

PAPER HUNT

In 1872 at the end of the football season came an event that is hard to place. It was athletic yet not of the Sports. It was excellent training but happened after the football season had finished. This was the Academical Club Paper Hunt and was perhaps a form of celebration for a football season completed without a defeat. There is a lengthy report from which only extracts can be taken.

'The Meet was at a cross road about a mile and a half from Bishopbriggs Station. The hares got away about 3 p.m. followed ten minutes later by the hounds. Scent was found at the canal . . . over a bridge . . . through the Cadder Meadows . . . to Balmore . . . owing to the children in the village having picked up the papers, at a loss for a track. . . . At it again, past Glenorchard, into a couple of woods, along a burn and into the Milngavie Road. Keeping it for a couples of miles, they passed Bardowie Loch . . . till getting a check at Allander Toll-bar. Taking, over a ploughed field, through a couple of Mr. Holdsworth's woods . . . they got behind Killermont into Canniesburn. Passed Canniesburn Toll, through Garscube fields and sighted two of the hares who had swam the canal. An

adventurous hound took to the water but the others . . . made for a bridge. The hares having been sighted the hounds were at liberty to make straight after them. Getting into Gt. Western Road . . . reaching Hyndland Road two of the hounds made up on one of the hares. A run through Dowanhill and Hillhead (over Gt. George St.?) brought them to the Academical field at Burnbank, Mr. Neilson (hare) leading, closely followed by Mr. Russell (hound), Messrs. Smith and Chalmers (hares) and Mr. J. W. Arthur (hound). The whole run was about eleven miles and the time taken by Mr. Russell, the quickest, one hour 41 minutes.'