

BILL TAYLOR

I AM WRITING THIS because a friend has convinced me that our friends and acquaintances might find it interesting to know how Bill started in athletics and how I came to be involved.

He was only six years old when a team of airmen from Sutton Bridge, a village near his home, came to run at Tydd-St-Giles Show. He was bitten by the bug which was to last until the day he died. He set records at his grammar school in the 1/2 mile, 1 mile and cross country in 1934 and helped set the Inter-school Record which stood until 1949.

In his R.A.F. career (1935-1970) he was R.A.F. Junior Champion in 1937 and twice in the winning R.A.F. Cross Country Championships. In Egypt in 1953 he held the 1/2 mile record and he represented all R.A.F. Stations and Commands in which he served.

When he retired at the age of 50, he learned of Veteran Athletics and was soon in the thick of that and won many medals in the 800 and 1500 at all age groups (5 years). It wasn't too long before I was thinking "If you can't beat them join them", and it was to his amazement that at the age of 65 I did just that.

It brought us even closer together and for the last ten years we have been to many countries with the British Veterans, where even I have managed to get the odd medal, much to his joy and my satisfaction.

He became president of the British Veterans and Vice President of the World Veterans. He was responsible for making sure that the games went perfectly, a job he did with great enthusiasm and success.

On the 12th June he died as he wished, in track suit and trainers, on our Village Green, a place he loved and where he made many friends.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those kind people who came to my aid on the saddest day of my life, especially the two young men who organised the aid as I sat with my beloved Bill in his last moments.

I intend to carry on running, hard though it is, because he would wish it. My first attempt to face the world is in Exeter in August.

I am told that grief is the price of love. I am finding that it is very true.

Sincerely,
Peggy Taylor

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION ANNUAL BAZAAR

The Burford and District Branch of the Royal British Legion which includes the Wychwoods, held its Annual Bazaar in the Warwick Hall, Burford on Saturday September 2nd last. The sum of £1,600 was raised.

The Committee would like to thank all those generous and supportive people who made the end result such a success.