

N U T S N O T E S

Vol 3. No.3.

Editor:Andrew Huxtable

Jul - Sep, 1965

EDITORIAL

The sales of "British Athletics 1965" promise to be well above those of previous editions: this is largely due to the efforts of Pat Brian who, backed by the marketing "know-how" of Birds Eye Foods Ltd., has tackled the problem with enthusiasm. For the first time all clubs with a member or members appearing in the lists, were circulated; libraries have also shown greater interest than ever before. If any member has any ideas (whether they think them original or not) on possible ways of bringing the attention of prospective purchasers to next year's edition and of encouraging them to buy perhaps they would let Pat know.

The NUTS as a whole must possess a vast collection of books and magazines on the sport and it is the feeling of the Editor that it would be an extremely good idea to form a central catalogue in order that loans and possible exchanges can be made. I should therefore be pleased if every member would send me in as exhaustive detail as possible a list of the books etc. in his/her possession.

THE SECRETARY WRITES

I feel an explanation is due from me regarding the late appearance of this edition. No, we are not competing with a certain magazine to see who can publish a certain number the latest! When Pat Brian gave up the secretaryship he kindly agreed to keep the duplicator and to do any duplicating that was necessary. This worked fine as long as Pat, or even Adrienne, worked in London. But Pat's transfer to Walton on Thames and the arrival of Miss Julia made contact difficult, and a couple of months ago Les Crouch delivered the duplicator to me. The Gestetner people maintain a life service on all their equipment and the rep. at Greenwich informed my rep., who it turns out is based at Watford. It has taken me weeks of prodding and phone calls to get him to show me how the thing works, but he has at last turned up and I should be in full production shortly. This same reason has also held up the publication of results of the NUTS pentathlon held on August 29. These should either be attached or will follow shortly.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome to membership two new boys: Malcolm Warburton, 117 Kingsway North, Warrington, Lancs who at 17 becomes our youngest member, and E.G. (Nobby) Clarke, 376 Gillott Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham 15. Both come from important areas and have the opportunity to become valuable members. Good luck to you both.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Simon Pearson, 26 Howard Street, Bantaskin, Falkirk, Stirlingshire.
Roy Taylor, 103 Thornhill Rise, Mile Oak, Portslade by Sea, Sussex.
Dai Davies, "Glasdir", Abergwili Road, Carmarthen.
Martin James (from October 23) 471 Lynmouth Ave., Morden, Surrey.

ZEKE HORNBY; SPRINTER EXTRAORDINARY by Bob Phillips

I saw my first athletics meeting - the 1946 AAA championships - at the tender age of seven. Curiously enough the athlete I remember most from that meeting was one who did not even survive his heat. He was no more than 5'4" tall, but must have weighed about 182 lbs. His name, so the programme told me was Pte. E. Hornby, Army AA. In a heat of the 100y he finished 4th behind A.T. Liffen and P.H. Vallé, who both recorded 10.3. Of course, I didn't make such accurate notes about his physique at the time. All I remember is that he adopted the most unusual starting technique, with both knees together on the track in

a direct line behind his hands. He was, in fact, on hands and knees. He simply raised himself slowly at the command "set", then started even more slowly when the gun went. He must have been 10 yards down before the other four in the heat had gone a quarter of the distance, but he finished like a whirlwind and was only beaten by a couple of yards by the winner.

I met this same man many years later when my interest in athletics had become a professional one. His christian name, it transpires was Ezekiel, and he had long since left the Army, in which he had reached the rank of Staff-Sergeant Bombardier. This was in 1961, and he was working as a railway porter. We happened to get into conversation at a NIH winter meeting, and of course I was delighted to make the acquaintance of an athlete I'd seen run only once.

Apparently he had had a long and very varied career in athletics. He came from a village called Bishop Upminster in Cornwall, had taken up running in his teens, and finished 2nd in the AAA junior 100y in 1933 to C.F. Chalk. "I hadn't developed my special starting technique then", Mr. Hornby told me. "Actually, I've never told anyone, but I was 22 when I ran in that AAA junior event. I didn't know what the rules were at the time, you see, and I looked small for my age!"

Zeke Hornby competed regularly after signing on for 18 years. He won the SW Command 100y in 9.8 at Burnham on Sea in 1937, and the 220y in 24.4. "There was quite a strong breeze blowing off the sea", he recalled. The following year he was posted to India. "The biggest meeting I competed in there was the Gurkha national championships. I won the 110m in 11.7 and the 230m in 25.6. They had odd distances because the track they used measured 197.5m from the beginning of the last curve to the end of the finishing straight", he said.

"Another good race was in the Allied Forces Victory Championships in Ludwigshafen in 1945. There was an Aussie sergeant named Hayes running. I think he said his first name was Clarice, but I'm probably wrong. A bloke wouldn't have a name like that, would he? Anyway, I managed to beat him in the 100m: we both did 10.3, and I've written time and again to the British Athletic Board that my time ought to be a British record, but I've never had a reply!"

Mr. Hornby finally added that he was well past his best by the time the first post-war AAA championships were run in 1946. "I'd pulled a tractive muscle in my right thigh in a race late in 1945, and I never really got over it!" (He last competed in the AAA championships in 1949 over 100y, when his club affiliation was shown as Liverpool H. & AC. - Ed.)

The last I saw of Mr. Hornby was a couple of years ago at the White City. He was watching the 100y in the GB v USA match. He didn't say much about Bob Hayes, except to mention something to the effect that he thought his start could be improved.

NUTS RECORDS (as at 1 July 1965)

(Supplement to the list published in Vol.2 No.2)

Dec. 5083 (5) Patrick Mackenzie Leyton 22/23 May 1964
(12.3;19'7;41'04;6'04;61.3;17.0;107'52;8'51;118'101;5:45.8)

OTHER NOTEWORTHY PERFORMANCES

440y	50.9 (1)	Robin Phillips	Watford	3 Jun 65
	52.0 (1)	Kendrick Bennett	Carmarthen	22 Aug 64
880y	1:56.4 (1)	Kendrick Bennett	Barry	15 Aug 64
1M	4:17.3 (1)	Clive Williams	Cardiff	24 Jun 65
	4:17.4 (4)	Kendrick Bennett	Cardiff	25 Jul 61
	4:22.8 (1)	Robin Phillips	Watford	20 May 65
Mar 2:27:56.0 (11)	Brian Nott	Windsor/Chiswick	12 Jun 65	
Jeremy				
Son David	(2)	Christopher & Kareen Thorne	Cambridge	27 Aug 65
Miles				

STATISTICS BY GASLIGHT by Peter Lovesey

The modern taste for Victoriana extends, in my case, to manly exercises, or, if you prefer the term, athletics. The nimble nineteenth century gentlemen whose athletic careers are my preoccupation were remarkable well served by the statisticians of their day. Before considering them let's give credit to the anonymous athletics writers of such journals as "Bell's Life", "The Field" and "Sporting Life" whose breadth of reporting would shame some modern "daily" correspondents.

First, let us turn to Henry Fackerly Wilkinson, a member of the walking section of LAC, who produced "Modern Athletics" in 1868, a manual which included full results from the previous season and a complete roll of winners of all major athletics titles since 1863. His work became the authoritative account of early athletics, and ran to four editions, the last in 1880. If further proof were required of Wilkinson's posthumous claim to membership of the NUTS, it could be stated that in 1871 he assumed the editorship of "The Athlete", an annual compilation of results from the previous season, initiated in 1866 by W. Pilkington. Later, similar annuals were published by "The Athletic News" and "The Sporting Chronicle".

So far as I can ascertain, the first statistician to prepare an annual list of best performers was H.C. Powell, whose "The Amateur Athletic Annual" (1879) was a prodigious effort. The performers were listed event by event, but in an unfamiliar way, alphabetically, rather than by standard of performance. Such lists, to a depth of twenty or more in most events are valuable and interesting; the pity is that 1878, the year reviewed, was somewhat lean, and that Powell did not repeat his work in subsequent years.

Record and result lists were frequently published in the last century, the most comprehensive being "The Pedestrians Record" (1890) by the brothers James I. and James M.K. Lupton and "Sporting and Athletic Records" (1897) by H. Morgan Browne.

Although it is of the present century, I should like to conclude by mentioning one of the most remarkable of early statistical publications, "The International Athletic Annual" (1922) compiled by Maurice Loesch in Geneva, but published in Britain - a 151 page book which anticipated the work of the IATFS, listing national and international results and records, including women's athletics, for 19 countries. Loesch also gave lists of the 15 best performers in each event during 1921.

TIMEKEEPING by Christopher Thomas

As an undergraduate I was frequently amazed, both pleasantly and unpleasantly, by the times awarded to me for my efforts. Of course this was in the bad old clockwise Fenner's days. But more recently some involvement in the affairs of GUAC at Milton Road assured me that remarkable times were still possible (I hasten to exclude the more formal AAA match, for which men with expensive watches appear). Disagreement between timekeepers, myself included, was often greatly in excess of any reasonable standard deviation.

When word reached me that Harry Hathway was about to penetrate these East Anglian fastnesses, in a fit of self-improvement I decided to attempt to achieve a AAA grading as a timekeeper. After a lecture session, on a paralysing Sunday morning last Autumn, we assembled on a school field for the practical test. My own watch had a loose face at the time and the movement was enough to allow a deviation of a 1/10th sec. depending on how the watch was held. I had borrowed one of the Department of Biochemistry's watches. This latter did not pass Hathway's check against his own watch, so I was obliged to use my loose one, attempting to maintain it at all times in the vertical plane. Thirty races were run by 10 year old schoolboys, who insisted on stopping dead on the line or falling over. Cramped in the arm and almost cross-eyed from concentration I survived the 90 minutes.

Later, by post. my score - 90%. Full of confidence I shelled out

£25 on a high-class certificated watch. Once through the written examination I would be a fully fledged Grade III expert. After swotting up the AAA Rules (did you know that 10 timekeepers are needed in a sprint before a watch can be spared for the 5th placed man?). I spent another Sunday morning at the school: Q. "In what circumstances should non-winning times be taken?" A. "When the chap who came in 2nd really won (e.g. disqualified relay team, hurdler knocking down too many hurdles)!" Can this be right? Eventually another letter - 86%.

So, full of myself, I wield my expensive watch at the track side at Milton Road. My times are still different from most of my colleagues, but I feel virtuous since mine are always slower. They don't believe me, of course .. everyone believes his own watch. I have to assert my seniority: my times for the winners get through - we negotiate the place times. To set your minds at rest, quite a lot of pruning goes on before I send the times in to Stan; as a last resort very difficult times can be shielded behind a "wind-assisted" label!

BRITISH BEST PERFORMANCES 1965

Members are reminded that top performances will be included in the next annual and that a revised edition of "British Best Performances of All Time" is planned for publication later this year. (Wait until you see the cover! - Sec.). Please include any marks down to and including the following on the report forms you send in.

MEN			WOMEN
9.7/10.6	60m	7.6	
21.5/21.6	100m/y	10.9/11.9	
47.7/48.0	200m/220y	24.5/24.6	
1:50.4	400m/440y	57.0/57.3	
1:51.1	800m	2:11.7	
2:23.9	880y	2:12.5	
3:48.2	1000m	-	
4:07.1	1500m	4:40.0	
5:18.0	1m	5:02.8	
8:15.0	2000m	-	
13:48.0	3000m	-	
14:15.4	3m	-	
29:00.6	5000m	-	
29:29.8	6m	-	
49:55.0	10000m	-	
11m880y	10m	-	
9:07.6	1hr	-	
-	3000m SC	-	
-	80m H	11.3	
14.6	100m H	13.9	
24.3	120y/110m H	-	
24.4	200m H	28.5	
52.8/53.1	220y H	-	
6'4 $\frac{3}{4}$	400m/440y H	-	
13'6	HJ	5'5	
23'7 $\frac{1}{2}$	FV	-	
48'2 $\frac{1}{2}$	LF	19'3	
53'8 $\frac{1}{2}$	TJ	-	
162'0	SF	42'7 $\frac{3}{4}$	
185'0	DT	141'5 $\frac{1}{2}$	
218'10 $\frac{1}{2}$	HT	-	
-	JT	143'0	
6'00	Fen	4000	
41.3	Dec	-	
41.5	4 x 100m R	46.7	
3:14.3	4 x 110y R	47.0	
3:15.4	4 x 400m R	-	
	4 x 440y R	-	

NATIONAL UNION OF TRACK STATISTICIANS

The first ever N.U.T.S. pentathlon championships were held at Hurlingham Park, London on Sunday August 29th 1965 and were voted a great success by all concerned. The events comprising the competition were 100 yards, Shot Futt, Long Jump, Javelin Throw and One Mile and scoring was by the Portugese tables, but ignoring the minus scores that these tables give. Thirteen members competed plus one guest, Norman Harris, the New Zealand athletics writer and mamathon runner. NUTS officials were Andrew Huxtable and Ieter Hopkins. We are indeed grateful to timekeeper Lister Hey, and starter Bill Hallums who willingly gave up a Sunday afternoon to help us out and to add a touch of respectability to the proceedings. We were pleased that the competitors included three internationals, one of whom was an Olympic silver medallist. There was an additional starter in the mile - Maureen Ashton of Birchfield Harriers who clocked 5:44.2. Maureen is a friend of Nobby Clarke.

RESULT

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Mike Fleet - 3064.5 | 2. Adrian Metcalfe - 2849 |
| 10.6 663 | 10.0 804 |
| 28'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 423 | 30'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 481 |
| 20'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 723 | 19'8 658 |
| 120'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 539 | 99'4 407 |
| 4:37.0 716.5 | 5:15.8 499 |
| 3. Bob Phillips - 2319 | 4. Dai Davies - 2203 |
| 10.8 619 | 12.2 350 |
| 23'10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 260 | 26'3 $\frac{1}{2}$ 349 |
| 17'3 $\frac{1}{2}$ 492 | 16'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ 395 |
| 87'11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 320 | 96'2 380 |
| 4:42.1 628 | 4:34.9 729 |
| 5. Norman Harris - 1924 | 6. Chris Thorne - 1907 |
| 11.8 430 | 11.9 410 |
| 24'9 298 | 25'2 308 |
| 15'3 330 | 17'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ 475 |
| 74'4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 175 | 111'9 489 |
| 4:41.2 691 | 6:14.8 225 |
| 7. Bob Sparks - 1846 | 8. Nobby Clarke - 1840 |
| 11.3 520 | 11.8 430 |
| 26'11 356 | 21'1 161 |
| 17'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 520 | 16'10 $\frac{3}{4}$ 465 |
| 92'7 360 | 82'2 265 |
| 6:49.8 80 | 5:11.9 519 |
| 9. Keith Morbey - 1532 | 10. Stan Greenberg - 1261 |
| 11.2 540 | 12.4 316 |
| 27'4 379 | 28'8 423 |
| 16'5 428 | 13'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 160 |
| 69'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ 125 | 93'9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 362 |
| 6:57.0 60 | Did not start |
| 11. Malcolm Warburton - 1154 | 12. Les Crouch - 793 |
| 12.0 390 | 12.5 300 |
| 16'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 0 | 17'8 $\frac{3}{4}$ 23 |
| 13'9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 180 | 9'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ 0 |
| 32'7 0 | 64'6 75 |
| 4:59.9 584 | 5:37.0 395 |
| 13. Martin James - 400 | 14. Denis Briscoe - 249 |
| 12.8 262 | 13.4 175 |
| 17'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 18 | 18'1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 74 |
| 13'1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 120 | 10'3 $\frac{1}{2}$ 0 |
| No fair throw | 58'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ 0 |
| 7:20.4 0 | 8:02.1 0 |

The winners of individual events were as follows :

100 yards	- Adrian Metcalfe	10.0.
Shot putt	- Adrian Metcalfe	30'8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Long jump	- Mike Fleet	20'8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Javelin Throw	- Mike Fleet	120'7 $\frac{1}{2}$
One Mile	- Dai Davies	4:34.9

The highest score achieved in any event was 804 by Adrian Metcalfe for his 100 yards in 10.0.

The results of the individual races in the 100 yards were as follows :

1. Metcalfe 10.0	1. Morbey 11.2
2. Fleet 10.6	2. Sparks 11.3
3. Phillips 10.8	3. Greenberg 12.4

1. Harris 11.8	1. Thorne 11.9
2. Clarke 11.8	2. Warburton 12.0
3. Briscoe 13.4	3. Davies 12.2

1. Crouch 12.5
2. James 12.8

The two races in the mile resulted as follows ;

1. Davies 4:34.9	1. Metcalfe 5:15.8
2. Fleet 4:37.0	2. Crouch 5:37.0
3. Harris 4:41.2	3. Thorne 6:14.8
4. Phillips 4:52.1	4. Morbey 6:57.0
5. Warburton 4:59.9	5. James 7:20.4
6. Clarke 5:11.9	6. Briscoe 8:02.1
7. Sparks 6:49.8	

The question most of you must be asking is : What happened to Stan Greenberg in the mile ? Stan, it seems, had pulled muscles in both the 100 and the Long Jump and decided not to run.

NOW IT CAN BE REVEALED that : Greenberg was practising with a borrowed shot in the back garden until the neighbours threatened to tell the police. Morbey was seen speeding round the edge of Parliament Hill Fields early on most mornings. The first couple of times he went OVER the hill, but soon decided that was cheating. Chris Thorne had been up all the previous night delivering his baby son.

Crouch's long jump was wind assisted. Barbara Everitt did NOT putt the shot for Martin James. Fleet talked Metcalfe out of winning the long jump.

NUTS ANNUAL DINNER

The day was concluded with the annual dinner at the Hostaria Romana Restaurant in Dean Street. About 25 sat down to the meal - an increase on the last couple of years - and all sampled an excellent menu washed down with white or red wine (or in a few uncouth cases, both). Unfortunately, the technical committee meeting for the Czech match was taking place at the same time and Ron Fickering was unable to attend our function. However, Norman Harris and his girl friend came along, and we were privileged to have as our guest Jan Popper, the Czechoslovakian statistician and committee member of the A.T.F.S. There were no speeches, but all spent a happy 2 hours talking and listening.