



E. FARRELL

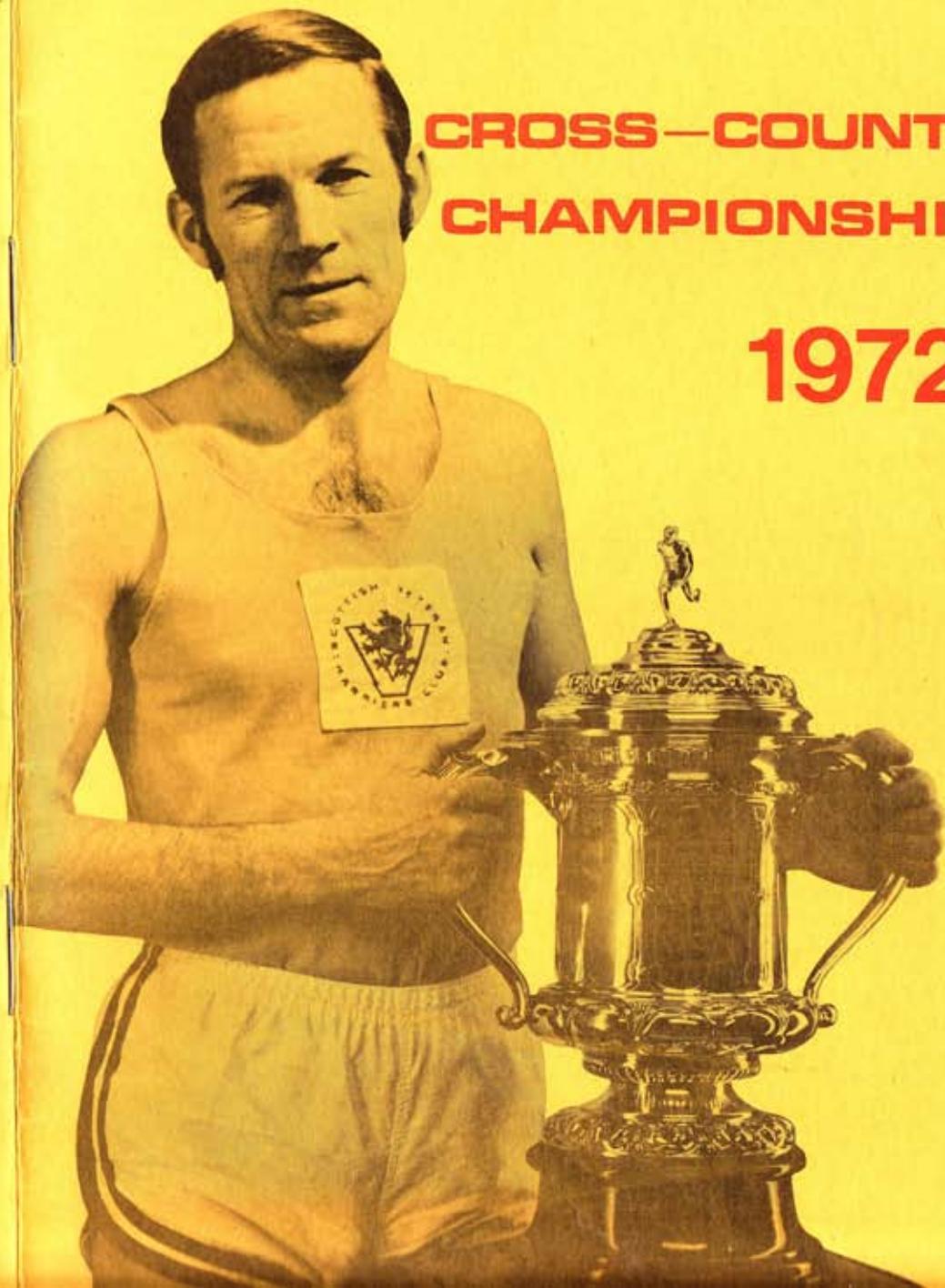
sh' Veteran (over 60)
0 metres Cross-
ry Champion 1972.
n the title at Stoke-on-
on 20 February,
ing 2 minutes ahead
e runner-up.

'et' has figured prominently in athletics for many years.
as a successful competitor as a swimmer and wrestler
e he took up running at the age of 24. He won the Scottish
-Country Championship four years later and then, at 38
of age, he won it again ! He was also a Scottish 3, 6,
0 miles Champion and one hour record holder on the
and many times an Internationalist. So, it can be truly
of him that he is a real veteran of the sport.

Scottish Veterans

CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

1972



THE SCOTTISH VETERANS CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

AT

CLYDEBANK, DUNBARTONSHIRE

5 MILES / 8 KILOMETRES

Organised by

THE SCOTTISH VETERAN HARRIERS CLUB

with the kind co-operation of

CLYDESDALE HARRIERS

SATURDAY 4th MARCH 1972

On behalf of Clydesdale Harriers I welcome all officials, competitors and spectators to Clydebank and hope you all have an enjoyable afternoon.

As one of the country's oldest established clubs, we are pleased that the First Veterans Cross-Country Championship is being run over our trail which I trust will be to the satisfaction of the competitors.

reflects favourably on our sport when an event with such high standard of ability and enthusiasm can be classed as 'Veterans Race'.

The tremendous interest created by the Veterans Club must certainly be of assistance to all clubs and benefit the sport generally.

J. YOUNG
President
Clydesdale Harriers

To your first Hon. President, may I say that with commendable enterprise the Scottish Veteran Harriers Club has already portrayed its power in the field of competition in unmistakable fashion especially by leaders of the calibre of Bill Stoddart, Andrew Forbes and John Emmet Farrell. The first named has so far shown his outstanding qualities by establishing himself as the top performer in Britain at his age; indeed, might he not be already recognised as a crowned champion of the world! This first Championship Meeting is another step in the right direction which may reveal further emergence of improving Veteran Stars if that is possible in the varied divisions.

GEO. DALLAS, MBE

COVER PAGE:-

BILL STODDART, winner of the 'British' Veterans Cross-Country Championship with his trophy. He won by over half a minute from the second man in the mammoth field, the

OFFICIALS

Referee: G. DALLAS, M. B. E.

(Hon. President, Scottish Veteran H.C.)

Guests of Honour F. GRAHAM, Esq. President S.A.A.A.
R. M. DALGLEISH, Esq. Vice-President, SCCU.

Judges: D. URQUHART, J. GIRVIN

Timekeepers: J. R. SCOTT D. B. BROOKE

Recorders: G. PICKERING J. P. SHIELDS
R. KINLOCH

Liaison: T. DAILY

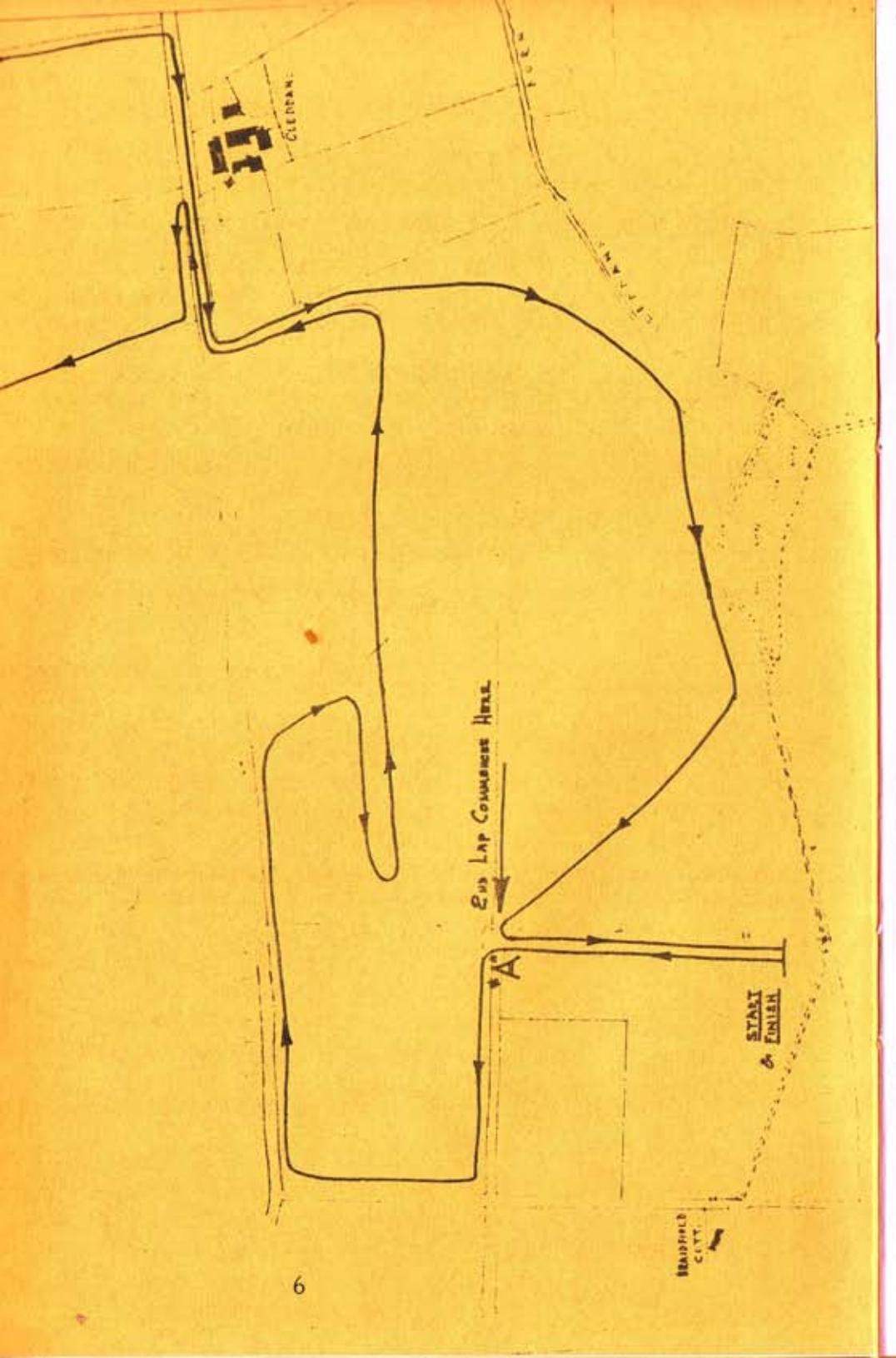
Trail: MEMBERS OF CLYDESDALE HARRIERS

The Presentation of Awards will take place in St. Columba School at 4.15 p.m.

Hon. Secretary:

W. J. Ross, 10 Thornley Avenue, Glasgow, W.3.

* * * * *



The Secretary, who for some years printed and published "The Scots Athlete" came across a poem which had been penned anonymously. I have concluded it was written by a Clydesdale Harrier of yesteryear who contributed to the local Press under the pseudonym 'Excelsior' (Clydesdale's motto!). I published it in 1947, giving it the title "To a Harrier". Though tempted to retitle it "To a Veteran", I think it is an appropriate time and place to re-print it as it stands. It is dedicated to ALL who enjoy the sport!

W. J. Ross.

TO A HARRIER

Some fellow-men seem lucky, yet I
yearn to change with few,
But from my heart this afternoon I
needs must envy you,
Mud-spattered runners, light of foot,
who on this dismal day
With rhythmic stride and heads upheld
go swinging on your way.

A dismal day? A foolish word; I
should not years ago,
Despite the drizzle and the chill, have
ever thought it so;
For then I might have been with you
your rich reward to gain
That glow beneath the freshened skin
O runners through the rain.

All weather is a friend to you; rain
sunshine, snow or sleet;
The changing course - road, grass or
plough - you pass on flying feet;
No crowds you need to urge you on; no
cheers your efforts wake;
Yours is the sportsman's purest joy -
you run for running's sake.

(Contd on page 11)

ENTRANTS

MS:

LAHOUSTON HARRIERS

J. Armour
J. Livingston
J. Mercer
J. McLean

DESDALE HARRIERS

J. O'Boyle 51 D. Bowman
J. Hislop 52 G. White
J. Kieltly
J. Sweeney
J. Young

T KILBRIDE A.A.C.

R. Gannon
M. Logie
J. Moore

EDBURGH SOUTHERN H.

W. Grant
H.S. Millar
J.S. Petty
C. Third

ENOCK WELLPARK H.

J. Stevenson
T. Stevenson
W.D. Stoddart
D. Anderson

GARSCUBE HARRIERS

20 R. Donald
54 D.G. Causon
55 W.J. Ross

MARYHILL HARRIERS

21 R. McDonald
56 G.J. Porteous
57 T. Harrison
72 J.E. Farrell

MONKLAND HARRIERS

22 J. Geddes
23 W. McBrinn
24 D. McKirdy

SHETTLESTON HARRIERS

25 T. Fletcher
26 H. Mitchell
71 G. Taylor

VICTORIA PARK A.A.C.

27 R.C. Calderwood
28 R. Kane
58 A. Forbes
59 J.L. Logan

INDIVIDUALS:

29	J. Brownlie	Cambuslang Harriers
30	T. Brownlie	"
31	A. Cook	Falkirk Victoria Harriers
32	T. D. Todd	"
33	J. Edgar	Lewisvale Spartans
34	I. D. Steedman	"
35	W. Marshall	Motherwell Y.M.C.A.
73	R. Devon	"
36	R. Pickard	Perth Railway A.C.
37	H. Scott	"
38	D. Clelland	Stirling A.C.
39	W. Scott	"
40	T. Monaghan	Scottish Vets H.C.
74	R. Smith	"
41	C. R. Hamilton-Jones	Edinburgh A.C.
42	C. D. Forbes	Irvine Y.M.C.A.
43	W. J. Russell	Monkland Harriers
44	R. H. Pape	Royal Naval A.C.
45	W. F. Lindsay	Teviotdale Harriers
60	T. Weatherhead	Airedale Harriers
61	J. Hanton	Paisley Harriers
75	H. Haughie	Springburn Harriers

ote:

Numbers 51 and upwards denote Over 50 qualification.....

Numbers 71 and upwards denote Over 60 qualification.

Y DO WE RUN ?

ETERAN POSES AND ANSWERS THE QUESTION

do we run, or rather why do we continue to run? For many, despite the harsh ministrations of Father Time, still want to run and compete. The lust of honest contest is little quelled though the competition is on a different level.

Perhaps it has become a habit, though in more poetic terms it should be regarded as a way of life.

Basically we run because we like to run, because we would rather than not run. Amateurs, nothing dictates except our own compelling urge.

asked point blank to give reasons for our peculiar cult must not stop and ponder? For though there may be many separate reasons they have become closely interwoven into one entity like strands of a garment which we separate at our peril.

We are conscious, some perhaps sub-conscious, but all valid reasons for our participation. Apart from getting to like it for its own sake which is reason enough, we may run because we feel fitter. We are positively expressed as a feeling of exhilaration and of well-being. At times it is possible to reach a peak when we say we are "in the pink" or we feel we could "jump over the moon".

Then there is the release from the pressures of business and our complex civilisation. Man has become the slave of his technical advance. This has given us many comforts but has made us weaker and less robust. Running provides a compensation.

For horizons, blue skies, green fields, scudding clouds, nature in its moods is far removed from the roar of the city and the claustrophobia of narrow streets and buildings. At the same time we may subconsciously satisfy the artist in us. At all seasons the hours and landscape of the country provide a poetic response.

Paradoxically, fitness is not just a physical thing. It has, if I may use the term in a comprehensive manner, almost 'spiritual' connotations. The fitter one is, the less aware of one's body. In complete fitness we feel almost ethereal - like a disembodied spirit.

Then to use the jargon of psychology it can sublimate our atavistic tendencies, channeling our combative urges into harmless paths. And as some dedication is required to reach a given standard this provides a bonus in the development of the will and character. Then there is the challenge, the pursuit, the quest, the struggle which tend to give some meaning to life.

But in the last analysis all these are irrelevant.

As well ask why we run as ask a duck why it swims, a bird why it flies. It has become the natural thing to do. Louis Armstrong, asked to define jazz, replied "If you've gotta ask, you'll never know". So with running, analysis is secondary, experience everything. And, let's admit it, it's just a great bit of fun !

JOHN E. FARRELL

"To A Harrier" contd.

O games are good - manoeuvres shared
to make the team's success,
The practised skill, the guiding brain,
the trained unselfishness;
But there's no game men ever played
that gives the zest you find
In using limbs and heart and lungs to
leave long miles behind.

I'll dream that I am with you now to
win my second wind,
To feel my fitness like a flame; the
pack's already thinned.
The turf is soft beneath my feet, the
drizzle's on my face,
And in my spirit there is pride, for I
can stand the pace.

The First Veterans Cross-Country Race in Scotland was held at Pollok Estate, Glasgow, on Saturday 20th March 1971. There were 33 participants and 32 completed the course. Here are the main details:-

W. J. Russell

H. Mitchell

W. Marshall

T. Stevenson

W. Armour

C. D. Forbes

J. McLean

A. Forbes

Over 50

A. Forbes

T. Harrison

W. J. Ross

Over 60

J. E. Farrell

H. Haughie

R. Devon

Cottleston Harriers won the Team Award.

TO-DAY'S RESULTS

1	Time:
2	"
3	"
4	"
5	"
6	"

Over 50

1	<u>Over 60</u>
2	1
3	2
	3

TEAM RESULTS:

1
2
3

The Scottish Cross-Country Union and the Scottish Veteran Harriers Club wish to record their thanks to everyone who has contributed to the success of today's Championships.

SCOTTISH VETERAN HARRIERS CLUB

(OVER 40, OVER 50, OVER 60 :)



TRACK, ROAD and CROSS-COUNTRY

CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

MUSTER RUNS

SOCIAL OUTINGS

INTERNATIONAL MEETS

Full Details from the Hon. Secretary:-

WALTER J. ROSS, 10 THORNLEY AVENUE, GLASGOW W.3.

Telephone: 041-954 6154