

**THE CIVIL SERVICE  
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
TRACK & FIELD  
1947 - 2021**

After the horrors of the Second World War events gradually resumed but the glamour of the Sports Day was never the same again as the Newspapers had more sports to report on and the way of life was changing forever. Also, as time moves closer to the current day the reporting of the Track and Field Championships declined and tracking them down has proved problematical during the Covid pandemic and the restrictions imposed on travelling.

In 1949 the following article appeared in the CSSC Sports Journal:

### The CSAA – 75 Years of Athletics from the CSSC Sports Journal August 1949

## Seventy-Five Years of Athletics

This year the C.S. Athletic Association staged its 75th annual sports. Seventy-five; that is a good number.

As the meetings were suspended during the two wars, it sends the Association back over the 75 years. Indeed, the Service annual sports is one of the oldest established sports meetings in the world. The first regularly organised athletic meetings of modern times were promoted about a century ago.

### Woolwich Academy Was First

Woolwich Royal Military Academy was about the first in the field in 1849, and one of the Oxford colleges followed in 1850. From the latter the Cambridge sports of 1857 followed, and the Oxford sports in 1860. From the universities this taste for athletics spread to the schools, particularly to Harrow and Cheltenham. As the lads left school and went into business, they took their athletic interest with them. A club, therefore, of young business men was started in London in 1863, known as the Mincing Lane Athletic Club, later to become the London A.C., to which so many civil servants have belonged.

### Service Body Formed in 1864

In 1864 a number of civil servants from the leading departments got together and decided to inaugurate a body to promote regular athletics contests in the service. Among these men were J. Pattison, the hon. secretary of the C.S. Cricket Club, Guy Pym, who himself performed on track and field, and Charles Hawker, of the War Office.

### Why Beaufort House Was Chosen

The last-named was a captain in the War Office Company of the South Middlesex Volunteers, and when the first sports of the new body were being arranged, Captain Hawker arranged that Beaufort House, Walham Green, should be lent for the occasion by his unit of the Volunteers. From 1864 the sports continued to be held there until 1870, when they were staged at the old Lillie Bridge; from 1886 until 1932 they were run off at Stamford Bridge, being transferred to the White City in 1933.

### Fashionable Crowds Attended

The early Service sports in the 1860's attracted, we are informed, considerable interest and great fashionable crowds of people. From the reports of the day we learn that the events "consisted of running, high and broad jumping, pole leaping, hurdle and hopping races, throwing cricket balls, throwing the hammer and stone, sack races, and a consolation race, open to those who had been previously unsuccessful." From the very start the meetings were well supported and attended, and

"brought down to Walham Green a great concourse of people, carriages and equestrians." The experiment of 1864 was repeated in 1865, on the same ground, which "drew together one of the largest and most fashionable attendances" that had ever attended these events.

### Too Many Competitors

On the athletic side they were just as successful. The entries were so unexpectedly heavy that the sports had to be made a two-day meeting, preliminary heats being run off on the Friday and the main events on the Saturday. The entries for the 100 yards, so we learn, were as high as 20, and as "there was no room for a quarter of that number on the course at once," the event had to be made up into five heats. Socially, the sports were a great success. All round the enclosure was a dense crowd, "and the background was closed in with deep groups of carriages and equestrians." There was, however, this wrong with the sports—"there were so many fellows actually performing!" The atmosphere of the time can best be recovered by reading the report in *The Times*:—

"Something, however, as far as regards the sports was detracted from the interest of the meeting by the number of competitors who ever entered for almost each event, and which necessitated a number of heats."

The worst of heats, it is explained, is that they are not really final. Therefore, "the interest is lessened by the fact that almost all the competitions gone through yesterday have to be tried again to-day." Competitive athletics have moved a long way since those days.

In general, reports are very scant about performances (but "in the high jump Mr. Guy Pym cleared 5 ft. 4 ins. in beautiful style"), but have very full accounts of all the titled gentry in attendance. *The Times* had a verbatim report of the speech at the prizegiving, concluding with an apt quotation from "As You Like It," Rosalind to Orlando—"So, you have wrestled well, and have overthrown more than your enemy."

### The Birth of the A.A. Club

All this contributed more and more to the rising interest in the athletic game, and in 1866 a club was formed "to supply the want of an established ground upon which competitions in athletic sports might take place between gentlemen amateurs." It was called the Amateur Athletic Club, and the first English championship meeting was held that year. In 1864 Cambridge met Oxford at Oxford, and these sports were removed to London in 1867. In the latter year the Civil Service held their fourth annual sports, and these, we learn, "vied in interest with the varsity sports." Notable, too, in the Service meeting, a race for "strangers" was introduced into the programme, precursor of the great "open" events of later years.

### The First Hurdle Race

A hurdle race also was included, of 200 yards over 12 flights. "This excited a good deal of interest, and was one of the most exciting events of the day. Mr. G. C. Emery gave his three rivals 24 yards start, but notwithstanding this subtraction from that gentleman's chance of success, he won magnificently by about four feet, having cleared all the obstacles before him in splendid style." It is, perhaps, interesting to note that M. E. Jobling, one of the best of the early athletes, ran in both the 100 and the mile! Interesting also is the fact that in the longer handicap events, e.g., the mile walk, the handicap was not in the form of yards given, but seconds start, that is to say, every competitor completed the full course.

### Service Help to Found the 3 A's

Athletics, however, had its growing pains. Before long two rival sets of open championships were being held, one sponsored by the Amateur Athletic Club and the other by the London A.C. On Saturday, April 24, 1880, the leading bodies in the game met at the Randolph Hotel, Oxford; the Oxford University Athletic Club, Cambridge University A.C., the Amateur A.C., the London A.C., the Civil Service and one or two other bodies, and as a result the Amateur Athletic Association was formed. The Civil Service A.A., therefore, has the honour of being one of the select few who called the now famous governing body into being. The Service representatives at this historic meeting were G. Herbert and H. Tomlinson. The new governing body was declared to have for its objects "the improvement of the management of athletic meetings and the adoption of uniform rules for athletic competition in all parts of the country." The contentious clause on amateurism, which excluded "any mechanic, artisan or labourer" from the charmed circle, was dropped.

As *The Times* said:—

#### Gentlemen of the Civil Service

"Artisans and mechanics have, by almost general consent, been shut out from the privileged inner circle and have been counted in every case as professionals. The reason for this rule is at least intelligible. Their muscular practice is held to give them an unfair advantage over more delicately nurtured competitors."

The "gentlemen of the Civil Service"—for all competitors in the Service in those days were "gentlemen" and were always referred to as "Mr."—were apparently among the "more delicately nurtured" competitors. "Artisans, mechanics and labourers" were now to be admitted to amateur athletics. *The Times* was "glad that some body of athletes, or quasi athletes" (that was a nasty one—wonder what they meant by

that?) "has been bold enough to incur the risk"

Since those days athletics has never looked back.

### Service Diamond Jubilee

In 1930, the "parent" body of the sport, the A.A.A., staged its "Jubilee Championship Meeting" in celebration of the half-century that had passed since 1880. A few years before—namely, in 1927—the Civil Service A.A., a father of that "parent," celebrated its own jubilee. The Service—accurate, as ever—reckoned in terms of annual meetings actually held rather than in mere years past—and counted not 50, but 60. The Service A.A., then, celebrated its Diamond Jubilee Meeting in 1927, three years before "the A's."

I well remember in 1930, those of us who ran in the open championships at the A.A.A. meeting received a special jubilee badge as a memento of 50 years of the A.A.A. (As a fellow-competitor said to me at the time—himself another civil servant—it was the only thing any of us ever got out of "the A's" without having to win it.) The badge showed "the A's," surmounted by a lion and crown, over the red rose of England, with the legend, "1880-1930. Jubilee Championships." But those of us who had a medal to come at the Service Jubilee three years before, did not get anything very special (only a "Jubilee" box to put it in!) but at least we could—and *did*—feel proud that it was *our* Association that was the first in *the world* to celebrate its diamond jubilee.

And this year it is 75. Only another 25 to the full century!

Those who look back over the years will see each his own "high spots"—any selection is bound to be individual and any choice invidious. So far as the last century is concerned, in 1880—the year of the first A.A.A. meeting—the Service 150 yards handicap was won in 15 seconds, and the general standard was high enough to attract entries from the New South Wales team in England at the time.

### A Memory of W. G. George

In 1882, W. G. George, in the open mile handicap, ran through the field in what must have been a really great mile to win in the amazing time of 4-19 2/5 secs. I never saw Turner in the opening years of this century, but I have run often enough with L. J. de B. Reed—although not exactly "in his day." He must have been running some wonderful quarters just before the first war, and one remembers how he dead-beated a quarter in the A.A.A. open championships. I recollect how pleased we all were to see him win the veterans' twenty years ago.

### The Recent Olympians

One remembers also Roughley, before the first war, and Hayes, of the M/Labour, before and after. Then there was the period of the Olympians;

Fred Gaby, Edgar Mountain and Dan Crowley; the internationals, Jack Gillis and B. C. V. Oddie; and more recently, G. J. Pallett—who just won't die, nor will he merely fade away. One looks back to the days when Fred Gaby ran, jumped and hurdled, and looks back in particular to that wonderful exhibition of hurdling in 1925, when in the "open" he owed no less than 25 yards—the handicapper could not "pull" him any more without sending him off the ground altogether—and Fred won in 18 seconds dead. Then there was that amazing race for the Strathcona, the mile championship, when W. F. A. Chambers, Inland Revenue, and Edgar Mountain, the "open" half champion of the year, came down the straight neck for neck, to finish in a dead-heat. There was also that other Service institution, W. E. Straker, grey haired and game, winning the veterans', himself in the sixties. One recalls, too, the introduction in 1925 of the triangular contest between Achilles, the Inter-Varsities Athletic Board and the Dominion students. Feasts of athletics!

During the last 25 or 30 years there has, of course, been much development in the game. Firstly, in 1921 the events were thrown open to *all* civil servants—how the ghosts of "Gentlemen" stalked the dressing rooms that year!—irrespective of official rank or establishment status; permanents and temporaries competed on equal terms!—and the winners, therefore, of the level races were in a real sense Service champions.

#### The International Contests

The Association launched out from the track into cross-country and road walking, and on the track, teams were sent to Dublin and Glasgow in 1928 and 1929 to compete against teams from the Irish and Scottish Civil Service.

During the next 25 years, that is to say, between the 75th and the 100th meeting, I have no doubt there will be many new developments, many new times set up and many great races run. If I am knocking about these parts 25 years hence, I hope the Editor will ask me to write a note on the Century. If we keep going, we are fairly sure to get there before anyone else—but I am sure we shall do more than merely keep going.

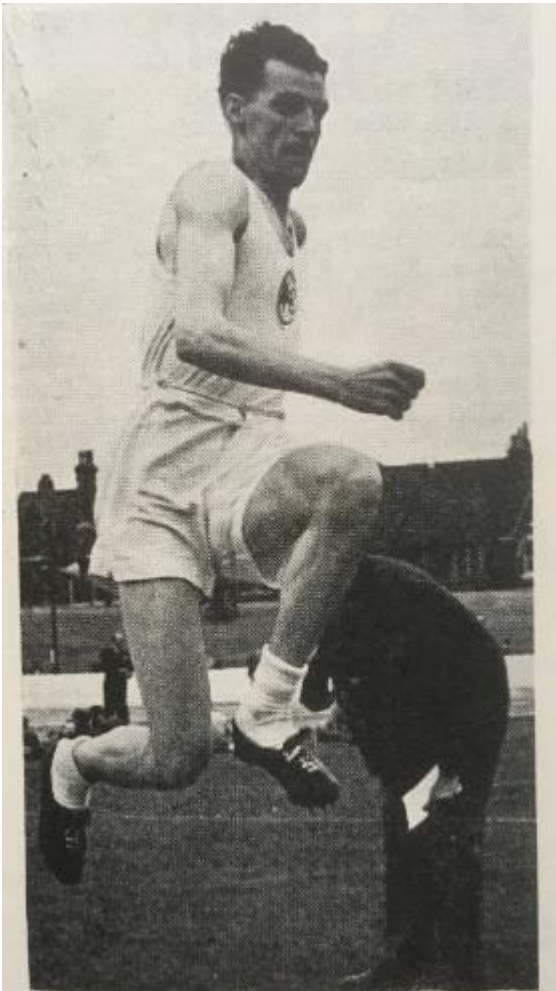
There will be a lot to say in 25 years' time.

R. C. JARVIS.

What follows next is a short selection of reports and pictures that have been found for the years from 1949 to 2021:

**1951**

**Stan Cross** set an English Native Record of 48ft 6in in the Hop, Step and Jump which was the forerunner of the Triple Jump. He is pictured below in action at the Midland Championships.



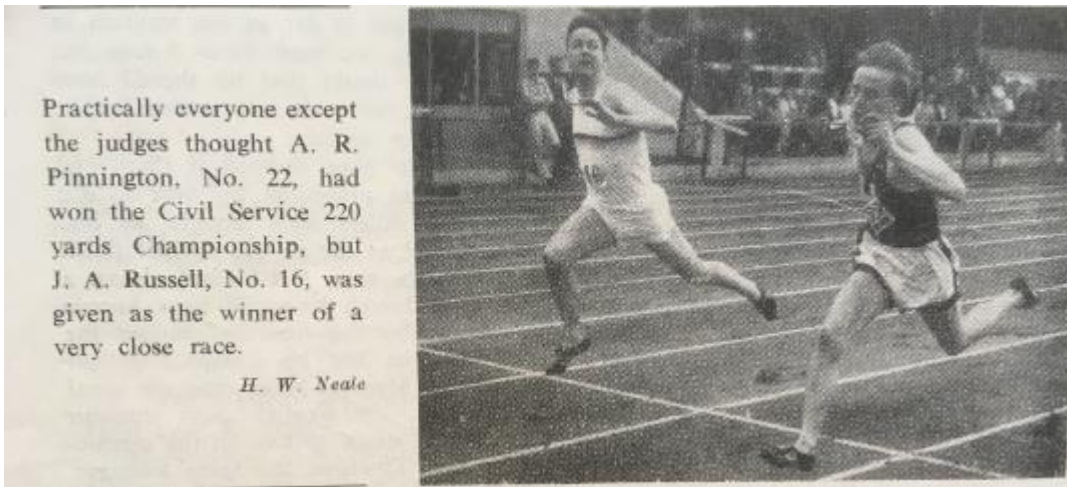
S. CROSS (Birchfield H.) retained his Midland Hop, Step and Jump Championship with 44ft. 11in.

*E. W. Carr*

1954

Athletics Weekly 14<sup>th</sup> August 1954

CSAA Championships 27<sup>th</sup> July at Motspur Park



Practically everyone except the judges thought A. R. Pinnington, No. 22, had won the Civil Service 220 yards Championship, but J. A. Russell, No. 16, was given as the winner of a very close race.

*H. W. Neale*

The **Daily Herald - Wednesday 28 July 1954** included an interesting piece about Civil Servants and their athletics and the comment regarding the Inland Revenue must have spurred them on!

I did not see one glowering face, one superior smile, or any sign of backwardness.

I read, in the programme, not only that the **Civil Service** had almost the oldest **athletic** association in the world, but that, it was decided, in 1921, "all **Civil** servants, whether temporary or permanent, and irrespective of rank, shall be eligible to compete."

In those days, Henley and Lord's were much more aware of social consciousness.

One thing will please you all. The Inland Revenue—hated by all taxpayers—has not won the challenge cup since 1938, when the war permanently sent income tax sky high.

Naturally, however, an Inland Revenue man won the veteran's race. He was hardened.

### Very **Civil** servants

**A**FTER all these Crichton Down attacks on Whitehall bureaucracy, I was delighted that, at the **Civil Service** sports,

In **1955** the great Gordon Pirie ran in the Invitational 3,000m Race to fulfil a promise he was unable to keep the previous year and won in a canter in 8.32.8 from a scratch field.

The Star Green 'un - Saturday 21 July 1956 included a short piece

## **Civil Service record in half-mile**

Albert Webster, former British Olympic runner who now works at the post office at Bedford, won the half-mile title in the Civil Service Athletic Championships at Hurlingham Park, London, today, in a record time of 1 min. 55.6 secs.

He beat the holder, Derek Clark (Trinity House), a member of South London Harriers, by eight yards after taking the lead from Clark down the back straight.

Peter Driver, the Empire Six Miles Champion, was to have defended his one mile title, but was compelled to withdraw following a minor operation on his foot.

A good source for results was AW (Athletics Weekly) who had quite detailed results for a number of years and pictures:

### Athletics Weekly 20<sup>th</sup> August 1960

**CIVIL SERVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
Motspur Park, July 23rd

**100:** 1, A. A. Minchin (LTR) 10.1; 2, R. Normanton (MPNI) 10.5; 3, B. Bale (LTR) 10.5. **220:** 1, A. A. Minchin (LTR) 22.3 (Ch. BP); 2, R. Normanton (MPNI) 22.6; 3, T. Bryan (C&E) 22.9. **440:** 1, J. W. Mitchell (C&E) 48.5 (Ch. BP); 2, P. Reevey (GPO. NE) 49.4; 3, B. Linley (OS) 51.6. **880:** 1, P. R. Standen (Adm) 1:54.3; 2, D. E. Williams (IR) 1:56.3; 3, A. Wakefield (ROF) 1:57.0. **1 Mile:** 1, J. S. Farrant (MoA) 4:20.9; 2, P. R. Standen (Adm) 4:21.4; 3, M. R. Pryne (AM) 4:21.8. **3M:** 1, M. J. Price (GPO) 13:54.0 (Ch. BP); 2, P. J. Mellor (MHLG) 13:55.6; 3, B. Lillicap (Adm) 14:07.8. **Team:** 1, Admiralty 14pts. 2

**1 Mile Walk:** 1, E. W. Hall (C and E) 13:53.4 (Ch. BP); 2, R. C. Middleton (LPR) 14:38.4; 3, D. H. Beecham (LPR) 16:13.2. **H'cp:** Middleton. **Medley Relay:** 1, In. Rev. 3:41.8; 2, Admiralty 3:43.2; 3, M. of Aviation 3:45.2. **HJ:** 1, D. G. Gale (E&A) 5'9"; 2, E. Adams (C&W) 5'4". **PV:** 1, D. Searle (OS) 11'4"; 2, C. J. Batchelor (MoA) 10'6"; 3, D. G. Edwards (MoA) 9'9". **LJ:** 1, D. G. Gale (E&A) 21'11"; 2, B. Bale (LTR) 20'10<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>"; 3, E. Simmons (MoA) 19'9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>". **HSJ:** 1, D. G. Gale (E&A) 41'11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>"; 2, F. R. Wallis (MoA) 40'6"; 3, E. Herron (MoA) 36'7<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>". **SP:** 1, J. J. Butterfield (PO Sup) 43'0<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>"; 2, J. Sampson (LTR) 41'9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>"; 3, J. Clutterbuck (BOT) 40'9". **DT:** 1, J. Sampson (LTR) 142'1"; 2, J. J. Butterfield (PO Sup) 139'1"; 3, D. Evans (MoA) 115'1". **JT:** 1, A. H. Musselwhite (Adm) 175'0"; 2, K. R. Jeynes (MOL) 171'1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>"; 3, D. J. O'Connell (MoA) 162'11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>". **Vets.:** **110 H'cp:** 1, L. A. Batt (LPR) 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, 10.6; 2, J. Richardson (C & E) 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; 3, R. S. Brown (POSD) 16<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.



## CIVIL SERVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS

At Hurlingham, July 21st

**K. Agbo-ola (I.R.)** winning the 100 yds. in 9.8 from **J. Knowles (I.R.)** 9.9 and **B. J. Bale (P.O.E.)** 10.0.



Ed Lacey

## RECORDS GO AT CIVIL SERVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS

**R**ECORDS fell like nine-pins in the 88th Civil Service Championships held at Hurlingham Park on Saturday, 21st July, 1962.

There were no fewer than twelve championship best performances with perhaps the great double of Nigerian, Kamoru Agbo-Ola being the most outstanding.

A great number of spectators were secretly hoping that sprint holder Orien Young, in what was probably his last appearance at the championships, would end as he began a decade ago with a double success. But it was not to be. Young, who has dominated the sprints over the years, saw not only his titles go, but also his records, as Agbo-Ola flashed over the line in 9.8 secs. in the 100 yds. and 22.1 secs. in the 220 yds.

It looks as though a future champion finished runner up in both these events. John Knowles, already the Hants. junior champion, also beat the 100 yds. record with 9.9 secs. He then took the junior title in 10.1 secs.

Empire athletes were much in evidence and another record breaker was postman, William Gittens, who hails from Granada in the West Indies. He sailed over every height at his first attempt and finally set a new figure at 6'3".

This record had stood for five years, as also had the long jump mark. With his second jump Brian Bale set a new figure of 23'4".

A triple winner was John Webster. He recorded a championship best in both the hammer (145'9") and pole vault (11'6"), and also won the javelin.

Two of the ladies performed the double. Essex champion, Heather Rowe, took the 100 yds. in 11.4 secs. and the 220 yds. in 27.6 secs. Midlands champion, Gillian Collins, won the shot (38'8") and the discus (120'6")—a championship best.

Other record breakers in this record-breaking meeting were Harry Brooksby with a time of 9 mins. 48 secs. in the 3,000m. steepcloture, Ian McPherson, 46'2" in the shot, the Admiralty who clocked 3 mins. 34.7 secs. in the mile medley relay, and P. Dalton in the women's long jump (16'7").

### Jack Swinton

100: 1. K. Agbo-Ola (I.R.) 9.8 (Ch. BP); 2. J. Knowles (I.R.) 9.9; 3. B. Bale (P.O.E.) 10.0. 220: 1. K. Agbo-Ola (I.R.) 22.1 (Ch. BP); 2. J. Knowles (I.R.) 22.7; 3. M. Marston (MoA) 22.8. 440: 1. B. Mayo (Adm) 48.7; 2. M. Stow (WD) 49.3; 3. T. Keen (C & E) 49.5. 880: 1. T. Keen (C & E) 1:55.3; 2. P. Standen (Adm) 1:56.5; 3. N. Sodeley (I.R.) 1:56.7. Mile: 1. J. Knowles (NSY) 4:20.8; 2. V. Smith (Adm) 4:22.4; 3. A. Glenister (PR) 4:23.0. 3M: 1. P.

Mellor (MHLG) 14:12.2; 2. L. Presland (MoA) 14:24.2; 3. A. Butcher (IR) 14:41.2. Teams: 1. War Dept. 23 pts; 2. Admiralty 28. 3,000mS/C: 1. H. Brooksby (MoA) 9:48.0 (Ch. BP); 2. W. Wheeler (Adm) 10:15.4; 3. P. Pemble (WD) 10:45.6. Mile Medley R: 1. Admiralty 3:34.7 (Ch. BP); 2. Inland Revenue 3:35.8; 3. Aviation 3:42.9. 2M. Walk: 1. P. Stapleford (AM) 15:18.0; 2. R. Davies (LTR) 15:31.6; 3. B. Russell (Adm) 15:49.4. H'ep: 1. W. F. Tanner (I.R.) 11'3"; 2. O. Sanyaolu (POSD) 5'10"; 3. D. Gale (E & A) 5'10". PV: 1. J. Webster (I.R.) 11'6" (Ch. BP); 2. D. Searle (OS) 11'3"; 3. C. Batchelor (MoA) 10'6". LJ: 1. B. Bale (P.O.E.) 23'4" (Ch. BP); 2. D. Gale (E & A) 22'6"; 3. W. Gittens (LPR) 21'4". TJ: 1. P. Roberts (Adm) 42'5"; 2. J. Phillips (AM) 41'9"; 3. O. Gunjimi (LPR) 40'5". SP: 1. I. McPherson (Adm) 46'2" (Ch. BP); 2. A. Cook (POSD) 43'6"; 3. T. Budgen (MoA) 37'11". DT: 1. J. Sampson (LTR) 141'3"; 2. I. McPherson (Adm) 136'2"; 3. J. Butterfield (P.O.E.) 131'5". JT: 1. J. Webster (I.R.) 180'11"; 2. K. Jaynes (MoL) 173'11"; 3. D. O'Connell (MoA) 162'3". HT: 1. J. Webster (I.R.) 145'9" (Ch. BP); 2. J. Butterfield (POS) 141'4"; 3. I. McPherson (Adm) 122'1". 100: (Juniors) 1. J. Knowles (I.R.) 10.1 (Ch. BP); 2. M. Mahoney (MPND) 10.5; 3. N. Austin (MPND) 10.5. 100: Vets. H'ep: 1. L. A. Batt (LPR) 31. 10.5. 80: Boys' H'ep: 1. A. Swinton (91) 9.9.

### Women

100: 1. H. Rowe (GPO/HC) 11.4; 2. D. Mason (MPND) 11.9; 3. J. Mather (DSIR) 12.2. 220: 1. H. Rowe (GPO/HC) 27.6; 2. M. Donachie (DAFS) 28.7; 3. E. Sissons (WD) 30.4. 440: 1. M. Donachie (DAFS) 59.3; 2. P. Duddridge (GPO/SW) 60.0; 3. P. Dalton (I.R.) 61.6. 880: 1. P. Duddridge (GPO/SW) 2:23.2; 2. G. Carpenter (I.R.) 2:28.0. 800mH: 1. C. Bird (I.R.) 12.5; 2. G. Matthews (Adm); 3. J. Vernon (MoA). 4x110: 1. Inland Revenue 53.5; 2. M.P.N.I. 54.1; 3. Aviation 56.8. HJ: 1. G. Matthews (Adm) 5'0"; 2. C. Bird (I.R.) 4'8"; 3. B. Price (NSY) 4'6". LJ: 1. P. Dalton (I.R.) 16'7" (Ch. BP); 2. — 16'2"; 3. K. Wurburton (MoA) 16'2". SP: 1. G. Collins (GPO/Mid) 38'8"; 2. G. Sissons (WD) 34'3"; 3. J. Thorn (I.R.) 33'0". DT: 1. G. Collins (GPO/Mid) 120'6" (Ch. BP); 2. R. John (MoH) 92'4"; 3. E. Sissons (WD) 90'10". JT: 1. J. Ragnall (MHLG) 105'2"; 2. E. Sissons (WD) 97'1"; 3. H. Keeble (NSY) 94'4".

Queensborough Challenge Cup: Inland Revenue.

Jubilee Cup: E. Sissons.

## Records Fall at Civil

IT was another record breaking day for Civil Service athletes at the 89th Annual Championships held at Hurlingham on Saturday, 20th July. Five records were set and one equalled in the men's events, and two beaten in the ladies.

But the day's best performance came from Geoff North. Always handily placed in the mile he came through strongly in the last lap to win in 4 mins. 18.3 secs. Just over an hour later he completely dictated the pace in the three miles to beat former holder Peter Mellor in 13 mins. 59.8 secs.

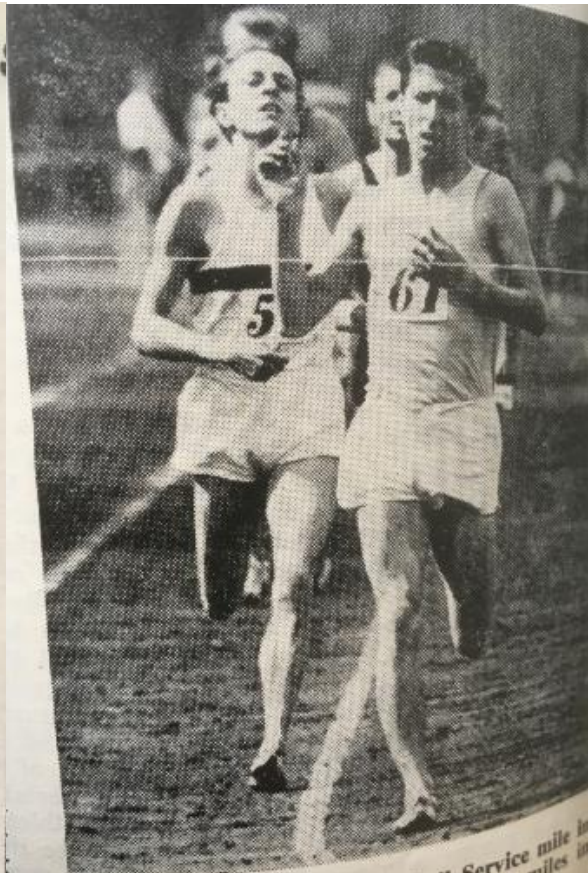
John Knowles won the 100 yards as he expected in "evens", but although he did get a double it was not the one he expected. Mike Stowe decided to drop from the quarter to sprints this season and it proved to be a wise move. For in the furlong he swept past Mick Marston and then Knowles in the straight for a record 22.0 secs. Knowles completed his double with a 22'7" long jump.

There was disappointment when Terry Keen decided not to defend his title in the 880 yds. When representing London in Milan recently, he picked up a germ and his training suffered. However he ran in the quarter and despite drawing the outside lane made all the running to win in 49.3 secs.

Pity Keen was unable to run in the "half". Former holder Peter Standen was out for a fast time and only Dave Huffer could keep with him for the first quarter. This was passed in 54 secs. and Standen went on to set up a new time of 1 min. 52.5 secs.

Scottish champion Ian McPherson broke his old record in the Shot with a put of 47'2" while John Webster was well placed in the field events with wins in the Javelin and Pole Vault and second in the Hammer.

Outstanding for the ladies was Margaret Tranter. She streaked away in her 220 yds. heat to set a new best time of 25.0 secs. Then completed a fine double with a record 18'6" in the Long Jump.



Geoff North winning the Civil Service mile in 4 min. 18.3 sec. He also won the 3 miles in 13 min. 59.8 sec.  
Ed Lacey



Peter Standen winning the Civil Service 880 yds. in 1 min. 52.5 sec., a new Championship Best Performance.  
Ed Lacey

## RECORDS TUMBLE IN CIVIL SERVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Jack Swinton

THE centenary year for Civil Service athletics was celebrated in fitting manner when seven records were broken in the championships held at Hurlingham Park on Saturday, July 18th. This despite a heavy track that was not conducive to fast times. Heavy rain had fallen in the morning and intermittent showers throughout the afternoon made it heavy going.

In the three miles Peter Mellor came out determined to regain the title he lost to Geoff North last year. Setting a fast pace, Mellor and North went through the mile in 4:37. Then the slightly built but tenacious Mellor steadily opened a gap to pass the two miles in 9:16 and win in the record time of 13:49.6.

Another past versus present champion encounter resulted in both breaking the old record in the 880 yards. Current holder Dave Huffer and former champion Terry Keen made it a two-man race from the gun. Huffer led at the half in 55 secs, and then Keen eased past in the back straight. But Huffer determined to keep the attractive Inverforth Challenge Cup on his sideboard for another year, came again to break the tape in 1:51.5 secs, with Keen only 0.3 secs. behind. Both were well inside Peter Stander's old time of 1:52.5. Geoff Pym then set a new best in the 3000m, steeplechase. He spreadeagled the field to romp home in 9 mins. 17 secs.

There was a thrilling finish to the men's Javelin event. Holder John Webster and Ken Jaynes each threw 184'11". All rounder Webster got the verdict with a better second throw, and then showed his versatility by winning the Pole Vault and coming third in the Hammer.

The ladies jumped on to the record breaking bandwagon too. Mary Tranter led the way with an excellent 11.0 secs. "100" and followed with 18'11" in the long jump. Miss Tranter completed a fine triple, which won her the Jubilee Challenge Bowl, by winning the furlong in 25.1 secs., only 1/10th of a sec. outside the best time she set last year. Next it was the turn of international high jumper Gwendal Matthews. She cleared 5'5" in this event and then went on to win the 80m. hurdles easily in 12.5 secs.

### Men

100: 1, J. R. Knowles (IR) 10.2; 2, G. Young (Navy) 10.3; 3, E. Moules (DSIR) 10.7. 220: 1, Knowles 22.6; 2, F. Brees (LTR) 23.3; 3, F. Superville (LTR) 23.5. 440: 1, M. Airey (Army) 49.1; 2, R. Eve (LTR) 49.4; 3, M. Berry (GPO/AV) 50.5. 880: 1, D. Huffer (IR) 1:51.5 (CBP); 2, T. Keen (C & E) 1:51.8; 3, N. Sedgley (IR) 1:52.3. Mile: 1, V. Smith (Navy) 4:14.4; 2, P. Carr-Locks (MoA) 4:14.5; 3, D. Holt (MHLG) 4:16.7. 3M: 1, P. Mellor (MHLG) 13:49.6 (CBP); 2, Geoff. North (Army) 14:13.8; 3, A. Butcher (LoA) 14:37.4. Team: Inland Revenue. 3000mST: 1, G. Pym

(IR) 9:17.6 (CBP); 2, T. Reilly (IR) 9:49.0; 3, M. Poffley (LoA). 2MW: 1, P. C. Stapleford (Army) 15:31.0; 2, D. Wallace (C & E); 3, B. Russell (Navy). (Handicap): Russell. Medley R: 1, Inland Revenue 3:53.8 (CBP); 2, Navy 3:43.7; 3, Aviation 3:46.0. HJ: 1, A. Oseghare (MPNI) 5'10"; 2, J. Phillips (GCHQ) 5'7"; 3, P. Roberts (Navy) 5'6". PV: 1, J. Webster (IR) 10'6"; 2, B. Humphries (MoA). LJ: 1, D. Gale (E & A) 21'10"; 2, J. Knowles 20'10"; 3, R. Ryan (MoA) 20'3". TJ: 1, Roberts 43'4"; 2, Phillips 41'1"; 3, G. Arnold (MoT) 41'1". SP: 1, I. MacPherson (Navy) 45'64"; 2, J. Crosbie (C & E) 43'54"; 3, J. Sampson (LTR) 43'11". DT: 1, Sampson 143'04"; 2, J. Butterfield (POS) 125'94"; 3, McPherson 123'24". HT: 1, Butterfield 147'04"; 2, D. Bailey (NAB) 146'6"; 3, Webster 132'11". JT: 1, Webster 184'11"; 2, K. Jaynes (MOL) 184'11"; 3, D. Horsfall (MoA) 180'64". Tug-of-War: LPR. 100 Jnr.: 1, E. Jones (MPNI) 10.8; 2, D. Oldfield (GPO/NE) 10.9; 3, J. Bristow (LTR) 11.3. 100 Vet. H'cp.: A. Sutherland (LPR) 18, 10.8. 80 Boys H'cp.: N. Whiffen 14, 9.8.

### Ladies

100: 1, M. Tranter (GPO/Mid) 11.0 (CBP); 2, D. Mason (MPNI) 11.2; 3, P. Mooney (GPO/NE) 11.5. 220: 1, Tranter 25.1; 2, P. Mooney 26.5; 3, Mason 26.8. 440: 1, P. Dalton (IR) 58.6 (Welsh rec.); 2, N. Donachie (DAFS) 59.6; 3, G. Coley-Carpenter (IR) 60.9. 880: 1, Coley-Carpenter 2:33.4; 2, E. Cassoligne (MoA) 2:50.0; 3, M. Surtous (MPNI) 3:00.0. HJ: 1, G. Matthews (BoT) 12.5; 2, A. Hellings (IR) 13.7; 3, E. Sissons (Army) 14.4. 4x110: 1, Aviation; 2, M.P.N.I. 55.8; 3, Air 50.7. LJ: 1, Tranter 18'11" (CBP); 2, Matthews 18'4"; 3, J. Warburton (MoA) 17'10". HT: 1, Matthews 5'5" (CBP); 2, S. Forbes (Army) 5'0"; 3, J. Jones (MoA) 4'7". SP: 1, J. Atack (IR) 37'3"; 2, Sissons 34'6"; 3, A. Hurdie (MoA) 31'6". DT: 1, Sissons 88'14"; 2, Atack 84'9"; 3, G. Sisson (MoA) 67'6". JT: 1, Sissons 91'23"; 2, M. Mounsey (MPNI) 81'11"; 3, Atack 72'7". Queenborough Challenge Cup - Inland Revenue. Jubilee Challenge Bowl - M. D. Tranter.

### KANGAROO CLUB NOTES

#### Schools Postal Competition

Results for June: - LJ: (O/17) Lancing 64' 4"; (J. Mitchell 22'10"); (U/17) Iford CHS 57'64"; (R. Snow 20'11"). Dr. Chall 57'24"; (U/15) Iford CHS 53'04"; (P. Wood 18'10"). DT: (O/17) Becker 8, 128'43"; (J. Vernon 46' 10"); (U/17) Dr. Chall 123'24"; (J. Morris 41' Sec. 40'4").

## CIVIL SERVICE CHAMPS.

At Wimbledon Park, July 24th

100: 1, O. Young (MOD-Navy) 10.0; 2, E. Leitch (HLC) 10.0; 3, C. Williams (GPO/LTR) 10.1. 220: Leitch 22.7. 440: N. Sedgley (IR) 51.1. 880: 1, K. Bromley (MAFF) 1:55.3; 2, D. Huffer (IR) 1:56.2. Mile: 1, V. Smith (MOD-N) 4:11.7; 2, R. O'Mahoney (Ld. C) 4:12.1; 3, W. Kerr (GPO/LTR) 4:12.8. 3M: Kerr —. 3000mSC: B. Cran (MOD-A) 10:54.4. Mile Medley: Inland Rev. 3:40.8. HJ: 1, A. Oseghare (Pen) 5'10"; 2, P. Roberts (MOD-N) 5'9"; 3, D. McGhee (MOD-N) 5'9". PV: 1, P. Gogarty (PB & Wks) 11'0"; 2, I. Webster (IR) 10'6". LJ: B. Bozimo (Pen) 20'11". TJ: 1, Bozimo 44'7 $\frac{3}{4}$ "; 2, Roberts 43'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ "; 3, R. Ryan (Aviation) 42'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". SP: B. Smith (MOD-A) 41'8 $\frac{1}{4}$ ". DT: 1, Smith 129'5"; 2, E. Foster (Av) 127'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". HT: 1, J. Butterfield (POS) 139'3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "; 2, Webster 125'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". JT: 1, G. White (MOD-N) 201'11" (Ch. BP); 2, Webster 183'2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "; 3, K. Jeynes (Lab) 175'5". 2MW: 1, E. Hall (Cust) 14:43.4; 2, P. Stapleford (MOD-A) 15:23.8; 3, K. Read (GPO/LTR) 15:44.2. **(Women)** 100: D. Mason (Pen) 11.5. 220: 1, B. Edwards (Pen) 26.3; 2, C. Moore (GPO/LTR) 26.5; 3, Mason 26.9. 440: 1, Edwards 58.3; 2, M. Donachie (DAFS) 61.5. 880: 1, C. Coley Carpenter (IR) 2:20.4; 2, R. Gorton (Pen) 2:30.3. 80mH: E. Sissons (MOD-A) 13.1. 4x110: M.O.D. 52.6. HJ: 1, G. Matthews (Trade) 5'0"; 2, J. Lyon (Av) 4'11"; 3, J. Hardyman (MOD-N) 4'10". LJ: 1, Matthews 16'10"; 2, A. Hurdle (Av) 16'6"; 3, Hardyman 16'5". SP: 1, J. Atack (IR) 39'9 $\frac{1}{4}$ "; 2, Sissons 36'4 $\frac{1}{4}$ "; 3, Hurdle 32'9 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". DT: 1, H. Horsburgh (MOD-A) 126'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " (Ch. BP); 2, Sissons 96'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". JT: Sissons 98'2".

AW 30<sup>th</sup> July 1966

### Tranter Shines In Civil Service Championships

MAUREEN TRANTER achieved the best performance of the Civil Service Championships at the Crystal Palace on July 16th, with a devastating quarter. Running in the middle lane, Maureen had cut the stagger back by the halfway mark and running on smoothly she shattered Joy Jordan's former championship best. The men's furlong saw the welcome return of Mick Marston from New Zealand. Mick showed all his old power in winning the furlong and it is hoped he will get back into serious training for the quarter where he was always to make his mark before emigrating.

J.S.

HJ: D. (C) 22' Innes 1 Murra G. Be 133'34

1, 3, C ing Hor Bed J. L Mil (BF 2M (B) D. (E

100: J. Vivian 10.2. 220: M. Marston 22.5. 400: R. Beck 50.3; 2, J. Wenk 51.3; 3, D. Huffer 51.3. 880: 1, Huffer 1:54.2; 2, C. Clarke 1:54.6. Mile: 1, C. Moxsom 4:14.8; 2, P. Stan- 4:14.8; 3, L. Presland 4:18.0. 3M: 1, M. D. Bryan 9:43.4; 2, A. Butcher 14:39.8. 3000mSC: 1, D. Gillon 9:46.4; 3, G. Tannell 9:48.4. HJ: 1, L. Green 6'1". 2, A. Oseghare 6'0". PV: P. Gogerty 11'0". TJ: 1, A. Fin 45'10 1/2". 2, Oseghare 44'0". SP: T. Ward 43'11". DT: J. Butterfield 133'8 1/2". HT: 1, Butterfield 148'0". 2, D. Bailey 138'8". 3, J. Webster 137'5". JT: 1, G. White 192'9". 2, Webster 182'8". 2MW: 1, E. Hall 14:25.0; 2, D. Vile 15:13.2; 3, K. Read 15:20.4. Vets 100: 1, Ian (94) 10.6. (Women) 100: 1, D. Foreman 11.4; 2, P. Dalton 11.5; 3, R. Grant 11.7. 220: Foreman 26.7. 440: 1, M. Tranter 55.8; 2, S. Taylor 57.8; 3, Dalton 59.2. 880: Taylor 2:15.3. 1500: D. Markwick 12.4. HJ: J. Jones 4'11". 17'2 1/2". SP: 1, J. Atack 38'14". 2, E. Sissons 37'9". DT: 1, H. Horsburgh 132'9"; 2, Grant 107'8".

Sometimes the local press would include an article on their local athletes as shown below:

Wishaw Press - Friday 22 August 1980

## Athlete Anne's Olympic hopes



Local athlete Anne McMahon took part in a major athletics meeting last weekend in Cymbran, Wales and despite stern opposition she managed a second and a third place.

The standard of the National Civil Service Sports is extremely high, with several national champions taking part. In Anne's event, the 800 metres, she should have been facing the British number one, Jocelyn-Hoyte Smith, but unfortunately the British champion was committed to another meeting in Zurich.

### IMPROVE

Nevertheless the competition was fierce and it was a remarkable show by Anne, who is employed in the local Department of Health and Social Security in Wishaw. She is hoping to improve on this performance next season.

The Clyde Valley harrier will be leaving Wishaw in September, however to begin training as a PE teacher at Dunfermline College.

She said: "I'll be able to keep training and with a bit of luck I'd like to try to make it to the 1984 Olympics."

2000: Athletics Weekly 23.08.20 reported on the 2000 Championships as follows:

## **CIVIL SERVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS** **Alexander Stadium, Birmingham**

SEVERAL would-be Olympic team members were allowed to compete as guests in these championships in a bid to strengthen their Sydney team chances, Tom Pollak reports.

Having temporarily been forced to abandoned his new event, the 400m hurdles, where the selectors have already chosen their maximum three competitors, Du'aine Ladejo reappeared in the 400m where once he was the European No. 1.

He is now aiming at a place in the 4x400m relay squad and, despite a strong breeze during his race, he stormed home in 46.4, some 40 or so metres ahead of the official winner, in what was virtually a time trial.

Running in the third lane, he had caught and passed all his opponents on the outside lanes by 200m.

Former British team captain Dalton Grant was also having a crack at qualifying. He cleared 2.15m after the official winner Stanley Osuide had been eliminated at 2.05m, had one failure at 2.22m and two further failures at the Olympic qualifying height of 2.28m.

Best of the championship winners was Shirley Griffiths with an 800m/1500m double

## 2001 AW Report 29/08/01

Note the typo in Pete Mullholland's Report of the Championships

### August 15

#### CIVIL SERVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS

##### Eton

IN AN EVENT that dates back to April 1854, just six weeks after the first Oxford v Cambridge Varsity encounter, many of today's public servants 'dragged' themselves from their offices to in an effort to enhance their CVs. *Pete Mullholland reports.*

Stanley Osuide bettered his own high jump championship record of 2.05 set last year when easily clearing 2.10 before clipping the bar at 2.15.

Missing much of the season through injury, Osuide admitted on what was his first competition for two months. "This is catch-up time for I was nervous on how it would go so that was pleasing." "Now for a hard winter to aim for Commonwealth selection, I need 2.24 for a B qualifier which I believe is achievable."

Another who hopes to be studying the train timetables to Manchester is Louise Whitehead, five times a Welsh Champion and winner of both the 200m and 400m today.

Fourth in the AAAs 400m championships last year and owner of a 400m best of 53.34, Whitehead admitted that: "This season has been a consolidating one having left university and started work but the Commonwealth Games is my priority especially with the possibility of a strong Welsh 4x400 team."

Former Scottish Champion and record holder Jean Clark hurled the hammer out to 44.27 a vast improvement on her own championship record of 41.67 set in 1999. "That was certainly better than last year when I had three no throws," said Clark who now professes to be competing for fun.

Natasha Brunning, whose three wins, including a championship best triple jump of 11.59, took home the Victrix Ludorum trophy, probably the first ever winner of such a trophy within the precincts of the male orientated Eton College.

Tony Noel sped to a 100/200 sprint double for the third consecutive year and afterwards admitted: "I'll be 40 in two years time and will definitely be having a go at all

In 2020 the Track & Field Championships along with every other Championship had to be cancelled due to the Covid-19 Pandemic that was sweeping the world and causing untold suffering and loss of life for so many.