

JULY - 1969

Half way through the summer season, with the results and performances of Blackheathens too numerous to give full details, even of our national representatives, a few notes must suffice. Most recently in the match against Czechoslovakia in Brno the British triple jump pair were our Tony Wadhams (first with 53ft. lin. the third best U.K. of all time and European qualifying distance) and Graham Hamlyn (3rd - 51ft. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ in), while back in June Bob Richardson ran a 28min. 36.0sec. 10,000 metres, 10th best in the world this season. In the Navy championships Peter Horwood ran 3min. 50sec for the 1500 metres while Bob Falconer in the Ryder Trophy did 3min. 48.5sec. The most newsworthy information of our track team is the winning of the all field events Sward Trophy for the first time ever. Alan Domleo, running for Derbyshire, ran 1hr. 43min. 42sec. in the inter-county 20 mile road race, to gain third place, and has since finished fourth in the Poly Marathon where Nick Mandeville, first Kent man, was eleventh. In the Welwyn Half Marathon Mike Willis broke 70 minutes. Our teams on the road have won the Margate "10" (Ian Wilson 2nd.) and the Chelmsford Half Marathon.

The County Championships at Crystal Palace saw a good number of Blackheathens, and our competitors did quite well, the climax of the meeting being the final event, the 5,000 metres, in which Geoff North (Belgrave) beat Bob Richardson after an interesting duel for most of the race between Bob and Richard Newble (Medway); Bob's time was 13min. 58.2sec. Our own evening meetings have been well attended, a pleasant change from recent years, but the special events to be held with Herne Hill Harriers at our third unfortunately fell through. For all other results, and reports, I must refer you to the next Gazette - remember to send them in reporters!

#### COMING TRACK EVENTS.

Our Centenary Track Meeting is almost upon us, and if you haven't yet offered your services please let Tony Nash (1, Spring Park Avenue, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey) know, we don't have to supply the top officials who will be A.A.A. Graded, but the many other jobs which are essential to the smooth running fall to us, we can put hurdles on the track more cheaply than the Crystal Palace authorities and this is an expensive meeting to put on: every programme sold cuts our cost, bring your friends as customers! We have good acceptances for the invitation events, we even have a Womens 300 metres for your delight. The first events start at 2.30p.m., the final relay at 4.30p.m.

The club committee have also agreed to supply the "supporting officials" for the National League fixture at the Crystal Palace on Saturday 23rd. August, although it is not absolutely clear at this time what is required of us; again please let Tony Nash know, directly, if you are able to assist, remembering that our "active" officials may well be competing in the Kent League at Erith on the same afternoon. The events at Erith will be 100m., 800m., 1500m., 3000m. S/Chase, 400m. hurdles, 4 x 100 relay, 2400m. walk, javelin, weight, discus, pole vault, high and triple jumps for the senior/junior age group, and also for the youth/boy age group except their S/Chase will be 1000m., their walk 1600m., and they will not have hurdles. In connection with the National League I am sure all members will be pleased to learn that the organisers have accepted the offer made on our behalf by the Centenary Management Committee to present a trophy for the league champions; plans are now going ahead to obtain a design and quotation.

#### COMING SPECIAL EVENTS.

The first of the Autumn round of events will be the Commemorative Run for which Norman Dudley has put in so much time, though he now finds he may well be in foreign parts at the time, which will be a shame, but the event will go on as he has planned it in as great detail as members have permitted. The idea is for a "pilgrimage" through various Blackheath "Countries", and also as publicity and a pre-winter get together; various routes have been selected so that runners of different standards will leave Peckham and arrive at Hayes together. Originally it was hoped to lay on transport to cover the various permutations of runs and rests, no one need run all the stages, but with the poor response last April and the impossibility of organising such a complex operation during the holiday chaos it is now up to members to make their own arrangements, it is certainly hoped however to lay on transport from Hayes to Peckham for changed

runners, but more of that later. Because of traffic conditions this will have to be a "run" not a race, and will have to be in packs of not more than 8 or 10, pack leaders will have naps, already prepared, and will it is hoped have had a dummy run over the course. The approximate timetable will be:-

11.00 - 11.30	Leave Hayes to assemble at "Kings Arms", Peckham,			
12.00 - 12.40	Peckham to "Green Man", Blackheath,	5	or 4	or $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles
13.00 - 13.30	Blackheath to Ladywell Track,	4	or 3	or $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles
13.45 - 14.35	Ladywell to "Railway Hotel" West Wickham,	$7\frac{1}{2}$	or $6\frac{1}{2}$	or 6 miles
15.00 - 15.20	West Wickham to Clubhouse, Hayes.	$3\frac{1}{2}$	or $2\frac{1}{2}$	or $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles

A week after this, on Sunday 5th. October, the Rector of St. John's Church West Wickham, the old church on the hill which has presided for hundreds of years over country upon which we now run, has agreed to our use of the church for our Centenary Thanksgiving Service. It is hoped that members will bring their families with them, and then go on to the clubhouse for tea.

On the 18th. October we have the Club "5", preceded by the Club Photograph, and followed by the A.G.M's. On Sunday 26th the Peckham/Blackheath Stroll will take place over some of the earliest club courses at Peckham, little changed in many respects since last century! Those who have recently "pioneered" the old ways have been fascinated by their findings, so do make a note of this date.

A hectic month, but then in November we have the Club Dinner, the S.L.H. match and our Centenary Cross Country Fixture, which may well have a considerable international flavour.

#### OTHER EVENTS.

Saturday 26th July (Brockman Trophy) Roy Morley, 156 Langley Way, West Wickham, would appreciate news (urgently) of anyone who intends being at the Summer Supper after this fixture, if they have not already told him; it does make catering so much easier!

Sunday 3rd August (THE MATCH) a barbecue is to be held at Hayes afterwards, in this case Richard Edmonds, 60 Brabourne Rise, Beckenham, has to guess the numbers, so please give him some idea of the number in your party.

Saturday 9th August. The Track Mob Match v S.L.H. at Ladywell, caters for all age groups, all abilities, so unless you are a Youth or Junior in the A.A.A. Championships, be there. Alternatively you are excused if you are running in the Shaftesbury "10" at Hendon (Don Hopgood, 39 Whinyates Road, Eltham, S.E.9.)

Saturday 16th August. Oxfam Marathon at Feltham (Don again).

Sunday 14th September. A coaching weekend, organised particularly for the Cross Country section but all welcome; ask Chris Woodcock about it when you see him.

Saturday 4th October. (Walton Relay Day) Roger Michell is to organise a Treasure Hunt, for which a car or other form of transport will be necessary, lasting about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours and covering 35 miles, starting and finishing at the clubhouse "with suitable refreshments", entry will be 5/-, but "for pot hunters there will be prizes". I quote Roger.

Saturday February 7th. Southern Cross Country Championships.

Saturday February 28th. E.C.C.U. Championships.

Saturday April 18th. National Road Relay.

These events are, as many will realise, a week earlier than usual, and this has caused some panics in our Spring programme, which are, of course, being overcome, but the "Johnson Bowl" may well shift its date.

In September or October Alan Brent, 16 Abbots Way, Beckenham, is hoping to organise a hockey match at the Crystal Palace one mid-week evening. He would like to hear from any hockey players.

Finally, there is just room, to remind you that the Newsheet Editor still lives at 4, Christchurch Road, Dartford, Kent.