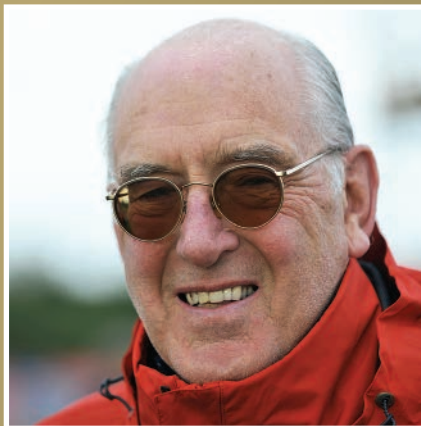


HALL *of* FAME



2014

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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



SUPPORTED BY



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INTRODUCTION

It is always a pleasure to read the citations for each of our Hall of Fame inductees. This year we once again have an outstanding and diverse selection of inductees who have made tremendous contributions to our sport in the fields of competition, coaching and administration.

I find it very fitting that our Hall of Fame inductees are feted on the same night as the volunteers who are presented with Awards in recognition of their contributions to the sport in our National Awards. Without volunteers in clubs across our country we would not have the heroes of the sport that we do.

It is equally fitting, therefore, that a number of this year's inductions into the Hall of Fame are people who have also made significant contributions in making the sport a better and more welcoming place for others. Our sport is one where the efforts of many people are absolutely essential for the success and enjoyment of our athletes at all levels of the sport.

Earlier this year we witnessed the performances of England's latest crop of senior athletes at this year's Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. This team included many up and coming athletes who we were privileged to be able to give their first experience of senior international championship competition.

We now have our Hall of Fame evening where we look back at those people who have gone before and see how rich the heritage is that our sport enjoys. Tonight can make us all the more proud to be a part of the sport of athletics.

Our sport is to be envied in that we have a wonderful history, can savour current successes and, I trust, look forward to a hugely exciting future.

I would like to thank each of you for the contributions you have made, and continue to make, to our sport and trust that you will enjoy and be inspired by the biographies of each person inducted into the England Athletics Hall of Fame in 2014.



Peter King
*Chairman
England Athletics*



MARK SHEARMAN

GEORGE BUNNER

Born: 8.4.1932, Liverpool

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2014



Since 1976 thousands of youngsters, including such future stars as Mark Lewis-Francis, Robbie Grabarz, Denise Lewis and Kelly Sotherton, enjoyed their first taste of the sport in Sportshall Athletics, the brainchild of George Bunner. As one of our most exciting young talents, Morgan Lake, has written: "It was Sportshall that opened my eyes to what athletics had to offer and fired my passion for the sport."

Realising that traditional track and field would not necessarily suit primary school pupils, he created Sportshall Athletics as an enjoyable way for children to try running, jumping and throwing in a safe indoor environment. Ron Pickering lent his support for the venture, becoming the first President of the Sportshall Athletics Association, and George Uren (who also helped George Bunner set up equipment manufacturers Eveque as a job creation venture) made a big contribution too. The programme became so popular that a competition format was developed and the first UK Championships were staged in 1980. Startrack was another of Bunner's initiatives created at the request of Frank Dick.

As a member of Liverpool Harriers he was a promising young athlete himself, winning the AAA Junior 880 yards title in 1950. He studied to become a Chartered Electrical Engineer and eventually became Managing Director of one of the largest electrical contractors in the North West of England.

After recovering from severe injuries sustained in a car crash in 1968 which took the life of his first wife and left him a single parent of two very young sons, he married Sheila in 1971 and revived his interest in athletics. Together with some friends he formed an athletics club in his hometown of Frodsham, Cheshire in 1972 and revived the celebrated Frodsham Hill Races. He also introduced the Cheshire Track & Field and Cheshire Cross Country Leagues.

Recognised worldwide as a leading authority on the development of children's athletics, he left the engineering profession in 1992 to work within the sport on a full-time but voluntary basis. Among his initiatives have been the annual AAA Tom Pink Relays and the World Marathon Challenge. The latter is a simultaneous relay event in which teams across the globe run multiple legs of 200m to complete the marathon distance. Last year more than 50,000 children from over 60 countries took part.

His latest venture, supported by England Athletics, the AAA (of which he was Chairman from 2004 to 2007), the English Schools' Athletic Association and Eveque, is the Med Ball Challenge, a great way to introduce safe throwing techniques to children.

In recognition of his services to athletics, he received the British Athletics Writers' Association's Ron Pickering Memorial Award in 2001 and, the following year, he was awarded the MBE. Twelve years later, aged 82, he remains an inspirational driving force within our sport.

Guy Butler was Britain's most bemedalled Olympic athlete of all-time, a distinction shared since 1984 with Seb Coe. He won four Olympic medals as a 400m and 4x400m relay runner in the Games of 1920 and 1924, including a gold in the 1920 relay.

A cousin of Rab Butler, the former Home Secretary, he first made his mark in the 1917 Public Schools Championships when he won the 100 yards (with Harold Abrahams unplaced six yards behind), 440 yards and long jump – defeating Abrahams by half an inch with his final leap. Two years later, before he even received his Blue at Cambridge, he was AAA 440 yards champion at the age of 19. In addition to his relay gold alongside Cecil Griffiths, Robert Lindsay and John Ainsworth-Davis, he finished second in the 1920 Olympic 400m, won by his great rival from Oxford (and South Africa), Bevil Rudd, 49.6 to 49.9 on a rain-sodden track in Antwerp. There was certainly nothing hollow about the placings, for the cream of the world's quarter-miling talent was present. Frank Shea (USA), a sub-48 sec 400m performer, placed fourth while 440 yards record holder (at 47.4) Ted Meredith, another American, did not even make the final.

Despite competing with a strained thigh muscle, necessitating the use of a standing start, Butler reached new heights at the Paris Olympics of 1924. After setting an unofficial European record of 48.0 in his semi-final, he gave it everything in the final. Second to his inspired team-mate Eric Liddell (winner in 47.6) for much of the race he eventually finished third in 48.6. Under any other circumstances such a magnificent and plucky feat would have received the attention and acclaim it merited but on this occasion it tended to be overlooked in the excitement surrounding the winner of the race. Butler picked up another bronze in the relay.

Tall, powerfully built and long striding, Butler was an athlete who – as a result of leg injuries and acute nerves – never quite fulfilled his potential. As Harold Abrahams once wrote: "Ill-luck and a rather wayward temperament played their part in robbing him of distinctions which were well within his capabilities, and had he not been so successful when he was so young he might have been very much more so later on."

One of his finest performances came in 1926 when, a week after winning the AAA 220 yards in a personal best of 21.9, he equalled the listed world record of 30.6 for 300 yards. He ended his active career at the 1928 Olympics, where he was eliminated in the second round of the 200m.

Butler went on to make a valuable contribution to British athletics in other ways. A former schoolmaster, he became a successful coach (he helped guide Alistair McCorquodale to a sensational fourth place in the 1948 Olympic 100m), lectured and wrote widely on the sport, and became Britain's foremost producer of coaching films and loops. He died aged 81.



GUY BUTLER

Born: 25.8.1899, Harrow (Middlesex); died 22.2.1981

Club: Achilles

Major medals: Gold – 1920 Olympic 4x400m; Silver – 1920 Olympic 400m; Bronze – 1924 Olympic 400m & 4x400m

World record: 300 yards 30.6 in 1926

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2014



DARREN CAMPBELL

Born: 12.9.1973, Manchester

Club: Sale Harriers Manchester; Belgrave Harriers

Major medals: **Gold** – 1998 European 100m & 4x100m; 1998 Commonwealth 4x100m; 2002 Commonwealth & European 4x100m; 2004 Olympic 4x100m; **Silver** – 1999 World 4x100m; 2000 Olympic 200m; **Bronze** – 1997 World 4x100m; 2002 Commonwealth 200m; 2002 European 100m; 2003 World 100m

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2014



Darren Campbell is unique among British male sprinters in that he has won global medals in all three outdoor sprinting events: gold in the 4x100m relay (2004 Olympics), silver in the 200m (2000 Olympics) and bronze in the 100m (2003 World Championships). He always considered himself first and foremost a championship performer and that is borne out by those medals and others including the 1998 European 100m title and third place finishes in 2002 in the Commonwealth Games 200m and European Championships 100m.

His reputation as a great competitor was established many years earlier, for in 1991 – aged only 17 – he won the 100m and 200m at the European Junior Championships. The following year, at the World Junior Championships, he finished second to Trinidad's Ato Boldon in both sprints and secured his first global title as a member of the British 4x100m relay team. That was the year his role model Linford Christie won the Olympic 100m and nominated Campbell as his most likely successor as Britain's top sprinter.

However, Campbell found the transition to the senior ranks tougher than anticipated; his times stagnated and he was almost lost to athletics as he played semi-pro football for two seasons before becoming serious about sprinting again. He ran 10.17 for 100m in 1996, while in 1997 – now coached by Christie – he ran 10.13 and picked up his first major senior medal with bronze in the relay at the World Championships. It was individual success that he craved and in 1998 he became a true world class performer by winning the European 100m crown in 10.04, making him the second fastest ever Briton behind Christie. That was also the year in which he showed marked improvement at 200m, improving his best time from 20.84 to 20.48.

It was at 200m that he went sensationally close to becoming Olympic champion in Sydney in 2000. Campbell won his quarter-final in an eye-opening 20.13 for third place on the UK all-time list behind John Regis and Christie. He followed up with a 20.23 semi-final while in the final he led into the straight before being edged by the previously little known Greek, Kostas Kedéris, 20.09 to 20.14 into a headwind. No Briton has ever won this title and Campbell joined the ranks of silver medallists alongside Norman Pritchard in 1900, Walter Rangeley in 1928 and Allan Wells in 1980. Later in his career the controversial Kedéris was banned for missing drugs tests.

In 2003 Campbell came within an eyelash of becoming World champion at 100m. Producing his quickest time (10.08) for three years he finished just inches behind Kim Collins (10.07) and Darrel Brown (10.08). However, the crowning glory in athletics – an Olympic gold medal – awaited him the following summer when, taking the baton from Jason Gardener and handing over to Marlon Devonish with Mark Lewis-Francis on the anchor, the British squad scored a stunning victory over the heavily favoured USA team by 1/100th of a second.

One of the most remarkable performers of her pioneering era was Muriel Gunn, who in 1926 at the age of 19 became a founder member of the ladies' section of Mitcham Athletic Club. She long jumped 4.65m in her first competition in June that year but progressed so quickly that in August she twice exceeded the listed world record with 5.37m and 5.48m.

Later that month, at the Women's World Games in Gothenburg, she jumped beyond 5.50m but, turning to speak to a congratulatory official while she was still in the pit, she made another mark in the sand and her distance was downgraded. The tragically short-lived Japanese athlete Kinue Hitomi won with a world record 5.50m, Muriel clearing 5.44m for second. She ended her season with a European record of 5.57m, a distance she equalled in 1927 and which was ratified as a new world record as an earlier mark of 5.75m by Hitomi was never officially accepted. Also that year she won the 100 yards hurdles as well as long jump in her first WAAA Championships.

In 1928 Hitomi put the world record out of sight with 5.98m but Muriel easily beat her at the WAAA Championships, 5.68m (European record) to 5.36m, and also won the 100 yards title. Britain did not send a team to that year's Amsterdam Olympics as the WAAA disapproved of the IAAF's grudging offer of just five events in the first Olympics to offer a women's athletics programme. The long jump was not one of them.

Having married in August 1928, it was Muriel Cornell who set a European record of 5.77m at the 1929 WAAA Championships and had a marginal foul of over six metres in a match against Germany, but her best year proved to be 1930. She improved to 5.80m (the first 19ft jump by a European) in June and won against Germany in July with 5.85m, a distance which would remain the British record until 1952. At the Women's World Games in Prague, she again placed second to Hitomi, wind assisted 5.90m to 5.76m. She also won the long jump and 80m hurdles at the WAAA Championships, having earlier equalled the world record of 12.2. In 1931 she ranked no 2 in the world with 5.77m. Capt F.A.M. Webster described her as the finest of all long jump stylists, "None surpassed her in pace, judgement, and mid-air balance, nor in the accuracy of her timing."

In 1933 she gave birth to a daughter, Lorna (who would herself become WAAA junior long jump champion although her main sport was tennis, twice winning the Wimbledon junior title), but hopes of an international comeback in 1934 were dashed by a severed Achilles tendon. However, she contributed to her sport in other ways. She was honorary secretary of the WAAA for 11 years, organising secretary for the Women's World Games and women's events at the Empire Games, both staged in London in 1934, and women's team manager at the 1936 Olympics. After the war she played a significant role in setting up a national coaching scheme. She died aged 89.



MURIEL CORNELL

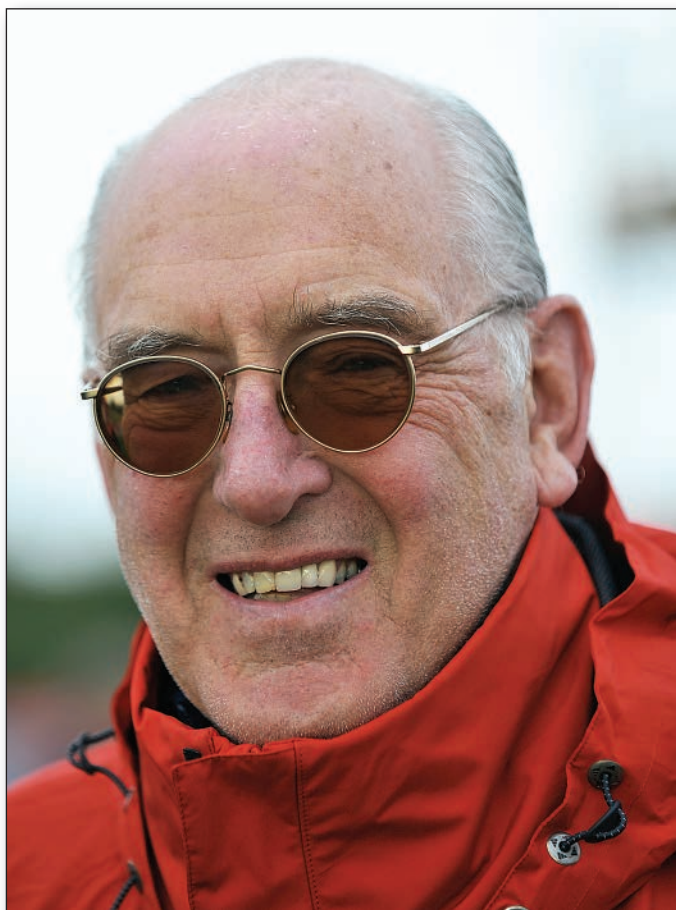
Born: 27.9.1906, Mitcham (Surrey); died 8.3.1996

Clubs: Mitcham AC

Major medals: Silver – 1926 & 1930 Women's World Games Long Jump

World records/bests: 80m hurdles – 12.2 in 1930;
Long Jump – 5.48 & 5.57 in 1926, 5.57 in 1927

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2014



MARK SHEARMAN

GEORGE GANDY

Born: 10.5.1940, Newcastle upon Tyne

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2014

For decades Loughborough University has been synonymous with athletic excellence and no-one has played a more vital part in that prolonged success than coach George Gandy. For 33 years he directed the university's athletics programme and guided some 75 athletes to senior international standard and in a number of cases to global championship medals. His speciality is middle and long distance running but during his time at Loughborough he coached more than 100 teams to national universities titles.

Among the athletes he helped was Sebastian Coe, who entered Loughborough in October 1975 aged 19. Coe was of course coached by his father, Peter, but it was Gandy who introduced him to circuit training, which Coe always regarded as an essential ingredient of his success. As Coe explained: "When I arrived at Loughborough some of the conditioning work this guy gave me provided the basis for much of what I achieved. It was revolutionary stuff."

In his autobiography, *Running My Life*, Coe writes: "I needed somebody to monitor my training, and that person was George Gandy. A lecturer in bio-mechanics, George combined his academic role with that of head track coach. He was hewn from solid Geordie rock, with firm and often fixed views about the way things had to be done. In other words, not so dissimilar to my old man." He added: "Under George's guidance I began circuit training and weight training, working on upper-body strength and hamstring length in addition to winter speed work." It proved a winning formula.

Another testimony to Gandy's methods came from Jon Brown, twice fourth in the Olympic marathon and UK 10,000m record holder before Mo Farah. "George gave my training more focus and direction rather than just training from one race to the next."

Among other high flying athletes who have come under Gandy's influence are 1986 European 5000m champion Jack Buckner, 2009 World 1500m silver medallist Lisa Dobriskey, former UK 400m record holder Michelle Scutt and 3:50.64 miler Graham Williamson.

Prior to his appointment at Loughborough, Gandy – a former age-group record holder for the mile with Gosforth Harriers – was the AAA's Northern Counties Administrator and he has also been UK National Endurance Coach from 1992 to 1998 and from 2009 to 2013. His services to the sport have long been recognised and he was inducted into UK Sport's Coaching Hall of Fame in 2003. His awards have included a doctorate from Loughborough University, the British Milers' Club Coach of the Year in 1995 and 2008, the British Athletics Writers' Association's Ron Pickering Memorial Award in 2008 and a BBC East Midlands Lifetime Achievement Award in 2009.

Sir Arthur Gold made a massive and varied contribution to his beloved sport. An international high jumper in 1937 (his personal best was 1.90m at a time when the British record stood at 1.95m) who continued competing until in his forties, he was among the pioneers of British coaching, qualifying in his early twenties. His most notable coaching success was with the legendary high jumper Dorothy Tyler in the early 1950s, converting her style from the scissors to the more efficient western roll.

But it was as an administrator that Sir Arthur made his most indelible mark. At one time or another he filled practically every post of significance in British and English athletics. He succeeded Jack Crump as honorary secretary of the British Amateur Athletic Board in 1965 and engineered many vital changes during his 12 years in office, his policy being "evolution not revolution". During that period he was athletics team leader at the Olympics of 1968, 1972 and 1976. In 1992, by then the elder statesman of British sport and chairman of the British Olympic Association, he was commandant of the entire team at the Albertville and Barcelona Games.

His crowning achievement was presiding over the European Athletic Association from 1976 to 1987. In that post his diplomatic skills, encyclopaedic knowledge and a mission to protect athletics from the dangers of drug use and over commercialisation made him one of the most respected figures in world sport.

His stance on drugs was unwavering. As he said in 1983: "Sport is about health and honesty. The use of drugs is unhealthy and dishonest; it is cheating." He advocated random doping tests to be carried out at any time, not merely at competitions – a policy which has since been adopted by the IAAF and responsible national governing bodies. He also called for punishments that would be a real deterrent. Always a hardliner on this issue, he was never happy to see banned athletes return to competition after only two years.

Knighted in 1984 for his services to athletics, Sir Arthur was elected president of the AAA in 1995 but ill health caused him to cut back on his activities.

Among the tributes paid on his death in 2002, aged 85, was this from another Corinthian figure, the 1968 Olympic 400m hurdles champion David Hemery, then the president of UK Athletics. "He was a significant figure in so many ways. He had been an international athlete, so he actually understood some of what it took to perform at that standard. As a strong crusader against drug-taking in the sport, he was an upholder of some of the ethical values the sport would like to be famous for. His was a life of service."

Brendan Foster said: "He did a professional job for countless years for athletics on an amateur, unpaid, basis. When the sport finally turned professional he helped guide the important changes through. His knowledge of the sport was unbelievable and his enthusiasm for athletics unmatched."



MARK SHEARMAN

SIR ARTHUR GOLD

Born: 10.1.1917, London; died: 25.5.2002

Club: London Athletic Club

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2014



ASHIA HANSEN

Born: 5.12.1971, Evansville, Indiana (USA)

Club: Essex Ladies; Shaftesbury Barnet Harriers

Major medals: (Triple Jump) **Gold** – 1998 European Indoor, 1998 Commonwealth, 1999 World Indoor, 2002 Commonwealth, 2002 European, 2003 World Indoor; **Silver** – 1997 World Indoor

World record: Indoor Triple Jump – 15.16m in 1998

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2014



She didn't reach the final at three international championships and came last or almost last at three others. A failed international athlete, right? Wrong, because that athlete – Ashia Hansen – proved herself one of the world's greatest ever triple jumpers with six major titles between 1998 and 2003, including a world indoor record, and who knows what more she would have achieved but for a seemingly endless series of serious injuries.

Born in the USA, she was adopted at three months by a British woman, Elaine Hansen, and her Ghanaian husband. She was taken to Ghana when she was two and to London at eight. As an athlete she started as an 800m/1500m runner before switching to the sprints, high jump and long jump and discovering – “for a bit of a laugh” – that the triple jump was her forte. In 1994 she set her first UK record of 14.09m.

She became a significant player on the international stage in 1995. After triumphing at the European Cup she looked forward to the World Championships, but performed so badly that, aged only 23, she thought of retiring. Fortunately she persevered and soon afterwards set a Commonwealth record of 14.66m. At the Atlanta Games of 1996 her leap of 14.49m left her a frustrating fourth in the inaugural Olympic women's event.

Ashia started her medal collection with silver at the 1997 World Indoors and outdoors that year, at the Grand Prix Final she won with a magnificent 15.15m. That distance not only elevated her to fifth on the world all-time list but would also have ranked her among the top 20 British MEN that year!

The year of 1998 was all too typical for its highs and lows. At the European Indoors she smashed the world indoor record with 15.16m but injured her heel in the process, causing her to miss practically the entire outdoor season. However, late in the year in Kuala Lumpur she became the inaugural Commonwealth Games champion.

A more prestigious title came her way at the 1999 World Indoors, thanks to her grand opening effort of 15.02m, but it was all going too well. She sustained a foot injury soon afterwards and underwent surgery to remove a floating bone. That put back her training for the outdoor season and she suffered disappointment at the World Championships, placing 12th and last. Further injury problems meant that the Sydney Olympics was her first outdoor competition of 2000 and two fouls plus an inadequate 'safety' jump resulted in 11th place.

The upswing came in 2002 as she came away with gold medals from the Commonwealth Games and European Championships with final round distances of 14.86m and a wind assisted 15.00m, and for the first time she was ranked world no 1. She enjoyed another momentous success when the 2003 World Indoors were staged in Birmingham, jumping 15.01m. It was all too good to last, though, and that proved to be her final international championship appearance due to a succession of further injuries.

It was as a marathon debutant that, in 1961 (aged 22), Ron Hill burst into national prominence by winning the Liverpool City Marathon in 2:24:22. "Never again" was his immediate reaction, but soon afterwards he picked up a copy of Jim Peters' book *In The Long Run* and he was hooked!

There were major setbacks early on. He dropped out at the 1962 European Championships, and the 1964 Olympics proved a nightmare. He flew to Tokyo as the second fastest ever marathoner (2:14:12 behind Basil Heatley's 2:13:55 in the Polytechnic event that year) and third fastest six-miler of all time, but everything went wrong and he wound up 18th in the 10,000m and 19th in the marathon. "The first day back at work after Tokyo was very embarrassing," he recalled. "Everyone seemed wary of talking about the Olympic races. It was a subject almost like a death in the family."

He bounced back by smashing Emil Zátopek's world track records for 15 miles and 25,000m in 1965, and set his sights on the Mexico City Olympics of 1968. Everything was shaping up marvellously; in April he broke Ron Clarke's world 10 miles track record with 47:02.2 and in May he clocked a world's best 20 miles time of 1:36:28 (2:07 marathon pace) ... but, to his chagrin, the selectors did not pick him for the Olympic marathon, just the 10,000m in which he finished a highly creditable seventh, the first man home who had not either lived or trained extensively at high altitude.

Shortly after the Games he reduced his world 10 miles record to 46:44.0 and it was during his preparations for 1969 that Dr Hill (he has a PhD in textile chemistry) brought his scientific mind to bear on the application to the marathon of a special diet which had been tested primarily on skiers in Sweden. It worked and in July 1969 he set a personal best of 2:13:42. Two months later, wearing startling new racing gear of string vest and very brief-cut shorts he had designed to give an extra cooling effect, he won the European title and in December he improved his time to 2:11:55.

His greatest year was 1970, ranking as the world's no 1 marathoner. In April he became the first Briton to win the Boston classic, with a European record of 2:10:30; while in July he won at the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh by half a mile in 2:09:28, at the time the second fastest ever performance and easily the best in a championship race. However, denied pre-selection for the 1972 Olympics he had to qualify through an energy sapping trial race and finished a dejected sixth in Munich. His dream of becoming the first Briton to win the Olympic marathon was shattered.

In 1979 he set a British veterans best of 2:15:46 which lasted until this year. He continues to run, having covered at least a mile every day for the past 50 years, and his total running mileage is close to 160,000! He was awarded the MBE in 1972 for services to athletics.



MARK SHEARMAN

RON HILL

Born: 21.9.1938, Accrington (Lancashire)

Club: Clayton-le-Moors Harriers; Bolton United Harriers

Major medals: (Marathon) **Gold** – 1969 European, 1970 Commonwealth; **Bronze** – 1971 European

World records: **10 miles** – 47:02.2 & 46:44.0 in 1968; **15 miles** – 1:12:48.2 in 1965; **25,000m** – 1:15:22.6 in 1968

World bests: **20 miles** (road) – 1:40:55 in 1964, 1:36:28 in 1968

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2014



BOB MATTHEWS

Born: 26.5.1961, Strood, Kent

Clubs: Medway AC, Hereford Couriers and Leamington C&AC

Major medals: **Gold** – 1983 European Championships 800m, 1500m & 5000m; 1984 Paralympics 800m, 1500m & 5000m; 1986 IPC World Championships 800m, 1500m & 5000m; 1987 European Championships 800m, 1500m & 5000m; 1988 Paralympics 800m, 1500m & 5000m; 1989 European Championships 800m, 1500m & 5000m; 1990 IPC World Championships 1500m, 5000m & 4 x 400m; 1991 European Championships 1500m, 5000m & 4 x 400m; 1992 Paralympics 5000m; 1999 European Championships 1500m & 5000m; 2000 Paralympics 10,000m; 2005 European Championships 5000m.

Silver – 1992 Paralympics 800m; 1994 IPC World Championships 1500m; 1996 Paralympics 1500m; 2000 Paralympics 5000m & Marathon; 2003 IPC World Championships 5000m. **Bronze** – 1991 European Championships 800m & 4 x 100m; 1992 Paralympics 1500m; 1994 IPC World Championships 10000m.

World records & bests: 22 in total, best performances include: World records: 800m – 1:59.90 in 1986; 1500m – 4:05.11 in 1989. World Bests: 1000m – 2:38.00 in 1986; 1 Mile – 4:33.40 in 1986; 3000m – 8:55.00 in 1989; 10km Road – 32:42 in 1992; 10 Miles – 55:03 in 1988

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2014



Bob Matthews' Paralympic career began with him representing Great Britain at goalball (an indoor team sport tailored specifically for visually-impaired athletes) in Arnhem in 1980. But it was his switch to athletics that saw him go on to take an incredible eight Paralympic titles with an additional five medals. He also re-wrote the world record books on 22 occasions over a wide range of distances.

It was in the 1983 European Championships that Matthews first demonstrated not only the range of his ability, but also that he was able to successfully contest multiple titles at a championship. His treble at 800m, 1500m and 5000m was replicated at both the 1984 and 1988 Paralympic Games, the 1986 and 1990 World Championships, and repeated at European level in 1987 and 1991.

But Matthews' range of distances did not end there. His medal winning in individual events extended to 10,000m and marathon (Paralympic gold and silver in 2000) while his speed over 400m also impressed and saw him as part of successful relay teams. In 1986 Matthews became the only blind athlete to run below two minutes for 800m – something not to be repeated by another athlete in the T11 category for more than 20 years.

In a glittering career there were also set backs – in Atlanta in 1996 his guide crossed the line a split second before him, costing him silver. In Sydney he lined up for the 10000m with a rare eight year gap since last taking Paralympic gold. With five laps to go Matthews was in fourth place and suffering, but he and guide Paul Harwood overhauled the deficit and a thrilling home straight sprint secured gold once again.

Tragedy came in 2003 with the sudden death of his wife Kath, aged just 38, but Matthews returned to the track and qualified for the Paralympic Games for the seventh time – his performances at the Athens Games dedicated to her memory. A year later he won another European title over 5000m. Matthews has remarried and moved to New Zealand. He and his wife Sarah, have two children, Thomas and Molly.

He has continued to excel at other sports. While injury thwarted his attempt to compete in cycling at the 2012 Paralympic Games he contested the 2009 World Paratriathlon Championships winning silver for New Zealand. He has competed for New Zealand in two World Para-cycling Championships in Canada and Denmark, two World Para-cycling Cups in Canada and Australia and the Oceania Para-cycling Championships in Australia.

Matthews was the first Paralympian to be awarded an MBE. A movie *Blind Ambition* starring Robson Green was inspired by Matthews' achievements at the 1988 Paralympic Games. He has been awarded Honorary Degrees (M.A.s) from Warwick University and Worcester University.

PREVIOUS INDUCTEES



HAROLD ABRAHAM

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

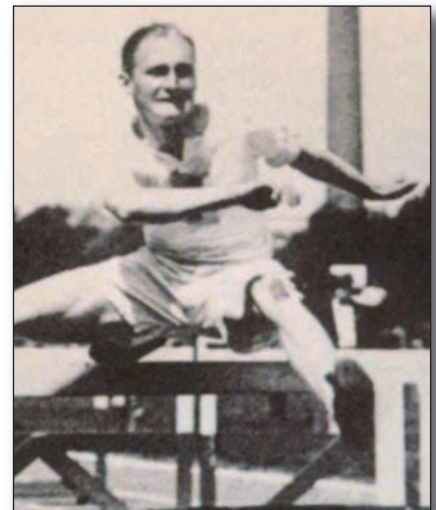
For many people the most historic moment in sport is when Sir Roger ran 3:59.4 to clock the first ever 4min mile at Iffley Road Track, Oxford, in May 1954. But it was not only the clock he could conquer. He went head-to-head with arch-rival and fellow sub-4 runner John Landy in the Empire Games and won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

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, IAAF, AAA, British Olympic Association, IAAF and as chairman of the organising committee for the 1948 Olympics.

MARK SHEARMAN



DIANE CHARLES (LEATHER)

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2013

Diane Leather first smashed the world best for the mile in 1953. In 1954 the Birchfield Harrier broke the 5min barrier with 4:59.6. In June 1954 she set a world 880 yards record of 2:09.0 and in August she finished second in the inaugural European 800m championship a feat repeated four year's later. Diane further reduced the mile record in 1955.

MARK SHEARMAN



SIR CHRIS CHATAWAY

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2012

In August 1954 Chataway won the Commonwealth Games 3 miles, and finished second to Vladimir Kuts in the European Championships. Forty-five days later at White City he edged past Kuts in the final few strides to lower the 5,000m world record to 13:51.6 in one of the greatest races ever. Having been pacemaker for the historic race in 1954 Chataway ran his own four minute mile (3:59.8) in 1955 and set a world 3 miles record of 13:23.2.

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.

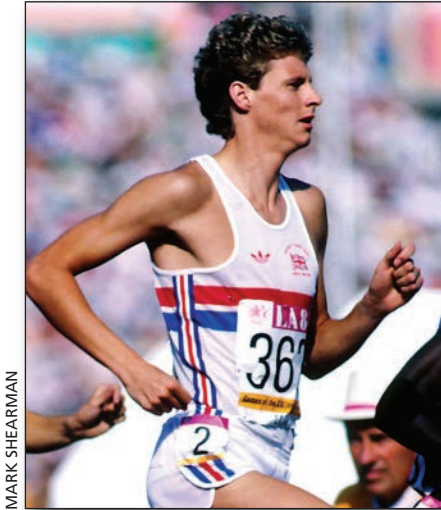
MARK SHEARMAN



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). She still holds the UK 200m record (22.10 in 1984) while her records at 100m (11.10 in 1981) and 400m (49.43 in 1984) lasted until 2008 and 2013.



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.



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 a further world title in 2001. Now part of the BBC commentary team.



DON FINLAY

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2012

Don Finlay established himself as Europe's finest sprint hurdler in 1932 and won the first of seven consecutive AAA titles. His career saw two Olympic medals, victories in the European Championships and Empire Games, and an almost perfect international match record ... he was decorated with the DFC and the AFC during WW2 before returning to competition in 1947, qualifying for another Olympics and taking fourth at the 1950 Empire Games!



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. She is the only woman to hold Commonwealth, World, Olympic and European titles at same time.



PROF. SIR LUDWIG GUTTMANN

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2013

Ludwig Guttman was the father of the Paralympics. As Director of the National Spinal Injuries Centre at Stoke Mandeville he inaugurated the first Stoke Mandeville Games held on 28 July 1948, the opening day of the London Olympics. He believed patients could benefit by taking up sport and from this belief he built the Paralympic movement.



MARK SHEARMAN

DAME MAREA HARTMAN

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2012

Early in 1950, aged 29, Marea Hartman was elected Hon. Treasurer of the Women's AAA. In 1958 she was women's team manager at the European Championships. Dame Marea remained British team manager for 20 more years. She chaired the IAAF's Women's Commission for 13 years, became Hon. Treasurer then Chairman of the British Amateur Athletic Board. After the WAAA amalgamated with the men she became the first female President of the AAA.



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.



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.



JACK HOLDEN

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2013

The holder of the most distinguished record in British cross country history: English champion in 1938 and 1939; International champion in 1933, 1934, 1935 and 1939. In 1950, aged 43, he proved himself the world's number one marathoner by winning five races out of five including the British Empire and European Championships. The Empire Games were won by over four minutes despite running last nine miles barefoot after discarding his rain-sodden plimsolls.



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.



MARK SHEARMAN

FRED HOUSDEN

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2012

Best known as the man who taught David Hemery to hurdle, Fred Housden was one of our finest coaches. In 1921 he represented England at 110m hurdles and long jump. As a pole vaulter he was second in the AAAs twice and represented the British Empire against the USA in 1928. Early in the 1960s he collaborated with Geoff Dyson on the book, 'The Mechanics of Athletics', the definitive work on the subject.



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.

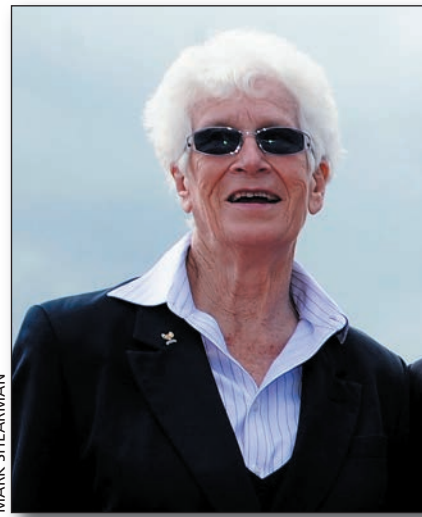


JOHN LE MASURIER

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 Coach from 1961-1978.

MARK SHEARMAN



SHEILA LERWILL

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2013

Sheila Lerwill (née Alexander), held the world record at 1.72m from 1951 to 1954 and, coached by George Pallett, and was a pioneer among female straddle jumpers. Her 1.72m leap added a centimetre to the world record which had been held by Holland's legendary Fanny Blankers-Koen since 1943. A 1950 European Champion, Sheila also claimed silver at the 1952 Olympics despite suffering a high temperature, cough and a calf bleeding from a spike scratch.

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

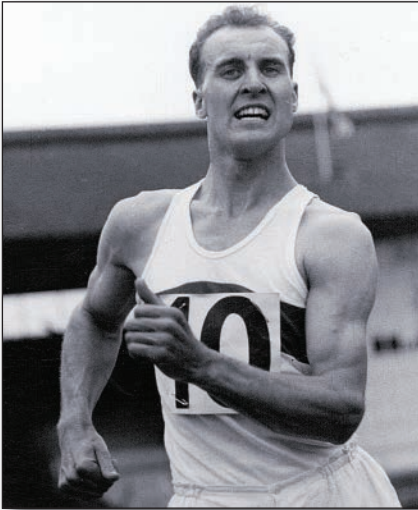
Bruce Longden guided two of Britain's greatest ever athletes. Daley Thompson set a world record of 8648 prior to 1980 Olympic gold. He won Commonwealth and European titles in 1982 and 1986, the Worlds in 1983, and Olympic gold in 1984 with a world record. Sally Gunnell claimed Commonwealth 100m hurdles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



DOUGLAS LOWE

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2012

Douglas Lowe became Olympic 800m champion in 1924 and four years later became the first man to win a second Olympic gold at the distance. His Paris time of 1:52.4 took a second off the British record. In 1928 Lowe won by a full second in the Olympic and British record time of 1:51.8. Lowe's last race saw him lower the British record for 800m to 1:51.2 in August 1928. He went on to serve as Honorary Secretary of the AAA from 1931 to 1938.



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.

MARK SHEARMAN



DAVE MOORCROFT

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2012

In 1978 Dave Moorcroft beat world record holder Filbert Bayi for the Commonwealth 1500m title in 3:35.48. In 1982 he ran 3:49.34 in Oslo's Dream Mile before front running his way to breaking Henry Rono's 5000m world record with the sensational 13:00.41. He then set a European 3000m record of 7:32.79 and won the Commonwealth 5000m. In 1993 he set an outdoor world veterans mile record of 4:02.53. Moorcroft was Chief Executive Officer of UK Athletics from 1999 until 2007.



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.



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.

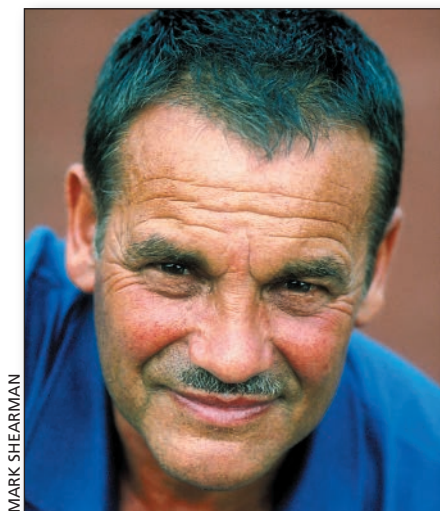


MARK SHEARMAN

ALAN PASCOE

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2013

Alan Pascoe collected European and Commonwealth gold, silver and bronze medals, an Olympic relay silver, British records, 13 AAA titles and the distinction of never having been beaten at the 400m hurdles event in international matches. A world class competitor, British team captain, teacher, college PE lecturer, meeting promoter, athletes' representative on the British Board, Sports Council member, TV commentator and expert in sports marketing and sponsorship.



MARK SHEARMAN

WILF PAISH

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2012

Wilf Paish guided Tessa Sanderson to javelin gold in the 1984 Olympics. He also coached Mick Hill, to a UK record and World Championships bronze. But Paish had a deep knowledge of all events, coaching Peter Elliott from the age of 16 into an Olympic silver medallist, Commonwealth champion and world indoor record holder at 1500m. A prolific author of technical books and articles, he served as a Great Britain Olympic coach and in 1996 coached the South African Olympic team.



JIM PETERS

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2013

After success at shorter distances Peters debuted at the 1951 Polytechnic Marathon winning by five minutes and smashing the British record. He then sliced five minutes off the world record with 2:20:43! In 1953 Peters set further world bests of 2:18:41 in the 'Poly' and 2:18:35 in Turku (Finland). The following June he improved again to 2:17:40. Peters famously collapsed just shy of the line and 1954 Commonwealth title.



MARK SHEARMAN

JEAN PICKERING

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2011

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

In 1954 Jean married Ron Pickering. After his premature death Jean's work through The Ron Pickering Memorial Fund saw over a million pounds distributed 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, until her death in 2013, ran the Ron Pickering Memorial Fund with son Shaun.



GORDON PIRIE

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2013

The range of Pirie's talent became apparent in 1953 - he won the first of three consecutive English cross country titles and outkicked American star Wes Santee in the inaugural Emsley Carr Mile. He set a world 6 miles record as well as numerous British records between 3000m and 10,000m. In 1956 Pirie clocked a staggering 13:36.8 5,000m world record. Three days later he set a world 3000m record of 7:55.5, a time he later reduced to 7:52.7.



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.



MARK SHEARMAN

PAULA RADCLIFFE

**Athlete of the Decade
2001-2010**

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2010

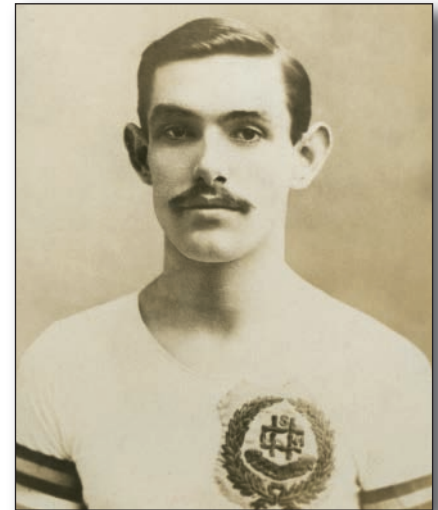
In 1992 Paula Radcliffe became World Junior cross country champion ahead of China's Wang Junxia (who the following year set seemingly unreal world record times at 3000m and 10,000m).

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.



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.



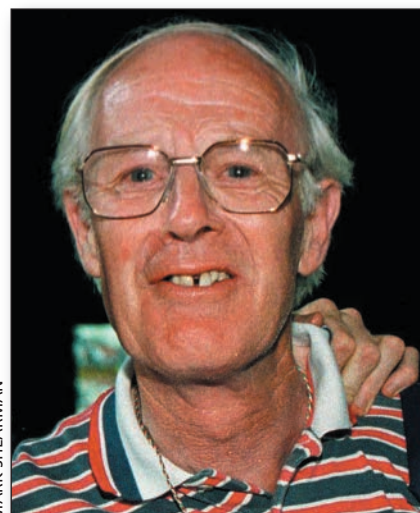
MARK SHEARMAN

TESSA SANDERSON

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2012

History was made in Los Angeles in 1984 when Tessa Sanderson became the first Briton ever to win an Olympic throwing title. In 1980 she won the first of her three Commonwealth Titles. Her all round athleticism was highlighted when she made her mark as a heptathlete, setting a UK record of 6125 points as re-scored on the present tables.

Tessa placed fourth in the 1992 Olympics, and competed in a sixth Olympics in 1996, aged 40.



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.



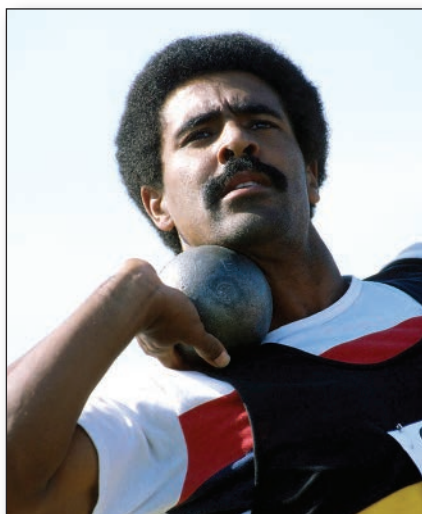
MARK SHEARMAN

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



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.

MARK SHEARMAN



DON THOMPSON

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2013

Before the 1960 Olympics, in addition to his usual gruelling training, Thompson performed exercises on the spot in his tracksuit in an improvised steam room at with temperatures hovering around the 100°F mark. It worked! At the finish line of Rome he was 17 sec clear in 4:25:30, an Olympic record. Thompson won the classic London to Brighton on eight consecutive occasions with a record of 7:35:12 for the 53 miles 129 yards (86 kilometres) course!

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.

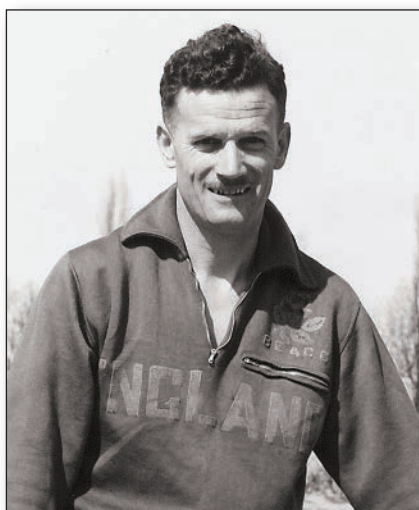
MARK SHEARMAN



MEL WATMAN

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2013

After 60 years of athletics writing, including for Athletics Today, Athletics International, and as freelance for various newspapers and news agencies, Mel Watman is still best known as editor of Athletics Weekly from the 1960s to 1980s. By 1954 he was contributing to AW before joining full time in 1961. In 1968 he succeeded Jimmy Green as editor. He was cofounder of the National Union of Track Statisticians in 1958 and the British Athletics Writers' Association in 1963.



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 Joint AAA Principal Coach until 1978. He coached Dorothy Hyman to Olympic silver (100m) and bronze (200m) in 1960. He coached Tom Farrell (400m hurdles) and Andy Carter (800m) to British records and helped in the development of Lillian Board, and persuaded Ann Packer to move up in distance, leading to her Olympic 800m gold.



CAPT. F.A.M. WEBSTER

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2012

Webster helped found and direct the AAA Summer School, held at Loughborough College from 1934, and created Loughborough's School of Athletics, Games & Physical Education – the products of which included Geoff Dyson, John Le Masurier and Denis Watts. The AAA Coaching Scheme owed much to Webster. He also helped form an Amateur Field Events Association, wrote on the history of athletics and coached pioneering women athletes in the 1920s.

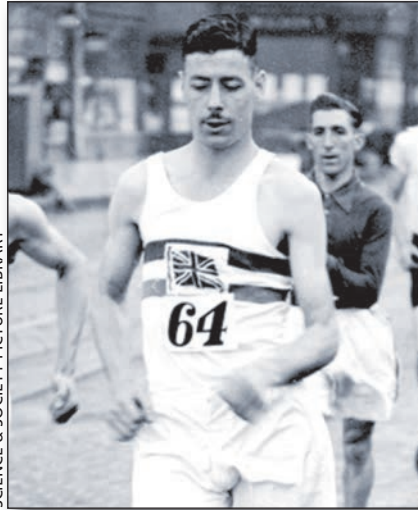


MARK SHEARMAN

FATIMA WHITBREAD

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2012

In the 1983 World Championships Fatima's silver medal was Britain's first throws global medal since 1924! In 1984 she was third in the Olympics. In 1986 the qualifying round of the European Championships saw her add over two metres to the world record with 77.44m! She was the first British thrower to break a world record. In the final she took gold with 76.32m. Fatima prevailed again at the 1987 World Championships in Rome. She collected silver at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul.

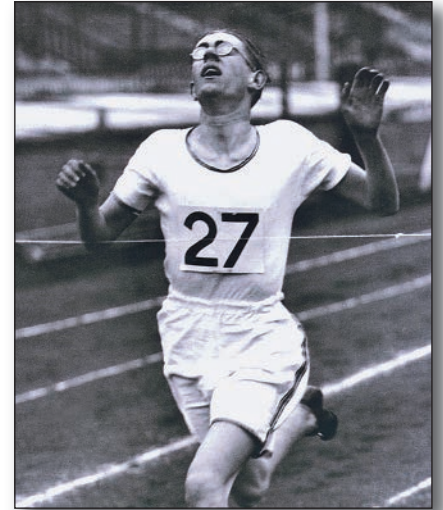


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HAROLD WHITLOCK

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)

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