

ST. GEORGE DISTRICT AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB.

Founded 1921.

Affiliated to the W.S.W.A.A.A.

EIGHTH  
SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT & BALANCE SHEET

For Year Ending February, 1929.

OFFICE BEARERS 1928-29.

PATRON:

B. Jolley, Esq.

PRESIDENT:

H. Taylor, Esq.

SENIOR VICE - PRESIDENTS:

Mark Gosling, M.L.A.  
F. Matson, Senior.  
Ald. S. Binder, Esq.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

C. Harris	G. Ford
R. Wright, Senr.	Ald. E. Webb
J. J. Walsh	" Gifford
A. Gainsford	J. B. Stewart
T. Houghton	J. C. Walker

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

J. C. Allison	G. P. S. Parke
J. Batger, Senr.	T. Offord
W. B. Alexander	R. Andrew
Ald. Humphries	J. Butler
A. C. Willis	

HON. HANDICAPPERS:

Distance Season.

A. Gainsford  
J. Harris

Sprint Season.

A. Gainsford.

Field Games.

A. Gainsford

DELEGATES TO W.S.W.A.A.A.

J. J. Walsh. M. J. Maloney. W. J. Hasler.

Captain.

A. Gainsford

Hon. Auditors.

Ald. S. Binder  
J. A. Harris

Vice Captain.

O. Mitson.

Timetakers.

J. Batger	F. Matson, Senr.
J. Roberts	R. Wright
A. Thomas	F. Batger.

Judges.

M. J. Maloney	W. Pearce
G. E. Hasler	G. Ford
A. Gainsford	W. J. Hasler
T. Houghton	

Starter:

J. A. Harris

Point Scorer.

A. Gainsford -- Distance.  
A. Dell -- Track.

Local Secty.

E. S. Brooke

Hon. Treasurer.

E. E. Giles

Life Member.

A. Gainsford

Hon. Secretary.

Walter J. Hasler



## ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ST. GEORGE DISTRICT AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB AT THE EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN MASONIC HALL, HURSTVILLE, ON 4TH MARCH, 1929.

Gentlemen:

In placing before you, this, the 8th Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year ending February 28th, 1929, I can sincerely state that the deeds and performances recorded in same have easily surpassed any of previous years.

Throughout the distance season your club-mates performed with outstanding merit, and at the close of same, were admitted to be the champions of the State.

On the track the local handicap fields showed a good improvement, whilst in open competition, though not as good collectively as expected, there were some outstanding individual efforts, more especially among the Juniors.

MEMBERSHIP: The strength and improvement of our club may be gauged by the following facts:- Financial Members 1927, 42; 1928, 60; 1929, 86.

Thus in 2 years a 100% rise is shown, which is very satisfactory indeed. Members are to be congratulated on the way they have brought along new men, whilst we should also congratulate our efficient Treasurer, who is responsible for the collecting of the subscriptions. There is no reason why the total should not be again increased and if members will continue in the same spirit, I have no doubt but that it will be.

### ACTIVE ATHLETICS -- DISTANCE SEASON (CLUB EVENTS):

The 1928 Season was marked by keen competition, whilst the average contestants per race showed an increase of 6 on the previous year.

The racing was held mainly on the cross-country course at Hurstville, which was more enjoyable and beneficial to the runners than the hard roads.

Making his first appearance with the club, B. Button began well by winning the season's point-score from consistent S. Gainsford.

5 MILES CLUB NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIP took place at Hurstville on June 9th, 1928, and was won by B. Button (28.37) from W. Gillard (29m 5s) and P. Medlin (29m 11s).

Senior runner Y. Matterson won the sealed handicap held in conjunction with an allowance of 55 secs.

It is worthy of note that A. Blyth, the subsequent State Novice winner, finished a bad last in the above race.

5 MILES SENIOR ROAD CHAMPIONSHIP held at Hurstville over the usual Forest Road course and duly won by A. Gainsford in 28 mins. 26 secs. R. Chadwick and S. Gainsford followed him home, whilst A. Longhurst surprised by finishing well in 4th place and easily annexing the sealed Handicap.

OPEN HANDICAPS: Once again your club enjoyed a large measure of success. The first race was conducted by St. George, namely, the "Jolly Black Cat" 3 miles and was run on June 23rd, 1928. Of a nomination of 78 there were 64 starters, showing an improvement of 10 and 13 respectively on last year.

South Sydney runner C. Chambers with an allowance of 2m. 20 secs. was first, with L. Triglone (West) and G. Matterson (St. G.) 2nd and 3rd.

For the 2nd year in succession clubmate R. Wright gained fastest time honours, sharing same with S. Hesketh (West). Their time was 15 mins. 44 secs.

On the 30th June, 1928, G. Matterson, St. George, gained 2nd Place to F. Creasy of South Sydney, in the Mackenzie Memorial Cup race, but on the following Saturday your club began its great run of successes.

The C. Winn 4 miles at Canterbury gave our men their opportunity.



S. Gainsford was allowed 1 min. 50 sec. and scored his 2nd win in open company in convincing style. This popular athlete gained the East Sydney 2 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles trophy in 1925. A new innovation, a teams race on a handicap race was also held, with the fine Chas Winn Cup as the trophy. By finishing its required 6 in the first 18 runners, your club gained same. This cup will be held for 12 months.

E Baker gained 3rd place in the "Bob Tuch" Memorial, and in the last race of the season, East Sydney 2 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles, St. George repeated its Canterbury success.

A. Longhurst registered his 2nd win in open company from the 2min. 10 secs. mark. Though W. Homer finished in second place, he was later disqualified owing to faulty nominations. Despite this fact the club gained the S. McAlister Cup with a total of 19 pts. South Sydney gained 2nd place with 22 pts.

The latter club also won the S. Sydney teams Race, inflicting on St. George their only actual defeat in teams races.

N. S. WALES CHAMPIONSHIPS: As in 1927 our club members gained 3 individual titles out of 4, but in the teams section they were undefeated. Contrary to previous years, we began rather shakily, narrow victories being the case, but at the end of the season Saints stood head and shoulders above all other clubs.

IN THE NOVICE C.C.C. OF N.S.W. our club made history by equalling the record of the Botany Harriers, namely, 3 and 4 successive victories in the individual and teams races respectively.

As is well known the first race for the title took place on June 16th 1928 and from the resultant bungle, many protests emerged. A. Blyth finished 3rd, whilst the team could only do likewise.

A Re-run was ordered on the 14th July 1928, and Blyth and Co. showed their true form. Albert never gave any other competitor a chance, winning by fully 200 yards. His time was 29 mins. 48 secs. T. Hesketh was 2nd in 30 min. 15 secs. with W. Gillard (St. G.) 30 min. 17 secs.

Our team was successful in the following order. G. Blyth 1st, N. Gillard 3rd, B. Button 6th, and R. Kelleher 19th.

We congratulate the men who made history and trust their successors will be capable of establishing a new record for the race.

N.S.WALES SENIOR C.C.C. held at Randwick on August 11th 1928 and won by M.J. Mackenzie (West) time 35 mins. 27 secs. from the St. George pair A. Gainsford 25 mins. 34 secs. and R. Wright 36 mins. 45 secs. St. George congratulate Mackenzie on this particularly fine effort, by which he equalled a 21 yr. old record. S.W. York was the only other athlete to gain the title 3 yrs. in succession and 4 yrs. in all.

For the second year in succession Saints gained the teams race honour, with a total of 49 pts. as against West Suburbs 59 pts.

The men concerned were. A. Gainsford 2nd, R. Wright 3rd, S. Gainsford 8th, E. Baker 11th, R. Chadwick 12th and E. J. Brooke 13th.

In the 16 MILE TRACK CHAMPIONSHIP OF N.S.W. held at Canterbury Racecourse on August 18th 1928, St. George added further laurels to their record.

Alloyn Gainsford came with a great run to down R. Bateman, South Sydney, and incidentally gain his 5 successive title, a performance absolutely unparalleled in the history of the race. His time was 54 mins. 40 secs. whilst Bateman clocked 54 mins. 45 secs.

Inspired by their captain's great effort, his team-mates easily out-distanced their opponents and in recording the total of 38 pts. finished as follows: A. Gainsford 1st, S. Gainsford 5th R. Chadwick 6th, R. Wright 7th, B. Button 8th, and E. Baker 11th.

This success was the first for your club, though in 1926, we were the best team in N.S.Wales finishing 2nd to the Victorian team St. Stephen Harriers.



N.S.WALES 15 MILES CHAMPIONSHIP HELD ON SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1928, AT MANLY.

To sing the praises of one's own club may get monotonous, but once again the above race was a triumph for St. George.

A. Gainsford retained his title for the 3rd year in succession, this time in the record clocking of 1 hour 25 mins. 9 secs. The previous best was made by W. R. Corbin in 1913, viz., 1 hour 25 mins. 35 secs.

R. Bateman (S. Sydney) again filled 2nd place, whilst R. Chadwick (St. G.) surprised by finishing well in 3rd position. Congratulations "Bob" on easily the best effort of your career.

In the teams race Saints not only won, but nearly scored a possible of 10 pts. A. Gainsford 1st, R. Chadwick 3rd, E. Baker 4th, and S. Gainsford 5th, Total 13 Pts.

Not satisfied with the above fine efforts, A. Gainsford also took out the sealed handicap trophy from the mark of honour. Truly a triumphant day for your club.

RECORD OF A. GAINSFORD: The deeds of our popular captain are indeed a by-word, and he has reached a standard which has rarely if ever been attained before in the annals of Athletic history.

Gainsford first competed in semi State Championships in 1921, and his record is as follows:-

	<u>5 mile or 10,000 Metres.</u>	<u>10 mile.</u>	<u>12<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> mile or 15 mile or Manly Marathon.</u>
1921	25th		
22	4th	2nd	2nd
23	5th	5th	3rd
24	3rd	1st	2nd
25	3rd	1st	2nd
26	4th	1st	1st
27	3rd	1st	1st
28	2nd	1st	1st

In 1923 he represented New South Wales in the Australasian C.C.C. at Randwick and was a member of the winning team. 1925 saw him trip to New Zealand, in which race New South Wales were defeated by the home side. At Adelaide in 1927, Gainsford again competed for New South Wales, but the team met with defeat at the hands of Victoria.

In addition to the above he now holds the following records:-

6 miles State	31 mins. 49 secs.	10,000 Metres State	32 mins. 58 secs.
7 " "	37 " 14-4/5 "	15,000 " "	49 " 55-2/5 "
8 " "	42 " 41-2/5 "		
9 " "	48 " 9-1/5 "		
10 " "	53 " 31-3/5 "		

In shattering the above records up to 10 miles, Gainsford was assisted by clubmates. The attempt took place at University Oval No. 1 on September 4th, 1928, with the main object, the lowering of H. L. Sheaves' record of 54 mins. 2 secs. for 10 miles. The figures above show how successful the attempt was.

Gainsford also holds the 3 mile track record of his club at 15 mins. 35 secs. whilst his 28 mins. 17 secs. constitutes a record for the 5 miles road course at Hurstville.

Despite the above list, Alleyn's efforts in the 10 mile Track C. have created a different kind of record. Five successive wins, also 5 in all is, by 2 years easily the best. With 3 wins in the Manly Marathon he is chasing H. Hayden's (Bot.) record of 5 wins, incidently being the first man to complete the hat-trick.

Strange to say, the only actual success in Open handicaps that Gainsford has gained was the St. George 3 miles, conducted by our Club. He won easily



Strange to say, the only actual success in Open handicap that Gainsford has gained was the St. George 3 miles, conducted by our club. He won easily from the 1 minute mark, in fastest time.

In his whole career he has only retired from one race, namely the Australian 26 mile Marathon, while when in this State has rarely missed a race.

Added to this he has been a most efficient official of the club. He held the reins of club Secretary in the years 1921, 22-23, and on his retirement from same was rewarded with a life membership of the club.

He now holds various offices in the club, whilst he has held the office of Hon. Race Secty. of the N.S.W. A.A.A. for the past eighteen months.

Truly the above is a most inspiring record. The club has at various times and in many ways recognised the efforts of this sterling athlete and member, but I doubt if we will ever be able to repay our club mate for his unstinted attention.

In conclusion, I sincerely trust that he will continue to enlarge on his records and that members will endeavour to follow in his footsteps, and by doing so, reward his untiring efforts to make our club one of the leading all-round bodies of this State.

Track Season Club Events. With good weather prevailing the mid-week sports were carried out with great success: A record number of new men appeared and some showed distinct promise; the most notable perhaps were L. Brennan and W. McKenzie.

The point Score for the season stands as follows. L. Brennan 44 pts. leading C. Lund 38 pts. and H. Bennett and B. Shieles 36 Pts.

Inter-club Competition. St. George competed in the B. Division, but did not perform in keeping with talent available. The old story of members not turning out mitigated against our chances. Some of the Seniors have been bad offenders and it would be a good policy to encourage the juniors, by selecting them in future.

Club Championships, held at Hurstville Oval (com. Jan. 29th 1929) and University Oval (com. Feb., 9th 1929).

Hot weather caused many postponements and up-to-date the following have been decided.

#### SENIOR.

100 yards E. Grove	10-2/5s.	Javelon B. Shieles	148'
880 " A. Blyth	2 m. 1 1/2 s.	Discus W. McKenzie	102' 3"
3 mile run M.J. Maloney	17 m. 44-3/5s.	Hop, Step and Jump L. Brennan	42' 2"
3 " walk "	27 m. 24s.		
1 " " "	7 m. 48s.		
440 yds. Hurdles H. Bennett	61-2/5th s.		

#### JUNIOR.

220 yds. L. Brennan	26 secs.	Javelon B. Shieles	148'
880 yds. B. Shieles	2m. 23-1/5 s.	Discus L. Brennan	67' 11 1/2"
1 mile run N. Young	5 m. 12-2/5 s.	Hop, Step, Jump "	42' 2"
12 lb. Shot Putt. L. Brennan	34' 5"	120 yds. Hurdles "	20-1/5 s.

Outstanding in the Senior Events was the record smashing run of A. Blythe. In the 880 yds. he clocked 2 m. 1 1/2 s., breaking the former record of 2 m. 7-1/5 s. by 5-7/10 s. E. Groves reduced the 100 yds. record to 10-2/5, whilst H. Bennett lowered his own 440 yds. Hurdles record by 2/5 secs. B. Shieles broke the Javelon throw record by 1", his effort being 148'.

In the Juniors L. Brennan improved on E. Kells 40' 9 3/4" by 1' 4 1/4". His effort of 42' 2" also gained him the Senior Title. That Brennan, too, is a versatile athlete was proved when he won 5 Junior and 1 Senior Titles.



DUNN SHIELD contest held at Sports Ground on Dec. 1st and 8th, 1928. Won by East, Sydney A.A.C. We congratulate them on the victory, a due reward for perseverance of the last few years. Of our own athletes, A. Blyth performed best with 3rd place in the 1 and 3 mile runs. A. Brown and O. Matson gained 2nd place in the High Jump and Javelon respectively.

N.S.WALES TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS held at University Oval, Feb. 16th, 1929, and Manly Oval, Feb. 23rd, 27th and March 2nd, 1929.

Feb. 16th marked a day of triumph for 2 of our most promising Juniors.

B. Shiel's surprised even his own club-mates, when he set a new figure in the Javelon Throw. His effort of 144' 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " was some 15' or 20' better than the previous record. When one considers that "Bert" has only thrown the implement most casually during training, it makes his effort even more remarkable.

Shiel's also finished 3rd in the 120 yds. Hurdles.

Our other record-breaker, L. Brennan, took out the Hop, Step and Jump with a great leap of 44' 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". (State Junior Record.) For a Junior truly a wonderful leap. Though only placed 3rd in the Broad Jump, his jump of 21' 1" was better than the existing record.

At Manly on Feb. 27th, our athletes again did well. O. Matson gained 2nd place in the Javelon Throw for the 3rd successive year. A. Blyth finished 3rd in the 1 mile run, whilst H. Bennett made club history by finishing 3rd in the 440 yds. flat. He is the first athlete to gain a place in a sprint championship.

L. Brennan added to his laurels by running 2nd in the Junior 100 yds. and he also tied with 4 others for 2nd place in the High Jump.

#### LADIES SECTION:

That the venture of forming a Ladies Section of our club will be a probable success, is greatly enhanced by their performances in the State Championships. In the Junior 50 yds., Miss N. Gould ran well to gain 2nd place, and with more experience will undoubtedly improve.

Short of condition, Miss E. Robinson, the Olympic runner, could only fill 3rd place in the Senior 50 yds.

In the 880 yds. Relay the ladies put up a real high class performance by lowering the record of to

Misses Robinson, Gould, Phillips and Stapleton comprised the team.

With such a well-travelled performer as Miss Robinson at the helm, the club should not lack proper supervision. The said lady is very optimistic in regard to the future. The membership roll embraces at present some 12 to 14 ladies.

OPEN HANDICAPS: A. M. Browne opened the season well by annexing the High Jump handicap at the Manly Sports on September 15th, 1928. He was allowed 2".

At Mascot on Feb. 18th, 1929, H. Bennett recorded his first win in open company when he led the field home in the 440 yds. Hurdles. He was allowed 12 yards and recorded the smart time of 56 secs. Consistent training has made a great improvement in our club champion.

GENERAL REVIEW OF YEAR'S ATHLETICS: At the close of the distance season, St. George were undefeated champions of the State. I do not recall a similar record on the part of any other club.

When one considers that the mainstays of the team are still young and have a number of seasons before them, also a few new men are very promising,



it is not to be wondered at, that we are very sanguine of maintaining our wonderful record.

Whilst our distance runners are an established fact, on the track we may also hope for similar future successes.

Of the runners A. Blythe shows distinct promise, without a doubt he is a middle-distance runner of class and if he trains methodically he will surely attain State honours.

H. Bennett's continued improvement over the hurdles might well culminate in State honours. He has set an example to others in regard to training, for no other athlete trained so hard as Harold.

In the Jumping section, the standard is very good. Hop, Step and Jumps, G.G. Crispo (45' 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ " ); L. Brennan (44' 11 $\frac{1}{8}$ " ) and H. Llewellyn (42' ) should with proper coaching improve considerably. Though all may not win the highest honours, I feel sure that one of these athletes will do so before long.

With the near retirement of O. and F. Matson, a big gap will be felt in the Field Games, but I think the club possess men who should be capable of taking their places.

W. McKenzie has hurled the Discus well over 100' and also shown promise in the Javelin and Shot Put. C. Lund has also shown good form in the Discus and Hammer, whilst B. Shieles has proved the find of the season in the Javelin Throw. Surely this lad, a mere novice of the art, can improve on his first competition throw. At all events, I predict a fine future for him and feel sure he will, in the near future, bring senior honours to our club.

By acquiring various implements the club have given its members the opportunity to practise keenly and I hope they will avail themselves of it.

While on the subject of training, I am of the firm opinion that great successes of the distance runners was due, to a great extent, to the right training each week at Hurstville Oval. When the Track men realise the necessity of religious training, they will not only reap the benefit themselves, but will make St. George stand out in Summer, in a like manner as the Winter section.

BALANCE SHEET: The balance sheet shows a slight credit balance, somewhat lower than the previous year. By careful contemplation you will be able to account for the decrease.

Benefits gained by yourselves must deplete the club funds. Members, here is your opportunity. Bring along more new members, keep on the financial side yourself, and thus you will increase our credit-balance.

THANKS are due to those who rendered us support during the year, as follows:- Mr. A. C. Willis £1: 1: 0; E. J. Brooke £1: 1: 0; J. McGrath £1: 1: 0; R. Wright £1: 1: 0; W. Hasler £3: 3: 0; J. J. Walsh £1: 11: 6; Mrs. Colvin and Mr. L. Dunbar, who gave us great assistance at the Oval on Training nights.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all members and officials of the club who have given me their very much appreciated assistance during my term of Office.

ALL OFFICE-BEARERS retire to-night, but are eligible for re-election. By electing men who have the welfare of your club at heart, you will be advancing the St. George D.A.A.C. yet another step towards the top of the ladder.

Harmony and good-fellowship among club men give the club a solid foundation and by remaining steadfast to the above and your amateur principles you will ensure not only the future of the St. George District Amateur Athletic Club, but the future manliness and high standing of your own selves.

For and on behalf of the St. George District Amateur Athletic Club,

WALTER J. HASLER,

Hon. Secretary.



ST. GEORGE DISTRICT AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB.

BALANCE SHEET FOR YEAR ENDING 5TH FEB., 1929.

RECEIPTS.

Cash in Hand, March 1928.	£39:18: 7
Members Annual Subscriptions	17: 4: 6
Donations:-	
J. McGrath,	£1: 1: 0
R. Wright,	1: 1: 0
E. Brooke,	1: 1: 0
J. Walsh,	1:11: 6
W. Hasler,	3: 3: 0
Anonymous	3:10: 0
Race Fees	36:18: 9
Sale of Badges,	14: 6
Sale of Photographs,	1:12: 0
Interest on Bank A/c	1: 3: 1
Miscellaneous Receipts.	7:17: 4
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	£116:16: 3
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	£116:16: 3

EXPENDITURE.

Trophy accounts paid	£32: 3: 8
Affiliation Fee	3: 3: 0
Interclub -- Dunn Shield and other fees	9: 7: 6
Hurstville Oval Lighting A/c	9: 0: 0
Hurstville Oval Caretaker's A/c	4:10: 0
Hurstville School of Arts A/c	2: 6: 6
Additions & Renewals, to Club Apparatus H/Oval,	7: 9: 7
Certificates, Printing etc.	5: 8: 0
Insurance "Winn" Cup	14:10
Photographs of Distance Teams	6: 6: 0
Refreshments, Ann. Meeting	2: 5: 4½
Donation to A. Gainsford	10: 0: 0
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	£92:14: 5½
Cash in Hand	24: 1: 9½
	<hr/>
	£116:16: 3

ASSETS.

Cash in Hand	£24: 1: 9½
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	£24: 1: 9½

LIABILITIES.

Outstanding Orders	17: 2: 6
Credit Balance	6:19: 3½
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	£24: 1: 9½

4th March, 1929. Earnest E. Giles  
Hon. Treasurer,

Audited and found correct, 4th March 1929,  
John H. Harris, S. H. Binder.