

NUTS NOTES

Volume 2 Number 3

Edited by
Pat Brian

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EDITORIAL

The 1964 NUTS Track and Field Meeting must rank as the most successful and the most satisfying of the five so far held.

The first meeting in 1960 was the coldest and 1962 the wettest, but this year we were blessed with ideal outdoor athletics conditions. The sun shone and the winter bleakness, with which we are usually accustomed, stayed well away.

It was the second year that the meeting incorporated the A.A.A. Ten Miles Championship and, as you all know, we were further blessed with one world record and four world best performances (at distances not recognised by the IAAF).

It is rare indeed for a Briton to witness a world record in his own country by one of his own kind. When it does happen, it warms the heart, stirs the spine and stimulates the brain of any track nut - but if it happens five times at your own meeting, it is surely tantamount to the ultimate in track and field history.

On Saturday April 11th, we achieved, in this writer's opinion, the ultimate in track and field history.

The efforts of Colin Young, our member for Dagenham West and the Walking Nuts, must not go by without mention. If Mel Batty lost half a stone during those ten long miles, Colin (his coach) must have shed double that amount.

Never have I seen a coach use so much physical energy to such good advantage as Colin did during that epic 47 minutes 26.8 seconds. Well done, Colin. Let's hope your walking goes as well as Mel's running - then you may both be in Tokyo as competitors.

"The Book", as our annual publication is better known, has been published. This year it is bigger than ever, with 148 pages packed full of athletic data.

This publication is a 'must' for anyone connected with the sport, and it is earnestly hoped that every member will do his utmost to sell as many copies as possible. It is these extra sales by members, which help to boost the overall sales, and, at the same time, gain new customers who may not have previously heard of "The Book".

I recently received a letter from Reg Hook (Brighton A.C. and Sussex County A.A.A.), who noted Pat Mackenzie's comments on having three NUTS as members of Brighton A.C.

Reg adds: "Further to Pat Mackenzie's claim for a record, both Roy Taylor's wife (Joyce) and mine (Pat) are expecting babies later in the year, but what is Pat doing about keeping his end up?"

Any comment from the Editor on this subject would be superfluous!

Another member wrote to me recently and that was our friend Richard Szreter. Richard combines his activities in the NUTS with the ATFS, and in such he is renowned for his knowledge of Polish athletics.

His letter began: "Stung into activity by your remarks in the last issue of Nits Notes (how's that for a non-Freudian slip?) about silence of all provincial members, I submit a little Olympic Quiz."

This quiz is featured on another page of this edition. Richard continues to say: "I like the Notes in general, and am highly impressed by the list of NUTS records - the 'Woman' list, though, is as much a tribute to Maeve's versatility as to the lack of interest (if you take it on yourself as Editor to change 'lack of interest' to 'disinterest', I'll shoot you) in T & F stats on the part of the fair sex. The only record I might conceivably claim is for the youngest-ever nut : got bitten by the bug at the age of seven, after seeing in some illustrated weekly a photo of Kucharski (Pol.) narrowly beating Ny (Sw.) in Stockholm in 1:51.6 (both, I imagine made the world's top ten for '35) ; that was on 24. 7. 35 and I was not eight until 2. 8. 35."

For fear of getting murdered by Richard's pistol, I printed his paragraph in full. I'll say one thing though: As far as the male members of the NUTS are concerned, there is no lack of interest or disinterest in female stats!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR from John Martell

Well I'll do the decent thing and try and fill a corner of NUTS Notes. In fact I've already done the decent thing from a news point of view - my appendix burst on 2nd January 1964 at 12 Noon as near as I could tell; cussed to the last, it was located after 2 hours (bogey time 30 min.) - rather holding up matron's party for the doctors. All went very well, even after a drip feed for five days and no food. I walked to the toilet on Operation day plus 7 - what a delightful experience. On 0 plus 11, I became the ward's fastest walker, having previously been headed by a "removal cartilage", who had a doubtful action. On 0 plus 18 (Inter-Counties Day) I was out!

NUTS IN HERTS - For a county without(!) athletes, I do agree that to have seven NUTS who have lived, worked or studied there is good but

Well, Surrey, Inter-County Champions (or need I mention it) have the great Huxtable and Sparks living there now, plus James, Brisley, Fleet (active international), Elliott (Charles not Herb) and my humble self J.M. not to mention J.C.G.C. living at Ewell.

Ah, I see Herts claim Bob - well he lives at Worcester Park now. For good measure we have Mark Shearman, Ed Lacey and Gerry Cranham - not to mention Harold Palmer and John Rodda plus John Disley. Recent internationals: Fleet, Harris, Brightwell, Yardley, Howell, Wilmshurst, Hewson, Pirie, Miller, Setti,..... I'd run out of paper and time!!!

Let's face it, SURREY is the greatest - could tackle Wales (lending Harris) and murder it, beat Scotland plus every Anglo who ever drank a whiskey as qualification.

Yours (in anger!),

John Martell

The Editor comments: Two members have been left out of John's list. Firstly, Peter Martin, who has done a lot of work for us on junior and intermediate women's athletics, and lives in Wallington. The other member works in Walton-on-Thames five days a week, plays football in a Surrey County-affiliated League, plays table tennis in a Surrey County-affiliated League and hurtles through the county at great speed in a train each work-day. His name - Pat Brian.

It's good to know John is back to his usual self however. This letter proves this, if nothing else! For those who do not know John well, he is a leading light in Surrey athletic circles, co-editing their magazine, besides organising the Surrey County Championships. I hope this removes any doubt you had about John being biased

A.A.A. QUIZ - ANSWERS by Andrew Huxtable

1. Jack Holden 43 years 4 months (Marathon 1950)
Alan Paterson 18 years 1 month (High Jump 1946)
2. High Jump 1954

1 Brendan O'Reilly (Eire)	6'5
2 Patrick Etolu (Uganda)	6'4
3 Jonathan Lenemuria (Kenya)	6'3
4 Nafio Belo Osagie (Nigeria)	6'2
5 Kiprono Maratim (Kenya)	6'2
6 Emmanuel Ifeajuna (Nigeria)	6'2

 Anthony Orton, the first Briton, was 7th with 6'1.
3. 220 yards 1958

1 David Segal	21.4
2 Robbie Brightwell	21.7
3 John Scott-Oldfield	21.8

 John Young did not finish; Michael Agostini (Canada) and Abdul Khaliq (Pakistan) did not start.
4. True. He did win the A.A.A. Junior Discus title in 1953 and 1954 however.

TAKE COURAGE, DEAR FRIENDS by a staff reporter

Although the motive is as yet unknown - it could be to promote athletics or it could be to promote beer-drinking - we hear that the brewers, who are generously donating a sum of money each year to our sport, will be issuing beer mats with athletic records printed on them.

As far as is known, this is unprecedented in athletics, although a leading cigarette firm did ask sports questions of a specific nature on their packets not so very long ago.

NUTS Booklets will shortly be advertised on all buses and trains - you can laugh, but it might happen one day.

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OTHER NOTEWORTHY PERFORMANCES compiled by Andrew Huxtable

Many members of the NUTS are or have been active athletes. Some of them have turned in performances worthy of mention and these are listed below.

100y	9.9	Harold Abrahams	(1)	Stamford Bridge	21 Jun 24
	10.3	John Kyle	(1)		
	10.3	Michael Fleet	(3)	Loughborough	4 Jul 59
	10.4	Keith Morbey	(1)		
	10.4	Robin Sparks	(1)		56
100m	10.7	Norris McWhirter	(1)	Athens	19 Jul 50
	10.7	Adrian Metcalfe	(1)	Vittel	20 Aug 61
220y(Str)	21.6	Harold Abrahams	(1)	Wembley	21 Jul 23
200m($\frac{1}{2}$ t)	21.7	Norris McWhirter	(2)	Cologne	16 Aug 47
200m(t)	22.0	Harold Abrahams	(1)	Colombes	8 Jul 24
220y(t)	22.0	Norris McWhirter	(1)		
	23.0	Michael Fleet	(1)	Ladywell	18 Jul 60
	23.2	Robin Sparks	(1)		56
440y	48.7	Michael Fleet	(4)	Welwyn Garden City	9 Sep 61
	50.8	Harold Abrahams	(1)	Queens Club	24 Mar 23
	51.1	Robin Phillips	(1)		10 May 60
	52.3	Roger Breese	(1)		52
880y	1:53.6	Adrian Metcalfe	(1)	Oxford	22 Apr 64
	1:55.8	Robin Phillips	(1)		2 Jun 62
1M	4:25.0	David Roberts	(1)		
	4:25.5	Hedydd Davies	(1)	Wolverhampton	8 Jun 63
6M	31:03.0	Roy Taylor	(1)	Brighton	18 Aug 59
HJ	6' 0	Royston Brisley	(1)		
	5' 8	John Kyle	(1)		
LJ	21' 0	Royston Brisley	(1)		
	20' 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	Robb Robin Sparks	(1)		56
	20' 4	John Kyle	(1)		
	21' 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	Patrick Mackenzie	(6)	Feltwell	23 Nov 63
TJ	41' 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	Royston Brisley	(3)	Battersea	26 Jul 54
SP	41' 2	Patrick Mackenzie	(2)	Stafford	28 May 62
	40' 3	Royston Brisley	(1)		
	42' 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	Patrick Mackenzie	(2)	Stanmore	7 Dec 63
DT	130' 10	Royston Brisley	(1)	Battersea	5 Jun 55
	115' 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	Patrick Mackenzie	(2)	Brighton	29 Sep 62
Dec	3,656	Patrick Mackenzie	(13)	Loughborough	10/11 Aug 62
(12.3w, 20'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ w, 39'10 $\frac{3}{4}$, 6'2 $\frac{3}{4}$, - ; 17.3w, 107'13 $\frac{1}{2}$, - , 110'2, - .					

A NEW SCHEME by Melvyn Watman

The following extract was taken from a South African newspaper recently and Melvyn Watman suggests we might devise a similar scheme. One thought strikes the Editorial staff of this publication - what depth should we go to if we get a similar scheme operating?

New Award For Athletes In South Africa from our own correspondent
Port Elizabeth

An annual award to all South African athletes whose performances merit inclusion in the thirty best performances in the world in their respective events is to be made by the South African Association of Track and Field Statisticians.

At its Annual General Meeting in Port Elizabeth the association decided that the award would be a track suit badge.

The purpose of the award is to be an incentive to athletes to improve their performances, particularly in view of the possibility that a team may not be sent to the Olympic Games.

Seven athletes have qualified for this award in respect of the year 1963. They are: "Judge" Jefferys, Johan Swart, Neil Macdonald, Tokkie Peters, Kenny Davis, Hannes Botha and Elfranco Malan.

Mr. Harry Beinart of Cape Town was elected secretary, the post he has held since 1959.

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The Editor comments: This is a wonderful incentive to the athletes of South Africa, who have been hit by the power of politics in their country. It is certainly a forward thinking plan which our South African counterparts have devised. It is hoped that this sort of scheme can be broadened beyond the track suit badge stage in all countries where athletics exists.

OLYMPIC QUIZ by Richard Szreter

1. Which male athlete from the Commonwealth has won the largest number of Olympic Games medals?
2. When did the top two throwers achieve exactly the same mark?
3. How many non-Finnish runners won a distance track race (5000m, 10000m and steeplechase) in the five inter-war Olympic Games?
4. When was an Olympic record not an Olympic record?
5. Name the first Negro to win an Olympic title?
6. What do Turkey and Venezuela have in common - Olympic Games wise?
7. In which Olympic record has there been a 100% plus improvement from Athens (1896) to Rome (1960)?
8. How many athletes managed to win Olympic Games medals before and after the Second World War?
9. How many Decathlon medal winners have also managed to win medals in specialist events?
10. A quickie - how many pre-1960 Olympic records are still standing?

The answers to this quiz will appear in next month's edition. It is hoped that you will endeavour to answer the above without the aid of the text books. If you do as suggested, the general rating would be:
7 - 10 correct - you know your Olympics; 3 - 6 correct - you have been scratching the surface, further revision needed; 2 or less correct - stick to collecting British performances for the NUTS booklet!

MORE MISCELLANY by Andrew Huxtable

Chris Marker

Paris, May 1962: this was the setting for Chris Marker's brilliant documentary "Le Joli Mai", first shown commercially in the United Kingdom at the Paris-Pullman earlier this year. Marker was born in 1921. His best known works are "Lettre de Sibérie" (1958), "Description d'un Combat" (1960), "Cuba Sí!" (1961) and "La Jetée" (1963); according to "Nouvelle Vague?" (by Jacques Siclier) he made a short 16 m.m. film "Les Jeux Olympiques" (Helsinki, 1952). I wonder if any member has seen it?

Brevity Gone Mad

'Rundbrief', the monthly newsletter of the German ATFS, is a little more ambitious than NUTS Notes, as a glance at recent issues shows: 300 deep (!) all-time German lists for men and women, the 50 best Germans to the end of 1914, etc. The editor is Bruno Riedel (ATFS).

NUTS Motto

Suggested motto for the NUTS: "There is no point in collecting data for the mere satisfaction of accumulation". (W.J. Reichmann in "Use and Abuse of Statistics".

THE NEXT ISSUE OF NUTS NOTES

Although production difficulties caused a small hold-up in the publication of this month's issue, we hope to be back on our feet by next month. We hope, therefore, to publish the May edition on or about May 16th, which is, of course, Whit-Saturday (the day of the NUTS AGM).

The main feature of next month's issue will be a rather humorous look at the word "nut" and all its allied words in the dictionary through the eyes of Les Crouch.

We have been promised two or three articles from some prominent members of the NUTS, but so far nothing has come through the letter-box.

If any member feels in the writing mood in the next two or three weeks, please write something for your own newsletter. It gives you a chance to let off steam (if you want to, that is); to air any problems or to just merely be funny. How about it folks?

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