

Scottish News

Falkirk Victoria rise to the occasion

22 INVITED clubs, including a Northern District Select and a team from Queen's University, Belfast, took part in the 44th Annual Edinburgh to Glasgow Eight-Man Road Relay sponsored by Barrs Soft Drinks on November 18th. Weather conditions were favourable, with a light north easterly wind at the runners' backs for the 44 miles stretch.

Pre-race talk centred on the non-availability of Allister Hutton, John Robson and Callum Henderson for the Scottish Four-Man Relay champions, Edinburgh Southern, and the then likelihood of last year's runners-up, Bellahouston, claiming victory, given their unbeaten record in road relays this season. However, the Renfrewshire club could finish only fourth, behind Falkirk Victoria, Cambuslang and Spango Valley, with last year's winners, Aberdeen, fifth, ahead of Edinburgh rivals, Southern and AC. Bellahouston's failure to win was partly due to the late withdrawal of English international Neil Black and to some sub-par performances. Nonetheless, it was Falkirk's day and their well-balanced team rose magnificently to the occasion to record their first victory in this most prestigious event. Shettleston Harriers won the award for the most meritorious performance in finishing eighth, compared with 20th position last year, thanks mainly to Nat Muir's record breaking run on stage six. Two other records were recorded: by Junior Robert Quinn of Kilbarchan on stage four and Peter Fleming of Bellahouston on stage eight.

Stage 1 (5¼M). Springburn's moment of glory came on the opening stage when former Scottish Youth CC champion, Adrian Callan, came home first (26:15), ten seconds ahead of fast improving Donald Bain of Falkirk Victoria. Falkirk's second place was in sharp contrast to their disastrous start last year, when they finished last, over four minutes behind the leader. The Irish club made their presence felt in third place through Mark Kirk (26:45), with Edinburgh Southern's Ian Steel one second behind. Of the other likely medal contenders, Spango Valley were ninth thanks to super Vet Lachie Stewart, EAC 13th, Aberdeen 14th, Bellahouston 15th, Cambuslang 16th and, surprisingly, Clyde Valley 21st. **Fastest:** A. Callan (S'burn) 26:15, D. Bain (FVH) 26:25; M. Kirk (QUB) 26:45; I. Steel (ESH) 26:46; S. Axon (NDS) 26:49; H. McKay (Dund) 27:06.

Stage 2 (6M). As usual, most clubs fielded their big guns on this stage. 'Anglo' Neil Tennant confirmed his recent fine form down south by clocking the fastest time of 28:09 to sweep Edinburgh Southern into the lead, while

Springburn dropped back to second, one place ahead of Kilbarchan, for whom Alan Puckrin ran a fine 28:51. Scottish cross country captain. Lawrie Spence, brought Spango up to fourth (28:48), just holding off George Braidwood (28:18), who began Bellahouston's expected charge to the front; with Gordon Mitchell of Falkirk (29:50) slipping back to sixth. Other sub-29 minutes performances came from Eddie Stewart (28:53) of Cambuslang, who were now 12th, Alastair Douglas of Victoria Park (28:56) and Terry Mitchell of Fife (28:59). **Fastest:** N. Tennant (ESH) 28:09; G. Braidwood (Bell) 28:18; L. Spence (SV) 28:48; A. Puckrin (Kilb) 28:51; E. Stewart (Cam) 28:53; A. Douglas (VP) 28:56.

David Cooney reports on the Edinburgh to Glasgow Road Relay

Stage 3 (4½M). Edinburgh Southern were still clear leaders through 'Anglo' Neil Thin, whose time of 24:17 was the second fastest for this hilly section. However, Bellahouston were gradually pulling the Edinburgh side back with Hammy Cox's fastest lap of 24:05. Springburn were now third, Victoria Park fourth and Falkirk fifth, with Cambuslang coming into the reckoning in sixth place, thanks to an inspired run by first year Junior Pat Morris (24:24). Spango lost ground, falling back to seventh, but were still ahead of the more fancied clubs Aberdeen (11th) and EAC (13th). **Fastest:** H. Cox (Bella) 24:05; N. Thin (ESH) 24:17; P. Morris (Cam) 24:24; S. Begen (S'burn) 24:29; A. McKay (EAC) 24:39; P. Rodgers (QUB) 24:40.

Stage 4 (5¼M). The race was really hotting up now, with only two seconds separating Edinburgh Southern and Bellahouston at the changeover as sub-2:20 marathoner Graham Getty (26:34) took 65 seconds off his eastern rival. Kilbarchan bounced back into third through Robert Quinn's record-breaking stint of 25:21, with Victoria Park's J. MacFie (26:44) hanging on well in fourth place ahead of Cambuslang, for whom medical student David Ferry clocked a creditable 26:33, Chris Leck helped to promote Spango's cause by recording the second fastest lap of 26:11, while Falkirk dropped back to seventh, in spite of a useful 26:57 from injury-prone John McGarva. **Fastest:** R. Quinn (Kilb) 25:21; C. Leck (SV) 26:11; D. Ferry (Cam) 26:23; C. Ross (Dund) 26:25; G. Getty (Bella) 26:34; J. MacFie (VP) & I. Legge (QUB) 26:44.

Stage 5 (5¼M). Andy Daly (27:17), who recently

finished fourth for Great Britain in the Istanbul Marathon, gave Bellahouston a lead of seven seconds over Southern's Alec Robertson (27:26), and it looked as if the trophy was destined for their clubhouse. However, Cambuslang, Falkirk and Spango had other ideas, as they maintained their forward momentum. First year Senior, Jim Orr (27:00), brought Cambuslang into third, closely pursued all the way by Falkirk's gritty Derek Easton (26:48), with Spango's Northern Ireland international Cammy Spence sixth (27:17). Defending champions, Aberdeen, had their hopes raised when experienced marathoner, Colin Youngson, charged through from 13th to eighth with the fastest lap of 26:36. **Fastest:** C.

Youngson (A'deen) 26:36; D. Easton (FVH) 26:48; J. Orr (Cam) 27:00; A. Daly (Bella) 27:17; C. Spence (SV) 27:18; A. Robertson (ESH) 27:26.

Stage 6 (7M). Shettleston's Nat Muir (30:51) showed real class on the longest stretch of the race, when he took nine seconds off the course record jointly held by Andy McKean, Allister Hutton and Falkirk's Jim Dingwall. However, Dingwall (32:04), now resident in Hull, was not the least concerned about losing his share of the record, as he dramatically took his club into a lead of 39 seconds over Southern's Evan Cameron, who had run a plucky 33:26 in spite of a leg injury. Cambuslang's 'Anglo', Andy Beattie (33:08), maintained their position, although Spango had pulled back four seconds on them through their 'Anglo', Graham Clark. Shettleston were fifth with Aberdeen now sixth thanks to Fraser Clyne (32:05). Bellahouston inexplicably slumped from first to seventh when Alastair McAngus (34:55), who has been running consistently well all season, had an off day. Further down the field, Birmingham-based John Graham lifted Clyde Valley up from 17th to 12th with the second fastest lap of 31:56. **Fastest:** N. Muir (Shett) 30:51; J. Graham (CV) 31:56; J. Dingwall (FVH) 32:04; F. Clyne (A'deen) 32:05; L. Robertson (EAC) 32:37; C. Haskett (Dund) 32:44.

Stage 7 (5¼M). There was no stopping Falkirk now, as John Pentecost, who had run the disastrous leg one last year, made amends by recording the second fastest time of the day (25:00) to give the eastern club a lead of 1:41 over Cambuslang, for whom newcomer Jim Robertson ran a fine 25:39. Spango were now third, only ten seconds behind due to Peter Conaghan's third fastest stint of 25:25. Southern had been relegated to fourth with Aberdeen, in fifth place, making a late bid for the medals, one spot ahead of Bellahouston. Glasgow University's Alan Wilson's fastest lap of 24:37 advanced his club from 15th to 11th. **Fastest:** A. Wilson (Glas. U) 24:37; J. Pentecost (FVH) 25:00; P. Conaghan (SV) 25:25; J. Robertson (Cam) 25:39; M. Murray (A'deen) 26:06; P. Wilson (VP) 26:20.

Stage 8 (5½M). This was the glory run for Falkirk's experienced Stuart Easton, as there was no way he could be caught unless he went off course or ran into a car, which was always a possibility given the busy traffic following the race. Stuart did what was necessary (28:12) to give his club a well-earned victory with a time of 3:40:16, which was a new club record by 1:50. Behind, an exciting tussle was going on for the minor places. Cambuslang's Tom Ulliott, who gave up football for running only two years ago, was given the unenviable task of holding off the challenge from his more experienced rival, Terry Wilkie of Spango Valley, and at the same time both runners needed to keep in front of internationals Peter Wilson of Aberdeen and

Peter Fleming of Bellahouston, who were making inroads on them. Although Wilkie (28:04) gained four seconds on Ulliott, Cambuslang held on to second place, thus equalling their 1980 performance. Nevertheless, Spango had the consolation of recording their highest position ever in this event. Bellahouston were out of the medals, 21 seconds behind, in spite of Fleming (26:46) knocking four seconds off his record, with Aberdeen a further 39 seconds adrift through a useful 27:55 by Wilson. Ken Mortimer, with a nippy 27:34, brought EAC into seventh, one place behind their city rivals Southern. **Fastest:** P. Fleming (Bella) 26:46; K. Mortimer (EAC) 27:34; P. Wilson (A'deen) 27:55; T. Wilkie (SV) 28:04; T. Ulliott (Cam) 28:07; S. Easton (FVH) 28:12.

- 1, Falkirk Victoria.....3:40:16
(D. Bain 26:25, G. Mitchell 29:50, I. Johnston 25:00, J. McGarva 26:57, D. Easton 26:48, J. Dingwall 32:04, J. Pentecost 25:00, S. Easton 28:12)
- 2, Cambuslang.....3:41:52
(C. Thomson 28:18, E. Stewart 28:53, P. Morris 24:24, D. Ferry 26:23, J. Orr 27:00, A. Beattie 33:08, J. Robertson 25:39, T. Ulliott 28:07)
- 3, Spango Valley.....3:41:59
(L. Stewart 27:23, L. Spence 28:48, J. Gallagher 25:46, C. Leck 26:11, C. Spence 27:18, G. Clark 33:04, P. Conaghan 25:25, T. Wilkie 28:04)
- 4, Bellahouston.....3:42:20
(T. Coyne 27:56, G. Braidwood 28:18, H. Cox 24:05, G. Getty 26:34, A. Daly 27:17, A. McAngus 34:55, R. Fitzsimmons 26:29, P. Fleming 26:46)
- 5, Aberdeen.....3:42:39
(G. Milne 27:55, G. Laing 29:12, D. Duguid 25:16, P. McErlean 27:34, C. Youngson 26:36, F. Clyde 32:05, M. Murray 26:06, P. Wilson 27:55)
- 6, Edinburgh Southern 3:43:12 (I. Steel 26:46, N. Tennant 28:09, N. Thin 24:17, G. Faulds 27:39, A. Robertson 27:26, E. Cameron 33:26, S. Hughes 26:55, G. Mathison 28:34); 7, Edinburgh AC 3:44:51 (N. Jones 27:48, B. Kirkwood 30:17, A. McKay 24:39, G. Cuthbert 27:39, D. Hunter 27:41, L. Robertson 32:37, M. Ferguson 26:36, K. Mortimer 27:34); 8, Shettleston 3:45:25 (J. Mudie 27:36, P. Carton 29:17, B. Scally 25:10; C. Ross 27:47, W. Scally 27:54, N. Muir 30:51, P. McMahon 27:06, M. Taggart 29:44); 9, Dundee Hh. 3:45:31 (H. McKay 27:06, R. Barrie 29:39, S. Kerr 26:18, C. Ross 26:25, J. Hepburn 28:15, C. Haskett 32:44, S. Borland 26:34, D. Hamilton 28:30); 10, Kilbarchan 3:45:43 (R. Hawkins 27:07, A. Puckrin 28:51, M. McGinley 26:14, R. Quinn 25:21, C. Wallace 27:59, G. Fairley 33:48, G. Gibson 26:35; R. Gardner 29:48); 11, Glasgow Univ. 3:46:34; 12, Victoria Park 3:46:44; 13, Fife 3:48:33; 14, Clyde Valley 3:49:00; 15, Queens Univ., Belfast 3:49:42; 16, Springburn 3:53:14; 17, E. Kilbride 3:53:33; 18, Greenock Glenpark 3:54:28; 19, North District Select 3:56:05; 20, Hunter's Bog Trotters 3:56:24; 21, Edinburgh Univ. 4:03:02; 22, Westerlands 4:04:30.

ROAD RACES

Falkirk People's Half Marathon (October 28th). 1, A. Weatherhead (EAC-V) 66:54; 2, P. Faulds (FVH) 68:30; 3, D. Hunter (EAC) 68:56; 4, G. McKinna (Kilm) 69:27; 5, D. Dean 70:10; 6, W. Scally (Shett-V) 70:16; 7, M. Coyne (FVH) 70:26; 8, I. Howie 70:40; 9, D. Fairweather (Law-V) 70:49; 10, C. Martin (Dumb) 70:54; 11, A. Stirling (Bo) 71:25; 12, E. Walker 71:44; 13, J. Clark 72:23; 14, Z. Bankowski (EAC) 72:31; 15, A. Wilson (Glas. U) 72:49; 16, A. Adams (Dumb-V) 72:51; 17, D. Markie (FVH) 72:55; 18, S. Griffin 73:02; 19, B. Kerr 73:05; 20, J. McGuckin 73:36 . . . 26, LORNA IRVING 74:02; 68, LYNDIA BAIN (A'deen) 77:15.

Glasgow University '5¼' (November 10th). 1, N. Muir (Shett) 24:01; 2, G. Braidwood (Bella) 24:16; 3, R. Cameron (Cen. R) 24:18; 4, R. Quinn (Kilb) 24:22; 5, G. Crawford (S'burn) 24:27; 6, E. Stewart (Cam) 24:32; 7, A. McAngus (Bella) 24:50; 8, P. Fleming (Bella) 24:57; 9, R. Barrie (Dund. U) 24:58; 10, J. Duffy (G. W'park) 25:00; 11, S. Marshall (Dund. U) 25:01; 12, P. Carton (Shett) 25:03; 13, A. Douglas (VP) 25:04; 14, A. Callan (S'burn) 25:05; 15, A. Wilson (Glas. U) 25:07; 16, G. Millar (C'bank) 25:24; 17, T. Coyne (Bella) 25:29; 18, J. Orr (Cam) 25:34; 19, G. Getty (Bella) 25:35; 20, D. Logue (ESH) 25:39; 21, H. McKay (Dund) 25:42; 22, T. Gillespie (Glas. U) 25:43; 23, T. Wilkie (SV) 25:45; 24, D. McMeekin (VP) 25:47; 25, T. Murray (G. G'park) 25:51; 26, D. McGonigle (Dund. U) 25:52; 27, J. MacFie (VP) 25:54; 28, R. Hawkins (Kilb) 25:56; 29, C. Thomson (Cam) 25:56; 30, J. Thomson (Ayr S) 26:00; 31, J. Adair (Glas. U) 26:00; 32, N. Walker (Glas. U) 26:01; 33, G. Diverty (VP) 26:05; 34, C. McDougall (E. Kil) 26:06; 35, R. Fitzsimmons (Bella) 26:11; 36, R. Archer (St. A.U) 26:12; 37, D. McShane (Cam) 26:14; 38, M. Batley (VP) 26:15; 39, P. Wilson (VP) 26:16; 40, P. Fox (CV) 26:17. (Vets): 1, A. Adams (Dumb) 26:34; 2, W. Scally (Shett) 26:47; 3, J. McMillan (Strath. P) 27:14. (O/50): W. McBrinn (CV) 28:15. (Women): E. Gisby (VP) 31:13.

BEXLEY BOROUGH A.C.

ERITH '6'

(Measured 10Km)

&

NEW YEAR'S DAY
ROAD RACES

(Under A.A.A. & W.C.C.A. Laws)

12.45 p.m.	U/15 Jnr Ladies	2 Miles
1.10 p.m.	U/14 Colts	2 Miles
1.35 p.m.	U/16 Boys	3 Miles
2.00 p.m.	U/17 Inter Ladies	3 Miles
	U/18 Youths	3 Miles
2.30 p.m.	Jnr Men	10 Km
	Snr Ladies	10 Km
	Snr Men	10 Km
	Veterans	10 Km

Fees: 2 & 3 miles events 50p per individual. Individual & Team Awards, 10Km event £1. No Team fees (4 to score). All unattached runners 50p individual extra.

INDIVIDUAL & TEAM PRIZES

Entries (Please state name, address, date of birth, club). **To:** R. Sawyer, 34 Park Cres., Erith, Kent, with s.a.e. for ack.

Closing date: 18th December

Late entries not allowed.

Sponsored by:

**T's NIGHTCLUB
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MITCHAM A.C.
Young Athletes
Cross Country Meeting

(Under A.A.A. Laws)

For the Terry Knight Memorial Trophy
23 FEBRUARY, 1985

Mitcham Common, Mitcham, Surrey.

1.00 U/11 Boys 1½ Miles 2.00 Boys 2½ Miles
1.30 Colts 2½ Miles 2.30 Youths 4½ Miles
Prizes: First Three Ind., First Three A Teams, First B Team, (4 to score all age groups) Certs. to all competitors and perpetual trophy's for all 4 age groups.
Entries: 30p per Ind. Change of Secretary — Entries to J. R. Godfrey, 32 Somerset Close, New Malden, Surrey (With S.A.E.)

Entries close 19th February 1985.