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2009

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Sidney John Bryant was one of the leading Oxbridge middle distance runners of the early 1950's, and continued to follow the athletics scene throughout his life. His widow was thrilled to see the picture last year's Report see the picture of him (centre), Ron Day (right) and Keith Marsden all crossing the line together in the Varsity 880y of 1952: Sidney's copy still hangs where it always has, over his desk. He was adjudged 2nd in that race, having deadheated for victory with Alan Scott in 1950. In 1951 he was 5th in the 3 miles. In the Transatlantic Series he was 3rd at 800m against Princeton & Cornell in 1950, and 3rd at 1500m against Harvard & Yale in 1951. In 1953 he placed 3rd in the Varsity 3 miles, and failed to secure selection for the US Tour. He competed in the Varsity Cross Country matches of 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952.

Sir Richard Posnett (St John’s College, Cambridge, 1938-40) on May 11 2009

Dick Posnett won the 120y hurdles in the Oxford v Cambridge Wartime Sports of 1940. His career as a diplomat, the memoirs of which can be found in his autobiography ‘The Scent of Eucalyptus’, was distinguished if at times controversial. He maintained his involvement in athletics in occasional coaching and administration roles.

RHB Edwards (Trinity College, Cambridge, 1946-49) on 17th May 2009

Robert Edwards was President of CUAC in 1949, having served as Hon Sec the year before. A versatile and talented all rounder, he won the Shot Put in the Varsity Sports of 1948, and placed second in the Long Jump. In 1949 positions were reversed and he won the Long Jump while placing second in the Shot. That year he and Roger Bannister captained the Oxford and Cambridge team in the USA which defeated Harvard & Yale, Robert winning the Long Jump and contributing a leg of the winning 4 x 110y relay (the Shot was won by Yale's soon-to-be world record holder Jim Fuchs). Among the fond memories of the tour which he contributed for the 1995 series Centenary was a Senior Prom at which, in a nice reversal of today’s ways, the team happily swigged water from a gin bottle.

Dr RJK Brown, (Trinity Hall, Cambridge 1937-40) in August 2008

Roderick Brown competed in the High Jump at the Varsity Sports of 1939. The younger brother of Ralph (1934 AAA Champion at 440y hurdles), Godfrey (1936 Olympic 4x400m Gold Medallist and 400m Silver Medallist) and their sister Audrey (1936 Olympic 4 x 100 Silver Medallist), he became a noted paediatrician.
GCR Clay (New College, Oxford 1926-29) 
on 16th April 2009, two days after his 102nd birthday

Gervas Clay's best year was probably 1929, when he was 2nd string in the Varsity Match 120y hurdles, gained a Standard Medal at the AAA 440y hurdles, and won for Achilles against Wales at Swansea. In 1930 he placed 2nd at 120y hurdles for Achilles v Sussex at Brighton on 21st May and 3rd at 440y hurdles and 2nd at 120y hurdles v Atalanta and the Universities Union at Birmingham on 24th May. He then embarked for a career in Northern Rhodesia where he continued his interest in our sport, being elected a Life Member of the Northern Rhodesia AA. He remained in regular correspondence with the Club, and was visited by Clare Martin on his 100th birthday.

My trip to see Gervas and wish him a Happy 100th Birthday went well - his son was very friendly and showed me some amazing albums in which there were cuttings, photos and programmes from the fixtures of the 1920s! He also had his VM medals - all engraved with finishing times! Gervas happily tucked into the chocolates I'd taken! One of the funnier moments was when I'd been asked to identify the Achilles tie in Gervas's tie drawer - I picked out the only familiar-looking one (wide bands of light blue, dark blue and gold) but Gervas was adamant that it was not the Achilles one and I really didn't like to argue!!! [both were right - in Gervas' day the tie was plain gold] - Clare Martin

From Gervas Clay, writing in 1994 and 1998:

In 1929 I took part in another Achilles Tour in Ireland. I ran second in the hurdles against Ulster: we went on from there to Dublin where we competed on a very wet and stormy day. I won the hurdles by inches but was disqualified for knocking down 3 hurdles: the Irishman who was second was disqualified for knocking down 4.... (On the same day another Achilles team was competing in South Africa, it cannot have happened often that one club competed in two Internationals on the same day.) After the Dublin match there was a big dinner and the chair was taken by the Head of Police in Ireland, one O'Duffy I think. At the end of the dinner he said 'I would like to do something for these boys from London (sic), so I will give them freedom from Police for the City of Dublin for the night.' Drink flowed, and when the dinner was over, I and some friends went roaming and singing into the street. We were immediately held up by a Policeman who told us that we couldn't be allowed to behave like that. We replied that we had been given freedom from him and his likes for the night. He asked who had given it to us, and when we told him he said that 'he had no power to do so'. We suggested that he enter the Hotel and tell O'Duffy that himself. He faded away.

As a hurdler it was my privilege to run against or rather behind Lord Burghley on many occasions. The first time I ran in the A.A.A. Championships I changed and went down to the barrier to go out and warm up at Stamford Bridge. At the barrier I was turned back by a policeman who said I was far too early as it was an hour before the hurdles heats. Very indignantly I turned back to return to the changing rooms, when I met Lord Burghley coming down to the barrier. I fell in behind him and when we got to the barrier he was smartly saluted by the policeman who had stopped me, an greeted with 'Good afternoon, My Lord.' He walked out on to the ground and I walked out behind him, thinking to myself that it was difficult enough to run against one as good as Burghley without being prevented by the Police from warming up.

The same year, I had run second to Burghley in the Midland Counties Championships. Afterwards we were lying on the grass recovering when the local secretary came up and said "Excuse me, m'Lord, but a member of our association for the past 30 years would be honoured to have a word with your Lordship". Poor Burghley had to get up and go off, while Clay continued to lie on the grass saying to himself 'There are some advantages in not being a Lord'. [photo—Burghley & Clay]

I think I have one small claim to fame — that of being the first Oxford man to run in the U.A.U. Championships (I think) 1930. I made a new record in the high hurdles, which was broken a few years later by another Oxford man, David Hemy. I ran in Paris in 1926 in which there were then the International Universities Games. An American walked over to the start of my heat and said he wished to run. He had been a semi-finalist at the Olympics 2weeks before. The starter said 'You're lucky, there's a lane free', and allowed him to run. He won the heat and the final. I was beaten into third place by a Frenchman who had also run in the Olympics. We came over the last hurdle together and he beat me by inches on the run-in: the French press were highly interested in the unknown Englishman who had nearly beaten their Olympian.

So when I come to die Throw no fresh flowers to me; I have loved them in my life, Bury them not that be.

But take some old dead flowers Whose fragrance has gone on, That they and I may cross together The unknown Rubicon.

G.C.R CLAY
12 July, 1932.

From Lancing College Exam Report for Summer Term, 1926:
- Latin -
His success is evidence that the Age of Miracles is still with us; I wish I could claim the credit for myself, but I cannot regard it as the result of anything but Divine intervention.

Sussex at Brighton on 21st May and 3rd at 440y hurdles and 2nd at 120y hurdles v Atalanta and the Universities Union at Birmingham on 24th May. He then embarked for a career in Northern Rhodesia where he continued his interest in our sport, being elected a Life Member of the Northern Rhodesia AA. He remained in regular correspondence with the Club, and was visited by Clare Martin on his 100th birthday.

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G.C.R CLAY
12 July, 1932.
Barrie Strange, in April 2009.

A long time servant of Oxfordshire athletics, Barrie was ever present as a field referee at Varsity Matches and other OUAC fixtures.

Brigadier FR Webster (Christ’s College, Cambridge, 1934-37), in September 2009

Dick Webster won the Pole Jump in the Varsity Sports of 1935, 1936 and 1937.

John Goodbody’s obituary for The Times:

Britain has seldom been prominent in the pole vault, probably the most technically demanding of all athletics events and one that therefore requires regular practice. The absence for many years of suitable facilities led Geoff Dyson, the former national coach, to pronounce his tenet of the activity: “Where there are no pole vault pits, there will be no pole vaulters.” One striking exception to this scarcity of outstanding competitors was Dick Webster, whose equal sixth place at the 1936 Olympics remains the highest position in the discipline by any British competitor, male or female, in the Games. His 4.00 metres clearance (13ft 1½ inches) in Berlin remained a national record for 15 years.

Dick Webster was born in 1914 and educated at Bedford School, which he represented at the Public School Championships when it won the team event on three occasions. This pre-eminence was largely due to the coaching of Rex Alston, later a BBC commentator, and particularly Webster’s father, F. A. M. (Frederick) Webster, a leading field events coach before the Second World War. His technical books became standard works. Webster went up to Christ’s College, Cambridge, in 1934, where he was awarded a Lord Kitchener Memorial Scholarship. He won the pole vault in all three Varsity matches in which he competed and set the first of his five UK records in the event in 1935, when he cleared 3.82 metres (12ft 6½ in). In 1936 he took the AAA national title with a clearance of 3.89 metres (12ft 9in).

This performance took him to the Olympics, where the pole vault was the highlight of his athletics career and one of the most memorable finals in the history of this event. It was also extensively featured in Leni Riefenstahl’s celebrated film of the Games, with the competition continuing under floodlights, as the Americans Earle Meadows and Bill Sefton, nicknamed “the heavenly twins”, took on the Japanese Shuhei Nishida and Sueo Ohe. Meadows won, setting an Olympic record, while Webster improved his previous UK record by 4½ inches to tie sixth place with ten other competitors. In 1937 Webster cleared 13ft on two further occasions on a tour of the United States with an Achilles team of Oxbridge athletes, and also won the World Student Games title. Two years later he won another AAA title. He returned to competition after the war. He won his third AAA title in 1948 and was picked for the London Olympics but failed to reach the final. By this time Webster was in the middle of a distinguished army career, which he had begun by completing the young officers course at the School of Artillery at Barkham, Wiltshire, in 1937. As a member of the British Expeditionary Force, his searchlight battery was evacuated through Dunkirk. He saw further service in North Africa and Italy, where he was mentioned in dispatches. In 1945 he was posted as an instructor to the Egyptian Army Staff College in Cairo. Among his pupils were Muhammad Naguib and Gamal Abdel Nasser, both subsequently Presidents of Egypt.

Further postings abroad after the war included Korea and Hong Kong. In 1957 Webster was posted as Commanding Officer of 42nd Field Regiment RA at Plymouth, the first gunner regiment since the war to be composed entirely of regular soldiers. He was promoted to brigadier in 1959 and subsequently became Deputy Director of Movements for the Army at the War Office for three years. His final posting was as Brigadier Royal Artillery (BRA) Northern Command, later combining this with duties of BRA Scottish Command. After 15 years farming in South Africa, he retired to Wiltshire. He is survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter.
RL Duncan (Magdalen College, Oxford, 1965-68), during 2009

Bob Duncan came up to Oxford from Princeton. He placed 3rd in the discus at the Varsity Sports of 1966 and 1967. In recent years he has been an enthusiastic and generous supporter of the American Achilles Foundation.

John Garrett (University College, Oxford, 1950-54)

E Harding Roberts (St. Peter’s Hall, Oxford, 1935-38), on May 8th 2009

Eric Harding Roberts placed 6th in the mile at the Varsity match of 1938 (his main event, the 400m hurdles, was not added to the programme till as late as 1963). He moved to Herefordshire in 1949 and spent many years in helping to start and to develop the Herefordshire County AAA, and then the Offa’s Dyke cross country race.

He was regular a email correspondent in recent years and in his nineties took pride in having mastered the complexities of his computer:

“In 1936 a travel agent in Oxford had tickets for the Berlin Olympics, and a friend and I bought two. and my Father bought one for my brother, who was still at school. We had no travel plans, no accommodation on route or in Berlin, no knowledge of the lingo, and little money. We biked there, sleeping in Youth Hostels when we could find them (a few pence a night as travellers could buy Marks at half-Price - Hitler needed foreign currency for guns or butter) Four Achilles members were there to support - Brown (Gold and Silver) , Corres, Lovelock (Gold), and Pennington.

“I came across a letter from Jack Crump, the British team manager, inviting ”Possibles” for the 1948 Olympics to a coaching weekend at Butlins in Clacton, all at the expense of Billy Butlin. He goes on to say that the British Amateur Athletic Board could not meet the cost of railway fares, and that coaches and athletes had to buy their own railway tickets. A good party, though, for those of us who were not serious contenders!

“The last Achilles event I attended was the Centenary dinner in 1964. A member present had competed in Athens in 1896. He must have then been as old then as I am now”
Keith Marsden (he’s the one in the Achilles polo shirt) and Usain Bolt in Kingston after the West Indies had thrashed England in the 1st Test.

When Keith mentioned to the Jamaican Minister for Sport that he had once run against Arthur Wint (Olympic gold medallist in the 400m (1948) and 4X400 (1952) and silver in the 800 (1948)) she insisted that he join Usain and Asafa Powell for photos.

The article last year on walking provoked a number of favourable responses, including one from Keith Fraser, a member of Surrey Walking Club for 50 years.

Expressing his sadness at the death of Derek Steel, Keith recalls the half mile in the UAU [now BUCS] Championships of 1948: the start was delayed because Derek could not find his number: an official found a pencil and managed to write the number on his vest. Derek won, and Keith was second in a blanket finish.

Neil Thomas has turned from high jumping and hurdles to road running ‘to stave off advancing age’, posting 4:15 in the 2008 New York marathon.

Keith Marsden (he’s the one in the Achilles polo shirt) and Usain Bolt in Kingston after the West Indies had thrashed England in the 1st Test.

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Sir John Moreton has written in appreciation of the tribute in last year’s Report to Guy Wethered. “We were colleagues in the winning OUAC team against Cambridge in 1939. For the match against Harvard & Yale in July I was chosen as first string in the 880 yards, based on form up to that point. I have vivid memories of the race, because on entering the home straight in the lead I felt I had the race in hand, and was more than surprised when Guy shot past me to establish a new match record. From that point on it was obvious he was heading for a glittering future.

“I remember Guy as a charming and modest companion. I learnt of his death with great sadness while serving myself also on the Burma front.”

‘The Oldie’ Annual Awards

Peter Matthews received the Ron Pickering Award for services to athletics at the British Athletics Writers’ Association’s Awards Although in great demand as a TV commentator, international announcer and statistician, Peter always tries to make time to take the microphone at the Varsity Match. He is editor of the International Track and Field Annual, the acknowledged “Bible” of world athletics, and co-edits Athletics International. A former editor of the Guinness Book of Records, he has covered numerous major championships and Olympic Games as a commentator and announcer. He is chairman of the National Union of Track Statisticians and a committee member of the international Association of Track and Field Statisticians.

Winner

Peter Hildreth

2012 Olympic Hopeful Award

A semi-finalist in the 110m hurdles at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics, Peter was recently banned from Elphick’s department store in Farnham for running up the down-escalators to celebrate his 80th birthday. As he said, ‘I was an international hurdler for ten years and never got the same celebrity then as I did for going up the escalator the wrong way!’

May 2009 – THE OLDIE – 47
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<td>Ashley Nord</td>
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**John McCabe** in 2008 on the basis of a single outing of 53.74 at 400m was ranked 27th in the M45 world rankings.

**John Moreland** won the M50 discus at the BMAF winter championships.

**Hatti Dean** won the English National Cross Country Champs at Parliament Hill. **Michelle Sikes** was 6th.

At the BUSA Championships there was a great medal haul including 4 silvers (Louis Persent - 400m, Rory Graham-Watson - 800m, Paolo Natali - 3kSC, and Humphrey Waddington - Triple Jump) and two bronzes (Ali Crocker—2kSC & Paolo Natali again - 10k), and a great number of athletes making semis and finals and many more setting PBs.

CUAC produced another 7 qualifying finalists: Ben Richardson - 110mH, James Kelly - 5k, Matt Grant - 3kSC, Men’s 4×100m, Ian Simson - Triple Jump, Ben Cossey - Discus, Polly Keen - 2kSC). Other OUAC finalists were Ian Kimpton 7th 5000m, Sean Ledger 8th 10000m, Bryn Reynolds 1st 1000m B race, David Bruce 5th 3000m SC, Alex Skouby 10th HJ, Dan Johnson 15th LJ, Cathy Ansell 11th 5000m, OUAC women 6th 4 x 100, Frances Smithson 6th HJ, Clara Blättler 4th PV, Helen Hanstock 9th SP, Hannah Hogben 6th HT.

**Paolo Natali** prompted a brouhaha of over reaction and recrimination when he won the Norwich half Marathon, only to be disqualified for running under another Cambridge athlete’s name. The title devolved on second placed **Ian Kimpton**. Athletics Weekly then added to the confusion by reporting the incident with two pictures of **Richard Franzese**, under the apposite headline ‘Mistaken Identity….”
EMAIL ADDRESSES WANTED!

If you are not getting our occasional advices on social events, fixtures and other club matters, please send us your email address. In particular our addresses for the following are out of date: please check and advise paul.willcox@achilles.org

A recent Channel 4 documentary on what it takes to make it to the top as a distance runner spotlighted Ben Moreau and his training, which is geared towards gaining selection for the 2012 Olympic marathon.

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Varsity Field Events and Relays Matches

Lee Valley Sports Centre, Pickett’s Lock, London 28 February 2009

Men’s relays, indoors Cambridge won 6-0
60m (run as 2 heats, with 4 University times totalled to determine the result)
Race 1 B. Richardson (C) 7.13, A. Ahmadnia (C) 7.25, J. Gilbert (O) 7.28, J. Osun-Sanmi (O) 7.44
Race 2 S. Buckeridge (O-guest) 7.11, M. Dyble (C) 7.11, A. Bullimore (O) 7.28, G. Kenyon (C) 7.32, M. Ponsford (O) 7.38, N. Stevens (C-guest) 7.46
Race 3 R. Harle (Achilles) 7.32, A. Adeyemi (C-guest) 7.45, J. Greenwood (C-guest) 7.52, XX (O-guest) 7.90, O. Churton (C-guest) 7.98
Cambridge total time 28.81, Oxford total time 29.38

4x200m
Cambridge (M. Dyble 23.3, J. Greenwood 24.0, G. Kenyon 23.0, B. Richardson 22.3) 1:32.56
Oxford (J. McGinn 24.5, M. Ponsford 22.9, A. Abioye 24.1, A. Bullimore 22.5) 1:34.02
Cambridge “B” (N. Stevens 24.6, F. Meshiter 25.0, A. Adeyemi 24.7, O. Churton 26.7 - but this running order may be wrong) 1:40.92

4x400m
Cambridge (M. Dyble 52.5, E. Moyse 53.0, D. Nefs 51.7, R. Graham-Watson 50.3) 3:27.30
Oxford (J. McGinn 53.4, D. Austin 51.6, R. Hildick-Smith 51.9, D. Eckersley 51.0) 3:27.71
Cambridge “B” (K. Millar 52.4, G. Kenyon, A. Lomas, S. Bray) 3:32.15

4x800m
Cambridge (L. Fedus 1:58.9, R. Graham-Watson 1:54.9, J. Cook 1:56.7, S. Dobin 2:08.7) 7:58.95
Oxford (M. Bell 2:05.0, R. Hildick-Smith 2:01.3, D. Austin 1:58.3, D. Eckersley 1:59.2) 8:03.75
Cambridge “B” (C. Coulsting 2:05.7, F. Campbell 2:11.0, A. Thomas 2:10.4, A. Lomas 2:07.2) 8:34.32

4x1500m
Cambridge (C. Bannon 4:09.0, S. Dobin 4:16.4, J. Cook 4:16.6, J. Kelly 4:03.1) 16:45.21

60m hurdles (run as 2 heats, with 4 University times totalled to determine the result)
Race 1 B. Richardson (C) 8.22 record, R. Baderin (O-guest) 8.38, J. Gilbert (O) 8.61, J. Wheeler (C) 9.20, O. Stogdale (O) 9.29
Race 2 M. Collins (C) 8.95, J. Moulard (C) 9.04

Men’s field events Cambridge won 6-2

High Jump, indoors
Oxford 7.30 (A. Skouby 2.00 equals record, A. Abioye 1.85, A. Bullimore 1.75, J. Buckler 1.70)
Cambridge 6.90 (H. Waddington 1.80, A. Fuller 1.80, R. Malekout [guest] 1.70, W. Scarrold 1.65, D. Timms 1.65)

Pole Vault, indoors
Oxford 12.10 (J. Smithdale 3.30, L. Williams 3.20, J. Douglas 3.00, A. Abioye 2.60)

Long Jump, indoors

Triple Jump, indoors
## Shot Putt, indoors
Oxford 35.59 (C. Preusse 10.41, A. Abioye 9.67, R. Shearer 8.37, J. Matthews 7.14)

## Discus, outdoors

## Hammer, outdoors
Cambridge 131.69 (A. Lee 43.45, Wheble 39.29, P. McGarry 29.88, H. Waddington 19.07)  
Oxford 98.28 (J. Matthews 27.08, C. Preusse 24.48, R. Shearer 23.61, J. Douglas 23.11)

## Javelin, outdoors
Cambridge 163.47 (M. Collins 43.76, R. Martin 43.52, R. Malekout 40.30, E. Moyse 35.89, J. Moulard [guest] 34.34)  
Oxford 135.19 (J. Matthews 27.08, C. Preusse 24.48, R. Shearer 23.61, J. Douglas 23.11)

## Women's relays
**Oxford won 4-2**

### 60m (run as 2 heats, with 4 University times totalled to determine the result)

**Race 1**  
L. Spray (C) 8.16, D. Smith (O) 8.16, K. Laidlow (C) 8.25, F. Smithson (O) 8.31, M. Bomb (O-guest) 8.38, S. Hughes (O-guest) 8.43

**Race 2**  
E. Binner (O) 8.36, B. Welbourn (C) 8.43, N. McManus (O-guest) 8.55, S. Madgett (O) 8.73, M. Tyler (C) 8.83

**Oxford total time**  
33.56, **Cambridge total time** 33.67

### 4x200m
Cambridge (K. Laidlow 26.8, J. Lister 27.6, B. Welbourn 26.7, L. Spray 25.6) 1:46.61

Achilles (M. Bomb 27.8, S. Hughes 27.3, G. Clements 26.2, N. McManus 26.0) 1:47.27

**Oxford (D. Smith** 27.4, N. Christopher 27.7, J. Rieck 27.2, E. Binner 26.1) 1:48.35

### 4x400m
Cambridge (K. Laidlow 60.0, J. Lister 61.7, B. Welbourn 61.8, L. Spray 60.0) 4:03.45

Oxford (E. Binner 61.4, C. Witcombe 61.1, J. Rieck 62.0, D. Smith 65.2) 4:09.62

### 3x800m
Oxford (C. Kane 2:26.6, C. Witcombe 2:22.5, C. Plateau 2:17.9) 7:06.83

Cambridge (C. Noble 2:27.8, P. Keen 2:24.8, N. Taschimowitz 2:21.9) 7:14.27

**3 x 1500m**

Oxford (M. Johns 4:52.2, C. Kane 5:04.3, C. Plateau 4:57.9) 14:54.26

Cambridge (M. Cavitte 5:02.4, E. Alden 6:00.1, N. Taschimowitz 5:40.7) 15:53.06

### 60m hurdles (run as 2 heats, with 4 University times totalled to determine the result)

**Race 1**  
S. Madgett (O) 9.94, S. Hughes (O-guest) 9.94, L. Duke (C) 10.17, E. Craven (C) 10.42, C. Witcombe (O) 10.51

**Race 2**  
E. Rowley (C) 9.93, N. Christopher (O) 10.19, J. Rieck (O) 10.34, K. Laidlow (C) 10.85

**Oxford total times** 40.98, **Cambridge** 41.37

## Women’s field events
**Tied 4-4**

### High Jump, indoors
Cambridge 4.61 (E. Perkins 1.66, M. Tyler 1.60, J. Lister 1.35)

### Pole Vault, indoors
Cambridge 7.60 (L. Duke 2.80, S. Williams 2.70, S. Tobin 2.10, T. Hall 1.80)

### Long Jump, indoors

### Triple Jump, indoors


### Shot Putt, indoors
Cambridge 29.44 (L. Duke 10.49, C. Palmer 10.00, S. Vigrass 8.95, R. Perio 6.20)


### Discus, outdoors

Oxford 71.44 (H. Hogben 31.88, C. Harzan 20.98, L. Kwok 18.58, E. Gelman 15.45)

### Hammer, outdoors
Cambridge 92.33 (L. Duke 35.71, J. Melluish 34.64, R. Perio 21.98)

Oxford 82.63 (H. Hogben 39.80 equals record, L. Groom 21.94, E. Gelman 20.89, C. Harzan all no throws)

### Javelin, outdoors
Cambridge 76.76 (C. Palmer 33.54, S. Vigrass 29.53, R. Perio 13.69)  

**CJRT 14.6.2009**
On Sunday 5 April, a crisp spring day, the touring party of fifty athletes and coaches assembled at Heathrow – ready for our much-anticipated departure after a lengthy build-up. There was an air of quiet confidence amongst the team members, supported by the belief that this seemed to be one of the strongest touring parties to cross the Atlantic in many a year. After a pleasant 7 hour flight, we touched down at JFK, and almost immediately boarded a coach to Boston. We arrived in Boston just after midnight, where we were met by the Harvard coaches and athletes, and paired up with the students who would be hosting us for the next three days.

After a lie-in the next morning and a hearty breakfast, the team congregated at Harvard’s excellent indoor facility – perhaps the best in the Ivy League. With a mere four days until the critical match against Harvard & Yale, there was a tremendous sense of energy and urgency about the team. The sprinters and jumpers made use of the indoor track, whilst most of the throwers and distance runners braved the driving rain to train outdoors. In the afternoon, the team split into smaller groups to explore Boston, before getting together in the evening for a team meal in one of the excellent college dining halls and a few drinks in a local bar. After more training and relay practice the next morning, the team enjoyed an afternoon off before heading to a party organised by the Harvard team at a local Irish bar. It was a final chance to let our hair down and enjoy the company of our hosts before the serious match preparations began.

After a quick breakfast and a light training session the following morning, the team boarded the coach for the relatively short journey to New Haven. For the next two nights in the build-up to the match, we stayed in a hotel just off the Yale campus thanks to generous donations from members of the American Achilles Foundation. Despite dire warnings of a certain grisly death if we took a wrong turn out of the hotel door, our time in New Haven was relaxing, and the Yale students were impeccable hosts. The food in Yale’s massive central dining hall was perhaps the best of the tour, and the students were generous with their hospitality – keen to entertain at any opportunity.

After two restful nights in our hotel, the
team awoke fresh and determined on Good Friday morning ahead of the match. At the pre-match team meeting the atmosphere was bullish. We knew that we had a strong team – reinforced by the arrival of American international Shot Putt Garrett Johnson from Florida the previous evening – and there was also a suspicion that the Harvard & Yale athletes were more interested in their dual meet the following week than taking on the Oxbridge team. We knew that if we competed hard, performed well, and had some luck, we had the chance of a memorable upset.

As it happened, the match couldn’t have got off to a better start. In the very first event, the 3000m Steeplechase, Oxford’s David Bruce produced a remarkable performance, smashing his PB by almost 18 seconds to take victory and deliver an important psychological blow. Indeed, the Oxbridge men enjoyed much the better of the opening exchanges, with Bruce’s victory followed in quick succession by comfortable wins on the track for Cambridge sprinters Ben Richardson (110mH) and Ben Ellis (100m). In the 400m, Cambridge freshman Louis Persent – 2008 World Junior Championships silver medalist in the 4x400m relay – recorded a comfortable season-opening victory in 47.67. In the field, the start was similarly promising, with Oxford’s Garrett Johnson taking victory in the Shot with a huge match record of 19.58m, whilst Cambridge’s mercurial Frenchman Mickael Decresac courageously overcame a sore shoulder to take the Javelin with a 59.41m throw. After eight events in the men’s match, the Oxbridge side led 6-2, but Harvard & Yale were not going to lie down without a fight.

Meanwhile, the women’s team faced a tough battle against a strong Harvard & Yale team, but nevertheless performed impressively. There were a number of notable performances by the distance runners, with Oxford’s former NCAA 5000m champion Michelle Sikes easing to victory in the 1500m, whilst German Julia Lange stepped up from her preferred 1500m event to win the 5000m. The throwers also performed impressively, with Rebecca Kueny recording wins in the Javelin and Discus, whilst Laura Duke won the Hammer and set a new PB in the Shot. Team captain Fran Smithson of Oxford competed in three events, winning her least favourite – the Triple Jump; while Harvard alum Clara Blättler defeated her former teammates in the Pole Vault. However, despite the success in the field, the women were somewhat outmatched by the strength and depth of the American team on the track, though they continued to compete valiantly throughout.

The almost inevitable American fight-back in the men’s competition began in the 800m, where Harvard’s Brian Hill outkicked Oxbridge captain Cook in a tactical race that came down to the final strides. This win was swiftly followed by American victories in the Pole Vault, Discus, Long Jump, and 400m Hurdles as the match swung back into the balance. Yet, this was an Oxbridge team that believed in itself, and had the mental toughness and physical skills to overcome adversity. Ben Ellis swung the momentum back in our direction with his second individual victory – this time in the 200m. Then, Ian Simpson scored a crucial victory in the Triple Jump, taking the competition with a 14.00m personal best on his final jump. With an American victory in the High Jump looking likely, the 5000m took...
on crucial significance. Oxford pair Richard Franzese and Ian Kimpton worked expertly in tandem to dictate the pace, and with 600m to go Franzese and the Yale athlete broke away from the other two runners. Over the remainder of the race, the lead seemed to change hands on about five occasions, but to the immense relief of the Oxbridge team it was Franzese who strode away over the final 50m to take a crucial win. With only the two relays to come on the track, it was clear that one victory from two would be sufficient to win the men’s match. With tension reaching fever-pitch, the men’s 4x100 team took centre stage. Oxford’s Buckridge led off, handing over to Richardson who stormed away down the back straight. Mark Dyble, another Cambridge freshman, ran an excellent
bend to maintain the advantage, giving the Oxbridge team a sizeable lead going into the final leg. Fittingly, it was Ben Ellis who took the baton, charging away from Yale captain Brandon Giles to secure the victory. The wild celebrations that followed and the mixed feelings of triumph and relief will, I’m sure, live long in the memory of those who experienced them. However, there was to be one final cruel twist of fate before the day was done. With several women’s field events still in progress, and an overall victory still technically possible, the men’s 4x400 team aimed to keep these chances alive. Kieran Millar led off solidly, handing over to Ellis, but as the Oxbridge hero aimed to make his move round the top bend, he pulled up suddenly, to gasps from the supporters, with a torn hamstring. Nevertheless, determined to finish, Ellis limped round the remainder of his leg, handing off to Eckersley, and then on to Persent who crossed the line to great acclamation.

The banquet at Davenport College that evening was a convivial affair, and though ostensibly a ‘dry’ occasion, the usual suspects managed to sneak in some alcohol to liven up proceedings. Ben Ellis was deservedly given the Liles Award for outstanding performer, whilst Laura Duke received the Boal Trophy for her excellent win in the Hammer. After the presentation of medals and a large number of speeches, the time for the presentation of match trophies finally arrived. Oxbridge captain Jon Cook was invited forward to receive the Achilles Trophy for the men’s match – a testament to the hard work so many individuals had invested in the organisation and preparation of the tour, and an outstanding team performance. With the banquet over, it was time for the real celebrations to begin, and we repaired to one of the Yale ‘track houses’ and onwards to another ‘frat house’ for a lot of drinking, and innumerable games of Beer Pong with our new friends from Yale.

Early the next morning, the generally tired and hung-over team assembled for the coach journey to our next tour base in New York. As a clue to the previous evening’s carnage, Matt Grant was coaxed into removing his hat – revealing a horrendous Mohican (the hairstyle of choice amongst the Yale men’s team at the time). After a mercifully short drive, we checked into our hotel on Staten Island, where we’d be based for the next two days. New York provided invaluable down-time after the emotional rollercoaster of the last few days, and small parties set out to enjoy their free time and explore the city. Whilst some people were keen to see all the tourist sites, others sought a more relaxing experience. Thanks to the generosity of Geoff Hill, a number of athletes enjoyed a superb Easter Sunday brunch at the Yale Club in Midtown Manhattan.

On Monday morning, it was on to Cornell. After a lengthy coach journey we arrived at Cornell’s indoor track, and almost immediately began a training session to shake off the inactivity of the past few days. The throwers went outside to do technical work, while many of the sprinters chose to remain indoors and make use of the weights facilities. The Cornell coaches and students more than lived up to their well-earned reputation for generous hospitality, and we were entertained with spontaneous house parties and more formal gatherings on every evening of our stay. Despite warnings of perpetual freezing temperatures and blizzards in Ithaca, the weather was mostly mild and pleasant, and the rural setting a pleasing contrast with the bustle of NYC. The Cornell medical staff were also very generous in offering treatment to our growing list of walking wounded, and it was with some regret that we assembled on Thursday for the long journey to Philadelphia.

We arrived in Philadelphia on a glorious sunny afternoon, and were met by the Penn coaches who gave us a tour of the majestic 60,000 seat Franklin Field where we would be competing on Saturday, and introduced us to our hosts. We were staying at the Sheraton hotel just off campus to rest up before the match, but as luck would have it we had arrived in the middle of ‘Spring Fling’, the major party week of the year at Penn. We spent Friday exploring the city, before congregating in...
the evening for a concert given by the rap artist ‘Akon’ at Franklin Field, for which the Penn staff had generously provided free tickets. Regrettably, with the match starting at 8.30 the next morning, most of us decided to leave the concert just after the warm-up act, but it was a fun experience nevertheless.

The match against Penn and Cornell was always going to be a tremendous challenge. The men’s team had lost match winners Decres-sac and Johnson, who had departed the tour after the win in New Haven, whilst Ben Ellis was ruled out through injury. The women were also afflicted by injuries to distance runners Charlotte

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| 1500 Men                | 100 Hurdles Women | 1500m Steeplechase Women |
| Charles Hatch, P&C      | Taylor Baird, P&C | Michelle Sikes, O&C 04.32.5 |
| Owen Kimpie, P&C        | Paige Madison, P&C | Lucy Flanner, O&C 04.35.5 |
| Andrew Hayes, O&C       | Lauren Taz, P&C | Kajal Punish, O&C 04.37.8 |
| Richard Franzese, O&C   | Chelsea Townes, P&C | Caroline Hecht, O&C 04.38.0 |
| 1500 Women              | Sally Hughes, O&C | 100 Men |
Roach, Carolyn Plateau, and Julia Lange. Nevertheless, the team had spoken the previous evening about the opportunities that injuries and absences afforded to our more inexperienced members, and many of these individuals stepped up superbly. Mark Dyble underscored his astonishing development to record his first Blues time in the 200m. Richard Hildick-Smith and Jon Cook ran quick early season times in the 800m, whilst Andrew Lee recorded a second consecutive PB in the Hammer. Matt Grant ran an excellent PB in the Steeplechase, while Kieran Millar ran strongly in the 400m. However, the only individual men’s winners were Ben Richardson, who recorded his second win of the tour in the High Hurdles, and Paolo Natali, who produced a classy win in searing heat in the 5000m, having only joined the team from his warm weather training base in Portugal twenty-four hours previously.

On the women’s side, the clear highlight was a 1-2 for Oxford pair Michelle Sikes and Lucy Flanner in the 1500m, whilst Laura Duke recorded a second consecutive victory in the Hammer. Fran Smithson set an Oxford record in the Steeplechase, while倦者&的&Penn&and&Cornell&men&and&17p2&in&tour. &Though&the&matches&finished&16p3&in#pounds&–&a&fitting&note&on&which&to&end&a&great&tory&in&a&leg&that&was&timed&at#well&under&47&secp

Louis flew past the last Penn runner to take victory in the home straight. With 20m to go, Louis flew past the last Penn runner to take victory in a leg that was timed at well under 47 seconds — a fitting note on which to end a great tour. Though the matches finished 16-3 in favour of the Penn and Cornell men and 17-2 in favour of their women, we were up against a team much stronger than Harvard & Yale, and despite the final result many individual performances were much more impressive than the previous week.

The banquet that evening was held in a function room at our hotel, and was followed by yet another house party just off campus on our final night in the US. Though many were keen to enjoy the hospitality, other athletes were exhausted from the efforts of the past two weeks, and chose to spend a quiet evening in the hotel ahead of the morning’s coach journey to New York, and onward flight back to the UK.

Speaking as tour captain, I must thank the management team, which was ably led by Mark Steed. Paul Willcox and Geoff Hill contributed a tremendous amount to the organisation of the tour, and offered invaluable guidance on selection and accommodation arrangements. John Moreland and Mark Thomas were committed in their coaching of the throwers and sprinters respectively. My fellow Captain, Frances Smithson, provided exceptional leadership for the women’s team, and was ably supported by CUAC Women’s Captain Lucy Spray. The coaches and athletes of Harvard, Yale, Penn, and Cornell were very generous with their hospitality, and the financial support of the American Achilles Foundation played a key role in our success. The athletes conducted themselves superbly, delivering many outstanding performances, and the team was truly a pleasure to captain. I am sure the tour represented a once-in-a-lifetime experience for us all, and that we have benefited richly as a result.

Jon Cook
CUAC President 2008/2009,
US Tour Joint Captain 2009

ACHILLES WINS 2009 KINNAIRD TROPHY

With the Oxford & Cambridge team away in the USA it was left to the Achilles second team to claim back the Kinnaird Trophy.

- 100A (mer) 1 Daniel Haque 10.97 2 Justin Green K&P 11.3 3 Dwayne Dowding HWI 11.38 4 Shane Christie TVH 11.43 5 Mark Ponsford ACH 11.60 6 Shawn Mollux SMR 11.64 7 Ashley Bryant WSE 11.67 100B (-0.9) 1 Nigel Thomas TVH 11.23 2 Jordan Smith-Bent(U20) K&P 11.3 3 Tom Evans WSE 11.49 4 Ronnie Polkington B&B 11.52

- 200A (+1.5) 1 Jordan Smith-Bent(U20) K&P 22.3 2 Dwayne Dowding HWI 22.4 3 Chris Hall K&P 22.5 4 Mark Ponsford ACH 22.6 5 Stewart Challis WSE 22.7 6 Shawn Mollux SMR 22.9 7 James Thomas E&E 24.4 200B (+1.5) 1 Jordan Smith-Bent(U20) K&P 22.54 2 Jermaine Alexander(U20) B&B 22.97 3 Richard Agyepong HWI 23.01 4 George Kenyon ACH 23.21 5 Adam Medcraft WSE 23.36

100 NS1 (+1.3) 1 Andre Nembhard K&P 21.5 2 Daniel Ekpe ACH 21.9 3 Grant Stirling ACH 21.98 4 Patrick Logan(U15) K&P 21.26 5 Christopher Jennings(U20) K&P 21.34 200A (+3.2) 1 Daniel Haque B&B 21.5 2 Dwayne Dowding HWI 22.3 3 Chris Hall K&P 22.5 4 Mark Ponsford ACH 22.6 5 Stewart Challis WSE 22.7 6 Shawn Mollux SMR 22.9 7 James Thomas E&E 24.4 200B (+1.5) 1 Jordan Smith-Bent(U20) K&P 22.54 2 Jermaine Alexander(U20) B&B 22.97 3 Richard Agyepong HWI 23.01 4 George Kenyon ACH 23.21 5 Adam Medcraft WSE 23.36
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<th>Name</th>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Steve Johnson</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Ryan Oliphant</td>
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<td>400 A</td>
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<td>George Holt(V35)</td>
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<td>44.09</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Harry Smith</td>
<td></td>
<td>400 A</td>
<td>44.11</td>
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...
18 May 2009, Wilberforce Road, Cambridge

Honours in the Blues matches ended even, with Oxford’s women narrowly avenging the convincing victory of Cambridge’s men. Among a number of exceptional performances, Mark Dyble’s sprint double, Ben Richardson’s hurdle double, Louis Persent’s effortless 400m, Humphrey Waddington’s horizontal jumps double stood out among the men; and Lucy Spray’s sprint and 400m hurdle triple, Michelle Sikes 1500/5000 double, Ali Crocker’s steeplechase match record, Clara Blättler’s pole vault match record, Rebecca Kueny’s javelin/discus double (including a match record in the javelin) and Hannah Hogben’s hammer throwing all impressed.

The Drake-Digby Trophy for the best performance in the Mens’ Match: Humphrey Waddington (Cam)
The Susan Dennler Trophy for the best performance in the Womens’ Match: Alison Crocker (Ox)
The Le Touquet Trophy, for the most improved athlete during 2008-9: Mark Dyble (Cam)
The Paul Gomme Trophy, for the best throwing performance of the season: Rebecca Kueny (Ox)
The Achilles Trophy, for outstanding contribution to Oxbridge athletics: Frances Smithson (Ox)
The Steven Stuart Trophy, for the most notable second-team performance: Mickael Decressac (Cam)

Presentations were made by former CUAC President Trevor Llewelyn, now a respected and successful high jump coach, who spoke eloquently at the convivial Achilles Dinner at Caius.

Mens’ Blues Match
100m (wind +3.1 m/s) M. Dyble (C) 10.83, B. Richardson (C) 10.92, J. Gilbert (O) 11.20, M. Ponsford (O) 11.63
200m (wind +3.8 m/s) M. Dyble (C) 22.54, B. Ellis (C) 22.83, P. Wills (O) 23.03, W. Hooton (O) 24.02
400m L. Persent (C) 48.5, W. Hooten (O) 51.7, D. Nefs (C) 52.2, A. Mercer (O) 53.2
800m J. Cook (C) 1:56.24, W. Fedus (C) 1:59.06, M. Bell (O) 2:05.91 [R. Hildick-Smith (O) did not finish]
1500m P. Natali (C) 4:01.27, S. Dobin (C) 4:02.29, A. Heyes (O) 4:05.72, C. McGurk (O) 4:12.49
5000m I. Kimpton (O) 15:08.02, J. Kelly (C) 15:10.87, D. Bruce (O) 15:15.59, T. Pattison (C) 15:44.26
110m hurdles (wind +2.2 m/s) B. Richardson (C) 15.2, J. Gilbert (O) 15.9, J. Moulard (C) 16.2 [O. Stogdale (O) did not finish]
200m hurdles (wind +0.7 m/s) B. Richardson (C) 26.40, S. Hiltner (O) 26.74, D. Eckersley (O) 26.78, J. Moulard (C) 28.86
400m hurdles D. Eckersley (O) 57.19, S. Hiltner (O) and E. Moyse (C) equal 58.68, E. Katter (C) 59.31
3000m steeplechase D. Bruce (O) 9:31.68, M. Grant (C) 9:40.03, A. McGowan (C) 9:51.03, T. Samuel (O) 9:51.03
High Jump A. Skouby (O) 2.00, A. Abioye (O) 1.80, A. Fuller (C) 1.75, E. Moyse (C) 1.40
Pole Vault J. Moulard (C) 3.60, T. Wagner (C) 3.30, J. Douglas (O) 3.30, L. Williams (O) 3.20
Long Jump H. Waddington (C) 6.98w (6.87 legal), I. Simson (C) 6.65, A. Bullimore (O) 6.58, J. Lowe (O) 6.39
Triple Jump H. Waddington (C) 15.03, J. Osun-Sanmi (O) 13.75w (13.62 legal), A. Bullimore (O) 13.24, I. Simson (C) 12.90
Shot E. Akinluyi (C) 12.74, J. Burnett (O) 12.37, W. Johnson (O) 12.07, F. Schaaf (C) 11.87
Discus B. Cossey (C) 42.44, A. Wheble (C) 41.56, C. Preusse (O) 37.45, W. Johnson (O) 34.77
Hammer A. Lee (C) 47.05, A. Wheble (C) 41.91, C. Preusse (O) 24.83, J. Matthews (O) 19.92
Javelin F. Schaaf (C) 48.82, J. Richards (C) 46.78, J. Douglas (O) 44.35, R. Mihrshahi (O) 43.81
4 x 100m relay Cambridge (Ahmadnia, Richardson, Dyble, Ekpe) 43.9, Oxford (-, -, -, -) 44.8
4 x 400m relay Cambridge (Fedus 52.3, Owen 51.9, Persent 48.5, Nefs 52.6) 3:25.23, Oxford (-, -, -, -) 3:37.43

Result: Cambridge 129.5, Oxford 80.5
**Womens’ Blues Match**

100m (wind +2.1 m/s) L. Spray (C) 12.56, K. Laidlow (C) 12.63, D. Smith (O) 12.63, E. Binner (O) 13.18
200m (wind +1.0 m/s) L. Spray (C) 26.53, K. Laidlow (C) 26.81, D. Smith (O) 26.87, J. Rieck (O) 28.97
400m K. Laidlow (C) 59.62, C. Plateau (O) 60.38, E. Binner (O) 61.06, R. Welbourn (C) 64.24
800m C. Plateau (O) 2:17.50, F. Ray (O) 2:19.87, R. Pringle (C) 2:23.24, P. Keen (C) 2:28.03
1500m M. Sikes (O) 4:55.43, C. Roach (C) 4:58.61, C. Noble (C) 5:00.88, F. Ray (O) 5:00.92
5000m M. Sikes (O) 16:56.50, C. Ansell (O) 19:01.46, L. Barkle (C) 19:08.97, E. Figures (C) 19:51.92
100m hurdles (wind +3.8 m/s) E. Rowley (C) 15.25, C. Blattler (O) 16.19, L. Duke (C) 16.95, H. Hanstock (O) 16.97
400m hurdles L. Spray (C) 66.92, E. Rowley (C) 67.40, C. Witcombe (O) 68.82, J. Rieck (O) 70.26
2000m steeplechase A. Crocker (O) 7:01.04 **match record**, C. Ansell (O) 7:21.38, P. Keen (C) 7:28.73, H. Darcy (C) 8:50.31
High Jump E. Perkins (C) 1.69, F. Smithson (O) 1.66, G. Hood (O) 1.55, M. Tyler (C) 1.50
Pole Vault C. Blattler (O) 3.45 **match record**, F. Cavalli (C) 3.00, S. Williams (C) 2.70, H. Hanstock (O) 1.10
Long Jump F. Smithson (O) 5.45w (5.43 legal), H. Hanstock (O) 5.35w (5.27 legal), E. Perkins (C) 5.32w (5.13 legal), L. Duke (C) 4.94
Triple Jump H. Hanstock (O) 11.16, E. Perkins (C) 11.01, C. Blattler (O) 10.47w (10.27 legal), M. Tyler (C) 9.25
Shot L. Duke (C) 10.95, C. Palmer (C) 10.50, R. Kueny (O) 10.43, H. Hogben (O) 9.36
Discus R. Kueny (O) 37.93, H. Hogben (O) 31.11, C. Palmer (C) 29.84, L. Duke (C) 27.93
Hammer H. Hogben (O) 42.45, L. Duke (C) 39.39, J. Melluish (C) 33.97, L. Steele (O) 32.65
Javelin R. Kueny (O) 42.38 **match record**, C. Palmer (C) 35.74, F. Smithson (O) 34.95, S. Vigrag (C) 32.02
4 x 100m relay Cambridge (Rowley, Laidlow, Welbourn, Spray) 48.76, Oxford (Smith, Binner, Blattler, Christopher) 52.17
4 x 400m relay Cambridge (Rowley 62.2, Welbourn 64.6, Laidlow 61.6, Spray 60.9) 4:09.34, Oxford (Binner, Witcombe, Sikes, Plateau) 4:13.13
**Result**: Oxford 102, Cambridge 99

**Mens’ Second Team Match (Oxford Centipedes v Cambridge Alverstone)**

100m (wind +2.4 m/s) D. Ekpe (C) 11.12, G. Kenyon (C) 11.31, J. Batson (O) 11.78, D. Harries (O) 12.07
200m (wind +0.3 m/s) D. Ekpe (C) 23.73, G. Kenyon (C) 24.21, J. Batstone (O) 24.50, A. Dobson (O) 25.39
400m A. Owen (C) 52.76, A. Dobson (O) 53.86, A. Lomas (C) 54.9, M. Polyakov (O) 56.53
800m D. Murray (O) 2:03.77, J. Mercer (O) 2:05.16, C. Coulling (C) 2:05.62, J. Darling (O) 2:07.02
1500m J. Mercer (O) 4:16.92, T. Heslop (C) 4:17.43, R. Brown (C) 4:19.84, D. Anupam (O) 4:21.09
5000m S. Ledger (O) 15:46.39, A. Chetwynd (O) 15:48.43, W. Mackay (C) 16:05.53, R. Brown (C) 16:26.68
110m hurdles (wind +3.4 m/s) M. Collins (C) 16.44, J. Wheeler (C) 16.47, D. Whyly (O) 17.75, D. Harries (O) 19.99

**Chris Pratt’s retirement as CUAC Senior Treasurer was marked by a presentation by Humphrey Waddington and Jon Cook on behalf of the club.**
OUAC President
Alan Chetwynd

200m hurdles (wind +1.9 m/s) A. Owen (C) 28.45, J. Wheeler (C) 28.50, A. Dobson (O) 29.89, D. Harries (O) 30.01
400m hurdles A. Owen (C) 58.71, S. Hoyemsvoll (O) 58.98, A. Lomas (C) 60.39, M. Polyakov (O) 57.38
3000m steeplechase W. Mackay (C) 10:09.72, B. Reynolds (O) 10:25.28, D. Titherage (O) 10:33.45, J. Brunning (C) 10:38.0
High Jump S. Hyatt-Twynam (C) 1.75, J. Buckler (O) 1.70, D. Whylly (O) 1.65, W. Scarrold (C) 1.60
Pole Vault A. Bates (C) 3.40, J. Smithdale (O) 3.00, S. Hyatt-Twynam (C) 3.00, R. Shearer (O) 2.00
Long Jump G. Kenyon (C) 6.44, J. Buckler (O) 6.18, R. Malekouti (C) 6.16, D. Johnson (O) 5.81
Triple Jump M. Collins (C) 12.29w, A. Browning (C) 11.82, S. Hoyemsvoll (O) 11.68, D. Johnson (O) 11.47

Shot M. Collins (C) 11.54, T. Roberts (C) 10.65, S. Hitchings (O) 9.73, O. Akbim (O) 8.75, Discus R. Shearer (O) 35.84, M. Collins (C) 35.17, R. Harper (C) 29.14, O. Akbim (O) 28.40
Hammer P. McGarry (C) 29.91, G. Dickens (C) 29.88, R. Shearer (O) 23.59, A. Son Khoo (O) 14.92
Javelin M. Decressac (C) 58.73 match record, M. Collins (C) 45.62, A. Son Khoo (O) 36.86, O. Islam (O) 35.97
4 x 100m relay Cambridge Alverstone (Moyse, Kenyon, Churton, Greenwood) 47.3 [Oxford Centipedes did not finish]
4 x 400m relay Cambridge Alverstone (Katter, 54.4, Moyse 53.3, Dobin 52.6, Cook 51.5) 3:31.79, Oxford Centipedes (Bell, Polyakov, Stogdale, Dobson) 3:39.19
- Result: Cambridge Alverstone 134, Oxford Centipedes 76

Womens’ Second Team Match (Oxford Millipedes v Cambridge Alligators)
100m (wind +1.3 m/s) N. Christopher (O) 13.15, G. Hurt (C) 13.64, L. McGarty (C) 14.16, L. Forde (O) 14.27
200m (wind +0.7 m/s) G. Hurt (C) 28.79, N. Christopher (O) 29.04, J. Lister (C) 29.51, L. Forde (O) 30.66
400m G. Hurt (C) 62.89, J. Lister (C) 64.98, C. Seymour (O) 66.02, K. Botwright (O) 67.75
800m E. Crowley(O) 2:26.24, C. Kane (O) 2:27.81, T. Astor (C) 2:28.20, R. Taylor (C) 2:34.51
1500m C. Baudoun (O) 5:19.05, C. Birch (O) 5:19.41, N. Tashimowitz (C) 5:50.40, O. Polunina (C) 5:53.36
5000m E. Crowley (O) 19:05.04, C. Bates (O) 19:17.89, S. Grant (C) 21:44.40 [E. Nordhausen (C) did not finish]
10000m hurdles (wind +2.2 m/s) E. Craven (C) 16.75, N. Christopher (O) 17.10, R. Gingell (O) 19.42, E. Bodman (C) 19.66
400m hurdles E. Craven (C) 72.66, N. Arrowsmith (C) 74.18, R. Gingell (O) 75.66, S. Poulsen (O) 80.56
2000m steeplechase C. Kane (O) 7:39.16, T. Astor (C) 7:59.13, E. Bodman (C) 9:01.47 M. Gorman (O) 9:07.02
High Jump J. Mackenzie (C) 1.40, R. Riiser (C) 1.40, S. Poulsen (O) 1.35, R. Gingell (O) 1.25
Pole Vault N. Molkenthin (C) 2.20, S. Tobin (C) 2.10, L. Groom (O) 2.10, S. Poulsen (O) 1.50
Long Jump L. McGarty (C) 4.93w (4.62 legal), G. Hurt (C) 4.40, L. Groom (O) 4.26, S. Poulsen (O) 4.12w
Triple Jump L. McGarty (C) 10.71w (10.55 legal), G. Hurt (C) 10.20, L. Groom (O) 10.03w (9.86 legal), S. Poulsen (O) 8.65
Shot J. Harris (C) 9.54, C. Brown (O) 8.34, C. Partridge (C) 7.03, C. Harzan (O) 6.38
Discus C. Brown (O) 26.32, C. Partridge (C) 21.64, J. Harris (C) 18.48, C. Harzan (O) 18.48
Hammer C. Partridge (C) 28.41, C. Harzan (O) 26.33, R. Perio (C) 23.79, L. Groom (O) 23.28
Javelin C. Brown (O) 30.76, G. Rose (C) 25.18, G. Coles (C) 24.45, L. Kwock (O) 23.47
4 x 100m relay Cambridge Alligators (Duke, Lister, Craven, Hurt) 53.67, Oxford Millipedes 55.81
4 x 400m relay Alligators (Hurt 64.6, Pringle 63.4, Roach 66.2, Lister 65.6) 4:19.81, Millipedes (r, r, r, r) 4:20.76
- Result: Cambridge Alligators 114, Oxford Millipedes 87

- Result: Cambridge Alligators 114, Oxford Millipedes 87

- Result: Cambridge Alligators 114, Oxford Millipedes 87

- Result: Cambridge Alligators 114, Oxford Millipedes 87

- Result: Cambridge Alligators 114, Oxford Millipedes 87
ACHILLES v LOUGHBOROUGH v COMBINED SERVICES

Mens 400m Hurdles Match
Callum Forde Charnwood AC 55.5
Gareth Morris Loughborough 55.6
Rod Bass privately

Mens 800m Match
Gary Bradbury LSAC 1:51.0
Frank Baddick Loughborough 1:51.4
Rob Whittle Loughborough 2:02.5
Paul Hutton LSAC 1:53.2
Tom Gayle Millenium Combi Services 1:54.1
Chris McGurk Achilles 01:57.4

Mens 100m Match -0.5m/s
Stu Benson Combi Services 10.8
Ben Richardson Achilles 11.0
Mark Dyble Achilles 11.1
Pat Swan LSAC 11.5
Olseni Ogumilade LSAC 11.7
Titus Eusatio Loughborough 11.7
Fraser Young LSAC 11.9

Mens 100m Guest Race A -1.4m/s
Conor McLaughton Loughborough 11.4
Luke Stott Loughborough 11.3

Mens 100m Guest Race B -1.6m/s
Chevaune Halewood Lboro Students 1.45m
Natelie Flaherty Comb Services 1.45m
Rosie Curling Comb Services 1.45m

Mens 200m Match -0.3m/s
Max Hall Lboro Students 4.15m
Alex Jackson Charnwood AC 4.15m

Mens 200m Match -0.4m/s
Hazel Le Cornu Loughborough 65.5

Mens 3000m Combined Match
Shadrak Muleli Achilles 25.3
Comb Services 24.2

Womens 400m Match
Sarah Adams Loughborough 54.5
Charlotte Best Loughborough 55.9

Womens 800m Match
Naomi Hutchins LSAC 62.1
Nekesha Thompson Comb Services 62.7

FRESHERS VARSITY MATCH

8 November 2009 Wilberforce Rd, Cambridge

MEN

100m Chris Morter (O) 11.4, Edward Bentisi (C) 12.2, Ben Horsley (O) 12.3, Ismael Akram (C) 12.3

100m (guests) Namdi Makewan (O) 12.0, Emmanuel Bangbay (C) 12.3, Bryn Garrod (C) 12.5, Paul Smith (C) 13.0, XXX (O) 13.4

200m Chris Morter (O) 23.0, Ben Horsley (O) 24.2, Henry Husband (C) 24.6, Joel Taylor (C) 25.3

400m James Garnier (O) 51.6, Christian Roberts (C) 52.8, Joel Taylor (C) 53.9, David Reshef (O) 54.5

800m Richard Felton (O) 2:02.9, Tom Nutt (C) 2:04.2, Alex Young (C) 2:05.8, David Reshef (O) 2:06.7, Cameron Lai (C-guest) 2:13.0, Hugo D (O-guest) 2:20.2

1500m Tom Nutt (C) 4:17.3, Alex Young (C) 4:19.1, Will Mycroft (O) 4:21.1, Tom McNeil (C-guest) 4: 27.3, Sam Baylis (O) 4:48.6

3000m Tommy Albertson (C) 9:29.1, Sam Ashcroft (C) 9:36.6, Adam King (O) 9:43.6, Lawrence Percival (O) 10:14.4, Matthew Gold (O-guest) 10:30.5

110m hurdles (3') Ross Elliot (C) 17.6, Nate Sharpe (C) 20.4, Graeme Salter (O) 21.0, James Garnier (O) 21.9

400m hurdles Christian Roberts (C) 58.4, James Garnier (O) 60.2, Ross Elliot (C) 63.5, Shadrack Muleli (O) 74.9

High Jump Alex Jackson (C) and Ed Bentisi (C) both 1.60, Zak Feldman (O) and Graeme Salter (O) both 1.50

Pole Vault Nate Sharpe (C) 4.10, Oliver Birch (O) 3.00, Jamie Salter (C) 2.80, Graeme Salter (O) 2.40

Long Jump Alex Jackson (C) 6.28, Ismael Akram (O) 5.80, Liam Atkinson (O) 5.37, Oliver Birch (O) 4.80

Triple Jump Ismail Akram (C) 12.69, Alex Jackson (C) 12.09, Oliver Birch (O) 10.80, Liam Atkinson (O) 9.40

Shot Toby Haseler (C) 10.67, John Garrity (C) 9.80, Patrick Thill (O) 8.10, Thomas Wood (O) 6.61

Discus Polyvias Christofi (C-guest) 30.46, Leo Scott (O-guest) 25.73, Tom Elton (O) 25.23, Patrick Thill (O) 24.37, Neil Houlsby (C) 23.17, Thomas Wood (O) 18.84

110m hurdles (3') Ross Elliot (C) 17.6, Nate Sharpe (C) 20.4, Graeme Salter (O) 21.0, James Garnier (O) 21.9

400m hurdles Christian Roberts (C) 58.4, James Garnier (O) 60.2, Ross Elliot (C) 63.5, Shadrack Muleli (O) 74.9

High Jump Alex Jackson (C) and Ed Bentisi (C) both 1.60, Zak Feldman (O) and Graeme Salter (O) both 1.50

Pole Vault Nate Sharpe (C) 4.10, Oliver Birch (O) 3.00, Jamie Salter (C) 2.80, Graeme Salter (O) 2.40

Long Jump Alex Jackson (C) 6.28, Ismael Akram (O) 5.80, Liam Atkinson (O) 5.37, Oliver Birch (O) 4.80

Triple Jump Ismail Akram (C) 12.69, Alex Jackson (C) 12.09, Oliver Birch (O) 10.80, Liam Atkinson (O) 9.40

Shot Toby Haseler (C) 10.67, John Garrity (C) 9.80, Patrick Thill (O) 8.10, Thomas Wood (O) 6.61

Discus Polyvias Christofi (C-guest) 30.46, Leo Scott (O-guest) 25.73, Tom Elton (O) 25.23, Patrick Thill (O) 24.37, Neil Houlsby (C) 23.17, Thomas Wood (O) 18.84
Hammer John Garrity (C) 27.54, Leo Scott (C) 24.87, Robert Amador (C-guest) 23.32, Patrick Thill (O) 18.77, Thomas Wood (O) 17.90
Javelin Patrick Thill (O) 45.63, Andrew Lynch (C) 41.65, Robert Amador (C) 36.66, Thomas Wood (O) 5.41
4 x 100m Cambridge (Akram, Taylor, Husband, Bens) 46.9, Oxford (Horley, Salter, Thill, Morter) 53.9
4 x 400m Oxford (Reshef 56.3, Feldman, Felton, Gardner) 3:35.1, Cambridge (Elliot 56.8, Nutt 55.8, Taylor 57.0, Roberts 52.7) 3:42.3

Result Cambridge 114, Oxford 76

WOMEN
100m Nikki Moss (C) 13.8, Elle Gatehouse (O) 14.0, Katy Castle (C) 14.8, Lisa Wassmuss (O) 15.6, Teresa Krieger (C-guest) 16.2
200m Lizzie Thompson (C) 28.5, Maria Sidoli (C) 29.8, Sumoyee Basu (O) 30.9, Lucy Baldwin (C-guest) 31.6, Oge Okpala (C-guest) 32.1, Roxanne Swerdlow (O) 37.7
400m Katie Sandford (C) 63.9, Philippa Geering (C) 67.4, Susan Hedge (O) 72.2, Sumoyee Basu (O) 73.5
800m Rose Penfold (O) 2:22.3, Sophie Dundovic (C) 2:27.1, Noelle Lopez (O) 2:30.6, Elisabeth McFarlane (O) 2:34.6
1500m Hayley Munn (O) 4:59.5, Grace Geilinger (C) 5:11.3, Rachel Kitchen (C) 5:12.7, Alison Garton (O) 5:34.6
3000m Hayley Munn (O) 10:25.8, Noelle Lopez (O) 10:26.9, Mairead Rocke (C) 10:33.3, Rachel Heard (C) 11:15.8
100m hurdles Lizzie Thompson (C) 18.1, Eloise Waldon-Day (O) 18.7, Elle Gatehouse (O) 19.7, Katherine Conroy (C) 20.0
400m hurdles Lizzie Thompson (C) 51.4, Eloise Waldon-Day (O) 51.9, Mairead Rocke (C) 57.9
High Jump Lizzie Thompson (C) 1.45, Aleksandra Stankovic (C) 1.45, Roxanne Swerdlow (O) and Eloise Waldon-Day (O) both 1.35
Pole Vault Ashley Nord (O) 4.90, Amanda Smolinsky (C) 4.90, Natalie McDaid (O) 4.90, Klara Kohler (C-guest) 1.80, Chloe Mackenzie (C) 1.20
Long Jump Kathryn Hesketh (C) 4.36, Ashley Nord (O) 4.08, Jessica Jupp (C) 3.91, Roxanne Swerdlow (O) 3.82, Lisa Wassmuss (O) 3.55
Triple Jump Helen Stewart (C) 9.23, Jessica Jupp (C) 9.16
Shot Rosamund Healey (C) 10.31, Amanda Le (O) 7.60, Nathalie McDaid (O) 6.28, Jenny Ball (C) 6.16
Discus Susan Hedge (O) 31.01, Rosamund Healey (C) 24.90, Amanda Le (O) 22.18, Nicola Whiffen (C) 20.20, Natalie McDaid (O-guest) 15.59
Hammer Rosamund Healey (C) 22.42, Nicola Whiffen (C) 16.09, Amanda Le (O) 15.00, Nathalie McDaid (O) 12.90
Javelin Natalie McDaid (O) 22.79, Susan Hedge (O) 21.88, Kathryn Hesketh (C) 21.63, Amanda Le (O-guest) 19.66, Rosamund Healey (C) 17.10
4 x 100m Cambridge (Castle, Jepp, Moss, Thompson) 56.1, Oxford (Nord, Le, Basu, Gatehouse) 57.8
4 x 400m Cambridge (Sandford, Tomouk, Penfold, Thompson) 4:20.7, Oxford (Waldon-Day, McDaid, Garton, Munn) 4:57.8

Result Cambridge 110 Oxford 75

C.J.R. Thorne 16 Nov 2009

The foundation’s capital fund continues to grow through the energies of Tom Blodgett and his board of directors. For the first time the Foundation were able to make a very substantial contribution to the subsidy of Oxford & Cambridge visit to the US, as acknowledged in Jon Cook’s tour report above.

In October they held their annual dinner, and Tom reports

“We had a very good dinner, with a relatively small number of participants and especially good conversations about the long-term significance of the International Series between the four American and two British Universities. Lou Duesing, Coach at Cornell, joined us this year, and we are very hopeful that he can encourage other alumni to participate in future years.

Mark Steed represented the UK contingent, before embarking on the New York Marathon the same weekend.”
Against pre-match expectations, the Dark Blues secured a double victory in the annual ‘Varsity Cross-Country Races at a wet Roehampton Vale on Saturday 5th December.

The 34th ladies’ race began with Cambridge’s hopes of registering their first win since 2006 being boosted by the withdrawal of Oxford’s two most experienced runners. In the early stages, it looked as if these hopes would be fulfilled with Naomi Taschimowitz (Trinity) and fresher Amanda Scott (Churchill) taking the lead and the main body of the Light Blue team packed in the middle order.

However, as the course flattened out towards the half-way point, it was the Dark Blues who started to emerge ominously with Michelle Sikes (Lincoln), last year’s winner, moving into second and solid support forming behind her, which picked off the Cambridge runners and crucially relegated their fourth scorer to 10th.

With Oxford holding a narrow advantage as the runners hit the heavy mud and dreaded Butts of the last mile, the result was still in doubt. However, the Dark Blues’ strong team work mean that they were able to hold their positions and secure a 17 points to 21 victory and a 21-13 overall series lead.

Buoyed by their ladies’ performance, the youthful, but talented, Oxford gentlemen’s team produced an outstanding performance to take the honours in the 119th race of their series. Prior expectations had been that Cambridge’s more experienced eight might just have the edge over the very wet 7½ mile course, which this year had the added interest of a new watersplash.

However, with last year’s first two, Richard Franzese (Wolfson) and David Bruce (Green Templeton), once again making the running, accompanied by teammate, Andrew Heyes (St. Hugh’s), and experienced Light Blue James Kelly (Jesus), Oxford has a strong presence at the front of the race from the off.

Behind them, and emulating their ladies’ team, they were backed-up by good support work, in particular, with impressive performances from the freshers Jake Shelley (Somerville) and Luke Caldwell (Jesus).

By the time the runners headed out to Parkside, just after half-way, they were 20 points up and it appeared that only misfortune could deny them. However, it was to be their day and with Andrew Heyes pulling away from Kelly in the closing stages, they were able to secure a 1-2-3 and a 28 points to 52 victory. The individual honours were taken by David Bruce in a fine time of 38:02. This win pushed the Dark Blues back into the lead in the overall series by 60 wins to 59.

Earlier in the day, Oxford also secured a victory in the Old Blues’ Race with last year’s captain, Ian Kimpton, leading an unbroken string of seven Dark Blues home to a 98-165 scoreline.

Simon Molden
The 119th Gentlemen’s University Cross-Country Race
Saturday, 5th December 2009, Roehampton 7½ miles

1. D.J.Bruce Green Templeton Oxford 38:02
2. R.C.Franzese Wolfson Oxford 38:09
3. A.R.Heyes St. Hugh’s Oxford 38:25
4. J.M.Kelly Jesus Cambridge 38:36
5. L.A.Caldwell Jesus Oxford 39:27
8. R.B.Brown* Jesus Cambridge 39:50
9. S.M.Lindner Darwin Cambridge 39:54
12. C.A.M.Bannon Downing Cambridge 40:11
13. M.A.A.Grant Queens Cambridge 40:39
14. M.E.Johnson Jesus Oxford 40:43
15. W.J.Mackay Robinson Cambridge 40:48

Oxford won by 28 points to 52 (1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 10) vs (4, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13) 
Team captains denoted thus *

The 18th Old Blues’ Race
Saturday, 5th December 2009, Roehampton 4 miles

1. I.D.Kimpton Lincoln Oxford 21:33
2. A.D.Hennessy New College Oxford 21:40
4. S.C.Molden Christ Church Oxford 22:02
7. A.N.J.Robinson Balliol Oxford 24:00
8. R.Matthie Selwyn Cambridge 24:17
9. L.A.Richardson Jesus Cambridge 24:19
10. J.Gill Hughes Hall Cambridge 24:22
11. S.Rutherford Girton Cambridge 24:24
12. H.V.Rollins Corpus Christi Cambridge 24:48
14. J.W.Herries Selwyn Cambridge 25:46
15. E.A.Fenenczi New College Oxford 26:25
16. E.Moffett Wolfson Cambridge 27:24
17. L.E.Whitaker Wadham Oxford 27:27
18. P.R.Wallace St.Edmund Hall Oxford 27:55
19. L.E.Cundliffe Newnham Cambridge 30:03
20. E.L.Oxlade St.John’s Oxford 30:44
21. T.M.Chen Jesus Oxford 31:50
22. J.H.Bleasdale Pembroke Cambridge 32:18
23. J.W.Ryan Queen’s Oxford 36:24

Oxford won by 98 points to 165 (1-1-3-7-9-10) vs (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 19, 21, 22)

The Oxford and Cambridge Universities’ Cross-Country Race is one of the oldest inter-club matches still in existence and dates back to the origins of organised sport in Britain. Hares, Hounds and Blues documents the history of this unique contest from its very humble and somewhat chaotic beginnings in the late-1870s, through the golden eras of the early twentieth century and immediately after the Second World War, to the current day where the event retains a privileged position as one of only 14 Full Blue sports at the universities.

It is far more than just a race between two university clubs; over its 125-year history, it has carried with it many stories of personal and collective achievement. It has acted as a breeding ground for a series of world-class athletes and a stage for numerous talented university men and women to reach their own personal Everest. This book tells that story.

The book contains 406 pages, including full results of every Blues’ Race since 1880 and summary details of all II-Vth races since the first Tortoises-Spartans match in 1937.

Copies are available from Simon Molden and cost as follows:
- Hardback £25.00
- Paperback £13.50
- PDF version on CD £5.00

- All prices include postage and packing.
were not metric then; there was even a British Empire and Commonwealth Games in those days. Dinosaurs, the lot of us! to catch the home team’s finest. There was the tree inconveniently planted on a turn in the Eastbourne College 220 yards. On that occasion I chose life rather than victory, as Tony Porten smoothly negotiated the bend, while I did likewise with the tree! I can still proudly boast the 800 meters ground record at Marlborough College. I think for the sake of progress, I wish I didn’t. The strange thing was that all these idiosyncratic moments went without comment. I clearly remember the good offices of Oxford undergraduate Jonathan Peacock for many years who managed the Achilles turnout and Robert Stinson who encouraged us to boldly go when we arrived at the right stadium. At Nottingham in a National League match, Jonathan once managed to ‘persuade’ me to throw the hammer, as we needed the point and I had arrived early. The small crowd round the hammer cage warmed to the task of coaching my rookie technique (I had never lifted, let alone thrown a hammer before). Each time my helpless swing brought the hammer near the cage exit they would chant "now!" The momentum kept me swinging rather longer than is customary. The first throw narrowly missed an official’s foot, and the last broke the World Record (for the Long Jump) by a matter of inches. I reassured myself that all points added to the total, happily my retirement from serious athletics came at the end of another British League fixture, where I was fortunate enough to anchor the Achilles quartet to a victory that saw the club gain promotion by 1 point! Happy memories indeed; Achilles first and last.

The general prevailing atmosphere when I competed was of gutty amateurism. We had people who attempted technique events like the 440 hurdles, who only took it up within the year of the Varsity match. Such Chariots of Fire habits once fuelled my preparation for a match against Loughborough. My warm-up was a breezy dash up the M1 in my friend Iain Perring’s rough old Austin Healey 3000. When we arrived, my ears were wasted by the booming exhaust roar, that I am surprised I heard the starter’s pistol at all. Still, it was the way we did it then. I even had to come home early from the Mexico Olympics because despite the reasoned entreaties of Harold Abrahams to the University.

From Martin Wimbolt Lewis, CUAC President 1969

"Share your memories" was the inviting request. “Touch me, it’s so easy to leave me alone with the memory of my days in the sun” go the lyrics of ‘Memory’ from ‘Cats’.

My Cambridge days were certainly days in the sun. The problem with ageing is that memories become both patchy and selective. Here goes then.

The general impression of my Cambridge and Achilles years (1966-72) have been those of great team camaraderie, mixed performances, and strange Oxbridge practices. To have Freshmen’s trials, Varsity matches and Relays in November seems criminal now. The Milton Road track seemed perpetually windy. I went up with privilege, having already been an international and competed the summer before at the Commonwealth Games and European Championships. However I started with a clean sheet and a new beginning in the Fens; Cambridge conditions seem to level the playing field. The first week was marked by running around Fenners track (clockwise; that’s what you did) because it was the only track I could find; Milton Road at that moment in time was for me a well kept secret. There at the cinder track circling the cricket pitch I met Tony Porten, who showed me the ropes, and became a friend. The crowning moment, which Cambridge routinely lost, was always the White City Varsity Match in May, well before the rest of the British athletics world had emerged from hibernation. None of these things did we question. Pity the women’s sport wasn’t developed then in the late 60’s; they would have changed things.

There were the Achilles matches against some public schools. Notable was Eton where I had to chase down a seemingly huge handicap in the 440 yards (we

10 CUAC athletes toured Sweden in 1969. 1500m: Phil Thomas (17), Dave Bryant (14), Tony Ashton (16)
and with a spare morning I took my new camcorder to Harvard and Yale because I was getting over glandular fever. “My Way”, I have regrets (apart from not studying harder), extra term. At that age, I wanted to get on with my life and find that roommate hotel the previous night. I awoke to OUAC had stayed in a Queensway hotel building further down the street. There we have it, short, I suspect, but sweet. Memories of another era. It is a different world now. I suspect though that I would recognise some of the traits from the late 60’s even today. The rigors of Milton Road winter conditioning are still with me. I have not ‘dropped the baton’ yet. My two boys have enjoyed moderate success in cross country and middle distances (School and West Yorkshire Schools Champion) before they hit the very different pace of the music industry. My youngest daughter has discovered after shedding two stone at the age of 24 that she can actually run. We jog together along with Sue and our old dog Sam. I ran the London Marathon with Sue in 2000 (for Achilles Club!). I remember her turning to me yards after the finish and asking, “where’s the runner’s bloody high then?” A hip replacement, two hernia repairs and two non vascular heart procedures cannot keep me endon as just at bay. So enjoy your sport, live for it while you can, but never be tempted to die for it. The main person we have to beat is usually ourselves, and there is a vast world outside of track and field. Its own disciplines have probably prepared us to face some of this world’s stresses anyway. I’m preaching now , so time to stop.

All the very best for the new decade.

Ross Moughtin sent us all the photos from his scrap book and writes:

I was visiting my daughter and family in Cambridge, and with a spare morning I took my new camcorder to take some shots. I decided to visit the new track, noticing that most of the sportspeople were in fact women. The pavilion was empty and so I had a look round, especially at the notice boards. When I saw my name as still holding the second fastest 800m (shared with Herb Elliott) I naturally filmed the notice with my camcorder. Immediately this guy sprang from nowhere, looking at me as if I were a sex pervert or a city banker and accused me of filming through the open door of the ladies changing rooms. Thankfully I could show him shots only of my notice!

Malcolm Warburton was Hon Sec of OUAC in 1969 and writes:

In 1968, while secretary of Centipedes, I made the Blues team as second string to Derek Perry in the 880 yards. "Athletics Weekely" has a photo of the 100 yards, run in sunshine, and the 880 yards (10 minutes later) on a fooded track. It was the heaviest rain I had ever encountered and 1:56.0 in those circumstances was very creditable. OUAC had stayed in a Queensway hotel the previous night. I awoke to find that roommate Richard Jones (3ks/C) had had a sleepless night. His first problem was my snoring, but then the noise from the Wembley Trinity fans, partying below before the Rugby League Cup Final at Wembley (like the Varsity Match, this was televised on BBC’s Grandstand), kept him awake for a few more hours. Then the dereelic hotel building further down the street collapsed floor by floor (there were 6) and the fleet of fire engines’ sirens made plenty noise. I slept as soundly as I ever had - poor Richard did not sleep at all. Both 1968 and 1969 saw OUAC as comfortable winners of the Varsity Match.

In my final year, 1969, I was OUAC secretary and, with a strong intake of middle-distance runners, I did not merit a first team place. In fact I only scraped into the Centipede team as second string miler, but produced a winning run in 4:24.3 against Alverstone. I remember jogging around at White City with Richard Coates (a former ‘Pedes secretary who was now an ineligible 5th year student helping with team matters on the day). Ken Norris, the former long

1970 Comm onwealth Games Trials. On the right Wimbolton Lewis 3rd 1:49.0 & Moughtin 5th 1:49.0

CUAC v AAA at Milton Road. 800m Andy Carter (1) 1st 1:51.2, Moughtin 2nd 1:52.9, Colin Cusick 3rd 1:54.5, Mills 4th 1:57
urer the previous year. In fact he was my closest friend in the team. Jim’s suspicions rose when he rang to check the facts. I tersely explained in measured tones that “Kidd had travelled from his home in Pontefract and competed well in the Vault at Cleckheaton and the Triple Jump at Scunthorpe” and JC felt he was being strung along. The reason for my terseness was that I was in mid-sesssion when the groundsman had called me to the phone, and everything I was saying was totally correct!

In 1968, at Loughborough, I had doubled as emergency reserve in the 200 metres (after running in what was at the time p&4th May p& the fastest 800 metres race in Europe so far that year), as Coates’ dodgy hamstring was being saved for the sprint relay. The consequence of that is that I have raced against at least one finalist in every running event at the 1969 Inter-Counties! I doubt whether anyone else, except perhaps Derek Johnson, has done the equivalent.

My final races in OUAC colours came in the 1969 BUSF Championships at Motspur Park. I ran in a 1500 metres heat on the Friday evening, and was duly eliminated. Several of us stayed at the home of Hugh Richards’ family and the next morning I awoke feeling fantastic. I was looking forward the the 800 metres, where I was to be Oxford’s only representative. By the time the heats came I realised that we had at least one finalist in every running event and I was determined to complete the set. There were three heats, with two to qualify plus two fastest losers. The previous week (with Finals looming ever closer) I had won a Pedes 880 yards race in 1:58.4, being pushed to the line. I felt that my state of fitness gave me an optimum time of 1:57, with a 57 seconds first lap as the fastest I could envisage running in my state of (un)fitness. The first heat was sub 1:56 for the first four finishers so I thought I had no chance of a fastest loser spot and focussed on a first two placing in heat 2. I was drawn second from
tion), and the head-to-head record now reads Brendan 4 Malcolm 0. Readers of "AW" may have imagined I fell (8th, 2:03.7), but actually after being fourth at 200m I was falling off the pack by the bell in 55.0.

One other clear memory is the build-up to the 1967 Varsity cross-country. Oxford had a formidable team, including an Australian, a North Island New Zealander and a South African. All press comment was expecting an Oxford win, although Cambridge also had a very good team. **John Dawson** had done his first medicine degree at Cambridge and was by then finishing his studies at Oxford. He was running to second team standard and knew both teams better than anyone else. A couple of days before the race I asked him who he thought would win. "Oxford & unless it snows!". I awoke on the morning of the race to several inches of snow. Cambridge won by the narrowest of margins. So much for press expertise.

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**Only Winbolt Lewis matches Oxford**

Oxford’s predictable victory over Cambridge in the University athletics did little more than provide a reminder of the present insignificance of sporting contests between those two places. Oxford scored 105 points to 81, winning all the track events apart from the 440 yards and 880 yards; Cambridge made a better show in the field, with four victories against three, but their performances in the weight, javelin and discus were the worst in the match for eight, twelve, and fourteen years respectively.

The performances which one might link to either athletic fields were those of Winbolt Lewis, the Cambridge president, Hauck and Cleemis. Winbolt Lewis won the half-mile in 1min. 30.4sec., his best time, but fell between taking Herb Elliott’s inter-varsity record of 1min. 49.9sec. and ushering Moughtin into second place. But Winbolt Lewis showed that this might become his first string event earlier than he anticipated. With Hauck out of action until midsummer, someone who can get under 1min. 48sec. will be needed for early international competition.

Hauck wants to get back into the international sprint relay team, and its running round the curve in the 220 yards was much better than anything he did last year. His time, 21.4sec, was remarkable in the cold conditions. In the 100 yards he never seemed in touch, and his defeat by Osborn cost him a third place in this event.

Valentine’s hunched, cross-country style was still too good for any of the other three milers. He seemed unworried to have Garrick breathing on his neck for most of the way, and was too strong for him over the last two miles. The significance of Steele’s mile in 4min. 8.8sec was the acceleration he produced, from front place, in the final back straight. His last lap took only 27.4sec.

"Brathwaite chopped 5.4sec. off his own best performance and broke the match record in the steeplechase. He went away from the gun, kept his hurdléing tidy all the way, and did not look to be run out at the finish; in better company he should soon get under 6min. 0sec. Clement’s hurdling was encouraging too, for, although he was stretching out towards the last two flights, the rhythm was maintained. Next year he should take the record off his fellow Wychamite, Mike Hogan, 62.8sec. In fact he will need to get down to that this summer."

**Hemery studies**

David Hemery, the Olympic 400 metres hurdles champion, is to go up to Oxford next October. He will go to St Catherine’s College to take a one-year course for a Diploma of Education before returning to his career in visual educational aids.
From Giles Clifford, OUAC President 1984:

Those male athletes lucky enough still to be in their second year at Oxford for the 1984 Varsity match had only experienced victory in the event. This gave a feeling of real optimism and confidence to the year which, after all, was all set up for the usual unseasonably early mid-May event. We ground our way through freezing cold track sessions in the dead of winter, murderous but inspiring weekly circuits with Captain Mack, and the established sequence of one trek up to Cosford for some indoor racing, and late spring matches against universities and clubs in the Midlands and south-east. I was helped by great companions in the ‘junta’ of Martyn Bowen and Andy Jones, and the wonderful Molly Brennan as ladies’ captain.

The autumn 1983 crop of Freshers included some real stars – a distance runner from Bradford rumoured to be even better than Andy Leach (Richard Nerurkar); a very talented Scottish 400m hurdler (Mark Hardie), yet another 2 metre high jumper (Mike Powell) and another very able 800m runner (Ian Silvester). Confined to a guest role in the Varsity match, but also making his mark on the cross-country world, was star race walker Tim Berrett. Those were the ones who really made an impression, whilst some of the more exotic among the crop of Freshers Fair finds (the 10.1 sprinter from the USA and the like) never quite found their way down to Iffley Road and were quietly forgotten. Added to the mix were the returning hurdler Chris Humphry – in the final year of a languages degree; survivors from the previous year’s victory such as the English international high jumper Phil McDonnell and the rapidly improving 400m runner Martyn Bowen; perennials such as Ian Jackson and Paddy Mbu in the heavy throws; and the find of the year – Ian Morton from Balliol, for whom the enthusiastic timekeepers stopped the clock in cuppers at 10.66 for the 100 metres.

OUAC were keen to revive the touring tradition, and managed to do so with a trip to Sittard in Holland (near a town named Maastricht that no-one at the time had ever heard of) and Le Touquet, with matches against some very amicable local opposition. The Le Touquet match was held on a track made up of what seemed to be black tartan carpet squares, and saw Dwayne Heard nearly jump out of the end of the long jump pit, to a loud cry of ‘mon Dieu’ from one of the judges. Although racing one-man bobsleighs down a fibreglass track on the only hill in Holland was exciting, Le Touquet provided some of the most memorable off-track action, as the match was followed by a civic reception in the town hall (complete with brief speech in best schoolboy French on 2 minutes’ warning from the OUAC president), a lavish feast of moules et frites, much more murder of the French language and finally, for some, a game of tennis back at the hotel of such stupendous excitement that Andy Jones (Hon. Sec OUAC) curled up and went to sleep in the corner, leaving his partner to suffer an ignominious defeat alone.

For those keen on Achilles Club history, the trip was the origin of the Le Touquet trophy which in it original form was the rather garish cup with which we were presented by our hosts.

The Varsity match was kindly sponsored, to the tune of some bunting, a 5ft yellow plastic griffin, a barrel of beer and relatively a modest cheque, by a nice man from the Midland Bank. He had no doubt heard a hundred times the story we peddled of hundreds of pounds of student grants to be deposited, lucrative overdraft opportunities and the fantastic earning prospects of the leading lights of OUAC, but did not let his weariness show. If anyone in his role is reading this, I still bank with one of the Midland’s successors, so keep up the good work!

The Varsity match went very much Oxford’s way, with a fine clutch of one-twos, in the 100m, 400h and long jump; double wins for Chris Humphry in the shorter hurdles events, Ian Jackson in shot and discus, and Dwayne Heard in the Triple and Long Jumps. The closest race of the afternoon was a superb contest between Mike Sherar of Oxford and Dave Higgins, the
The Presidents and Captains of the University clubs in 1984 were OUAC Giles Clifford and Molly Brennan, CUAC David Higgins and Tina Castling.

The Field Events Match was held at Milton Road, Cambridge on 29 February. Oxford won a close mens’ competition by 4 events (High Jump, Long Jump, Triple Jump and Pole Vault) to 3 (Shot, Discus and Javelin). Major innovations on this date were the addition of the Hammer for men (non-scoring but won by Cambridge) and the first-ever Field Events Match for women. The latter’s inaugural was not without problems, because the High Jump had to be abandoned for reasons of cold and lack of light; but by this time Cambridge had an unbeatable 3-1 lead, having won the Long Jump, Discus and Javelin, while Oxford had won the Shot. The Relays Match was back at the Crystal Palace on 3 March 1984. Here the Achilles Club produced some of their most powerful teams ever and actually won 5 of the 7 mens’ relays and all the 4 womens’. In the Varsity (only) competitions Oxford won both convincingly, by 6 to 1 in the mens’ and 4 to 0 in the womens’.

The first part of the Easter Term 1984 saw both Universities holding their usual matches, against such clubs as the Army, Navy, RAF, Ilford, Essex Beagles, Bedford, Crewe and Alsager, Woodford Green and Bank of England, in the lead-up up to the Varsity Match, which was held at Iffley Road on 19 May. The

Cambridge president, which was judged a dead heat, and I watched from the comfort of third place in the same race until Andy Richardson shot past in the home straight and left me with the wooden spoon. Hardly less close, the 4x400 saw Chris Cholerton overhaul Dominic Emery in the very last strides to give Oxford victory and spark the ritual track invasion and presidential dunking.

The Centipedes also enjoyed a decisive victory under Nick Phillis’s captaincy, with Aditya Rana winning the sprint double, and the Centipedes taking both relays, inspired perhaps by the sartorial elegance of Danny Matovu, he of the long white shorts and flowing hurdling style, or maybe by many the fine impressions of Captain Mack rendered by David Williams – ah yes!

Achilles activity that summer included a baking afternoon at Marlborough, courtesy of Achilles member Bruce Tulloh, who was then i/c athletics, at which some fairly rapid running was followed by a very good tea and, as was often the case with those schools matches, senior schoolboys were pulled or sometimes chased to PBs and Season’s bests by the challenge of competing against the student teams – how we enjoyed their respect (and that of their older sisters).

While the OUAC President that day eventually became the fastest lawyer over 5km in the City of London, and was for some years the fastest cross-country runner in the Central Banks of Europe, many of the Oxford team that day went on to really fine athletic achievements: Richard Nerurkar became one of the best British marathon runners of the late 20th century, his successes including winning the World Cup Marathon in 1993 and placing 5th at the 1996 Olympics; Phil McDonnell leapt to an English record of 2:24 before the summer was over, Tim Berrett has represented Canada in (so far!) five successive Olympic Games, Mark Hardie ran for Scotland at the next Commonwealth Games, Martyn Bowen and Mike Powell became regular Welsh internationals, Dwayne Heard represented the AAAs and enjoyed a long series of very high UK rankings, and Chris Cholerton won at least one England vest. Not in any of the teams that day, but playing an influential role in the later stages of proceedings through her crafty technique of swapping her full port glass for my frequently drained one, was another sporting star of the future - my dinner guest the 2008 British, European and World V45-49 triathlon champion Juliet Vickery.

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MEN, Blues Match

100m I. Morton (O) 11.0, C. Cholerton (O) 11.0, D. Fowler-Watt (C) 11.2, A. Harriman (C) 11.3

200m C. Cholerton (O) 22.2, A. Harriman (C) 22.4, I. Morton (O) 22.6, M. Pardoe (C) 22.9

400m M. Bowen (O) 48.7, D. Emery (C) 49.1, J. Cooper (C 51.1, P. Keohane (O) 51.8

800m M. Sherar (O) and D. Higgins (C) 1:54.3, A. Richardson (C) 1:56.0, G. Clifford (O) 1:56.3

1500m N. Leach (C) 4:00.5, J. Barton (C) 4:02.2, M. Noden (O) 4:02.3, M. Power (O) 4:03.6

5000m R. Nerurker (O) 14:44.7, A. Deighton (C) 14:52.7, Noden (O) 4:02.3, M. Power (O) 4:06.4

1500m N. Leach (C) 4:00.5, J. Barton (C) 4:02.2, M. Son (C) 1:56.0, G. Clifford (O) 1:56.3

100m I. Morton (O) 11.0, C. Cholerton (O) 11.0, D. Fowler (C) 11.6, R. Goodman (C) 11.9

400m hurdles M. Hardie (O) 54.7, M. Bowen (O) 55.3, R. Richards (C) 57.2, A. Fischer (C) 60.4

S. Williams (O) 15:00.0, J. Herries (C) 15:02.9

5000m R. Nerurker (O) 14:44.7, A. Deighton (C) 14:52.7, Noden (O) 4:02.3, M. Power (O) 4:06.4

Noden (O) 15.0, R. Goodman (C) 17.0

200m hurdles C. Humphrey (O) 25.3, A. Jones (O) 25.7, A. Fischer (C) 26.7, R. Goodman (C) 26.8

400m hurdles M. Hardie (O) 54.7, M. Bowen (O) 55.3, R. Richards (C) 57.2, A. Fischer (C) 60.4

Steepleschase P. Bristow (O) 9:19.8, G. Baird (O) 9:39.0, I. Lloyd (C) 9:43.8, A. King (C) 9:46.4

High Jump P. McDonald (O) 2.15, M. Powell (O) 2.05, E. Friend (C) 1.95, P. Byrne (C) 1.85

Pole Vault N. Clarke (O) 4.10, J. Cunningham (C) 3.70, J. Coles (C) 3.70, R. Stone (O) 3.60

200m D. Heard (O) 7.30, R. Warren (O) 7.46, I. Young (C) 6.45, B. Carr (C) 6.44

Triple Jump D. Heard (O) 14.10, M. Fasoli (C) 13.24, P. Burrows (O) 12.87, A. Mahoney (O) 12.83

Shot M. Brennan (O) 9.67, A. McFarlane (C) 9.57, P. Bacon (O) 8.86 K. Cook (C) 7.45

Discus K. Cook (C) 35.58

Javelin P. Fulcher (C) 62.72, J. Goodwyn (C) 58.84, A. Duncan (O) 55.72, M. Porter (O) 52.60

4 x 100m Oxford (Morton, Cholerton, Phillips, Heard) 42.6, Cambridge (Fani-Kayode, Harriman, Carr, Fowler-Watt) 42.8

4 x 400m Oxford (Keohane, Holland, Bowen, Cholerton) 3:20.5, Cambridge (Cooper 51.2, Higgins 51.2, Cook 50.0, Emery 48.1) 3:20.5

3000m walk (n/s) T. Berrett (O) 12:03.2, C. Goodfellow 12:03.2, C. Hetherington 15:30.4, G. Browning 17:59.8

Result Oxford 125, Cambridge 87

WOMEN, Blues Match

100m M. Brennan (O) 12.7, A. Jones (C) 13.2, A. McFarlane (C) 13.6, J. Roynan (O) 71.1

200m M. Brennan (O) 25.9, S. Needham (C) 26.4, J. Rout (C) 28.8, P. Ashmore (O) 27.8

400m M. Brennan (O) 58.9, J. Rout (C) 59.9, L. Reynolds (C) 60.9, A. Gore (O) 62.5

800m B. Lovett (C) 2:16.2, A. Gore (O) 2:16.6, N. Sturman (O) 2:17.5, J. Neill (C) 2:22.7

1500m L. Hand (C) 4:47.3, N. Sturman (O) 4:55.9, S. Walker (O) 4:58.1, B. Lovett (C) 5:25.2

5000m (inaugural) L. Hand (C) 10:51.1, K. Shore (O) 11:34.5, C. Smith (O) 11:46.4, J. Kansonn (C) 11:47.8

100m hurdles S. Needham (C) 15.1, M. Brennan (O) 15.9, T. Castling (C) 17.9, M. Hall (O) 20.4

400m hurdles M. Brennan (O) 67.6, J. Green (C) 69.7, G. McGill (C) 73.7

High Jump D. Nagan (O) 1.60 equals record, M. Worrell (C) 1.55, T. Castling (C) 1.55, P. Curry (O) 1.35

Long Jump T. Castling (C) 5.42, S. Needham (C) 5.11, P. Ashmore (O) 4.92, M. Hall (O) 4.46

Shot D. Nagan (O) 9.67, A. McFarlane (C) 9.57, P. Bacon (O) 8.86 K. Cook (C) 7.45

Discus K. Cook (C) 35.58 record, D. Nagan (O) 28.60, H. Townsend (C) 27.52, P. Bacon (O) 21.34

NEWS OF CAPTAIN MACK

Peter Crawshaw writes: I visited a supplier of patio doors in Crawley last year: it is a company staffed by Poles, led by a guy called ‘Stan’. On leaving, I used a couple of my very limited words of Polish, and was greeted by a torrent which I had no hope of understanding. I explained that I only knew the few words picked up in two visits to Warsaw in the early ’70s. This prompted Stan to ask the nature of the visits: when I said that they were sports related, due to my university coach being Polish, the inevitable connection was made. I wasn’t that surprised that he knew Capt Mack, but he then said he and I must have met before, as he was involved in arranging the OUAC visit in 1970/71, when we trained at the Skra Stadium. He had lost touch with Mack, despite searching for him on the internet (‘you know he is a hero’). So, I was able to supply his number… I’m happy to report that Brian Hull and I found Mack in good form and not bad shape (especially for 93!). He can’t read or distinguish detail, but is able to get about. He was off to Holland for the 65th anniversary of the Arnhem landings (Operation Market Garden): he and his fellow veterans were due to meet the Prime Ministers of Poland and the Netherlands.

Dwayne Heard writes: I was one of those enquiring after Capt Mack. I was pleased to hear that he is working on an autobiography. We badgered him many times about writing something down of his many adventures, which we so much enjoyed hearing about. The one about his escape from the train en route to the Katyn forest was most memorable. I also enjoyed an OUAC training trip to Warsaw with Capt Mack in 1985. As always, I enjoyed reading the Achilles report. My Varsity Matches are now featuring in the 25 years since… which is a bit scary! With life getting busier, and children growing up with their athletics (they compete for Ilkley Harriers and have done a few track competitions this year, my daughter Elizabeth is 13 now and is turning out to be quite a good sprinter and long/triple jumper, I suppose with Anne and myself she has the right genes, and William, now 11, is also starting to do a bit more) I am finding it harder to get down to Varsity Matches like I used to. I suppose this is a penalty of living so far north! I started coaching a couple of years ago and have enjoyed working with lot of keen, eager youngsters at Ilkley Harriers. We don’t have a track, so everything is on grass or a cinders runup for training, and indoors for much of the year. Fell running still dominates at Ilkley, but track and field is becoming popular with the juniors. I see John Herries occasionally. We both ran in the Chevin Chase last boxing day. Richard Nerurker used to win this race years ago – he is also from close by.

2002 Varsity Match – Mack gives jaded advice to the opposition — John Crosse looks on
Javelin A. Trainor (O) 35.30, J. Gutteridge (O) 30.30, M. Worrell (C) 29.30, C. Hamilton (C) 25.48
4 x 100m Cambridge (Jones, Castling, Needham, Rout) 50.6, Oxford (Sturman, Butner, Ashmore, Brennan) 51.1

Result Cambridge 69, Oxford 65

MEN, Centipedes v Alverstone
100m A. Rana (O) 11.3, N. Phillis (O) 11.3, F. Fani-Kayode (C) 11.4, A. Hayes (C) 11.6
200m A. Rana (O) 23.2, F. Fani-Kayode (C) 23.3, S. Goatley (O) 23.4, K. Odulate (C) 24.0
400m T. Cook (C) 50.7, S. Marchese (C) 51.2, Y. Debrah (O) 51.5, C. Holland (O) 51.8
800m T. Cook (C) 1:54.8, J. Hamilton (C) 1:54.1, I. Silvester (O) 1:56.0, T. Horn (O) 2:00.9
1500m D. Maley (C) 4:01.2, J. Roome (O) 4:03.2, H. Shields (C) 4:05.4, J. Beck (O) 4:16.3
5000m D. Gilbert (C) 15:45.7, A. Clark (C) 15:58.1, R. Porter (O) 16:30.0, A. Jackson (O) 16:30.0
110m hurdles D. Pierce (C) 16.7, D. Matauu (O) 16.7, P. Carleton (C) 17.0, D. Eckley (O) 17.8
200m hurdles P. Carleton (C) 27.2, D. Pierce (C) 28.0, S. Findlay (O) 28.4, S. Goatley (O) 28.8
400m hurdles A. Nesom (O) 59.4, S. Marchese (C) 60.8, P. Carleton (O) 61.1, N. Binns (O) 66.8
Steeplechase J. Hollingdale (O) 9:45.4, P. Sowerby (C) 9:57.0, J. Crosby (C) 10:09.3
High Jump D. Holden (O) 1.85, A. Gammie (O) 1.80, P. McMahon (C) 1.80, C. Constable (C) 1.80
Pole Vault D. Eckley (O) 3.80, E. Seager (O) 3.80, D. Pierce (C) 3.80
Discus A. Gammie (O) 36.50, S. Munro (C) 34.82, T. Woodcock (O) 33.74, S. Barton (C) 31.78
Hammer M. Bishop (O) 33.72, T. Woodstock (O) 29.04, P. Williamson (C) 20.78, S. Barton (C) 18.68
Javelin J. Kitching (C) 50.38, D. Hannogan (O) 48.78, R. King (O) 43.74, M. Dinwoodie (C) 40.68
4 x 100m Centipedes (Goatley, Jones, Rana, Humphrey) 44.0, [Alverstone (Fischer, Atake, Young, Pardoe) were disqualified]
4 x 400m Centipedes (Clifford, Silvester, Warren, Sherar) 3:26.2, Alverstone (Marchese, Leach, Bristow, Richardson) 3:29.7

Result Oxford Centipedes 116, Cambridge Alverstone 92

Later in the summer, the Universities hosted a visit from Dartmouth College, who were unaccompanied by any partner. Two competitions were held, the first being the traditional one, on 20 June, although the home side, Oxford and Cambridge were strengthened by being a “past and present” squad. The result, for the men, was still a victory for the Americans, by 107 points to 91, with the home victories being in the 100m (Cholerton 11.4), 200m (Emery 22.7), 110m (Fischer 15.8), 400m (Hardie 55.1), Long and Triple Jumps (Neil 7.21 and 14.72), Javelin (Goodwyn 60.82) and 4 x 100 (43.2). In the mens’ match, the home side, similarly augmented by graduates, was much too strong for the visitors, who were beaten by 92 points to 59. Oxford won no fewer than 12 events - 100m and 200m (Wheeler 12.7 and 26.0), 400m (Parker 57.0), 800m (Gore 2:17.8), 100mh, Long Jump and Shot (Kyei-Mensah 15.4, 5.47 and 11.14), 400mh (Brennan 68.3), High Jump (Worrall 1.50), Discus (Nagan 28.30), Javelin (Morris 35.76) and 4 x 100 (51.1).

A second match was held at the Milton Road track in Cambridge on 24 June, when the visitors competed against CUAC past and present. The results were similar, but the mens match much closer - Dartmouth winning the mens’ by 102-85, and Cambridge the womens’ by 79-77. Home victories for the men were: 100m (Burton 22.6), 400m and 800m (Jones 49.8 and 1:53.6), 1500m (Leach 4:03.7), 110mh (Shiret 15.5), 400mh (Ploszajski 56.9), Triple Jump (Pardoe 13.69) and Javelin (Goodwyn 58.00). For the women, CUAC winners were: 100m (Wheeler 12.2), 200m, 100mh and 400mh (Wells nee Tuffnell 27.1, 16.5 and 63.4), 400m and 800m (Parker 58.9 and 214.5), Long Jump (Castling 54.6), Discus (Totshend 32.46) and 4 x 100m (52.7).

The main event of the Michaelmas Term was the Freshers Varsity Match held at Cambridge on 31 October. Cambridge won by 116 points to 66; they won also in the concurrent womens’ match (not confined to Fresheras), here by 78 points to 63.

- CjRT

Matt Weaver reports on his early days of married life:
‘The building next door burnt down. For a while we thought we would be homeless; there were some big flames That is our bedroom window on the right of shot.’

Postscript…

Matt Weaver reports on his early days of married life:
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