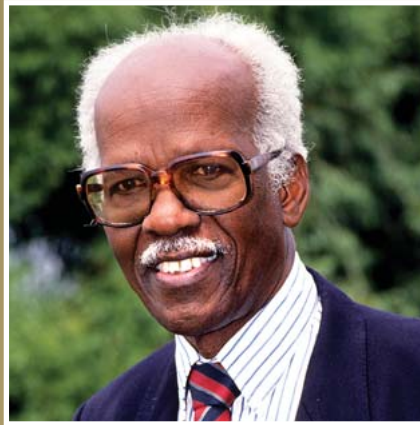


HALL *of* FAME



2015

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HALL of FAME



INTRODUCTION

The Hall of Fame sees us, as a sport, recognising the individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to our sport.

It is always thoroughly refreshing and inspiring to read through each inductee's biography and to be reminded of the achievements of those who were previously inducted.

So many of them drew great inspiration from the heritage of our sport and it is fitting that in reading of them and hearing of their achievements at our Volunteer Awards and Hall of Fame evening we can do the same. Sometimes the names inducted are less familiar and it is important we remind ourselves of what these people contributed to the sport we now have. Equally we sometimes quickly forget details of the more recent careers, particularly in terms of the challenges they faced, as the successes of these individuals are still so vivid in our minds.

Seeing their dedication and determination in overcoming challenges is another source of inspiration and encouragement for us as we each seek to contribute and achieve all we can in athletics.

It is striking to see how these people, including those whose successes were now many years ago, were often innovators and pioneers who challenged conventions of what had gone before and changed the face of our sport. Innovation is a wonderful part of the heritage of our sport.

We also see how the role of volunteers has been, and remains, so fundamental to the success of our sport. We often see how those who have achieved great things as an athlete continue to make great contributions to the sport, often behind the scenes, as their love of athletics continues long after their greatest competitive achievements.

We owe each of the inductees, as well as every volunteer who supported them along the way, a great debt and we are delighted to be able to give them the recognition of induction into the England Athletics Hall of Fame.



Peter King
*Chairman
England Athletics*

MARK SHEARMAN



JOAN ALLISON

Born: 10.6.1947, Woolwich (London)

Club: Cambridge Harriers (Bexley)

Major medal:

Silver – 1970 & 1974 Commonwealth 1500m

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2015

Joan Allison (née Page) enjoyed a notable career as one of Britain's finest middle distance runners of her era. A member of the London club, Cambridge Harriers, from the age of 14, she was 21 when, to her own astonishment, she made the 1968 Olympic team at 800m, having improved her best time considerably that year to 2:04.3. That was at the WAAA Championships when she finished fifth (third Briton) in a race won in a world record 2:00.5 by Yugoslavia's Vera Nikolic.

Two years later, in Edinburgh, she came so close to becoming Commonwealth champion in her first year as a serious 1500m runner. She led into the home straight and finished just a fifth of a second behind team-mate Rita Ridley. In 1972 she made her second Olympic appearance, this time at 1500m, and she enjoyed a great season in 1973, topping the British rankings at 800m (2:01.2), 1500m (4:12.2) and mile, where her time of 4:36.2 was a British record. She also won the WAAA 1500m title, finishing 20m ahead of the young Norwegian, Grete Andersen – who later became rather better known as marathon great Grete Waitz.

A second Commonwealth Games 1500m silver medal came her way early in 1974, clocking a personal best of 4:10.66, and in 1975 for the third consecutive year she was the fastest UK runner at 1500m with 4:11.2 and second on the 3000m list (9:13.4) to Joyce Smith. That was her final season at international level.

But it's not for her racing achievements that Joan was awarded the OBE in 1995 or her induction into our Hall of Fame. It's for her widespread services to athletics. After Marea Hartman had bowed out as British team leader in 1978 the BAAB decided to appoint relatively recently retired internationals as manager of the British women's squad, a move which proved very popular with the athletes. Mary Peters was women's team manager at the 1980 and 1984 Olympics; Pam Piercy took over in 1985; and she in turn was succeeded by Joan, who was in charge at the 1990 Europeans and 1991 World Championships, as well as working full-time on the athletes' behalf as General Administrator of the International Athletes' Club. She was such a success that after the tragic death of Les Jones in March 1992 she was promoted to manage the entire British athletics team at the Barcelona Olympics, an historic breakthrough.

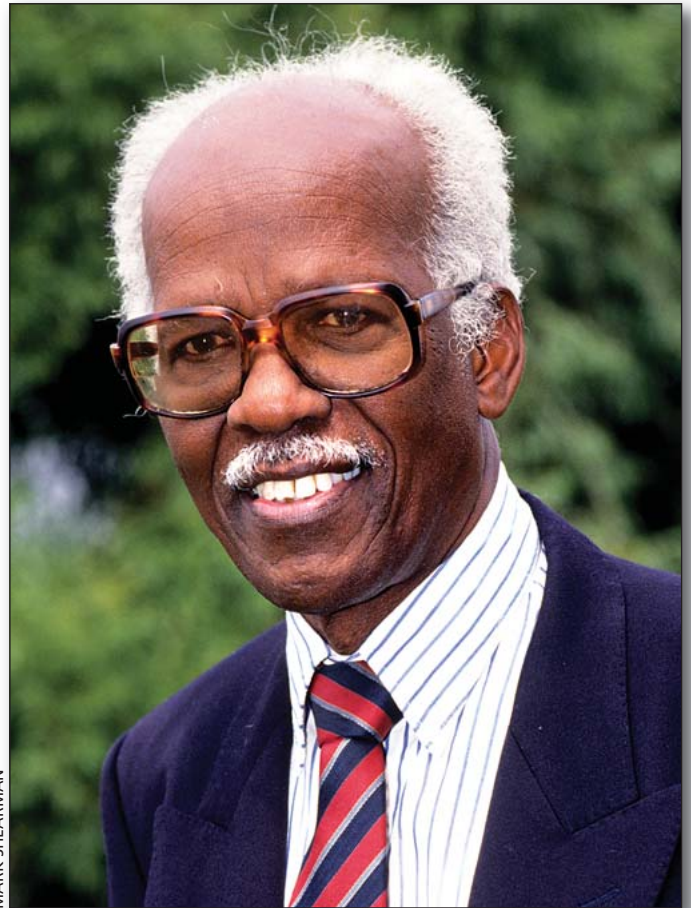
In an interview, Joan remarked: "The job has changed beyond recognition since I took part in the 1968 and 1972 Olympics. Then we hardly saw management, now we are with an athlete from the moment they wake on competition day, which often had to be 5.30am." Of the qualities required for the job, she explained: "I think my strength is relating to and understanding athletes; my empathy with the athletes having been one myself. It's knowing when to talk and when to stand back."

Between 1946 and 1953 Trinidad-born Emmanuel McDonald Bailey established himself as one of the greatest crowd pleasers in British athletics history. No important meeting was complete without the sight of this tall, slim Polytechnic Harrier in full flight. If any sprinter personified 'poetry in motion' it was 'Mac' Bailey. His high-level consistency was astonishing; more often than not running against mediocre opposition on sluggish cinder or grass tracks and in unfavourable weather conditions he turned in dozens of clockings in the range of 9.6-9.8 for 100 yards and 21.1-21.5 for 220 yards. His best times came when racing abroad.

While still serving in the RAF, Bailey made an indelible impression on the 1946 AAA Championships by notching up the first sprint double since 1932 and later that year clocked a breathtaking 10.3 100m in Sweden – just a tenth of a second outside the world record first set by Jesse Owens. He ran 10.3 again in 1947 but, hampered all season by injury, he placed sixth and last in the 1948 Olympic final at Wembley, a race won by Harrison Dillard in 10.3. When asked in 1950 to single out his most pleasing performance he chose that Olympic final. "Why? Because I had to battle not only against the opposition but against nature, and to reach the final was a just reward. To do this when I was supposedly 'finished' and against mental strain, worry, tension and illness, leaves me extremely gratified."

The 1949 season marked a return to top form and in Iceland he ran 9.5 for 100 yards and what was adjudged to be a wind assisted 10.2 100m although there was no wind gauge in operation and Bailey always thought it to be a genuine performance which would have equalled the world record. However, a share of that prestigious record came his way at the Yugoslavia v Britain match in Belgrade in 1951. "Carried by the electrifying urge of the 40,000 crowd", as he put it, he took full advantage of the perfect conditions to clock 10.2 and next day tied his personal best (and European record) of 20.9 for 200m.

At age 31 Bailey shaped up as a potential winner of the 1952 Olympic 100m. Largely self-coached and one of the first British sprinters to make use of weight training, Bailey was a stylist of the classic school but it was just his textbook carriage that may have cost him the Olympic crown in Helsinki. He was on terms with Lindy Remigino (USA) and Herb McKenley (Jamaica) 10m from the finish but whereas his two rivals lunged for the tape Bailey maintained his upright form and lost the race. He finished third, just 4/100ths behind the winner. Bailey wound up his long career in 1953, shortly after gaining his seventh AAA sprint double, in order to turn (briefly) to professional rugby league. He died back in Trinidad in 2013, four days before his 93rd birthday.



MARK SHEARMAN

MCDONALD BAILEY

Born: 8.12.1920, Williamsville (Trinidad); died 4.12.2013

Club: Polytechnic Harriers

Major medal: Bronze – 1952 Olympic 100m

World record: 100m – 10.2 (equal) in 1951

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2015



MARK SHEARMAN

ROGER BLACK

Born: 31.3.1966, Portsmouth

Clubs: Fareham AC, Southampton & Eastleigh AC, Team Solent

Major medals: **Gold** – 1986 Commonwealth & European 400m & 4x400m, 1990 European 400m & 4x400m, 1991 & 1997 World 4x400m, 1994 European 4x400m; **Silver** – 1987 World 4x400m, 1991 World 400m, 1994 European, 1996 Olympic 400m & 4x400m; **Bronze** – 1992 Olympic 4x400m

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2015



As an 18 year-old in 1984 Roger Black finished fourth in the English Schools 200m in 22.1. But after he joined Mike Smith's coaching group later that year and began training seriously alongside the likes of Todd Bennett and Kriss Akabusi he quickly developed into one of the world's most exciting 400m talents. The very next year he ran away with the European Junior title in 45.36, while during an amazing 1986 season Black, tall and blessed with film-star looks, became one of Britain's most successful as well as recognisable sporting stars.

The key to his improvement at 400m was basic speed. At 200m he improved from 21.6 to 20.63, while at 300m he set a UK best with 32.08. His first big test as a senior was the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, winning in very windy conditions in 45.57, and he came up trumps again in the European Championships. His time of 44.59 broke Derek Redmond's UK record and was the second fastest ever by a European. Two days later he helped win the relay in 2:59.84 with a 43.95 anchor.

Six championship races, six gold medals including relays, and still only 20. It couldn't go on like that and subsequently both his running and confidence suffered because of persistent hip and leg injuries. They got worse and extended to a stress fracture of the right foot so that the entire 1988 season was wiped out and it wasn't until September 1989 that he was able to race again.

Now coached by Mike Whittingham, he retained his European title in 1990 in 45.08 and anchored the relay team to a European record 2:58.22 with a 43.96 leg. Yet again, in 1991, he hit top form when it mattered most as at the Tokyo World Championships he clocked 44.62 for the silver medal, and ran the first leg in that immensely exciting relay race in which Britain defeated the Americans in a European record 2:57.53.

The 1992 season started promisingly but a hamstring problem held him back, and in 1993 he was diagnosed as having the debilitating Epstein Barr virus, a form of glandular fever which left him perpetually tired and depressed. That kept him out of competition for practically a year, but he made a tremendous comeback in 1994, clocking 44.78 and a 43.94 relay leg.

The following season he was hampered by pains in the back of his left knee, although he did equal his best time of 44.59, but 1996 saw the realisation of his ambitions. He regained the UK record with 44.39 to win the AAA title, improving to 44.37 behind Michael Johnson in Lausanne. Realising that Johnson was virtually unbeatable, Black's Olympic target in Atlanta was second place and that he achieved in 44.41 for the first British Olympic medal in this event since 1936. Another silver followed in the relay, anchoring the team in 43.87 to a European record 2:56.60, but his career came to a frustrating end in 1998 when, to his chagrin, the selectors denied him the chance of an unprecedented third European title.

In reviewing the athletics career of Lillian Board one must bear in mind that in spite of all her successes there can be little doubt that her greatest triumphs would have been ahead of her. European champion or not, she had barely scratched the surface as an 800m runner and she would surely have gone on to break two minutes.

Lillian, and twin Irene, were born in South Africa, their parents having emigrated there from Manchester soon after the war. The family returned to Britain in 1950 and Lillian joined London Olympiades at the age of 12. With her father, George, as coach and clubmate Mary Rand as an inspiration, Lillian became English Schools' Junior long jump champion in 1963.

It was in 1966, aged 17, that Lillian tackled 440 yards for the first time, and it quickly became apparent that she was made for the distance. Her progress was astonishingly rapid, and her dramatic development was maintained during 1967 when in the USA v Commonwealth match in Los Angeles she – the slowest on paper – defeated a glittering 400m field in 52.8 for second on the European all-time list behind Ann Packer.

It was a turning point in her career. Previously just a promising young athlete she was now – thanks to that race being televised – a household name. The blonde good looks and bubbly personality endeared her to millions. Suddenly she was Britain's new golden girl, freely tipped to become Olympic 400m champion the following year.

She embarked upon the 1968 season stronger, faster and fitter than ever, clocking 23.5 for 200m and 2:02.0 for 800m. In the 400m final at the high altitude Mexico City Olympics, and running in Lane 1, she ran the third 100m hard to enter the final straight some four metres ahead, and it was only in the final few strides that the unheralded Colette Besson of France edged her way past. By any standards hers was a marvellous performance. Still aged 19, she had run 52.12 to break Ann Packer's UK record, gained the silver medal just 9/100ths behind Besson and moved to number 4 on the world all-time list.

In what was to prove her last full season (1969) she gained two gold medals at the European Championships in Athens. Timing her drive to perfection off the last bend of the 800m, Lillian strode to victory in a championship record of 2:01.4, while in a thrilling 4x400m relay she overtook Besson in the final stride to anchor the British team to a world record of 3:30.8.

Suffering from cancer she died, after a typically courageous fight, in Munich – ironically the very city in which she had hoped to be crowned Olympic 800m champion in 1972 – on Boxing Day 1970, aged just 22.



MARK SHEARMAN

LILLIAN BOARD

Born: 13.12.1948, Durban (South Africa);
died 26.12.1970

Clubs: London Olympiades

Major medals: Gold – 1969 European 800m & 4x400m; Silver – 1968 Olympic 400m

World records: 4x110y – 45.0 in 1968; 4x400m – 3:37.6, 3:36.8 & 3:30.8 in 1969; 4x800m – 8:27.0 in 1970

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2015



MARK SHEARMAN

PETER COE

Born: 27.9.1919, London; died 9.8.2008

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2015

Despite having had no background in athletics – cycling had been his chosen sport – Peter Coe used his skills as an engineer, his self-taught knowledge of bio-mechanics and intensive research into training methods to develop into one of the most knowledgeable, analytical and respected of coaches. Allied to the exceptional ability and capacity for hard work of his son, Seb, theirs became one of the most celebrated partnerships in athletics history.

So convinced was he that Seb would become a world beater that when his son was 13, his best 1500m time being 4:31.8 and the world record then standing to Herb Elliott with 3:35.6, he drew up a projection which would see Seb run 3:30 by 1980. Peter wasn't too far out as Seb set a world record of 3:32.1 in 1979, won the Olympic title in 1980 and 1984, and finally broke 3:30 in 1986 ... not to mention his world record breaking exploits at 800m, 1000m and the mile. Peter once described Seb as "a hell of an athlete", adding "but then, he had a hell of a coach."

Percy Newbold Coe, but always known as Peter, served in the Merchant Navy during the War and in February 1941 his freighter, en route to Canada, was shelled by a German destroyer and sank within minutes. His mother was informed that her 21-year-old son was missing, presumed dead ... but in fact he had been rescued by the German crew and after disembarking in France was headed for a prisoner-of-war camp near Bremen when he jumped clear of the moving train and eventually made his way to Spain. Following his great escape, he arrived back home in August 1941.

During Seb's years as an athlete, Peter was in charge of a cutlery factory in Sheffield and was close to 50 when he began coaching his son. As Seb wrote in his autobiography: "Ours was never a conventional coach-athlete relationship; it clearly couldn't be. But in the end I believe it was something far greater. It was a partnership. We fashioned a way of working together that was separate from our relationship as father and son. When he referred to me in public, it was never 'my son', it was 'my athlete'."

Seb continued: "If my father's defining characteristic was stubborn determination, it was countered by an innate pragmatism, and he approached my athletics career as he would any other project that, as production manager, he needed to turn around." Peter explained: "What helped, which may sound elitist, was an intellectual approach. Running is to a great extent theoretical, but it's also an art. Seb's training was tailor-made for him."

Although he is celebrated for coaching one exceptional athlete, he did train a few others, including 1984 Olympic 3000m silver medallist Wendy Sly, who told journalist David Miller: "Everything Peter does has a reason, it all has a scientific base. Every time I went out of the door, the run had a purpose, a means to an end. That was why he was so good at getting Seb ready on the day."

He died in 2008, aged 88.

Danny Crates was an athlete as a youngster, switching sports to rugby as a teenager, and athletics was the sport to which he returned after losing his right arm in a car crash in Australia in 1994. It was in athletics that Crates was destined to achieve greatness. Returning to the UK he returned to athletics, running the 400m rather than his previous 800m and 1500m. He was a finalist over that distance at the 1998 world championships.

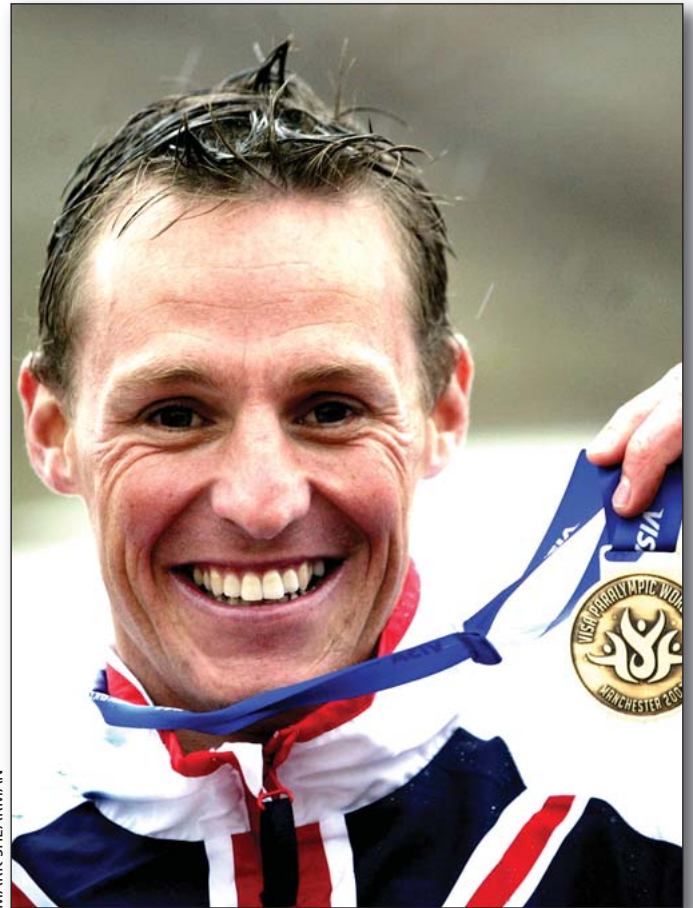
Crates trained with Ayo Falola's training group, which included Sydney Olympic fourth placer Donna Fraser. While he went one better than Fraser in taking 400m bronze in the Sydney Paralympic Games it was clear there was more to come. A fast finishing Crates left himself too much to do in the last 100m and while third in the world felt disappointment.

In 2001 he tried the 800m and promptly ran under two minutes, a feat he repeated several times that year. While 2002 saw fourth places in both 400m and 800m at the World Championships it was clear where his future lay. 2004 was his year. The Athens Paralympic T46 800m final saw him controlling the race from the front. In a race that started slowly and built up Crates ran familiar tactics, at the front, always with space ahead to accelerate into. Algeria's Samir Nouioua went home from those games with gold from the 1500m and 5000m and was the biggest threat to Crates. But responding to Nouioua's attack around the last bend Crates accelerated down the homestraight to pull almost a second clear and cross the line Paralympic Champion. More than 30 of his friends and family had travelled to see him run, and win, "To see them all on the first bend, Union Jacks everywhere was something I will never forget."

2004 was also the year in which he re-wrote the record books. Having run 1:54.7, quicker than the then ratified world record, in a British Milers Club race in the June he lowered his PB again in the heats of the AAA championships. This saw him take the official world record to 1:53.27. This was not his only 1:53 clocking as the next two years saw him come close to his own world record mark in British Milers' Club races, in which he was a regular competitor.

The IPC World Championships gold was added to the collection in Assen, Netherlands in 2006 underlining his position as the dominant force in T46 800m. At the 2008 Paralympics Games he was flag bearer for the British team but injury troubles he had been struggling with all year reoccurred and meant he was unable to defend his title.

A public farewell came at Crystal Palace in 2009 where his contribution to athletics was recognised. But there was another duty to be performed – he fulfilled his promise to pull on his club vest and turn out for the team one last time at a wet and windy Southern Men's League in Basingstoke. After winning the A 800m race there, with his parents watching on, he picked up more points for the club in lowering his 1500m PB to 4:12.6.



MARK SHEARMAN

DANNY CRATES

Born: 9.2.1973, Corringham (Essex)

Club: Thurrock Harriers

Major medals: **Gold** – 2001 European Championships 400m, 2003 IPC World Indoor Championships 800m, 2003 & 2005 European Championships 800m, 2004 Paralympic Games 800m, 2006 IPC World Championships 800m, 2006 & 2007 Paralympic World Cup 800; **Silver** – 1998 IPC World Championships 4x400m, 2005 IPC Paralympic World Cup 800m; **Bronze** – 2000 Sydney Paralympic Games 400m

World records: 800m – 1:53.27 in 2004

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2015



MARK SHEARMAN

PETER ELLIOTT

Born: 9.10.1962, Rawmarsh (Rotherham)

Club: Rotherham Harriers

Major medals: Gold – 1990 Commonwealth 1500m; Silver – 1983 European Indoor 800m, 1987 World 800m, 1988 Olympic 1500m; Bronze – 1986 Commonwealth 800m

World records: 4x800m relay – 7:03.89 in 1982; Indoor 1500m – 3:34.20 in 1990

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2015



Peter Elliott endeared himself to the British public with his no-nonsense attitude to racing, and held down a manual job while racing at world class level. He was a joiner at British Steel, fitting in his training while working a 7.30am to 4pm shift.

He was quite a prodigy. English Schools Junior 800m champion at 14, he set UK age-15 and 16 bests of 1:52.1 and 1:50.7 and won the 1980 English National Youth cross country title. Coached by Wilf Paish, he broke Steve Ovett's UK teenage best when winning the 1982 AAA 800m in 1:45.61 and ran the first leg in a successful 4x800m world record relay attempt. He gained a silver medal at the 1983 European Indoor Championships and placed fourth at the World Championships in 1:44.87 before becoming, at 20, the world's youngest sub-1:44 performer with 1:43.98.

In 1984 he won his 800m place in the Olympic team and announced he would be challenging Seb Coe in the AAA 1500m with a view to doubling. He became the first Briton to beat Coe at the distance for eight years but the selectors controversially opted for Coe to defend his Olympic crown, which he did, while Elliott scratched from the 800m semis with a stress fracture of the foot.

Injuries were always a problem. Elliott took the 800m silver medal at the 1987 World Championships in 1:43.41 despite an early season knee injury restricting his preparations, and also made excellent progress at 1500m with 3:33.23.

Now coached by Kim McDonald, in 1988 he ran a 3:49.20 mile and 3:32.94 1500m. At the Seoul Olympics he ran with a newly sustained groin injury necessitating daily pain-killing cortisone injections. Nonetheless, he placed fourth at 800m in 1:44.12 and second in the 1500m in 3:36.15.

A gold medal finally came his way at the 1990 Commonwealth Games in Auckland with 3:33.39, followed shortly afterwards by UK indoor records of 3:36.13 and 3:52.02. A memorable February ended with a world indoor 1500m record of 3:34.20. Soon afterwards he decided to become a full-time athlete. That summer he ran 800m in 1:42.97, fastest in the world that year, and believed he could threaten the world records at 1500m and mile but, again, injury ruined his plans although he did set a UK all-comers record of 3:32.69, and was timed at 3:47.83 in New York's slightly downhill Fifth Avenue road mile.

The 1991 campaign was equally frustrating. Following victory in Oslo's Dream Mile in 3:49.46 he never even got to the start line for the World Championships in Tokyo because of a recurrent Achilles tendon problem. He recovered in time to run the champion Nourredine Morceli close with 3:32.94 to the Algerian's 3:32.38 in Brussels and two days later won the Emsley Carr Mile in 3:52.10. That effectively was his swansong for he raced only twice early in 1992 before withdrawing from the Olympic team with a knee problem.

Basil Heatley was inspired as a 14-year-old by reading about the 1948 Olympics and, in particular, Emil Zátopek. Little did he think that one day he would break one of the Czech's world records!

He joined Coventry Godiva Harriers at the end of 1950 and gained his first important success a few months later when he placed third in the English National Youth Cross Country Championship. Five years later, in 1956, he made his marathon debut but it was not until 1963 that he would start to make his mark at the distance which would prove to be his forte.

Meanwhile, he won the English cross country title – a hugely prestigious achievement in those days – in 1960, 1961 and 1963, and finished first in the International Cross Country Championship (forerunner of the present World Championship) in 1961, winning by a huge 23 sec margin. A high class track runner also, his greatest performance on cinders came in the 1961 AAA 10 miles championship at Hurlingham when he knocked 25 sec off his hero Zátopek's world record with a time of 47:47.0.

His return to the marathon in 1963 was promising. Just a few days before the AAA marathon he clocked his fastest ever 3 miles time of 13:22.8, ranking him second in Britain, and then proceeded to finish second to clubmate Brian Kilby in 2:19:56. Later that season the Essex-based American, Buddy Edelen (holder of the world record with 2:14:28), commented: "If Heatley put in some long runs and trained for the marathon seriously I'm sure he could run under 2:15."

Well, Heatley did ... and to such effect that he relieved Edelen of the world record in June 1964! Competing in the Polytechnic Marathon on the celebrated Windsor to Chiswick course, he passed Ron Hill for the lead shortly before 20 miles and came home 100 yards ahead in 2:13:55.

Four months later, in Tokyo, Heatley became the fourth Briton (after Sam Ferris 1932, Ernie Harper 1936 and Tom Richards 1948) to earn an Olympic marathon silver medal. Although outclassed by the incredible Ethiopian, Abebe Bikila (who set a world record of 2:12:12), he ran with characteristic determination to prove himself the second best marathoner in the world. Bothered by stitch for much of the race, Heatley was 12th at halfway ("I was totally in despair, thinking that I had blown it"), but worked his way up to third, 75 sec behind Kokichi Tsuburaya, at 40km. Finishing brilliantly, he overtook his Japanese rival on the stadium lap to the consternation of most of the spectators and ensured second place by sprinting the final 200m in an extraordinary 32.3 sec. He had no idea at the time that he had run himself into a medal position! Heatley announced his international retirement after the Games but continued to compete for Godiva for several more years and has remained closely involved with the sport ever since.



MARK SHEARMAN

BASIL HEATLEY

Born: 25.12.1933, Kenilworth (Warwickshire)

Club: Coventry Godiva Harriers

Major medals: Gold – 1961 International Cross Country; Silver – 1964 Olympic Marathon

World records: 10 miles – 47:47.0 in 1961; Marathon – 2:13:55 in 1964

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

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2015



EMIL VOIGT

Born: 31.1.1883, Ardwick, Manchester; died: 16.10.1973

Clubs: Slade Harriers, Manchester AC

Major medals: Gold – 1908 Olympic 5 Miles

Inducted into Hall of Fame: 2015

Finding the last British athlete to win a long distance running gold medal at the Olympic Games prior to Mo Farah in 2012 means going back 104 years to the first London Olympics. In 1908 Emil Voigt triumphed in the 5 miles event (the 5000m and 10,000m were not introduced until 1912) in a time of 25:11.2.

Born in Manchester (his father was German, his mother Scottish), Voigt began racing aged 14, winning the first race he entered. It was only in 1908, at 25, that he made his mark outside of Lancashire. He was an unexpected winner of the Olympic 5 miles trial in his debut at the distance. Competing in the AAA Championships for the first time, he won the prestigious 4 miles title in a championship record of 19:47.4. He was one of seven British runners selected for the Olympic 5 miles but in winning his heat tore muscles in his foot causing his arch to collapse and considerable pain. Being a resourceful character he arranged for a plaster of Paris arch support to be built into his running shoe. Despite the discomfort he sprinted clear in the final with 700 yards to go, "running in beautiful style" according to the Official Report of the Games. He was a class apart, finishing 70 yards ahead of team-mate Eddie Owen with the two favourites, Sweden's 5000m world record holder Johan Svanberg and South Africa's Charles Hefferon, placing a distant third and fourth. Barely 5ft 5in (1.66m) tall and weighing 53kg, Voigt attributed much of his athletic success to being a strict vegetarian, his diet largely restricted to fruit, vegetables and eggs. He was the first known vegetarian in the world to become champion in the Modern Olympics.

His career as a top class runner was brief but brilliant. In 1909 he retained the AAA 4 miles title and, at the invitation of the Crown Prince of Sweden, embarked upon a highly successful and influential tour of Scandinavia. He raced distances between 1500 and 10,000m, and among the Finnish athletes he defeated during the tour was Hannes Kolehmainen, then 19, and destined to win the 5000m, 10,000m and cross country at the Stockholm Olympics of 1912. In 1910 he became AAA mile champion and founded the short-lived Amateur Athletes' Union in Manchester, an organisation which pressed for improved dressing room accommodation, facilities, better prizes and a general raising of the amateur athlete's status. He was suspended by the AAA after competing in a non-sanctioned event in March 1911 and later that year emigrated to Australia, where he amassed several titles and records before retiring from the track in 1914, his career cut short by World War 1.

He lived a long, varied and colourful life, described in the Australian Dictionary of Biography as an athlete, political organiser (for the Labor party), master engineer and radio manager (he was a pioneer in wireless broadcasting including as founder of 2KY in Sydney). He was a sportswriter and wrestling commentator for the BBC. He moved to New Zealand in 1947, jogging well into his eighties, and died in Auckland aged of 90.

PREVIOUS INDUCTEES



HAROLD ABRAHAMS

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009

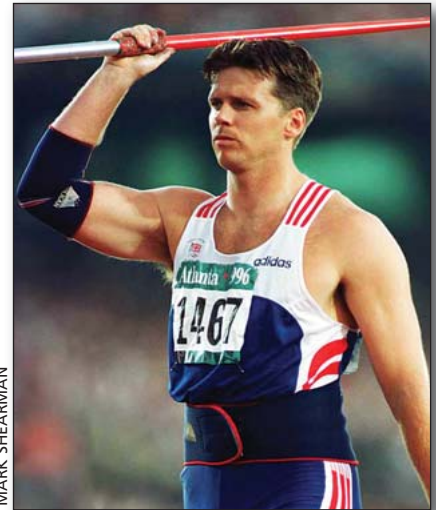
Immortalised in Chariots of Fire as Europe and England's first Olympic 100m champion he was also an athletics journalist, historian and statistician, radio commentator, leading administrator and official. He was an influential member of the IAAF, co-founder of the Association of Track & Field Statisticians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



MALCOLM ARNOLD

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2009

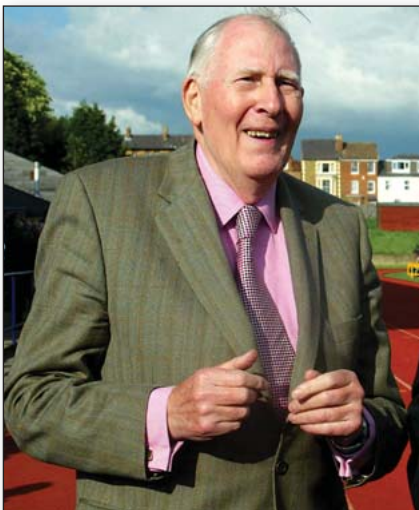
A distinguished coaching career has seen him guide five athletes to becoming Olympic or world champion. Appointed Welsh National Coach in 1974, a position he held for 20 years. He has served as British Athletics Head Coach, UK Athletics Performance Director, UKA Senior Performance Coach and National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

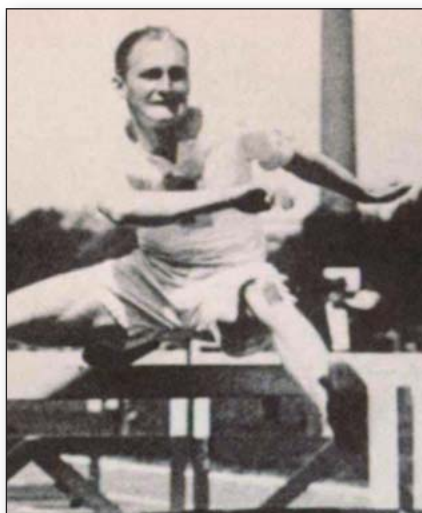
An incredibly diverse contributor to athletics. He was a pacemaker when Sir Roger Bannister ran the first sub 4min mile, Olympic gold medallist in the 1956 Olympic steeplechase, the founding father of English Orienteering, an award winning journalist, inventor of the Brasher boot, founder of the sportswear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



GEORGE BUNNER

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2014

George Bunner is creator of Sportshall, which since 1976 has seen thousands of youngsters, including many future stars, given a first taste of athletics. The former AAA Junior 880 yards champion is a leading authority on children's athletics. Among his initiatives are the AAA Tom Pink Relays, World Marathon Challenge and, recently, the Med Ball Challenge, to introduce throws events to children.



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.



GUY BUTLER

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2014

Britain's most bemedalled Olympic athlete of all-time, jointly 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. Silver at 400m and gold at 4 x 400m in the 1920 Olympics were followed by 400m bronze behind Eric Liddell and a 4 x 400m bronze in Paris in 1924.



DARREN CAMPBELL

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2014

Uniquely among British male sprinters, Darren Campbell 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 won the 1998 European 100m title and bronze in 2002 in the Commonwealth Games 200m and European Championships 100m.



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.



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.



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.



MURIEL CORNELL

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2014

A Silver medal at the 1926 Women's World Games Long Jump was repeated four years later and Muriel Cornell also set World records/bests over 80m hurdles (12.2 in 1930) and Long Jump (5.48 & 5.57 in 1926, 5.57 in 1927).

In 1928 she defeated Japan's world record holder Kinue Hitomi at the WAAA champs and in 1930 she improved her European Record to 5.80m, the first 19ft jump by a European.

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

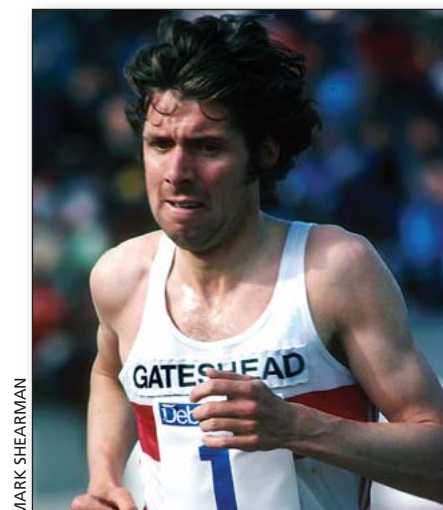
Won two Commonwealth Games silvers, a World Championships bronze, and a World Cup before being hit by Epstein Barr virus. His 1995 comeback saw a UK record of 17.58, 18.43 & 18.39 at the European Cup (wind-aided), a world record of 17.98, then 18.16 & 18.29 to dominate the World Championships. Won at 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!



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.

MARK SHEARMAN



GEORGE GANDY

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2014

George Gandy has been a key factor in the athletics successes of Loughborough University. In addition to current successes those who have come under his influence include Sebastian Coe, who was introduced to circuit training by Gandy, twice Olympic fourth placer Jon Brown, 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.



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



SIR ARTHUR GOLD

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2014

An international high jumper, he became among the pioneers of British coaching. His most notable coaching success was with legendary high jumper Dorothy Tyler in the early 1950s. As an administrator he filled practically every post of significance in British and English athletics, as well as being president of the European Athletic Association from 1976 to 1987. He was determined to protect athletics from the dangers of drug use and over commercialisation.

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



ASHIA HANSEN

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2014

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 of 15.16m in 1998.

She started her medal collection with silver at the 1997 World Indoors and at that year's Grand Prix Final she won with a magnificent 15.15m.

Who knows what more she would have achieved but for a seemingly endless series of serious injuries?

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.

MARK SHEARMAN



RON HILL

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2014

Dr Ron Hill MBE secured marathon gold medals at the European and Commonwealth Championships, a Boston Marathon title as well as world records at 10 miles (47:02.2 & 46:44.), 15 miles (1:12:48.2) and 25,000m (1:15:22.6) with a world bests for 20 miles (1:40:55 & 1:36:28). But he also remains a folklore figure among club runners for having covered at least a mile every day for 50 years as well as his innovations in athletics clothing.



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.

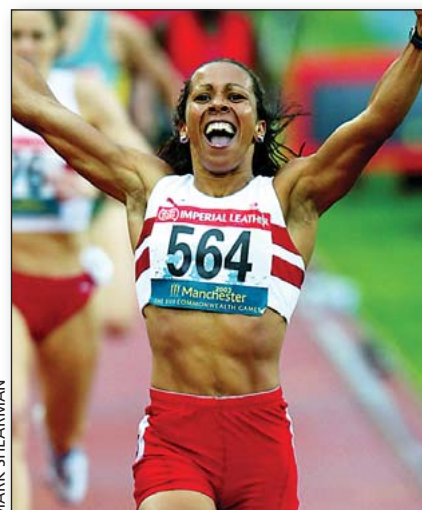


DAVID HOLDING

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.

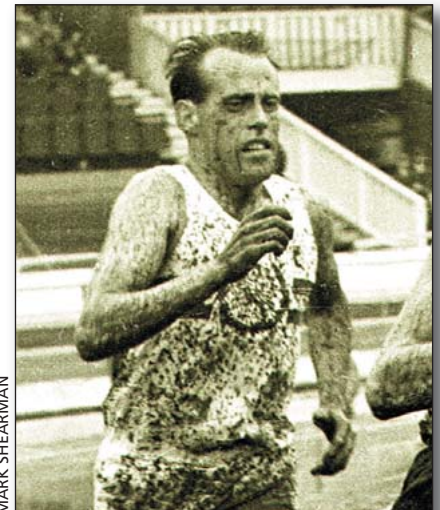


DOROTHY HYMAN

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

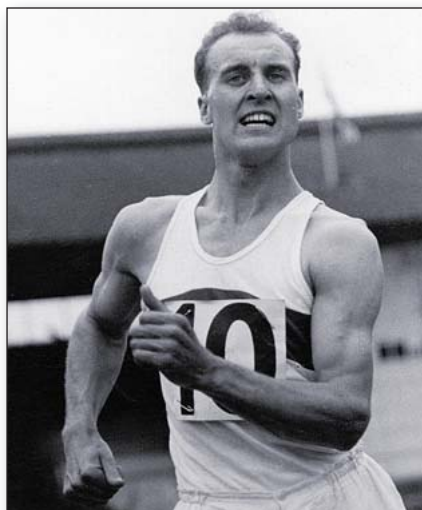
Douglas Lowe became Olympic 800m champion in 1924 and four years later became the first man to win a second Olympic gold at the distance. His Paris time of 1:52.4 took a second off the British record. In 1928 Lowe won by a full second in the Olympic and British record time of 1:51.8. Lowe's last race 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.



BOB MATTHEWS

Inducted into Hall of Fame 2014

Bob Matthews' first Paralympic Games were at goalball (an indoor team sport specifically for visually-impaired athletes) in Arnhem in 1980. He transitioned to athletics and amassed an incredible 29 international gold medals with nine silver medals and six bronze competing at distances from 400m to marathon. He set 22 world records and went on to compete internationally at cycling and triathlon in his adopted New Zealand.



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

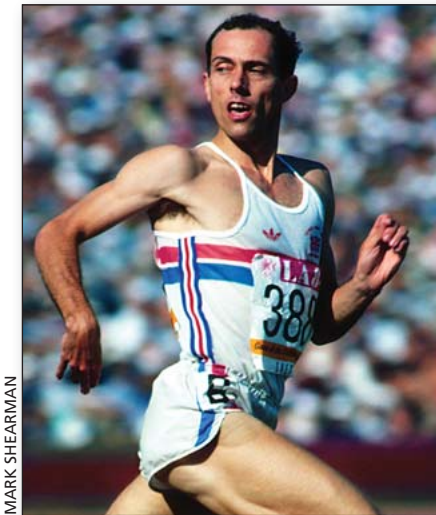
In 1978 Dave Moorcroft beat world record holder Filbert Bayi for the Commonwealth 1500m title in 3:35.48. In 1982 he ran 3:49.34 in Oslo's Dream Mile before front running his way to breaking Henry Rono's 5000m world record with the sensational 13:00.41. He then set a European 3000m record of 7:32.79 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.

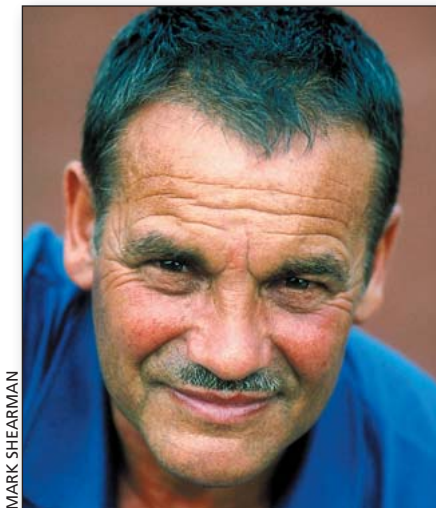


MARK SHEARMAN

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

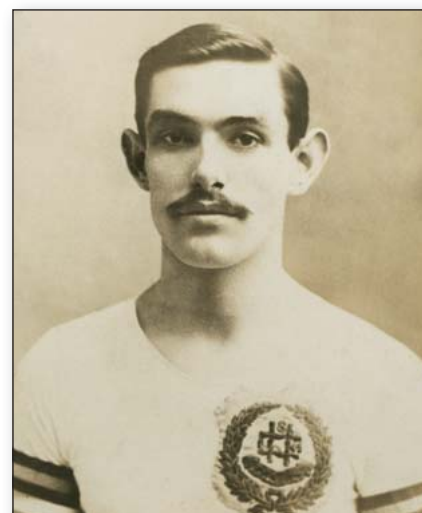
In 1992 Paula Radcliffe became World Junior cross country champion ahead of China's Wang Junxia (who the following year set seemingly unreal world record times at 3000m and 10,000m).

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.



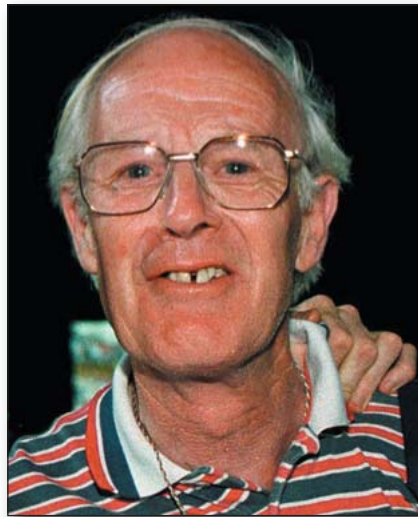
MARK SHEARMAN

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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