

THE A.A.A. CLUB

News Letter No.1.

February, 1959.

PATRON

The Most Hon. The Marquess of Exeter has been graciously pleased to accept the office of Patron to our Club and has sent his best wishes for our future development.

CHAIRMAN

All members will join in congratulating our Chairman Sir Joseph Simpson on knighthood he received in the New Years Honours list. This recognition of his great public service culminating in his present position of Metropolitan Commissioner for Police, is particularly pleasing to those who know his continuing close interest in our sport. We remember him as a 440 yards hurdler and his guidance is much appreciated by your committee.

COMMITTEE

Elected at the General Meeting on September 27th 1958.

Squadron Leader C.N. Cobb, M.B.E., R.A.F., (Ret'd)
Commander F.W. Collins, R.N., (Ret'd)
R. St. G.T. Harper,
G.H. Husband,
Dr. J.B. Leather,
R.J. Murray, D.S.C.
A.G. Wignall,
S. Yarrow,

Honorary Secretary H. Whittle.
& Treasurer

CLUB MEETING

FRIDAY EVENING THE 20TH MARCH AT 7.30 P.M. has been fixed for the first Social evening. By kind permission of the directors we are to have the use of a room in BOWATER HOUSE, KNIGHTSBRIDGE.

John Salisbury, our international quarter miler, will present a short color film, taken by himself, of the 1956 Olympic Games. John provides the commentary and the film is of general interest covering the team's journey as well as some events at the Olympic Stadium.

John Le Masurier, our Southern National Coach, will also present a short film taken by himself, of the 1958 European Games in Stockholm. This film is again of general interest with a commentary by the 'producer'.

A Brains Trust session will round-off the evening and the following have kindly agreed to form the panel.

Arthur Gold - A.A.A. Hon. Senior Coach best known for his high jumping coaching.
John Le Masurier - Southern National Coach.
John Salisbury - International quarter miler.
Victor Sealy - Hon. Asst. Secretary A.A.A. Coaching Committee.

We are hopeful that a well-known ex-athlete will be able to assist us as Question Master.

Families and friends, especially those who may join the Club later, will be very welcome and light refreshments will be available. Admission will be free, no tickets required, and a collection will be taken during the evening to defray expenses.

Those who wish to attend will assist us by filling in the form provided on Page 3 and by sending it and any questions which they wish put to the Brains Trust, to the Secretary, before 13th March.

Sir Joseph Simpson K.B.E. will keep us in order during the evening.

1959 ATHLETIC CALENDAR

A full Diary of Events will be sent out to all members before the season commences but members might like to note the following fixtures.

<u>Full Internationals at White City</u>		
*	England v East Germany	1st July.
*	Great Britain v West Germany	1st & 3rd August.
*	British Games incorporating Great Britain v Poland	14th & 15th August.
<u>'B' Team Internationals</u>		
	Great Britain 'B' v Norway Kingston-on-Hill, Yorkshire.	27th June
	Great Britain 'B' v Netherlands St. Helens, Lancashire.	25th July
<hr/>		
*	<u>Other Important Events</u>	
	Whitsun British Games and C.A.U. Championships White City.	16th & 18th May
	Oxford & Cambridge v Harvard & Yale White City.	10th June
	International Decathlon and Pentathlon. Great Britain v Netherlands v Belgium } Hurlingham Park, London	21st & 22nd August

CLUB SEATING AND REFRESHMENT FACILITIES AT WHITE CITY 1959

Your attention is drawn to the enclosed Advance Order Form for the A.A.A. Championships at White City 10th & 11th July sent to you from the A.A.A. Office.

Last years experiment, when we suggested that J stand and an adjacent Refreshment Bar might serve as a focus for Club Members, was not wholly successful as the stand itself is not now popular.

We propose this year to take a detailed note of members stand requests for the A.A.A. Championships to guide us as to the stand and refreshment facilities which members will require for the other important meetings. For example it is possible that a Club enclosure could be set up in the forecourt of stand I, or a refreshment bar allocated adjacent to U stand, which is now opposite the start and finish lines. Members will help us greatly by sending in their Advance Order Forms as early as possible to the A.A.A. office.

Further advance order forms will be sent out before the season commences for ~~those events marked with an asterisk* on the above list.~~

Arrangements have been made with the A.A.A. so that members seats shall be located in blocks in advantageous positions in whichever stand they book. This may prove to form foci for club members but will not apply where members specify personal preference as to seat position within their stand.

INTERNATIONAL ATHLETES CLUB

Following the principle of keeping members informed on recent developments in athletics we asked Derek Johnson the secretary of the newly formed I.A.C. to give us a statement on the aims of the club.

Derek writes "On Saturday 7th February 1959 the First General Meeting of the I.A.C. was held, a constitution voted and a committee elected. This club has been formed fundamentally to provide a medium through which the views and ideas of international athletes of current vintage may make their contribution to the sport. To give weight and responsibility to such an aim we have provided for as many as three generations to be represented on the committee, whilst retaining a majority of active athletes on it. One of the effects of this will be to protect future generations against ourselves and we don't think this is a bad idea!"

About thirty international athletes attended and the following officers were elected.

P.B. Hildreth - Chairman
D.J.N. Johnson - Secretary
J.I. Disley - Treasurer
Committee I.M. Boyd: G.M. Elliott: J.E. Salisbury: B. Shenton:
H. Whittle: J.D. Wrighton.

NEW CHAMPIONS

Neil Allen has been kind enough to write for members the following appreciation of two new champions who will no doubt be to the fore in Rome next year.

"MORROW, Bobby Joe from San Benito, Texas is at the moment the world's outstanding sprinter, has strong claims to be considered greatest of all time. In 1956 Olympics won the 100 metres (10.6 against the wind), 200 metres (20.6), and anchored U.S. four by 100 metres relay team that set world record of 39.5. Morrow was born on October 15th 1935, is 6ft.1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. tall and weighs 11st.12lbs. Still a student at Abilene College, Texas though no longer eligible for inter-collegiate competition. Is co-holder of the world 100 yards record (9.3sec.) has other personal best times of 10.2sec. (100 metres), 20.4sec. (220 yards on straight course) and 20.6sec. (200 metres round turn). Has run 100 yards in 9.1sec. with a wind assistance of 7 m.p.h. In 1958 won American 100 yards (9.4) and 220 yards (20.9sec. round a turn) titles. Hopes to retain Olympic sprint titles at Rome in 1960. Great competitor and extremely hard worker in training. Start only moderate.

RADFORD, Peter Frank is already, at 19, widely regarded as the outstanding British sprinter of all time. In 1958 he equalled the best ever British performance of 10.3 sec. for 100 metres and beat that for 200 metres with 20.8, finished third in the European 100 metres final. Holds English record for 100 yards with 9.6sec. (three times) and 220 yards (21sec.) both these beating the long lived marks of the late Willie Applegarth. Radford was born on September 20, 1939, weighs 10st. 9lb. and is 5ft.11in. tall. He lives in Walsall and has been trained by A.A.A. hon. coach Bill Harlow since December 1956. At 16 Radford's best times were 10.0 and 23.0 but at 17 they had improved to 9.9 and 21.8. Like Morrow he is a fine competitor but has a poor start. Probably best ever performance was at Paris last September when he beat the French record holder Delecour in 100m. after being a metre behind at 45 metres.

FOOTNOTE: The women's world sprint records are:-

100 yards 10.3sec. (1 sec. slower than the men's).
220 yards (turn) 23.4 (2.8sec. slower).
100 metres 11.3sec. (1.2sec. slower)."

.....

Please fill in and send to the Secretary, H. Whittle,
39 Nalmes Crescent,
Hornchurch,
Essex.

A.A.A. CLUB

I wish to attend the Club Meeting on Friday 20th March, 7.30 p.m. at Bowater House, Knightsbridge.

My party will consist of _____ persons.

Date. _____ Name. _____
Address. _____

STATISTICS

At the suggestion of the Hon. Secretary of the A.A.A. we are compiling a complete record of all past and present G.B. international athletes including their current addresses. Harold Abrahams has gladly put at our disposal his incredibly complete statistical records and these will form a solid base from which we can work.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

The Secretary apologises abjectly for the confusion caused by his original note to present A.A.A. Honorary Members on A.A.A. Club Membership. He would like to make it quite clear that when the A.A.A. Club was formed all existing A.A.A. Honorary Members were automatically, and without paying an extra subscription, made members of the Club. He would like to thank those existing Honorary Members who nevertheless did send extra money as donations to help us on our way.

It should also be made clear that all A.A.A. Club Subscriptions and Donations are paid direct to the A.A.A. who have voted a grant of £52. 10. 0. for the first year's expenses of the Club. This grant will be reviewed annually. It appears likely that the first year's activities will bring the A.A.A. at least 200% return on capital.

The growth in our Club Membership is encouraging but the Committee feels that there are still many supporters of athletics who have not yet had the opportunity to join us. May we ask all members to do their utmost to bring in as many new supporters as possible.

A second News Letter will be distributed before the season starts and will include a report of the work of the Specialist Clubs, written by our Committee member R.J. Murray.

Many constructive suggestions were put forward at the first General Meeting and let it be noted the motives of the club are constructive. Over sixty international athletes have joined the club more than 90% of those eligible and it was decided that the club would elect the two athlete members of the A.A.A. advisory committee. This would enable the views of all international athletes to be represented fully.

H. WHITTLE
HON. SEC.