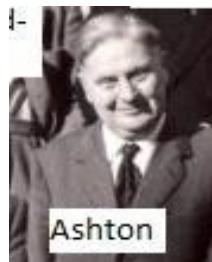
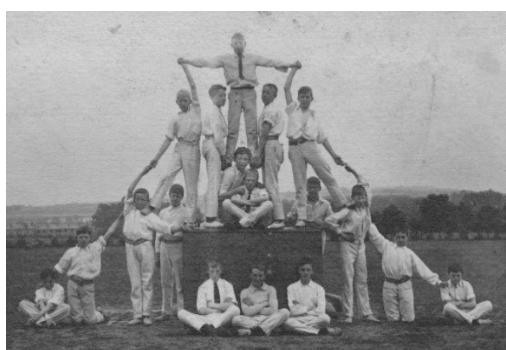


Lion Pride



Chapter 15 The Steeplechase and Athletics



Roger Starkey winning the Mile event.

Chapter 15

Steeplechase and Athletics



300 Years

The athletic Sports Day was subject to much alteration over the years and thus it is with some caution that comparisons be made across different generations. The age groups, size and content of the competitive programmes, timing and length-measurement accuracy were all subject to degree to a homespun attitude. Location of the track and its size changed as building development encroached onto the field. In earlier times, there were hurdles relay races, and high & long jump team competitions in which different individual performances were summed to determine outcome! Nowhere in the School was there a place to display Cups or list records. Even time and space to practise was affected after School time was competed for with cricket practices, etc.

The Winchester Sports was an important annual fixture in the earlier days, a tradition involving a day out for the competitors, that didn't survive the WW2. Entries into area and County Championships seemed to show a bit of life in later years, and there were some County representatives.

But athletics was always the Cinderella sport, which, like the Steeplechase faded away as housing developments of parts of the cross-country course, growing disinterest as the School enlarged and, with the evolution into a Sixth Form College with accompanying closure of the House system, it was inevitable really when first the Steeplechase, and then the Athletic Sports Day disappeared from the calendar.

In a sense, the Sports day, as with the Steeplechase, was a Minor Sport, for there was little spin-off in terms of competitive teams and Championships entered. But these events were of the early school days, and with frequent repetition, they yielded a lot of data, and regular annual Lion magazine content to form the basis of an interesting story!

Each of these two events was held on just one day per year, yet the preparations for them did occupy some time beforehand. The pavements and roads around the School were areas where groups of boys were shepherded around parts of the recognised training routes often by older

House members, for that aspect of preparedness was definitely something that was organised by senior pupils.

Aside from the pre-war Winchester Schools' track and field events, spasmodic regional and County competitions were not a normal feature of School life and thus achievements at that level do not feature regularly or highly in reportage. In reality, there was not unlimited time to do these kinds of sporting events alongside of the routine Major Sports reported in Chapters 10, and 13 for the Minor Sports. The 50s and 60s were a golden era for strong, talented sportsmen. As the School roll grew in number, there became scope for a diversification of activities and with it an obvious market for a GCSE type of qualification of later that would have served the more modest academic achievers. For all of their place as a Minor Sports, numerically and in terms of data, these two events warrant their just treatment, for events of the kind had their place throughout the life of the School until the preparations for the School - College transition took its effect.

Prior to then, however, it would have been increasingly difficult to persuade boys, and Staff to supervise them, to take time to develop skills, and fitness to participate seriously. And so, the athletic sports wanes and were discontinued even before the School closed.

The Steeplechase
Year by Year Results
Commentary
Poem
Principal Performers
Summary
Athletic Sports Days – events and people
Measuring performance
Facilities
Competitive Programme
Notable Winners of the Victor Ludorum accolade

The Steeplechase

This was an annual event usually in the Easter Term, involving all of the Year Group members - all that is, save for the sick, lame or injured, those of a nervous disposition, or who didn't like to get cold or sweaty or dirty and, we haven't started on the girls yet! But actually, there never were any girls' races, for by the time of the sunnier climes of the mixed, sixth form College in 1974 until 1984, the Steeplechase had been dropped from the School's Inter-House competitive calendar.

From 1922 to 1954, the event had been run in two age groups which, for convenience's sake, in the absence of any explanation, will be called Juniors, for classes up to 4th Year / U12 / U13 / U14 / Years 8 - 10). The others were the Seniors. There was little to indicate the numbers of counting runners in each House team, except in 1938 and since, teams included the first 8 runners from each House, from all those who ran. It would have been better to have counted the lowest number of scorers for any House to define what the scoring number of runners might be. In that way, for the most reluctant or participants, there would be at least some reason to take part will some modicum of effort.

In 1955, which was my first year, the age groupings changed. Thereafter, and in all competitions, there were 3 groups: Minors, Intermediates and Seniors. From 1967 to 1969, teams consisted of 12 runners, with the first 8 to score, and in 1960 that altered again, to teams of 6, but whether that amounted to a "team" comprising the first 6 runners home on not, there is no indication. But, no doubt this was a response to rising pressure against the nature of the event.

The course seemed to start and end in the empty field opposite the School - very convenient then, on fields to the north of the present Park Lane Recreation Ground. The Lion magazine of 1938 writes of the course ending on the School field. At some stage, it would break out onto the roads, mainly Kiln Rd. Some of the longer courses dipped north into the countryside of Fareham Common and returned up Funtley Hill, or North Hill, a mighty climb at a late stage of the event, no doubt spreading-out the competitors. A turn south from Kiln Rd. into Maylings Farm Rd. brought courses back onto the open fields for the run-in to the finish.

By 1960 the course was disappearing under a housing estate, though leaving just enough running for that year. Those courses were under threat in later years from the inevitable housing development that occupies that land, now. That probably happened in the early 1960s, for I recall going with the then P.E. teacher, "Gnats" Thompson, on an exploratory run into the countryside to the

east of North Hill and south of Pook Lane, running across fields towards Boarhunt into what would have been an excellent, real cross-country course. That seems a quite long course, though no doubt could have been segmented for different age groups. Excellent terrain it might have been but very bad weather in 1962, caused the cancellation of the event.

What happened in 1963-66 was typical of many Schools originally built on the edges of Towns, with space around them. I have recollections of a course being built around the edge of the School playing field that included obstacles such as stiles, ditches, and a water splash. Distances were shortened and the event loses interest. Such courses were seldom considered meaningful and in this case, comprised just 1, 2 or 3 laps. And not for the numbers that used to populate the races of earlier years - teams of just 6 runners didn't make for much of a spectacle. Not an event for "the average boy" any more. In 1967 there were no results reported in a Lion magazine of a totally different, almost anti-sport layout. Lion 1968 had a minimal content with just Individual and House winners.

This sort of winter "sport", was regarded as anything but sport by a minority - a pointless way of wasting time in uncomfortable conditions, with nothing to enjoy, and few opportunities to skive-off! There was always a lot of creative thinking imparted to ways of doing this, from simple absence, claims of a contagious ailment, impending limb transplant, dog-eaten daps or some heinous trick like walking the whole course. The worst of long-distant running in the winter is the cold, commonly rain, poorly-fitting footwear, chaffing clothes, no gloves, the stitch that nearly cripples those affected - might not have happened if they had done some practise / training. Running that far, for that amount of time, with most rapidly disappearing into the distance, than all gathered around at the end to clap you in or, more likely laugh.

One of my abiding impressions of School was of three boys o probably 4th or 5th years, who had the audacity to walk back, from the furthest point visible at the finish. Next morning, in a hushed Assembly, they were summonsed to the front, left there, then carted-off to the Headmaster's office - might even have been a final farewell to the cane that George Ashton wielded with such practised skill!

Most took part because it was the annual thing to do, a School tradition, not life-threatening. Though some might regard it as a form of child-abuse! (In my later years of work, elsewhere, there was a 14-year-old girl with Cystic Fibrosis who insisted in taking part, because she wanted to be a part of everything, and to get the most out of her life experiences. There was a bigger turn-out that years!) Others disliked it and quite a few were very competitive, as you will see

in the results lists that follow. The selective Grammar Schools used to have lots of fit, achievement-orientated, corporate-minded pupils who, aware of the privileged education they were a part of took it in their stride, participated and would now regard it as an eventful and formative part of their young lives.

Steeplechase Results

Year	Juniors	Winning House	Seniors	Winning House
1922	Scivier (W) Raby ² (S) Newbury (C)	School	Welborne ¹ (S) Welborne ² (S) Carnell (C)	Westbury
1923	Welling (C) Watson Bucknall (S)	Blackbrook	Wellborne (S) Budden (W) Knapp (C)	Westbury
1924	Welling (C)	Blackbrook	Sinnott (W)	Westbury
1925	Nicholas (S)	School	Hayward and Tovey Cummins	Westbury
1926	Hunt May Riches	School	No details	Cams
1927	Daventry (B) Emmett (W) & Markham	School	Heifman Chamberlain Riches	Blackbrook
1928	Emmett (W) Daventry (B) & Smart	Westbury	Chamberlain Mundy Christian	School
1929	Emmett (W) Cross (B)	Blackbrook	Riches Chamberlain Christmas	Westbury
1930	Cross (B) Cornish (B) Daventry (B)	Blackbrook	Smith (B) Emmett (W) Farrow	Westbury
1931	Aps ² Powell ² (W) Rushforth ²	School	Hoskin (B) Emmett (W) Fielder	Westbury

1932		Pressley (B) Watson (C) Powell (W)	Blackbrook	Hoskins ¹ (B) Smith (B) Cross (B)	Blackbrook
1933		Disraut (B) Watson ² (C) Manley ² (S)	Blackbrook	Gough (B) Powell ² (W) Saint (W)	Westbury
1934		Brooks (W) Powell (W) Seymour (B)	Cams	Gough (B) Saint (W) Dixon (B)1938	School
1935 Mar		Gough (B) Durant (B) Fleming ♂	Blackbrook	Taylor (S) Headen B) Grafham (S)	School
1936 (Dec 35)	Teams of 20, first 8 score	Fleming (C) Andrews (B) Jackson (B)	Blackbrook	Grafham (S) Phillips (B) Hale (C)	Blackbrook
1937		Courtnege (B) Embley (B) Warren (W)	Blackbrook	Espley I (B) Brooks (W) Young (C)	Blackbrook
1938		Witt (W) Lamport (B) Gibbs (B)	Blackbrook	Young ² (C) Leggitt (W) Fleming (C)	Cams
1939		Lamport (B) Whaley (C) Jarman (W)	Blackbrook	Wainwright (W) Fleming (C) Jackson (B)	Blackbrook
1940		No results reported			
1941		Johnson ² (S)-	School	Kent (S)	
1942		Lennox (S) Gilbody (B) Garside (S)	School	McKenna (W) Gwilliam (W) Pylle (C)	Blackbrook
1943		McKenna (W) Wright (S) Gwilliam (W)	School	Harvey (B) Simkin (C) Casey (S)	Westbury
1944		L.Rowe (B) Ashwell (S) Woodnut (B)	School	Wellstead (B) Wright (S) Blake (W)	Blackbrook

1945	L. Rowe (B) Gwilliam (W) Pyle (C)	Blackbrook	Suggate (B) Cole (C) Betts (C)	Blackbrook & Cams
1946	Groves (C)	Blackbrook	Gwilliam (W)	Blackbrook
	Cozens (B) Palmer (B)		Bass (S) Vear (S)	
1947	No results reported			
1948	Gatesman (S) Parfitt (C) Swift (B)	Blackbrook	Foster (B) Groves (C) Webb (W)	School
1949	Parfitt (C) Baker (C) Watts (C)	Cams	Groves (C) Foster (B) Webb (W)	Westbury
1950	Wallbridge (S) Winter (S) Percival (B)	School	Foster (B) Ridett (S) Weyman ^②	Cams
1951	Adams ⁴ (B) Menzies (B) Shotter (B)	Westbury	Ridett (S) Dimmock (C) White (C)	School
1952	Sheath (W) Ambrose (C) Ireland (C)	School	Coombs (S) Adams ⁴ (B) Ridett (S)	School
1953	Izod (S) Ambrose (C) Ireland (C)	School	Coombs (S) Adams (B) Ridett (S)	School
1954	Pallett (B) Phelan (C) Powell (C)	Cams	Harvey (B) Ambrose (C) Ireland (C)	Blackbrook

Change of Age Group arrangements.

	Minor	W.Hse	Junior	W.Hse	Senior	W.Hse
1955	Donahoe (S) Crowle ² Pugh (W)	Sch	Phelan Linehan Houghton	Black	Adams Ireland Jacobs	Cams
1956	Pugh (W) Forder (S) Thomas (B)	West	Donahoe (S) Linehan (W) Evans (B)	Sch	Jacobs (C) Starkey (S) Gillard (S)	Cams

1957	Teams of 12, first 8 to score	Goble (W) Wareham (S) Stanley (C)	West	Donahoe (S) Pugh (W) Forder (S)	Sch	Linehan (W) Laming (S) Starkey (S)	Sch
1958		Warde (C) Houghton (W) Bussey (C)	Sch	Pugh (W) Forder (S) Cooper (B)	Sch	Linehan (W) Starkey (S) Donahoe (S)	Sch
1959		Watton (C) Uden (B) Lewis (C)	Cams	Jenks (W) Carter Greentree (S)	West	Gardner (S) Noot (P) Pugh (W)	Sch
1960		Ward (S) Ellis (B) Gould ☺	Cams	Uden (B) Buchanan (B) Wilkins P (S)	Cams	Bevis (B) Pugh (W) Jenks (W)	West
1961		Robinson (B) Walker (C) Godden	Cams	Nichols (C) Woods (W) Aldred (B)	West	Bevis (B) Pugh (W) Jenks (W)	Cams
1962		Cancelled - bad weather					
1963		Colwill (W) Ayres (S) Nelson (S)	Sch	Childs (C) Alderton (W) Todd (S)	West	Jenks (W) Cope Ellis	West
1964		Colwill (W)] 1= Knight (W)] 1= Burnett (B)	Cams	Alderton (W) Kinge (W) Nelson (S)	Sch	Ellis (B) Pirault (B) Bamber (S)	West
1965		Smith J (B) Cooper (B) Wheeler (C)	Black	Knight (B) Perry (S) Askew (C)	Sch	Ellis (B) Alderton (W) Barnet (W)	West
1966		Wheeler Thompson Askew	West	Colwill Smith Shelley	West	Alderton (W) Astley Yaldron	Sch
1967		No results reported					
1968		Simpson (S)	Black	Askew [C]	Sch	Pinkney	Cams
1969-1974		No results reported					

Price's School Steeplechase Results Commentary

Results in the early years were not listed in much detail. And so the overall picture is less clear. Main success of that era fell to Emmett (W), who placed in the top 2 in 5 consecutive races between 1927 and 1931 - **two wins** - amassing a global total of **32½ points**. Around that time, Welling (C), Cummins (C), Wellborne (S) and Hoskin (B) each returned two x 1st placings in successive years to stamp their impact in their year groups, but not until the **late 40s** (Groves (C) and Foster (B)) were other runners to record two individual wins. Daventry, with a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in 1927 / 29 and 1930 also had impact.

The next to show any consecutive dominance was Ridett (S), with frame placings in each of 4 years from 1950 (21 points), and the first to show any prowess at both Steeplechase and on Sports Day was Adams⁴, with a 1st and two 2nds coincident with his Victor Ludorum years of 1951 and 1953, but oddly, no mention in the listings for A.B.Byng¹, the overall dominant track and field athlete, in the late 40s / early 50s.

Coombs, with **two wins**, Ambrose and Ireland, with 7 other placings to share were strong forces in the **early 50s** until that incredible all-rounder Donahoe (S) arrived and stamped his authority with a succession - the only such sequence, of **three wins** - 1955, 1956 and 1957, with a third place later, to give a global total of **28 points** which, whilst not the largest, yields the highest average score (7 pts) for runners with more than two races, and places Dick Donahoe at the top of the all-time Steeplechase achievers list!

The **mid 50s / early 60s** were something of a hot bed of competitive running, with so many fine performers, including many who simply did not get into the field of repeat-achievers in the top three of steeplechase events, but who were valuable members of their House teams and on Sports Day also. Linehan (W), with two 2nds and **two 1sts** tallied **26 points** in four years from 1955, Roger Starkey (S) was no slouch between 1956 and 1958 with 3 frame placings and two earlier good finishes to yield **15 global points**. This was also the era of Alf Forder (S), strong between 1956 and 1958 with three frame placements, Ellis (B) - **19 global points** with **successive wins** in 1964 and 1965, Harry Bevis (B), **18 points**, dominating in his sixth form years, and including **2 wins**, and Ginty Jenks (W) succeeding Bevis, with **two wins** and **18 points**. And there were others, too, such as Dugan.

The photo below is a rare treasure, it being one of the very few taken of cross-country runners and, by the look of it, a successful one, too, holding a handsome trophy



Fareham Cadets Dominate at Championships

Teams from Schools that had obviously put in some intensive practise outpointed those from other units in the Hampshire Army Cadet Force cross-country Championships last Saturday.

The Senior Trophy was won by the 14th (Hants.) Cadet Regiment, R.A. from Fareham, comprising lads from Price's School. With 32 points, they ousted by 5 points the team of the 13th Cadet Battalion, Parachute Regiment, from Farnborough Grammar School who were holders of the Cup.

Cadet Heseltine, after leading the field up to the final half-mile, lost valuable seconds when he missed the course marker and rounded a clump of bushes, at which point a Gosport cadet managed to take the lead until the end.

Cadets Heseltine, Adams, Coombes and Porter have been selected for the County team for the service championships next week.

But in this halcyon time of "the greats", from my memory, the mid 50s - early 60s, one person stands out for persistence, for tenacity and success sustained at a high level. The person whose global total of **40 points** comes from one x 3rd place, four x 2nd places and **two x 1sts**, i.e. a frame position in each of 7

successive years - Tim Pugh (W) who was surely the most reliably successful athlete across these years. Whilst researching the details of the Victor Ludorum winners, it would have been easy to overlook the significance of Tim Pugh on Sports Day, for he was never a V.L. winner. Yet examination of the Sports Day results shows that Tim, too, made major inroads for his House during each of the 7 years he was in School. Two x 3rds, four x 2nds and **five x 1sts**, including a highly creditable 10.8" for 100 yards and the J.M. Evans Cup for 220 yards - both in **1961**, brought Tim a further **68 global points** to elevate him amongst the peerage of running sportsmen at Price's. Given that track and field athletics provides four times the opportunity to amass points in this scheme than does the steeplechase. Tim certainly rate as one of, if not the most successful performer!

The Steeplechase record is not complete, and it is likely there would be some different emphases to declare if the data from these years: 1925, 1926, 1936, 1937, 1940, 1947 and 1967 - 1974 were available. There was no event in 1962. With possible exception of Groves ((C) 1946 - 1949), and some from the later years - Colwill (W) and Alderton (W), 1963 - 1966, + ?, whose ultimate tallies are unlikely to be known, there seems little prospect that the major players in this analysis would be challenged.

The place of the event in the annals of School life was under threat for while before its ultimate demise. Practices were usually organised by the House Captains and Prefects, and took place on the pavements and roads surrounding the School. It was one way of learning the geography of the area - couple of these a week! There was usually one session of P.E. or games when the actual course was shown to the intending participants. In my early years, it started on the open field on the other side of Park Lane, later emerging onto Road, then across more fields to end-up near the start. Perhaps for older groups the course took them down the Wickham side of the North Hill, with an awful slog back-up the road to the junction at the top.

It was a pity that the closure of Price's as we knew it meant that such evidently promising sports careers as those of Colwill (W), and Alderton (W) were not to have full exposure to the opportunities that enabled so many others to flourish. Colwill was only the second pupil to score three wins - **1963, 1964** and **1966**, giving him a global tally of **24 points**, with an unknown add-in from 1965. Alderton with four frame finishes between **1963** and **1966** - two x 2nds and two wins, **tallied 26 points**.

The evident decline in interest either in the organisation of athletics or cross-country in the later years of the School / College that appears to be the case

from the dearth of detail in Lion reports is a pity, for it makes difficult the task of acknowledging those who were good performers and high achievers and precludes their proper placement in the history of these sports at Prices. The demise and closure of the House system was the ultimate "cause of death", having its manifestation in the absence first of any seniors from Sports Day in 1974, and then in the absence of Sports Day, submerged as it surely was, amongst the pressures of a Summer term replete with examination preparations and assessments, School athletics, in a Sixth form College or open Tertiary College was never going to survive.

An interestingly crafted poem:

I read it carefully and with the benefit of the experience that real cross-country races imbue, can understand the agony of the back runner. A tribute to him and all the others who took part, for that is the important thing, taking part, not winning

"The Cross-Country Run"

The start is good: we crush the living grass,
Chase the wind, and all the birds we pass.
Stride out along a smooth and downhill track, watching
the trees and creatures whose land we do attack.

With relish and deep breathes of country air,
we are growing warm, although the wind is
fair, settling down to face the next five miles
with firm-set grit to leaping all the stiles.

A mile goes by with ease and speed With eyes
ahead we lunge on, as though freed.
Full of energy and hopes of winning;
With racing heart, the world goes spinning.

Across the grassy field and shallow stream
ahead The land is ploughed and steep, instead.
We swing across the narrow plank,
through some briars 'till, in mud, we sank

Ankle deep and clogged in sticky earth.
We plod on up and on, more slowly now with
shortened steps, and gulping air, panting for
breath, and feeling worse for wear.

We're walking, weighed by clinging mud,
looking straight down at fresh footprints,
Not caring to look around – I don't see why I should –
they're all ahead and over the top, long since.

The going is rough, we run in narrow ruts

Between the furrows and brambled edge;
 Renewing good pace with optimistic guts,
 Avoiding the mud and scratching thorny hedge.

This is better: I win a battered fence, scramble
 across and gain a lead, by sense.
 Only to hit a boggy patch and get soaked through,
 so showing the rest what not to do.

We're putting on a distance now, steadily
 jogging right through a field of wheat, but past
 caring and, finding the shortest route simply
 to relieve the pain of feet.

The path is straight ahead through bumpy fallow.
 The first are bounding on, some fields ahead.
 It's over half-a-mile we are spread..
 The rest are straggling, aching, sallow.

The last goes by; there's no one else behind..
 I'm lost on this, my first time round.
 They draw away, across a field of seedy kale
 And vanish, without trace or trail

Norman C. Pasley (June 1966)

R.I.P. all those who took part, often against their basic inclinations or better judgements; all those who led, encouraged, exhorted or even bullied involvement; those who tried hard to do as well as they could and fostered the competitive House spirit; and those whose achievements have added a sense of high-calibre performance in the minds of younger, impressionable pupils who adopted them as good and worthwhile role models. Job done!

Steeplechase Results - Principle Performers

Name	Years as a Junior Finishing position					Years as a Senior Finishing position			Total / Average
$1^{\text{st}} = 6 \text{ pts}, \ 2^{\text{nd}} = 5 \text{ pts}, \ 3^{\text{rd}} = 4 \text{ pts}$									
Cummins					1925				
					3				4
Riches	1926				1927	1928			
	3				3	3			12/3 = 4
Emmett (W)	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931				

	=2	1	1	2	2			$25\frac{1}{2} / 5 =$ 5.1
Chamberlain				1927	1928	1929		
				2	1	3		$15/3 =$ 5.3
Daventry	1927	1928	1930					
	1	2	3					$15/3 =$ 5.3
Hoskin (B)				1931	1932			
				1	1			$12/2 =$ 6
Watson (C)	1932	1933						
	2	2						$10/2 =$ 5
Fleming (C)	1935			1938	1939			
	3			3	3			$12/3 =$ 4
Lamport (B)	1938	1939						
	2	1						$11/2 =$ 5.5
				1939	1942			

McKenna (W)				3	1			$10/2 =$ 5
Gwilliam ii (W)	1943		1945	1946				
	2		2	1				$16/3 =$ 5.3
L.Rowe (B)	1944	1945						$12/2 =$ 6
	1	1						
Groves (C)		1946		1948	1949			
		1		2	1			$17/3 =$ 5.7
Foster (B)				1948	1949	1950		
				1	2	1		$17/ 3 =$ 5.7
Webb (W)				1949	1950			
				3	3			$6/2 =$

								3
Ridett (S)				1950	1951	1952	1953	
				2	1	3	3	$19/4 = 4.8$
Adams ⁴ (B)			1951	1952	1953			
			1	2	2			$16/3 = 5.3$
Coombs (S)				1952	1953			
				1	1			$12/2 = 6$
Ambrose (C)		1952	1953	1954				
		2	2	2				$15/3 = 5$
Ireland (C)		1952	1953	1954	1955			
		3	3	3	2			$17/4 = 4.3$
Phelan (C)		1954	1955					
		2	1					$11/2 = 5.5$
Donahoe (S)		1955	1956	1957	1958			
		1	1	1	3			$23 / 7 = 5.5$
Linehan (W)			1955	1956	1957	1958		
			2	2	1	1		$22/4 = 5.5$
Pugh (W)	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	
	3	1	2	1	2	2	2	$36 / 7 = 5.1$
Starkey (S)					1956	1957	1958	
					2	3	2	$14/3 = 4.67$
Forder (S)		1956	1957	1958				
		2	3	3				$13/3 = 4.33$
Uden		1959	1960					
		2	1					$11/2 = 5.5$

Ellis (B)		1960			1963	1964	1965	
		2			3	1	1	21/4 = 5.3
Bevis (B)					1960	1961		
					1	1		12/2 = 6
Jenks (B)		1959			1960	1961	1963	
		1			3	3	1	20/4 - 5
Nelson (S)	1963	1964						
	3	3						8/2 = 34
Colwill (W)	1964		1966					
	1		1					12/2 = 6
Night (W)	1964	1965						
	2	1						11/2 = 5.5
Alderton (W)		1963	1964	1965	1966			
		2	1	2	1			22/4 = 5.5
Highest aggregate score				Tim Pugh (W)			40	
Highest number of 1 st three places				Tim Pugh (W)			7	
Highest number of race wins				Dick Donahoe			3	
				Colwill			3	
Highest average finish (> 2 results)				Groves (C), Foster(B)				
2+ successive wins				Wellborne			1922, 1923	
				Emmett			1928, 1929	
				Hoskin			1931, 1932	
				Rowe			1944, 1945	
				Donahoe (S)			1955, 1956, 1957	
				Bevis			1060, 1961	
				Colwill			1963, 1964, 1965	
				Ellis			1964, 1965	

The ending

Making much sense of events in the seven-year period between 1967 and 1972 becomes difficult when there is only one set of results published. At this distance in time, it is

unlikely that any details of performances will be recoverable from a School / College that closed 35 years previously, and so it is not possible to give due credit to any good performers of those years other than **I.T. Farley** (W) - two V.L.s and **I.M. Burton** (S) - three V. L.s, and **J. De'ath** (W) and **S. Moran** (C) - two wins each.

In Conclusion

The work has been four+ years in the making. I have tried to be as inclusive as possible, and in awaiting an inflow of potential input, there has always seemed to be a need for a further revision before going to "publication". There was no inflow of details of images, and thus, at best, the work is incomplete, and any qualifications should be notified. Returning to the task after it being "rested" for a few months, in itself consumes much time and is liable to suffer from some previous "loose ends" being overlooked, an inevitable consequence, I suspect of advancing years.

Performers from the pre-WW2 years, and especially earlier ones bear no real comparison with those of later years, for whom there were more events and fewer social constraints on opportunities. And those of the final years of Price's School, the Sixth Form College and whatever followed on are equally disadvantaged in the sense of not being able to record or acknowledge prowess through a lack of documented results.

In spite of some strenuous efforts, it has not been possible to get detail or knowledge of a few, known, high performers. Judgements about relative merit are mine, and there will be an understandable awareness of the years I was at the School (1955 - 1962).

So, with apologies to any whose performances have not been recorded, or whose real merit has not emerged.

David Goldring Monday, 5th May, 2013 and 23rd September, 2022

Athletic Sports Day – The events and the people

This project had started in my mind some years before reading notes from an SOP meeting about a write-up of Victor Ludorum winners. Having won the said Cup myself, this caught my attention and the task began with a search through my own memorabilia, covering my time in School, from 1955 to 1962. In fact I had Sports Day programs from only 1959 – 1962 and soon realised the daunting task of using the “Lion” C.D. archive which has copies of almost all Lions issued between 1922 and 1975. This research has now been completed, and yielded a number of tables of data: A List of Victor Ludorum winners 1925 – 1975, with performance details contributing to these, and a “short” version of it, just listing the names, and also a Table of those winning the Victor Ludorum on more than one occasion, along with their “other” Sports Day scores

It had been my intention further to research the “Lion” entries to gain information regarding the nature of the Sports Day occasion over the years, how changes were accommodated, etc., and then to broaden this out to encompass The Steeplechase results, for these ought to complement impressions of the good athletes, and latterly, to trawl content regarding other sports, thus to reveal who the real achievers were, who were those whose performances dominated their time in School. The build-up of data on performances will also yield some interesting comparative perspectives on the ways in which standards and attitudes altered through time.

Measuring Performances

It is clear from the early “Lions” that the magnitude of performance was less of concern in the early days than was the result, in terms of name and sometimes also, the House affiliation. It was only in 1927 that a record of a time appears, with an 11.2 s win in the Senior 100 yards by Hall of Cams. The printed record only ever acknowledges first three places, and so the totalling of points for the 1920s and early 1930s that I have done, when not listed in the Lion, cannot reflect any points gained from finishes in the lower orders. That also applies to Victor Ludorum winners throughout when their point scores were less than the maximum 32 and did not include information about results out of the first three places.

Stop watches were an understandable scarcity in the early years, and seems likely there may have been only one that needed to be apportioned between events. Quite what these were like can only be a matter of guesswork, but my experiences of such technologies in the latter 1950s suggests it could well be that lever arm clocks familiar to physics students might have been what was used, and who could speak of their accuracy, given their build for robust, school laboratory usage? That most of the timings were recorded in imperial, fractional format with the metric conversion producing time intervals of 0.2 s suggests that the timepieces were not sophisticated, as was certainly the case of their operators.

But then the techniques of the starting process were not much better, either. What might have passed for a starting pistol is an answer some older O.P.s might be able to provide, but I do know that during my days in School, it was a CCF .303 Lee-Enfield rifle firing blanks that sufficed.



The .303 Lee Enfield Rifle-cum-starter's pistol!

That made a hell of a bang when it was discharged close to the start line of a 100 yards race, and at a distance, it was probably the sound that initiated the watch holders' reactions rather than the smoke, for blank cartridges were not really designed to be visible, just audible!

Measuring linear dimensions wouldn't have been subject to the same limitations, though it is a different matter whether there were good long tapes available for events like javelin and cricket ball throwing.

Facilities

Just about every place on the School field was part of a slope, and sometimes, in more than one direction, not surprisingly since the School was built on the side of a hill that was anything but planar. This image gives an idea of that slope, though the track was not in this location. Its not possible to be sure that the locations of track, jumping pit and other competitive areas were always in the same place as in my experience. The long jump run-up was about the only place where there seemed to be a horizontal surface, and the adjacent high jump fan was



fairly flat. The latter was grass, but the Long Jump run-up was a "cinder" construction, and by that, I don't mean the finely divided cinder of proper athletics tracks prior to the introduction of "Tartan" synthetic surfaces, I mean cinder from the boilers, much of which was reduced by crushing, with some fine product, many small pieces and quite a few lumps that would stick to spikes if used, and when dislodged would certainly make for an uncomfortable landing for either long or high jumpers in the common sandpit!

There was only one pit approached from different sides for Long and High Jumps, and thus not allowing much practise time since there would have to be rationing of access for long jumpers and high jumpers. There was never enough sand anyway, so that was a good enough reason for the high jump technique to be mostly what we called "the scissors", just about the mechanically least-efficient means of crossing the bar as could be imagined. It would have taken a brave soul to attempt the straddle or western-roll techniques, and of course the modern, "Fosbury Flop" technique – after Dick Fosbury - (otherwise known in its early days as the "Brill Bend" – after Debbie Brill), would not have been possible, without consequential spinal surgery when, the distance to be descended into the sand was always greater than that jumped from the grass to clear the bar.



1958 Alan Wells (W) – 3rd, behind Forder (S) and Read (C) and the Long Jump pit. Note the fine state of netting around the tennis court! The High Jump "fan" would have been to the left of the pit, as seen here.

Imagine the outcome of failure if, landing on the back, there was a welcoming reception from cinder-strewn sand, and a maybe also a triangular section pole to resist the downward force of several feet of acceleration not cushioned by a decent landing mat.

Netting cages for discus throwers, and roped-off areas for javelin launchers or cricket ball throwers there were none.

Fatalities uncertain!

The track! This was a monstrous obstacle to good competition, and its only redeeming feature might have been for 220 yard competitors had the direction of run been opposite to what actually happened.

Starting was a bit different from in normal athletics. Apart from the howitzer of a gun to get you going, itself probably more responsible for some good times through the sheer shock of its noise,

the starter was Howard Jones in my days, and his homily before the event, given in a Welsh lilt, lulled racers into a false sense that the only thing to be concerned about was the prowess of their opponents. The early-onset deafness that afflicts me, might be worth investigating also amongst other former Pricean athletes to assess the potential for litigation, and claims relating to dereliction of duty, child abuse, health and safety breaches, discharging a fire arm in a public place, being too easily distracted by mention of CCF boots in history lessons, conspiracy and, if all else fails, just being Welsh (see Anne Robinson!)

The start was at a tangent to the first curve of the track, thus a straight few yards, downhill to gather pace and confound the common sense of pace judgement that rapidly unwound when, on entering the beginning of the second bend, that awful state of feeling knackered began to loom large in legs, gut, heart and mind with the thought of another 200 yards or so to negotiate, sometimes with some preposterous individual trying to assert his right to get in front! The back straight might have been straight, but it wasn't flat, with many an undulation that could lead to missed footing, and littered with cones from the pine trees bordering the field along Harrison Rd. Those pine cones could also stick to spikes with more debilitating effect that the "Wilbur*" selection of assorted boiler cinders, picked-up on the Long Jump run-up. *Wilbur – aged odd-job man, and keep of the boiler.

One imperative to maintaining good speed along the back straight was the possibility that vision for the onlookers from the Secondary School opposite might be blurred, thus limiting the potential for retaliatory identification of Priceans if encountered out and about, and not in uniform, for that in itself (uniform) was sufficient normally, to quell riotous intent when the brave cadets of the CCF defence force were not strutting their stuff and securing territory against insurgents from within the town, and from surrounding places like Gosport.

220 yard runners had to start at the bottom of the worst competitive slope I encountered in many years of sport though, without wanting to dally over long with their backs to Harrison Rd., there came to be some reasonable times returned for this event.

But the slope was the death knell for the one, two or four lap runners, a worse challenge than most Steeplechase / cross-country courses presented. The corner started a bit like the curve on a velodrome, though with adverse camber but unlike this, the slope continued in a different direction once past the crown of the bend and it was little consolation that the run-in on the final straight was slightly down hill because by then. The state commonly known as "being knackered" had set in! The only way the 2 and 4 lap runners could cope was by returning such slow times that they were still conscious at the end and in a state where they might be able to raise the pace and create the impression they had been running like that all along. Posers, all.

Commenting on the results of the Senior 100 yds, run down a slight slope, though at the time on soft ground, there is mention of two watches confirming what is, even by modern standards, a good time of 10.4s by E.J. Gilbert of Westbury in 1932, and in 1933, there is a first mention of "spikes" being worn. This was not common, even in my, late 50s era.

Building work in the 1975 season meant a radical change to the track format, it being reduced to a 300m concourse, so times on this do not bear strict comparison with other years, and that is working on the presumption that the track held its location on the Harrison Road slope all the time, and of that, there is no information. Times returned here thus also have little bearing on competition results from events off the School site.

Generally, the Sports Day was held mid-Summer Term, but in 1946, for the first of two occasions, it was held in the Easter Term.

The competitive programme

Write-ups from early years show that Sports Day was very different from the experience of later times. A prime determinant of what was on offer was of course, the size of the School. Small year groups do not make for a big programme of events and it is probable that most Sports Days were just one-afternoon affairs. It is instantly apparent that the age groups were different from the 3 group, Minor, Junior and Senior structure that emerged in 1931. The groups reported on included Under13, U14, U15 and Open categories. U13s would equate to Minors, U14 and U15 to Juniors and the Open class would have included those in the fifth year and sixth form.

Where it has been possible to identify named athletes competing, the U13s are treated as equivalent to Minors; the Juniors include only the U15s since there is no way of determining the relative merits of the two groups. The Seniors include both fifth and sixth formers, though it is likely that with a small entry each year, and with earlier leaving ages than nowadays, the Seniors were a small group anyway.

In 1924, the programme consisted of:

Open - 100 yds, 440 yds, Mile, Hurdles, Relay – initially 3-man, sometimes 640 yards / 2½ miles, High Jump, the latter two being “team events”, and there is a report from the early days of there being a Hurdles relay! How did these work?

U15 – 100 yds, 440 yds, Mile, Hurdles, Relay, High Jump.

U14 – 100 yds, 440 yds, 880 yds, Relay, High Jump

U13 – 100 yds, 220 yds, High Jump

So, although there are some listings for Minor and Junior individuals with two first-three placed results, it hardly constitutes a proper Victor Ludorum contest as known later. That having been said, in 1925 Cummins of Cams returned 4 x 1st place results and by later standards would have been a worthy V.L. winner. Whilst individuals performing in the High Jump winning team were known, their performances are not included here, and because of the variable nature of the Relay races, the distances and heights of Hurdles events, the results are listed, and emboldened where known to be best performances, they are not included as Records, for current purposes..

In 1925 there is reference to a tug-o-war event re-introduced after several years, at Open and Junior age groups, the winning Junior Cams team being a “heavy lot”!

1925 sees first reference to the Winchester sports, presumably at Winchester College, with Tovey the winner of the Mile event. These were in fact County Championships, yielding only one winner in 1926 – Watson, who was 1st in the U14 880 yards. The event happened just after the end of the General Strike, so, with no cheap train fares available, virtually the whole school embarked on two large buses for the day out! “We will do better next year!” was the conclusion.

The Sports of the year 1926 saw some changes in event offerings. The High Jump became an individual contest, and there was a Hurdles relay at Open, U15 and U14 ages, to which had been added a Sack Race, a 3-legged race and Junior and Senior tug-o-war contests! Except for the team events, no House affiliations are listed. As a Junior, Heifman’s Mile time beat that in the Open event!

1927 saw there to have been an increase in the availability of stop watches, with timings available for all events, thought to be an incentive to future record-breaking. That the conditions on

the day were not good and that the field lent itself only to being helpful to short sprinters suggests that my presumption about the location of the track might have been right.

The competitive programme was further extended with the inclusion of a sack race for U13s and U14s. The High Jump becomes a team event, again, along with the Hurdles. The tug-o-war was evidently the climactic conclusion to the day that relays have now become. Hall's three event frame placings sees him listed as, for the first time, **Victor Ludorum!**

1928 The Winchester sports are once again a day of dismal performances, with lamentations in the Lion to that effect, bemoaning the taking of athletics in 2 or 3 Schools as quite serious! Strictly Come Dancing's Craig Revill Horwood would have opined "simply aaawful, darling!", when considering the results!

The Lion refers to the Number of pupils on roll as having reached 180, giving an indication of the likely strength of competition in the School. Still team events in the High Jump and Hurdles, and no indication yet of any throws or Long Jump, but there is a slow Bike race introduced – a very sure way of improving performances in external competitions, I am sure (not!).

1929 saw the end of the sack, and the 3-legged race, and although there was an improvement in performances at the Winchester event, still no successes of note.

The **1930** Lion includes a reference to The Old Boys' Victor Ludorum Challenge Cup, and also to a photo (elsewhere, not stated), of the **1909** Sports. This, with other later references to a record of **1919** standing, confirms that there had been a history of athletic competition before the first Lions recorded on the C.D.

The Winchester sports day continues to yield little success, and here there is mention of a "Portals Cup". Now, Portal could be inferred as being derived from the French, implying an "entry level" to the competition, but there is, in **1947** mention of a Lord Portal having given a prize for essay writing. For many years, the expression is used for what became the "Minors" section, consistently used from **1938** though, before that, there was a usage that alternated, probably without thought, between the two options. Persistent usage in the Winchester competition to the Portal Cup, doubtless reinforced this term.

(*Wikipedia – The **Portal Baronetcy**, of Marshanger, Church Oakley, in the County of Southampton, is a title in the [Baronetage of the United Kingdom](#). It was created on 11 March 1901 for [Wyndham Portal](#), Chairman of the [London and South Western Railway Company](#). His son, the second Baronet, was Chairman of Portals Ltd and Deputy Chairman of the London and South Western Railway Company. He was succeeded by his son, the third Baronet. He was also Managing Director of Portals Ltd and served as [Minister of Works](#) during the [Second World War](#). He was created **Baron Portal**, of Laverstoke in the County of Southampton, in 1935, and **Viscount Portal**, of Laverstoke in the County of Southampton, in 1945. Both titles were in the [Peerage of the United Kingdom](#). Lord Portal was childless and on his death the peerages became extinct. Given the geographical proximity of Fareham and Southampton, yet without knowing more of possible philanthropic intent of the man, it seems this is the likely link.*)

Two entries in **1931** give an interesting view: Describing the Hurdles race at Winchester, there is a description of both runners in "the team" competing in the same race, with times, or positions presumably combined. But of more significance, and hinting at a basic disrespect either of sporting competition – a philosophical domain of unsporting, haughty, literary types wanting to express disdain regarding perhaps sweaty, over-exertive and sometimes obsessive types, or of rewarding success – itself oddly prescient of recent, liberal attitudes that have done much to damage the provisions for and attainments in School sport – this quote, referring to the Victor Ludorum: "... an

institution which is, in theory, pernicious, may well be diverted to worthy ends ..." There is further comment about the V.L. being gained by an entrant to just two events "... enough for any boy ... "

Sports Day included four changes: there was an individual contest in the High Jump and in the Hurdles for the first time, and a half mile / 880 yds race had been introduced for the youngest group, the Portals which, along with Juniors and Seniors, replaced the formerly named U12, U14, U15 and Open categories.

For an unaccountable reason and for some years to come, in 1934 the Minor short sprint was reduced to 80 yards, at which length it remained until 1953.

1935 was clearly something of a "purple patch" for the School's Minors / Portals at the Winchester event, for after many years of dismal performances, the Portals cup returned to Price's for the first time since 1922! Hopes and expectations were dashed somewhat in the following year when, although there were some placed competitors, not much real success was to be had.

Throwing the Cricket Ball was introduced as a Sports Day event, and Long Jump, though results are not listed in the Lions of 1936. They appear for the first time in 1937. The T.C.B. was for Juniors and Seniors only, and Sports Day events were spread over 3 days, and in 1938, heats were held on prior days. Doing things by A.A.A. rules gets an honourable mention this year, commenting on how High Jump rules have altered to take into account the number of jumps taken at all heights being used to resolve equal height cleared finishes (= the count-back process).

For the past few years, the Winchester performances have been poor – the relay teams come in for some stick – *"some baton changing has been bad beyond belief"*, and there is resigned reference to a lack of practise time between Sports Day and the date of the meeting, and a growth in Sports Day events precluding a capacity to train properly.

There were no Winchester Sports in 1940 and that seems to have been the end of it for Price's, with further external competition not evidenced again until 1945, at the Eastleigh Sports. These were the Hampshire County Schools' A.A. Champs., in which Price's seems to have entered as a School competing against other *area* Associations! Generally reasonable performances were in evidence. There is also a listing in 1945 of results from a Cadet Sports competition which was in fact, the Hampshire Regt., Cadet Battalion's day, where Price's Company athletes scored well to win the event.

Something of a regressive step seems to have been taken in 1940, with a return to age groups from the past: U13, U14, U15 and Open, again, and for the first time, Sports Day was held in the Easter Term in 1943, and again in 1946 when it seems the School got its first County Champion (Hewitt –

Long Jump), who was then selected to represent the County in the National, Inter Counties Championships. The following year, 1947, Bass, having broken the County U15 record with 55.6s for the quarter mile, was 2nd in the Inter Counties final in Hull.

The location and shape of the track was altered in 1948 and the age groups were altered: Minors → 13½, and Juniors → 15½, which will have implications for records, a consideration that will be ignored for present purposes.



Sports Day 1949

L - R Nobes(S), Allwood(B), Herbert(C), Palmer(W)

On the back it states 4 x 220yds relay, does anyone know who won it?

4 x 220 yards relay, won in 1949 by School House (Minor), and by Cams (Junior). No result for Seniors listed.

Lion 1951 reports a *4 x 220 yds relay* team entered in to an Invitation competition at King Edwards School, Southampton – they *won, in a new record time 1'37.8s*. In the Cadet championships of that year *Byng*¹ improved on his School Junior's *Hurdles result of 15.8s*, and *White's 440 yards time of 53.3*, was the fastest recorded since a 54.2s return in 1919! The Tug-o-War events had their last outing in 1952, but in this year was introduced a half-mile handicap which continues until 1956 though probably not counting for the House competitions. Between 1952 and 1956, the Junior and Senior relays are listed as at 640 yards, with appropriate times, though without reasons, a change that was reversed in 1957. An Old Boys' Race appeared in 1955.

Cricket Ball throwing had been discontinued at all ages since 1953, which saw the re-instatement of the Minors' short sprint as a 100 yards race, and 1956 saw the introduction of Javelin events for Juniors and Seniors.

The next major change in arrangements was the introduction in 1960 of an Ice Cream van onto the field on Sports day!

Individual, keepsake awards (shown right, here →) for the Victor Ludorum winners were introduced in 1962 (though not engraved!), and in 1964, a Shot Putt event was allowed for Juniors and Seniors.



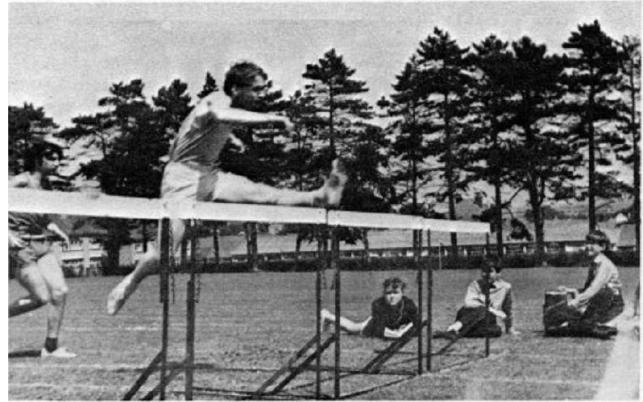
The 1967 Lion records results from a competition in Gosport – presumably the area Schools' Championships, with 5 Pricean winners representing Gosport area in the County Schools' Championships.

The competitive programme had become much more extensive in 1968, with the introduction of a number of new events to bring the list to current expectations:

100, 220, 440, 880, Mile, Hurdles, Relay,
High Jump, Long Jump, Triple Jump,
Shot Putt, Discus, Javelin,
each for all 3 age groups!

So much for the caustic remarks of the 1931 correspondent! But the impending end was, if not in sight, then just over the horizon. For whatever reasons, there is no Lion available from 1966, no athletic details were published in 1967, and 1969 to 1971 aside from the names of the Victor Ludorum winners and, after a final 3-years flurry from 1972 to 1975, when Price's School became Price's College, there is nothing to follow-on! Perhaps the last 2 Victores Ludora appropriately went to a Westbury athlete – De'ath, John!

There were however, some fine details changing during these times: in 1972, all linear distance races were measured in metric though no performance details were listed but presumably as in 1973 the actual measured lengths for the jumps and throws were imperial, changing in 1974 to be fully metric (changed back to imperial for present purposes), when the specifications for each of the Hurdles races were brought into line with A.A.A.



requirements. The performance times for 1969 – Nigel Balchin winning the Junior Hurdles the metric races have not been converted *Good, straight lead leg, with minimal clearance, body dip could be better, trailing leg could well have hit the hurdle!* back to imperial equivalents – there appearance does not warrant this task! What may well have been the final Sports Day of the Price's era, in 1975, saw the abandonment of the inter House competition at Sports Day resulting from the failure of any Sixth formers to enter. The track was necessarily a 300m track, enforced because of the building programme.

Notable Winners of the Victor Ludorum accolade

Table 1 gives details of all listed V.L. winners and the events from which they gained their points. For many years, the points totals were not given and so, if these athletes had results out of the frame for the first three places, there is no way of knowing what it was. Their totals are thus minimum scores. Table 2 is a brief, “short” version of the same Table 1, and Table 3 shows the prowess of those who gained 2 or more V.L. wins. Those athletes whose Sports Day performances have stood out from the repeated scouring of the Lion C.D pages, but who were not V.L. winners in other years, have had their places and points identified, in outline, and their scores added into the 8th column in Table 3 to yield a *global total*.

There are so many variables that affect these details, it is not easy to be sure everything is absolutely correct and so, comparisons between years and athletes are made with some circumspection. But given that to be the case, the comparisons that are available are presented at face value, and limited by the time available to read every word of every relevant part of each Lion to check on further, illustrative detail. Any images included with these accounts are just those that are available at the time of writing (November 2010).

Some relevant caveats that need to be born in mind are: the quality of recording technology, the calibre of those doing the recording, variability of weather conditions, location and surface of track and other competitive areas, age group changes, numbers on school roll and thus available for selection, and the change from imperial to metric distances and measurements in the latter years.

The first recorded reference to an overall Sports Day “Best Performance” identification appears in 1925 with *Cummins of Cams* winning the Old Boys’ Cup for the Highest Individual score – 4 wins in the 100 yards, 440 yards, Hurdles and High Jump. It is not until 1931 (*Jones of Westbury*) and in 1946 that another athlete (*K. Sapsed of Blackbook*) recorded 4 wins to secure what became the **Victor Ludorum** accolade, by title, in the 100 yards, Hurdles, Long Jump and Cricket Ball Throw. The title of Victor Ludorum was first written of in the 1926 Lion account, and it retained eligibility for athletes of all groups, and although in reality it was the seniors who cornered the market,

though there were many Minors / Portals, and Juniors who gained more than the two wins that was commonly the case for the Seniors. The award of separate Victor Ludorum titles within each age division waited until

1950, and only in 1962, for the first time, was any keepsake trophy awarded to the winners. The only 3-way tie was in 1934 when one of those involved was the only ever recipient (*Pressley of Blackbrook*), not to have won an individual event, gaining his points from 2 x 2nd and a 3rd place.



D.Baker, School, off to an excellent start at the first change-over in the Senior 4 x 100 metres.

On the basis of normal development and progression through the age groups, it might be expected that a pupil would perform best in his second year in the age group, then taking a relative back seat in the lower year of the group above. Thus it was for the one of the first to emerge as a dominant performer of his era in the School: *P.A. Pressley, Blackbrook* won the Victor Ludorum in 1934 as part of a 3-way tie, with *J.E. Hill* and *D.E.J. Saint, both of Westbury*, and although the title as such was not used in these years, he also won it as part of two different Junior two-way ties in 1932 (+ *Smart of Westbury*) and 1933 (+ *Powell of Westbury*), and only as a Minor in 1931 did he win outright, but in each of the latter three years, there were only two events recorded for each of the athletes, Pressley gaining his Senior win with an unnamed event, 4th place finish – the only recipient not to win an individual event.

C.W. Barter's progress is a little unusual in that, after a win in 1933 as a Minor, he all but disappears until emerging as joint (with *N.P. Boyes of Westbury*) and then sole winner in 1937 and 1938 respectively. *E.J. Gilbert (Westbury)* wins the Senior title in 1932 and 1933; *Wheeler of Blackbrook*, Minor in 1936 and Junior in 1938, and then *W. Marshall of Cams*, Junior in 1939 and Senior in 1942 the only others that show any domination in times when two events was the norm, in a small School, and there was much sharing of the titles until a general increase in events began to be apparent in 1939.

Things changed a bit mid 40s, with the emergence of *L. Quinlan of Blackbrook* winning the Minor title with 2 records in 1945, the Junior with another record in his 3 wins in the 1947 Junior section, and another win in 1949 – the “perfect” progression! In 1948, with another 2 wins and a 3rd place, he was just pipped for an early Senior title by *A.R. Webb of Westbury*. Along with *C.W. Barter* before the war, Quinlan was the “name” that dominated the athletics in the post war years,

alongside of K. Sapsed of Blackbrook. The latter won two senior titles in 1945 and 1946, but he also featured well in 1943 and 1944.

The big impact was to arrive in 1947, with the entrance into the School of A.B. *Byng (Cams)* – Byng¹ in the tables! Byng¹ has been the only Price's boy to win 5 Victores Ludora – only two others have won 4! His progression: 1947 Minor – 4 wins, 1 record; 1949 Junior – 4 wins; 1950 Senior- 2 wins; 1951 Senior – 4 wins, 1 record; and 1952 Senior – 3 wins, 1 record, and what a record !), together with his 1948 3rd place performance yielded him a global total of 152 points, including wins in 16 individual races, a tally almost exactly double his nearest earlier rivals (Barter 1933 – 39, and Quinlan 1945 - 49).

*Byng*² – entered the School in 1948, and won his first, Minor V.L. in 1949, and another, Junior, shared with *J. Adams of Blackbrook*, in 1951. It could be excused if he gave up at that point, for no further mention of him occurs in the record.

R.C. Harrison (Blackbrook) had a flurry as a Minor in 1952 and 1953, winning 5 events with a record in his second Minor year, yet following three seconds placements in 1954 was not heard of again ...?

Following in the wake of the Byngs was the Adams family. (To be done!)

The first “big” name of my era actually started a year before I joined the School in the form of “Dick Donahoe”, an almost God-like eminence who seemed to be good at everything, all the time, mentioned so often from Assembly platforms, it was impossible, as a sports fan, not to hero-worship this person! *R. Donahoe of School House*, won 4 Victor Ludorum titles: 1954 Minor – 2 wins; 1955 Minor – 4 wins, 4 records; 1957 Junior – 4 wins, 3 records, and 1958 Senior – 1 win. His exploits in 1956 and 1959 brought him a further 40 points, to give him a total of 150½ points, including 13 wins, which stands as 2nd runner-up in the global tally. I am sure that what seems might have been a decline in his final year was not down to an attitude, or complacency, rather than to very high competition from others. Nobody else ever won 4 events with a record in each, and he was to do another 4 win, three record haul 2 years later!

Ahead of Dick Donahoe by a year or two was *Barry D. Calderhead, of Westbury* who, although he won his first Victor Ludorum as a Junior in 1955, with two Seniors in 1956 and 1957, actually scored very strongly with a total of a further 64 points between 1953 and 1954 that gives him premier spot in the global tally, with 154 points, including 13 first places, 10 second spots and 3 records!

Another of note in this era was *Alf Forder (School)*, who is the only pupil to be mentioned here with just one Victor Ludorum, gained as Junior in 1958. Even then his award related to only 3 wins, including 1 record, but this disguises his other achievements across the 1955 – 1959 years. He was amidst some very stiff competition from the like of Dick Donahoe and John Evans, but very much of their ilk, each in the wake of Calderhead. Without the ultimate accolade of a V.L. in 1959, Alf was to beat Dick into 3rd place in a quarter mile race in a time only ever bettered once before, and not since, and shared the 100 yards honours with Johnny in a really fast time, what a race that was to have watched – I was there!

John Evans was an all-round sportsman, like so many other of these top School athletes, and won his two accolades in 1956 and 1959. This may hide the reality of his impact in the sport for, across the years 1954 – 1959, Evans was to gain 10 wins and set 1 record, amassing a global total of 100½ points.

Doug Watton (Cams) was an athlete with immediate impact on joining the School in 1957. His two Minor and two Junior Victores Ludora (from 1958 – 1961) accolades represent only one of two pupils to have scored thus. Pressley, between 1931 – 1934 scored 1 x Minor, two x Junior and 1 x Senior awards, like Watton, a remarkable run of four successive wins, bettered only by A.B. Byng. Doug Watton's global tally of 112 points, including 14 wins, 3 records in just four years, would surely have gone on to obliterate the other achievements mentioned above, had he stayed on at School, and would probably have dented my prospects for my 3rd V.L. in 1962, and that of Barry Wake a year later!

Unlike most other major figures in the athletic scene, my *School House*, Junior V.L. in 1959, and Seniors in 1961 and 1962 included no records, but with results from other years, a tally of 9 x 1st places yielded a global score of 97 points.

School House athletes had not figured much in the V.L. lists until the mid 1950s – mid 1960s, and it was *Barry Wake* who followed on from me with a string of 3 V.L. in 1962 – Junior, and 1963 & 64 (Senior). With points added in from 1960/1, his global tally reached 87 points.



D. Goldring winning Junior 440 yards, 1959



Long Jumping (not at School)



D. Goldring winning Senior 440 yards, 1962

Note the same kit, 1959 and 1962, the flat plimsolls in 1959, and the old, worn-down spikes and heavy socks in 1962

Of the picture in later years, there is a mixed view. Many of the named athletes in Table 1 do not figure prominently in other years, and of *I.T. Farley (Westbury)*, Junior winner in 1968 and Senior in 1970, and *I.M. Burton (School)* for whom more interesting pictures might have been recountable, there is no detail either of his awards: Junior 1970 and Senior in 1971 and 1972. Likewise, the earlier years' achievements of *Westbury's J. De'ath* in the final two years, 1973 and 1974 might have been more informative.

On only 15 occasions has a maximum score of 32 points been achieved, twice by three people: Cummins 1925, Bass 1946, Sapsed 1946, Byng¹ 1949 and 1951, Donahoe 1955 and 1957, Calderhead 1955 and 1956, Watton 1958 and 1961, Goldring 1959, Walker 1961, Wake 1962 and Moran 1974



Martin Seeley receiving a Cup for winning the Senior Boys 800m

So, when did all this running about start?

These two images are from the Roy Daysh collection and are dated 1913. The number on roll then was just 100. 28 of these were boarders. Pupil numbers then were growing at about 10 per year. There were 3 Houses then, Blackbrook wasn't born until 1922.

The weather on that day: ***“1913 Fine, dry, and warm”***. And how do I know that? Because the Google search took me to a weather report of June and on the day in question, it declared as stated. What amazed me was that the website I was directed to was by a Trevor Harley, and Old Pricean of 1989 – 1974, now an Emeritus Professor of Psychology at Dundee university! Trevor has been a corresponding member of the Project, and has a special interest in the impact of weather on behaviour!

TABLE 1 Victor Ludorum Winners and Performances

NB The **year of results highlighted** (1966), has been added to this 2010 list. No further information available

Year	Minor (U 13 / Years 7 & 8)	Junior (U 15 / Years 9 & 10)	Senior (U 18 / Years 11,12 & 13)				
	<i>All results shown are winning performances (unless otherwise specified).</i> <i>Victor Ludorum winner results do not include any details of placings lower than 4th.</i>						
1921	School Sports Day competition was introduced as an inter-House competition with teams of 4 for each event						
1922	Results are published, but the competitive structure is so different, with team events and different age groups. It is not possible to make comparisons.						
1923							
1924				F.J. Bussey (Cams) 100 yds open 1 st 440 yds open 2 nd Hurdles 2 nd 18 points			
1925	No detail published from which to establish winners			W.G. Cummins (Cams) – winner of the old Boys Cup for the Highest Individual Score Hurdles 1 st 100 yds open 1 st 440 yds 1 st H. Jump 1 st 32 points			
1926	Edwards (Blackbrook)	Edmunds (Cams)	W.G. Cummins (Cams) - Victor Ludorum first mentioned by name				

	100 yds 1st	220 yds 1st			16 points	100 yds 1st	440 yds 1st			16 points	100 yds open 1 st	440 yds open 1 st			16 points
1927	Format of events not conducive to finding a winner												J.O. Hall (Cams) - fist reference to Victor Ludorum		
													100 yds open 11.2	440 yds open 2nd	Mile open 3rd
1928	Watson (Westbury)					Mitchell					R.W. Popplewell (Westbury)				
	100 yds 1st	220 yds 34.4			16 points	100 yds 3rd	440 yds 68.0			12 points	440 yds open 2 nd	Mile open 3rd	H. Jump 4'9½		17 points
1929	Jones (Westbury)					Troke					W.E.S. Hoather (School)				
	100 yds 12.4	H. Jump 3'10	220 yds 33.0		24 points	100 yds 11.0	440 yds 63.6	H. Jump 4'8½		24 points	100 yds open 2 nd	440 yds open 62.2			16 points
1930	Format of events not conducive to finding a winner					Sandford					W.E.S. Hoather (School)				
						100 yds 12.2	440 yds 3rd			12 points	100 yds open 12.4	440 yds open 61.8			16 points
1931	P.A. Pressley (Blackbrook)					Jones (Westbury)					R.A. Lewry (Cams)				
	100 yds 12.4	220 yds 32.2			16 points	100 yds 12.0	440 yds 68.6	Hurdles 41.6?	H. Jump 4'2	32 points	100 yds 10.8	440 yds 58.8			16 points
1932	Watson (Cams)					P.A. Pressley (Blackbrook) &					E.J. Gilbert (Westbury)				

						Smart (Westbury)									
	100 yds 12.4	220 yds 1st			16 points	100 yds 12.0	Hurdles 19.6 880 yds 2'48.8			16 points	100 yds 10.4	440 yds 60.2			16 points
1933	Barter (Blackbrook)					P.A. Pressley (Blackbrook) & Powell (Westbury)					E.J. Gilbert (Westbury)				
	100 yds 13.0	220 yds 31.2			16 points	100 yds 11.0	440 yds 64.0			16 points	100 yds 11.0	440 yds 59.0			16 points
1934	Fleming (Cams)					MacPherson (School)					J.E. Hill* (Westbury) & D.J.E. Saint (Westbury) & P.A. Pressley (Blackbrook)				
	80 yds 1st	220 yds 1st			16 points	100 yds 1st	440 yds 1st			16 points	Hurdles* 1 st 2 nd	100 yds* 3 rd 2 nd	100 yds 1 st + 4 th ?	Mile 3 rd	12 points
1935	Watkins (Cams)					Hills (Westbury)					V.M. Dodds (Westbury)				
	80 yds 11.6	H. Jump 3'9			16 points	100 Yds 12.8	Hurdles 20.4			16 points	Hurdles 1st	H. Jump 1st			16 points
1936	Parker (Westbury) & Wheeler (Blackbrook)					Jackson (Blackbrook)					C.L. Hale (Cams)				

	80 yds 11.0	220 yds 33.4			16 points	100 yds 13.0	440 yds 65.4			16 points	100 yds 11.8	Hurdles 19.8	L. Jump 1st	Cr. Ball 2nd	
	880 yds 2'54	H. Jump 3'7½													
1937	Manley (School)					Mason (Cams)					N.P. Boyes (Westbury) & C.W. Barter (Blackbrook)				
	80 yds 11.6	Hurdles 22.4	L. Jump 12'0		24 points	100 yds 13.2	440 yds 64.0	L. Jump 15'1	Cr. Ball 2nd	29 points	100 yds 11.8	440 yds 62.2	L. Jump 2 nd	+? 6th	22 points
1938	Kiddle (School)					Wheeler (Blackbrook)					C.W. Barter (Blackbrook)				
	220 yds 2nd	880 yds 2'44.2	L. Jump 12'8½ (R)		21 points	Hurdles 20.2	L. Jump 2nd	H. Jump 2 nd	Cr. Ball 3rd	22 points	440 yds 56.8	100 yds 2nd	L. Jump 18'4		21 points
1939	Johnson (Blackbrook) & Pyle (Cams)					Marshall (Cams)					W.J. Tubbs (Westbury)				
	80 yds 11.2	220 yds 32.6	L. Jump = 11'8½		20 points	440 yds 67.4	L. Jump 15'0	Cr. Ball 3 rd		20 points	Hurdles 20.0	Cr. Ball 274'7 (R)			16 points
1940	Brickwood (Cams)					Knight (Blackbrook)					P.R. Wainwright (Westbury)				
	80 yds 2nd	200 yds (NB) 30.0	L. Jump 2nd		18 points	Hurdles 20.4	880 yds 2'34.2	Cr. Ball 180'4		24 points	440 open 62.4	Mile open 5'14.4	L. Jump 17'0½		24 points

1941	No sports Day reported – cancelled														
1942	Treloar* (Westbury) & Stone (Westbury)					Hooker (Blackbrook) & Neil (School)					W. Marshall (Cams)				
	80 yds*	L. Jump*			13 points	440 yds 67.4	880 yds 2'43.2			16 points	Hurdles 1 st	L. Jump 17'3	Cr. Ball 245'3		24 points
1943	80 yds 1st	13'7 (R)	220 yds 2nd			Hurdles 1 st	H. Jump 4'0								
	Miskin (Cams)	Gale (School)					J. Gwilliam (Westbury)								
1944	80 yds 1st	220 yds 32.4	L. Jump 3rd		20 points	100 yds 12.0	Hurdles 1st	L. Jump 3 rd		20 points	100 yds 11.2	440 yds 3rd	L. Jump 17'2½	Cr. Ball 2nd	25 points
	Rowe (School)*	Scott (Blackbrook)*					C.R. Wright (School)								
1945	880 yds 2'42 (R)	Hurdles 14.6	L. Jump 14'0 (R)	H. Jump 2nd	29 points	100 yds 12.2	440 yds 63.0 (R)			16 points	Mile 5'23.4	Cr. Ball 255'	L. Jump 3rd		20 points
	L Quinlan (Blackbrook)*					A.R. Webb (Westbury)*					K.L. Sapsed (Blackbrook)				
1946	80 yds 10.8 (R)	220 yds 29.8 (R)			16 points	100 yds 11.4	440 yds 64.0	H. Jump 4'6½		24 points	100 yds 11.8	Cr. Ball 252'			16 points
	Taylor (School)*					Bass (School)*					K.L. Sapsed (Blackbrook)				
1947	Hurdles 3rd	L. Jump 12'8½	H. Jump 3'11		20 points	100 yds 12.4	440 yds 61.4	L. Jump 15'8	H. Jump 4'5	32 points	100 yds 12.6	Hurdles 20.4	L. Jump 17.9	Cr. Ball 288'1	32 Points
	A.B. Byng ¹ (Cams)					L. Quinlan (Blackbrook)					D. Hunt (School)				

	80 yds 11.0	220 yds 31.4	L. Jump 14'6¾ (R)	H. Jump 2nd	29 points	100 yds 11.8	440 yds 61.2	L. Jump 16'1¾ (R)		24 points	440 yds 60.6	L. Jump 2nd	Cr. Ball 2nd		18 points
1948	R.R. Baker (Cams)					Peckham (School)					A.R. Webb (Westbury)				
	880 yds 2'36.6	Hurdles 17.4	L. Jump 3rd		21 points	100 yds 2 nd	880 yds 2nd	Cr. Ball 2 nd	L. Jump 15'7¼	23 points	100 yds 2 nd	440 yds 3rd	L. Jump 3rd	h. Jump 4'8	21 points
1949	Byng² (Cams)					A.B. Byng¹ (Cams)					L. Quinlan (Blackbrook)				
	220 yds 2 nd	880 yds 2'44.4	L. Jump 2nd	H. Jump 3'11	28 points	100 yds 12.0	Hurdles 15.8	L. Jump 16'4	H. Jump 4.5½	32 points	100 yds 11.4	L. Jump 2nd	440 yds 3rd		17 points
1950	Tutton (Cams)					R.R. Baker (Cams)					A.B. Byng¹ (Cams)				
	L. Jump 2nd	H. Jump 2nd			10 points	Hurdles 16.0	880 yds 2nd	L. Jump 15'4½	H. Jump 3rd	26 points	100 yds 2 nd	Hurdles 16.8	L. Jump 17'2	H. Jump 2nd	26 points
1951	Field (Westbury)					J. Adams⁴ (Blacbrook) & Byng² (Cams)					A.B. Byng¹ (Cams)				
	80 yds 10.8	220 yds 2nd	L. Jump 13'7	H. Jump 4'1¼	29 points	100 yds 11.6	440 yds 62.0	L.Jump 3 rd		20 points	100 yds 10.8	Hurdles 16.0 (R)	H. Jump 4'9¾	L. Jump 18'5½	32 points
1952	R.C. Harrison (Blackbrook)					D.R. Adams (Blackbrook)					A.B. Byng^{1*} (Cams) & A.D.J. White (Cams)				
	80 yds 3rd	220 yds 3rd	L. Jump 14'7	H. Jump 4'1½	24 points	100 yds = 11.2	440 yds 57.2 (R)	L. Jump 16'9½ (R)		24 points	*100 yds 2 nd	*Hurdles 16.2	*High Jump 5'0¾	L. Jump 19'10¾ (R)	29 points

														54.0 (R)	2nd	278'5½(R)	
1953	R.C. Harrison (Blackbrook)					W.R. Kilford (School)					D.R. Adams (Blackbrook) & D.C. Rudling (School)						
	100 yds 12.2	440 yds 64.6	L. Jump 15'0¾ (R)	H. Jump 2nd	29 points	440 yds 2 nd	Hurdles 2nd	Discus 93'8½	H. Jump 4'9¾	26 points	100 yds 2 nd	440 yds 58.4	L. Jump 16'10¼	Hurdles 19.0	H. Jump 2 nd	21 points	
1954	R. Donahoe (School)					Bellamy (Cams)					R.G. Willis (School)						
	100 yds 12.6	220 yds 29.6	H. Jump 2nd	L. Jump =3rd	24½ points	100 yds 11.4	220 yds 26.6	L. Jump 2nd	Discus 96'3¾	29 points	100 yds 10.8	440 yds 2nd	L. Jump 17'11			21 points	
1955	R. Donahoe (School)					B.D. Calderhead (Westbury)					D.F. Mason (School)						
	100 yds 12.0 (R)	220 yds 26.0 (R)	H. Jump 4'5¾ (R)	L. Jump 16'1½ (R)	32 points	100 yds 11.0 (R)	220 yds 26.0 (R)	H. Jump 4'7½	L. Jump 17'11 (R)	32 points	220 yds 2 nd	Hurdles 17.6	H. Jump 2nd			18 points	
1956	M. Wells					J. Evans (Blackbrook)					B.D. Calderhead (Westbury)						
	100 yds 12.6	220 yds 2nd	L. Jump 14'7½	H. Jump 4'5	29 points	100 yds 11.6	220 yds 25.6 (R)	L. Jump 16.4	Discus 3rd	28 points	100 yds 11.2	220 yds 25.0 (R)	L. Jump 18.7½	Javelin 135'		32 points	
1957	Thompson (Cams)					R. Donahoe (School)					B.D. Calderhead (Westbury)						
	100 yds 12.2	220 yds 2nd	L. Jump 14'5"		21 points	L. Jump 17'11 (=R)	H. Jump 5'0¼ (R)	440 yds 57.2 (R)	880 yds 2'18.8 (R)	32 points	100 yds 10.6	220 yds 2nd	L. Jump 139'8¾	L. Jump 2nd		31 points	
1958	D. Watton (Cams)					A.O. Forder (School)					R. Donahoe (School)						

	Cr. Ball 175'8	100 yds 12.6	880 yds 2'46.2		24 points	L. Jump 16'3	440 yds 57.0 (R)	880 yds 2'24		24 points	440 yds 2 nd	880 yds 2nd	H. Jump 5'1 ³ / ₄	L. Jump 3rd	22 points
1959	D. Watton (Cams)					D. Goldring (School)					J. Evans (Blackbrook)				
	L. Jump 15' 5"	Cr. Ball 196' 5"	440 yds 62.4" (R)	880 yds 2 41.4"	32 points	L. Jump 16' 8"	H. Jump 4' 8 ¹ / ₂ "	440 yds 59.8"	880 yds 2' 30.8"	32 points	Javelin 118'	L. Jump (3 rd)	220 yds 24.6"	100 yds = 1 st 10.8"	26 ¹ / ₂ points
1960	M. Ellis (Blackbrook)					R. Taylor (School) & D. Watton (Cams)					J.D. Brammer (Cams)				
	H. Jump 2nd	Cr. Ball 193' 4"	220 yds 27.8"	100 yds 12.0 (R)	29 points	Javelin 122' 10" (R)	Discus 114'3"	220 yds 27.0"		24 points	H. Jump 5' 3 ⁷ / ₈ " (R)	L. Jump 3rd	100 yds 2nd	Hurdles 16 ³ / ₅ "	25 points
1961	Walker (Cams)					D. Watton (Cams)					D. Goldring (School)				
	L. Jump 15' 8"	H. Jump 4' 9³/₄ (R)	440 yds 63.2"	880 yds 2' 40"	32 points	L. Jump 18' 2" (R)	Javelin 120' 1 ¹ / ₂ "	220 yds 25.2"	100yds 10.8" (R)	32 points	L. Jump 17' 10"	440 yds 55.0" (R)	100yds 3rd		19 points
1962	K.S. Chandler (Blackbrook)					B. Wake (School)					D. Goldring (School)				
	Cr. Ball 3rd	440 yds 64.0"	880 yds 2m33.6		20 points	L. Jump 16' 10"!	Discus 114' 8" (R)	440 yds 60.0"	100yds 11.2	32 points	L. Jump 18' 10 ¹ / ₄ "	440 yds 55.0"	100 yds 10.8"		24 points
<u>1963</u>	Ayres (S) & Telford (B)					Walker (Cams)					B Wake (School)				

	Hurdles 12.8" 100 yds 12.6"	L. Jump 14'5½" 220 yds 30.4 "	H. Jump 4' 10" Cr. Ball 3rd		24 points	100 yds 3rd	440 yds 60.6"	L. Jump 2nd	H. Jump 4' 10"	25 points	220 yds 2nd	L. Jump 17' 6½"	H. Jump 2nd		18 points
1964	Wood (Blackbrook)				Wells (??)					B Wake (School)					
	L. Jump 14' 7"	H. Jump 4' 2"	Hurdles 12.0 (R)		24 points	L. Jump 15' 11¼"	220 yds 26.8"	100 yds 11.8"		24 points	220 yds 3rd	L. Jump 17' 9¼"	H. Jump 2nd	220 yds 3rd	21 points
1965	T.E. Thomas (Blackbrook)				Barnes (Blackbrook)					R. Chandler (School)					
	L. Jump 15' 2"	100 yds 11.3"	220 yds 28.5"		24 points	Javelin 99'6"	440 yds 59.7 "	880 yds 2' 22.6"		24 points	Discus 3rd	220 yds 25.1"	100 yds 11.1"		24 points
1966	Stribley (Blackbrook)				Knight (Blackbrook)					B.R.G. Iles (Westbury)					
	100 yds	220 yd	H.Jump 3rd		21 points	440 yds 59.1"	Hurdles 11.5"			16 points	100 yds 2nd	220 yds 3rd			11 points
1967	No details published														
1968	Sayer (Cams)				I.T. Farley (Westbury)					T.E. Thomas (Blackbrook)					
	L. Jump 14' 8"	880 yds 2' 37.6"	Mile 5' 44"		24 points	100 yds 2nd	220 yds 2nd	Discus 116' 4"	H. Jump 4' 10"	26 points	100 yds 10.9"	220 yds 25.5"	T. Jump 2nd	S. Putt 3rd	25 points
1969	M. Kelly				A.P. Lock					R.A. Lee					
	No further details published														
1970	P. Smith				I.M. Burton (School)					I.T. Farley (Westbury)					

	No further details published																
1971	R. John				M. Kelly					I.M. Burton (School)							
	No further details published																
1972	B. Walters* (C) & R. Pickering (C)					J. Newton (Cams)					I.M. Burton (School)						
	100m 2 nd *	200m 1 st *	Shot 1 st *	T. Jump 1 st *	29 points	400m 2 nd	800m 2nd	T. Jump 1st	Javelin 3rd	22 points	100m 2 nd	200m 2nd	Shot 1 st	T. Jump 1 st	26 points		
1973	Daniels (Westbury)					Lee (School) & Marks (Blackbrook)					J. De'ath (Westbury)						
	400m 70.1"	800m 2nd	T. Jump 3rd	Discuss 51'11"	25 points	1500m 3 rd	400m 66"	H. Jump 5'1"	L. Jump 17'2"	28 points	L. Jump 17'2½"	T. Jump 38'3½"	Hurdles 2nd			24 points	
1974	S. Moran (Cams)					Pickering (Cams)					J. De'ath (Westbury)						
	100m 12.7"	200m 28.1"	L. Jump 4.43m	T. Jump 9.75m	32 Points	400m 2nd	800m 2'36.4"	H. Jump 1.45m	L. Jump 4.72m	29 points	800m 3rd	Hurdles 19.00	L. Jump 5m51	T. Jump 2nd	25 points		
These (Price's School) results are reported in the first edition of the Lion as a part of Price's College.																	
1975	R.A. Hall					S. Moran (Cams)											
	100m 13.0"	200m 31.8"	400m 78.0"	L. Jump 4.51m		100m 12.3"	200m 2nd	800m 2'40.5"	L. Jump 22.7"	Javelin 3rd							

	<i>These, the first results for Price's College, coincide with the onset of building works that forced a change to a 300m track and, with the abandonment of the House system, not only was there an open-entry policy, with athletes able to compete in more than 4 events, but there were no Senior events, a sad reflection on the nature of this, now Sixth Form College.</i>
	<i>There were no Lion magazines printed after 1975</i>

TABLE 2

Victor Ludorum Winners (more than one win)

(Including results from non V. L. years)

Name	Minor Years	Junior Years	Senior years	Nos. V.L.	Nos. Wins	Nos Records	Total V.L. points, and Total of all scores	Other wins	Other points
Cummins (C)			1925	2	1		50 + 3 = 53	1924 - 3 pts	
			1926		4				
Hoather (S)			1929	2	1		29		
			1930		2				
Jones (W)	1929			2	3		56		
		1931			4				
Pressley (B)	1931			4	2		60		
		1932			2				
		1933			2				
			1934		0				
E.J. Gilbert (W)			1932	2	2		32		
			1933		2				

Barter (B)	1933			3	2		59 + 18 = 77	1932 – 2 x 2nds, 1935 – 2 x 3rds = 18 pts NB 7 x 1 st places
			1937		1			
			1938		2			
W. Marshall (C)		1939		2	2		44	
			1942		3			
Quinlan (B)	1945			3	2	2	57 + 20 = 77	1948 – 2 x 1sts + 3 rd = 20 pts NB 7 x 1 st places
		1947			3	2		
			1949		1			
K. Sapsed (B)			1945	2	2		48 + 20 = 68	1943 – 2 x 2nds, 1944 – 2 x 2nds = 20 pts
			1946		4			
A.B. Byng ¹ (C)	1947			5	3	1	148 + 4 = 152	1948 – 3 rd = 4 pts NB 16 x 1 st places
		1949			4			
			1950		2			
			1951		4			
			1952		3	1		
Baker (C)	1948			2	2		47	
		1950			3			
Byng ² (C)	1949			2	2		48	
		1951			1			

D.R. Adams (B)		1951		2	2		41	
			1953		2			
R. Harrison (B)	1952			2	2		53 + 15 = 68	1955 - 3 x 2nd = 15 pts
	1953				3	1		
R. Donahoe (S)	1954			4	2		110½ + 40 = 150½	1956 - 1 x 1 st , 2 x 2nd.
	1955				4	4		1959 - 1 x 1 st , 1 x 2nd, 1 x 3 rd =
		1957			4	3 + 1 =		40 pts
			1958		1			Nb 13 x 1 st places
B.D. Calderhead (W)		1955		3	4	3	90 + 64 = 154	1952 - 1 x 1 st , 2 x 2nd,
			1956		4	1		1953 - 1 x 1 st , 3 x 2nd,
			1957		2			1954 - 1 x 1 st , 3 x 2nd = 64 pts
J. Evans (B)		1956		2	3	1	54½ + 46 = 100%	1954 - 3 rd ,
			1959		2			1957 - 2 x 1sts, 1 x 2 nd ,
A.O. Forder (S)		1958		1	3	1	24 + 50½ = 74½	1958 - 2 x 1sts, 1 x 2 nd = 46 pts
								NB 10 x 1 st places
								1955 - 1 x 1 st , 1 x 2nd
								1956 - 1 x 1 st , 1 x 2 nd ;
								1957 - 1 x 2 nd ;

								1959 – 1 x 1 st , 1 x =1 st , 1 x 2 nd = 50½ pts NB 7 x 1 st places
D. Watton (C)	1958			4	3		112	NB 14 x 1 st places
	1959				4	1		
		1960			3			
		1961			4	2		
D. Goldring (S)		1959		3	4		75 + 22 = 97	1954 – 2 x 3rds, 1960 – 2 x 2nds = 22 pts NB 9 X 1 st places
			1961		2			
			1962		3			
Walker (C)	1961			2	4	1	57 + 18 = 85	No details published for 1966/67, so record likely incomplete. 1962 – 1 x 1 st , 2 x 2nds, 1964 – 2 nd = points
		1963			2			
B. Wake (S)		1962		3	4	1	71 + 17 = 87	1960 – 1 x 2 nd , 1 x 3 rd , 1961 – 1x 1 st = 17 pts
			1963		1			
			1964		1			
T.E. Thomas (B)	1965			2	3	1	49	Details available in 1967 Lion
			1968		2			
I.T. Farley (W)							> 26	

		1968		2	2				
			1970			no details of perfs.			
Sayer	1967							No details of perfs. In these years.	
M. Kelly (?)	1969			2			?		
		1971							
I.M. Burton (S)		1970		2			?		
			1971						
De'ath (W)			1973	2	2		49		
			1974		2				

TABLE 3

The Highest Sports Day Performers

Name (House)	Active years	V.L Year points	Points from other years	Global Tally	Number of 1 st places	Number of V.L. year records set
B.D. Calderhead (W)	1952 - 57	90	64	154	13	4
A.B. Byng ¹ (C)	1947 - 52	148	4	152	16	
R. Donahoe (S)	1954 – 59	110½	40	150½	13	7 + 1 equ.
D. Watton (C)	1958 - 61	112		112	14	4
J. Evans (B)	1954 - 59	54½	46	100½	10	1



There are clues in this image: although skies were cloudy, there was evidently sun about, judging from the parasols in view. Many are wearing light summery dresses, and there are plenty of straw boaters to be seen.

And now to the athletics – this competitor has given the bar a clout with his right knee and, even without that, think how high he is having to jump for his centre of mass to clear the bar. Compare that with modern techniques, in which it passes under the bar, or very much closer to it.



Hear All About It! Hear All About It!

**“Shocking Truth Emerges About Dreadful Abuse of
Natural Justice at School Sports Day!”**

*“After 45 years, Thought Police open new file on hysterical crimes
and plan to exhume victims”*

Former Teachers sought for questioning.

Ground staff in hiding

Boy tells all.

THE MILE, 1966 ... A.A.A. to Investigate

Bill's loudspeaker roared "Senior competition for the mile, to the start please!" We ambled slowly to the starting line and lined up. Sooty counted us "..... eight, nine, ten, eleven....." Who is missing?" Astley piped up. "School are one short." He said. "Howard is absent." There was a bit of unrest amongst the judges. They mumbled a little and then told us to line up. As we did so I found myself on the outside. Sooty, the official starter, pointed his pistol skywards. "On your marks!" "Get set!"Five of us toppled over the line.

We positioned ourselves again. "On your marks!" "Get set!""Bang!" Eddey bolted clear, pursued by the favourite "Daisy" Astley and Prior, the rest followed. I sprinted wide to position myself just behind the leading three. The race settled down. Astley was running comfortably inside, shoulder to shoulder with Eddey. Prior was almost on top of Astley and I was running wide, tucked awkwardly behind Eddey and Prior. Round we went, our positions unaltered. On the first lap the school chanted "Daisy!" "Daisy!"

For the next lap and a half, we ran together unchanged. All this time I was trying to get inside, but I was boxed out by Prior. The school again chanted "Daisy!" "Daisy!"

Halfway round the third lap it happened. The race came alive, Barrow suddenly shot past us. Eddey was first to follow, then Astley and then myself. As Barrow settled down, Astley ploughed past with me in pursuit. At the top of the hill we two were well ahead of the others. As we went down the straight Astley accelerated, trying to break clear. I held on. The school chanted "Daisy!" "Daisy!"

We were still sprinting at the bottom of the hill when Astley suddenly slowed, expecting me to pass. I kept behind on his shoulder. The other runners were a long way back. Astley almost slowed to walking pace, but I stayed in the same position watching his every move. This slowness continued until halfway round the final lap on the long gradual upward slope. With the other runners getting closer, Astley picked up a proper pace once more with me tied to his shoulder. The school in the distance chanted "Daisy!" "Daisy!"

On the long hilly bend before the downward finishing straight, I passed Astley just before the top and kicked for home leaving him for dead. I concentrated only on running as quickly as I could down the last straight. I cannot remember anything except focussing on the finish line almost hidden by a crowd on both sides, the school on the outside and the judges and athletes on the inside. All I could hear was a roaring hubbub.

I was well clear when I crossed the finish line with my chest hitting a winning tape for the only time in my life. I had won the school mile in one of the slowest times recorded but thanks to an earlier mile race for "standards' points" tests, I knew that Astley would break clear. If I stayed with him, I knew I could beat him on the final notorious hilly bend before the finish straight. It was a tactical race that went to plan.

I understand that the Minor's time for their mile won by Paul Sayer was faster than mine!

Ken Raby

The above memory of the Price's School Mile 1966 was written shortly after the race and records the following participants: Raby, Astley, Barrow, Eddey, Croker, Prior, Eyre, Evans, Boyce, Yaldron.

