

# HELENSBURGH HIGHLAND GAMES

(Under S.A.A.A. Rules)

SATURDAY, 23rd JULY, 1949, AT 2 P.M.  
CAMIS ESKAN PARK, HELENSBURGH

## OPEN EVENTS INCLUDE—

|                                         | VALUE OF PRIZES |                 |         |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|
|                                         | 1st             | 2nd             | 3rd     |
| 100 Yards Flat Race Handicap - - -      | £6              | £4              | £2      |
| 220 Yards Flat Race Handicap - - -      | £5              | £3              | £2      |
| 880 Yards Flat Race Handicap - - -      | £5              | £3              | £2      |
| 1 Mile Flat Race Handicap - - -         | £5              | £3              | £2      |
| 880 Yards Flat Race Handicap (Youths) - | £4              | £2              | £1 10/- |
| Ladies' 100 Yards Flat Race Handicap -  | £3              | £2              | £1      |
| 14 Miles Road Race - - - - -            | Scratch         | £5, £3, £2      |         |
|                                         | H'cap.          | £4, £2, £1 10/- |         |

## FIELD EVENTS INCLUDE—

Putting 16-lbs. Ball, Throwing 16-lbs. and 28-lbs. Hammers, Tossing the Caber, High Jump, Long Jump, Hop, Step and Jump Handicap, Pole Vault Handicap, and Tug-of-War (all Weights).

GRASS TRACK. COMPETITORS' GATE.

ENTRY FEE, 1/- each Event, 8/- each Tug-of-War Team.

Full Particulars and Entry Forms from—

Mr. J. KERR, 88 East Princes Street, Helensburgh.

ENTRIES CLOSE—12th JULY, 1949.

Route No. 134 S.M.T. Buses from Waterloo Street, Glasgow, to Field (Colgrain Bus Stop). Trains from Glasgow (Queen St.) and from West Highland Line Stations stop Craigendoran, five minutes' walk from Field.

JUNE, 1949

Vol. 4, No. 3

# THE SCOTS ATHLETE

PRICE  
6<sup>D</sup>



Excellent study of sprinter ROBIN WARD, Glasgow University A.C. in his first stride from the starting blocks.

## ACTION STUDIES—

JOHN JOE BARRY :: MEL PATTON  
R. G. BANNISTER :: SHEILA BURNS

JOHN EMMET FARRELL'S  
RUNNING COMMENTARY

DONALD McNAB ROBERTSON—A Tribute

UNDER THE GRACIOUS PATRONAGE OF  
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH, K.G.

## AN OPEN ATHLETIC MEETING

will be held at

SCOTTISH RUGBY UNION GROUND

### MURRAYFIELD

### EDINBURGH

(by kind permission of the Scottish Rugby Union)

ON SATURDAY, 2nd JULY, AT 2.30 P.M.

#### FIELD AND TRACK EVENTS

Many International and National Athletes will compete,  
including—

### MADAME FANY BLANKERS-KOEN

(World Record Holder: The only woman ever to win triple crown at Olympic Games)

Invited teams from Iceland, American Air Force, Athletic Clubs  
Universities, etc.

Ceremonial Opening by  
THE LORD PROVOST OF EDINBURGH.

#### ENTRIES FOR EVENTS TO :

THE SECRETARY, SPORTS COMMITTEE,  
BRITISH LEGION, SCOTTISH HEADQRS.,  
23 DRUMSHEUGH GDNS., EDINBURGH.

CLOSING DATE: JUNE 18th.

#### TICKETS :—

|                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| ADMISSION TO GROUND     | Adults 2/-<br>Children 1/- |
| BACK AND SIDE OF STANDS | 2/6                        |
| CENTRE STAND            | 4/- & 6/-                  |
| SPECIAL RESERVED SEATS  | 10/-                       |

EDINBURGH CITY POLICE A.A.C.

## OPEN SPORTS MEETING

NEW MEADOWBANK,  
EDINBURGH

SATURDAY, 16th JULY, 1949, at 2 p.m.

FULL PROGRAMME OF OPEN AND INVITATION,  
TRACK AND FIELD EVENTS.

SENIOR FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL.

5 MILES OPEN SCRATCH CYCLE RACE.

DEIL TAK' HINMOST

440 AND 880 YARDS CYCLE RACE HANDICAP.

Full particulars and Entry Forms from the Convener :—  
Inspector W. HILL, Police Station, Leith, Edinburgh.

LARGS THISTLE F.C.

AND

WEST KILBRIDE AMATEUR SPORTS CLUB

## SPORTS

(Under S.A.A.A. Laws)

AT BARRFIELDS, LARGS,  
ON SATURDAY, 16th JULY, 1949,

AT 2.15 P.M.

#### OPEN EVENTS—

100 Yards Youths' Handicap ; 100 Yards Ladies' Handicap ;  
100, 220, 880 Yards, 1 Mile Open Handicaps ;  
880 Yards Youths' Handicap ; High Jump ;  
13 Miles Road Race.

Special Invitation Events ; Senior Five-a-Side Football.

ENTRIES close SATURDAY, 9th JULY, 1949.

Entries must include Stamped Addressed Envelope for Competitor's Ticket  
to GEORGE WILSON, 107 Main Street, West Kilbride.

## SPORTS DIARY

July.

- 2—BRITISH LEGION ..... Murrayfield.  
Ardeer Recreation Club ..... Ardeer.  
Hamilton Harriers ..... Hamilton.  
English Inter-Counties' Championships.  
Braw Lads Gathering ..... Galashiels.  
5—Shettleston Harriers ..... Helensvale.  
Saxone A.A.C.  
Women's A.A.A. Championships.  
White City, London.  
S.A.A.A. JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS  
Ibrox.  
S.A.A.A. MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIP  
Gourock—Ibrox.  
Border Championships ..... Peebles.  
13—Teviotdale Harriers ..... Hawick.  
MOTHERWELL Y.M.C.A. H. .... Fir Park.  
15/16—A.A.A. Championships, White C., London  
16—EDINBURGH CITY POLICE A.C.  
New Meadowbank.  
WEST KILBRIDE A.S.C. .... Largs.  
16—Dons A.A. and C.C. .... Duns.  
18—MARYHILL HARRIERS ..... Dunoon.  
20—Arbroath F.C. Supporters' Club.  
Empire Games' Fund Sports, N. Meadowbank.  
23—LINLITHGOW TOWN COUNCIL.  
HELENSBURGH HIGHLAND GAMES  
Helensburgh.  
British Police Championships ..... Hove.

- Birchfield Harriers, Waddilove Meeting.  
Birmingham.  
NEWCASTLE UN. SPORTS ..... Newcastle.  
Aberdeen Corp. Highland Games ..... Aberdeen.  
Tillicoultry Highland Games ..... Tillicoultry.  
25—Tweedside C. & A.C. Sports ..... Berwick.  
27—Newcastle N.C.U. .... Newcastle.  
30—WEST CALDER A.A. MEETING.  
A.A.A. Junior Championships and Marathon  
Birmingham.  
VALE OF LEVEN A.A.C. .... Alexandria.

August.

- 1—Great Britain v. France, White City, London.  
6—Rangers F.C. .... Ibrox.  
10—Shotts Welfare ..... Shotts.  
13—South Queensferry Fair.  
Triangular International ..... Belfast.  
Carlisle Charity Sports ..... Carlisle.  
17—Lochwinnoch A.A.C. .... Lochwinnoch.  
20—Milngavie Highland Games ..... Milngavie.  
Bute Highland Games ..... Rothesay.  
Ayr British Legion.  
26/27—Cowal Highland Games ..... Dunoon.  
September.  
3—Edinburgh Highland Games ..... Murrayfield.

PARTICULARS OF  
MEETINGS IN BOLD TYPE APPEAR ON  
OTHER PAGES.

WEST CALDER AMATEUR  
ATHLETIC CLUB

## SPORTS MEETING

(Under S.A.A.A. Laws)

AT BURNGRANGE PARK,  
WEST CALDERON SATURDAY, 30th JULY, 1949,  
at 2.45 p.m.

## OPEN EVENTS—

15 Miles Road Race, Individual & Team  
(Edinburgh to West Calder), 100 Yards,  
220 Yards, 440 Yards, 880 Yards, One  
Mile Two Miles High Jump Discus,  
Javelin, Putting 16-lb. Ball, Throwing  
56-lb. over the Bar, Tossing the Caber,  
Youths' Race, Invitation Medley Race.

## LADIES' EVENTS—

80 Yards, 100 Yards, 220 Yards, and  
Invitation Medley Relay Race.

Entry Forms can be had at the following Sports  
Emporiums:—Glasgow: Messrs. LUMLEY'S  
and RUSSELL MORELAND'S. Edinburgh—  
MacKENZIE'S & THORNTON, or from  
D. WILSON, Hon. Secy., Maybank Cottage,  
West Calder.

## THE SCOTS ATHLETE

TO STIMULATE INTEREST IN  
SCOTTISH AND WORLD ATHLETICS

EDITED BY - WALTER J. ROSS

EDITORIAL OFFICES—69 ST. VINCENT STREET, GLASGOW, C.2

TEL-CENTRAL 8443

JUNE, 1949.

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Annual Subscription, 6/6.

JOHN EMMET  
FARRELL'S

THOUGH the Olympic Games  
are now almost a year past  
there has been no let-up in athletic  
circles.

We have had some excellent  
sports gatherings, and promoters are  
to be congratulated on bringing to  
Scotland such International stars as  
Tom Richards, Alec Olney, Steve  
McCooke, and Jack Holden, whilst  
Glasgow Police presented a wonderful  
array of International stars in addition  
to the brilliant American team.

## Highland Games Looks a Fixture.

Glasgow's first Highland Games got off  
to a flying start and attracted a 35,000  
crowd. Colour and music dominated the  
scene and provided a carnival atmosphere.

The brilliant sunshine enhanced the  
flamboyance of the tartan and everything  
went with a swing.

The only fault with the Games is the  
one that seems part and parcel of all  
Highland Games, namely the heavy

nature of the programme and the  
fact of several events taking  
part simultaneously.

## Some High-Lights.

One of the most exciting events  
of the day was the senior relay  
won by Garscube Harriers (F.  
Jewell, D. Clark, J. J. Donnelly and W.  
C. O'Kane) in 3 mins. 35.5 secs. which  
compares quite favourably with Bella-  
houston Harriers' record of 3 mins. 32.9  
secs.

Young Willie O'Kane was Garscube's  
particular hero as he made up a leeway  
of several yards on champion Ian Panton  
to give his side the victory. While it is  
only fair to state that Ian was not yet  
fully tuned up, it is also worthy of  
mention that O'Kane was timed as doing  
around 50 secs.—a great performance  
indeed.

The season's greatest find is perhaps  
Maryhill's 6 ft. 3 ins. half-miler, H. M.  
Dunn. His performance was



ANDREW FORBES (Scottish 3-Miles record-  
holder) leading from Alec. Olney (England)  
in the great 5,000 metres race in the Triangular  
Contest.

THIS AND OTHER  
ACTION PHOTOSOF LEADING ATHLETES  
By H. W. NEALE95 MALLINSON RD., LONDON,  
S.W.11.

ARE OBTAINABLE.

PHOTOS SUPPLIED AT REASONABLE  
RATES.

side the lead in this relay is only one of several more than promising displays in which he has beaten several opponents of repute. It is unfortunate for home athletics that he was only on army leave and has now returned to the B.A.O.R.

Stylist Stewart Petty came through his field in delightful fashion to take the runners-up award in the half-mile clocking an approximate time of 1 hr. 57 mins. for the full journey. If the Stirling boy could carry his handicap running into the scratch events he would take some beating as Scotland's best.

#### Olympic Hero Tested by McNab Robertson.

The 20 miles road race run in warm conditions which were not conducive to fast times provided a great struggle between Tom Richards, runner-up in the Olympic marathon last year, and six times British marathon champion Donald Robertson attempting a come-back after nearly two years enforced absence from the sport. At 10 miles, completed in 58 mins. 58 secs. Richards led by a furlong, yet at 12 miles Robertson had closed the gap. From then they ran together till the 18½ miles mark when Richards pulled away gradually to enter the stadium some 80 yards in the lead. Robertson reduced this gap a little on the track but was still some 12 secs. behind at the finish, 2 hrs. 5 mins. 22 secs. against 2 hrs. 5 mins. 34 secs.

#### Wembley Course was Tough.

Conversing with Tom about the Olympic Marathon in which he ran such an epic race, his chief point was the gruelling nature of the Wembley course. We recalled the difficult and hilly course at Loughborough in 1947 in which I competed myself, but Tom said it was not a patch on the Olympic trail for severity, especially over the last few miles.

#### Forbes' Fastest Ever.

Despite being shaded by Barry's brilliance, Andy Forbes has put up his fastest ever 2 miles. His 9 mins. 19.8 secs. equalled Tom Blakely's old record which stood for many a long day until broken by first Bobby Graham with a fraction over 9 mins. 17 secs., and then by the present record-holder Peter Allwell with 9 mins. 13 4/10ths secs. in 1938.



Excellent follow through after a discus throw by BILL McNEISH, who won that event, hammer throwing and shot putt at Glasgow Univ. Championships. McNeish is also British Universities Athletic Union hammer throwing titleholder.

Even in the grand 3 miles at Bellahouston Harriers' meet Andy was leading at the bell and though he could not cope with the finish of either Olney or Barry who fought out the decision right to the tape, he still completed the course inside 14 mins. 35 secs.—less than 3 secs. outside his own native record—very good time in the blustery conditions.

#### Students Capture British Titles.

S. O. Williams and W. McNeish brought honours to Glasgow University by winning British University titles at respectively the broad jump and hammer throw.

#### Brilliant Double for Sheila Burns.

Similarly our premier lady sprinter, Miss Sheila Burns, won both ladies sprints at the same meeting for Edinburgh University, a really magnificent double.

Enthusiasm for ladies athletics has reached a high peak at the moment and now with the definite formation of the women's association this quality should go from strength to strength. Sheila Burns is due credit for keeping the Scottish women's side to the fore by the dash and verve of her sprinting which has

been such an attractive feature at many athletic meetings over the past two seasons. Miss Quita Shivas of Aberdeen University is another capable exponent, while Miss M. G. Russell of Bellahouston Harriers took the eye in winning the 100 yards at her own club's sports off virtual scratch mark of 3 yards in the splendid time of 11.3 secs.

#### Another Great "Come-Back."

New Zealander Douglas Harris after sustaining a serious heel injury in the heats of the Olympic 800 metres last year which threatened to finish his athletic career demonstrated a remarkable return to fitness by winning the half mile in the colours of Loughborough from Olympic 400 metres champion Arthur Wint (London) in the new varsity record of 1 min. 53.5 secs.

#### The Three Musketeers Showing Top Form.

The three athletes who were regarded as Britain's best chances of achieving Olympic distinction, namely Alan Paterson, McDonald Bailey and Jack Holden, did not reveal their true form at the Games.

It is gratifying, therefore, to find all three showing form reminiscent of their best in their respective specialities, for they have proved themselves athletes of colour and personality.

#### A Better-Than-Ever Alan. A Stronger Alan.

Alan Paterson now some 7 lbs. heavier is jumping with his old élan and matchless technique. Despite pressure of studies and no special preparations, Alan, by his magnificent lap of 6 ft. 7 ins. at the Police Sports in which he defeated American star Dick Phillips and last year's Olympic runner-up, Paulson of Norway, has demonstrated that he is back to real world class.

I would go further and confidently declare that he is jumping better than ever. Not only by virtue of his narrow magnificent failure at 6 ft. 8 ins. but because of the zip, the jauntiness and confidence in his work.

Alan who has just reached his "majority" may not have been given the proverbial key but he certainly

appears to hold the key to a new British record. Perhaps before the season is out he may have earned the honour of jumping a greater height than any other man has done on British soil. Examinations may compel him to forego the trip to New Zealand for the Empire Games but certainly he would be Scotland's best bet for a British Empire title despite the presence of Olympic champion, J. A. Winter, the Australian Kangaroo.

While on the subject of the high jump, congratulations are due J. L. Hunter in reaching 6 ft. recently. Shaded by Alan Paterson's brilliance—nevertheless such a height is attained by few in Britain never mind Scotland. Hunter lacks height but has a neat, attractive jumping style.

#### "Hot Stuff" in Iceland.

Combining business and coaching in Reykjavik, old friend McDonald Bailey has evidently not forgotten how to run himself according to latest reports. 60 metres in 6.6 secs. (equalling an Owens world record) and a fastest-ever personal 9.5 secs. 100 indicate that he should make his presence felt now that he is back South to warmer climes competing on our British tracks.

It is to be hoped that "Mac" could get finally rid of his deep-seated muscle trouble which has given him so much worry over the past two seasons.

#### Holden Reveals Speed—And a Velvet Finish.

Jack Holden, 42 years young Tipton star, has been revealing form which apparently shows him to be still at the zenith of his career as a distance runner. It is regarded as a truism that speed is blunted with the passing of the years although staying power remains more durable. Thus Holden's running for his club in the recent London to Brighton relay is a remarkable achievement. Competing against men many years his junior he brought his team from 5th to 2nd place in the stiff 6 miles sector showing the fastest time of 30 mins. 34 secs. Even more remarkable perhaps was his feat in yet another relay race where he ran the fastest lap over a 2½ mile trail. Not bad for a man who recently ran and won over the full marathon distance of 26 miles.

In the recent 17 miles road race at Ibrox, Holden finished the course in 1 hr. 36 mins., excellent time in the gusty conditions. Running beautifully round the last two laps on the track he finished like a first-class 2 miler, yet he appeared to be just gliding along so smooth and economical was his action.

#### Devastating Form.

In the invitation 15 miles road race at Clonliffe, Dublin, Holden, Richards, Henning, and Charlie Robertson, were on the scratch mark giving away large starts on a time basis. Holden not only raced away from his colleagues on the scratch mark but actually caught veteran F. Cahill off 15 minutes going into the ground and went on to win by 150 yards in the remarkable time of 1 hr. 17 mins. 43.5 secs.

On Holden's present form many knowledgeable critics would like to see him have a try at Hietanen's world track record of 1 hr. 17 mins. 28.6 secs.

#### Charlie Robertson Did Well.

Although he could not quite cope with Holden's devastating pace Charlie Robertson ran an excellent race to finish 4th, showing 2nd fastest time in the race, thus beating notable stayers such as Henning and Richards. The latter however is of course much happier over the full marathon distance.

By virtue of being included in the select A.A.A. team by Jack Crump, the Dundee Thistle crack received the British official badge and thus has the honour of being an International on the track as well as over the country.

#### Fanny Blankers-Koen for British Legion Meet.

The British Legion hold their sports at Murrayfield on July 2nd and have brought off a coup of the first magnitude by securing the presence of Fanny Blankers-Koen, generally recognised as the Continent's most sought after athlete closely followed by Zatopek and Gaston Reiff. She will compete in two events, the 80 metres hurdles and the 220 yards.

Since her unique successes, Fanny has travelled extensively including among her itinerary Australia and more recently America where at Los Angeles she won a 100 metres in 12 secs. and 80 metres

hurdles in 11.8 secs. Not content with flying from place to place she proceeds to fly over the hurdles and over the flat when she gets down to "terra firma," a real flying Dutch-woman indeed.

#### Defends European Titles at Brussels—Then Retiral.

Fanny intends to retire from active competition next year, but first of all plans to compete in the European championships to be held next year at Brussels. Perhaps she feels like Alexander that there are no more worlds to conquer, or even more likely, now over 30 and the mother of two, she feels that she should devote more time in the home to attend to Jan, aged 7 and Fanny aged 3, as well as Jan senior, her coach-husband.

Fanny Blankers-Koen has played a great part in the revival of women's athletics. In addition to her outstanding performances she has demonstrated along with others that women athletes are not necessarily amazons but that womanly charm and ability on track and field are quite compatible.

#### G. Hogflesh Memorial Trophy.

The trophy dedicated to the memory of the late Mr. Hogflesh is to be awarded to the best Junior athlete of the year. First possession goes to J. R. Birrell of Barrow Grammar School for his performance in winning the A.A.A. Senior high hurdle championship in 1948 in 15.1 secs. as well as achieving selection for Britain in the Olympic Games. In addition this outstanding boy athlete won the A.A.A. junior titles in 1947 and 1948.

The feats of Birrell recall to mind the unique feat of Alan Paterson in 1946 when he won 4 high jump titles, S.A.A.A., Junior and Senior, and A.A.A. Junior and Senior. For this Alan received a special presentation plaque.

#### F. A. M. Webster.

The recent death at 62 years of age of Lt.-Col. F. A. M. Webster removes from our midst one of the greatest authorities on amateur athletics in Britain. He lectured extensively in the Universities on amateur athletics and was responsible for the athletic section of Encyclopaedia Britannica as well as being the author of many books of which "Great Moments in Athletics" is one of the most colourful



F. R. WEBSTER, son of the late F. A. M. Webster has announced his retiral from Athletics. He was Britain's best pole-vaulter, and cleared 13 ft. 1½ ins. at the Berlin Olympics 1936.

and readable in existence. His "Science of Athletics" is also an excellent study. He was no mean performer himself and was English Javelin champion in 1911 and 1923. In 1933/34 he helped to found the A.A.A. summer school at Loughborough College and thus give amateur athletics a boost. His great influence was in popularising field events.

#### Father and Son Co-operated.

In a very personal way he takes much of the credit in developing and coaching his son F. R. Webster, who recently announced his retiral from active competition to his high standard in that picturesque event the pole vault. This event is one of the most technical of all and from an early age father and son worked as a team which ultimately brought much success and a very high standard. The latter won the A.A.A. pole vault in 1936 and 1939 with vaults of 12 ft. 9 ins. and 12 ft. 3 ins. He also represented Great Britain in the Olympic Games in 1936 and 1948. Undoubtedly the high-light of his career was his per-

formance at Berlin in the Olympics of 1936 when he reached the final stages of the competition ultimately finishing in joint 6th position with a height of 13 ft. 1½ ins. the greatest ever reached by a Briton.

#### A Hectic Time.

From Monday, 6th June, to Monday, 13th June, there took place one of the most colourful and most hectic carnivals of sport ever seen in these islands and with the presence of the brilliant American team aided and abetted by Arthur Wint, Harry Whittle and John Joe Barry, it was practically inevitable that all sorts of records should go like nine-pins.

#### Gone With The "Wint."

In the halcyon days of Lovelock's career the American critics facetiously styled him "the Medical Man in a hurry." This description would equally apply to the giant Jamaican Arthur Wint who is himself a London medical student.

At the British Games with American Dave Bolen, Wint certainly had to hurry

to such good purpose that he was forced to break his own all-comer's record of 47.4 secs. by 2/10ths of a second after an epic race in which victor and runner-up deserve almost equal praise.

Wint appears to favour a race run fast throughout where he can come from behind with these long space-devouring strides which take him into the lead where he holds on till the tape is reached. He is less happy in a slow run race where he has to adopt his own pace and is liable to be beaten in a surprise fast finish as in his recent race over half-mile with Doug. Harris of New Zealand.

#### Whittle The Fighter.

Versatile Harry Whittle may not be cast in the classic mould but he is every inch a fighter. He proved that in his race over the 440 yards, hurdles with American crack D. Ault when he was beaten

#### VALE OF LEVEN A.A.C.

##### OPEN SPORTS MEETING

(Under S.A.A.A. Rules)

MILBURN PARK,  
ALEXANDRIA.

SATURDAY, 30th JULY, 1949, at 2.45.

OPEN EVENTS—100 Yards to 1 Mile, 100 Yards (Ladies), High Jump, and Distance Road Race.

INVITATION EVENTS—440 Yds. Hp. Medley Relay, 2 Miles Team Race.

FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL.

ENTRIES close SATURDAY, 23rd JULY, with Hon. Secy., W. STEVENSON, 57 Wilson St., Alexandria, and usual Sports Agencies.

#### MOTHERWELL Y.M.C.A. HARRIERS

##### OPEN SPORTS MEETING

(Under S.A.A.A. Laws)

WEDNESDAY, 13th JULY, at 6.30 p.m.  
AT FIR PARK, MOTHERWELL.

SENIOR EVENTS—100, 440, 880 and One Mile H'caps., and Javelin Throw.

YOUTHS—One Lap and Relay Race.

LADIES—100 Yards Handicap.

INVITATION 1,500 METRES.

SENIOR FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL

ENTRIES close MONDAY, 4th JULY, 1949, with Messrs. LUMLEY'S LTD. or Hon. Secy., R. CRAIGEN, 183 Orbiston St., Motherwell.

by so narrow a margin that the time-keepers could not separate them. His time of 53.7 secs. thus beats the 19 year-old record of Lord Burghley.

#### Americans Dominate The Games.

With the exception of the 440, the mile and the 2 miles, the Americans dominated the proceedings at the British Games. Literally "looking round" French ace, Marcel Hansenne, won the mile with the splendid time of 4 mins. 9.8 secs. from Fred Wilt, while a shrewd late burst by Douglas Wilson in the 2 miles narrowly foiled Curtis Stone.

Otherwise everything was Yankee-doodle-dandee. For Dillard and Douglas had comfortable wins in their particular specialities, while stocky Dwyer pulled off the sprint double noeworthy chiefly because this was his first attempt at the furlong. Dick Phillips whose approach to the bar seems casual cleared 6 ft. 6 ins. with apparently contemptuous ease.

#### Epic Wilt-Barry Duels.

In Dublin the appearance of the American athletes caused Irish records to topple, whilst the talented woman athlete Fanny Blankers-Koen made successful appearances.

The chief feature of the 2 days' meet however were the amazing duels between Fred Wilt of Indiana, U.S.A., and John Joe Barry of Tipperary.

In the mile Wilt gave Barry his first defeat of the season with a tremendous effort on a grass track of 4 mins. 10.4 secs. to set up a new all-comer's record. Barry was magnificent in defeat and was himself timed to substantially beat his own previous best of 4 mins. 15.2 secs.

#### Astounding 3 Miles Race.

Next day it was Wilt's turn to wilt. Barry avenged his mile defeat in perhaps the most sensational race ever witnessed on a 5-lap grass track over 3 miles. John Joe won by 8 yards in 13 mins. 56.2 secs. from Wilt with Curtis Stone 3rd, all three being under 14 mins. So brilliant are those times that some knowledgeable critics have expressed doubt as to the actual distance covered. If confirmation of this could be had the performance would receive the acclaim its merits deserve.

Continued on Page 16.

## SHEILA BURNS

### Wins British Universities' Sprint-Titles



Photo by H. W. Neale.

SHEILA BURNS, Edinburgh University, winning the ladies 220 yards at U.A.U. Championships at the White City, London. She won the 100 yards earlier in the afternoon. A fine double.

## 'PEL'-MEL PATTON

THEY call him the "world's fastest human" and no wonder! He recently stopped the watches at 9.1 secs. for the 100 yards, but, there was a following wind of 6.6 miles per hour registered and consequently the time is disregarded for record purposes. Mel won't worry. His terrific world-record of 9.3 secs. for 100 yards, set at Fresno, U.S.A., on 15th May, 1948, has been ratified.

The stream-lined student from sun-drenched California has staked further claims to the title of fastest human ever by setting a new world's best for the 220 yds. through covering the distance in 20.2 secs. on a straight course.

At the Olympic Games last year he did not reveal himself at his best in the classic 100 metres and could only finish 5th in the final, but, with the time of 21.1 secs. for the 200 metres he made amends by taking that title in magnificent fashion.





Photo by H. W. Neale.

## ROGER GILBERT BANNISTER

BRITAIN has indeed a wonderful prospect for the 1,500 metres at the Helsinki Olympic Games in 1952 in R. G. Bannister, President of Oxford University Athletic Club. He has revealed his early promise as, when as Oxford's 3rd string, he won the mile in the annual Oxford-Cambridge match in 1947 when just a 17 year-old. On account of his youth he declined to be considered as an Olympic "probable" for the London Games last year. Showing progressive form each season, the 6 ft. tall, long-striding student is now a master of pace-judgement and has broken several records, and with ease has beaten 4 mins. 20 secs. for the mile regularly this season.

Inter-varsity Cross-Country Championship running during the winter proved his stamina. Now in his best race so far, as captain of the combined Oxford-Cambridge visiting team, he won a superlative mile in 4 mins. 11.1 secs. at the famous Palmer Stadium, Princeton, New Jersey, U.S.A. This was the second fastest mile set in the United States this year. Shades of things to come!

### G-Man Catches Tired "Hare."

Despite their hectic week of athletics the American team of athletes finished up their programme at the Glasgow Police Sports with displays worthy of their exceptional talent.

Fred Wilt and John Joe Barry again fought out a terrific struggle in the 2 miles but the Yank who is a member of the F.B.I., popularly known as a G-man, brought out a finish worthy of Zatopek to beat the "Ballycurren" Hare in 9 mins. 5 2/10ths secs. which beat Alfred Shrubbs' all-comers' record of 9 mins. 9.3 secs. set up away back in 1909. Barry was also inside the old figures and both received an ovation worthy of their efforts.

Subject to confirmation all-comers' records were also set up by Harrison Dillard and Dick Ault in the hurdle events and by Herb Douglas in the broad jump. Veteran Don Finlay ran surprisingly well to hold his renowned opponent

for nearly three-quarters of the journey. In the special 440 Dave Bolen strode out gracefully to win on his own and though Doug. Harris of New Zealand could do no better than 1 min. 54.3 secs. in the special half-mile, his facile striding seemed to indicate that he is well on the road to recovery from the serious Achilles' injury sustained in last year's Olympics.

### "So Tired."

The popular tune might easily be the theme song of the American team as they left once more for the Western Hemisphere. In August a larger team is expected to come over in a contest versus Scandinavia, and it is just possible that some of them may manage to show their paces in various parts of these islands. If they are as colourful and talented as the recent contingent they will be well worth seeing.

### The 'Wonder Man.'

The above title is descriptive of a well-known stage and variety star but might be equally apt to describe John Joe Barry after setting up a new world's best for 1½ miles of 6 mins. 33.8 secs. This distance is not officially recognised and is therefore not competed over so often as others. Nevertheless it still represents a feat of great merit as Glen Cunningham, the previous holder, was quite a runner, having held the world record for the mile for some time. But when it is realised that Barry must have been tired after a hectic week of record-breaking contests the value of his great run is enhanced.

### Memories of Tom Riddell.

Tom Riddell who held the British all-comers' record with 6 mins. 36 5/10ths secs. was also in rampant form when he set that record. In 1935, in the Great Britain v. Germany contest, the rufus-locked Tom was beaten by only 2/10ths of a sec. by German ace Schaumberg over 1,500 metres in 3 mins. 54 secs., which works out at approximately a mile in 4 mins. 12 secs.

Thus it would appear that Barry has an excellent chance of getting near Wooderson's Scottish all-comers' mile record of 4 mins. 11 secs. now that he has decided to concentrate on that distance for a spell provided his rather hectic programme does not deprive him of his sparkle.



At 38 years of age, popular HARRY CHURCHER (Bellgrave H.) walked 5 miles in 35 mins. 33 secs. taking 10.4 secs. off his previous world's record.

## GLASGOW POLICE SPORTS

held at HAMPDEN PARK,  
on SATURDAY, 11th JUNE, 1949.

### Invitation Events—

- 100 Yards.—1. Robin Ward (Glasgow Univ.), 3 yds.; 2. W. Christie (Bellahouston H.), 4 yds.; J. McLaughlin (Maryhill H.)—9.7 secs.
- 220 Yards.—1. Harrison Dillard (U.S.A.); 2. D. Y. Clark (Garscube H.); 3. G. McDonald (Victoria P. A.A.C.)—22.1 secs.
- 440 Yards.—1. D. Bolen (U.S.A.) Sc.; 2. A. B. Watts (England) 12 yds.; 3. P. Dolan (Eire) 4 yds.—48.4 secs.
- 550 Yards.—1. T. Begg (Glasgow Univ.), 40 yds.; 2. S. Petty (St. Modan's) 36 yds.; 3. A. Boyson (Norway), 18 yds.—1 min. 52.1 secs.
- Two Miles.—1. F. Wilt (U.S.A.) Sc.; 2. J. J. Barry (St. Machan's Sc.); 3. L. Theys (Belgium), 32 yds.—9 mins. 5.2 secs. (new Scottish all-comers' record).
- 120 Yards Hurdles.—1. Harrison Dillard (U.S.A.); 2. D. O. Finlay (England); 3. E. Arneberg (Norway)—14.5 secs. (new Scottish all-comers' record).
- 440 Yards Hurdles.—1. R. F. Ault (U.S.A.); 2. E. R. Ede (U.S.A.); 3. A. Klein (Norway)—51.1 secs. (new Scottish all-comers' record).
- High Jump.—1. A. S. Paterson (Victoria P. A.C.) 2. R. Phillips (U.S.A.); 3. B. Paulson (Norway)—6 ft. 7 ins.
- Broad Jump.—1. H. Douglas (U.S.A.), 23 ft. 11½ ins. (new Scottish all-comers' record).
- Putting the Shot.—1. D. Guiney (Eire); 2. J. Giles (England); 3. J. Drummond (G. Heriot's)—45 ft. 2½ ins.
- One Mile.—1. W. Williamson (Greenock W. H.) 105 yds.; 2. T. Tracey (Springburn H.), 95 yds.; 3. R. Boyd (Clydesdale H.), 85 yds.—4 mins. 19.5 secs.

### Barry's Best Distance?

Barry is convinced that 1½ miles is his best distance. Nevertheless despite the fact that up to quite recently he was considered as primarily a miler, I am convinced that the slender Irish runner will eventually reach his peak of athletic fame as a 3 miler or its International equivalent 5,000 metres. At the moment John Joe has a spontaneous casual approach to the sport and prefers to indulge his versatility rather than specialise. In a way this approach is to be admired. Still it would be interesting to know what he could be capable of did he pursue the specialised programme of famous Olympic athletes Gaston Reiff and Emil Zatopek. The former hopes to beat the world record for 5,000 metres shortly, while just recently Zatopek accomplished his ambition of beating Heino's great 10,000 metres record of 29 mins. 35.4 secs. set up in 1944 by stopping the watches at 39 mins. 28.2 secs. Truly indeed are records made to be broken.

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## DUNOON SPORTS GALA

(Under S.A.A.A. Rules)

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AT RECREATION PARK,  
DUNOON

ON MONDAY, 18th JULY, 1949.

### OPEN EVENTS:

100 Yds., 220 Yds., 880 Yds., and One Mile H'caps, Relay Race, 12 Miles Road Race, Youths' Half-mile Handicap, Exhibition of Highland Dancing.

ENTRY FORMS from usual Sports Shops, and Hon. Secy., FRED GRAHAM, 52 Laidlaw St., Glasgow.



Photo by H. W. Neale.

## A World Record for JOHN JOE BARRY

AT Helenvale Park, Glasgow, on Monday evening, 13th June, 1949, the amazing John Joe Barry (St. Machan's A.C. & Eire) romped 1½ miles in the world's best time of 6 mins. 33.8 secs. Though the time will be generally accepted it will not be ratified as an official world's record as the one-and-a-half miles race is not recognised by the I.A.A.F. for record purposes.

John set out to beat former Scottish Champion Tom Riddell's British all-comers best of 6 mins. 36.5 secs. made incidentally in 1935 on the same fast and fine Helenvale ground. But the "Ballycurren Hare" was in sparkling form and beat also the previous world's best of 6 mins. 34 secs. standing to the name of the great Glenn Cunningham, U.S.A. His lap times were 59.5, 66.5, 67.9, 68.1 (1 mile in 4 mins. 22 secs.) 67.8 and 64 secs. Many thought that his very fast first lap would foil his attempt, but John Joe athletically is a law unto himself.

Probably the most amazing factor of this wonderful achievement was that this was his seventh major race in nine days. On Saturday, 4th June, he won the half mile, mile and 3 miles Irish Championship. At the International meeting at Dublin the following Wednesday, though beaten by Wilt, the American, he ran his fastest mile ever, around 4 mins. 13 secs. On the following evening he avenged the defeat by winning the 3 miles on a heavy 5-lap grass track in the almost unbelievable time of 13 mins. 56.2 secs. Then returning to Glasgow for the Police Sports at Hampden on 11th June, though beaten again by Wilt over 2 miles on this occasion, he was more than 2 secs. inside the grand Scottish all-comer's record of Alfred Shrubbs which stood at 9 mins. 9.6 secs. Imagine a 'world record' two days after that programme! What a man! At 23 years-of-age there is no telling of what he can do in the future. He has our best wishes.

## Donald McNab Robertson

THE announcement of the death, caused by thrombosis, of Donald McNab Robertson, at 43 years of age, on 15th June, 1949, came as a tremendous shock to his friends and the whole athletic movement. He had been out on a training spin on the evening before his death and had been training conscientiously from September, 1948, for the Scottish Marathon Championship and had intended running in the Drymen-Firhill race (a favourite training ground of his) on Saturday, 18th June. His last race was against Tom Richards in the 20 miles from Greenock to Ibrox on the 21st May, 1949. He finished only a few seconds behind Richards and was well pleased with his form at that stage.

Donald, by virtue of his courageous spirit, the charm of his modesty, and the warmth of his smile and his friendship, endeared himself to every sports-follower in the country. He was a loved figure in Scottish athletics.

He spread the fame of his club, Maryhill Harriers by winning the British Marathon Championship a record number of six times. He represented Britain at the Olympic Games at Berlin in 1936 (7th) and Scotland at the Empire Games, London, 1934 (4th) and Sydney, Australia, 1938 (2nd).

There was a great gathering to pay tribute at the burial service at Lambhill Cemetery on Saturday, 18th June. Many athletic officials were present including Mr. J. Gilbert, Mr. G. Dallas and Mr. J. McCulloch. Pall-bearers were athletic friends, A. Burnside, Ed. Farrell, J. E. Farrell, J. Ferguson, W. McRoberts and D. McL. Wright.

Words fail to express the sorrow at his passing. He was good in every way. We bow our heads in deep and grateful remembrance.

### BRITISH GAMES

held at WHITE CITY, LONDON, on  
WHIT-MONDAY, 6th JUNE, 1949.

#### International Contest Results—

- 100 Yards.—1. W. J. Dwyer (United States), 10 secs.; 2. F. Lindssen (Belgium), 10.2 secs.; 3. J. Kleyn (Holland), 10.3 secs.; 4. J. A. Gregory (Great Britain).
- 220 Yards.—1. W. J. Dwyer (United States), 21.9 secs.; 2. L. C. Lewis (Great Britain), 22 secs.; 3. F. Lindssen (Belgium), 22.3 secs.
- 440 Yards.—A. S. Wint (Great Britain), 47.2 secs. (new British record); 2. D. Bolen (United States), 47.3 secs.; 3. O. Soettewae (Belgium), 49.7 secs.
- 880 Yards.—1. F. Fox (United States), 1 min. 53 secs.; 2. M. Clare (France), 1 min. 54 secs.; 3. H. J. Parlett (Great Britain), 1 min. 55.2 secs.
- One Mile.—1. M. Hansenne (France), 4 mins. 9.8 secs.; 2. F. Wilt (United States), 4 mins. 10.7 secs.; 3. G. W. Nankeville (Great Britain), 4 mins. 13.2 secs.

Two Miles.—1. D. G. Wilson (Great Britain), 9 mins. 15.6 secs.; 2. C. Stone (United States), 9 mins. 15.7 secs.; 3. J. Vernier (France), 9 mins. 17 secs.

120 Yards Hurdles.—1. H. Dillard (United States), 14.4 secs.; 2. A. Marie (France), 14.6 secs.; 3. D. O. Finlay (Great Britain).

440 Yards Hurdles.—1. R. Ault (United States), 53.7 secs.; 2. H. E. Whittle (Great Britain), 53.7 secs. (British National and English Native Record); 3. Y. Cros (France), 55.3 secs. Won by inches.

High Jump.—1. D. Phillips (United States), 6 ft. 6 ins.; 2. R. C. Pavitt (Great Britain), 6 ft. 2 ins.; 3. A. Paulson (Norway), 6 ft. 1 in.

Long Jump.—1. H. Douglas (United States), 24 ft. 5 ins.; 2. H. E. Askew (Great Britain), 22 ft. 11½ ins.; 3. R. Robin (France), 22 ft. 8½ ins.

Mile Medley Relay.—1. United States, 3 mins. 25.4 secs.; 2. Great Britain, 3 mins. 30 secs.; 3. Holland.

#### INTERNATIONAL MATCH RESULT—

1. United States, 63 points; 2. Great Britain, 52; 3. France, 39; 4. Belgium, 32; 5. Holland, 28; 6. Norway, 17.

## SPORTS REPORTS & TALKS

AUTHORITATIVE · CHATTY · INFORMATIVE



## WEEKLY ATHLETIC NOTES BY JOE BINKS

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AND

### SCOTTISH SENIOR RELAY & MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS

AT IBROX STADIUM

(By kind permission of Rangers F.C. Ltd.).

ON SATURDAY, 9th JULY, 1949,

AT 2.45 P.M.

#### JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS—

100 Yards, 220 Yards, 440 Yards, 880 Yards, One Mile,  
120 Yards Hurdles (3 ft.), High Jump and Broad Jump,  
Weight Putt, Javelin.

#### SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS—

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