

◆ VPH NEWS ◆

Circulation 130

January 1996

Happy 70th Birthday, VPH

Greetings, Past and Present Members of Victoria Park Harriers,

Finally, our VPH 70th Anniversary Dinner is on. The date is set for Saturday, 1 June 1996 (7:00 for 7:30) at the Saddle & Sirloin near Fenchurch Street Station. When you reach page nine, you past members pay close attention to Deric Bareford's letter inviting you to take part in our special celebration. This newsletter will be the **only** notification to you for this momentous occasion. Don't let it slip you by. As you read my report on the Club Xmas Party on page ten, I hope you get the feeling that it's very special to renew old acquaintances within VPH. For us current members, it's very important that we take part in this. As a young (and no doubt quite handsome, although my wife would beg to differ) 21-year-old, I had the honour of attending the Club's 50th Anniversary Dinner at Bucklesbury House in the City. I believe my ties to the Club grew stronger for being part of that celebration. As I recall, there was actually a founding Club member present that evening. Although I'm sure that no Club member survives from 1926, I'm hoping we can get at least one attendee from the 1930s. OK, let's get down to basics. The cost is £25 per person, because we're doing this in style. For us types who bring our wives out to a fancy restaurant once a year, this is it. Send your money to one of the following (a £10 deposit per person will suffice at this stage, but the full amount as soon as possible is preferable):

Club Secretary (address on page 12)

Deric Bareford (address on page 9)

Wayne DuBose (address on page 10)

Frank Massingham (for Club regulars)



Although it's too early to give exact details of the evening, I can speculate with certain confidence that there'll be speeches from people that count, there'll be a memorabilia display (feel free to mail me copies or the originals (I'll return them) of any relevant artifacts), interviews, hopefully an automated slide show accompanied to inspirational music (this will force me into uncharted multimedia territory), food and drink (of secondary importance, no doubt), but most important of all (and this may be the longest sentence you ever read), you'll have the opportunity to rub shoulders with Club members throughout the ages. As a more mature individual now, and with the benefit of hindsight, I kick myself for not having had a chat with one of the original VPH Members at the 50th Anniversary Dinner. Although you can't meet a founding member, you can meet those who were part of the 30's, 40's, and 50's. I'm sticking my neck out here a little bit, but I'm sure that if you need accomodation (Deric is offering some), the Club will come to your rescue. Just contact me with your lodging requirement. OK, I

believe I've beaten this to death. The bottom line is "Miss this and regret it forever."

If you need to phone for further details, Deric's number is on page 9 and mine is 01480-494367. See you there.

Club Happenings

The recent AGM went as expected (you had to be there). During the meeting, there emerged a rallying cry to inspire even the most non-committal of Club Members as the various duties came up for election. And that cry was "I'll do it if no one else will!" And with such inspirational words, a solid 18-member committee was formed. Already, with two committee meetings behind us, we're averaging 14.5 attendees. Apart from those who continue to do their wonderful behind-the-scenes work, two new members have emerged injecting fresh blood into the Club. One is Les Vialls who's our new Social Secretary. Les and his wife Linda organised a VPH Kids Christmas Party on 2 December. Can you believe there were 44 kids, all related to Club members, in attendance? I told Les and the others later that, in my day, there were no kids...just young athletes. Joe Laboda sportingly dressed up as Father Christmas. Somehow, £200 was the bar takings that day! Les also took it upon himself to fix leaking pipes leading to (or maybe from) the men's toilets. This was no mean feat as he had to dig a massive hole to get to the root of the problem. In addition, Les, with help from Jimmy Edmonds, has transformed the bar from a very plain room into a very plush one. Good job, guys! Actually, Frank Lamberton contributed by laying the carpet at no cost. Thanks,

Terry O'Neill Shatters 10,000m Club Vets Record Phil Hampshire Returns To Action After Long Layoff

Huntingdonshire Athletics Club Track Meeting Vets Series

Wayne DuBose

JT - 49.24 1st (5 Sep)

DT - 31.42 1st (7 Sep)

100 - 12.7 1st (7 Sep)

110H - 18.5 1st (12 Sep)

SP - 10.78 1st (14 Sep)

400H - 61.9 1st (14 Sep)

New Club Vets Record. Previous record set by Wayne DuBose 62.4

200H - 27.7 1st (19 Sep)

First time Wayne has ever competed in this event. New Club Vets Record and 2= best-ever by VPH athlete (tied with Jim Wilhelmy 1968, John Daniels now 4th all-time 28.0 1967)

SP - 10.78 1st (21 Sep)

400 - 55.7 1st (21 Sep)

Vets AC 10,000 Track Champs, Battersea Park, 6 Sep 95

4th Terry O'Neill 34:05.7 (New Club Vets Record. Previous record set by Dave West 35:07)

Assembly League, Forbanks, 7 Sep 95

In this sixth and final Assembly League race of the season over the 2.8-mile course, VPH finished third on the night behind Dulwich and Kent and, in fact, third for the season behind the same two clubs. Missing the strength of second-claim member, Chris Brogan, plus Andy Wheeler and Jim Roche, we were still able to move up from fourth overall at the end of the fifth race to our final third position. Well done to Richard Newbold who finished 4th in the race out of 124 runners and 2nd in the overall individual title. Taking into account his 2nd place in the Chingford League individual title in February, 1995 was a very good year for Richard. And what about that running machine, Terry O'Neill? After setting a club Vet's 10,000 metre record the day be-

fore, he turned up for the club running six seconds faster than last year and finishing as the overall first-placed Vet. Admittedly, the club dropped a place from last year's team title competition, but we got off to such a bad start this year finishing 6th in the first race. From there, we finished 4th, 3rd, 2nd, 1st, and 3rd. Hopefully, for next year, we'll get all our runners out in force from race one. Next year's team title is ours for the taking. Will we want to take it? Stay tuned. Here are the dates for next year. Mark them in your calendar.

Assembly League 1996 (7:00 start)

Thur, 11 April Forbanks

Thur, 2 May Blackheath

Thur, 6 June Victoria Park

Thur, 4 July Blackheath

Thur, 1 Aug Victoria Park

Thur, 5 Sep Forbanks

1 E. Southam (Well)	14:08
4 Richard Newbold	14:38
12 Terry O'Neill	15:10
20 Pete Eldridge	15:35
43 Les Austin	16:24
58 Les Vials	17:04

'A' Team Results

1 Dulwich	30
2 Kent	42
3 VPH	79

Final 'A' Team Positions (9 teams)

1 Dulwich	67
2 Kent	61
3 VPH	59
4 Cambridge	58
5 Eltham	49

Final 'B' Team Positions (11 teams)

1 Dulwich	68
2 VPH	52
3 Cambridge	51

Final Individual Title

1 E. Southam	125
2 Richard Newbold	119

3 R. Foley 115

VPH 1 Mile Road Champs, Victoria Park, 21 Sep 95

Last year's time in brackets.

1 Richard Newbold	4:34 (4:30)
2 Terry O'Neill	4:45 (4:52)
3 Jim Roche	4:47 (5:21!)
4 Andy Wheeler	4:52
5 Pete Eldridge	4:53
6 Gary French	4:58
7 Boyd Underwood	5:14 (5:00)
8 Joe Laboda	5:21
9 Richard Martin	5:37 (5:55)
10 Hanna Robson	5:48
11 Annie Gammon	6:07
12 Andy McCourt	6:14 (6:05)

Eastern Counties (Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire) Open Decathlon Championships, Peterborough, 23 - 24 Sep 95

2nd Wayne DuBose 4892 (New Club Vets Record. Previous record set by Wayne DuBose 4876)

100 - 12.5	110H - 18.8 (42")
LJ - 5.30	DT - 31.98
SP - 10.94	PV - 3.00
HJ - 1.57	JT - 47.38
400 - 56.1	1500 - 4:59.2

Extremely windy conditions affected the last three events.

VPH 5-Mile Club H'cap 28 Sep 95

A welcome return by Phil Hampshire, out of action for seven months with a leg injury.

	H'Cap	Actual
1 Phil Hampshire	54:43	27:48
2 Boyd Underwood	55:16	31:36
3 Ted Flowers	55:54	40:13
4 Joe Laboda	55:56	29:12
5 Les Vials	56:03	29:19
6 Andy McCourt	56:13	33:13
7 Eddie Carlyle	57:10	34:10
8 Gary Luff	57:11	28:54
9 Annie Gammon	57:20	34:20
10 Chris Lawn	57:42	34:42

Wheeler Tops For VPH In Two Chingford Races

11 Andy Wheeler	57:50	26:20
12 Pete Eldridge	57:51	28:03
13 Terry O'Neill	58:21	27:23
14 Hanna Robson	59:10	33:32
15 Clair Bojczuk	61:38	50:58
16 Frank Massingham	61:39	50:59
17 Ronnie Curle	62:15	51:35

Cabbage Patch 10, Twickenham, 1 Oct 95

1st Aurelio Handanga (Angola)	49:47
43 Terry O'Neill (6/102)	58:02
63 George Hart (51/236)	59:40
97 Gary Luff (70/236)	62:26
134 Les Vialls (12/88)	65:05
194 Joe Laboda (110/236)	68:00
249 Jeremy French (132/236)	70:01
281 Annie Gammon (12/63)	71:22

Numbers in brackets represent position finished in age or gender category and number of competitors in that category. There were a total of 686 finishers.

Chingford League 5K, Eastway, 3 Oct 95 (Race 1)

1 M. Smith (Har)	15:28
11 A. Wheeler	16:03
15 R. Newbold	16:12
25 T. O'Neill	16:50
26 P. Eldridge	16:57
32 P. McKenna	17:07
52 G. Luff	17:34
56 G. Rutten	17:45
57 G. Hart	17:45
65 J. Laboda	18:10
71 J. George	18:24
75 C. Hollis	18:32
88 L. Vialls	18:55
106 J. French	19:38
162 T. Coleman (L)	25:42
163 S. Brooks-Webb (L)	25:43

(167 finished)

'A' Teams (12 teams)

1 Woodford Green	80
2 Haringey	106
3 Barnet	128
4 VPH	161

'B' Teams (11 teams)

1 VPH	412
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2 Barnet	449
Vets Teams (11 teams)	
1 Barnet	125
9 VPH	449

Ladies Teams (9 teams)

1 Essex	12
8 VPH	93

Chingford League 5M X-C, Loughton, 14 Oct 95

1 M. Smith (Har)	27:11
5 A. Wheeler	28:04
9 J. Roche	28:14
10 R. Newbold	28:21
15 T. O'Neill	29:20
16 B. McKenna	29:25
23 G. Hart	29:51
28 G. Rutten	30:10
56 J. George	31:31
59 G. Luff	31:44
65 J. Laboda	32:01
73 L. Vialls	32:29
90 G. Tiffany	33:31
101 R. Martin	34:26

(168 finished)

'A' Teams (12 teams)

1 Haringey	67
2 VPH	78
3 Barnet	153

'B' Teams (10 teams)

1 Orion	364
2 VPH	371
3 Trent Park	492

Vets Teams (12 teams)

1 Barnet	122
8 VPH	426

League Positions After 2 Races

'A' Teams

1 Haringey	25
2 Barnet	22
3 VPH	22
4 Enfield	19

'B' Teams

1 VPH	25
2 Orion	24

3 Barnet	21
Vets Teams	
1 Barnet	26
7 VPH	11

Committee Meeting Minutes From Years Past

10 Apr 57, Backyard Club, Eastway
Cross-Country Report - The Championships were won by R.V. Iron - 5 miles Senior and 5 miles Junior. Special note should be made that R. Iron was the first member to win both the Junior and Senior Events in the same season.

The President then thought it opportune to thank Geoff Iden and the Flowers Brothers, Jack and Ted, for the wonderful way in which they had carried the Club colours in their many road races and stated that he was sorry to see them coming to the end of their successful careers on the Road.

6 May 57, Backyard Club, Eastway
Any Other Business - Mr L. Williams stated that he was going to see St Marks (sic) Hall, Cadogan Terrace, which was vacant, with the idea of a club headquarters.

14 Oct 57, Backyard Club, Eastway
AOB - Mr Moseley spoke on the premises at Cadogan Terrace. Both Mr L. Williams and himself had met an agent of the Church Commissioners who mentioned that the premises were to be disposed of and a suggested cost of £4,000 to £6,000 was mentioned.

3 Feb 58, Backyard Club, Eastway
Social - Social Secretary mentioned that the prices at Williamson's Tavern had been increased. This would mean that the price of tickets for the annual Dinner would have to be fixed at over £1.

AOB - Proposed by D. West, seconded by F. Fuller, that the Secretary purchase two blankets and a pillow for use by the

Club Committee Meeting Minutes From Yesteryear

Club Masseur - Carried.

5 May 58, Backyard Club, Eastway

Treasurer's Report - Following a resolution passed at the last meeting, the Social Secretary was asked to give an explanation of the figures shown in the dance. He was unable to explain the difference between the tickets that were thought to have sold and the number shown by the Treasurer's account. After a general discussion, Mr Murnane proposed that a note of censure be passed on the Social Secretary and that he be relieved of his position. This motion was seconded by Mr Moseley and carried.

Development Fund - Mr Moseley reported that he had had further talks with the Surveyors representing the owners of St Augustine Hall. He pointed out to them that we could not accept the proposal discussed at the last meeting and that before we could make any definite decisions it would be necessary to await the results of our efforts to raise money. Mr Moseley had made a counter proposal that we occupy the premises at a rental of £2 per week for two years.

8 Sep 58, Backyard Club, Eastway

New Premises - All glazing had been completed and the roof had been repaired.

6 Oct 58, Club Headquarters, Cadogan Terrace

(First committee meeting held here)

2 May 60, Club Headquarters

Mr Murnane mentioned that a Deed of Trust must be formed, proposed by Mr D. West and seconded Mr A. Gillett that the following act as Trustees: Messrs H. Marshall, A.T. Whyman, F.A. Moseley, E. Murnane, and G. Hemsworth.

5 Dec 60, Club Headquarters

Treasurer's Report - Mr Williams submitted a list of 193 total members of the Club at present. Another 46 names were read out and it was agreed to write these names off the membership of the Club.

Cross-Country Report - Mr West gave a full description of the past month's activities. Special mention being made of R. V. Iron 2nd in N.O. Thames.

6 Feb 61, Club Headquarters

Cross-Country - Much discussion ensued regarding the lack of runners in cross-country races. It was thought that more Mob Matches on the road would attract the runners. Mr Iron suggested that the Club join the Chingford League.

2 Apr 62, Club Headquarters

AOB - Mr Murname pointed out that the VP track had never had any major work carried out since it had been laid in the First World War.....Mention was made of the proposed building of a new athletic stadium near Mile End Station in the near future.

6 July 62, Club Headquarters

New Members - Youths : J. K. Anstey, M. W. Harding.

3 Dec 62, Club Headquarters

The Secretary informed the meeting that the language in the Ladies Room was appalling, and the girls be warned. Should this continue, then the members would be brought before the Committee to be dealt with.

6 Apr 64, Club Headquarters

Management Committee - The Secretary spoke of leaks in the Hall roof.

4 May 64, Club Headquarters

New Members - Youths: M. J. Fitzgibbon (Editor's Note - Is that who I think

it is? Our current pole vaulter? The answer I found out is yes.)

5 Oct 64, Club Headquarters

Management Committee - The Secretary informed meeting that he had spoken to Mr Whyman regarding a new leak in the hall roof.

5 Jul 65, Club Headquarters

Treasurer's Report - Mr Coombes spoke of some 63 subs being outstanding this year and over a period of 4 years approximately 100.

Management Committee - Mr Moseley suggested that Mr Whyman be approached to visit the Club and advise what steps to be taken to arrest the spread of fungus and damp wall in the mens' dressing room.

3 Nov 65, Club Headquarters

Management Committee - Mr Coombes remarked upon the various roof repairs which were necessary,

AOB - Mr Harding referred to his not having paid any subs also Mr Anstey since their first year of admission. Mr Coombes stated that he had no application forms in respect of these two members. (Editor's Note - Refer to 6 Jul 62). A long discussion ensued upon the tentative suggestion of Mr Seabrook that the Club change the name of Victoria Park Harriers to Tower Hamlets AC and use the new King George VI Stadium.

1 Dec 65, Club Headquarters

Matters Arising - The roof repairs of the back toilet had been repaired by Mr Coombes and no visible leaks were apparent now. Both Mr Harding and Mr Anstey's subscriptions had been paid and new forms completed.

16 Oct 68, Club Headquarters

A special meeting held to discuss the affairs of Victoria Park Harriers after the death of George Hemsworth, the

Important Club Dates For 1996

Club's General Honorary Secretary. He was elected to this position in 1937 and had held the post, with the exception of one year, until his death on 4 Oct at St Bart's Hospital. He was 60 years old.

11 Apr 69, Club Headquarters

Track (G.R. Everson) - A report was made by Hon Track Sec. on a meeting held to discuss the new Southern League. The section in which VPH are involved consists of 6 clubs and 10 May 69 is the date when VPH will be host for a meeting at Victoria Park.

8 May 69, Club Headquarters

New Member - Wayne DuBose (14)

Magazine - G.R. Everson hinted that he was finding it a little difficult these days and would like a volunteer to edit and produce the magazine. He has been editor since 1952.

5 Sep 69, Club Headquarters

A chance remark led to a long discussion regarding the future of the club. It was thought that through lack of active athletes and new blood coming into the club, some additional sport such as football may attract new members.

5 Feb 71, Club Headquarters

AOB - G. Dodkin complained that the boys are not informed of future races. Mr Coombes suggested that he be invited to join VPH as an honorary member and could then be coopted onto the committee. He would then be fully acquainted of the boys' activities. At this moment, Mrs Dodkin made her entry into the committee room and caused quite a disturbance with her outburst because boys had been ejected by R. Small, the caretaker of the premises. Mr Small thought he was quite in order to take the action he did because of the bad behaviour of these boys.

5 Mar 71, Club Headquarters

Resignation - M. Dodkin (Youth)

AOB - The G. Hemsworth Fund reached the sum of £145 for distribution, £183 has already been spent in the decoration of the canteen, to be called The George Hemsworth Room.

2 Jul 71, Club Headquarters

Track - It was agreed that expenses incurred by J. Smith and Wayne DuBose (Editor's Note - sorry, Jeff, they spelled my name out in full) should be met. These were for meetings when they represented the club (Editor's Note - I'm Wayne DuBose. Does this ruling still hold?).

AOB - Mr Daniels thought that as the main hall was our main asset, it should be repaired and decorated by a competent firm of builders. Estimates from several builders could be received and be sent to the council (or other bodies) in an endeavour to obtain a subsidy towards the cost which could be exceedingly high. The Treasurer pointed out that the Club could not bear the cost themselves.

1 Oct 71, Club Headquarters

AOB - The committee voted by a show of hands that Jeff Smith and W. DuBose (Editor's Note - OK, Jeff, we're even) should share the Sullivan Trophy from the past season (more Editor's Note - I believe this was the last time the trophy was ever presented and Jeff kindly took the burden of possession off me by keeping the trophy in his house for the full 12 months.)

29 Oct 71, Club Headquarters (AGM)

Mr V. Faley proposed an amendment as follows: all subscription fees be doubled to £2, £1, and 50 new pence. This was seconded by J. Flowers. On a vote, the amendment that fees should be doubled and water money still payable was carried by 9 votes to 7.

7 Jan 72, Club Headquarters

Cross-Country Report (J. Anstey) - Only four runners turned out for VPH at Enfield in Chingford and District meeting on 11 Dec. In our 5M X-C Champs, our new man, J. Pollock, was unfortunate in that he ran off the course near the end of the race when leading the field. A search party had to go out eventually to find him.

AOB - The Treasurer, M. Carr, proposes to send out reminders to our older members whether they wish to continue their association with VPH. He would gladly receive overdue subscriptions.

2 June 72, Club Headquarters

Treasurer's Report - Balance at end of month £755.73. The treasurer has divided VPH membership as follows: fully paid up - 27; hon members - 4; life members - 46; active part paid up - 5.

AOB - The Chairman made public to the committee the results of VPH meeting with four officials of GLC at our headquarters on 27 May. This meeting took place at the request of the GLC to discuss "the modernisation" of Victoria Park and its implications regarding our club. It seems that the track is to be phased out gradually and that we shall be forced to use the track at East London Stadium which in time will be altered to have a tartan track. This removal raised the question of the transfer of our headquarters to the stadium. The majority of the committee agreed that only comparable premises would entice any removal of our present venue.

Very Important Club Dates 1996

13 April	VPH 5 Mile Open (2:30)
4 May	Southern League (Horsham)
18 May	Southern League (Mile End)
1 June	70th Anniversary Dinner
22 June	Southern League (Southend)
13 July	Southern League (Thurrock)
27 Jul-4 Aug	Olympic Track & Field

Club Track & Field Rankings 1995

100

D. Kosoko	11.5
L. Bruce	12.2
B. Underwood	12.2
W. DuBose	12.5
R. Bruce	12.8
J. Chapman	13.2
A. Campbell	14.0
M. Eldridge	14.2

200

D. Kosoko	23.9
B. Underwood	24.7
W. DuBose	24.84e
T. Daly	28.2
D. Curran	28.3
T. O'Neill	28.8
T. Daly	28.8
J. Chapman	28.8
M. Fitzgibbon	29.8

400

W. DuBose	55.7
D. Curran	56.4
R. Newbold	58.0
S. Clayton	59.4
M. Fitzgibbon	60.5
A. Campbell	62.2
J. Laboda	62.7
J. Roche	62.7
B. Underwood	63.3
G. Franey	64.4

800

R. Newbold	2:07.2
S. Clayton	2:10.6
T. Daly	2:11.4
J. Roche	2:12.2
J. George	2:13.1
A. Wheeler	2:15.4
J. Laboda	2:23.4

1500

R. Newbold	4:13.6
J. Roche	4:21.8
J. George	4:33.7
A. Wheeler	4:35.6
G. Franey	4:56.3
W. DuBose	4:59.2

5000

A. Wheeler	15:42.6
R. Newbold	16:13.1
T. O'Neill	16:34.4
G. Hart	16:55.3
K. Lowe	17:05.0
P. Eldridge	18:39.4
L. Vialls	18:46.8

10000

T. O'Neill	34:05.7
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110H

W. DuBose	18.3
M. Eldridge	21.1
J. Chapman	21.2
R. Newbold	21.8

200H

W. DuBose	27.7
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400H

W. DuBose	61.9
R. Newbold	63.2
D. Curran	68.9
M. Eldridge	70.9
J. Chapman	73.3
T. Daly	75.5

3000SC

R. Newbold	10:05.0
T. O'Neill	10:25.4
G. Hart	11:01.0
J. Laboda	11:27.6
J. French	13:09.8

LJ

L. Bruce	5.91
R. Bruce	5.82
B. Underwood	5.70
W. DuBose	5.46
D. Kosoko	5.24
M. Fitzgibbon	3.58
L. Vialls	2.88

HJ

L. Bruce	1.70
R. Bruce	1.65
W. DuBose	1.62
J. Chapman	1.50
A. Campbell	1.20

TJ

B. Underwood	11.85
L. Bruce	11.55
R. Bruce	11.54
J. Chapman	10.91
D. Curran	10.64
R. Newbold	9.94

PV

W. DuBose	3.50
M. Fitzgibbon	2.80
M. Eldridge	2.20

SP

W. DuBose	11.65
A. Bullen	10.16
R. Bruce	8.09
T. Lee	7.34
P. Eldridge	7.14

DT

W. DuBose	33.34
R. Bruce	27.04
A. Bullen	24.44
M. Eldridge	16.26

JT

W. DuBose	51.14
R. Bruce	28.94
A. Bullen	27.64
C. Vialls	17.20

HT

R. Bruce	31.30
A. Bullen	21.52
M. Fitzgibbon	19.24
M. Eldridge	13.02
A. McCourt	6.72

Decathlon

W. DuBose	4892
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Some Club Founding Members 1926

Club Founding Members August 1926

J. Acott, 102 Devonshire St, Mile End*
 A. Bell, 5 Kemeys St, E9
 J. Bell, 60 Powerscroft Rd., E5
 H. Boyes, 4 Bannister Rd, E9*
 J. Collier, 155 Corfield St, E2
 F. Collins, 53 Englefield Rd, N1*
 W. Duncombe, 3 Worcester St, E1*
 J. Gregory, 96 Barchester St, E14
 H. Peck, 7F Sutton Bldgs, E2
 A. Robins, 86 Roding Rd, E5
 W. Simmons, 67 St Peters Sq,
 Hackney Rd, E2
 A. Scott, 200 Daubeney Rd, E5
 A. Slade, 57 Mapledene Rd, E8
 G. Shaw, 114 Barchester St, E14

I took these names from a list of members as of 1933 so this probably isn't all-inclusive presuming original members left before 1933. The addresses with * next to them aren't in London A-Z guide, but the rest are. Do any of the older members remember these people? Messrs Acott and Collier joined the club on 20 Aug 1926 with the rest joining within a week. If you get a chance, knock at any of these addresses with this magazine in hand and enquire whether any descendents still live there. Maybe it's easier to check the phone book. The occupants could hold some VPH mementos. I wonder if anyone who joined the club in the Thirties is still around?

Correspondence

18 Oct 95

Dear Wayne,

Short break here (Dyfed, Wales), between end of fairly busy summer season and half term week, so thought to drop a note. The VPH News was happily received here and gave considerable pleasure in its reading. Although our chosen tasks are some 260 miles west of the Park, we nevertheless feel

much affection for all that transpires up there, good and bad, and often wish the hotel was not so consuming of our social lives, which for the past 6 years has been nil. However, having seen off the Bank, and now thinking of retirement, it is the intention to take up the invitation to be with you all at the 70th Reunion. No doubt you can give us the date and venue when fixed. Best wishes to George Dodd, Keith Lowe, Ronny Iron, Pete Faley, Jeff Smith, Garry Walker, and the Flowers 'Boys'. All our very best wishes, Dick & Beryl Tudhope

12 Oct 95

Dear Wayne,

What a pleasant surprise to receive a copy of VPH News out of the blue. I didn't know you were back in the UK. I see you're back at the helm of yet another club magazine. Several articles caught my eye. Angie and I look forward to a VPH reunion in 1996 and would obviously like to attend. I presume Tower Hamlets gained promotion this year to Division 5. This should make for an interesting match in '96. I saw the VPH all-time vets list records. I wonder if you were considering compiling a club all-time ranking list? I recall John Anstey producing a booklet for the anniversary of 1976. Perhaps this could be updated to also cover the last 20 years. We are due to move in about a month or so. We will let you know our new address soon. All the best, Angie and Rog

2 Oct 95

Dear Wayne,

I must write to thank you for sending copies of the new club mag, and enclose a donation. I'm glad to see that someone is still holding the baton (or is it Henry Newbolt's torch). I still watch the sport on television but there's too much showmanship nowadays; not a patch on the old White City. We even

had feet and inches then! Just in case nobody has already picked up these oversights here are some more entries for your Errata column, although the third is a mere trifle I fear! First of all, I believe the fastest marathon by any VPH athlete was 2:25:51 by Geoff Iden on 16 June 1956 at the age of 41. Although Geoff's status isn't mentioned in the club mag covering the race, he is mentioned a being "of veteran age" in the issue for May 1955 and in a later retirement article in the East London Advertiser his date of birth was given as 8-10-14. Geoff was one of the few, if not the only, athletes to be given life membership for outstanding service to the club rather than length of membership. Albert's (i.e. "Pat's") surname is spelt Pattison. I still have somewhere a letter written by Major Carr confirming my own life membership in 1976. I should imagine that there are a number of older life members but I hesitate to mention names, which in any case some of my contemporaries can do, in case they are no longer alive. Regards to all past and present members of the Park.
 Alan Howlett

2 Dec 95

Dick, I haven't seen you since the 70's. Hope you're keeping fit. Major gave me your address. Roger, I dug your address out of my old address book. I have John Anstey's all-time listings from 1976 as well as his update in 1985. I'll have to research club records from 1986-93 to see if it's possible to bring the records up-to-date. Alan, thanks for your donation to the club and your wealth of information. I'll be sifting through it and making sure that all records are appropriately updated. Like Geoff Iden, I too was fortunate to receive Life Membership (in 1984), after 15 years, for services to VPH. I'm very proud of that award. Alan, Major tells me that your fundraising was essential to the Club

Jack Flowers Wins 5-Mile Handicap Race Phil Hampshire Records Fast 5-Miler

Chingford League 5K, Eastway,

7 Nov 95

16	R. Newbold	15:49
27	A. Wheeler	16:31
31	B. McKenna	16:43
32	P. Hampshire	16:44
35	G. Luff	16:49
38	P. Eldridge	16:56
41	G. Hart	17:00
42	G. Rutten	17:03
53	T. O'Neill	17:16
63	J. Laboda	17:42
130	M. Eldridge	21:11
161	T. Coleman (L)	24:50
162	S. Brooks-Webb (L)	25:00
(165 finished)		

'A' Teams (12 teams)

1	Woodford Green	79
2	Haringey	106
3	Enfield	173
4	VPH	179
5	Barnet	179
6	Orion	239

'B' Teams (12 teams)

1	Woodford Green	198
2	VPH	485
3	Barnet	499

Vets Teams (11 teams)

1	Barnet	141
8	VPH	426

League Positions After 3 Races

'A' Teams

1	Haringey	37
2	VPH	32
3	Barnet	31
4	Woodford Green	31
5	Enfield	30

'B' Teams

1	VPH	37
2	Orion	34
3	Barnet	32

Vets Teams

1	Barnet	39
8	Eton Manor	18
9	VPH	17

Epsom 10 Miles Road Race,

19 Nov 95

12	T. O'Neill	57:18
21	G. Hart	59:30
22	G. Luff	59:37
39	J. Laboda	62:11
138	G. French	70:15
(394 finished - VPH 3rd in team race)		

VPH 5-Mile Club H'cap 23 Nov 95

Well done to 79-years young Jack Flowers on winning the 5-mile handicap race finishing at the head of the largest club field assembled in many years (maybe ever). Jack's kid brother, Ted, also ran with distinction.

Actual Times

1	Jack Flowers	53:53
2	Roger Brooks	50:53
3	John Green	37:12
4	James Edmonds	40:15
5	Tanya Coleman	40:18
6	Paul Costa	27:22
7	Terry Adams	31:01
8	Annie Gammon	32:39
9	Richard Martin	32:23
10	Gary Luff	27:28
11	Pat Franey	31:29
12	Frank Massingham	50:07
13	Clair Bojczuk	50:13
14	Pete Eldridge	26:36
15	Chris Lawn	33:58
16	Phil Hampshire	26:07
17	Barry McKenna	26:15
18	Keith Lambertson	32:35
19	Graham Tiffany	29:50
20	Joe Laboda	28:51
21	Andy McCourt	32:42
22	Brian Hurst	35:14
23	Terry O'Neill	26:30
24	Hanna Robson	33:26
25	Ted Flowers (age 77)	40:45
26	Liz Kempster	34:50
27	Danny Wing	26:47
28	Gerry Franey	31:12
29	Les Vials	30:13
30	Richard Newbold	26:58
31	Brian McLoughlan	37:34
32	Peter Spencer	45:05
33	Terry Green	DNF
34	Chris Miel	DNF

Ware Cup, 2 Dec 95

1	Winner	28:35
2	T. O'Neill	28:58
4	G. Hart	30:25
21	T. Daly	34:11
(58 finished)		

Middlesex 7.5 Mile X-C Champs,

Hillingdon, 9 Dec 95

57	A. Wheeler	46:34
78	G. Hart	48:19
120	J. Laboda	52:08
122	G. Tiffany	52:19
155	R. Martin	58:24
(164 finished)		

VPH Committee Members 1995/6

Chairman - Peter Spencer
 Club Secretary - Andy McCourt
 Club Treasurer - Gerry Franey
 Committee Secretary - John George
 Ladies Secretary - Hanna Robson
 Social Secretary - Les Vials
 Newspaper Reporter - Jimmy "Scoop" Edmunds
 Magazine Editor - Roger Daniels
 Road & X-C Secretary - Joe Laboda
 Track Secretary - Richard Newbold
 Road & X-C Captain - Terry O'Neill
 Track Captain - Mick Eldridge
 Club Handicapper - Colin Reid
 Subscription Manager - Frank Massingham
 Club Auditor (with Chris Miel) - Ron Iron
 Club Timekeeper - George Dodd
 General Member - John Daniels
 General Member - Wayne DuBose

John Flint (1939 - 1995)

I regret to announce the passing of John Flint. John joined the Club in 1956 and recorded times of 1:57 and 4:18 for the half-mile and mile. As well as being a very useful middle-distance runner, he was also a great supporter of club social events. John became a PE teacher at Upton House School in Hackney and directed many youngster into the Club. In the early 70s, he took up a similar appointment in the Liverpool area. John was aged 56.

Deric Bareford Calling All Former Superstars!

It has been my extreme pleasure in contacting several of us 'OLD UN's' over the past year or so, and you'll have no doubt received one or two VPH magazines so ably prepared by Wayne DuBose. I'm sure it was a pleasant surprise to avidly read them and this no doubt reminded you of those 'Heady' days when the 'Harriers' were a force to be reckoned with.

As most of you may have heard, the Club is to celebrate its SEVENTIETH Anniversary. Well, Lads, it's now on, and the BIG DAY is booked for 1st June 1996, the venue "The Saddle and Sirloin", Chesterfield House, Rood Lane, London, EC3 (off Fenchurch Street); the ticket cost is £25.

I'm personally appealing for you all to give us your support to make this a memorable occasion, as was our 50th; no doubt most of us have not seen each other since that milestone in the Club's history.

You can either contact the Club Secretary direct or myself: Deric Bareford, 4 Highfield Road, Woodford Bridge, Essex IG8 8JA (0181-491-6178) or a phone call to my business no. 0181-985-7770 wherein I'll respond immediately to confirm your booking. For anyone coming from any distance, I can put up two couples for the night (or nights).

What a time for us to meet each other again, and on a more sober note, maybe for the last time?? Therefore, let's make the 1st June 1996 a high point in our calendar so we can have a fine old chat about the great times we had.

In conclusion, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, let me have a yes or no whether you can make it, and on behalf of the Club, I wish you and your families our very best wishes.

Yours Athletically,

Deric

More Life Members

Research through the club records has revealed four more Life Members: Alan Howlett, John Schollhammer, Henry Tabberer, and Lennie Williams. This brings our Life Membership to a total of 20. If anyone can track down Harry Tempan or Geoff Iden, we'd be at 22. (Late Breaking News: I've just received Les Lait's address and found that he joined the Club on 6 April, 1937. Although I don't have ready access to Club records as I type this, he must be a Life Member. This information also answers the question I posed on page 7. My next question is "Who's the longest surviving member—is it Les?")

Club Objectives 1996

1. Win the Mob Match
2. Place 3rd in Chingford League
3. Place 2nd in Assembly League
4. Place top 10 in Southern League
5. 25 attendees per Southern League
6. Attract 200 runners to VPH Open 5
7. 100 active and life members
8. Subs: '94(£1447) '95(£2227) '96 ?
9. Donations: '95 (£280) '96 ?
10. 100 Club: '94(£402) '95(£408) '96 ?
11. Social: '94(£1014) '95(£1152) '96 ?
12. 200 guests 70th Anniversary Dinner

With your help, these can happen.

Chingford League 5M X-C, Alexandra Park, 16 Dec 95

1	M. Smith (Har)	26:34
9	R. Newbold	27:38
12	T. O'Neill	27:56
14	B. McKenna	28:06
26	G. Hart	29:23
30	P. Costas	29:34
40	J. Laboda	30:16
47	P. Eldridge	30:47
97	H. Robson (L)	34:11
120	L. Kempster (L)	38:47
(127 finishers)		

'A' Teams (12 teams)

1 Haringey	92
2 VPH	123
3 Trent Park	142
4 Muswell Hill	151
5 Enfield	153

'B' Teams (9 teams)

1 Muswell Hill	344
6 VPH	599

Vets Teams (11 teams)

1 Barnet	111
7 VPH	294

League Positions After 4 Races

'A' Teams

1 Haringey	50
2 VPH	44
3 Barnet	39
4 Enfield	39
5 Woodford Green	34

'B' Teams

1 Orion	45
1 VPH	45
3 Barnet	41

Vets Teams

1 Barnet	52
8 VPH	24
9 Eton	23

Individual Title

1 M. Smith	100
5 R. Newbold	55

Vets Individual Title

1 D. Willcock	29
2 T. O'Neill	28

Correspondence From Les Williams (joined VPH 8 November, 1948)

Dear Wayne,

Many thanks for sending me the VPH News for September 1995 giving details of the proposed celebration of the 70th anniversary of VPH. My wife Brenda and I will be interested in receiving further information about this. We both attended the 50th anniversary. I am still in touch with

Successful Club Xmas Social - Thanks To The Vialls!

Ken Prevost and Les Lait plus Stan Field, Deric Bareford, Alan Howlett, Gordon Everson and Henry Tabberer. My interest in athletics still continues. In October, I received an award from the North of England AA for outstanding services to athletics. I am President of my present club, Liverpool Pembroke & Sefton H & AC. Pembroke recently amalgamated with Sefton, hence the long name. I expect this will be shortened in due course. I note that you hold the club Vets record for the decathlon. As a coach, this was my main event having helped Alex Kruger and Steve Rogers in their early days. I am now concentrating on the jumps and hurdles. I have two under-17 athletes with PBs of 1.92 and 1.80. Best wishes to you and the Club in 1996.

Yours Sincerely, Les Williams

Dear Les,

Many thanks for your kind letter and the addresses you've passed on. You might be interested to know that as I peruse the Club Committee Meeting Minutes Book 1934 - 1956, your signature is the very last entry. Wayne

Victoria Park Harriers, **Past and Present** **(by Graeme Tiffany)**

In 1926, the year of the General Strike, a great number of London's inhabitants were either out of work or had a great deal of time on their hands. Victoria Park became the scene of much sporting activity as strikers and the unemployed sought to fill newly acquired leisure time. Increasing numbers of men were to be found changing in the open air, and this solicited both fury and a great deal of complaint from female users of the Park. These complaints provided the impetus for many of those that ran around the Park to seek suitable changing facilities close to the Park. A

building opposite the Hackney Wick bus garage, known locally as the Backyard Club, was obtained and Victoria Park Harriers was born. In these early days, the Club had both a male and a female section and achieved much acclaim for its successes on the track in competition with Thames Valley Harriers, the Metropolitan Police, London Fire Brigade, South London Harriers, Blackheath, and Essex Ladies. Two of the Club's current members were to join the Club in 1947. Jack and Ted Flowers, originally from Bethnal Green but having lived in Bow since 1936, are now 79 and 77 years respectively. In 1946, they had returned from overseas military service suffering from a variety of illnesses. Doctors' advice included taking exercise to aid their rehabilitation. A visit to the library led to an interest in running that has remained with them to this day. Their regular running brought them to the attention of a park keeper who informed the Harriers of their potential. Joining the club brought out a competitive instinct that saw them participating in marathons and long-distance relay events such as the Woodford to Southend 40-miler. They became training partners with fellow VPH runner, Geoff Iden, who went on to achieve ninth place in the 1952 Olympic Games marathon held in Helsinki, Finland and sixth in the 1954 European Games marathon in Berne, Switzerland. In 1958, with some assistance from Lord Trefgarne, the Club Patron and a consistent supporter, the Club moved to its present location at St Augustine's Hall at the Cadogan Terrace entrance to the Park. Both Jack and Ted have throughout been active and enthusiastic members of the Club, compete regularly in the Club's handicap competition, and can still be seen on their regular runs around the Park. To mark the Club's 70th anniversary, Jack and Ted have

willingly agreed to act as Co-Presidents. A celebratory dinner is planned to which all past and present members are invited. It is hoped that the celebrations will provide an effective platform for the Club's future aspirations which is to concentrate on building up its youth membership and offering them good quality coaching and training facilities.

Invitees to 70th Anniversary Dinner

All current and active club members, plus John Anstey, Alan Barber, Deric Bareford, Olly Box, Terry Brennan, Steve Butlin-Smith, Jim Carpenter, Major Carr, Robbie Cornell, Roy Custance, John Daniels, Bob Dann, George Dodd, Keith Drayton, Wayne DuBose, Gordon Everson, Pete Faley, Stan Fields, Jack Flowers, Ted Flowers, Cliff Fowles, Ty Gibbons, Mike Gonzales, Mick Harding, Alan Howlett, Ron Iron, Chris Jones, Colm Kerrigan, Lee Kohn, Les Lait, Les Logan, Keith Lowe, Con Milton, Roger Pearson, Laurie Peters, Ken Prevost, Sid Primack, Mike Quanne, Alan Rees, Ken Rouse, Jack Sanderson, John Schollhammer, Bernie Skeels, Jeff Smith, John Sullivan, Henry Tabberer, Dick Tudhope, Garry Walker, John Watterson, Dennis West, Les Williams, and Lennie Williams. Whose addresses am I missing that you have? Let me know right away. Send to Wayne DuBose, 41 Ansley Way, St Ives, Cambs PE17 4SN.

Club Xmas Party, 21 Dec 95

John Anstey, Deric Bareford, Roy Custance, John Daniels, Wayne DuBose, Pete Faley, Jack Flowers, Ted Flowers, Ron Iron, Keith Lowe, Laurie Peters, Jack Sanderson, John Schollhammer, and Jeff Smith. Am I describing a Club Do from a quarter of a century ago? Probably, but I'm also listing just some of the attendees at this year's marvellous occasion. Les and Linda Vialls surpassed themselves in

All-Time Club Track & Field Championship Records

decorating the Bar and generally setting up all the necessities, food included. With 60 or more members and friends celebrating the night away, success was guaranteed. The numbers present at the party are a reflection of what's going on in the Club right now. For me, it was a very special night to be able to share a few drinks with the group of runners I used to train with when I first joined the club. Actually, they were more than that. Being the young teenager I was, they actually shaped my life. Those being John Schollhammer (who must be a close acquaintance of Dorian Gray and his picture in the attic), Jeff Smith, Pete Faley, John Anstey, and John Daniels. As I stood beside these VPH athletes of the past (and my friends), I was enveloped in a warm satisfied glow which I assure you was not from overindulging. It was a nuisance that the night slipped by too quickly. For entertainment towards the end of the evening, Andy Wheeler became living proof that running excellence and toxicant imbibition tolerance don't necessarily go hand in hand (you had to be there). The next Xmas party will surely have to be held in the main hall to accommodate the continued growing interest in the Club.

VPH Vets Distance Records (Provided by John Anstey)

Club 10M	
O40 Dave West	53:38
O45 Ted Flowers	55:01
O50 Ted Flowers	55:54
O55 Ted Flowers	55:54
O60 Jack Flowers	57:38
O65 Ted Flowers	65:01
O70 Ted Flowers	78:54
Club 20M	
O40 Terry Ford	1:57:24
O55 Ted Flowers	2:05:19
O60 Jack Flowers	2:08:40
VPH 5	
O40 Terry Ford	26:18

O55 Ted Flowers	27:46
O60 Jack Flowers	27:47
O65 Jack Flowers	30:56
Half Marathon	
O40 Terry Ford	76:02
O55 Ted Flowers	80:09
O60 Jack Flowers	82:04
Club 5M X-C	
O40 Terry Ford	28:09
Club 3.5M	
O55 Ted Flowers	19:32
O60 Jack Flowers	19:48
Mob Match	
O40 Dave West	15:03
O60 Jack Flowers	16:58
O65 Jack Flowers	19:00
10000m	
O40 Terry O'Neill	34:05.7
O55 Harry Tempan	37:43
O60 Ted Flowers	38:44
O65 Ted Flowers	41:49

Club Championship Records (Provided by John Anstey who converted older records to metric)

Senior		
100	F. Baillie	11.3 (50)
200	B. Allen	22.8 (81)
400	A. Gibbons	50.0 (69)
800	A. Barber	1:55.2 (70)
Mile	A. Pattison	4:13.0 (57)
5000	M. Quanne	14:40.8 (68)
10000	M. Quanne	32:22.0 (77)
110H	V. Bramble	17.4 (77)
400H	W. DuBose	57.4(75&76)
3000SC	P. Read	9:55.7 (81)
LJ	K. Richards	6.66 (83)
HJ	D. Alexander	1.90 (76)
TJ	R. Young	13.28 (75)
SP	T. Bland	13.23 (57)
DT	T. Bland	42.51 (59)
JT*	W. DuBose	55.12 (76)
Pent	W. DuBose	3150 (75)
		(1985 tables)

* old style javelin

Junior		
100	P. Tapper	11.3 (75)
	M. McFarlane	11.3 (75)
200	D. King	23.0 (75)
400	D. King	50.6 (75)
800	D. Callaghan	1:57.6 (61)
Mile	G. Kicks	4:28.2 (64)
LJ	D. Collingwood	6.35 (61)
HJ	S. Smellie	1.75 (66)
	H. Boatswain	1.75 (76)
SP	W. Cox	13.49 (66)
DT	J. Meredith	38.48 (80)
JT	W. DuBose	48.79 (73)
Youth		
100	M. McFarlane	11.1 (75)
200	M. McFarlane	23.0 (76)
400	W. Campbell	53.4 (76)
800	D. Callaghan	2:00.0 (59)
Mile	G. Kicks	4:27.0 (63)
LJ	D. Collingwood	6.35 (61)
HJ	J. Richardson	1.60 (77)
DT	D. Langman	33.74 (75)
Boys		
100	M. McFarlane	11.8 (74)
200	W. Campbell	25.6 (75)
400	A. Johnson	56.1 (66)
800	G. Hayden	2:17.1 (74)
Mile	C. Jones	4:53.3 (66)
3000	P. Tempan	10:46.6 (76)
LJ	A. Corbett	5.20 (75)
TJ	M. Poly	9.89 (66)
HJ	J. Richardson	1.60 (77)
DT	K. Apperley	24.12 (75)

(Continued From Page 1)

member, and a very pleasant surprise, is Joe Laboda who has taken on the promotion of the Victoria Park Open 5 Mile Race as a personal challenge. Les and Joe are proof that new blood, mixed with some of the old, is always vital in expanding the Club's horizons. Of course, all the good work isn't limited to just a few. Another outstanding contributor is Frank Massingham, who risked life and limb to repair the lights in the Hall. Not only that, but he also rightly received praise at the AGM for

his subscription collection for the previous fiscal year. Keep up the great work!

Vacancy Announcement

George Dodd is looking for individuals interested in getting involved in the art of timekeeping with a view to getting properly qualified. Nowadays, qualified timekeepers are hard to come by so newcomers are always welcome. Contact George if you have questions.

The 100 Club

The 100 Club is a fund-raising initiative which has been helping the Club for a good few years now. Basically, you put money into a pool and each month a winner is drawn. The selected individual gets some (I think it's close to £100) and the Club gets some. Over each the past two years, the Club has made about £400. We can do better than that. If many more take part, the individual winner gains more, and so does the Club. If you train at Club HQ, ask Ron Iron details of joining in. With a recent payment of £3,000 to repair the



roof, every bit counts. In the next newsletter, I'll enclose an application form, but don't wait...see Ron today!

Southern League Records

100	M. McFarlane	10.6 (77)
200	M. McFarlane	21.6 (77)
400	D. King	49.3 (76)
800	E. Charlemagne	1:53.9 (78)
1500	D. O'Donnell	3:58.0 (85)

5000	D. O'Donnell	14:55.3 (85)
110H	W. DuBose	16.4 (76)
400H	C. Richardson	56.0 (77)
3000SC	P. Read	9:42.9 (83)
LJ	K. Richards	7.08 (83)
HJ	D. Alexander	2.00 (79)
TJ	F. Gaynes	14.13 (77)
PV	W. DuBose	3.82 (76)
SP	V. Faley	12.21 (77)
DT	W. DuBose	37.58 (75)
JT(old)	W. DuBose	61.14 (76)
JT(new)	W. DuBose	50.52 (95)
HT	J. Morrow	37.86 (83)
4x100	H. Boatswain T. Griffiths P. Tapper V. Bramble	43.2 (77)
4x400	T. Griffiths V. Bramble C. Richardson D. King	3:21.9 (77)

I included these records in a previous magazine, but there are minor changes. Des O'Donnell's 5000 is corrected from 14:53.3, Wayne DuBose's JT with current specifications is included, and

VPH NEWS

**Victoria Park Harriers
St Augustines Hall
Cadogan Terrace
Hackney
London, E9 5EG**

Place stamp here

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