

Price's School, Fareham

Athletics and Steeplechase Report



1721

Index of Contents

Sports Day and the Steeplechase - the Events and the People	3 - 13
Victor Ludorum Winners (List of Names)	14 - 16
Victor Ludorum Winners (Performance details)	17 - 23
Victor Ludorum Winners more than once	23 - 25
All things considered - A Review of the athletics	26 - 30
Steeplechase	30 - 31
Steeplechase Results	32 - 34
Steeplechase Major Performers	35 - 37
In conclusion	37

Sports Day and The Steeplechase – The events and the people

This project had started in my mind some years before reading notes from a Society of Old Pricians (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 - 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, mechanical 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 (metal) 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. It's 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.



School House and the sloping field

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 sand pit!

There was only one jumping 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.



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.

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. Imagine the outcome of failure if, landing on the back, there was a welcoming reception from cinder-strewn sand, and 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 now, 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 than the "Wilbur" selection of assorted boiler cinders, picked-up on the Long Jump run-up.

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, Portchester and Titchfield.

220 yard runners had to start at the bottom of the worst competitive slope I encountered in many years of athletics 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, mid 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 Under 13, 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 that 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-third 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 Price's 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 School 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 Reville 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 (location not stated, nor copy found), 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 re-inforced this term.

*(Wikipedia - The **Portal Baronetcy**, of Malshanger, 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 Lion 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 expressing 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 "countback" method).

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 practice 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, a good time then, 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 Edward's School, Southampton - they won, in a new record time 1'37.8s. In the Cadet championships of that year Byng¹ 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, though there is no listing of its takings! Individual, keepsake awards for the Victor Ludorum winners were introduced in 1962 (though not engraved, nor accompanied by a free ice cream!), 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, 1969 - 1971 aside from the names of the Victor Ludorum winners and, after a final 3-years flurry from 1972 - 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!

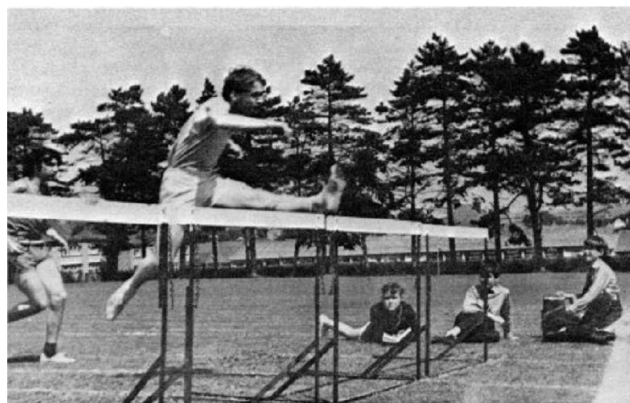
There were however, some fine details changing during these times: in 1972, all linear distance races were measured in metric though no performance details were listed but presumably as in 1973 the actual measured lengths for the jumps and throws were imperial, changing in 1974 to be fully metric (changed 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 the metric races have not been converted back to imperial equivalents - their 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).



1969 - Nigel Balchin winning the Junior Hurdles
Good, straight lead leg, with minimal clearance, body dip could be better, trailing leg could well have hit the hurdle!

Some relevant caveats that need to be born in mind are: the quality of recording technology, the calibre, commitment, reliability and variability 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 participation, 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 other athletes (*K. Sapsed of Blackbrook*) 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.

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, along side of *K. Sapsed* of Blackbrook. The latter won two senior titles in 1945 and 1946, but he also featured well in 1943 and 44.

But the big impact was to arrive in 1947, with the entrance into the School of *A.B. Byng* (Cams) - *Byng*¹ in the tables! *Byng*¹ 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, but at the time of writing, it has proven difficult to find details of these.

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 to very high level of 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 *B.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 others 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, 2 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 - 59.8s*



*Long Jumping
(not at School)*



*D. Goldring winning Senior 440 yards,
1962 - 55s*

*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 a more interesting picture 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*.

The highest achievers are:

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
<i>B.D. Calderhead (W)</i>	1952 - 57	90	64	154	13	4
<i>A.B. Byng¹ (C)</i>	1947 - 52	148	4	152	16	
<i>R. Donahoe (S)</i>	1954 - 59	110½	40	150½	13	7 + 1 equ.
<i>D. Watton (C)</i>	1958 - 61	112		112	14	4
<i>J. Evans (B)</i>	1954 - 59	54½	46	100½	10	1



DG



School House Senior Boys Relay team
Roger Taylor, John Greentree, DG, Mike Wilkins



Ivor George (Iggy) Williams, Roger Taylor,
Mike Beck, John Greentree, Mike Wilkins,
DG, Hugh Curtis, Pete Wilkins



Pete Wilkins, DG

Victor Ludorum Winners (List of Names)

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 wining performances (unless otherwise specified)</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	No detail published from which to establish winners		Bussey (Cams)
1925			Cummins (Cams) - winner of the old Boys Cup for the Highest Individual Score
1926	Edwards (Blackbrook)	Edmunds (Cams)	Cummins (Cams)
1927	Format of events not conducive to finding a winner		Hall (Cams)
1928	Watson (Westbury)	Mitchell	Popplewell (Westbury)
1929	Jones (Westbury)	Troke	Hoather (School)
1930	Format of events not conducive to finding a winner	Sandford	Hoather (School)
1931	Pressley (Blackbrook)	Jones (Westbury)	R.A. Lewry (Cams)
1932	Watson (Cams)	Pressley (Blackbrook) & Smart (Westbury)	E.J. Gilbert (Westbury)
1933	Barter (Blackbrook)	Pressley (Blackbrook) & Powell (Westbury)	Gilbert (Westbury)
1934	Fleming (Cams)	MacPherson (School)	Hill (Westbury) & Saint (Westbury)
1935	Watkins (Cams)	Hills (Westbury)	V.M. Dodds (Westbury)
1936	Parker (Westbury) & Wheeler (?)	Jackson (Blackbrook)	Hale (Cams)
1937	Manley (School)	Mason (Cams)	Boyes (Westbury) & Barter (Blackbrook)
1938	Kiddle (School)	Wheeler (Blackbrook)	C.W. Barter (Blackbrook)
1939	Johnson (Blackbrook) & Pyle (Cams)	Marshall (Cams)	Tubbs (Westbury)
1940	Brickwood (Cams)	Knight (Blackbrook)	Wainwright (Westbury)
1941	No sports Day reported		
1942	Treloar (Westbury)	Hooker (Blackbrook) & Neil (School)	W. Marshall (Cams)
1943	Miskin (Cams)	Gale (School)	J. Gwilliam (Westbury)
1944	Rowe (School)*	Scott (Blackbrook)*	C.R. Wright (School)

1945	Quinlan (Blackbrook)*	Webb (Westbury)*	K Sapsed (Blackbrook)
1946	Taylor (School)*	Bass (School)*	K. Sapsed (Blackbrook)
1947	Byng (Cams)*	Quinlan (Blackbrook)*	D. Hunt (School)
1948	Baker (Cams)*	Peckham (School)*	A.R. Webb (Westbury)
1949	Quinlan (Blackbrook)	Byng (Cams)*	Byng (Cams)*
1950	Tutton (Cams)	Baker (Cams)	Byng (Cams)
1951	Field (Westbury)	J Adams (Blackbrook) & Byng (Cams)	A.B. Byng (Cams)
1952	R.C. Harrison (Blackbrook)	D.R. Adams (Blackbrook)	A.B. Byng* (Cams) & A.J. White (Cams)
1953	R.C. Harrison (Blackbrook)	W.R. Kilford (School)	D.R. Adams (Blackbrook) & D.C. Ridley (School)
1954	R. Donahoe (School)	Bellamy (Cams)	Willis (School)
1955	R. Donahoe (School)	B.D. Calderhead (Westbury)	D. Mason (School)
1956	A. Wells (Westbury)	J. Evans (Blackbrook)	Calderhead (Westbury)
1957	Thompson (Cams)	R. Donahoe (School)	Calderhead (Westbury)
1958	Doug Watton (Cams)	A.O. Forder (School)	R. Donahoe (School)
1959	Doug Watton (Cams)	David Goldring (School)	Evans (Blackbrook)
1960	M. Ellis (Blackbrook)	Roger Taylor (School) & Doug Watton (Cams)	S. Brammer (Cams)
1961	Walker (Cams)	Doug Watton (Cams)	David Goldring (School)
1962	Chandler (Blackbrook)	Barry Wake (School)	David Goldring (School)
1963	Ayres (S) & Telford (B)	Walker (Cams)	B Wake (School)
1964	Wood (Blackbrook)	Wells (??)	B Wake (School)
1965	Thomas (Blackbrook)	Barnes (Blackbrook)	Chandler (School)
1966	No details - no 1966 Lion available on disc		
1967	No details published		
1968	Sayer (Cams)	Farley (Westbury)	Thomas (Blackbrook)
1969	M. Kelly	A.P. Lock	R.A. Lee
1970	P. Smith	I.M. Burton (School)	I.T. Farley (Westbury)
1971	R. John	M. Kelly	I.M. Burton (School)
1972	R. Walters* (C) & R. Pickering (C)	J. Newton (Cams)	I.M. Burton (School)
1973	Daniels (Westbury)	Lee (School) & Marks (Blackbrook)	De'ath (Westbury)
1974	Pickering (Cams)	S. Moran (Cams)	De'ath (Westbury)
	<i>These (Price's School) results are reported in the first edition of the Lion as a part of Price's College.</i>		
1975	R.A. Hall	S. Moran	

	<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>

Victor Ludorum Winners (Performance Details)

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). 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	No detail published from which to establish winners								F.J. Bussey (Cams)			
									100 yds open 1 st	440 yds open 2nd	Hurdles 2nd	
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 1st	440 yds 1st	H. Jump 1st
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 1st		16 points
1927	Format of events not conducive to finding a winner								J.O. Hall (Cams) - first 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	440 yds		12	100 yds	440 yds		16

					12.2	3rd			points	open 12.4	open 61.8			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		
1932	Watson (Cams)				P.A. Pressley (Blackbrook) & Smart (Westbury)					E.J. Gilbert (Westbury)				
	100 yds 12.4	220 yds 1st			16 points	100 yds 12.0	Hurdles 19.6			16 points	100 yds 10.4	440 yds 60.2		
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		
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* 1st 2nd	100 yds* 3rd 2nd	100 yds 1st +	Mile 3rd
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		
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
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 2nd	+? 6th
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 2nd	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 3rd		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	C r. 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* 2nd	L. Jump* 13'7 (R)			13 points	440 yds 67.4	880 yds 2'43.2			16 points	Hurdles 1st	L. Jump 17'3	Cr. Ball 245'3		24 points
1943	Miskin (Cams)					Gale (School)					J. Gwilliam (Westbury)				
	80 yds 1st	220 yds 32.4	L. Jump 3rd		20 points	100 yds 12.0	Hurdles 1st	L. Jump 3rd		20 points	100 yds 11.2	440 yds 3rd	L. Jump 17'2½	Cr. Ball 2nd	25 points
1944	Rowe (School)*					Scott (Blackbrook)*					C.R. Wright (School)				
	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 pontos
1945	L. Quinlan (Blackbrook)*					A.R. Webb (Westbury)*					K.L. Sapsed (Blackbrook)				
	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
1946	Taylor (School)*					Bass (School)*					K.L. Sapsed (Blackbrook)				
	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
1947	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 2 nd	Cr. Ball 2 nd	L. Jump 15'7¼	23 points	100 yds 2 nd	440 yds 3 rd	L. Jump 3 rd	H. Jump 4'8	21 points
1949	Byng ² (Cams)					A.B. Byng ¹ (Cams)					L. Quinlan (Blackbrook)				
	220 yds 2 nd	880 yds 2'44.4	L. Jump 2 nd	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 2 nd	440 yds 3 rd		17 points
1950	Tutton (Cams)					R.R. Baker (Cams)					A.B. Byng ¹ (Cams)				
	L. Jump 2 nd	H. Jump 2 nd			10 points	Hurdles 16.0	880 yds 2 nd	L. Jump 15'4½	H. Jump 3 rd	26 points	100 yds 2 nd	Hurdles 16.8	L. Jump 17'2	H. Jump 2 nd	26 points
1951	Field (Westbury)					J. Adams ⁴ (Blackbrook) & Byng ² (Cams)					A.B. Byng ¹ (Cams)				
	80 yds 10.8	220 yds 2 nd	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 3 rd	220 yds 3 rd	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
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 2 nd	29 points	440 yds 2 nd	Hurdles 2 nd	Discus 93'8½	H. Jump 4'9¾	26 points	100 yds 2 nd	440 yds 58.4	L. Jump 16'10¼		21 points
1954	R. Donahoe (School)					Bellamy (Cams)					R.G. Willis (School)				
	100 yds 12.6	220 yds 29.6	H. Jump 2 nd	L. Jump =3 rd	24½ points	100 yds 11.4	220 yds 26.6	L. Jump 2 nd	Discus 96'3¾	29 points	100 yds 10.8	440 yds 2 nd	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 2 nd		18 points
1956	A. Wells (Westbury)					J. Evans (Blackbrook)					B.D. Calderhead (Westbury)				
	100 yds 12.6	220 yds 2 nd	L. Jump 14'7½	H. Jump 4'5	29 points	100 yds 11.6	220 yds 25.6 (R)	L. Jump 16.4	Discus 3 rd	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	220 yds	L. Jump		21	L. Jump	H. Jump	440 yds	880 yds	32	100 yds	220 yds	L. Jump	L. Jump	31

	12.2	2nd	14'5"		points	17'11 (=R)	5'0 $\frac{1}{4}$ (R)	57.2 (R)	2'18.8 (R)	points	10.6	2nd	139'8 $\frac{3}{4}$	2nd	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 2 nd	H. Jump 5'1 $\frac{3}{4}$	L. Jump 3 rd	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 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	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 $\frac{1}{2}$ points
1960	M. Ellis (Blackbrook)					R. Taylor (School) & D. Watton (Cams)					J.D. Brammer (Cams)				
	H. Jump 2 nd	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 $\frac{3}{8}$ " (R)	L. Jump 3 rd	100 yds 2 nd	Hurdles 16 $\frac{3}{5}$ "	25 points
1961	Walker (Cams)					D. Watton (Cams)					D. Goldring (School)				
	L. Jump 15' 8"	H. Jump 4' 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ (R)	440 yds 63.2"	880 yds 2' 40"	32 points	L. Jump 18' 2" (R)	Javelin 120' 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	220 yds 25.2"	100yds 10.8" (R)	32 points	L. Jump 17' 10"	440 yds 55.0" (R)	100yds 3 rd		19 points
1962	K.S. Chandler (Blackbrook)					B. Wake (School)					D. Goldring (School)				
	Cr. Ball 3 rd	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 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	440 yds 55.0"	100 yds 10.8"		24 points
1963	Ayres (S) & Telford (B)					Walker (Cams)					B Wake (School)				
	Hurdles 12.8"	L. Jump 14'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	H. Jump 4' 10"		24 points	100 yds 3 rd	440 yds 60.6"	L. Jump 2 nd	H.Jump 4' 10"	25 points	220 yds 2 nd	L. Jump 17' 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	H. Jump 2 nd		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' 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	220 yds 26.8"	100 yds 11.8"		24 points	220 yds 3 rd	L. Jump 17' 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	H. Jump 2 nd	220 yds 3 rd	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					Knight					B.R.G. Iles				
	No performance details - no 1966 Lion available on disc														
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 2 nd	220 yds 2 nd	Discus 116' 4"	H. Jump 4' 10"	26 points	100 yds 10.9"	220 yds 25.5"	T. Jump 2 nd	S. Putt 3 rd	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 2 nd	T. Jump 1 st	Javelin 3 rd	22 points	100m 2 nd	200m 2 nd	Shot 1 st	T. Jump 1 st	26 points
1973	Daniels (Westbury)					Lee (School) & Marks (Blackbrook)					J. De'ath (Westbury)				
	400m 70.1"	800m 2 nd	T. Jump 3 rd	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 2 nd		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 2 nd	800m 2'36.4"	H. Jump 1.45m	L. Jump 4.72m	29 points	800m 3 rd	Hurdles 19.00	L. Jump 5m51	T. Jump 2 nd	25 points
<i>These (Price's School) results are reported in the first edition of the Lion as a part of Price's College.</i>															
1975	R.A. Hall					S. Moran									
	100m 13.0"	200m 31.8"	400m 78.0"	L. Jump 4.51m		100m 12.3"	200m 2 nd	800m 2'40.5"	L. Jump 22.7"	Javelin 3 rd					
<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</i>															

	<i>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>

Victor Ludorum Winners More than once

(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 2nds = 15 pts
	1953				3	1		
R. Donahoe (S)	1954			4	2		110½ + 40 = 150½	1956 - 1 x 1 st , 2 x 2nds. 1959 - 1 x 1 st , 1 x 2nd, 1 x 3 rd = 40 pts NB 13 x 1 st places
	1955				4	4		
		1957			4	3 + 1 =		
			1958		1			
B.D. Calderhead (W)		1955		3	4	3	90 + 64 = 154	1952 - 1 x 1 st , 2 x 2nds, 1953 - 1 x 1 st , 3 x 2nds, 1954 - 1 x 1 st , 3 x 2nds = 64 pts NB 13 x 1 st places
			1956		4	1		
			1957		2			
J. Evans (B)		1956		2	3	1	54½ + 46 = 100½	1954 - 3 rd , 1957 - 2 x 1sts, 1 x 2 nd , 1958 - 2 x 1sts, 1 x 2 nd = 46 pts NB 10 x 1 st places
			1959		2	1 x =1st		
A.O. Forder (S)		1958		1	3	1	24 + 50½ = 74½	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			NB 14 x 1 st places

	1959				4	1		
		1960			3			
		1961			4	2	112	
D. Goldring (S)		1959		3	4			1954 - 2 x 3rds, 1960 - 2 x 2nds = 22 pts NB 9 X 1 st places
			1961		2		75 + 22 = 97	
			1962		3			
Walker (C)	1961			2	4	1		No details published for 1966/67, so record likely incomplete. 1962 - 1 x 1 st , 2 x 2nds, 1964 - 2 nd = points
		1963			2		57 + 18 = 85	
B. Wake (S)		1962		3	4	1		1960 - 1 x 2 nd , 1 x 3 rd , 1961 - 1 x 1 st = 17 pts
			1963		1			
			1964		1		71 + 17 = 87	
Thomas (B)	1965			2	3	1		No details of S.D. in 1966 & 1967 - probably incomplete
			1968		2		49	
I.T. Farley (W)		1968		2	2			
			1970		no details of perfs.		> 34	
M. Kelly (?)	1969			2				No details of perfs. In these years.
		1971					?	
I.M. Burton (S)		1970		2				
			1971				?	
De'ath (W)			1973	2	2			
			1974		2		49	

All Things Considered

Pre-amble

Having now completed the listing of all performances into a spreadsheet, the better to be able to observe patterns and make conclusions, it is apparent that as a database, it has many inherent flaws that preclude the drawing of too many hard conclusions, other than that it is very difficult to do so. Many of the reasons for this situation were set out in the earlier sections on Measurements and Facilities, and tend to jump out all the time when going back into earlier years' results.

Not least of the concerns is the absence of any data from 6 of the final 10 years of the existence of Price's School / College. After the heady years of the mid 50s to mid 60s performances, then to find no record of performances is indeed a disappointment. Possible reasons for this can only be conjectural but, having been in education myself through the latter years of the School's existence, though not in Fareham, they can only ever be guesswork.

The overall Programme of Events was subject to much change over the years - see the section on The Competitive Programme, in such a way that long-term trends are only discernible in certain events. And there is no knowledge of the sizes of things thrown, or of the organisation of such events as a Hurdles Relay, or a High Jump team event, or 640 yards relays or what the 3-man relays of earlier years did! In the 1920's there seems to have been something of a hybrid between what nowadays, we might see as a Primary School Sports Day, and some Carnival type entertainment, i.e. 3-legged race, sack race, etc. And progress from thereon would have been very much affected by School size. The final Programme of events for 1975 was a veritable mile away from the offerings of the early 1920s.

This project started out with a reference to the Victor Ludorum winners. That is what attracted me, because I was one. Yet I was conscious during my years in Price's (1955-62) that there were many other, fine athletes, whose capabilities extended beyond athletic performances, and certainly many whose endeavours did not reward them with a Victor Ludorum.

The Steeplechase has come in for attention as a result, and is chronicled separately, though there will be some evaluation of names appearing prominently in both lists and ideally, also in the lists of reviews of soccer, hockey and cricket, too, if there was time - maybe an excuse for further work

The 1920s

The names that stand out from this decade include **Bussey, Cummins and Davenport, Watson, Troke, Chamberlain and Emmett** - generalists in a limited programme, within a small school roll and not surprising to find some of these names featuring also in the Steeplechase review. Its hard to be sure of levels of competition, as distinct from inter-House fervour, but the performance that is notable is the Senior High Jump by **Green (C)**, of 5'2" in **1922**, not bettered until 1956.

1930s

A flurry of good sprinting occurs in the **early 30s**, with very respectable times of 11.0s, 10.6s, 10.8s and 10.4s being returned in successive years by **Troke, Hoather, Lewry and Gilbert** who, with the emerging **Pressley**, came to dominate these years in terms of relative, if not absolute merit.

Performances throughout the rest of the **1940s** were not very spectacular and apart from the establishment of new Long Jump events in all three age groups, following which there is always a flurry of record-breaking, there wasn't much to speak of. Except for a very creditable Senior Long Jump of 18'6" by **Barter (B)** in **1937**, and another the year later, of 18'4" - another 10 years before these were

exceeded. The introduction of Throwing the Cricket Ball in 1937 resulted in two prodigious throws in 1939, by Clements (W), with 225'6", and by Tubbs (W), with 274'7".

1940s

The Junior Long Jump began to approach respectability in 1942, when Wright (S), leapt 16'1½", and in 1947, Stone (W) made a major breakthrough with a Senior Long Jump of 19'0". In 1948 the Minor 80 yards record was lowered, and then equalled in 1948 by Quinlan (B) and Priestley (B) respectively. This decade saw little meaningful progress in overall standard, maybe not surprising with the economic, employment and social consequences of the War taking their toll.

1950s

The opening of the decade sees a general improvement in Senior 100 yard times of 11s - 10.6s White (C), but the faster of these is matched again only in 1960 by Dugan (B). The Senior mile record reaches 5'02.8 (Foster) (B), still very slow, though probably understandable on that track, and during an afternoon when runners will have had other events to do as well. The Junior Cricket Ball is projected to a new length of 233'11" by Williams (W) 1950, and after a quiet year in 1951, things work up a bit with new records in the Minor 80 yards - 10.0s (Bellamy) (C), never to be beaten, as the event is never run again!

New records are set in 1952 in the Minor 220 yards - a very worthy 27.4 by Bellamy again, in the Junior 440 yards - 57.2s by Adams⁴ (B), and senior 440 yards by White (C) - 54.0s - never to be exceeded. Two new Long Jump records - another, Junior 16'9½" by Adams⁴, and a very good 19'10¾" by A.B. Byng¹ (C), along with a new Minor High Jump record, and useful Junior and Senior results, opened an era of intense competition and record breaking on the track and in Long Jumping, and saw new opportunities



1958 Alan Wells of Westbury, (though not the Scottish 100m Olympic winner!) winning the Junior 100 yards in 12.2s, from Cooper (B) and Bruster (B)

become available with Javelin and then Discus events introduced, and once again, a flurry of Cricket Ball throwing for the Minors.

But probably one of the more pleasing records for the P.E. Staff to see set was in the Mile - Patrick Ridett (S) - 4'55.2s - first time under 5 minutes, beyond which it would have seemed quicker to walk in some years! The fifties and early sixties was a period of time with a succession of multiple Victor Ludorum winners and a plethora of record breakers.

The first recurrent name is A.B. Byng¹ (C), whose 1949 Victor Ludorum winning performances were respectable, and who came to have an increasing effect on the jumps, setting an excellent new Long Jump record, marginally under 20', to further his leap of the year before, and in the High Jump of '52, he was the first over 5'0" for twenty years. Clearly a generally fast and springy athlete whose capabilities undoubtedly crossed into many other sporting endeavours

Barry Calderhead, with a new Minor High Jump record in 1953 that had been inched forward in each of the two preceding years, added more with winning Junior Sprint (11.0s and 26.0s) and Long Jump (17'11") records in 1955 to take the V.L., and followed these in 1956 with a 100 yards (11.2), Long Jump (18'7½"), Javelin (135'0") and another record - 220 yards, in a good time of 25s to wrap-up another Victor Ludorum, adding his third the year later in a shared Sprint tussle with John Evans (B), the latter winning an excellent 220 yards in 24.2 ahead of Calderhead, who reversed the result in the 100 yards, at 10.6. This was a good year for Evans, for his 19'1" Long Jump ranks amongst the best of individual performances on any Sports Day, and added to his Junior 220 yard record of 25.6 in 1956, his 100 yards 10.6s and 220

yards 24.6 in 1959, the second of his two Victor Ludorum years. Both of these were fine sprints, but in this golden era of good runners, neither was a record.

The stand-out name of the decade has to be that of **Dick Donahoe** (S), not just for his 4 Victor Ludorum wins, but for the 7 records he set and 1 equalled, and dominance of the time. His inaugural, Minor 1954 V.L. win was not of itself over-dominating or with impressive effect, but it was the year after that his 4-wins-4-records made people take note: 12.0s for 100 yards, 26.0 for 220 yards, 16'1½" for Long Jump and 4'5¾" for High Jump was a day's performance never before or since seen! As a first year Junior, it might be expected that he would be second to older, bigger boys, but he still managed a High Jump record of 4'10" and second place to Evans (B) in the Sprints. After another impressive win in the Long Jump, equalling Calderhead's (W) 1955 17'11" jump, clearing a 5'0¼" High Jump, an excellent 57.2s 440 yards and another fine run for a 2'18.8s half mile brought another tally of 4 records to which, in 1958 he added very creditable 5'1¾" High Jump win, two other 2nds, to **Dugan** (440 yards) and **Starkey** (Mile), and a 3rd in the Long Jump to Dugan (B) and Evans.

Alf Forder (S) established a new 440 yards record at 57.0s in 1958, his V.L. year, winning also the 880 yards and Long Jump. His impact spread across the mid - late 50s with good runs in the 880 yard and 440 yards with a 54.2 run in 1959 that was the second fastest ever at School, and in that same year ending up squashed between the winning Evans and 3rd placed Dugan in the Senior 100 yards. Whilst he didn't stand out in terms of his Sports Day roles, these have to be seen with his Steeplechase results in which he scored a 2nd and two 3rds between 1956 and 58.

Into this hot bed of fast runners entered, in 1958, **Doug Watton** (C), winner of 4 Victor Ludorum awards. Scoring maximum points in 1959, he set new records in the Minor Cricket Ball throw (196'5"), and the 440 yards (62.4s), followed by 1960 performances with three very good wins, and in 1961, a maximum score Victor Ludorum with wins in the Javelin and 220 yards, and new records at Long Jump (18'2") and 100 yards (10.8) - the latter not being equalled or exceeded in any later year. Doug Watton also won the Minor Steeplechase in 1959.

Thankfully, **Dave Goldring** (S), never had to contend with Watton during his 3 V.L. years (59, 61 and 62), succeeding generally as a good Long Jumper and 440 yard runner, unusual in setting no records during this time.

Behind the hype of Victor Ludorum winners and multiple record breakers are a group of athletes who by nature of their consistency, contributed much to House performance, but very notably to the quality of competition from which the stars emerged.

Such was the role of **Linehan** (W), Junior 880 yards record holder at 2'28.6 in 1954, also with wins at 440 yards and Long Jump, further taking the 880 record down to 2'20.2 two years later, and always being a performer to count in races between 440 yards and Mile distances. The point is established clearly with additional information from his Steeplechase results: 2nd, 2nd, 1st and 1st in successive years from 1955 - 58.

Roger Starkey is another case in point, for in a 3 year period as a Senior, not only was he winner of the Mile event three times, with a best time in 1958 of 5'02.8s, but he was also a three-times winner and record breaker of the 880 yards, with successively: 2'15.6s in 1956, then 2'15.4s and 2'14.6s in the following years. He was also 2nd, and 3rd twice in the Steeplechase in these times.

*Roger Starkey, breaking the Senior 880 yards record in 2'14.6s, 1958.
A good view of the margin of victory. →*



Mick Dugan was another such runner not to win a V.L. In 1957 he won the 100 yards (11.6s) and equalled the 220 yard record with 25.6s, coming 2nd in the Long Jump, an event he won in 1958 as well as the 440 yards. A very good 18'10½" in the Senior Long Jump of 1959 and a 3rd in the 100 yards, behind Evans and Alf Forder gave a platform for Mick Dugan's endeavours in 1960 when he won both Sprints, at 10.6 and an unbroken 23.4 that must be one of the highlight performances of Sports Day.



1958 Tim Pugh (W) winning Junior 220 yards, 27.4s from Alan Wells (W). Read (C) was third

Maybe the best "overall" contributor to athletic events in these years was Tim Pugh (W). He had a substantial effect on the outcome of all Steeplechase races he entered and was in the frame for each of his seven years of competition: a 3rd, 4 x 2nds and 2 x 1sts marks him as a very successful distance runner, to which must be added significant results in Sports Day in the period 1957 - 1960. His wins came as a Minor in 1956 - 1st in 880 yards (2'36s) and 220 yards (29.0s), in 1958 as a Junior, at 220 yards again, changing to the Mile in 1960 (5'01.6) and

ending with a flourish an two very good times in with both sprints to his name (25.2s and 10.8s), giving him a large global points tally that, added with his Steeplechase form, would place him highly on the all-comers list.

1960s

Probably the last of the athletes to show any real dominance in his era was Barry Wake (S). A generally successful speed athlete, with fine performances in the Long Jump as his trade mark, Wake showed a progression between 1962 (Junior) to 1965 with winning leaps of 16'01", 17'6½", 17'09¼ and a whopping jump of 20'3¼!. He was also the 1962 Junior Discus record setter.

The ending

Making much sense of events in the seven year period between 1966 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.



A.P. Lock Long Jumping. Junior Victor Ludorum, 1969

1968 sees two new records: an 18'5" Junior Long Jump by Downing (B), and a 5'4" Senior High Jump by Cotton (S), but it is very much with apologies to all those from 1968 onwards that so little is to be said - a 4'44.1s Mile in 1973 by Sayer (S), and 30'10½" Triple Jump that same year. Are the only apparent improvements during a phase when it seems clear that less emphasis was given to athletics, possibly in a wider, more opportunistic P.E. programme that resulted in a diminution of the competitive spirit in a population that was becoming generally more lethargic and seeking contentment in ways other than individually strenuous, competitive sport. Athletics is unusual in that it is not really possible to enjoy it or succeed at it without some significant degree of exertion and much practise, not to say, coaching. With lots of other temptation ahead, who would chose athletics?

Peter Gresham writes:

I got into a certain amount of trouble on the school sports day. Along with some friends, I contrived to enhance the dullness of one of the races by running in army boots and football socks, carrying a *CND* sign on a six foot pole and wearing a top hat (which I subsequently discovered had been stolen from *George Ashton* some years before and secreted in the sixth form block). As I finished the race, *Martin Lea* drove his ancient, bright yellow (and barely roadworthy) convertible *Morris Eight* onto the field to carry me away. The local paper photographed my triumphant finish. *Eric Poyner* shouted angrily at the reporters that there would be hell to pay if they dared publish the picture. So the editor withheld it from the paper, but put a large copy in the front window of the newspaper office in *West Street* for two weeks. *Martin Lea* went to *Lampeter* to read theology and became, I believe, an exemplary parish priest. *Steve Dowse*, who had procured the hat, went to *Sandhurst* and was commissioned in the *Ox & Bucks*.

David Goldring

10/12/2010

18/12/2010

Price's School Steeplechase

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 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 (W)* 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*, and

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 3d 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 rates 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.

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.

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!

David Goldring
04/12/10

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 Emmett (W) & Markham	School	Heifman Chamberlain Riches	Blackbrook	
1928	Emmett (W) Daventry & 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	Disrout (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)	School	
1935	Teams of 20, first 8 score (J), 8, first 6 score (S)	Gough (B) Durant (B) Fleming (C)	Blackbrook	Taylor (S) Head (B) Grafham (S)	School
1936		No reference to Steeplechase			
1937	No reference to Steeplechase				
1938	Witt (W) Lamport (B) Gibbs (B)	Blackbrook	Young ² (C) Leggitt (W) Fleming (C)	Cams	
1939	Lamport (B) Whaley (C)	Blackbrook	Wainwright (W) Fleming (C)	Blackbrook	

	Jarman (W)		McKinna (W)			
1940	No results reported					
1941	Johnson ² (S)-	School	Kent (S)	?		
1942	Lennox (S) Gilbody (B) Garside (S)	School	McKenna (W) Gwiliams (W) Pylle (C)	Blackbrook		
1943	McKenna (W) Wright (S) Gwilliam (W)	Westbury	Harvey (B) Simkin (C) Casey (S)	School		
1944	Wellstead (B) Wright (S) Blake (W)	Blackbrook	Rowe (B) Ashwell (S) Woodnut (B)	School		
1945	L. Rowe (B) Gwilliam (W) Pyle (C)	Blackbrook	Suggate (B) Cole (C) Betts (C)	Blackbrook & Cams		
1946	Groves (C) Cozens (B) Palmer (B)	Blackbrook	Gwilliams (W) Bass (S) Vear (S)	Blackbrook		
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®	Cams		
1951	Adams ⁴ (B) Menzies (B) Shotter (B)	Westbury	Ridett (S) Dimmock (C) White (C)	School		
19 52	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		
1955	Minor		Junior		Senior	
	Donahoe (S) Crowle ² Pugh (W)	School	Phelan Linehan Houghton	Blackbrook	Adams Ireland Jacobs	Cams
19 56	Pugh (W) Forder (S) Thomas (B)	Westbury	Donahoe (S) Linehan (W) Evans (B)	School	Jacobs (C) Starkey (S) Gillard (S)	Cams
1957	Goble (W)	Westbury	Donahoe	School	Linehan	School

		Wareham (S) Stanley (C)		(S) Pugh (W) Forder (S)		(W) Laming (S) Starkey (S)	
1958		Warde (C) Houghton (W) Bussey (C)	School	Pugh (W) Forder (S) Cooper (B)	School	Linehan (W) Starkey (S) Donahoe (S)	School
1959		Watton (C) Uden (B) Lewis (C)	Cams	Jenks (W) Carter Greentree (S)	Westbury	Gardner (S) Noot (P) Pugh (W)	School
1960		Ward Ellis Gould	Cams	Uden Buchanan Wilkins P	Cams	Bevis (B) Pugh (W) Jenks (W)	Westbury
1961	Teams of	Robinson (B) Walker (C) Godden	Cams	Nichols (C) Woods (W) Aldred (B)	Westbury	Bevis (B) Pugh (W) Jenks (W)	Cams
1962		Cancelled - bad weather					
1963		Colwill (W) Ayres (S) Nelson (S)	School	Childs (C) Alderton (W) Todd (S)	Westbury	Jenks (W) Cope Ellis	Westbury
1964		Colwill (W) Knight (W) Burnett (B)	Cams	Alderton (W) Kinge (W) Nelson (S)	School	Ellis (B) Pirault (B) Bamber (S)	Westbury
1965		Smith J (B) Cooper (B) Wheeler (C)	Blackbrook	Knight (B) Perry (S) Askew (C)	School	Ellis (B) Alderton (W) Barnet (W)	Westbury
1966		Wheeler Thompson Askew	Westbury	Colwill Smith Shelley	Westbury	Alderton (W) Astley Yaldron	School
67 - 74		No results reported					

Steeplechase Major Performers

Name	Years as a Junior Finishing position			Years as a Senior Finishing position				Total
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			32½/5 = 6.5
Chamberlain				1927	1928	1929		
				2	1	3		17/3 = 6.3
Daventry	1927	1928	1930					
	1	2	3					17/3 = 5.66
Hoskin (B)				1931	1932			
				1	1			16/2 = 8
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						13/2 = 6.5
McKenna (W)				1939	1942			
				3	1			13/2 = 6.5
Gwilliams (W)	1943		1945	1946				
	3		2	1				17/3 = 6.3
Groves (C)		1946		1948	1949			
		1		2	1			21/3 = 7
Foster (B)				1948	1949	1950		
				1	2	1		21/ 3 = 7
Webb (W)				1949	1950			
				3	3			8/2 = 4
Ridett (S)				1950	1951	1952	1953	
				2	1	3	3	21/4 = 5.25
Adams ⁴ (B)			1951	1952	1953			
			1	2	2			18/3 = 6
Coombs (S)				1952	1953			
				1	1			16/2 = 8

Ambrose (C)		1952	1953	1954				
		2	2	2				15/3 = 5
Ireland (C)		1952	1953	1954	1955			
		3	3	3	2			17/4 = 4.25
Phelan (C)		1954	1955					
		2	1					13/2 = 6.5
Donahoe (S)		1955	1956	1957	1958			
		1	1	1	3			28/4 = 7
Linehan (W)			1955	1956	1957	1958		
			2	2	1	1		26/4 = 6.5
Pugh (W)	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	
	3	1	2	1	2	2	2	40/7 = 5.72
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					13/2 = 6.5
Ellis (B)		1960			1963	1964	1965	
		2			3	1	1	19/4 = 4.75
Bevis (B)					1960	1961		
					1	1		16/2 = 8
Jenks (B)			1959		1960	1961	1963	
			1		3	3	1	18/4 - 4/5
Nelson (S)		1963	1964					
		3	3					6/2 = 3
Colwill (W)	1964		1966					
	1		1					16/2 = 8
Night (W)		1964	1965					
		2	1					13/2 = 6.5
Alderton (W)			1963	1964	1965	1966		
			2	1	2	1		26/4 = 4.5

Highest aggregate score	Tim Pugh (W)	40
Highest number of 1 st three places	Tim Pugh (W)	7

Highest number of wins	Dick Donahoe	3
2 / 2+ successive wins	Wellborne (S) S22 & S23, Welling (C) J24 & J24, Emmett (W) J28 & J 29, Gough (B) S33 & S 34, Coombs (S52 & S53), Donahoe (S) M55, J56 & J57, Bevis (B) S60 & S61, Colwill (W) M63 & M64, Jenks (W) S61 & S63**, Ellis (B) S64 & S65	

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 impressions are thus qualified. 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 emphasis on 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.

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