

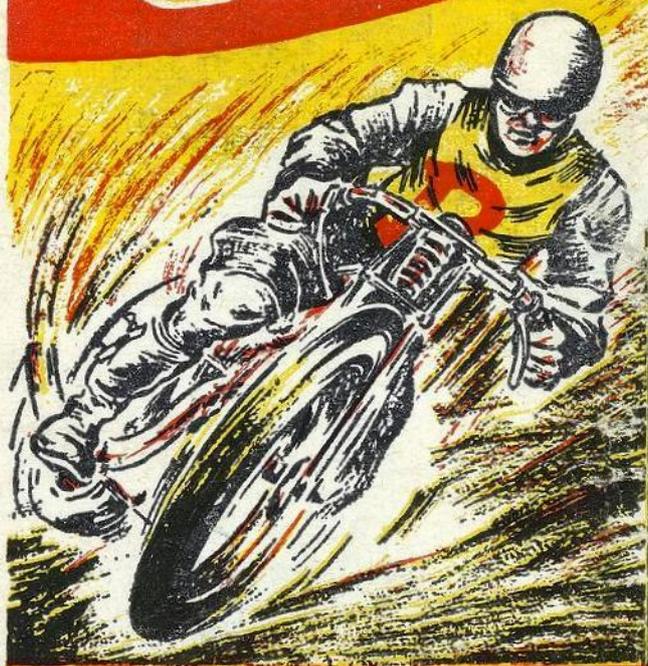
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BIRMINGHAM

SPEEDWAY

OFFICIAL
PROGRAMME

6^d.



MEETING
No. 19

Saturday,
August 23rd, 1952
at 6-30 p.m.



“Sunday Dispatch”
**SPEEDWAY
CHAMPIONSHIP
OF THE WORLD**

CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND



GEOFF PYMAR
(Bristol)



HARRY BASTABLE
(Cradley Heath)



BRIAN CRUTCHER
(Poole)



TERRY SMALL
(Poole)



FRED BRAND
(Yarmouth)



ARTHUR PAYNE
(Birmingham)



TOMMY MILLER
(Glasgow W.C.)



KEN MIDDLEDITCH
(Poole)

GEOFF PYMAR (Bristol)

Popular opinion rates Geoff as the fastest starter in the game. Now approaching the veteran stage, he jumped into prominence with Wimbledon in 1933, and has since ridden for New Cross, Harringay, and—now—Bristol. With the West Country track has revealed his best post-War form, but his temperament makes probably the most unpredictable rider in the game.

TERRY SMALL (Poole)

A fast starting young man, Terry completes this colourful trio from Poole. He started racing back in 1948 with his present track and has made steady progress ever since. Like the other "Pirates," has effectively bridged the gap to Second Division racing and is now one of the most consistent heat leaders in his section.

TOMMY MILLER (Glasgow W.C.)

This wee Scot from Blantyre is the finest product of Scottish speedway yet to be unearthed. He started with White City in 1950 and was winning league heats in no time at all. Tommy—probably due to his light weight—is a phenomenal starter and is generally considered to be the outstanding rider in Second Division racing this year. He made his debut as an England Test rider on this track in 1951, and has twice been chosen as reserve this season.

BRIAN CRUTCHER (Poole)

Another rider who will be closely watched to-night. This 17 year old youngster is a team mate of Middleditch and is generally reckoned the most promising English rider to be discovered since Bill Kitchen flashed to the front in 1933. He started as a reserve with Poole last year after receiving his initial training at the Ringwood training track, but soon forced his way into the team. The move from Third to Second Division racing with the Pirates has in no way affected his propensity for scoring maximums—in fact, it seems to have served merely to whet his appetite. One of the few top grade riders who do not favour the wide, outswept handlebars first adopted by the Australians after the War.

ARTHUR PAYNE (Birmingham)

Graham Warren's team partner for the past three seasons and by now a star in his own right. Arthur came over from Australia in 1947 to join Tamworth, being transferred to Birmingham the following season. Since then has made steady progress and nowadays is an automatic selection for the Australian Test side. Arthur scored the maximum 18 points in one of the Test matches in Australia during last winter. He came back in May to assist an injury stricken Birmingham side and has since been riding better than ever. Enjoying his best season ever.

HARRY BASTABLE (Cradley Heath)

Another one of to-night's competitors who will be no stranger to most of the folk here. Harry is a protege of Alan Hunt and adopts a style very similar to his mentor. He has been riding since 1950, but only this year has he sprung into national prominence. In fact, so great has been his improvement that Harry is frequently nominated for the mythical "most improved rider of the season" title. Currently he has averaged nine points a match for the "Heathens," and recently received his first official recognition in one of the Second Division representative matches. He has shown a liking for Perry Barr in the past and may be nearer to qualifying for the Final than many more fancied candidates.

FRED BRAND (Yarmouth)

One of the leading riders in the Second Division, Fred, together with Bob Baker, has held the Yarmouth team together for a couple of years now. The amazing consistency of the duo has long been a source of amazement in Second Division circles. Fred migrated from Norwich to Yarmouth when speedway started up at Caister Road, but only during the last two years has he been consistently successful. He has gained selection fairly regularly for the various Second Division representative series.

KEN MIDDLEDITCH (Poole)

One of the riders keen students of the sport will be watching closely to-night. Ken is skipper of the all-conquering Poole Pirates and in the opinion of many competent judges this brilliant young team rider is worthy of a trial for England. To-night he will be riding on a track similar to his own, in conditions which should be favourable to him. The question mark against Ken Middleditch should be answered by the end of this meeting. One of the most popular riders in the game, he started with Hastings in 1948, transferring to his present track in 1950 after Hastings closed down. Les Marshall was very keen to obtain Ken's services in 1951.

BIRMINGHAM SPEEDWAY

BIRCHFIELD HARRIERS' ALEXANDER SPORTS STADIUM,
PERRY BARR

Promoted by Auto Speedways Limited. 'Phone: Birchfield 6201.

Registered Office: 48 ALDRIDGE ROAD, PERRY BARR, 22B.

Managing Director: S. L. MARSHALL.

A.C.U. Steward: R. F. JONES. A.C.U. Judge Timekeeper: J. D. WOODHOUSE.

Medical Officer: DR. D. J. FERGUSON.

Announcer: F. BELFIELD.

Held under the Speedway Regulations of the Speedway Control Board.

Permit No. S.P. 1370

OFFICIAL MEASUREMENT OF THE TRACK IS 402 YARDS.

TRACK RECORD: ALAN HUNT (Birmingham), 69 3/5 SECS.

AMBULANCE SERVICE: *By arrangement with THE ST. JOHN AMBULANCE
BRIGADE (Birmingham County).*

PUBLIC ADDRESS EQUIPMENT BY MESSRS. HADLEY SOUND EQUIPMENTS.

NOTICE.—Should it be necessary through any cause whatsoever to abandon the meeting prior to the start of the SIXTH heat in the programme, tickets available for any one of the next three meetings will be issued at the exit gates. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL ANY MONEY BE REFUNDED.**

Chats from the Track

THE 1952 WORLD SPEEDWAY RIDERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

With the Championship Round, which commenced at Wimbledon last Monday week and finishes with meetings at Harringay and Bristol next Friday, the final stages of the Competition will be reached, and like Supporters of all other Tracks represented in this Championship Round, we hope that one or more of our riders succeed in qualifying for the Final at Wembley. Five "Brummies" compete in the Championship Round—Alan and Graham who were seeded into this round, and Arthur, Ron and Dan who qualified by scoring twenty-two points each in the Second Division rounds.

Riders participating in the Championship Round ride at two meetings, and for one of their engagements Alan, Graham and Arthur have been fortunate in drawing their home track. Alan completed his first engagement in this Competition a week last Tuesday at West Ham where he scored twelve points. Arthur and Graham compete at meetings next week at Harringay and New Cross respectively. Ron Mountford is at Norwich to-night, as also is Dan Forsberg, and they complete their programme at New Cross and Bristol next week.

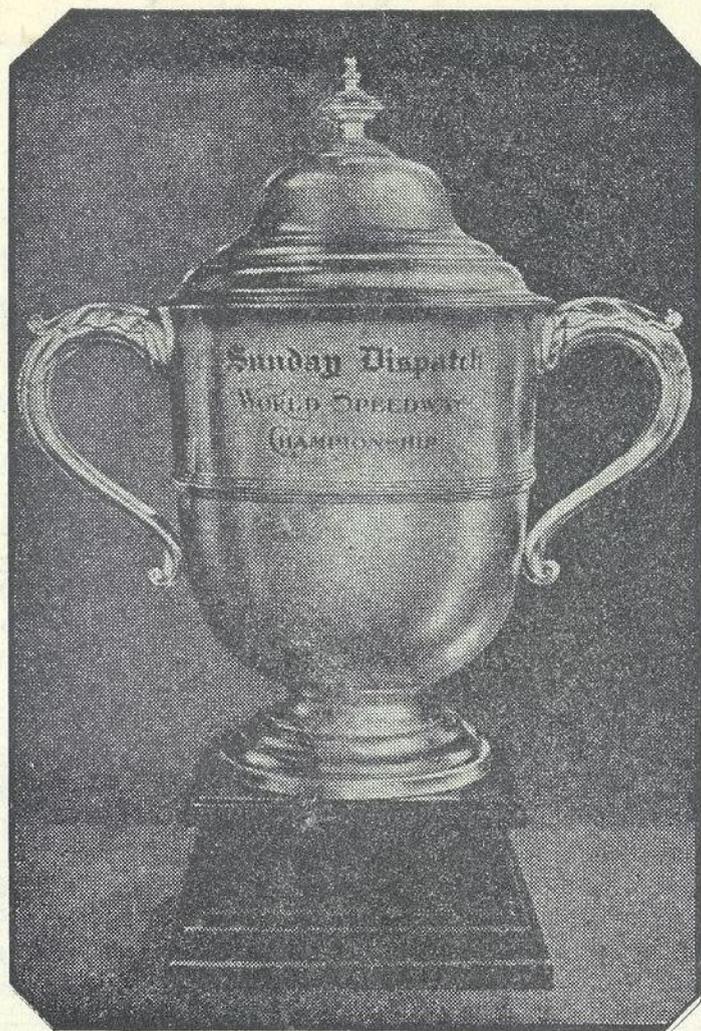
I should like to express my appreciation to the Proprietors of the "Sunday Dispatch" and in particular to Mr. Chas. Eade (Editor) and Mr. Pat Reekie (Sports Editor) for the great interest they have taken in Speedway racing.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome Mr. Pat Reekie to Perry Barr to-night for he has been a good friend to Speedway, and I am happy to say, to me too. Pat will present the "Sunday Dispatch" cheque value £50 to the fortunate winner of to-night's meeting.

It is estimated that twenty-two points will be necessary in order to qualify for the Final, and here's wishing the best of luck to all riders competing here to-night.

"UP THE BRUMMIES!"

LES. MARSHALL.



THE "SUNDAY DISPATCH" WORLD SPEEDWAY RIDERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

By TOM STENNER

The "Sunday Dispatch" World Speedway Riders' Championship reaches the vital stage with the all absorbing Championship round staged on our ten First Division tracks. Sixty qualifiers, some of whom have won through from the opening round, join twenty seeded First Division stars to decide the elect sixteen to ride in the grand final at Wembley on September 18th.

The galaxy of talent competing is worthy of the final itself. With British, Australian, South African, New Zealand, Swedish and Norwegian riders engaged the entry for this championship round is world wide indeed and far more representative than ever before. So well matched are the contestants, so keen is the competition, that it is hard indeed to suggest who will reach Wembley next month.

The "Sunday Dispatch" and its popular editor Mr. Charles Eade, deserve well of speedway racing. Apart from presenting over £2,000 in cash awards and the magnificent championship trophy for the world title competition, this great newspaper has backed speedway racing with an enthusiasm and tenacity that has put our sport on a higher plane than ever before. To Mr. Eade and the "Sunday Dispatch" we say "Thank you" for all you have done, are doing and will do for the people's number one sport.

This year we saw for the first time a European round in which all the star continental riders competed at Norwegian, Swedish, Danish and German tracks. Such famous riders as Ollie Nygren and Stig Pramberg of Sweden and Basse Hveem of Norway have won the right to compete in the present round. Nygren in particular is fancied to go through to the final and if so would be the first ever Swedish rider to qualify.

The top scorer at each of the ten meetings in the present round receives a cheque for 50 guineas from the "Sunday Dispatch" and for the final the newspaper presents £500 and the handsome championship trophy to the winner, £300 to the runner-up and £200 to the third finalist.

"Sunday Dispatch"

FOUR LAPS.
CLUTCH START.
ON POINTS.

SPEEDWAY CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD (Championship Round)

1st — 3 Points.
2nd — 2 Points.
3rd — 1 Point.

Heat No.	Rider	Starting positions	Helmet Colour	Points scored by Riders	Heat No.	Rider	Starting positions	Helmet Colour	Points scored by Riders
1	ALAN HUNT ... 1	1	Red	1	11	ERIC FRENCH ... 3	3	Red	3
Time 4:15	GRAHAM WARREN ... 2	2	Blue	2	Time 4:25	ARTHUR PAYNE ... 1	1	Blue	3
	ERIC FRENCH ... 3	3	White	3		FRITZ DIRTL ... 2	2	White	2
2	FRED WILLIAMS ... 4	4	Y. & B.	3	Time 4:25	TERRY SMALL ... 4	4	Y. & B.	2
	KEN MIDDLEDITCH ... 1	1	Red	1		FRED WILLIAMS ... 2	2	Red	3
Time 4:15	TOMMY MILLER ... 3	3	Blue	2	Time 4:25	GEORGE WILKS ... 4	4	Blue	0
	GEORGE WILKS ... 2	2	White	3		GEOFF PYMAR ... 3	3	White	2
3	ARTHUR PAYNE ... 4	4	Y. & B.	3	Time 4:35	BRIAN CRUTCHER ... 1	1	Y. & B.	2
	FRITZ DIRTL ... 3	3	Red	0		ALAN HUNT ... 4	4	Red	0
Time 4:25	GEOFF PYMAR ... 1	1	Blue	3	Time 4:35	GEORGE WILKS ... 1	1	Blue	0
	FRED BRAND ... 2	2	White	2		HARRY BASTABLE ... 2	2	White	3
4	HARRY BASTABLE ... 4	4	Y. & B.	3	Time 4:25	TERRY SMALL ... 3	3	Y. & B.	0
	BRIAN CRUTCHER ... 4	4	Red	0		GRAHAM WARREN ... 1	1	Red	0
Time 4:2	TERRY SMALL ... 2	2	Blue	0	Time 4:25	ARTHUR PAYNE ... 3	3	Blue	0
	FRED PAWSON ... 1	1	White	0		FRED BRAND ... 4	4	White	0
5	PAT CLARKE ... 3	3	Y. & B.	0	Time 4:25	BRIAN CRUTCHER ... 2	2	Y. & B.	0
	ALAN HUNT ... 2	2	Red	0		ERIC FRENCH ... 2	2	Red	2
Time 4:25	KEN MIDDLEDITCH ... 3	3	Blue	0	Time 4:45	KEN MIDDLEDITCH ... 4	4	Blue	0
	FRITZ DIRTL ... 4	4	White	0		GEOFF PYMAR ... 3	3	White	0
6	BRIAN CRUTCHER ... 1	1	Y. & B.	0	Time 4:45	PAT CLARKE ... 1	1	Y. & B.	0
	GRAHAM WARREN ... 3	3	Red	3		FRED WILLIAMS ... 3	3	Red	0
Time 4:3	TOMMY MILLER ... 4	4	Blue	0	Time 4:45	TOMMY MILLER ... 2	2	Blue	0
	GEOFF PYMAR ... 2	2	White	0		FRITZ DIRTL ... 1	1	White	0
7	TERRY SMALL ... 1	1	Y. & B.	0	Time 4:45	FRED PAWSON ... 4	4	Y. & B.	0
	ERIC FRENCH ... 4	4	Red	0		ALAN HUNT ... 1	1	Red	0
Time 4:35	GEORGE WILKS ... 3	3	Blue	0	Time 4:45	ARTHUR PAYNE ... 2	2	Blue	0
	FRED BRAND ... 1	1	White	0		GEOFF PYMAR ... 3	3	White	0
8	FRED PAWSON ... 2	2	Y. & B.	0	Time 4:45	FRED PAWSON ... 4	4	Y. & B.	0
	FRED WILLIAMS ... 1	1	Red	2		GRAHAM WARREN ... 2	2	Red	0
Time 4:15	ARTHUR PAYNE ... 2	2	Blue	0	Time 4:45	GEORGE WILKS ... 3	3	Blue	0
	HARRY BASTABLE ... 3	3	White	0		FRITZ DIRTL ... 1	1	White	0
9	PAT CLARKE ... 4	4	Y. & B.	0	Time 4:45	PAT CLARKE ... 4	4	Y. & B.	0
	ALAN HUNT ... 3	3	Red	3		ERIC FRENCH ... 1	1	Red	0
Time 4:25	TOMMY MILLER ... 1	1	Blue	1	Time 4:45	TOMMY MILLER ... 4	4	Blue	0
	FRED BRAND ... 4	4	White	0		HARRY BASTABLE ... 2	2	White	0
10	PAT CLARKE ... 2	2	Y. & B.	0	Time 4:35	BRIAN CRUTCHER ... 3	3	Y. & B.	2
	GRAHAM WARREN ... 4	4	Red	3		FRED WILLIAMS ... 4	4	Red	3
Time 4:35	KEN MIDDLEDITCH ... 2	2	Blue	1	Time 4:35	KEN MIDDLEDITCH ... 1	1	Blue	0
	HARRY BASTABLE ... 1	1	White	0		FRED BRAND ... 3	3	White	0
11	FRED PAWSON ... 3	3	Y. & B.	0	Time 4:35	TERRY SMALL ... 2	2	Y. & B.	1
	ALAN HUNT ... 2	2	Red	0					

RIDERS' INDIVIDUAL SCORE CHART

	POINTS					
	1st ride	2nd ride	3rd ride	4th ride	5th ride	Total
1 ALAN HUNT (Birmingham)	1	3	3	0	3	10
2 GRAHAM WARREN (Birmingham)	2	3	3	2	3	13
3 ERIC FRENCH (New Cross)	0	2	0	2	0	4
4 FRED WILLIAMS (Wembley)	3	2	3	3	3	14
5 KEN MIDDLEDITCH (Poole)	1	1	1	1	2	6
6 TOMMY MILLER (Glasgow W.C.)	0	1	1	2	1	5
7 GEORGE WILKS (Wembley)	2	3	0	2	2	9
8 ARTHUR PAYNE (Birmingham)	3	3	3	3	2	14
9 FRITZ DIRTL (Austria)	0	0	1	0	0	1
10 GEOFF PYMAR (Bristol)	2	2	1	0	1	6
11 FRED BRAND (Yarmouth)	1	1	0	0	0	2
12 HARRY BASTABLE (Cradley Heath)	3	0	2	3	3	11
13 BRIAN CRUTCHER (Poole)	3	2	2	1	2	10
14 TERRY SMALL (Poole)	0	0	2	1	1	4
15 FRED PAWSON (Norwich)	2	0	0	1	0	3
16 PAT CLARKE (West Ham)	1	1	2	3	1	8
RESERVES:						
RON MASON (Birmingham)						
LAURIE SCHOFIELD (Birmingham)						

MONDAY, AUGUST 25th at 7.30 p.m.

Birmingham v. Belle Vue

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30th at 6.30 p.m.

BIRMINGHAM v. WIMBLEDON

National League (First Division)

BETTING ON THIS SPEEDWAY IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.
INTERVAL FOR TRACK GRADING AFTER 10th HEAT

Handwritten note: Mr. D. Vincent, Birmingham meeting at Birmingham at 10th heat

SUPPORTERS' CLUB

ERDINGTON AND SUTTON AREA

All members who have reserved tickets for the Riders' Championship at Wembley on September 18th are asked to attend the Supporters Meeting at the Aston Chain and Hook Canteen, Tyburn Road on Tuesday next, August 26th at 8 p.m. An invitation is also extended to all members in the Area to come along to our Meetings, where a friendly game of Darts, Table Tennis, Billiards, etc., can be enjoyed.

SOUTH BIRMINGHAM SECTION

Our second Square Dance is being held on Wednesday next, 27th August, 1952, at the People's Hall, Oak Tree Lane, Selly Oak, 7.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. Entrance 2/-, all Members welcome. Callers provided by the English Square Dance Society. Come along and enjoy yourselves.

DARLASTON, WEDNESBURY AND BILSTON AREA

A supper is being held at The Herberts Park Tavern, Forge Road, Darlaston, on Friday, 12th September, 1952, commencing at 7.45 p.m. at which it is hoped riders will be in attendance. Members wishing to attend will they please contact the Secretary, Miss E. Davies, 25, Rough Hay Road, Darlaston, before 30th August. Will Members please note that the usual end of the month social evenings will, as from September, revert back to the last Friday in the month, and the committee hope that both old and new members will come along.

WARD END, WASHWOOD HEATH, CASTLE BROMWICH AREA

There will be a meeting at Ingleton Road Schools on Tuesday next, August 26th to discuss arrangements for the Annual Outing, a special welcome is extended to all new members. Will members who have ordered Wembley tickets arrange to collect same at this meeting.

PEN PALS are requested by 4047313 A/C. Syms (Bob), 4067767 A/C. Joyce (Alf), 4039747 A/C. Chisholm (Jim), 2526811 A/C. Kivill (Alan) all at the following address c/o Tented Camp H.Q., Royal Air Force, Ismailia, M.E.A.F. 10, Egypt. Their ages are 18 to 20. Also Ronald Steele, 3, Pendlebury Road, Gatley, Cheshire, age 22.

YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1953.

Membership No.....

I hereby apply for membership to

THE BIRMINGHAM SPEEDWAY SUPPORTERS' CLUB.

B

Mr. _____
 Mrs. _____
 Name Miss.....State age if under sixteen.....
 Master _____ (BLOCK LETTERS, PLEASE)

Address.....

I wish to join.....Branch.

I wish/I do not wish to be informed of Social Activities of my branch.
 (Delete as necessary)

This application form to be completed and handed in to Supporters' Club Kiosks at The Track or sent by post to the General Secretary, Supporters' Club, 47, Oscott Road, Perry Barr, together with membership fee and cost of Badge and or Bars plus stamped Self-Addressed Envelope.

PLEASE COMPLETE WHERE NECESSARY		
Membership Fee	1/-	
Badge	1/6	
Bars	9d.	
TOTAL		

Badge and bar for the current season can only be supplied after the membership Fee of 1/- has been paid.

BIRMINGHAM SPEEDWAY

Fixture List - Season 1952

Date	Opponents	Points For	Points Agst
Saturday, Apr. 12	... HOME ... Wembley ... Challenge	47	37
Monday, ,, 14	... Away ... Belle Vue (3 p.m.) ... National League	31	53
Saturday, ,, 19	... HOME ... West Ham ... National League	38	46
Saturday, ,, 26	... HOME ... Bradford ... National League	56	28
Thursday, May 1	... Away ... Norwich ... National League	45	39
Saturday, ,, 3	... HOME ... Norwich ... National League— <i>Rained off</i>		
Saturday, ,, 10	... HOME ... New Cross ... National League	50	34
Friday, ,, 16	... Away ... Bristol ... National League	38	45
Saturday, ,, 17	... HOME ... Bristol ... National League	55	29
Friday, ,, 23	... Away ... Harringay ... National League	36	48
Saturday, ,, 24	... HOME ... Harringay ... National League	52	32
Monday, ,, 26	... Away ... Wimbledon ... National League	34	49
Wednesday, ,, 28	... Away ... New Cross ... National League	39	45
Saturday, ,, 31	... HOME ... Wembley ... National League	53	31
Whit Mon. June 2	... HOME ... Norwich ... National League— <i>Rained off</i>		
Thursday, ,, 5	... Away ... Wembley ... National League	37	47
Saturday, ,, 14	... HOME ... Wimbledon ... National League	57	27
Thursday, ,, 19	... Away ... Norwich ... National League	49	35
Saturday, ,, 21	... HOME ... Norwich ... National League	56	28
Tuesday, ,, 24	... Away ... West Ham ... National League	43	41
Saturday, ,, 28	... Away ... Bradford ... National League	47	37
Monday, ,, 30	... HOME ... Bradford ... National League	57	27
Friday, July 4	... Away ... Bristol ... National Trophy	62	46
Saturday, ,, 5	... Away ... Belle Vue ... National League	38	46
Monday, ,, 7	... HOME ... Belle Vue ... National League	45	39
Wednesday, ,, 9	... Away ... New Cross ... National League	53	30
Saturday, ,, 12	... HOME ... Bristol ... National Trophy	79	29
Monday, ,, 14	... Away ... Wimbledon ... National League	32	52
Tuesday, ,, 15	... Away ... West Ham ... National League	39	45
Monday, ,, 21	... HOME ... Midland Riders' Championship		
Saturday, ,, 26	... Away ... Belle Vue ... National Trophy	49	59
Monday, ,, 28	... HOME ... Harringay ... National League	52	32
Saturday, Aug. 2	... HOME ... Wembley ... National League	55	29
Thursday, ,, 7	... Away ... Wembley ... National League	29	53
Saturday, ,, 9	... HOME ... Bristol ... National League	53	31
Monday, ,, 11	... HOME ... Belle Vue ... National Trophy	69	39
Saturday, ,, 16	... HOME ... Wembley ... National Trophy	69	39
Monday, ,, 18	... HOME ... Norwich ... National League— <i>Rained off</i>		
Thursday, ,, 21	... Away ... Wembley ... National Trophy		
Friday, ,, 22	... Away ... Bristol ... National League		
Saturday, ,, 23	... HOME ... World Championship		
Monday, ,, 25	... HOME ... Belle Vue ... National League		
Saturday, ,, 30	... HOME ... Wimbledon ... National League		
Saturday, Sept. 6	... HOME ... New Cross ... National League		
Saturday, ,, 13	... HOME ... West Ham ... National League		
Saturday, ,, 20	... HOME ... Midland Trophy Competition		
Friday, ,, 26	... Away ... Harringay ... National League		
Saturday, ,, 27	... HOME ... To be arranged		
Saturday, Oct. 4	... Away ... Bradford ... National League		

FRED WILLIAMS (Wembley)

The Welshman who is an automatic choice for any England Test side. Fred, a Wembley novice in 1948, caused the biggest upset ever when he became the World Champion in 1950. Ever since his second season in the sport, however, Fred has been a top notcher and is probably the most valuable rider among even Wembley's team of stars. He is currently riding in top form and is the August challenger for Jack Young's M.R.C.

ERIC FRENCH (New Cross)

The only Irish born rider of any repute in the game, Eric has succeeded the famous Ron Johnson as captain of the New Cross side. Before the War was a rather indifferent performer for Wimbledon, but since being allocated to his present track in the general pooling of riders in 1946 has come right to the front. Eric has appeared several times for England in Test matches, and has also been chosen as a challenger for the Match Race Championship. As a matter of interest, it was at Perry Barr that he was beaten by Jack Parker in a decider for the M.R.C. back in 1950.

PAT CLARKE (West Ham)

If Harry Bastable is the most improved rider in the Second Division, then West Ham's Pat Clarke must be challenging for that honour in the First Division. Pat wanted to be a doctor at one time, but he took to speedway instead and joined Ravleigh in 1949. He was transferred to Oxford for season 1950, and up till fracturing a leg at Exeter at Whitsun 1951 was easily the "Cheetahs" leading performer. West Ham signed this forceful young rider early on this season, since when his partnership with Jack Young has ripened into one of the most effective in the First Division.

GEORGE WILKS (Wembley)

George is now approaching the veteran stage, but is still a consistent points scorer for Wembley. He was a member of Harringay's reserve team in 1934, and not until he subsequently moved to Hackney Wick did he come into prominence. When Hackney dropped into the Second Division, Wembley promptly stepped in to sign George—one of the astutest moves the "Lions" ever made. He has appeared frequently in the England Test side, but has rarely revealed his best form here at Perry Barr.

ALAN HUNT (Birmingham)

In five years the popular "Whacker" rode himself from the position of second reserve in a Third Division side to a place among the leading riders in the country, an automatic selection for the England Test team, and one of the heaviest point scorers in First Division racing. One of the biggest crowd pleasers in the game, Alan's cheerful outlook (an ideal temperament for a top class rider) has made him one of the most popular, too. He has one record which can never be taken from him: in 1950 whilst with Cradley Heath (from which he was transferred to Birmingham at the end of that season for a fee of £2,500) he became the first Second Division rider ever to appear in the England Test side against Australia. Now "Brummies" Captain and most consistent point scorer.

FRITZ DIRTL (Austria)

Fritz, the Austrian and Central European champion, really needs little introduction to Perry Barr regulars. He made his headquarters here when racing in this country in 1950 and frequently appeared in second half events. From the snatches we have seen of him this year he appears to be riding better than ever and should be capable of giving an excellent account of himself to-night. When it was thought that Graham Warren would not be coming back to Birmingham for this season, Fritz wrote and offered his services. Later on his name was connected for a while with Norwich and there is no doubt that he would be an asset to any First Division side.

GRAHAM WARREN (Birmingham)

No speedway follower will ever forget the impact made on British speedway by the "Blond Bombshell" in 1948. Arriving here from his native Australia unknown and almost unwanted, Graham was signed by Mr. Les Marshall. Broke the Tamworth track record in his second ride for Cradley, moved to Birmingham and for the rest of the season carried all before him. Before the end of 1948 had ridden in the last two Tests for Australia, was Second Division Match Race Champion, and won each of his initial races on all five London tracks. In 1950 was undoubtedly the best rider in the world, but a fractured skull sustained at Palmerston (N.Z.) in 1951 and a fractured ankle as a relic from a visit to Leicester last October, have meant almost a fresh start this season. Now back to his old brilliance.

FRED PAWSON (Norwich)

A Harringay junior in 1947, Fred was loaned to Poole in 1948 when that track first opened. Here he gained valuable experience in Third Division racing before being recalled to Green Lanes two years later. After a spell back at Harringay was transferred to Norwich last year and has been among the "Stars" leading scorers ever since.



FRED WILLIAMS
(Wembley)



ALAN HUNT
(Birmingham)



ERIC FRENCH
(New Cross)



FRITZ DIRTL
(Austria)



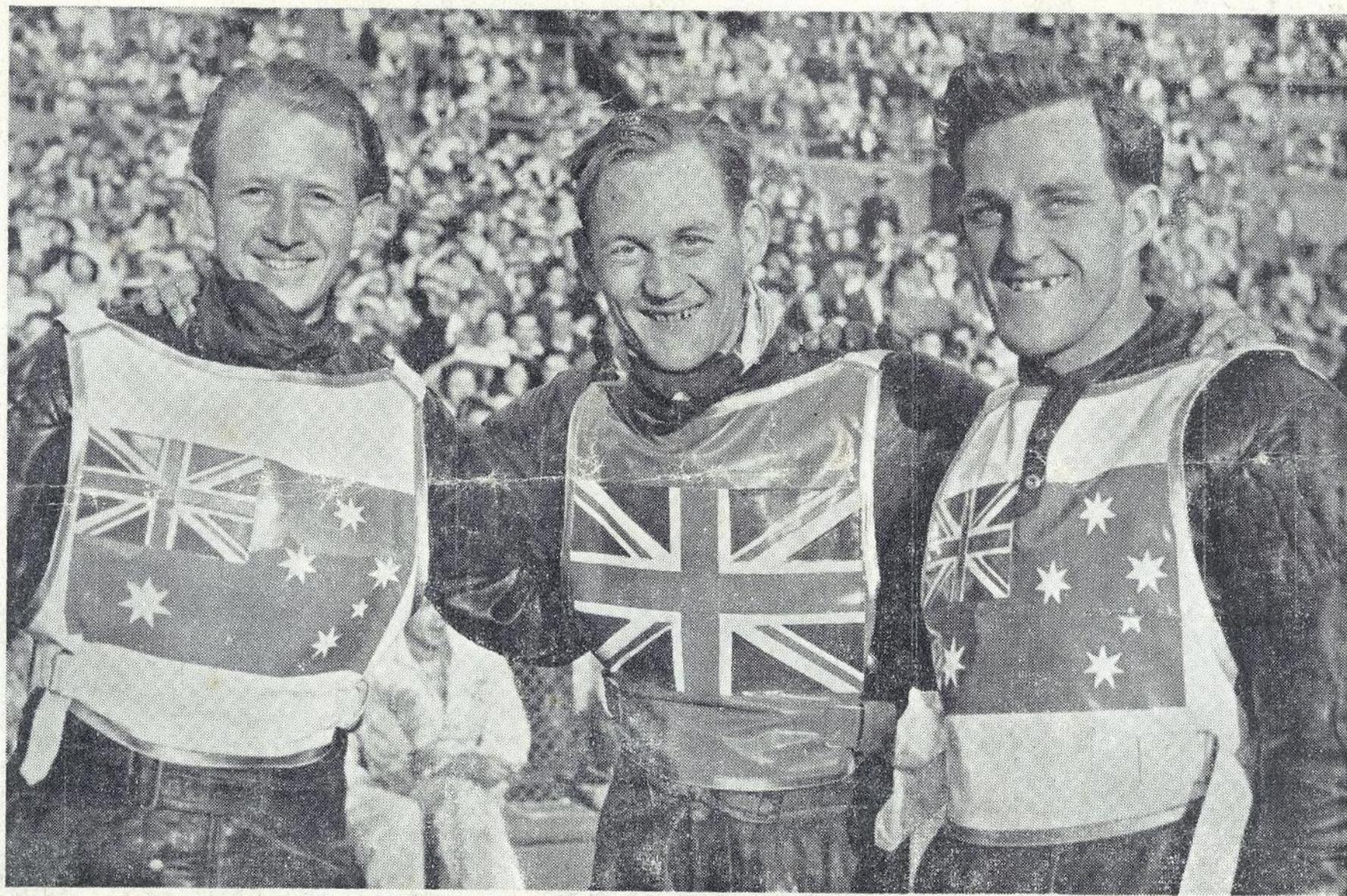
PAT CLARKE
(West Ham)



GRAHAM WARREN
(Birmingham)

OUR HOPES FOR TO-NIGHT

Deanson (Walsall) Ltd., Printers, Bott Lane, Walsall.



GRAHAM WARREN, ALAN HUNT AND ARTHUR PAYNE