E. Hammill (1963), R. H. Thompson (1966), A. J. Brent (1967), D. G. Child (1968), G. F. Brooks (1971), P. J. G. Baigent (1972), R. A. Morley (1973), A. A. Oldfield (1974), A. E. Ball (1975), J. R. Baldwin (1976), R. E. D. Taylor (1977), T. T. Sullivan (1978), C. Brand (1979), B. G. Stone (1980).

VICE-PRESIDENTS

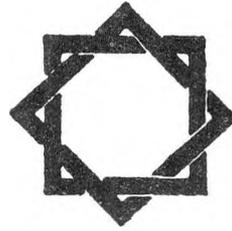
J. H. Kitton (1927), C. L. Mobbs (1935), J. D. Rogers (1936), A. G. V. Allen (1938), C. E. Stevens (1949), E. J. J. Reed (1949), R. H. Gollan (1949), C. E. Clowser (1950), N. W. Page (1954), D. J. Tingey (1956), G. Waller (1956), L. G. Towers (1957), P. E. Sims (1958), H. R. Howard (1959), D. J. Mobbs (1959), B. G. Parrott (1959), I. G. Toms (1959), A. A. Tweedy (1959), L. E. Piper (1960), G. H. Smith (1960), N. Dudley (1961), J. W. Orr (1961), J. H. Scott-Wilson (1961), J. E. Lindblom (1962), L. G. King (1962), M. A. Walker (1962), A. Nye (1963), P. H. Francis (1964), D. F. E. Hogg (1964), K. J. Johnson (1964), J. B. Herring (1965), A. W. Wood (1965), G. Monshall (1966), A. J. Weeks-Pearson (1967), W. S. Norton (1967), A. V. Hayday (1968), T. F. W. Mountford (1968), R. J. Edmonds (1969), R. Richardson (1969), D. H. Hoppood (1970), I. M. Ross (1971), D. L. Gregorv (1972), J. Lissaman (1972), G. R. Last (1974), F. J. Dyter (1975), J. E. Day (1973), G. L. Demar (1973), B. M. Shancott (1973), C. R. Haines (1975), G. Hickey (1975), G. Botley (1976), I. C. Wilson (1976), F. C. Rogers (1976), J. C. W. Friend (1977), F. G. W. Dudman (1978), S. F. H. Glynn (1978), M. L. Peel (1978), A. W. Frankish (1979), M. J. Mahoney (1979), P. E. Shephard (1979), J. Clear (1980), J. Braughton (1980), D. Amner (1980), P. Hannell (1980), T. Mallott (1980).

YOUNG ATHLETES CERTIFICATES

A number of young athletes have not claimed their certificates won during 1980. They are: Paul Jordan, Paul Moren, Simon Tripp, Adam Smith, Nicholas Casey, Sean McGowan, Allen Hartley, Grant Barwell, Stephen Allwood, Julian Beale, Raoul Codd, Stephen Dwobeng, Andrew Suckling, Michael Battle, Carlton Brighton, James Cunningham, Errol Chambers, Jim Carter, Tim Mallott, Richard Hoare, Giles Griffiths, Martin Speed, Darren Russell, Stuart Roweth, James Bailey, Grant Mitchell.

SPONSORSHIP DEAL GOES AHEAD

**EXPRESS
DAIRY**



**BLACKHEATH
HARRIERS**

The long-awaited sponsorship deal between Blackheath Harriers and Express Dairies Co. Ltd. has at last materialised — much to the delight of ourselves and the Kent A.A.A.!

During the summer, we were engaged in talks with Express representative Tony Hardy of their South London area office in Richmond and eventually managed to secure sponsorship for the county Cross-Country championships we were to host at Sparrows Den in November. This acted as a 'foot in the door' for possible future expansion of the deal, and it now appears that Express are very interested in furthering their association with us.

As the Gazette went to press discussions were being held with a view to Express becoming involved in our 100 x 1 mile relay. Hopefully the fact that this event is held on a national basis and that it is already well-established in the Athletics calendar will attract their support.

Grateful thanks are due to Express Dairies for their generosity on November 8 when they supplied so many goodies for the Kent Boys, Colts and Vet's Cross-Country Championships at Sparrows Den. Mrs. Daniels' kitchen had never seen so many gallons of 'Crazy Milk', butter, bread, cakes, and so on loaded onto its shelves! It certainly made up a splendid array of refreshments for the athletes as they returned from a miserable, damp afternoon, into the warmth and comfort of the clubhouse.

Every runner was presented with a pint of milk as he flung himself over the finishing line — a gift welcomed by many, but declined by a horrified few as they disappeared into the distance, seeking a quiet littler corner of their own to suffer in!

For the Colts and Boys there was an added bonus of a handsomely-printed certificate which commemorated the occasion.

The clubhouse, too, was suitably decorated. Posters advertising various dairy products were displayed all over the changing rooms and club room. Programmes for the championships were also provided by Express with a colourful cover which combined the club badge with the famous Express Dairy emblem.

Apart from one minor hitch when the 'Express' milk float became stuck in the mud at Sparrows Den, all went well, and Blackheath and Kent A.A.A. remain indebted to Express for their help and co-operation in the event.

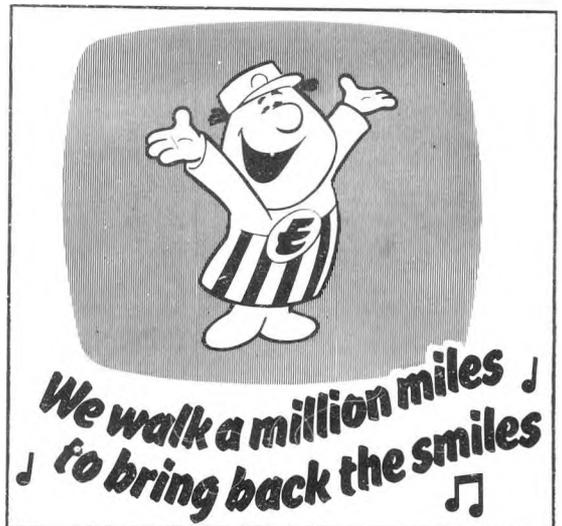
MILK AND SPORT

Milk and sport have formed a very close relationship in recent years. A prime example is the sponsorship of the English Schools Athletic Association Championships by the National Milk Marketing Board. More and more links between two flourishing industries are being made all the time.

Express Dairies themselves have very close links with sport all over the country, together with a number of charitable organisations. Their link with Athletics was firmly established in 1979 when they sealed an agreement with Hillingdon Athletic Club. Funds to improve facilities at Hillingdon — in all respects — were provided, and will continue to be provided over a five year period.

Tony Hardy, of the South London area office said: "In south London it is hoped that the races at Sparrows Den in November will lead to a similar arrangement with Blackheath Harriers as with Hillingdon.

"Milk and Athletics are a natural combination," he continued, "and we are always pleased to be involved with the sport, especially at grass-roots level."



PROMOTION JOY FOR HARRIERS

Before even commencing battle in their final British League Division Five match in August, Blackheath Harriers have been promoted to the fourth division. This is only their first season in the league.

Blackheath convincingly won their third clash, held at Cwmbran, Wales, last Saturday as they fielded their "strongest team for ten years," according to captain Andy Frankish.

The fourth match is now academic, but Blackheath will be looking to beat their rivals Aldershot to clinch the championship.

Blackheath won with 251 points on Saturday with Bedford second on 225, and Aldershot third on 211.

Aldershot now head the division only on match points, both they and Blackheath have 16 points. Blackheath need a 25-point win in their final match to ensure the championship is theirs.

The addition of the two internationals, Nick Brooks and Julian Spooner, to Blackheath's team last week made all the difference. Brooks won the 400m in 49.0 sec. while Spooner coasted home first in the 800m clocking a modest 1m. 59.2sec.

Both combined in the relay to help the Blackheath team to a comfortable win clocking 3min. 18.2sec.

Vice-captain John Wilkinson completed an outstanding afternoon by winning the 'B' string 400m hurdles in 58.0sec, and finishing second in the 400m in 51.4sec.

On the field, Mike Winch had a great afternoon. He won the shot with a put of 17m 65cm and the discus with 54m 62cm. He was also placed second in the hammer with a throw of 48m 92cm.

Other firsts for Blackheath included some superb pole vaulting from Peter Aubrey who won the 'A' string competition with 3m 60cm and a win in the discus 'B' string by Chris Ellis (42m 02cm).

Internationals Tim Foulger and Trevor Llewelyn won the 'A' and 'B' string high jump events with leaps of 2m 06cm and 1m 95cm respectively.

In the 5000m Richard Coles ran a superb race to win by a clear nine seconds with an impressive 14m 20.6sec.

How Blackeath will fare in the fourth division next year, only time will tell, but the showing given at Cwmbran was certainly one that would put them in the running for even further glory next year.

While the club's first team battled it out at Cwmbran, the 'B' team were competing in their Southern League division three fixture at Bury St. Edmunds.

With just 17 athletes making the journey, a very depleted team battled their way to a fantastic second place behind Ipswich Harriers.

Many athletes competed in four and five events ending up near total exhaustion at the end of a wet and blustery afternoon.

Peter Brookes was, however, the hero of the day. He competed in six events, never being outside the top three placings in any of them.

Brookes won the 'A' string high jump with a leap of 1m 85cm and the 400m 'B' string in an impressive 53.9sec. He was second in the long jump with 6m 33cm and second also in the triple jump with 12m 49cm.

With third place in the 'A' string 100m clocking 12.2sec Brookes rounded off a terrific afternoon with a sturdy run in the 4 x 100m relay where the team was second.

Malcolm Cannon made no small contribution to a great team effort. In his five events he won the 'B' string high jump (1m 75cm) and the 'B' string triple jump (11m 64cm). He was third in the 400m hurdles 'A' string, clocking 62.2sec, and sixth in the 200m clocking 26.3sec. He rounded off his afternoon with a good leg in the 4 x 400m relay in which the team were eventually placed fourth.

John Powell again won his 400m hurdles race in a modest 63.9sec — nearly three seconds clear of second — going on to gain third in the flat event clocking 54.8sec.

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OBITUARIES

L. C. PENDERED

V.P. Leslie Pendered, who died early in 1980, was running with the Westminster Bank AC a few years after the first world war.

In March, 1923, the inter-banks race was staged by Blackheath starting from the Railway Hotel at West Wickham. Leslie represented the banks and finished third. He evidently liked the Blackheath atmosphere and facilities, as he was elected a member a few days later on March 20.

He immediately made his mark, finishing second in the only race left that season — the Closing '5'. The race was run at that time as a scratch race with sealed handicap—in which he was also second.

In his first track season he won the Pash cup for the one mile championship by eight yards in 4.37.0. He was also second in the Maryon Wilson swimming race.

He did not seem to build on this early promise, for during the next ten years or so he ran well in evening meetings and mob-matches, and, of course, in the annual inter-banks. His positions gradually slipped back. Indeed, in November, 1930, he was the last man home in the bank team in a triangular match with Blackheath and Old Gaytonians. The bank still won very easily, though! He settled down as a good, although quiet and retiring 'heathen, contributing regularly to the many needy funds, and taking out life membership in 1931.

Following service in the mounted Home Guard in the second world war, he took over from P.P. Stanley Field in 1947, one of the club's most onerous posts — that of Hon. Treasurer.

In partnership with P.P. Vic Beardon, the Hon. Secretary, he carried out his duties very successfully until 1953, when he retired from the more active side of club life and was elected a Vice President.

During his later years, he was always willing to help when approached. One of his regular tasks was "chauffeur" to the RWA judges when the mode of progression of competitors in the Johnson Bowl was more closely monitored in the '60s and '70s.

His main sporting activity in those years was on the bowling greens of the bank's club at Norbury, where he remained a keen competitor long after his retirement from the bank itself.

He and his wife were both very active in charity activities, this good work being still carried on by one of his daughters. A long and happy marriage led to golden wedding celebrations held at the club at Hayes a few

years ago, in which several club members and their wives were happy to participate.

W. R. J. CLARKE

We deeply regret to report the death in June, 1980, of P.P. W. R. J. Clarke, one of the most valued and respected of our senior members, at the age of 86.

Nobby, as he was inevitably and affectionately known, joined the club in 1912, and was an outstanding example for the work he put into the club and Athletics.

After service in the R.N.V.R. during the first world war, and our move to our Hayes headquarters, he became a member of that now notorious body of 'trail layers'.

His services as secretary of the wine committee for 18 years from 1930 to 1948 will be remembered by the elder members for the efficient and competent manner in which he conducted his duties — particularly during the difficult times of the second world war. This was much appreciated by serving members who were able to visit the club, and it was likened to the Windmill theatre in that the club never closed! Somehow, meals were produced. For example, the 'sausage and mash' suppers were enjoyed by members on Saturday evenings until the food situation improved.

Nobby also served as a director on the board of B.H.H.O. and was chairman of the Kent County AAA. He was a much sought-after referee for international matches where his acute knowledge of the rules enabled him to dispense his duties with firmness, fairness, and impartiality.

He became President in 1949 when his duties in this office precluded him from leading the club cry, the memory of which will be preserved.

Only 17 years ago Nobby moved to Sussex where he continued his old pastime of fishing and took up bowls. He joined the British Legion and enjoyed his walks. In later years his visits to Hayes lessened through ill health. Nobby was the last of a trio of great Past Presidents from West Wickham who had served the club conscientiously for many years and to whom the club meant so much.

As the funeral took place at Worthing, regrettably, few members were able to attend, but those who were able to do so were joined by several members of the British Legion.

Our sympathy is extended to his sister, Miss Clarke, and her friend Miss Mitchell with whom he lived, and also to his son John and family.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

All club members are reminded that subscriptions are renewable every September. There are still a large number of subscriptions overdue. If you have not yet paid your sub's. to the Hon. Treasurer, you should do so without further delay.

Subscription rates are as follows :

| | | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| SENIORS | ... | ... | ... | £12.00 |
| FULL-TIME STUDENTS | ... | ... | ... | £6.00 |
| (Over 18) | | | | |
| UNDER 18s | ... | ... | ... | £4.00 |

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