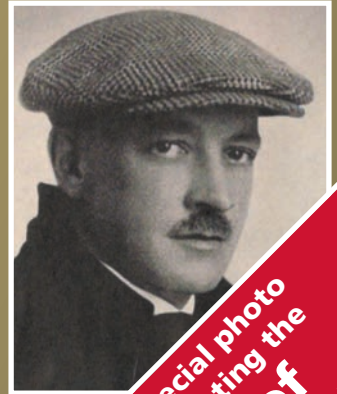
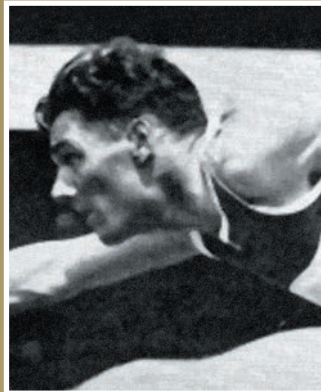
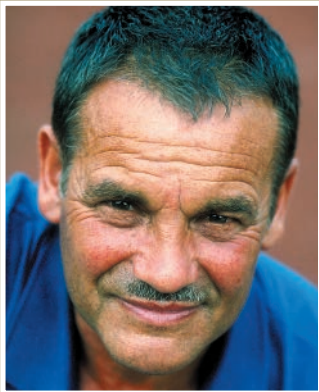


HALL *of* FAME



2012

Includes a special photo
feature celebrating the
**Heroes of
London 2012**

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INTRODUCTION

This year has been one of incredible excitement for our sport.

We have celebrated as new heroes have used the stage of the Olympic and Paralympic Games to stamp their names boldly into the history of our sport.

As well as the successes of our athletes the Games highlighted the vital role played by their coaches, their parents, their clubs, and the people who officiated not only in London but also at the events that saw them on that pathway towards Olympic and Paralympic success.

People across our nation have been inspired by the successes of our athletes and the stories of those who have helped them on their way and contributed to making those incredible moments we witnessed in the Games. As a sport we now need to work to ensure this inspiration is turned to fruition as these people are welcomed into the athletics family to become the next generation of great athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers of our sport.

For those of us who have been involved in the sport much longer this year has surely affirmed why it is we take such great pleasure in our sport.

The England Athletics annual Hall of Fame and National Volunteer Awards Night serves as an important opportunity to recognise the tremendous athletes who over the years have inspired many others to follow where they have led. We also come together as a sport to honour those people who have made, and continue to make, incredible contributions to our sport to enable the thousands upon thousands of athletes across our country to gain such wonderful enjoyment and satisfaction from the sport.

I trust that we have all savoured the moments that this summer has given us and felt proud to be part of such a wonderful sport. The successes of this year makes it all the more opportune to celebrate and recognise those who have inspired us and worked so hard to make our sport all it is today.

I sincerely hope you enjoy the evening and continue to take pride and pleasure at your involvement in this wonderful sport.




John Graves
Chair, England Athletics



MARK SHEARMAN

SIR CHRIS CHATAWAY

Born: 31.1.1931, Chelsea (London)

Clubs: Walton AC, Achilles, Thames Hare & Hounds

Major Medals: Gold – 1954 Commonwealth Games 3 Miles; Silver – 1954 European 5000m

World records: 3 Miles - 13:32.2 in 1954, 13:23.2 in 1955; 5000m - 13:51.6 in 1954; 4 x Mile Relay - 16:41.0 in 1953

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2012

Among the spectators at Wembley for the 1948 Olympics was a lad of 17, whose imagination was captured by the dramatic 5000m struggle between Gaston Reiff of Belgium and Emil Zátopek of Czechoslovakia. Little did he imagine then that at the next Olympics he would find himself ahead of Zátopek on the last lap of the 5000m.

At those 1952 Games, Chataway made an audacious bid for victory with over 200m to go. He accelerated into the lead but on the crown of the last bend, just after three runners had swept past, he tripped over the raised track kerb and went sprawling. But for the accident he would certainly have been fourth; as it was he finished fifth as Zátopek won the second of his three gold medals in Helsinki.

1954 proved to be a fantastic year for him. In May he played an invaluable training and pacemaking role in Roger Bannister's historic sub-four minute mile; in June he ran the second fastest ever 2 miles with 8:41.0; while in July he broke the world record for 3 miles with 13:32.2 at the AAA Championships, only to find himself second in the same time as the winner, Freddie Green. The following month he won the Commonwealth Games 3 miles, and finished ahead of Zátopek over 5000m in the European Championships ... the only trouble being that Vladimir Kuts (USSR) had snapped the tape some 80m ahead in a world record 13:56.6!

Revenge was exacted by Chataway 45 days later during the London v Moscow floodlit meeting at the White City. A sell-out crowd of over 40,000 flocked to the stadium and an estimated audience of 15 million watched live on TV. The 5000m was run at a scorching pace as Kuts tried his utmost to break the spirit and body of his rival but an inspired Chataway stayed with him. Kuts remained just a stride ahead at the bell, and that's how it stayed until Chataway edged past five yards from the tape in one of the most exciting races ever staged. He sliced all of five seconds from the world record with 13:51.6 and such was his popularity that he, not Bannister, won the inaugural BBC television Sports Personality Of The Year award for 1954.

In 1955 Chataway became the world's fourth sub-four minute miler with 3:59.8 and set a world 3 miles record of 13:23.2. Later that year he became ITV's first newscaster, later working for BBC's Panorama. An MP from 1959, he was a Minister in the Conservative Government between 1970 and 1974, and while chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority was knighted in 1995 for services to the industry. He remained fearsomely fit for his age, able to run a 5:36 mile when he was 64 and completing the Great North Run half marathon in 1:52 when he was 79.

To describe Don Finlay as having been merely a remarkable athlete would be to sell him short. He was a remarkable man.

Although the twin peaks of athletic endeavour – an Olympic victory and a world record – eluded him, his career as a sprint hurdler was unique. Two Olympic medals, victories in the European Championships and Empire Games, and an almost perfect international match record ... that was the considerable sum of his achievements when the War diverted his attentions to more serious affairs in 1939. Yet he returned to competition in 1947, made his third Olympic team, set a British record in 1949 and bowed out of international competition with fourth place at the 1950 Empire Games – as a 40 year-old grandfather!

It was in 1932 that he established himself as Europe's no 1 – a state of affairs that continued throughout the 1930s. He won the first of seven consecutive AAA titles and, at the Los Angeles Olympics, surpassed himself by taking the bronze medal.

Between 1933 and 1939 he lost only nine races, but it was not until the 1936 Olympics that he dislodged Lord Burghley as British record holder. Again the supreme challenge of Olympic competition in Berlin drew the best out of Finlay who burst through spectacularly in the closing stages to finish second in 14.4.

Finlay's fastest runs came in 1937 but he never received official credit for them. In Paris he recorded 14.2 and in Stockholm 14.1 but both were discounted as European records because of suspected wind assistance, although a photo taken at the finish of the Stockholm race shows a flag drooping limply. However, he did record an official 14.3 when winning the 1938 European title.

During the War, Wing Commander Finlay served his country well as a fighter pilot and was decorated with the DFC and the AFC. He was 38 and silver-haired when in 1947 he embarked upon an astonishing comeback. The following year he made the Olympic team (taking the Olympic Oath at Wembley Stadium on behalf of all the competitors) but while leading in his heat he struck the final hurdle and fell.

Still he was not finished and in 1949 he reclaimed the AAA title he had last won 11 years earlier, and won against France in 14.4, second fastest by a European that year. That proved a fitting conclusion to his international match career: in 16 races between 1931 and 1949 he won 14 times and was second in the other two behind British team-mates. A few days later, in Glasgow, he achieved a startling victory over Dick Attlesey (USA), then a 14.0 performer but destined the following season to set a world record of 13.5.

What a tragedy it was that following a motor accident a severe spinal injury caused this most active of men to be confined to a wheelchair for the last four years of his life. He was 60 when he died.



DON FINLAY

Born: 27.5.1909, Christchurch (Hampshire); died 18.4.1970

Clubs: RAF, Milocarian AC, Surrey AC

Major medals: (At 110m Hurdles) **Gold** – 1934 Commonwealth (120 yards), 1938 European; **Silver** – 1936 Olympics; **Bronze** - 1932 Olympics

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2012



MARK SHEARMAN

DAME MAREA HARTMAN

Born: 22.6.1920, London; died 29.8.1994

Club: Spartan Ladies AC

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2012



Marea Hartman, who rose to become the most powerful figure in British women's athletics, was a good but not outstanding sprinter while reading economics at the University of London just before the war. She was a member of the celebrated Spartan Ladies club and represented Surrey. After the War, which claimed the life of her RAF fiancé, she turned her attention to the running of the sport.

She started off in 1945 as Hon. Treasurer of Spartan Ladies and early in 1950, aged 29, she was elected Hon. Treasurer of the national governing body, the Women's AAA. She gradually became one of the most influential of administrators: she attended the 1956 Melbourne Olympics as an aide to team manager Jack Crump, in 1958 she was women's team manager at the European Championships in Stockholm and she would remain British team manager for another 20 years, spanning one of the most successful periods with Olympic gold medals for Mary Rand, Ann Packer and Mary Peters and European titles for Heather Young, Dorothy Hyman, Lillian Board and the 4x400m squad.

How Marea ever found the time to juggle her numerous responsibilities was a mystery, although she did concede "if I wasn't single I wouldn't be able to do it all." She estimated she spent 35 hours a week on athletics business, and yet her 'day job' for 38 years was the important and demanding one of personnel officer of the gigantic Bowater Corporation in Knightsbridge, overlooking Hyde Park. Well into her fifties she would go out running twice a week – "I find it a vital relief to all the tensions of modern life."

Although she went on to chair the IAAF's Women's Commission for 13 years, during which time she would be a driving force in expanding the programme of events for women, become Hon. Treasurer and later Chairman of the British Amateur Athletic Board, and – after the WAAA finally amalgamated with the men in 1991 – be elected as the first female President of the AAA of England, Marea was at her happiest in the midst of those she called "my girls". As she once remarked in the 1970s, "I don't want to be sentimental but I have a vast, continually changing family of youngsters who keep me feeling young."

Made a Dame in the 1994 New Year's Honours List for her services to the sport, Marea died of cancer later that year, aged 74. As John Rodda wrote in The Guardian: "She had a jolly, florid personality and her permanent smile had a way of winning points at the negotiating table. In team management she was a firm but gentle disciplinarian." In his tribute, Sir Arthur Gold pointed out that all of Marea's work for the sport was carried out without remuneration and that "she always emphasised the importance of correct behaviour in athletics, and campaigned against the use of performance-enhancing drugs."

Best known as the man who taught David Hemery to hurdle, Fred Housden was not only one of the finest coaches Britain has ever produced but someone who gave so much to his country in so many ways.

During the First World War he served as a major in the Royal Field Artillery and was awarded the Military Cross. Three years after the War, in 1921, he represented England in the 110m hurdles and long jump, but it was as a pole vaulter that he achieved his best results. He placed second in the AAA Championships of 1928 and 1929 and represented the British Empire against the USA in 1928. His personal best was 3.50m at a time when the British record stood at 3.61m. He enjoyed a very long career as a vaulter, finishing third in the 1936 Inter-Counties in his 44th year, and even in his eighth decade he would demonstrate hurdling and high jump techniques and exercises to the athletes he trained.

Housden was a mathematics teacher at Harrow School for many years and in 1949 he was awarded the OBE for services to the Imperial Cadet Association. Early in the 1960s he collaborated with Geoff Dyson on the book, *The Mechanics of Athletics*, which remains the definitive work on the subject, and he was heavily involved with experiments involving women's hurdling heights and distances which eventually led to the 80m hurdles being superseded by the 100m event.

Already a long serving and successful coach, whose pupils included the British 80m hurdles record holder Pat Pryce (née Nutting), he was well into his seventies when David Hemery was introduced to him. Interviewed shortly after his 1968 Olympic 400m hurdles triumph, Hemery stated: "Fred Housden's the man who taught me how to hurdle and I think it stood me in tremendously good stead being a high hurdler. That's because if you get too close to a quarter hurdle but you have a fast lead leg it doesn't make that much difference. With Fred I had a coach who fully explained the mechanics of hurdling and the methods behind his coaching technique."

Fred Housden's attributes, according to Hemery, were: "patience, humility, technically knowledgeable, awesome eye, humour, caring, respect, friendship, a real gentleman."

Two men helped the US-based Hemery develop into the greatest 400m hurdler of his time. While Housden worked on technique and stride pattern when the athlete was in England during holidays, Billy Smith at Boston University guided him through a gruelling training regime. As he told the *Times Educational Supplement* in 2005: "The best teachers I ever had were two men I met after I left school, Fred Housden and Billy Smith, who saw my potential as an athlete and helped me develop my very average talent to become a world record holder. I owe my Olympic gold medal to them 100 per cent."

Fred continued coaching to the last. He died, aged 81, following a heart attack when returning home from a session at Crystal Palace.



MARK SHEARMAN

FRED HOUSDEN

Born: 2.7.1892, Bromley (Kent); died 17.2.1974

Clubs: Cambridge University AC, South London H, London AC

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2012



DOUGLAS LOWE

Born: 7.8.1902, Manchester; died 30.3.1981

Clubs: Achilles, London AC

Major medals: (At 800m) Gold – 1924 Olympics, 1928 Olympics

World record: 600 yards - 1:10.4 in 1926

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2012



At the time Albert Hill was creating Olympic history by winning an 800m/1500m double in 1920, Douglas Lowe was just 18 and the reigning Public Schools half mile champion in 2:06.8. Yet, four years later, he would succeed Hill as Olympic 800m champion and another four years after that would become the first man to win a second Olympic gold medal at the distance.

Lowe went up to Cambridge in the autumn of 1921 and quickly made his mark in university sport. Not only was he awarded his athletics 'Blue' as a freshman but he played outside right in the football team which beat Oxford two-nil. In 1922, nine days before his 20th birthday, he was picked to run for his country against France in the first full-scale international match ever held in London.

He travelled to the 1924 Olympics in Paris as second string to Henry Stallard, but it was Lowe and Switzerland's Paul Martin who fought for the gold medal and it was the 21 year-old Englishman, yet to win even his own national title, who proved the stronger. His time of 1:52.4 took a second off Hill's British record.

The 1925 season had to be an anti-climax after such heady stuff but Lowe did break Frank Cross's ancient British 880 yards record of 1:54.6 (set in 1888!) with 1:53.4 in the USA. New heights would be scaled in 1926 ... although Lowe met his match in the person of Dr Otto Peltzer of Germany. Excitement ran high for their clash at the AAA Championships. Peltzer had covered 800m in 1:52.8, the world's fastest time in 1925, while Lowe had tuned up for the duel with a world record 600 yards of 1:10.4 seven days earlier. The event attracted 27,000 spectators and both men beat the world record of 1:52.2. Lowe led at halfway in a sizzling 54.6, but found himself unable to counter the German's final sprint for home. Peltzer stormed in three yards ahead in 1:51.6, with Lowe's time untaken but estimated at 1:52.0.

As in Paris four years earlier, Lowe ran no faster than necessary in the 1928 Olympic preliminaries in Amsterdam. Newly qualified as a barrister, he was ideally placed all the way in the final. On the final bend Lowe accelerated away to win by a full second in the Olympic and British record time of 1:51.8. Later in the Games he demonstrated his 400m ability with a 47.6 relay leg, a time faster than the winning time in the individual 400m.

Lowe's last race proved a fitting finale to a glittering career as he defeated Peltzer in the British record time of 1:51.2 for 800m in Berlin in August 1928. He continued to make a valuable contribution to athletics as an administrator, serving as Honorary Secretary of the AAA from 1931 to 1938. He enjoyed a distinguished legal career; he took silk (became a QC) in 1964 and became a Recorder (part-time judge) of the Crown Court. He died aged 78.

Dave Moorcroft's career as a champion track runner spanned 18 years, from 1971 when at 17 he won the AAA Junior indoor 1500m title to 1989 when he became UK 3000m champion. Highlights of that long career included a stunning world record for 5000m, a European 3000m record and Commonwealth titles at 1500m and 5000m. But there were crushing disappointments too; he suffered more than his fair share of debilitating injuries and illnesses, and his dream of winning an Olympic title was never realised.

It was in 1975 that he attained one of his cherished goals, a sub-four minute mile, but that was just the start. Evidence that he possessed impressive stamina for a 1500m specialist was provided in 1976 when he finished second in the English national nine miles cross country championship. Later that year he placed seventh in the Olympic 1500m.

A back injury caused him to miss the entire 1977 season but he bounced back in 1978 to beat world record holder Filbert Bayi for the Commonwealth 1500m title in 3:35.48, the fastest time in the world that year. Moorcroft moved up to the 5000m for the Moscow Olympics of 1980 but plagued by injury and illness he failed to reach the final.

Free at last from injury, he experienced his annus mirabilis in 1982. He displayed unprecedented speed by knocking 5 sec off his best mile time with 3:49.34 in Oslo's Dream Mile and on the same track a few weeks later he attacked Brendan Foster's UK record of 13:14.6. With a performance which shocked everyone (other than his coach for the past 13 years, John Anderson) he knocked almost 6 sec off Henry Rono's world record with the sensational time of 13:00.41. What's more, this was no paced race; Moorcroft – a man who relied more than most on his finishing speed – was out on his own for the final four kilometres and ended up 20 sec ahead of the next man! It survived as the British record until Mo Farah ran 12:57.94 in 2010.

That proved to be the peak of his career, although he did go on that season to set a European 3000m record of 7:32.79 and win the Commonwealth Games 5000m. A pelvic injury ruined his chances of Olympic glory in 1984 but he remained an active competitor for several more years and in 1993, aged 40, he set an outdoor world veterans mile record of 4:02.53.

Moorcroft was appointed Chief Executive Officer of UK Athletics, which came into existence in January 1999, bringing to that post the insight of an athlete who had experienced first hand the highs, lows, requirements and problems of the sport at club, national and international level. He left office in 2007, declaring "I have decided it is the right time to let someone new take the helm and lead the sport through to 2012."



MARK SHEARMAN

DAVE MOORCROFT

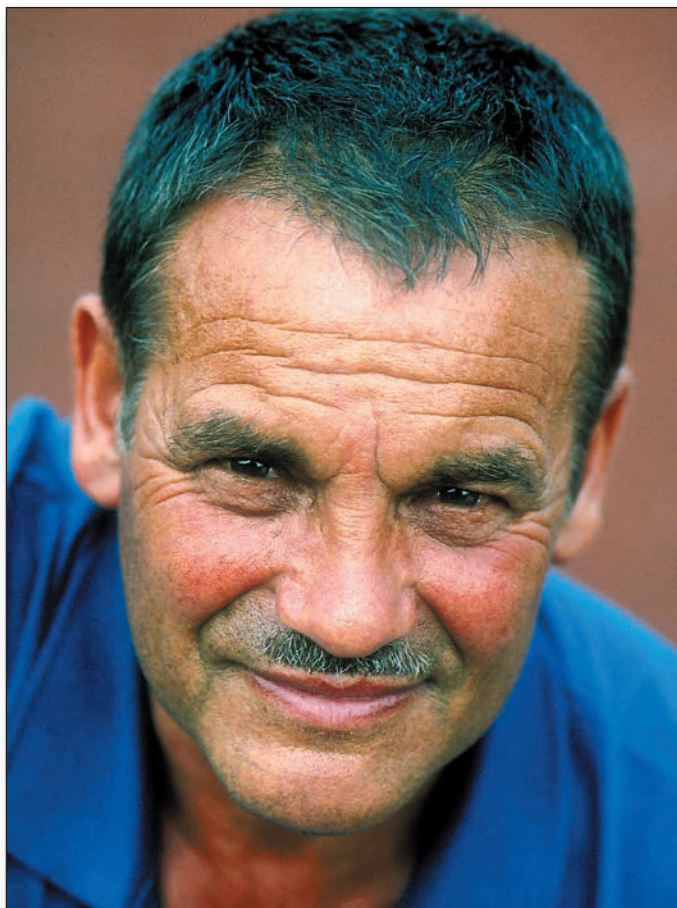
Born: 10.4.1953, Coventry

Club: Coventry Godiva H

Major medals: Gold – 1978 Commonwealth 1500m; 1982 Commonwealth 5000m; Bronze – 1978 European 1500m; 1982 European 5000m

World record: 5000m - 13:00.41 in 1982

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2012



MARK SHEARMAN

WILF PAISH

Born: 29.7.1932, Stow-on-the-Wold (Gloucestershire);
died 29.1.2010

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2012

It is every coach's ambition to guide an athlete to an Olympic gold medal, and for Wilf Paish that dream came true when Tessa Sanderson won the javelin title in Los Angeles in 1984. He had first noticed her promise in 1971, when she was 15, and he began coaching her in 1978. Another of Paish's great javelin throwing successes was Mick Hill, who came under his expert eye in 1979 and went on to become UK record holder and a World Championships bronze medallist.

Paish was certainly not just a throws specialist; he had a deep knowledge of all events, coupled with the priceless ability to impart his wisdom and enthusiasm to the athletes he coached. One such was Peter Elliott, whom he trained from the age of 16 and who developed into an Olympic silver medallist, Commonwealth champion and world indoor record holder at 1500m.

Paish, who trained as a teacher at London's Borough Road College and followed up by taking a physical education course at Carnegie College in Leeds, was appointed National Coach for the North of England in 1964 and later became a lecturer at Carnegie College. He, together with Ron Pickering, was hugely supportive of George Bunner's brainchild, Sportshall Athletics, and in addition to helping as many as 200 athletes to international standard he was always a hands-on and inspirational coach at the grassroots level. A prolific author of technical books and articles, he was much admired for his knowledge of physiology, biomechanics and nutrition.

He served as a Great Britain Olympic coach on several occasions and in 1996, his last year as a professional, he was coach to the South African Olympic team. However, he continued until the end of his life in 2010 to spend 40 hours a week – unpaid and despite failing health – training young athletes at the Carnegie Sports Centre.

Before his death at the age of 77, he received several well deserved honours, including the MBE in 2005 for services to athletics. His comment on the award: "It's a sign of appreciation of all the other coaches who help me come hail, rain or shine. It's not just about what I've done as an individual." In 2008 he received England Athletics' Services to Athletics award to a standing ovation.

Mick Hill paid this tribute on Paish's death. "His love of athletics was absolute and his knowledge, enthusiasm, coaching and teaching expertise has been experienced by hundreds of thousands of athletes, coaches and teachers all over the globe either through direct contact with him or through his extensive written work. His greatest quality was not that he coached world-class people but that he would give his time to anyone who wanted to get involved in athletics and turned up at the track or contacted him."

Peter Elliott summed him up: "He may have been short in stature but he was huge in character and personality."

History was made in Los Angeles in 1984 when Tessa Sanderson's opening javelin throw of 69.56m remained unsurpassed throughout the rest of the competition. She thus became the first Briton, male or female, ever to win an Olympic throwing title. This time, four years after weeping in frustration and disappointment when failing to qualify for the final in Moscow, she was able to cry for joy atop the victory rostrum. Beset by so many injury problems, most notably a ruptured Achilles tendon early in 1982 which left her on crutches for four months, she could easily have faded from the scene, but she persevered during the dark days, fought back and finally landed the biggest prize of all. As her then coach Wilf Paish testified at the time of her Olympic triumph: "the tenacity and toughness of the girl has to be believed."

Tessa, who moved from Jamaica to England when she was eight, became UK Junior record holder with 55.04m in 1974 and two years later qualified for the Olympic final in Montreal with a UK record of 57.18m. She broke through the 60m barrier in June 1977 with 60.24m but at a European Cup Semi-Final in Dublin the following month she shook the world of athletics. Not only did she defeat the East German world record holder and Olympic champion Ruth Fuchs but in the process she threw 67.20m to rank second on the world all-time list. That remained her best until 1980, in the meantime winning the first of three Commonwealth titles and finishing second to Fuchs at the European Championships in 1978.

She progressed to 69.70m in 1980 and was confident of finishing no worse than second at the Moscow Olympics, but disastrously failed to qualify for the final. In 1981 she made her mark as a heptathlete, setting a UK record of 6125 points as re-scored on the present tables. She was a formidable all-rounder, who ran 200m in 24.89, clocked 13.46 for 100m hurdles, high jumped 1.69m and long jumped 5.98m.

Meanwhile, a domestic rival had developed in the person of Fatima Whitbread, who at the 1983 UK Championships beat Tessa for the first time in 19 meetings. That was just the spur Tessa required and the following weekend she threw 70.82m and later raised the UK record again to 73.58m. She finished fourth in that year's inaugural World Championships but in 1984 everything clicked into place and she became Britain's first female Olympic champion since Mary Peters 12 years earlier.

Tessa continued at a high level for many more years, placing fourth in the 1992 Olympics, and uniquely among British athletes competing in a sixth Olympics in 1996, aged 40. She was awarded the MBE in 1985 in recognition of her Olympic victory, the OBE in 1998 for her charity work and the CBE in 2004 for services to sport as Vice-Chairman of Sport England. She married former Olympic judo player Densign White in St Paul's Cathedral in 2010.



MARK SHEARMAN

TESSA SANDERSON

Born: 14.3.1956, St Elizabeth (Jamaica)

Clubs: Wolverhampton & Bilston AC, Borough of Hounslow AC

Major medals: (At Javelin) **Gold** – 1978 Commonwealth, 1984 Olympics, 1986 Commonwealth, 1990 Commonwealth; **Silver** – 1978 European

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2012



CAPTAIN F.A.M. WEBSTER

Born: 27.6.1886; died 11.4.1949

Club: London AC

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2012



If anyone could be described as the father of British athletics coaching it would be Frederick Annesley Michael Webster, best known as Captain F.A.M. Webster. It was he who helped found and direct the hugely influential AAA Summer School, held annually at Loughborough College from 1934, and two years later he was responsible for the creation of Loughborough's School of Athletics, Games and Physical Education – the products of which included an outstanding trio of coaches in Geoff Dyson, John Le Masurier and Denis Watts, all of whom have already been inducted into the England Hall of Fame. The much praised AAA Coaching Scheme which came into operation shortly after the War owed much to the experience of Webster and his Loughborough colleagues.

Michael Webster was himself a javelin thrower of some distinction. He was an early holder of the British record, in 1911, was English champion in 1923 and at 37 produced his longest throw. Always a great enthusiast for the jumps and throws, but concerned about the low standards in Britain, he helped form an Amateur Field Events Association in 1910 with his friend, Sherlock Holmes creator Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, as President. He also coached and encouraged women athletes during their pioneering days in the 1920s.

He was a prolific writer, of fiction (mainly adventure stories for younger readers) and military history as well as more than thirty books on athletics between 1913 and 1948. His first major work was *The Evolution of the Olympic Games 1829 BC-1914 AD* (published in 1914) and others included *Athletics* (1925; described as "the best coaching book of the early 20th century"), *Athletics of Today: History, Development & Training* (1929), the companion volume *Athletics of Today for Women* (1930), *Athletes In Action* (1931), *Why? The Science of Athletics* (1937), *Great Moments in Athletics* (1947) and *Olympic Cavalcade* (1948). He also edited the BOA's Official Report of the 1932 Olympics and various athletics and sporting periodicals. His contribution to athletics literature was immense and influential. Not only did he chronicle the history of our sport but his coaching and training theories were widely adopted.

Webster's military career included a spell with the King's African Rifles in what is now Uganda. He served in the First World War in France with the North Staffordshire Regiment before being wounded and invalided out of the Army in 1918. During the Second World War he served as a Staff Officer with the Physical Training Branch of the Army and was demobbed with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

As a personal coach his greatest success was his own son, Dick Webster, who he introduced to pole vaulting at the age of five! Dick – who followed his father into the Army, became a Brigadier and died in 2009 aged 94 – held the British record from 1935 to 1951, his highest vault being 4.00m when placing equal sixth in the 1936 Olympics. Michael Webster died in 1949, aged 82.

The first time former javelin international Margaret Whitbread laid eyes on the 13 year-old who would eventually become her adopted daughter she whispered to fellow coach George Holroyd: "This girl is going to be the greatest javelin thrower the world has seen." It took 12 years for that seemingly far-fetched prophecy to come to pass ... 12 years of blood, sweat and tears, culminating in two fantastic throws at the 1986 European Championships in Stuttgart. During that time Fatima, despite improving every single season, was rarely free of injury or illness ... perhaps it was nature's way of telling her that a price must be paid for the tremendous demands she made on her body.

In 1979 she became the first British thrower to win a European Junior title and in 1981 she broke into world class, improving from 60.14m to 65.82m. In 1982, while Tessa Sanderson was out injured, Fatima became Britain's no 1 and the following year she defeated her arch-rival for the first time and improved to 69.54m before an attack of tonsillitis nearly cost her the chance of competing in the inaugural World Championships in Helsinki. Her doctor advised her to withdraw but she refused to back out. Only the 12th and last qualifier for the final, she let rip with an opening throw of 69.14m. The world title was hers ... until with her very last throw the favourite, Finland's world record holder Tiina Lillak, topped that with 70.82m. The last British thrower to win a global medal had been hammer thrower Malcolm Nokes as long ago as the 1924 Olympics.

The 1984 season proved Tessa's high point but Fatima continued to improve, throwing 71.86m, and despite severe medical problems that summer she managed to place third in the Olympics. Restored to full vigour in 1985 she progressed to 72.98m, while her day of days came in a practically deserted Neckarstadion in Stuttgart for the qualifying round at the 1986 European Championships. There she despatched her spear the fabulous distance of 77.44m, not only smashing Tessa's UK record of 73.58m but adding over two metres to the world record held by the GDR's Petra Felke. She thus became the first British thrower ever to break a world record.

It was no fluke, for in the final next day – despite nursing a shoulder injury – she took the gold medal with 76.32m, the second longest throw in history. Fatima prevailed again at the 1987 World Championships in Rome with another great throw of 76.64m. Once more the by now famous 'Whitbread Wiggle' was in evidence as she celebrated before the TV cameras. She collected the silver medal at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, but shoulder injuries took their toll and she retired in 1990. She married former British Athletics Promotions Officer Andy Norman in 1997 and gave birth to a son, Ryan, the following year. Norman died in 2007.



MARK SHEARMAN

FATIMA WHITBREAD

Born: 3.3.1961, Stoke Newington (London)

Club: Thurrock H

Major medals: (At Javelin) **Gold** – 1986 European, 1987 World; **Silver** – 1983 World, 1986 Commonwealth, 1988 Olympics; **Bronze** - 1982 Commonwealth, 1984 Olympics

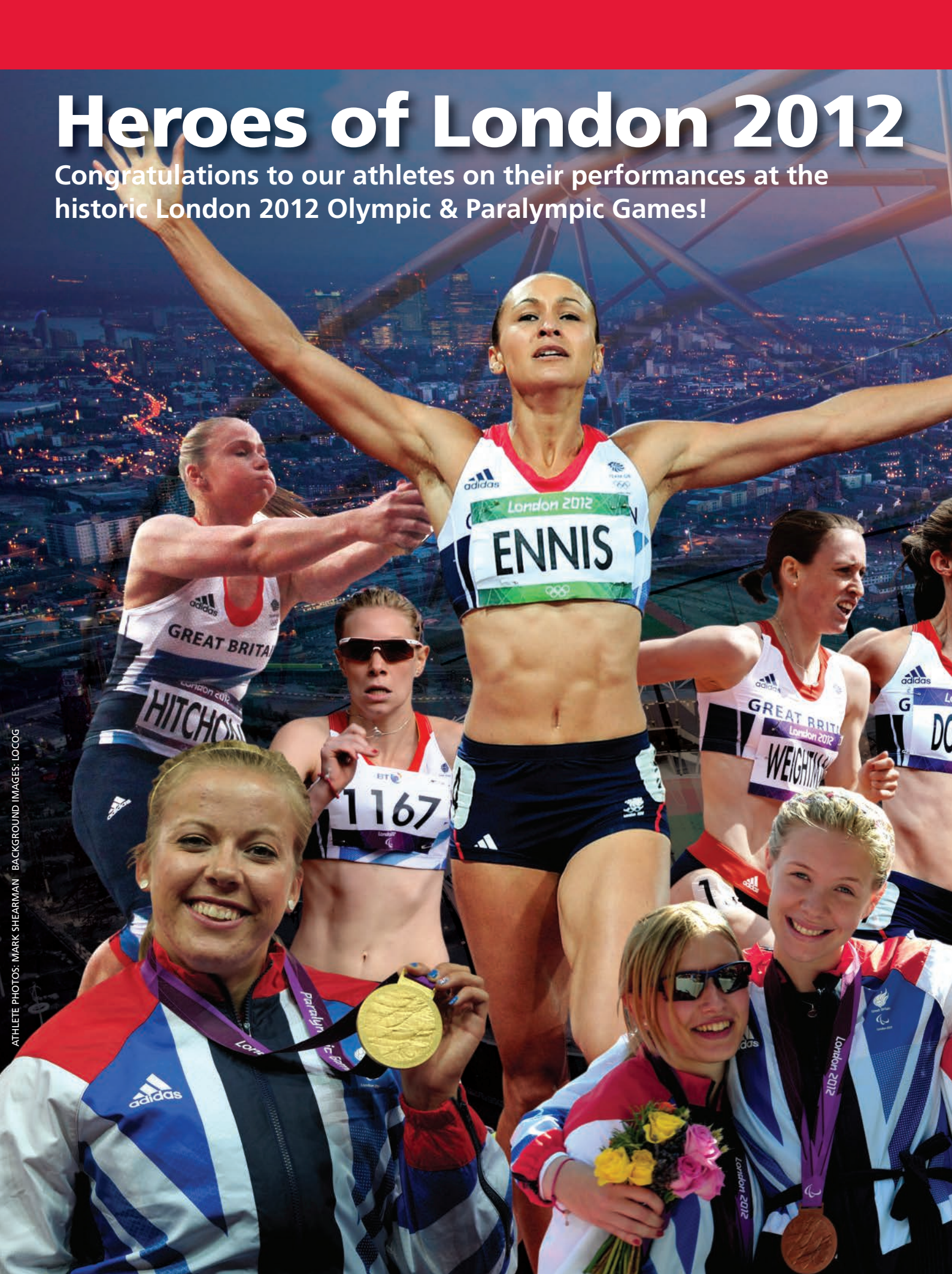
World record: Javelin - 77.44m in 1986

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2012

Heroes of London 2012

Congratulations to our athletes on their performances at the historic London 2012 Olympic & Paralympic Games!

ATHLETE PHOTOS: MARK SHEARMAN BACKGROUND IMAGES: LOCOCG





Heroes of London 2012

Thank you to all those athletes who gave us a tremendous summer of athletics at London 2012 and to everyone who has helped them along their road to success.



ATHLETE PHOTOS: MARK SHEARMAN BACKGROUND IMAGES: LOCOC



PREVIOUS INDUCTEES



HAROLD ABRAHAMS

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009

Immortalised in *Chariots of Fire* as Europe and England's first Olympic 100m champion he was also an athletics journalist, historian and statistician, radio commentator, leading administrator and official. He was an influential member of the IAAF, co-founder of the Association of Track & Field Statisticians and first president of its British offshoot, the NUTS.



MALCOLM ARNOLD

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009

A distinguished coaching career has seen him guide five athletes to becoming Olympic or world champion. Appointed Welsh National Coach in 1974, a position he held for 20 years. He has served as British Athletics Head Coach, UK Athletics Performance Director, UKA Senior Performance Coach and National Event Coach for Hurdles.



STEVE BACKLEY

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009

The first British male to set a field event world record and his medal haul was awesome. 1987 European junior champion, a world junior record of 79.50 in 1988. Won three Commonwealth titles, four European championships. He unleashed a world record throw of 89.58, and reclaimed the record from Jan Zelezny with 90.98. The first Briton to obtain an Olympic medal in three Games.



SIR ROGER BANNISTER

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2008

For many people the most historic moment in sport is when Sir Roger ran 3:59.4 to clock the first ever 4min mile at Iffley Road Track, Oxford, in May 1954. But it was not only the clock he could conquer. He went head-to-head with arch-rival and fellow sub-4 runner John Landy in the Empire Games and won in 3:58.8 to 3:59.6; the first time two men broke 4min in the same race.



CHRIS BRASHER

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2008

An incredibly diverse contributor to athletics. He was a pacemaker when Sir Roger Bannister ran the first the 4min mile, Olympic gold medallist in the 1956 Olympic steeplechase, the founding father of English Orienteering, an award winning journalist, inventor of the Brasher boot, founder of the sportswear company that is now Sweatshop and provided a lasting legacy as co-founder of the London Marathon.



LORD BURGHEY

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009

Lord Burghley won Olympic gold. He held British records at 120, 220 and 440 yard hurdles. In 1927 he shared the world record for 440 yard hurdles. He won the 120 yards and 440 yards hurdles at the Empire Games in 1930. Off the track he gave great service with the International Olympic Committee, AAA, British Olympic Association, IAAF and as chairman of the organising committee for the 1948 Olympics.

PREVIOUS INDUCTEES (CONTINUED)



MARK SHEARMAN

LINFORD CHRISTIE

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2010

Linford Christie was the 1992 Olympic 100m gold medallist and the most successful of all British 100m runners. In addition to his Barcelona victory he won the 1993 world title in a European record of 9.87 (at the time just 1/100th outside Carl Lewis's world record), captured several European and Commonwealth titles and was consistently at the highest world level over a lengthy career.



MARK SHEARMAN

LORD SEBASTIAN COE

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2008

Won the Olympic 1500m titles in both 1980 and 1984, plus numerous championship medals. His 1981 world record for 800m was ahead of its time and has still only been surpassed by two athletes! Coe also set world records at 1500m, mile and the 1000m. He has since become known as the man who brought the Olympics and Paralympics to England.



DAVID COLEMAN

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2008

David Coleman is the athletics and sports commentator for the BBC whose voice provided the soundtrack to some of the most historic moments in the sport. Coleman started work for the BBC in 1954 and his work included covering 11 summer Olympic Games and many other world class events making his words synonymous with many of the greatest athletics performances achieved.



MARK SHEARMAN

KATHY COOK

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2011

Kathy Cook (née Smallwood) amassed 23 international championship medals covering the Olympics, World Championships, Commonwealth Games and European Championships. The feat equals the most by any English athlete (Linford Christie). Her British records for 200m (22.10) and 400m (49.43), established at the 1984 Olympics, still stand while her UK 100m record of 11.10 set in 1981 lasted until 2008.

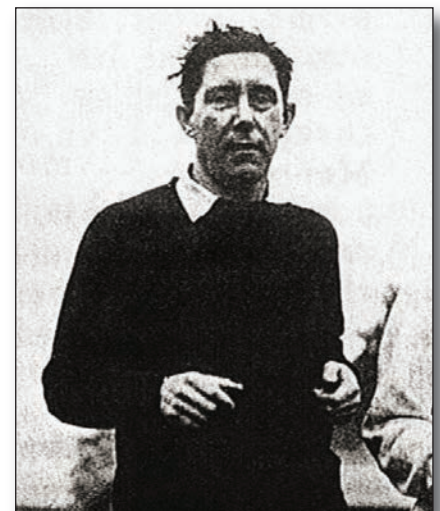


MARK SHEARMAN

STEVE CRAM

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009

Held an unprecedented hat-trick of 1500m titles – European, Commonwealth and World – and a silver medal in the Olympics. The first man to crack 3:30 for 1500m, and also broke world records at the mile and 2000m in a glorious spell of just 19 days! He has since retained a high profile in the sport as a BBC athletics commentator.



GEOFF DYSON

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2008

Geoff Dyson has been described as the father of coaching. He was the first chief national coach, establishing a network of qualified coaches and set standards for coaching in this country. His classic book *The Mechanics of Athletics* was published in 1961 and ran to eight editions, being translated into five languages.

PREVIOUS INDUCTEES (CONTINUED)

MARK SHEARMAN



JONATHAN EDWARDS

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009

Won two Commonwealth Games silvers, a World Championships bronze, and a World Cup before being hit by Epstein Barr virus. His 1995 comeback saw a UK record of 17.58, 18.43 & 18.39 at the European Cup (wind-aided), a world record of 17.98, then 18.16 & 18.29 to dominate the World Championships. Won at the Sydney 2000 Olympics and further a world title in 2001. Now part of the BBC commentary team.

MARK SHEARMAN



BRENDAN FOSTER

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2010

'Big Bren' achieved his titles and records over a range of distances. His 3000m world record of 7:35.1 came at the opening of Gateshead's track in 1974 – the same year as his bold European 5000m title. The previous year he'd run 8:13.68, a WR for two miles. In 1978 he took Commonwealth gold at 10,000m to add to his medals at 1500m (1970) and 5,000 (1974 & 1978). He took Olympic bronze at 10,000m in 1976.



WALTER GEORGE

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2010

An array of world records at 1000 yards to 1hr included records at 2M, 3M, 4M, 6M, 10,000m, 10M, hour and an amateur record at the mile all set in 1884. In 1886, aged 27, he ran a world record 4:12 ¾ for a mile. He would be 76 before a Briton ran faster! George was a pioneer of innovative training methods. The great Gosta Holmer said he based his 'fartlek' on the methods of WG George!



P W 'JIMMY' GREEN

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2010

Jimmy Green is best known as the man who launched Athletics Weekly. He worked hard, made sacrifices and showed great insight to turn the title into the sport's essential source of news and results, as well as a major forum for discussion of the sport. He was also an athlete who represented the AAA, one of the country's best Starters, President of Kent AAA and one of the very first Senior Coaches.

MARK SHEARMAN



SALLY GUNNELL

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2008

Her career saw her win World Championships silver in 1991, Olympic gold in 1992 and World Championships gold (in a world record) in 1993. In the Commonwealth Games she won gold in 1986, 1990 and 1994. One of few athletes to hold Commonwealth, World, Olympic and European titles at same time.

MARK SHEARMAN



TOM HAMPSON

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2011

In 1930 he won the AAA Championships with an English record of 1:53.2. At the inaugural British Empire Games he won by 20 yards in 1:52.4. At the 1932 Olympics Hampson went from 20m off the lead at halfway to win gold by six inches in a barrier-breaking 1:49.70. He was among the first ten senior honorary AAA coaches appointed.

PREVIOUS INDUCTEES (CONTINUED)

MARK SHEARMAN



DAVID HEMERY

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2008

Broke the world record for 400m hurdles in the 1968 Olympic final, the first time in 36 years a British man won an Olympic title in a world record. The performance was a display of speed, stamina, technique and composure; it saw him voted BBC Sports Personality of the Year. He won Olympic bronze in 1972 and was twice Commonwealth Games sprint hurdles champion.



ALBERT HILL

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2010

Albert Hill achieved the 800m/1500m double at the 1920 Olympics (adding a silver in the 3000m team race). He was a chain smoking railway ticket collector who trained twice a week. He initially excelled at longer distances including winning the AAA 4M title in 1910. A great tactician and bold racer Hill later turned his hand to coaching, his protégés included mile world record holder Sydney Wooderson.



DAVID HOLDING

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2008

David Holding's career saw him excel at an incredible range of distances with four London Marathon titles in the wheelchair event in 1989, 1994, 1996 and 1997, a Paralympic title at 100m in Atlanta in 1996, and a world championships title at 100m in 1998. David also won the 1994 World title at 1500m.

MARK SHEARMAN



DAME KELLY HOLMES

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2010

Dame Kelly won her historic 800m/1500m double at the 2004 Olympic Games. After a break from the sport to focus on her military career her return to the sport was highly successful with Commonwealth titles, plus medals at the Olympics as well as the European and World Championship. But a string of injuries begged the question 'What if...?' In Athens an uninterrupted preparation led to an emphatic answer.



DOROTHY HYMAN

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2011

At the Rome Olympics of 1960 Dorothy Hyman came away with silver in the 100 (11.3) and bronze in the 200. She took the 1962 European 100m title, with silver in the 200 and bronze in the relay. At the Commonwealth Games she won a sprint double and relay silver. In 1963 Dorothy was unbeaten and topped the world list at 100m.

MARK SHEARMAN



DEREK IBBOTSON

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2011

The 'four minute smiler', was one of Britain's fine world mile record holders. By 1954 he was world class at 3 and 6 miles. In 1956 he became the world's ninth 4 minute miler in the Emsley Carr Mile and took Olympic 5000m bronze. In 1957 at White City track, he defeated a dazzling field running 3:57.2, breaking the record of 3:57.9 by Australia's John Landy.

PREVIOUS INDUCTEES (CONTINUED)



JOHN LE MASURIER

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2010

John 'Le Mas's diversity of knowledge of training and technique saw him work with sprinters, middle distance and cross country runners, hurdlers, jumpers, throwers and all-rounders. His crowning glory was Mary Rand. At the 1964 Tokyo Olympics she won the long jump with a world record 6.76m, took silver in the pentathlon and third in the 4x100m relay. He was joint AAA Principal National Coaches from 1961-1978.



MARK SHEARMAN

DENISE LEWIS

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2011

Olympic gold in Sydney in 2000 came despite an Achilles tendon injury. Lying eighth after the high jump, Denise took the lead before the 800m and battled the pain to strike gold.

In 1994 she won the Commonwealth Games. In 1996 came a British record and Olympic bronze. In both 1997 and 1999 Denise won silver in the World Championships. 1998 saw her as European and Commonwealth champion.

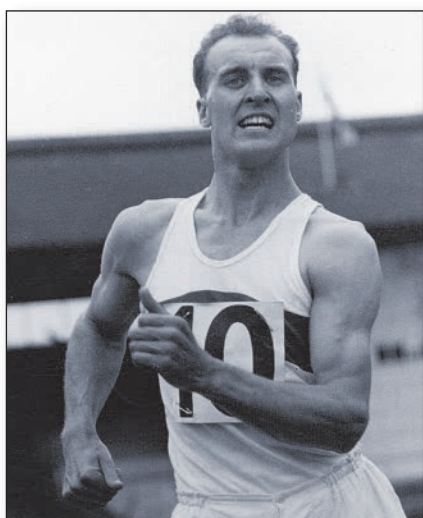


MARK SHEARMAN

BRUCE LONGDEN

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2011

Bruce Longden guided two of Britain's greatest ever athletes. Daley Thompson set a world record of 8648 prior to 1980 Olympic gold. He won Commonwealth and European titles in 1982 and 1986, the Worlds in 1983, and Olympic gold in 1984 with a world record. Sally Gunnell claimed Commonwealth 100m hurdles gold. Then came her remarkable 400m hurdle career including Olympic gold and the world title in a world record 52.74.



KEN MATTHEWS

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2011

Ken Matthews won 20 kilometres titles at the European Championships in 1962, Lugano Trophy in 1961 and 1963 and Olympic gold in 1964 where he set an Olympic record of 1:29:34.

He claimed 17 national titles from 1959, set unofficial world records of 34:26.6 and 34:21.2 for 5M and between 1964 and 1971 held every British record from 5 miles to two hours, including a world best of 69:40.6 for 10 miles.



SAM MUSSABINI

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2011

Sam Mussabini coached two individual British Olympic champions: Albert Hill won 800m and 1500m titles in Antwerp in 1920, and as made famous by Chariots of Fire, Harold Abrahams, the 1924 100m champion. Mussabini had guided South Africa's Reggie Walker to the 1908 100m title. He coached Willie Applegarth to 1912 relay gold and bronze at 200m. In 1914 Applegarth clocked 21.2 for 220 yards, the world record around a turn until 1932!



MARK SHEARMAN

STEVE OVETT

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2008

Always regarded as the 'athlete's athlete' Steve Ovett notably won the 800m gold medal at the Moscow Olympics. He won many other national and international championship medals at 800m, 1500m and a Commonwealth Games 5000m title. He possessed a ferocious kick which would often be followed by a celebratory wave to the crowd. He also set world records at 1500m and the mile.

PREVIOUS INDUCTEES (CONTINUED)



MARK SHEARMAN

ANN PACKER

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009

Started as a sprinter, hurdler and jumper but found fame at 800m and retired immediately after her 1964 Olympic success, aged only 22. WAAA long jump champion in 1960, finalist in the 1962 European Championships at 200m and 80m hurdles at the Commonwealth Games. She moved to 400m in 1963. A silver in the 400m in the Tokyo Olympics was followed by the enchanting world record breaking run for 800m gold.



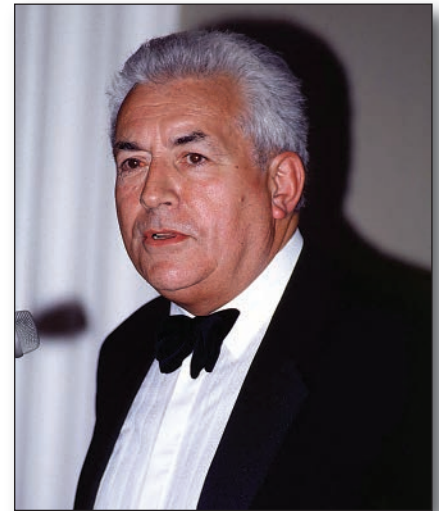
MARK SHEARMAN

JEAN PICKERING

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2011

Jean Desforges won 19 times in British colours claiming five international championship medals including bronze in the hurdles and long jump at the 1954 Empire Games. She set national records at long jump and pentathlon.

In 1954 Jean married Ron Pickering. Since her husband's premature death Jean's work through The Ron Pickering Memorial Fund has distributed over a million pounds to help young athletes.



RON PICKERING

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009

The renaissance man of British athletics - coach, broadcaster, writer, motivator, visionary, administrator ... he was the conscience and guardian of the sport. Pickering was National Coach for Wales and South West England and coached Lynn Davies to a shock victory at the 1964 Olympics. Ron married European long jump champion Jean Desforges who with son, Shaun, now runs the Ron Pickering Memorial Fund.



MARK SHEARMAN

PAULA RADCLIFFE

**Athlete of the Decade
2001-2010**

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2010

In 1992 Paula Radcliffe became World Junior cross country champion ahead of China's Wang Junxia (who the following year set seemingly unreal world record times at 3000m and 10,000m).

Paula's uncompromising front running went on to carry her to medals and records galore, including world bests on the road. But she was repeatedly outprinted for gold at the end of her most important track and cross country races.

From 2000 things changed. She captured the World Half Marathon title and in 2001 won the World Cross Country.

After retaining her World Cross Country title in 2002 she made her marathon debut in London. Her 2:18:56 was a world record for a women-only race and second fastest ever. She went on to set a Commonwealth 3000m record of 8:22.22 and win the Commonwealth Games (Commonwealth record of 14:31.42) and European Championships (European record of 30:01.09). She ended the year with a world record 2:17:18 in Chicago. In April 2003 she wowed the world of athletics even more with her stunning 2:15:25 in London - the biggest single improvement in the world record for 20 years!

Other triumphs followed, including a third London win and the World title in 2005 (the first British marathoner to win a global championship), and three New York victories between 2004 and 2008.

PREVIOUS INDUCTEES (CONTINUED)

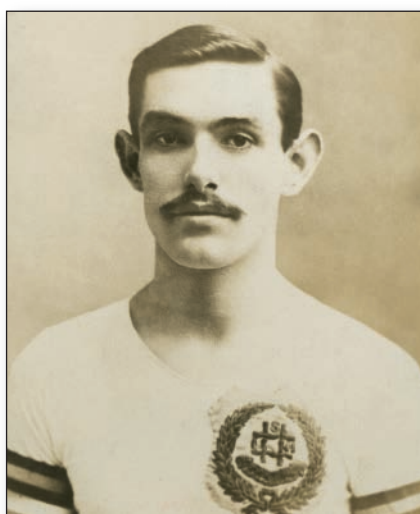
MARK SHEARMAN



MARY RAND

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009

In Tokyo in 1964 she set a long jump world record of 6.76 - the first British female athlete to win an Olympic gold medal as well as taking silver in the Pentathlon and bronze in the 4x 100m. She took the long jump bronze medal at the 1962 European Championships. In 1963 she helped set a world record in the 4x110 yards' relay and posted British records in the 80m hurdles, long jump and pentathlon.



ALF SHRUBB

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009

Victories in the new International Cross Country Championships of 1903 and 1904 were supported by supreme achievements on the track in 1903 - world records at 3 miles (14:17.6, British record for 33 years) and 2 miles (9:11.0). His range was extraordinary. He held every amateur world record from 2000m to the hour before he was declared a professional by the AAA in September 1905. He continued to race as a 'pro' for many years in Canada.

MARK SHEARMAN



DALEY THOMPSON

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2008

Twice Olympic gold medallist who won a record breaking 12 decathlons over a six year period. His famously great talent across a range of events was developed through systematic, tough and highly effective training. Daley was known for his mental resolve and ability to master his rivals psychologically as well as physically.

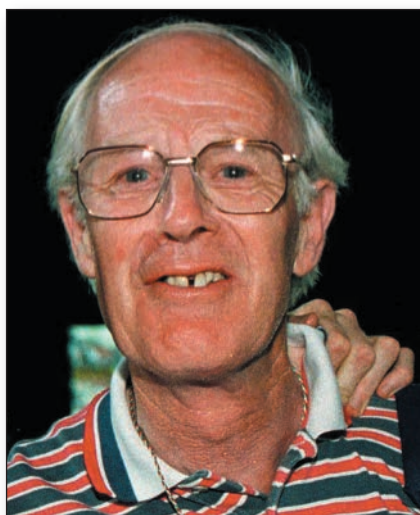


NOEL THATCHER

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009

Accumulated 42 gold medals across his career as a visually impaired athlete. In the Barcelona Paralympics he set a new world record in winning the 1500m. In Atlanta he took the 5k and 10k double, setting a 10k world record despite carrying a stress fracture. In Sydney he broke a world record again - his gun to tape victory saw the 5k record fall. Awarded an MBE for services to disability sport in 1997.

MARK SHEARMAN



MIKE SMITH

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2011

Mike Smith coached outstanding 400m runners including Donna Hartley, Todd Bennett, Roger Black, Kriss Akabusi, and Iwan Thomas in more than 50 years as a coach of the highest order. He was named England's coach of the year in 1987; awarded the Ron Pickering Memorial Award in 1998 for his special contribution to the sport, and in 2009 he received the Services to Coaching Award from England Athletics.

MARK SHEARMAN



DOROTHY TYLER

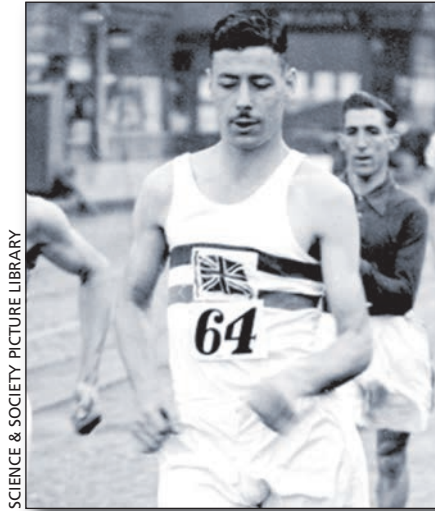
Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009

The first British woman to win an Olympic athletics medal; in 1936 she was second in the high jump, aged 16. At 17 she won the Empire Games. She cleared 1.66 for a world record and came close to victory in the 1948 Olympics. In 1950 she retained the Empire Games title and took silver at the 1954 Commonwealth Games. She won the WAAA long jump and pentathlon titles in 1951 (the latter a British record). Later she was a coach and team manager.

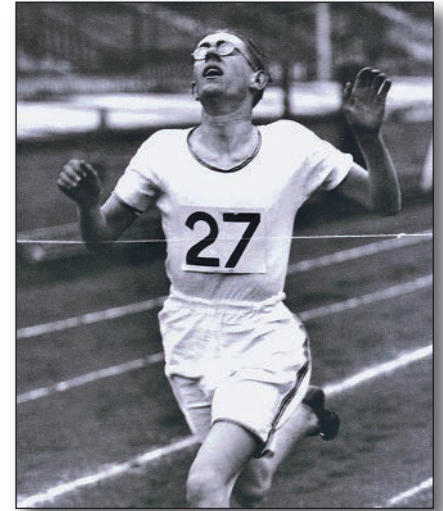
PREVIOUS INDUCTEES (CONTINUED)

**DENIS WATTS****Inducted into Hall of Fame 2010**

Denis Watts was the first man to win the long/triple jump double at the AAA Championships (1946). He was Principal National Coach until 1978. He coached Dorothy Hyman to Olympic silver (100m) and bronze (200m) in 1960 and as well as to European and Commonwealth titles and European records. He coached Tom Farrell (400m hurdles) and Andy Carter (800m) to British records. Watts helped in the development of Lillian Board, including persuading her to move up from 200m before her eventual Olympic 800m gold.

**HAROLD WHITLOCK****Inducted into Hall of Fame 2011**

A long international career lasting until 1952 saw many honours. There was a 1935 world 30 miles track record of 4:29:31.8 en route to 50 miles in 7:44:47.2. He won gold in the 1938 European 50 kilometres and 1936 Olympic 50 kilometres. Whitlock advised Don Thompson, wrote a BAAB instructional booklet, was Chief Judge at the Rome Olympics, Chairman of the IAAF Walk Commission and President of the RWA.

**SYDNEY WOODERSON****Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009**

An unlikely looking champion but a 'people's hero' of the 1930s and '40s. In 1937 he set a world mile record of 4:06.4 off scratch in a Surrey handicap race. In 1938 he broke two world records in one race (800m: 1:48.4; 880yds: 1:49.2). In 1946 he was European 5000m champion in 14:08.6 (second fastest ever and a British record). He achieved best in the world at 800m, mile and 5000m, and was English 10 miles cross country champion!



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Athlete profiles © Mel Watman. Additional material Andy Barber.

More detailed profiles of many of those featured can be found in the book *All-Time Greats of British Athletics* by Mel Watman; published by SportsBooks Ltd (www.sportsbooks.ltd.uk)

Volume 4 – October 2012 – £6 where sold