

April 30th—SOUTHAMPTON TO BOURNEMOUTH RELAY

The general opinion of the members who travelled by coach to the South Coast for this relay race was that the fixture is one really worth keeping. This is not at all surprising because apart from the excitement of the race itself, the journey is a very pleasant one, taking you through miles of beautiful country and many picturesque villages, and so it is almost certain that this year our first time of entering will not be the last.

The race was started by the Mayor of Southampton from the forecourt of the city's palatial Civic Centre, and was run by way of Totton, the New Forest, Lyndhurst and Christchurch, and finished outside the Bournemouth Town Hall, a total distance of approximately 30 miles.

First runner of our team was Jimmy Addington who did very well to hand over in fourth place out of the thirteen runners, the leaders being Westbury H., Ryde H., and Portsmouth A.C., in that order. Then Ted Whitlock, the only junior in our team, ran a really grand leg. Not only was he the fastest man over his relay, but he brought us up to second place, and very close to the Westbury runner, much to the delight of the Club's supporters who, with the aid of rattles and powerful vocal cords, made what must have been the greatest noise ever heard in the sleepy little village of Lyndhurst.

From here Doug Laycock took over and he ran the toughest leg of the six, which was up and down hill all the way, through the New Forest, and although he did not gain on the leading runner, he definitely increased the gap between ourselves and the third team. The fourth relay was run by George Arrow and he held our position and we began to feel that we were certain to finish second, for to catch Westbury was more than we could hope to do as we knew they had exceptionally good runners on the final two legs, and Ryde were 300 yards behind us. But on the fifth relay we received a great shock, for Johnnie Moores, who ran this one, did not enjoy a good race and he could not hold the Ryde runner who overtook him and handed over 100 yards ahead, and in the meantime Westbury had increased their lead to at least 800 yards. On the last relay we saw Alan Turing, who has run so many good team races for the Club, make a great bid to recapture second place, and he actually caught the Ryde man, but the effort was too much for him and in an exciting run in over the last 200 yards he was just beaten by a few yards.

But we can well feel proud to have finished third at our first time of trying, and should bear in mind the words of the Mayor of Bournemouth as he presented our team with their third place medals—"To Walton I say, Bad luck, I hope you will come again. We like to see the shield go round and your turn will come."

- Result :**
1. Westbury H. (2 hrs. 39 mins. 14 secs.)
 2. Ryde H.
 3. Walton A.C.
 4. Eastleigh A.C.

Name	Distance	Individual Time	Total Time
J. Addington	4 miles 1150 yds.	28.57	28.57
E. Whitlock	4 miles 700 yds.	23.12	52.09
D. Laycock	5 miles 700 yds.	27.29	1.19.38
G. Arrow	4 miles 800 yds.	25.38	1.45.16
J. Moores	5 miles 500 yds.	31.09	2.16.25
A. Turing	4 miles 1650 yds.	27.39	2.44.04