

# **ATHLETICS IN WEYMOUTH FROM THE 19<sup>th</sup> CENTURY**

**A BRIEF HISTORY OF  
WEYMOUTH ST. PAUL'S HARRIERS & A. C.**



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# A 100 YEARS OF HARRIERS

## INTRODUCTION

Athletics or "Pedestrianism", as it was then known was becoming a popular sport in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Harrier clubs were springing up in many of the towns and cities. Possibly, the sportsmen (there were no lady athletes then) were spurred on by the exploits of famous runners of the day, such as W. G. George, the world mile record holder in 1896, with a time of 4 min. 12.7 sec. Or perhaps it was the revival of the Olympic Games that same year, 1896. Whatever the reason, athletics has been with us for over a century. What of the Harrier clubs that were established in Victorian times? How many survived today? Who were the members of the clubs? What sort of performances did they do? Those and many other questions are posed when someone takes on the task of writing up the history of a club.

I arrived in Weymouth in 1977 and joined the only club, then in existence, in the town, Weymouth St. Paul's Harriers & AC. I had recently left my old club in Cambridge which had its interesting history written up, and it did not take me long to realise that WSPH history went back into the last Century. If I met a Weymouthian, invariably, the conversation would get round to athletics, and it was surprising how many of them said their parents, grandparents, or other relatives were once members of the Harriers. My former running companion, Brian Dunn, told me so much about the exploits of the Harriers of yesteryear - and Brian should know, as he was until recently, an active runner with over 50 years with the club!

All of this made me interested to find out more about the Club's history. However, such research takes time, something we all seem short of these days. I proposed to the Club's Committee that a history of the Club should be written, and with some research from an ex-member, Pete Hammond, and in 1989, a first draft was prepared by the then Hon. Sec., Val Palmer. The first draft was handed back to me to finish. I started, but ran out of time, and the history was put aside. After several more attempts, I have written what I hope is still interesting, although incomplete. Of course, the "centenary" has now passed,

Pete Hammond wrote a considerable number of letters to old members, and looked up many references in the library. The outcome was that loaned photographs and newspaper cuttings arrived. At least I had a base to start from and acknowledgements to as many people as I can remember will be made at the end, but if you are not mentioned please forgive me, your help was appreciated.

Weymouth Public Library was the first port of call for this research, and it became obvious that information about 19<sup>th</sup> century harriers in Weymouth was sparse. The Weymouth Red Book (1905), which was the official Borough Annual, listed the inauguration of Weymouth's clubs and societies, as well as the dates of important social and historical events in the town. Weymouth Harriers is listed as being formed in 1889, although there is an earlier date of 1869 - which I believe to be a misprint. The late Joe Townsend was a fount of knowledge on historical and sports events in the town and he passed on some interesting facts about the Club, including some about Weymouth's (then) only Olympic Gold medalist, Percy Hodge. The archives of local newspapers provided considerable information and I found out a lot more from looking at the inscriptions on the many cups and trophies belonging to the Club.

The big problem with compiling this history was knowing when to stop. It is far from complete, and hopefully someone else will update it, in the meanwhile, I hope you enjoy browsing through this history which I have had pleasure in putting it together. It mostly refers to the years 1889-1989, with little reference to the years following. Hopefully, mistakes and important omissions will be pointed out to me.

## EARLY DAYS

One of my Hash House Harrier friends pointed out an early reference to Harriers in Weymouth in a "History of Weymouth College to 1901" by C.G. Faulkner.

There is a single paragraph on page 76 referring to the year 1884:

"an account of one of the usual paper-chases, in which the "hares" ran down the Preston Road - up over the "plough" behind the coastguards' station - forded the Jordan river - on through Preston and Sutton Poyntz - up over Reservoir Hill - skirting Came Wood with its brambles - over plough and grassland to Winterbourne Monkton - entered a covered waterway - on over more grassland - up over the Ridgeway a mile to the west of the tunnel - down through Upwey, and back home along the turnpike road".

A distance of about 14 miles!

The official "Weymouth Red Book, 1905", a gazette of local history and events, lists Weymouth Harriers to have been formed in 1889. No historical details between 1889 and 1905 are given, although, there is the dubious 1869 date, which I think is a mistake. In 1905, the Club Captain was Mr. G. Condliffe; Hon. Sec., Mr L.C.Damon, 49, St. Thomas Street, Weymouth. Club runs were on Wednesday evenings. There were no fixed headquarters. In conjunction with the Bicycle Club, a race meeting was held every August.

It's not much to go on, but at least this positive entry gave me a starting point. Furthermore, the connection with the Bicycle Club was interesting, because there was obviously a sporting link. Bicycles were expensive, although popular in Edwardian days, yet there must have been many fit young men who could not afford them, and foot running was the obvious alternative. Weymouth Bicycle Club was formed in 1875, and amongst its many officers was Mr. H.A.Hurdle, a well-known local butcher as well as a musician, being the organist in St Mary's church for many years. The H.A.Hurdle cup was presented to Westham St Paul's Harriers in 1904, to be awarded to the winner of the Club's annual 10 mile race. The cup is still in existence, but has been renamed the T.G.Copp cup, but more of that later!

I was contacted by John Powell, a sports historian (who used to be a member of St Pauls' Harriers in the early 1980', competing in race walking events). He informed me that the date 1889 was most likely correct for Weymouth Harriers. He stated that Westham St Paul's Harriers was formed in 1906, which I think is incorrect, because we have an engraved cup for 1904, as mentioned above. Weymouth YMCA Harriers were formed in 1906 (Dorchester YMCA Harriers, 1903!).

It is on record that Dorset Police Sports were held from 1896 and they became open events in 1907. In the years 1904 and 1905, Poole Shop Assistants held sports in Poole Park (around the cycle track) and both Weymouth Harriers and Dorchester YMCA Harriers competed.

In 1912, there was a road race challenge for the Hambro Cup. The four clubs competing were Dorchester YMCA Harriers, Weymouth YMCA Harriers, Westham St.

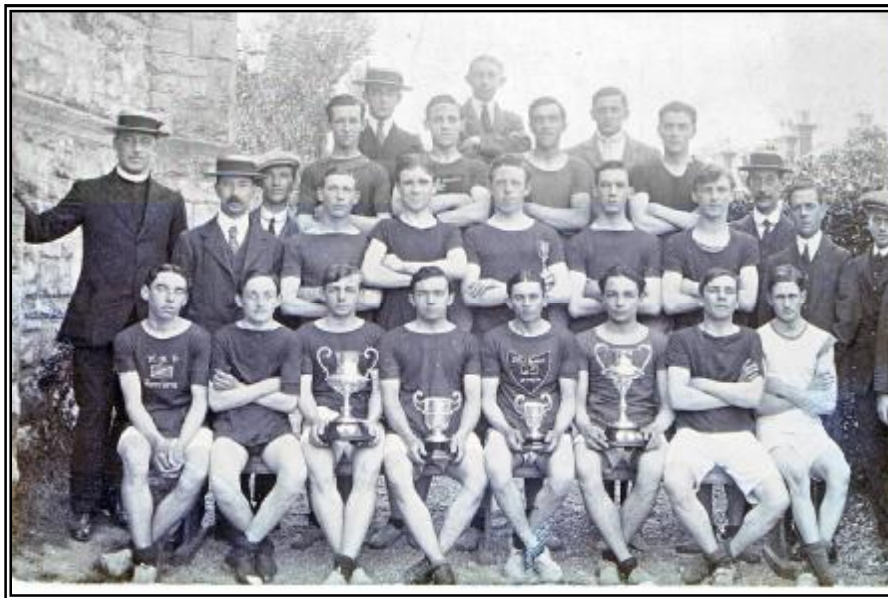
Paul's Harriers and Weymouth Town Harriers! In 1914, the Hambro Challenge cup race took part again, but without Weymouth Town Harriers.

St. Paul's Harriers was part of the St. Paul's church boys' club in Abbotsbury Road, Weymouth. St. Paul's church was built around 1900. Activities of the boys' sports club included football, gymnastics, boxing and athletics. According to John Powell's research, Westham St. Paul's Harriers became known as Weymouth St. Paul's Harriers in 1929. Presumably, Weymouth Harriers ceased sometime before then. This information seemed to be backed up because in the South Dorset Labour Sports, T. Costello competed in the 440 yds. (56, 2/5secs.) in 1920 and F.J. Miller ran the same event in 1921. Both athletes ran for Westham St Paul's Harriers.

Canon Martin Fisher was the inspiration behind the church boy' club and he featured in the early photographs of both Westham and Weymouth St. Paul's Harriers for a number of years. He was an Oxford Blue which was awarded for rowing. He joined the church in 1906. According to a church leaflet listing events over its century, St. Paul's Harriers was formed in 1906. However, the Hurdle Cup has its presentation date to the Harriers as 1904.

## 1907

"Hambro" Challenge Cup race between Weymouth YMCA, Westham St. Paul's Harriers and Dorchester YMCA Harriers. The start of the race was at the King's Statue. (Photograph unavailable at present).



**Figure 1: 1909 - St. Pauls Harriers**

Rev. Martin Fisher standing left.

Note the Hurdle cup held by the harrier 3<sup>rd</sup> front left.

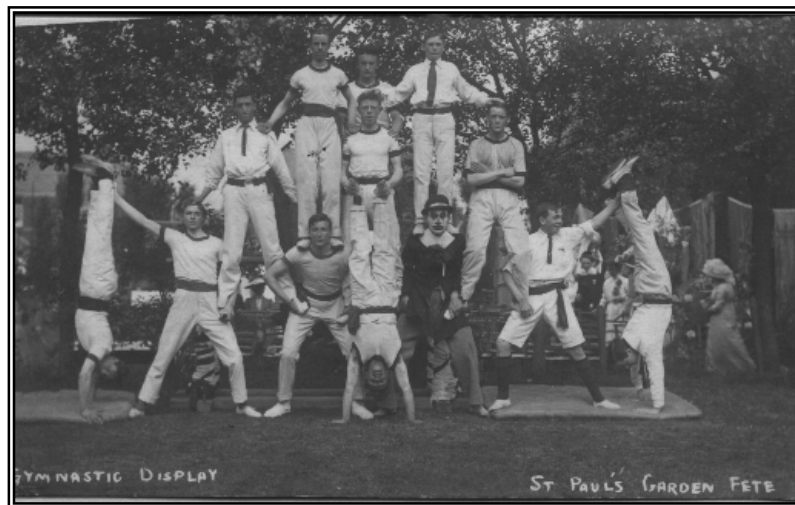
In the 1909 picture of St Paul's Harriers, note that the athletes did not have the familiar present day white vest with its green horizontal band in those early days. It was a dark, black short-sleeved vest with a triangular badge incorporating a five-barred gate with "W St P Harriers" embroidered on the front. This early photograph



shows the Club with its founder and obvious link with St Paul's Church, Canon Martin Fisher on the left, and several well known runners of the day. Notably, is George Thomas Bugler, 3<sup>rd</sup> from the left in the front row? It is worth examining the details of this excellent photograph. The four cups include the Hurdle Challenge 10 mile Cup, on the left. No doubt the winners, whose names are engraved on the shields on the bases of the cups, are in the picture. All the runners and attendants are neatly attired fit and alert looking. Canon Martin Fisher was the 1<sup>st</sup> WSPH club President.

One WSP Harrier who might have been in that photograph was Tom Hutchins. Tom wrote a letter to Pete Hammond in 1989 when he was 96 years old, and living in Milton Keynes.

Tom Hutchins wrote again, this time to me in June, 1991, informing me that he was not in any of the pre-1912 photographs I sent him for his school lectures, because he was already in the army by then!

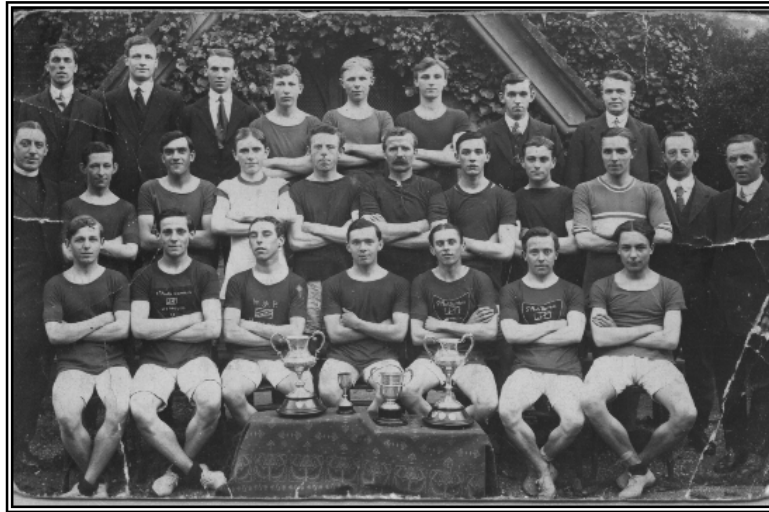


**Figure 2: Circa 1910 - St. Paul's Church Boys Club.**

A Gymnastic display by members.

Tom was a former member of St. Paul's Harriers and competed regularly. He was born and lived in Emmerdale Road, and remembered the course that the Harriers used to run. He said that the races used to start at St Paul's Church, Westham, and out to Chickerell and back. He also mentioned his runs in the "marathon" (really a 10 miles race) to Portland and back for a silver Cup. The "Hurdle" Cup-no less! However, Tom said he did not ever win the Cup, because he said he was not a very good runner. Tom's letter contains reminiscences of his youth in Weymouth, including being a goalkeeper for Westham Football Club. His brother was also a Harrier.

George Bugler, a former club captain, is seen clearer in the photograph dated 1914 (below). (The great, grand-father of Mark Puckett, a Harrier in the 1980's). This picture was taken to celebrate the winning of the Hambro Cup.



**Figure 3: 1914 - St. Paul's Harriers**

Back row: F.Payne, L.Uncles, H.Young, R.Hall, C.  
Bartlett, T.Keech, R.Bagell, T.Bagell

Middle row: Rev. M. Fisher, F. Palmer, B.  
Woodwood, T.Welland, S. Bridgeman, W. Barret,  
N.Reed, H.Shaw, E. Lovell, W.Symonds (Handicap  
Sec.), T.Prinhead (Hon. Sec & Treasurer)

Front row: W.Anderson, R.Brown, RT Wellman, G.  
Bugler (Capt.), C.Nes (Sub Capt.) W.  
Brantingham, R. Lovell.

As stated above, **St. Paul's Harriers** was formed around the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but whether it was a separate club from the earlier formed **Weymouth Harriers** is confusing. Newspaper reports of the day often only refer to "Harriers".

I have a little history about **Weymouth YMCA Harriers**. A reproduced photocopy of that Club's fixture card for 1911, which makes some interesting reading.

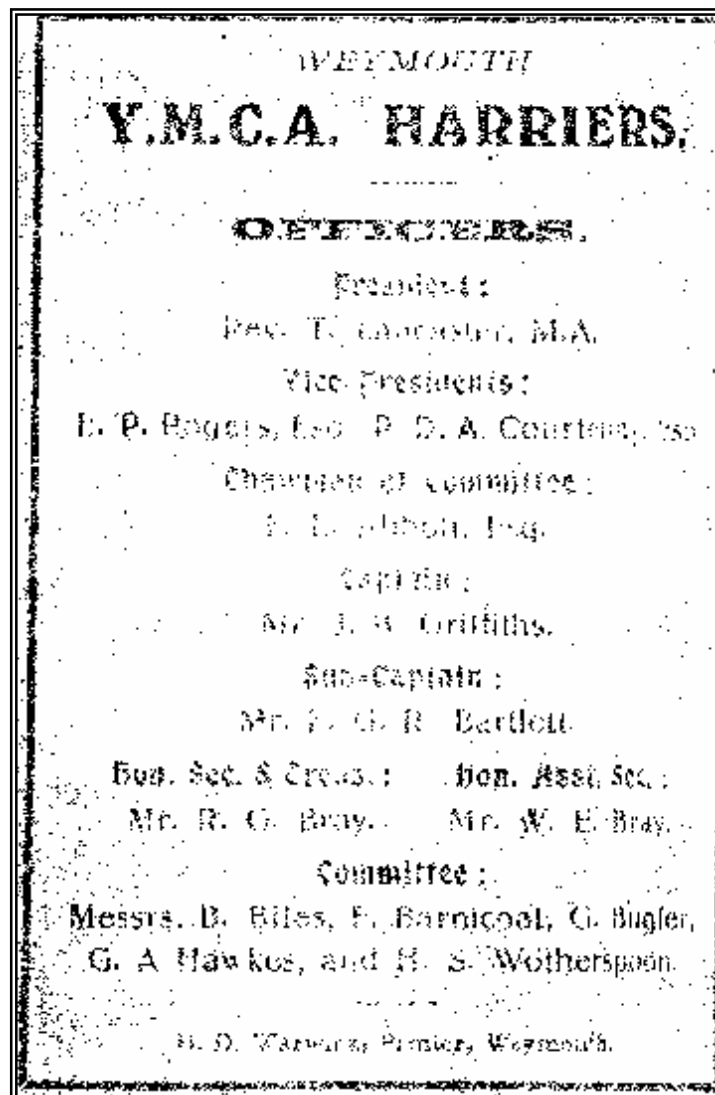


Figure 4: 1911 – YMCA Harriers.

The photocopy is poor, so I will set out some of the details. Whether both clubs amalgamated is not clear, but I know that some runners were members of both clubs. Weymouth YMCA Harriers competed regularly against Dorchester YMCA Harriers for the Hambro Cup. Figure 4 shows the Committee members of the time.



**Figure 5: 1911 - Weymouth YMCA Harriers**

Sub-captain E.G.R. Bartlett is sitting 2nd right second row. Reverend T. Lancaster, President is middle left.

There were 14 General Rules, including the Club Colours — Royal Blue and Black.  
Subs.: 1 Shilling (5p).

HQ: Frederick Place - with practice, cross-country races and on the roads from 1st. October -until 30th. April.

Also, that on club runs, a "Pacemaker" appointed by the Captain, and no-one was allowed to pass the pacemaker without the consent of the Captain. Etc.

The fixture list informs us that the runs started at 8.30 pm prompt each Wednesday, and some Saturdays. The distances were from 1.5 miles to the then classic 10 miles. Examples of the courses included:

- 1) St Thomas St., St. Edmond St., Mitchell St., seafront and around Westerall - 1.5 miles.
  - 2) The Village Blacksmith, Broadwey, and return - 4 miles.
  - 3) Chalbury Lodge, and return -5 miles.
- and so on.....

Another interesting fact, the fixture card was printed by H.D. Warwick, Weymouth. Over the years the Harriers have used that firm a few times for their fixture cards!

In 1912, a very fine runner took up residence in Weymouth. His name was Percy Hodge. Hodge was born in Guernsey. According to the Guernsey Evening Post, July 10, 1912, Bournemouth AC held their annual sports, which included the one mile



flat race championships. This race incorporated the new AAAs districts, Hampshire, Wiltshire, Dorset, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands. The race was won by J.F.Wadmore (Ravensbourne, London) and Percy Hodge was second, with R.Edwards (Reading AC) 3<sup>rd</sup>. The winner's time was 4 min. 39.2 secs. Percy ran in Weymouth YMCA Harriers' colours in that race. The newspaper article states that Percy was already the Dorset half-mile and one mile champion, but in this Bournemouth race he did not do himself justice.

Well justice did eventually come to Percy, he went on to compete in the 1920 Olympic Games, and won a Gold Medal in the 3000 metres steeplechase. He won the race by 100 yards from Pat Hyne (USA), with Ernesto Ambrosini (Italy) 3<sup>rd</sup>. Percy Hodge competed regularly in Weymouth Police Sports, which were held at the town's football ground, Marsh Road. He also competed in the Dorset Constabulary Sports, held at Dorchester. He won the AAAs' Steeplechase in 1919, 1920, 1921 and 1923 as well as being the winner of numerous cross-country races up and down the country. The only other UK winner of the Olympic steeplechase was Chris Brasher.

Percy Hodge is buried in his native Guernsey.



**Figure 6: 1920 - Percy Hodge winning Gold in the 3,000m Steeplechase.**

## The ups and downs of "Weymouth Harriers"

1924 An interesting article appeared in the "Southern Times" (5<sup>th</sup> April, 1924) about a meeting on the demise of the Weymouth Harriers Club. Apparently the Hon Sec. of the newly formed Dorset Amateur Athletic Association, Mr. R C Cox, had called a special meeting at the Guildhall to try and arouse interest in re-establishing the Harriers in the town, because interest had been "dead". There was some discussion about whether the Club should affiliate to the County organization, but it was pointed out that there were no Harriers present at the meeting, although they had been invited. Therefore, it was proposed to call another meeting to reform the Harriers Club.

This is interesting, because Frank Miller, a well known Weymouth athlete left Westham St. Paul's Harriers in 1924 and joined Poole Harriers. Then in 1927, he rejoined Westham St. Paul's Harriers! It could have been because his work as a policeman took him away from Weymouth.

Figures 7 and 8 below show that the Harriers were not defunct.



**Figure 7: Circa 1927 – Harriers**

Front row: Christie, T.G Copp, unknown, F. Miller

Second row: unknown Mr Symonds, Rev. M.  
Fisher, unknown, unknown, unknown

Third row: not identified, except for F. Damon,  
3rd from right.

Back row: all unidentified.

The Club team photograph, above, shows members in the club colours of today. Canon Martin Fisher, and other officials seen in earlier photos are proudly standing or sitting with the athletes.



**Figure 8: About 1929 – Harriers**

Back Row: Unknown, Darch, F. Damen, unknown

Front Row: Unknown, Unknown, F. Miller (holding the Loyalty Cup), T.G. Copp (holding the other cup), unknown

Important and popular sports events were held in the town in the late 1920'. These events were usually promoted by the local Constabulary. It is worth noting that at one of those meetings, Supt. F. Miller, Insp.E. Lovell , as well as Mr. HH Wheldon, Secretary of Weymouth F C. were present.

Frank Miller won the Hambro Challenge Cup race in 1929, still running for Westham St. Paul's Harriers. This was the year that Westham St. Paul's Harriers became Weymouth St. Paul's Harriers.



**Figure.9: 1929 - Start of the Southampton - Bournemouth Road Relay.**

Bill Fellows is arrowed. 1929

The sports meetings in Weymouth were held in those days at the old Weymouth Town FC ground. There must have been rapid response from the Harriers because there are many newspaper reports of team and individual athletic achievements in the 1920's.

Bill Fellowes was a Club member in the 1920's and sent some interesting newspaper cuttings and photographs to prove that the Harriers were not "dead".



**Figure 10: 1926 - Two WSPH past Presidents**

Front with Ball: Fred Babb

Back Right: Colonel C.F. Linnett



**Figure 11: 1920's - Unknown St. Paul Harrier**

Photo sent in by daughter from Canada

The name T.G.Copp crops up many times in athletic reports during the 1930's. Mr Copp was a staunch member, and competitive runner for the Harriers, and just before he died in 1988, he wrote a very interesting letter to us especially for this history. T.G.Copp started his athletics career with Dorchester YMCA Harriers, and was their club captain for many years, winning their Ashley Cup in 1926. Dorchester YMCA Harriers closed down in 1927 for a few years, and it was during this break that T.G.Copp switched his allegiance to St Paul's Harriers, where he was a long-time proud member. However, he was something of a controversial person because on the reformation of Dorchester YMCA Harriers, he rejoined that club. He was again elected Club Captain, but as he would not resign from Weymouth St Paul's Harriers, where he was now a first claim member, the Dorset AAAs' suspended him for 6 months. In the end Copp opted to compete for St Paul's Harriers.

T.G.Copp was a leading runner for the Harriers in both road and cross-country races. He won the Hurdle Challenge Cup in 1929, 1930, and 1932. This hat trick of wins, which in the Club rules of those days, allowed him to retain the Cup as his own property. T.G.Copp helped the Harriers win the Hambro Cup, which was one of the most sought after trophies in South Dorset, in 1929, 1931 and 1933. He was first on two occasions and second three times. He won the Weatheral Cup two years running, almost competing the hat-trick again, but was beaten by 10 yards by team mate Handal. (Handal, I believe came from Dorchester). It appears that Copp's role in team running was to do the pace-making, which he did in this latter race, leading all the way until he reached the sea-front, when Handal swept by him right at the end before the Pavilion.

T.G.Copp informed me that Weymouth St Paul's Harriers was very strong in the 1930's, with Darch, Tucker and Miller all being track champions. The Club was active in road-running and cross-country in the winter. The cross-country races were held over Lodmoor, and many of the road races were held on Portland (there was no separate club there then!). Track races were held against Bournemouth AC, Poole Wheelers and the Royal Navy AC. The track was on Weymouth Football



ground. The Club President was still Canon Martin Fisher, who himself had been a former Oxford Rowing Blue. Club Secretary was Mr. Dunford who joined the church as a clergyman. The Treasurer was Mr. Brookes, and the Handicapper was Mr. Symonds, possibly a relative of current member Dave Symonds? T.G.Copp represented Weymouth St Paul's Harriers on the Dorset AAA's Committee, and organised three Dorset County Track and Field Championships at Dorchester, as well as track races at Dorchester Football Club ground. County races in those days had entries around 350 (Bournemouth AC were not then in the County). Copp was also a qualified track judge and officiated at many meetings in the area. For example, he helped organise the Dorset Agricultural Sports, and the TUC World Sports and Games at Dorchester Recreation Ground. In 1937, he was asked to form Dorchester AC, which included the Girls' Green School, Hardy's School and other local youngsters. Therefore, through Weymouth St Paul's Harriers, there were links with Dorchester YMCA, and Dorchester AC.

T.G.Copp lists a number of his St Paul's team mates: Fred Damen, Hibbs, Handal, Frank Miller, William Miller, R. Russell, K. Spring, Parry-Gill, Christie, Len Downton, Butcher, Latham, Mr E.Butcher (committee member) Charlie Kay (a keen athlete who attended several Olympic Games for his holidays).

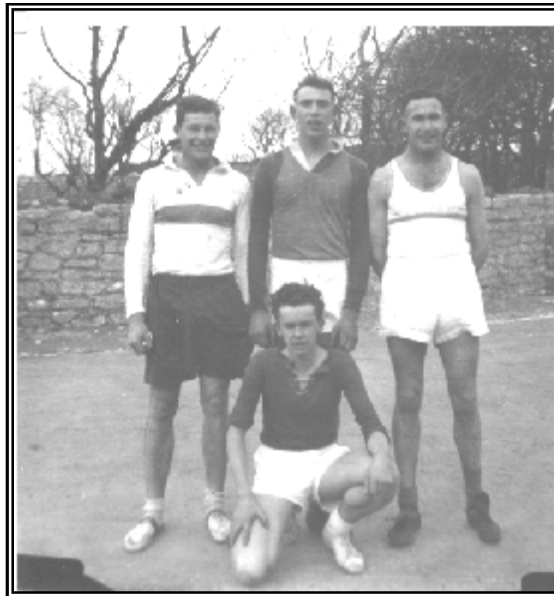
Fred Damen was the Club Secretary during the late 1930's, until the outbreak of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. I managed to borrow the Minute Book, which Mr. Damen kept for the Harriers some years ago, and I remember reading about the Harriers winter road-racing programme. Weekly races were held from St Paul's Church Hall, with courses similar to those described earlier for Weymouth YMCA Harriers back in 1911! The cross-country course was on Lodmoor. Races were often run as Handicaps. A name that cropped up in those prewar races was a young Ross Keel, who became one of the Harriers top runners after the war.

This Minute Book finished in 1939, when the Club temporary disbanded as all the active young men were otherwise engaged. However, athletics continued in some form or other during those war years. In August 1942, the Vickers Armstrong Sports Ground (later AE Piston) at Ferrybridge was the venue for an athletics meeting. Various track and field events were held, including a tug of war and a veterans' handicap 80 yd race. The oldest competitor was said to be 89 years old! Also with much military activity in the Weymouth area, many inter-service sports were held. I have no information on these events.

We do know that Ross Keel kept himself fit during the war, because we have it on record that he finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in an inter-service 1mile race in 1943. Of interest, the winner of that race was none other than Sidney Wooderson, British 1 mile record holder and cross-country champion. After the war, Ross took up long distance running with great distinction, representing the Harriers in the inaugural Isle of Wight marathon. Actually, Ross ran in several Isle of Wight marathons, often finishing under 3 hours, which is some achievement in itself, as the course is one of the toughest in the country. Ross took part in the Brockenhurst to Bournemouth races 4 times, but was best known for his meritorious runs in the Swanage 12 miles road race. Ross finished 2<sup>nd</sup> on one occasion and 3<sup>rd</sup> three times. He represented Dorset County many times at cross-country events, also winning a bronze medal in the Dorset County 1 mile championship.

Ross Keel and Martin Cartwright jointly held the record for the Chesil Beach Run, which was run from West Bay to Portland, for many years. I believe the official record for this run is held by Bob Pape. Pape was a Navy runner, active in the area in the 1960's.

As Ross became older, he achieved the ultimate in long-distance running by competing in a Land's End to John O'Groats 1000 miles race. Ross completed the distance in 17 days, which unfortunately put him just out of the prizes. However, he did well to start, let alone finish, because he had difficulty in finding a sponsor, and for much of the race he was badly injured. Ross sadly died aged just 63 years old in 1983. His wife, Beryl, donated the "Ross Keel Memorial Centenary Cup" which is awarded annually to the year's outstanding Harrier. (That Cup and this History mark the Centenary of Weymouth St Paul's Harriers.).



**Figure 12: 1955 –**

**Back Row: Brian Dunn, Richard Harris, Ross Keel**

**Front: Brian Ayles**

In 1948 the Harriers were officially reformed after the Second World War, although in practice it had never ceased to function, but because of the dispersal of athletes, there was a need to sort out a committee and programme. It was during the next decade that the Harriers started to rebuild a strong club. Ross Keel took on the job of Club Captain, and in the team was a youthful, Brian Dunn, his younger brother, Charles and Ben Grubb.

Between 1950 and 1960 the Harriers were a strong force in the South-west. The Harriers competed in inter-club cross-country and road races with Stadium AC (Portland Borstal Institute), the Junior Leaders Regiment at Bovington, Poole AC, Bournemouth AC, St Luke's College, Exeter, Osprey AC, various Royal Navy ships in dock at Portland, local army teams as well as the larger multi-club races such as Salisbury Round the Houses, Taunton 10, the Hampshire and Wessex, cross-country leagues. They also competed in the Dorset county Championships, which were held in conjunction with Wiltshire. Then, because of the small number of clubs in Dorset, many Harriers represented the county in the Inter-counties' championships.

Of interest, the Western Counties Cross-country Championships were held at Redlands in 1953.

The Harriers competed in track & field competitions against teams from Yeovil, Stadium A.C., Poole A.C., HMS Osprey and entered individuals in the Dorset County Championships.

The most notable and prolific runner of that period was Brian Dunn. If he was not competing for the Harriers in one of the above races, he was putting in medal winning runs for the Territorial Army cross-country team! He even had time to take a summer break from running according to reports in the local paper.

Ben Grubb joined the club whilst in the army at Bovington. Ben was an outstanding runner of that period, and went on to represent the UK on the track in the steeplechase.



**Figure 13: 1950 – Youths**

Brian Dunn etc.

Listed are some examples of Harriers performances in the 1950-'60's.

1958: Harriers v BAC v RAPC 1 Griffiths, Gilbert, R Harris, R Keel, B Ayles, Wareham, Perryman, Mickell, Brown.

Johnstone-Browne 2½ m Handicap: 1 G Frampton, 2 B Dunn (scratch), 3 D Smith, 4 D Read. Timekeeper: Gilbert & AJ Browne, Handicapper: FJ Miller.

1959: Johnstone-Browne Handicap Cup 2½ miles B Dunn off scratch beat the record set by both K Tucker 1933 and J Shepstone 1935. Handicap placings were: BJ Rutherford, R Caswell, G Brookfield, R Harris, M Andrews, P Talbot, B Ayles, C Dunn, R Keel, H Dowell, M Hallett, A J Browne.

Taunton 10: 1 B Grubb (51.35), 4 B Dunn (53.52).

Club Championships: 1 B Dunn, 2 C Dunn, 3 B Ayles, 4 R Harris, 5= H Dowell & R Keel. Juniors: R Caswell, B Rutherford, P Talbot.



**Figure 14: 1957 - Portland**  
Brian Dunn winning 1 mile race



**Figure.15: 1956 - Dorset County C.C., Hardy's  
School, Dorchester**

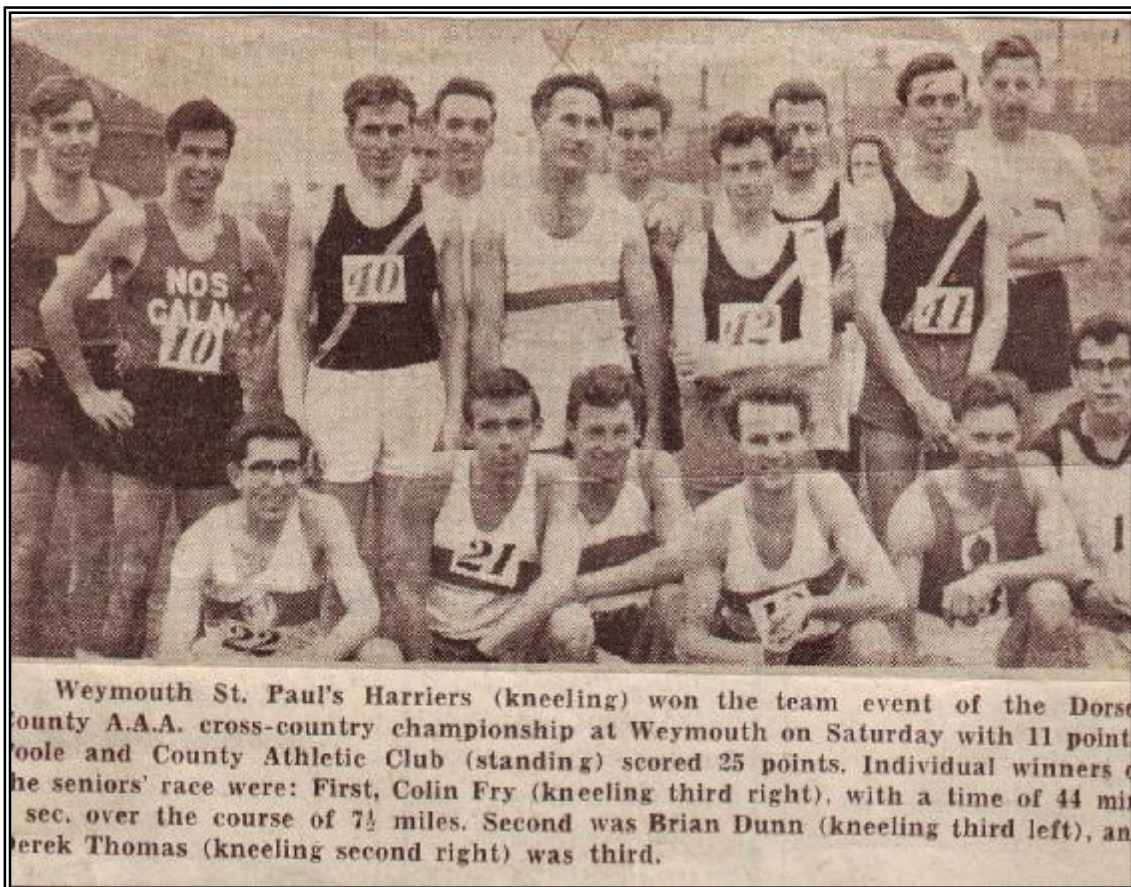
Richard Harris, Charlie Dunn, Brian Ayles, Harry  
Dowell, John Watling





**Figure 16: 1958 - Dorset County C.C. Wyke Camp**

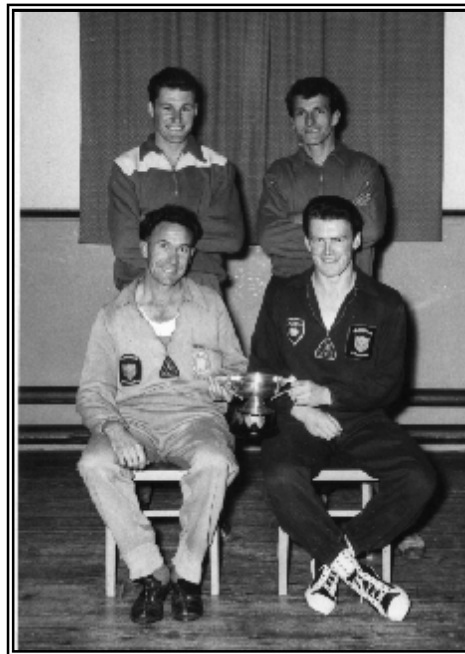
Harry Dowell, Brian Dunn, Richard Harris, Martin Cartwright, Ross Keel, Unknown, Brian Ayles, Ben Grubb, Charlie Dunn.



**Figure 17: WSPH Dorset County C.C. Champions**



The Harriers competed in track & field meetings against teams from Bournemouth, Poole and Yeovil in the 1950s'. For example some results from a match with Poole Harriers in 1959: B. Ayles 1<sup>st</sup> 440yds., B. Dunn 1<sup>st</sup> 1 mile, G. Frampton 2<sup>nd</sup> 2 miles, R. Guest 1<sup>st</sup> shot (45 feet), 1<sup>st</sup> discus (114 f 8"), Ladies M. Clarke 2<sup>nd</sup> 100 yds., A. Spurrell 1<sup>st</sup> 220yds., G. Dean 1<sup>st</sup> discus (76f 3")



**Figure 18: 1959 - Taunton 10 Team Winners**

Back: Brian Dunn, Ben Grubb.

Front: Ross Keel, Dave Smythe

**Richard Harris** was a very keen member of St Paul's Harriers. He lived in Lyme Regis, so always had travel to race with his team mates. He joined the Harriers in 1952 and ran a 4m.32sec. mile, aged 16. He had Dorset county golds as a youth and junior from distance of 440 yds to 1 mile. In 1956, 2<sup>nd</sup> senior 1 mile, 1957, 1<sup>st</sup> senior 1 mile, 1958, 1<sup>st</sup> Dorset Police Sports ½ mile. He also competed regularly in cross-country and road races as well as representing Dorset at athletics and rugby. In 1959, the year he died, aged 22 years, he was placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Dorset 1 x mile.

The Richard Harris Cup is presented to the 1<sup>st</sup> individual in the Harriers' annual 10 mile road race.(see below).

**1960 Club Officers:** President O.F. Linnett, Chairman F.J. Miller, Sec. A.J.Brown, Treasurer M. Cartwright, Fixtures sec. B. Ayles, Captain C. Fry, Committee P.Gill, J. Gilbert, C.Kay, D.Cole, B.Dunn

## Cups and Trophies

The Harriers have over the years owned a number of magnificent trophies. Some have already been mentioned, and date back to the beginning of the century. Unfortunately, many have gone missing. Nevertheless, it is worth recalling them, because they are part of the history of the Harriers.

The **Hurdle Challenge Cup** was presented to the 1st St Paul's Harrier home in the annual 10 mile road race. It is now renamed as the **TG Copp Cup**, having been re-presented to the Harriers by Brian Copp, following the death of his father who won it outright. This trophy is currently presented to the Harrier who is judged to have given the best performance over the year.

The **Weatherall Cup** also mentioned earlier, seems to have disappeared, and I have no further information about it.

The **Johnstone-Brown Cup**, was presented to the Club in 1932, to replace the **TG Copp Cup** for the Club's road running champion, for races of 6 miles distance. One name engraved is GR Latham, for the years: 1934 (30.10); 1935 (29.36); 1936, (30.27); 1937 (30.49); 1938 (29.30). The time of 29-30 is excellent, even by today's standards. Brian Dunn has won this cup at least 7 times according to news cutting reports. Also Ben Grubb won it on several occasions. The **Johnstone-Browne Cup** is now presented to the Club's 10 mile road race champion.

The **Loyalty Test Cup** was presented to the Harrier who was considered by the Committee to have put most effort into club activities during the year. This cup was presented in 1929. Winners included : W Christie (1930), K Tucker (1931), F Damen (1932) , K Tucker (1933) , G Latham (1934) , RJG Shepstone & A Legg (1935) , G Latham (1936) , F Hyde (1937) , G Latham (1938) , M Babb (1952). B Dunn (1958).

### Martin Fisher Cup

The **Hambro Cup** was presented by Col. Angus Hambro, well known in the county as a Conservative MP from 1886, and as a Unionist MP, 1910-1918. This cup was presented for inter-club competition between South Dorset clubs.

The **Richard Harris Cup** is presented to the individual winner of the Weymouth 10 miles road race-championship:

1962	JR Edwards, Bristol AC	1977	B Heath, Royal Marines
1963	JR Edwards, Bristol AC	1978	P Russell, WSPH
1964	DS Crooke, Torbay AC	1979	P Russell, Bournemouth AC
1965	DS Crooke, Torbay AC	1980	S Walker, Basildon AC
1966	JR Edwards, Bristol AC	1981	J Boyes, Bournemouth AC
1967	BJ Watson, Bournemouth AC	1982	J Boyes, Bournemouth AC
1968	IS MacIntosh, Ranelagh AC	1983	J Boyes, Bournemouth AC
1969	D Francis, Westbury Harriers	1984	P Critchlow, WSPH
1970	D Francis, Westbury Harriers	1985	P Russell, Bournemouth AC
1971	B Lewis, Southampton AC	1986	P Russell, Bournemouth AC
1972	D Collins, Plymouth AC	1987	R Hesledon, Royal Navy AC
1973	B Plain, Westbury Harriers	1988	M Thomas, Poole Runners
1974	H Chadwick, Bournemouth AC	1989	S Hendrie, Egdon Heath Harriers
1975	D Francis, Westbury Harriers	1990	J Boyes, Bournemouth AC
1976	C Carthy, HMS Osprey, Portland	1991	P Clark, Poole AC

The **Babb Cup** presented to the club by John Babb in 1959 to the senior men's club track & field champion. Winners were: B Ayles, 1957; 1958; M Cartwright, 1959. No further names were engraved until recent years. John Babb was a former headmaster of Weymouth Grammar School I believe.

The **Parry-Gill Cup** was presented to the club by Mrs. Parry-Gill in memory of her son who died about 1960 This cup is presented annually to the winning team in the Weymouth 10 miles road race championship.

**Johnstone-Browne Handicap Cup.** Presented for handicap road races over a 2½ mile course. (Now missing).

**Scarisbrooke Cup.**

**Radford Shield:** Young athletes' team trophy.

**Ron Jones Cup:** Boys Team trophy. Ron Jones was a former club President

**D Bucke Cup:** Colts cross-country. Dave Bucke was a former club President.

**HG Whittaker Trophy:** Ladies team trophy.

**Dorset Regiment Cup:**

**Darch Challenge Trophy:** For annual competition for young walkers.

**TG Copp Cup:** This is a separate cup to the one mentioned above, and was presented annually for the junior cross-country champion. The last record was in 1978 (M Dyble).

**Ladies Championship Shield:** Presented in 1979, by M Nolan, a former club treasurer, for the best performance by a club member in the Southern League.



**Figure 19:1958 - Weymouth Carnival Road Race**

Brian Dunn, Ben Grubb, Carnival Official and  
Ross Keel



**Figure 20: 1963/64 - SWCCC Tophies**

Robert Skinner, Brian Dunn, Roy Honebon, Mary Scadden, Pete Clarke and Alan Browne



**Figure 21: Taunton SWCC**

Brian Dunn and Dave Smythe



**Figure 22: Taunton SWCC**

Colin Fry, Len Horlock, Brian Dunn, Harry Dowell,  
Jeremy Sampson

#### **Some notes about the Weymouth "10"**

As mentioned earlier, a 10 mile race has been run, annually at intervals throughout the Club's history. The first recorded time in **1904** was 62m.23s. Over the years, the course for this race has changed many times. The early races were over "out-and-back" routes, which are not popular today.

The first of the present series of Weymouth "10s", 1962, started and finished in the town centre. Pete Clarke mentioned the Weymouth "10" in a small feature in the Road Runners' Magazine (1991). I have added these few extra notes, readers might find interesting:

In the first race, won by England cross-country international, John Edwards, there were further internationals taking part, including Frank Salvat, 4<sup>th</sup> and Ken Smith, Ireland. Then there was Bob Pape, sometime President of the Road Runners Club and Martin Cartwright, who was Club Secretary for a while, and later President of the Southern Counties AAAs. The first race was organised by another Club Secretary and former athlete Alan Brown. Alan is now a County official in Scouting.

It is interesting to list the Club runners competing in that race:

Brian Dunn, 9<sup>th</sup> (56.02); Ernie Newport, 20<sup>th</sup> (59.26); J Sampson, 33<sup>rd</sup>; Len Horlock, 43<sup>rd</sup> (Len competed for the Club for over 20 years); Harry Dowell, 48<sup>th</sup>.

In **1963**, Lt. Col CF Linnett the Club President, presented the Parry-Gill cup for the second time to Bristol AC. In the Harriers colours that year was Colin Fry, who older runners will have recognised as Chief Inspector Fry who used to be on BBC's "Crime Watch". Brian Dunn was 3<sup>rd</sup> that year (53.46).

The Club was not to win the team race until **1971**: Geoff Hebburn (awarded an MBE in 1999), Brian Dunn, Pete Clarke and Dave Tizzard were the scorers. Interestingly, that year, inaugural Young athletes' races were held: Tim Caswell and Roy Honeybon, (colts); Peter Russell, Andy Jennings and Richie Taylor (youths).



Brian Dunn won the 0/40 veteran prize in 1975 (54.30). This time is good, and matches or betters times set by the Harriers' current veterans! Tony Coleman has been runner-up in this race on three occasions. Brian Dunn competed in this race until 1995.

## The 1970's

These were halcyon years for the Harriers, with excellent team performances and individual placings for road running, cross-country and track. Also, the race-walking section was formed by the late Harry Callow. Harry Callow, had then recently moved to the area after setting up Trowbridge Harriers. Harry was a strong supporter of the Harriers through thick and thin. His interests in race-walking are legendary, both as a coach and as a race-walking referee, but he started out as an athlete on the track and cross-country with many successes. Most people knew Harry as the, long serving, Club President, but he knew a lot about all aspects of athletics, especially the politics of the sport. He served on county, area and national committees, and was very forthright to state a point, especially in defense of race-walking and St Paul's Harriers. Harry Callow did so much for the Harriers behind the scenes and he should go down in the annals of athletics history as a great club- man, who had a fervent support of race-walking. Harry died in 1989, when over 90 years old!

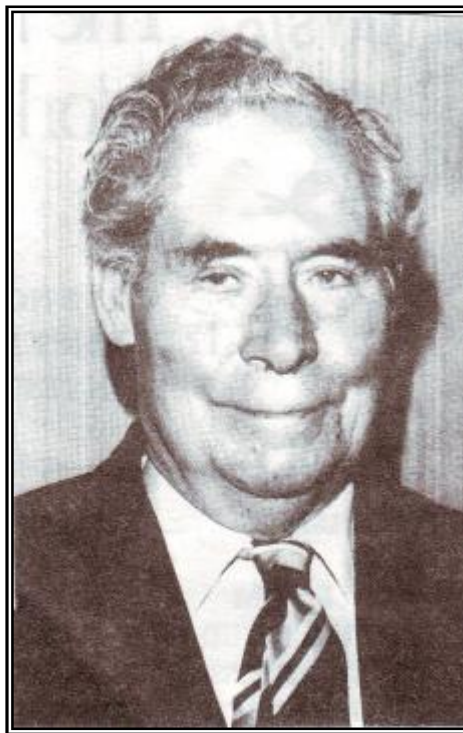


Figure 23: Harry Callow - long time President



**Figure 24:**

Back: Les Hallet, Tony Coleman, Pete Clarke,  
Mike Baggs

Front: Mike Baggs, Pete Russell

### **Examples of the Club's depth in the SEASON 1973/74.**

Hon. Sec. & Treasurer: Rod Porter

Brian Dunn, was still a force to be reckoned with in the 1970's, both over the country and on the road. However, there were a number of young runners starting to show their mark who were after his crown. For example, Pete Russell and Tony Coleman, two of the Club's most talented athletes, as you will read later on. Then there were Mike Baggs and Pete Clarke, two runners who put the Club on the long-distance road running map.

Most readers will only know Pete Clarke for his coaching, track and field performances and cross-country running exploits, and probably he will go down in the history of the Club as the person who introduced dozens of young people to athletics, through the schools' system. However, Pete has run more marathon races than any other Club member, with some credible times, around the 2½ hr mark. He has also competed in several "ultra-distance" races, including the 54 mile London-Brighton race and the "2 Bridges" race in Scotland. Of course, as a track & field competitor, Pete Clarke has (and still does) compete in all events, if needed.

In fact, it is this motivation, and setting an example to younger athletes as well as his coaching and committee work that he has, and is, a centre-pin member of the Club.

Pete Clarke has played an important role in local and county schools' athletics, including helping organise National Schools' Cross-Country Championships in Weymouth, County Team Official, Starter and co-organiser of the annual Dorset schools' trip to Percy (France).

Some of the young athletes he either coached, or encouraged have gone on to be County champions, and compete in the All England Schools Athletics or Cross-country finals. One young athlete who reached those heights, with encouragement from Pete Clarke, was Billy Quinn. Billy won nearly every local, County and South-west cross-country championship that there was between 1974 and 1977. He also

won many young athletes' road races, which were popular in the 1970's. Besides that, he was pretty good on the track at 1500m and 800m. His outstanding ability was shown in the Salisbury young athlete's road race where he came home an easy winner from Johnathan Richards and Dave Buzza, both of these athletes went on to become Internationals and in the latter case, an Olympian.

Quinn was backed by a bunch of enthusiastic and talented runners. Notably, Neil Coleman, Neil Price, Martin Dyble, Steve Self, Mike Dethick, Les Drage, Garry Conning, Mike Nolan, Vaughan Price, Bayard Lane and others.

A glimpse at just one of the race-meeting results for 1978 revealed the following:

At Trowbridge, Youths; N Coleman 3<sup>rd</sup>, L Drage 5<sup>th</sup>, M Dethick 6<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> team.

Boys; B Quinn 1<sup>st</sup>, N Price 2<sup>nd</sup>, S Self 12<sup>th</sup>, M Dyble 19<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> team.

Colts; B Lane 7<sup>th</sup>, V Price 26, M Nolan 29<sup>th</sup>, J Lane 32<sup>nd</sup>, team 4<sup>th</sup>.

The 10 mile race that day, Tony Coleman (53.12) 13<sup>th</sup>, Pete Clarke (55.54) 34<sup>th</sup>, Mike Baggs (55.28) 28<sup>th</sup>, Brian Dunn (55.40) 31<sup>st</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Vet) and Keith Bartlett (57.00) 41<sup>st</sup>, team 3<sup>rd</sup>.



**Figure 25: Trowbridge 10 mile race**

Len Horlock and Dave Bucke

So far, in this history, there has been no mention of the ladies of the club. This was certainly not intentional, but information about them has been hard to obtain, and perhaps someone can fill in the gaps.

Carole Smith joined the club in the early 1970's Carole was the local schools champion at hurdles, but the Club soon found out that her athletic talents were extensive. She could run, jump and throw, and her all round abilities meant that she has, and is, probably the most consistent and loyal female athlete in the history of the club. When she was studying away from Weymouth, she had a short spell with our close rivals, Bournemouth AC. Apart from that break, Carole has competed for the Club and served on its' committee for many years. Not only is Carole an all-round athlete, she is a competitive swimmer, cyclist bi- and tri-athlete and hockey player. She has competed for Dorset and the Civil Service at athletics and hockey. Currently, her talents are again in demand as a Veteran International athlete.



**Figure 26: Carole Smith, all round athlete and long serving club member**

Throughout the 1970s, the track and field team was making its mark at county, and even for some individuals, at national level. There was excellent parental help from George Self, Mike Nolan, Ron Jones Evelyn Morris and Irene Abery. Irene followed Ailene Wood as Secretary for a while. At the end of the decade, notable athletes included Rachel Coton and Gina Morris, both excellent long-jumpers who represented County and Area and on numerous occasions. Both later went on to gain Junior International vests.

Denise Abery (now Apsden) started as an enthusiastic athlete on the track and at cross-country running. Eventually, she took up race-walking under the guidance of Harry Callow, and became the Club's leading lady, race-walker.

Other regulars of that period were Diane Critchlow, Lisa Bucke, Justine Morris, Anne Cody, Sue Cody, Anne Linden, Debbie and Jackie Treloar, Jane Aston. Young male athletes around then included Steve Bucke, John White, Geoff Cotter, Mark Dent, Robert Russell, Simon Angus, Mark Goldstone, Shane Scadding .

Of the girls, sisters Debbie and Jackie Treloar became County Champions at javelin and discus. Debbie won the County Sword of Merit for outstanding javelin throwing. Lisa Bucke and Diane Critchlow competed for Dorset County, and All-England Schools at Cross-country. However, Diane went on to run cross-country and 1500m at National Schools and club level. In fact, she broke numerous county and area records at 1500 and 800m, and was one of the most out-standing track and cross-



country athletes the Club has produced. For the lads, Shane Scadding competed at 800m in the All-England Schools' championships.

Whilst the senior group of Club runners included, Pete Clarke, Dave Bucke, Phil Gibbs, John Bolton, Keith Bartlett, Mike Baggs, Brian Dunn, Paul Critchlow, Eddie French, Pete Russell, Les Hallett, Mark Anthony, Dave White, Mike Amey, Brian Osborne, Steve Skinner, and Tony Coleman. It is interesting to note that most of these athletes were road or cross-country runners.



**Figure 27: 1970s – Weymouth St. Paul's Harriers**

Brian Osborne, unknown, Brian Dunn, Tony Coleman, Steve Bucke, unknown, unknown, Kevin Parr-Burman, unknown, John Kenwood, Keith Bartlett, Keith Honisett and Pete Avery (Vice-Chairman and benefactor of the club)

Mike Baggs was a very strong long-distance runner, and he competed in the London to Brighton 54 miles race, finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> on one occasion in a time of 5h 59m. He was 4<sup>th</sup> in the Woodford-Southend 44 miles in 4h.15m.51s, an exceptional time. Mike also ran a fast marathon (2h.26m.11s, 53m31s for 10 miles, 16m 9.6s for 5000m. Mike used to run 40 miles over footpaths and bridleways on a Sunday! Unfortunately, he had a bad accident involving being knocked down by a car, which put paid to his running career, because of injuries.





**Figure 28: 1975 - Weymouth 10 Road Race**

Mike Baggs standing at the start, injured

Paul Critchlow was a good middle-distance runner on the track (5000m) cross-country and on the road. He ran a marathon in 2h.27m, finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the prestigious Glasgow Marathon. Whilst Paul was active in the Club, he coached a squad of young athletes, including his daughter, Diane, and later his younger daughter, Sue.

Pete Russell, like Mike Baggs was an ex-Weymouth Grammar School runner, who went on through the age-groups to become a star runner for the Club, and later on for Bournemouth AC, where he eventually gained an International vest for the marathon. Unfortunately, this run in India was his last major race. Pete was talented at cross-country running, winning lots of Wessex League and County races (1<sup>st</sup> aggregate: 1979-1982). He also won many County and Area titles, for 1500 and 5000m.

Tony Coleman was another highly respected runner, preferring cross-country and road running to track. Whilst with the Club, he was overshadowed by Pete Russell on some occasions. Nevertheless, Tony won several 10 mile races, put up some good marathon and half-marathon times. His charismatic manner made him very popular with the athletes, but he did not always get on well with officialdom, which was a pity. Later on, Tony was a founder member of Egdon Heath Harriers. This local club had grown from strength to strength, and certainly over the years has deprived WSPH from local road running talent.

The race walkers of this period included Kevin Baker, Denys Jones, Ron Jones, Charles Dunn and Geoff Hunwicks. Denise Aberly was one of our outstanding girl race walkers.

Veteran's track & field championships had not yet caught the imagination of the club runners. That is, except for Dave Bucke, in his first year as an o/40 vet (1978), ran 2m 05s for 800m in the Southern vet's at Southampton, and the following year

clocked 2m 05.7 for 800m and 4m 16.9 for 1500m (for 3<sup>rd</sup> place), again in the Southern champs. In the 1979/80 season, Dave was 1<sup>st</sup> veteran in the Wessex League cross-country and club veteran champion.



**Figure 29: 1979 - Bournemouth, Wessex League**  
Dave Bucke



**Figure 30: 1979 - Dave Bucke on the track**



**Figure 31: 1979 - Club athletes received championship awards**

Presented by Mr. Charles Woolford

Back: Pete Clarke, Kevin Baker, Charles Dunn

Middle: Natasha Faulkner, Louise Bucke, Charles Woolford, unknown, Gina Morris

Front: all unknown

The 1979/80 season cross-country men's team members included: Tony Coleman, Brian Dunn, John Bolton, Mike Anthony, Keith Bartlett, Pete Clarke, Mike Baggs, Les Hallett, Mike Amey, Dave White, Pete Russell, Dave Bucke, Mike Anthony, Mick Reed, R. Brown, Len Horlock, Phil Gibbs, Paul Critchlow, Eddie French, Andy Bevan, Andy Nolder, Steve Self, Andy Jennings, Mike Dethick, Les Drage, Garry Connings, Billy Quinn, Neil Price, Mark Dyble; Juniors included Neil Coleman, Mark Goldstone, Rob Harris, Lee Connolly, Simon Angus, B. Lane, Steve Bucke, Mark Dent, J. Lane & Mike Nolan. Of course, they did not all turn out for every race. Nevertheless, there was depth in numbers.

A final note for the 1970's, was a letter from Mr. Ray Curtis, informing the club that it could hold races on his fields off Markham road.



**Fig. 32 Collage of St. Paul's Harriers in 1982**

The 1980's were the turning point for athletics in the UK. Although most of the events that caught the public's attention were far removed from grass roots clubs like WSPH & AC, there were some "knock-on" effects.

Marathon running was one event that captivated even the most unfit person's attention. Local interests were initially geared to the Portland marathons, so ably organised by the Royal Manor of Portland AC. The Harriers were well represented in these races, giving the opportunity for many to have their first attempt at the 26+ miles. Club winners of this race, included Mike Baggs and Paul



**Fig. 33 Paul Critchlow, leading in a road relay race**

Paul Critchlow ran the Glasgow marathon in 2h 25 1984 which might make him the club's fastest marathon runner.

On the track, in 1980, Chris Coleman finished 7<sup>th</sup> in the Southern AAA's octathalon, despite being 2 years younger than the next competitor. Helen Lawley finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Southern girl's 2500m race-walk. The County cross-country results for junior girls included 1, Diane Critchlow; 7<sup>th</sup>, Lisa Bucke; 11<sup>th</sup>, Rachel Pitman.

The Chesil Beach race from the back of Ferrybridge (the Butts) to Chiswell, was organised by the Harriers for many years, and in 1980, some of the finishers included: 1, Pete Russell; 2, Paul Critchlow; 3, Tony Coleman; 4, Dave Wills 5, John Bolton; 1<sup>st</sup> Boy, Shane Scadding; 1<sup>st</sup> Girl, Diane Critchlow.

In 1981, the above athletes continued to shine, but notable performances were set by Jason Hawkins, 1<sup>st</sup> Colt in the Chippenham to Calne race walks, with Darren Mileham 4<sup>th</sup>.

Diane Critchlow was 2<sup>nd</sup> in the junior, SW CC Champs. 2<sup>nd</sup> in the all England Schools Champs.

## **1982**

President: Harry Callow; Vice Presidents: R Jones, C Woolford, P Avery. Chaiman: D Bucke; Vice Chairman: G Hunwicks. Secretary: I Abery. Treasurer: G Hunwicks. Social Sec: P Dunning. Crosscountry sec: D Bucke. Crosscountry sec. Juniors & Ladies: T Faulkner. Club captain men: P Critchlow. Ladies' captain: C Smith.



Crosscountry capt: J Bolton. Race walking capt: R Jones. Junior rep: P Hall.  
Committee: W Mileham, J Critchlow, B Copp, P Clarke & T Coleman. Crosscountry team manager: Olive Baggs.

The Club men's cross-country champion was Dave Wills, with Paul Critchlow 2<sup>nd</sup> and Tony Coleman 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1<sup>st</sup> veteran Len Horlock; 1<sup>st</sup> junior man, Robert Russell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Steve Bucke, 1<sup>st</sup> youth, S Richardson; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jon Kenwood; 3<sup>rd</sup>, Patrick Hall. However, Tony Coleman had an outstanding year: 3<sup>rd</sup> Jurd x-country 5m, 5<sup>th</sup> Mayflower 10m, 6<sup>th</sup> Petersfield 10m, 8<sup>th</sup> Bath half-marathon, 3<sup>rd</sup> Bath 10m, 3<sup>rd</sup> Swanage 12m, 2<sup>nd</sup> Somerton 20K and 1<sup>st</sup> Melksham half marathon!

Marathon rankings: 1. M.Baggs 2h 41.12 Isle of Wight Marathon, one of the toughest in the country. Also 2h 39.56.

2. J Bolton 2h 33m; 3. P Critchlow 2h 36; T Coleman 2h39.59; L Horlock 2h 43.10; S Skinner 2h 45.31; D White 2h 48; P Clarke 2h 48.34; P Etheridge 2h56; J Kenwood 3h 01; K Hunnisett 3h 03; D Bucke 3h 04; A Crane (Lady) 3h 25.

On the track, Diane Critchlow set a new Club record for the Girls (u/15) 1500m-4m36.8s. Debbie Treloar, an Intermediate (u/17) record for discus, 38.50m, shot, 9.12m. Molly Heinrich, Girls shot, 9.36 m. Darren Mileham, (colt u/13) 2000m walk, 12m 23.5s.

#### Race walking

The Harriers were very strong in this section: Geoff Hunwicks (6m 46m 27s); Denys Jones (7m 52m02s & 1m 6m42s); K Baker (28m 2h 55.33); D Aberly (3k 17m43s).

Also featuring were: Charlie Dunn, W Street, B Copp, J Powell, T Mileham & D Edwards.

#### 1983

Of note in 1983, was the continuation of fine running by John Bolton. His 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Wessex marathon, 2h.33m.12s, to Tony Coleman's 2<sup>nd</sup> place (2h 36m 50s) then 5<sup>th</sup> place in the March Hare cross-country race at Porton Down, again beating Tony Coleman (6<sup>th</sup>) and many other good club runners was a good start to the year. Mostly, up to that point, Coleman had beaten Bolton.

In 1983, there were 13 Harriers inside 3h for the marathon (eg: at Portland:- J Bolton, 2.33.12; T.Coleman, 2.36.50; B. Dyke, 2.43.30; P. Clarke, 2.49.58; D.White, 2.51.41; D.Symonds, 2.52.12; D.Bucke, 2.55.28; M.Goldstone, 2.56.06; K.Parr-Burman, 2.59.05; B.Thomas, 3.00. Other marathons: P. Critchlow, 2h 35; K Bartlett, 3.00.06; J Kenwood, 3.04.34, J Mogg, 3.09.17; K.Hunnisett, 3.10.10; S Bucke 3.11.10; R Read, 3.14.07; B Fry, 3.24.17, M Moore, 3.35.52; N White, 3.36.21; R Blackford, 3.48.34; P Avery, 3.55.48; A Mursell, 4.24.22 and B Copp, 5.15.01). At least 24 club runners ran the distance that year!

A colt's team from the Harriers was 1<sup>st</sup> in the Chippenham-Calne walks (D Mileham, McFarlane and Green).

In 1984, Diane Critchlow continued to shine on the track at 800 and 1500m. She finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Southern Counties 800m in 2m14.4 s. Debbie Treloar won the prestigious "Wilkinson Sword" award for best female performer in the Dorset Track & Field Championships (1st javelin, discus and shot).

Denise Aberly broke the County record for the 3km walk, 17m 01.3s (Intermediate). Denys Jones, 1<sup>st</sup>; Kevin Baker 2<sup>nd</sup> and Geoff Hunwicks 3<sup>rd</sup> in the men's 3km County

walk. Daren Foley, 1<sup>st</sup> youth's 100m. Gina Morris, 1<sup>st</sup> sen. ladies long jump; Sue Critchlow, 1<sup>st</sup> int. ladies 1500m; Amy Shepherd, 1<sup>st</sup> girls long jump & 1<sup>st</sup> 100m. Helen Curtis, 1<sup>st</sup> int. ladies high jump. For the veterans: Dave Bucke, 2<sup>nd</sup> 800m. In fact that year the Club won 11 golds, 12 silvers and 15 bronze medals at the County Champs.

Interesting to note that Bernard Fry (now a busy dairy farmer at Little Bredy) was 3<sup>rd</sup> scorer for the Club in a Wessex League Cross-country race. When Bernard brought the cows in for milking he ran around the fields wearing Wellington boots. He regarded that activity as his training run!



**Figure 34: Group of Harriers after a training session in Puddletown Forest**

Back: Dave White, Sandra Coleman, Tony Coleman, unknown

Front: Keith Bartlett, Louise Bucke, Paul Critchlow, John Bolton

**In 1985**

Officials: President Harry Callow, Chairman Stan Curtis, Hon. Sec. Diane Crumbleholme, Treasurer Geoff Hunwicks, Race Walking Sec. Ron Jones, Road Running Dave Bucke, Track & Field Irene Abery,

There was a decline in numbers of road-runners in the Club compared with 5 years' previous. This was the result of the setting up of a rival club, Egdon Harriers, and the consequential defection of a number of our Harriers to that club. For the ladies, Jo Dering put in a few good performances, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Wessex Leagues (intermediate). Sue Critchlow posted several 1sts in Wessex Leagues (junior), backed by Anita Waddingham. Her father, Mike Waddingham was 1<sup>st</sup> o/45 vet. in the Wessex League. Minor girls included Louise Bucke, Amy Shepherd and Alison Appleby.



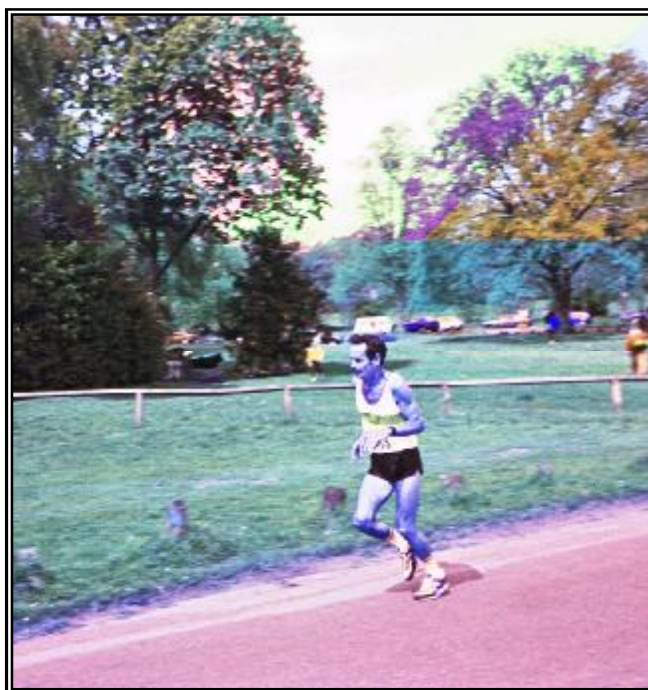
**Figure 35: 1985 - Louise Bucke**

**An outstanding, all-round athlete**

On the track, the Club again had a successful season. Toby Smith, finished 1<sup>st</sup> over 100 and 200m in several colt's races. Lee Purnell, Matthew Paul and Nathan Hunnisett were outstanding at field events and hurdles. While in the younger girls age groups, Amy Shepherd, Louise Bucke, Angela Dunn and Natasha Faulkner covered all events. In fact, these athletes were fine backing for the Club's senior ladies in the Womens Southern League races. There, Carole Smith, Sheri Eyles, Gina Morris, Denise Abery and the Critchlow sisters were regular competitors. Howard Smith showed what a fine triple jumper he was going to be with his youth's debut of 13.12m.

Outstanding in 1986 was Paul Critchlow's 4<sup>th</sup> place in the prestigious Bournemouth Bay Half marathon (71.09). 923 finished!

John Bolton, 1<sup>st</sup> vet. and second overall in the Portland 10m road race in a time of 55min! Jim Brumfield in 15<sup>th</sup> position, followed by Keith Jarvis 17<sup>th</sup>, Andy Watling 18<sup>th</sup>, Chris Sharratt 33<sup>rd</sup>, Dave Symonds 34<sup>th</sup>, Bill Parsons 36<sup>th</sup>, Pete Clarke 39<sup>th</sup>, Brian Dunn 42<sup>nd</sup> (65.16!), Ian Davies 58<sup>th</sup>, Phil Childs 55<sup>th</sup>, Steve Bucke 60<sup>th</sup>, Dave Bucke 66<sup>th</sup>, Norman White 82<sup>nd</sup> and John Parsons, 121<sup>st</sup>.



**Figure 36: Dave Symonds**  
A good road runner



**Fig. 37 Bill Parsons**  
A loyal club runner from Bridport

Helen Curtis high jumped 1.70m to win the Southwest School's title, and that year was her 4<sup>th</sup> appearance in the National School's Champs. At the Club's AGM, former European 400m gold medalist, John Wrighton, presented Esso 5 star awards to Louise Bucke, Natasha Faulkner, Wayne Banks, Stuart Lloyd, Darren Sherwood and Mark Puckett. County winners included, (SL) Gina Morris, 100 m, long-jump; Helen Curtis, high jump; Anita Waddingham, 3000m walk; Debbie Treloar, javelin. (Int.L) Sue Critchlow, 3000m. (JL) Louise Bucke, 200m, longjump.

At the AGM, John Bolton won the Johnstone-Browne cup and Pat Dunning the Loyalty Test Cup. Cross-country champions were: Louise Bucke (JL), Sue Critchlow (Inter), Carole Smith, (SL) Toby Smith, (Colt) Stuart Bowden (Boys), Simon Dunning (Junior), Roy Read (Sen. men) and veterans, John Bolton. Stan Curtis retired as Club Chairman. Club Secretary, Diane Crumbleholme, said she had written to the Borough Council Chief Executive about the need for an "all weather" track, and the Club was told that £1 million pounds had been put aside by Carters Developers.

In 1987, John Bolton continued his outstanding veteran's positions. His 1<sup>st</sup> Dorset vet. in the Poole 10km (32.54). Keith Jarvis, Dave Stevens and Paul Gould completed the team. Bolton was runner-up in the aggregate Wessex League (vets.) It would be wrong to think that Brian Dunn was taking time out! Brian was competing regularly in cross-country races, often finishing in the prizes for o/50 vets.



**Figure 38: John Bolton**



One of the most consistent road and cross-  
country runners in the history of the club

For the 1987/88 season. The Club's vets finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Wessex League. Dave Symonds, Dave Bucke and Pete Clarke were scorers. However, the Club's younger male athletes were becoming depleted, especially over the country. Even the female side of the Club was thin on the ground. Only Louise Bucke, better known for her track & field exploits, turned out regularly and Clare Peters was making her debut as a minor girl, to become another fine Club athlete on the track.

At an open veterans meeting at Exeter, J Bolton 2<sup>nd</sup> 1500m 2<sup>nd</sup> 5000m; D Bucke 1<sup>st</sup> 800m, 2<sup>nd</sup> 400m. Louise Bucke, was first in many league, County, South-west county events at high jump, long jump, hurdles and 800m. She also scored 3900 points for second in a heptathlon at Bournemouth. Natasha Faulkner also competed in heptathlon. Louse Bucke received the Ladies shield for the outstanding track and field athlete of the year, Nick Palmer the Mens' shield for track and field, John Bolton once more won the Johnstone-Browne Cup for best road runner.

In a rare and unusual occasion, the Ladies' section of the Harriers combined with Dorchester AC, and between them, won the prestigious Paulding Trophy at Bournemouth. Stars for the club were Carole Smith (3 x 1sts), Louise Bucke (3 x 1sts), Debbie Treloar, Anita Waddingham and Helen Curtis (1 first each). The Harriers won promotion to Division 1 of the Westward League, following their magnificent win in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division. Six members of the Club were selected to represent Southwest counties. Kevin Baker, Denys Jones and Denise Abery (walks), Gina Morris and Sheri Eyles (longjump) and Louise Bucke (highjump). A beach barbecue was organised by Jan Foley and Evelyn Morris. Later that year, a disco-buffet evening was organised at the Wyvern Centre.

In the Southern vets'. Cross-country champs, at Bournemouth, Bolton finished 6<sup>th</sup> (o/40), but 1<sup>st</sup> South-West Counties. Dave Symonds, finished 1<sup>st</sup> o/45 and Dave Bucke 3<sup>rd</sup> o/45.

1988, Paul Critchlow was experiencing the first of his leg injury problems. When he did compete, he was still a force to be reckoned with. A 1<sup>st</sup> vet. in a Wessex League at Chippenham, backed by Dave Bucke, Pete Clarke and Ray Blackford. Dave Wrighton made one of his rare appearances in the "Round-the Lakes "races at Poole on Boxing Day, finishing 43<sup>rd</sup>, followed by Dave Bucke 50<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 0/50. Pete Clarke, 65<sup>th</sup> and Brian Dunn 75<sup>th</sup>. Jo Dering was 1<sup>st</sup> junior lady in 55<sup>th</sup> place. (142 finishers).

The Portland 10m, showed that Bolton was 2<sup>nd</sup> vet. (10<sup>th</sup> overall), closely followed by Dave Symonds 13<sup>th</sup>, Jim Brumfield 15<sup>th</sup>, Paul Gould 26<sup>th</sup>, Pete Clarke 38<sup>th</sup>, D Bucke 42<sup>nd</sup>, Chris Sharratt 44<sup>th</sup>, Patrick Hall 49<sup>th</sup>, Bill Parsons 60<sup>th</sup>, Steve Bucke 85<sup>th</sup>, Pete Mowlam 110<sup>th</sup> Christine Sharratt 112<sup>nd</sup>, W Parsons 118<sup>th</sup> and Pete Hammond 142<sup>nd</sup>.

On the Marsh track, the Harriers were beaten by a strong Dorchester AC team in an Avalon League fixture. Outstanding for the Club was the 4x400m team of David Wrighton, Stuart Lloyd, Wayne Banks and Nick Palmer, which set a new Club record of 3m 38.7s. Ken Houlberg and David Wrighton were 1 & 2 in the 800m and 400m. Once again Louise Bucke showed outstanding ability. Her 4<sup>th</sup> place in the "All England Schools" high jump (1.69m) was no doubt her best achievement. She also scored 3816pts for 11<sup>th</sup> in the "All England Schools" heptathlon. At the County Champs, she took 4 intermediate titles (400m-60.2s, 80m hurdles-13.1s, and high

and long jumps). Denise Abery and Denys Jones again retained their respective Walks titles. Charles Dunn won the veterans walk title.

Other consistent competitors on the track were Paul Kingston and Nick Palmer (all field events and hurdles!) Paul Kingston, from Litton Cheney, was a former All England Schools javelin champion. He was also in the Team squad for the Winter Olympics, competing in the luge. Nick Palmer was a versatile athlete who could jump, sprint and hurdle well. When both Paul and Nick were available, they invariably competed in 11 or 12 events at a league match! Doug Veitch and Mark Puckett were strong supporting members of the team. It was in 1989 that a young Martin Peters was making his debut at javelin and pole vault. Martin later went on to be goalkeeper for Weymouth and later Bridport football teams.

Brian Dunn was honoured for 40 years Club loyalty as an active athlete, at a special presentation at the Club's annual dinner at the "Sea-Cow". The presentation was by Chairman, Brian Copp, who said "Brian had become a legend in his own lifetime" and wished him well for the future.

**1989. This was the "official" centenary year of Weymouth Harriers.**

Officials: President *Harry Callow*, Chairman *Brian Copp*, Vice Chairman *Dave Bucke*, Hon. Sec. *Margaret Mitchell*, Track & Field *Irene Abery*, Road Running *John Bolton*, Race Walking *Ron Jones*, Club Capt. *Tony Faulkner*, Ladies Capt. *Louise Bucke*, Treasurer *Evelyn Morris*, Junior Rep. *Stuart Lloyd*, Social Sec. *Jim Brumfield*, Mens' Southern League & Cross-country *Dave Bucke*, Schools' Rep. *Pete Clarke*. Vice Presidents *Mrs E. F. Damen*, Messrs. *R. Jones*, *C. Woolford*, *P. Avery*, Life Members *B. Dunn*, *S. Peters*



**Figure 39: Jim Brumfield (front right)**

A former soccer player who took up running after his playing career cease. A first class runner and clubman

There were no official celebrations to record the centenary and this is why this history has been compiled.

The Monday evening indoor fitness classes were held at Weymouth College Gymnasium. These classes were well attended. Jim Brumfield was elected social secretary, and organised a well attended dinner at the Sea Cow restaurant. The club applied for planning permission to build their own HQ on the Marsh.

The existing wooden club hut had to be demolished as it was frequently vandalised. Weymouth & Portland Council advised the Club that it was unsafe. This old club hut was donated to the Harriers by Council. In fact it was really two wooden huts knocked into one! A "100" savings club was started by Evelyn Morris, the club treasurer. Club members could buy shares at a nominal price and every month there would be a draw for three prizes.

Charles Woolford, for a number of years the Club timekeeper, sadly passed away. Charles was a qualified AAA's timekeeper, and had officiated at international meetings, as well as all local events including road and cross-country races.

John Bolton continued to make the headlines. 13<sup>th</sup> overall in the Lanz quarter marathon, backed by Pete Clarke 52<sup>nd</sup>, Dave Bucke 82<sup>nd</sup>, Phil Childs 99<sup>th</sup>, Ray Blackford 112<sup>nd</sup>, Steve Bucke 120<sup>th</sup>, Dave Stevens 136, Brian Dunn 139<sup>th</sup> and Pete Hammond 358<sup>th</sup>. 440 finished.



**Figure 40: Tony Faulkner**

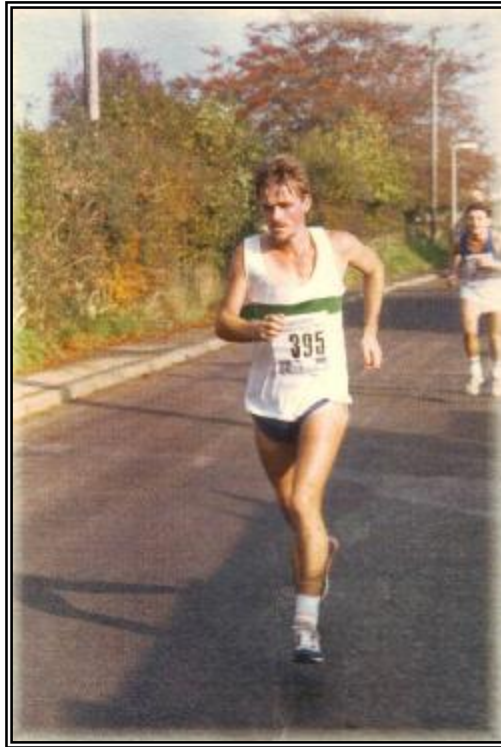
Now better known as a club coach and veteran all-rounder, was a regular member of the cross-country and road running team

Portland 10m, results showed Bolton 9<sup>th</sup> (56.47) backed by Andy Watling 11<sup>th</sup>, Keith Jarvis 21<sup>st</sup>, Hedley Stone 29<sup>th</sup>, Dave Symonds 42<sup>nd</sup>, Pete Clarke 52<sup>nd</sup>, Dave Bucke 57<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> o/50), Brian Vockins 81<sup>st</sup>, Brian Dunn 94<sup>th</sup>, Paul Hawden 95<sup>th</sup>, Norman White 131<sup>st</sup>, Kevin Baker 160<sup>th</sup> (he walked!), and Pete Hammond 190<sup>th</sup>. 197 finished.

In the London Marathon, Pete Clarke ran an outstanding 2h 44m; John Bolton, 2h 55m; Jim Brumfield, 2h 57m; Phil Childs, 3h 09m; Steve Bucke, 3h 50m and Pete Hammond, 4h 29m. Andy Stratton ran 2h 55m in the Paris marathon.

Overall positions in the Wessex League only included John Bolton, 3<sup>rd</sup> vet. Did this demonstrate the lack of interest in cross-country running in the club at the end of its centenary? Not quite! The vets. finished first in this league! Mark Puckett, mentioned early on in this history, was then running regularly for the Club.

In an Avalon League meeting over Curtis' fields, Clare Boichet finished 16<sup>th</sup> in the minor girls event. Carole Smith, finished 10<sup>th</sup> senior lady. Ian Hughes was first Harrier home (65<sup>th</sup>) in the men's race, followed by Dave Bucke (85<sup>th</sup>), Ray Blackford (100<sup>th</sup>), Paul Hawden (110<sup>th</sup>) and Pete Clarke (122<sup>nd</sup>).



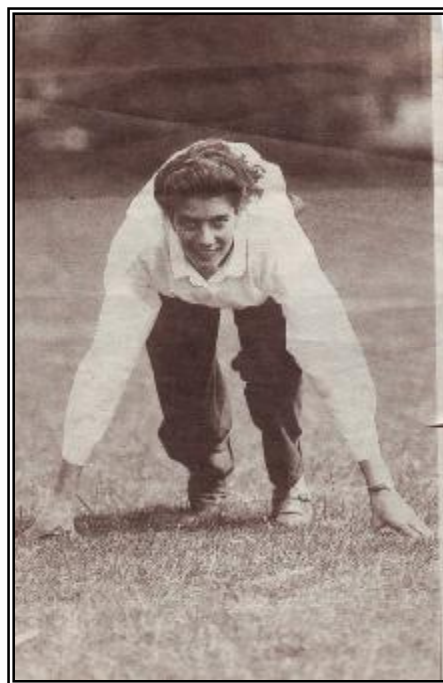
**Figure 41: Ray Blackford**

Ray took part in every track & fields event to earn points for the club. He was a team member at cross-country events and ran eight Poole Marathon. He died in 2005





**Figure42: Paul Hawdon**  
Veteran road runner



**Figure 43 Clare Peters. Clare was a talented Track  
and cross-country runner**

The Harriers scooped several medals in the aggregate positions of the Wessex cross-country league. Veteran's team gained gold (John Bolton, Jim Brumfield, Dave Symonds, Pete Clarke, Dave Bucke and Tony Faulkner). Also, as individuals, John Bolton 1<sup>st</sup> o/40; Dave Symonds 2<sup>nd</sup> o/45; Dave Bucke 3<sup>rd</sup> o/50.



**Figure 44: Dave Bucke**

Club runner and member of the club Committee  
for many years. President in 1992

The Harriers competed in the National Veterans (o/40) 8x3miles relay championships at Sutton Coldfield. The team of Paul Critchlow (15.33), Pete Clarke (17.26), Brian Dunn (19.02), Dave Bucke (17.58), Dave Symonds (17.10), Bill Parsons (18.29), Paul Hawden (19.00) and Chris Reynolds (17.49) finished 72<sup>nd</sup> from 120 teams. Paul Critchlow was 6<sup>th</sup> fastest!



**Figure 45: 1986 - Harriers Veterans team after the National 8 x 3½ mile road relay championships at Sutton Coldfield**

Pete Clarke, Paul Critchlow, Chris Reynolds, Bill Parsons, Paul Hawdon, Dave Bucke, Brian Dunn, Dave Symonds.

The Harriers regularly competed in the 16 mile, multi-terrain Coombe Gibbett-Overton race over the years, and this year, John Bolton was 7<sup>th</sup>-1h 37m 41s, Dave Bucke 36<sup>th</sup>-1h 53m12s; Phil Childs 37<sup>th</sup>-1h53 m49s; Pete Clarke 39<sup>th</sup>-1h 54m 15s; Steve Bucke 85<sup>th</sup>-2h 10m38s and Pete Hammond 128<sup>th</sup>-2h 50m59s.

The walkers won the Trowbridge Traders Open 10 mile team race, (team Ron Jones, Kevin Baker, Denys Jones and Charles Dunn). Kevin Baker won the Nicola trophy, by leading from start to finish at Briantspuddle. Charles Dunn and Ron Jones continued to put in fine performances.

On the track, Toby Smith was voted Man of the Match at a Men's Southern League meeting for an outstanding run in the 400m. Paul Kingston contested 10 events, winning the 110m hurdles, long jump, 3<sup>rd</sup> in the high jump, shot and discus.



**Figure46: 1991: - Paul Kingston competed in the European winter games in the Luge event**

Dave Bucke ran the 800m and sprinted to the other side of the track to run in the 3000m steeplechase. Martin Peters won the javelin. At another League fixture, Ken Houlberg and Dave Wrighton teamed with Wayne Banks and Nick Palmer to once again break the Club record for the 4 x 400 M (3m 33.9s).

Jim Brumfield won the "B" 5000m. Dave Bucke finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the National Vets o/50 800m (2m 15s), and Maurice Wood, 6<sup>th</sup> in the 400m.

Natasha Faulkner was improving her track & field performances in a number of events, and turning out to be a reliable asset to the team. Louise Bucke continued to put up good performances on the track, especially at heptathlon, 400m, long and high jump, with national rankings in those events. At the AGM, she was the inaugural winner of the TG Copp Cup, (formally, the Hurdle Cup for road-running!). Mrs Damen, following the recent death of former Club athlete and secretary, Fred Damen, presented a shield in her husband's name to John Bolton, as the Club's outstanding cross-country and road runner for this year. Evelyn Morris was presented with the Loyalty Test Cup for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year running. Margaret Mitchell was congratulated on her efficiency as Club secretary.

After 100 years, Weymouth / Westham St. Paul's Harriers & AC has not only proved to be a valuable asset to the Town, but has played its part in local, County, Area, National and International competition. Many of its officials have held administrative positions at most levels of athletics. It is due to the unselfish attitude of these officials and committee members that the Club has managed to survive to its Century.

## **The 1990's**

1990/91 Officials: President: Harry Callow, Chairman Brian Copp, Vice Chairman Dave Bucke, Hon. Sec. Val Palmer, Treasurer Evelyn Morris, Track & Field Irene Aberly, Cross-country Dave Bucke, Captain John Bolton, Race Walking Ron Jones, Schools' Liaison Pete Clarke.

Many of the established athletes continued to compete in the 1990' including Nick Palmer, Paul Kingston, Howard Smith, Mark Puckett and Martin Peters. The old guard seemed to run on relentless, including Brian Dunn, John Bolton, Dave Symonds and dare I say it, Carole Smith! There were many other names mentioned in press cuttings and some will be mentioned in the following examples of results

for the early 1990'. New members included Mike Feighan, Abigail Bailey, Claire, Tom and Ruth Bochoit. Also her mum, Judith became a club member.

### 1990

The biggest athletics event ever held in Weymouth took place. It was a stage of the Wessex cross-country league races on Markham & Little Francis Fields. The event was staged by the club. Over 800 athletes took part, from minor girls to veteran men and ladies. The course was exceptionally muddy. Success came for Abi Bailey (2<sup>nd</sup>) in the under/13 age group. She was backed by Vicky Churchill (15<sup>th</sup>) and Clare Bosomworth (41<sup>st</sup>). Clare Peters finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the under 17 girls group. Carole Smith, also 4<sup>th</sup> in the senior ladies. Mike Feighan, (10<sup>th</sup>), John Bolton (16<sup>th</sup>), Keith Jarvis (39<sup>th</sup>), Dave Symonds (51<sup>st</sup>), John McKie (76<sup>th</sup>), Mark Puckett (79<sup>th</sup>), Ray Blackford (94<sup>th</sup>), Dave Bucke (114<sup>th</sup>) and Norman White (118<sup>th</sup>).



**Figure 47: 1990 - Start of the Weymouth 10 mile road race**

2nd Left: Tony Coleman (now running for Egdon Heath Runners)

4th Left: Mike Feighan who finished 2nd

Long time sponsors of this event were Lanehouse Motors and John Starkey and Partners

### Some road running results for the year.

Pete Clarke ran in a 100k race in the town of Milton Keynes. His time was 10h 30m.

John Bolton finished 10th from a thousand runners in the Bristol Half Marathon. His time was just over 75m. This put him at 2nd o/40 veteran, a remarkable performance.

Further results on the road included: Mike Feighan, 6th in the Bournemouth 10 mile race in 50m 58s; John Bolton, 13th in 52m 31s.; Jim Brumfield, 31st in 56m 14s.; Keith Jarvis, 56m 41s; Hedley Stone, 57m 09s.; John McKie, 58m 12s and Pete Clarke 60m 49s.

Pete Clarke also ran in the Snowdon Marathon recording a time of 3h 20m.

### On the track



The Harriers were having a cracking time on the track in 1990. Especially, in the Southern Mens' League.

For example at St. Albans: Martin Peters broke the club record for the javelin (44.90m); Howard Smith won a triple jump in 13.76m. Paul Kingston competed in about eight events, with 4 firsts, and 4 second places. Toby Smith won the 100m, 200m and 400m. Ray Blackford competed in the 400hurdles, 800m, 1500m, 5000m and the 300m steeplechase! Wayne Banks had a first in the 400m and Skipper Tony Faulkner competed in five events. To cap it all the Harriers won both the 4 x 100m and 4 x 400m relays.

A similar story unfolded in League matches at Swindon and Trowbridge. Doug Veitch broke the club record for the discus (34.48m).

There were plenty of active runners to call upon apart from those mentioned above for these senior men's events, e.g. Dave Wrighton, Andy Watlin, Dave Bucke, Pete Clarke and Nick Palmer.

### **Race walking**

The Nicola and Friendship races held at Briantspuddle under the strict organization by Harry Callow and Ron Jones were an important feature on the race walking calendar. Weymouth walkers included Kevin Baker, Bill Lawrence, Ron Jones, Harry Harris and Charlie Dunn. Ron Jones also won races on the track for 3000m and 5000m in the S.W. Veterans meeting.

### **1991**

The Harriers had another year of successes in most of the age groups. . Mike Feighan won the New Year's day road race at Broadstone (32m 56s), John Bolton, 11th (35m 54s), Jim Brumfield, 18th (37m 08s) and Pete Clarke, 49th to give the team 3rd place. However, later in the year, Mike Feighan ran his last race for the Harriers, having taken up an appointment in Devon. He finished in style, winning the Shaftsbury 6 mile race. This was also Jim Brumfield's last year with the Harriers. He decided, after giving it some thought, to join up with Egdon Harriers. This was a shame as Jim had been a very loyal athlete. He did continue for a while as a first claim member on the track. Nevertheless, there were more good results in the year.

Carole Smith finished first in the Tarrant Valley 6miles road race. Gill Bucke, ran her first race for many years, finished 2nd in her age group in the same race.

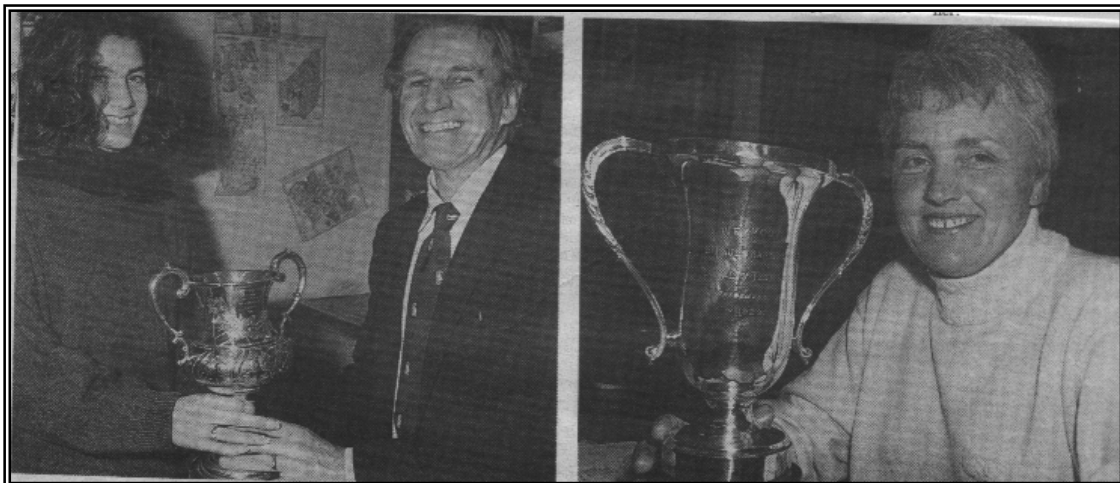
Charlie Dunn won an 8 mile invitation race walk at Briantspuddle.

John Bolton was first over 45y age in the National rankings for his 52m 31s in the previous year's Bournemouth 10m. He was also 1st veteran in a half marathon in Malta.

This was a fine year for Abi Bailey. She finished 1st in the Dorset and the South West Cross-Country and was ranked 6th for her age group 1500m (4m 42s).

Clare Peters was County champion cross-country Intermediate girl. James Hampson, runner-up in the County Boys' race.

Good performances were made by Sarah Stanwix, Claire and Ruth Bochoit, Cathy Bosomworth, Vicky Churchilland and Fay Hickman.



**Figure 48: 1991 – Club Cups**

Brian Copp (Chairman) presents the T.G. Copp cup to Clare Peters for Best Performance

Club Secretary, Evelyn Morris received the Loyalty cup for services to the club



**Figure 49: 1991 - Weymouth 10 mile road race**

3<sup>rd</sup> front left: Paul Critchlow



**Figure 50: Southern Counties Championships**

Left: Clare Peters 400m

Right: Natasha Faulkner, 2nd Triple Jump

Denys Jones was ranked in the UK for 3K, 20K and 50K walks. In the latter event he was 10<sup>th</sup> overall in the UK.

The clubs' men's cross-country championship was contested by 16 members, from 27 in the open race. Several runners went off the 9½ mile course. For the record, Dave Wills 1<sup>st</sup>, Mike Feighan 2<sup>nd</sup>, Phil Childs 3<sup>rd</sup>, Dave Bucke 4<sup>th</sup>, Geoff Hunwicks 5<sup>th</sup>, Ian Hughes 6<sup>th</sup>, Carole Smith 1<sup>st</sup> lady, Dave Wrighton 7<sup>th</sup>, Keith Jarvis 8<sup>th</sup>, Brian Dunn 9<sup>th</sup>, Steve Bucke 10<sup>th</sup> (with his dog!), Jim Brumfield 11<sup>th</sup>, John Bolton 12<sup>th</sup>, Pete Mowlam 13<sup>th</sup>, Les Hallett 14<sup>th</sup> and Brian Copp 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Harriers ran a team in the National cross-country championships over a 9 mile, rain-soaked Ewell course. The team came in 182 from 204! John Bolton, 1001<sup>st</sup>, Andy Stratton, 1141<sup>st</sup>, Dave Bucke, 1478<sup>th</sup>, Pete Clarke, 1519<sup>th</sup>, Phil Childs, 1645<sup>th</sup> and Ray Blackford, 1695<sup>th</sup>.



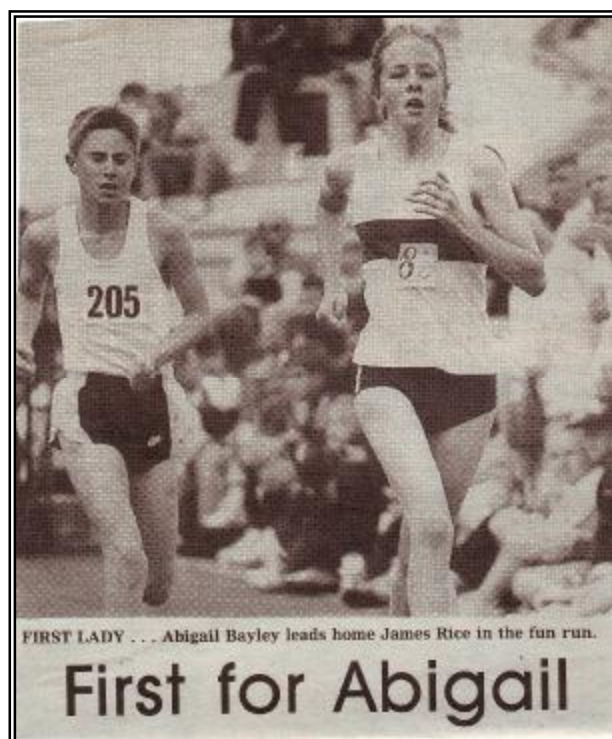
**Figure 51: 1991 – Club Trophy Presentation**

Weymouth & Portland Mayor, Alan Rendall,  
presented trophies to club members

Back L to R: Paul Kingston, Claire Bochoit, Abi  
Bailey, Clare Peters, Natasha Faulkner, John  
Bolton

Front L to R: Howard Smith, unknown, Ruth  
Bochoit, Vicky Churchill, Gina Morris, Tom  
Bochoit, Mayoress & Mayor





**Figure 52: 1991 – Weymouth Carnival race**

Abi Bailey, an outstanding middle distance runner  
wins, beating the boys

Over the years, there has been lots of speculation about a new all-weather running track and new head-quarters for St. Paul's Harriers. So far all has been fruitless. However, this year (1991) planning permission was given for a new head-quarters building with changing rooms and showers. A special meeting was called on 15<sup>th</sup> February at Weymouth College to investigate ways to raise funds and the formulation of a self-build policy. What happened to it?



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This list is far from complete. Please inform me if you have been omitted.

### Information in the text:

John Powell, Brian Dunn, Joe Townsend (deceased), Pete Hammond, T.J. Copp (deceased), Mrs. Airey, Harry Dowell, Val Palmer, Geoff Kirby, Tom Hutchins (deceased), Mrs. Doreen Higgs, Brian James, Bournemouth AC (deceased), Bill Fellowes, Harry Callow (deceased), Mike Baggs, Evelyn Morris, John Bolton, Beryl Keele.

### Figures:

1-4, 7-8 Mrs. Airey;  
5 Mrs D Higgs;  
6,9 Southern Times;  
11 Anon.  
10,17,26,28,31,35,38,43,46,47,48,49,50,51,52. Dorset Echo.  
12,14,15,18,19,20,21,22. B Dunn.  
13,16 H Dowell;  
23, 32 G Hunwicks;  
24,25,27,29,30,33,34,36,37,39,40,42,44,45 D Bucke  
41 FJ Blackford.

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