

Notice of the race, published in *'The Sporting Life'* of Wednesday, 11 January 1888:

The above event will take place on Saturday next, January 14, at three o'clock from The Freemason's Hotel, Battersea Rise, Wandsworth Common. The course lays as follows:— Starting from green opposite head-quarters, over Railway Bridge, turning right up Chivalry-road, across Wandsworth Common, to the left round station, crossing Balham high road, up Bedford Hill, across Tooting Bec Common, down Back-lane to Tooting Junction Station (half-distance), across Figg's Marsh, taking to the plough, up Mitcham-lane to Tooting Bec Common, then up Tooting Bec-lane to Trinity-road, through Spencer Park and home, finishing on the green.

After the race a meat tea will be provided, tickets for which can be obtained (2s. each) from the secretary of any competing club, or of Mr. W.J. Perry, hon. sec. and treasurer, 6 The Pavement, Birchanger-road, South Norwood. A capital programme has been arranged for the smoking concert, at which prizes will be presented to the successful competitors.

Results from *'The Sporting Life'*, Monday 16 January 1888:

THE SOUTH OF THE THAMES SECOND CLASS INTER CLUB RACE

The wave of athletic feeling that for the past few years has been ever increasing in volume has, at length, rolled up another competition, namely, that which appears at the head of this column, the distance being about eight miles. The great increase in cross-country running has brought a number of young organisations into the field that are unable to successfully cope with their older and more powerful brethren when matched on terms of equality. although their members very frequently score a victory in handicaps owing to their prowess being too lightly thought of by the allotter of starts. After a good deal of preliminary talk it was suggested to hold a "Second Class Club's" Championship to be run on similar lines to the Southern Counties' one, and the arrangements having been placed in the able and willing hands of Mr. W.J. Perry (South Norwood Harriers), ably assisted by Mr. S.E. Musk (of the Reindeer Harriers), seven clubs entered, and the event was brought to a successful issue last Saturday from the Freemasons' Hotel, Battersea Rise, Wandsworth Common. In the end the winner turned up in W. Jones of the Reindeer H., hotly pursued by A. Fowles, of the Oakley Harriers; another Reindeer, E.J. Eagles, finishing third. It is worthy of note that this time the "clever" division were "fairly in it," as five of the most fancied men finished in the first six. A large muster of spectators, including a charming contingent of the fair sex, were present, and "Studer" Brown and W.H. Tope were hard at work canvassing for entries for the Finchley Harriers' and Westbourne A.C. Open Steeple Chases, which shortly will be brought off. The trail laying was ably performed by members of the various clubs engaged and other volunteers, and the start was effected at twenty-eight minutes past three. The following gentlemen assisted in various capacities: H. Wright, Ranelagh H., starter and referee; judges, G.S. Cameron (Nunhead H.), A. Sinclair (S.C.C.C.A.), S.E. Musk (Reindeer H.), G. Robinson (N.S.B.C.), H. Lonsdale (V.P.I.H.), W. Rider (Finchley H.); Hon, sec. and treasurer, W.J. Perry (South Norwood H.). The result was:—

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|----|-----------------------------------|-------|----|------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | W. Jones.....Reindeer H | 49:51 | 22 | E. Parsons.....Reindeer H | 53:16 |
| 2 | A. Fowles.....Oakley H | 49:56 | 23 | E. Yates.....Argus H | 53:21 |
| 3 | E.J. Eagles.....Reindeer H | 50:09 | 24 | T.H. Lapworth.....Oakley H | 53:26 |
| 4 | A. Strathie.....Clapham H | 50:24 | 25 | J.J.M. Bassett.....Oakley H | 53:27 |
| 5 | G. Barley.....Victoria Place I. H | 50:29 | 26 | W.C. Friend.....Clapham H | |
| 6 | A. Stotesbury.....Argus H | 50:47 | 27 | F.W. Whybrow.....Victory Place I.H | |
| 7 | G.A. Fowles.....Oakley H | 50:58 | 29 | C. Bullivant.....Clapham H | |
| 8 | E. Mills.....South Norwood H | 51:24 | 31 | J. Rudd.....Victory Place I.H | |
| 9 | E.E. Gibbs.....St. Luke's H | 51:25 | 32 | C. Jones.....Clapham H | |
| 10 | C. Carter.....Reindeer H | 51:51 | 33 | A.G. Philips.....St. Luke's H | |
| 11 | J. Daffern.....Clapham H | 51:57 | 38 | W.J. Higgs.....St. Luke's H | |
| 12 | J. Parsons.....Clapham H | 51:58 | 40 | W. Clepham.....Argus H | |
| 13 | C.A. Boyd.....Victoria Place I.H | 52:00 | 42 | H. Wright.....Victory Place I.H | |
| 14 | T. Pond.....Reindeer H | 52:13 | 46 | C. Willott.....Argus H | |
| 15 | R. Goodale.....St. Luke's H | 52:14 | 48 | H. Denton.....Victory Place I.H | |
| 16 | C.W. Borrett.....St. Luke's H | 52:16 | 49 | E. Stuchberry.....South Norwood H | |
| 17 | T.T. Chown.....St. Luke's H | 52:16 | 51 | H. Wright.....Argus H | |
| 18 | J.C. George.....Oakley H | 52:31 | 53 | J. Bellfield.....South Norwood H | |
| 19 | J.A. Griswood.....Reindeer H | 52:45 | 64 | W. Woodnutt.....South Norwood H | |
| 20 | W.T. Scraggs.....Argus H | 53:02 | | | |
| 21 | C. Gabriel.....Oakley H | 53:11 | | | |

The positions of the following cannot be ascertained as they did not score for their team. They would have been scattered among the missing positions above.

Also ran but did not score:

P. LewisReindeer H
 J. KeenReindeer H
 E.E. HearnReindeer H
 R.H. ClarkeReindeer H
 E. Dance.....Reindeer H
 A.G. Hearn.....Reindeer H
 H. Gilbey..... Oakley H
 J.W. Lapworth..... Oakley H
 H.J. Smithson Oakley H
 W. Stevens Oakley H
 C.J. Winter..... Oakley H
 J. Whitcombe..... Clapham H
 W.G. Tarling Clapham H

T. Smith Clapham H
 A.E. Goode.....St. Luke's H
 A. Jackson.....St. Luke's H
 H.C. Campbell.....St. Luke's H
 C. Wall.....St. Luke's H
 F. Owen.....St. Luke's H
 W. Walker.....St. Luke's H
 E. Drain Victory Place I.H
 A.W. Osborne Victory Place I.H
 W.B. Lonsdale Victory Place I.H
 A.J. Stephens Victory Place I.H
 W.R. Hutchens Victory Place I.H
 C.W. Metcalf Victory Place I.H
 G. Giddings Argus H
 G. Martin Argus H
 E.C. Chase Argus H
 W. Worsley..... Argus H
 K. MaybankSouth Norwood H
 E. BucklonSouth Norwood H

Twelve men were allowed to run for each team, of which the first six home scored. South Norwood H were unplaced because they only had six runners and of these two did not complete the course.

Teams:

1 Reindeer H 69
 2 Oakley H..... 97
 3 Clapham H..... 114
 4 St. Luke's H..... 128
 5 Victory Place Institute H 168
 6 Argus H..... 186

Unplaced
 South Norwood H.....
 7 teams entered

'The Sporting Life' further reported:

Soon after the start Strathie and Jones went to the front, and at half a mile were running in close order, but a tail had already formed of fully 100 yards. A mile and a half having been covered Jones was forcing the pace from Strathie, Bailey, Eagles, Chown, Daffern, Gibbs, and G.A. Fowles. The leader kept his place until four miles had been reeled off, when Gibbs headed Campbell by twenty yards, with Jones next. The latter, however, went to the front again, and half a mile from the finish was running level with A. Fowles, Eagles being about eighty yards behind. Jones now went away from Fowles, who was slightly impeded in the run-in, and won as stated above.

High tea having had full justice done to it, Mr. S.T. Brown (Finchley H.) took the chair. Amongst those present were A. Sinclair (S.C.C.C.A.), W.H. Tope W.A.C.) H. Wright (Ranelagh H), S.E. Musk and A.C. Gladwell (Reindeer H.) W.J. Perry (hon. sec. of the meet), H Gilbey (Oakley Harriers), and E.E. Gibbs (St. Luke's Harriers). The programme commenced with a brilliant pianoforte solo by Signor Vanoli, after which Mr. R.E. Keys (O.H.) gave "Sailing," and Mr. T.T. Chown was heard to advantage in "The Shoreditch Handicap." "Nobody Knows," by Mr. H. Wright (Argus H) and the "Dream of the Albert Hall," by Mr. E.G. Fenning (R.H) were well received, and then the virtues of the late "Tom Bowling " were extolled by Mr. C. Gabriel (O.H.). Mr. H.J. Smithson (O.H.) now gave a recitation "How we beat the favourite," and after Mr. W.T. Scraggs (A.H.) had given "As long as the world goes round," the chairman, Mr. S.T. Brown, obliged with one of his humorous compositions, a parody on "Jack's Yarn," and on coming in for an ovation recited in a truly comical manner "The Showman." When Mr. Short (Christ Church Surrey Institute) had sung "How d'ye do dear boy" and "To be there," the prizes were presented. Medals were given by the Association to the first three men in, and to each of the first six men in the winning team. The Reindeer Harriers also presented their winning six with medals and several of the other clubs announced their intention of doing likewise. Harmony was then resumed, and showed every sign of continuing to a very late (or possibly early) hour. The junior clubs may certainly be congratulated on the way in which the affair was brought to a head.