



Papers of Harold Abrahams

Reference: ATH/HA

Papers of Harold Abrahams

ATH/HA

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1902-
1989

Personal papers compiled by the athlete, administrator, commentator and journalist Harold Abrahams. The collection includes a substantial volume of articles written by Abrahams concerning track and field athletics in both England and abroad. There are also a substantial volume of reel-to-reel recordings and slides depicting athletes and specific athletics meetings. There are a small number of papers relating to the administration of athletics organisations including the Amateur Athletic Association (AAA) and the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF).

In addition, the collection includes results, statistics and fixture lists as well as a small number of athletics programmes. There are scrapbooks and albums, including one album which charts Abrahams' own athletics career during the early 1920s. There are references to his performances at Olympic Games as well as much material relating to varsity and inter-varsity athletics whilst he was a student at Cambridge University.

Taken as a whole the collection is a valuable research tool for athletics historians and provides a comprehensive record of the life and interests of an athlete and athletics commentator throughout the much of the 20th century.

Administrative history: Harold Maurice Abrahams was born prematurely in Bedford on 15 December 1899, the youngest in a family of two daughters and four sons. His father, Isaac Klonimus (1850-1921), who had proclaimed himself a Lithuanian Jew, escaped to Britain and by 1880 had changed his name to Abrahams, in recognition of his father, Abraham Klonimus (b 1810). Isaac was naturalised in 1902.

Harold's elder brothers each achieved successes in their public lives. The eldest brother, Adolphe, achieved a first at Emmanuel College, Cambridge and then became a consultant physician at Westminster Hospital. Adolphe was knighted in 1939. Another brother, Sir Sidney Solomon 'Solly' Abrahams, competed for Britain at both the Olympic celebrations at Athens in 1906 and Stockholm in 1912. Solly served as chief justice of Tanganyika

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and Ceylon. The third brother, Lionel, became senior partner in his firm of solicitors and was coroner for Huntingdonshire.

As a boy, Harold was sent to Bedford School, briefly to St Paul's, and afterwards to Repton, where he won the public schools' 100 yards and long-jump championships in 1918. At Repton he was a contemporary of C. B. Fry. His imagination had been fired in the summer of 1908, when he watched his brother compete in the London Olympic games held at the White City Stadium and he became a great admirer of 'Willie' Applegarth. Harold won his first gold medal at Stamford Bridge in 1910, winning the Lotinga Cup which was contested by sons and brothers of members of the London Athletic Club. He joined the Cadet Battalion towards the end of the First World War but did not fight. He served briefly as a second lieutenant in 1919 and then went up to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, to read law, achieving third class honours in both parts of the law tripos. He started journalism in 1920 and wrote for the journal 'All Sports' as well as the 'Evening News'. In 1924 he began broadcasting about the Olympics and this continued throughout his life.

Whilst at Cambridge, he became athletically very proficient and achieved three wins in the freshmen's sports at Fenner's. He was immediately selected for the 1920 Antwerp Olympic Games and chosen to represent Great Britain in the 100m, 200m and 4 x 100m relay and the long jump. During 1920 he obtained his Cambridge Blue and won a unique eight victories at the 100 yards, 440 yards, and long jump in the annual Oxford versus Cambridge sports. Between 1920 and 1923 he represented his University against Oxford and was first eight times in nine events winning the 100 yards in 1920, 1921, 1922 and 1923; the long jump in 1920, 1922 and 1923; and the 440 yards in 1923.

Before the 1924 Paris Olympic Games, Harold studied sprinting in great detail and trained assiduously with his coach Sam Mussabini, a French Arab who also trained Fred Gaby and Harry Edward. For nine months they worked on the theory of perfecting the start, on arm action, control of the stride pattern, and a then-unique 'drop' finish of the torso on to the tape. At the 1924 AAA

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Championships Harold won the 100 yards in 9.9 seconds but was still a fifth of a second outside the British record set the previous year by the Scottish rugby and athletic hero and 440-yard champion Eric Liddell. At the Paris Olympics Liddell, a strong sabbatarian, felt impelled to confine himself to the 200 and 400 metres, in which he took the bronze medal in the shorter event and the gold medal for 400 metres in a time which gave him the metric world record. In the 100 metres final, Harold's winning time of 10.52 was rounded up to 10.6 and events surrounding this win feature prominently in the 1981 film 'Chariots of Fire'.

In May 1925 Harold severely, and permanently, injured his leg when attempting to improve on his English long jump record of 7.38 metres which had been set at Woolwich and would survive for more than thirty years. He then turned his attention to athletics administration, the sporting press and the BBC and, in 1928, he was appointed team captain of the Olympic athletes sent to Amsterdam.

His active athletics career ended, Harold, who has been called to the Inner Temple bar in 1924, continued practising law until 1940. During this time he engaged in athletics administration and journalism with the Sunday Times, 1925-1967 and was a radio broadcaster with the BBC for fifty years, 1924-1974. One of his greatest achievements was, through force of personality, to raise athletics from a minor to a major national sport during the mid-20th century. He re-wrote the AAA rules of competition which themselves would help to transform the rules of the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

Harold served as Honorary Treasurer, 1948-1968, and Chairman, 1948-1975, of the British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB). In November 1976 he was elected President of the AAA. He was an unrivalled compiler of athletics statistics and was founder president of both the world and British associations in this field: the Association of Track and Field Statisticians (ATFS), instituted in 1950, and the National Union of Track Statisticians (NUTS), instituted in 1956. During the Second World War he worked for the Ministry of Economic Warfare, 1939-1944, and then with the new Ministry of Town and Country Planning until 1963. He was secretary of the National Parks Commission, 1950-1963). He

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was awarded the CBE in 1957.

In 1936 Harold married Sybil Marjorie, daughter of Claude Pilington Evers, assistant master at Rugby School. She was a D'Oyly Carte singer and producer of light opera and died suddenly in 1963. The couple had two adopted children, Sue and Andrew. Harold Abrahams died on 14 January 1978 at Chase Farm Hospital, Enfield, London. An English Heritage blue plaque was unveiled in 2007 at Hodford Lodge, Golders Green, Harold's London home at the time he won the Olympic gold medal in Paris.

Sources: papers of Harold Abrahams; Oxford Dictionary of National Biography entry accessed 23 October 2014 from: <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/30743?docPos=1>; Encyclopaedia Britannica entry accessed 23 October 2014 from: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/1589/Harold-Abrahams>; Sports Reference accessed 23 October 2014 from: <http://www.sports-reference.com/olympics/athletes/ab/harold-abrahams-1.html>; Runners World accessed 23 October 2014 from: <http://www.runnersworld.co.uk/general/olympic-moment-harold-abrahams-100m-gold/8092.html>; Jewish Sports accessed 23 October from: <http://www.jewishsports.net/BioPages/HaroldMauriceAbrahams.htm>

Arrangement: These papers have been arranged into the following 9 series:

programmes, results, statistics, fixture lists and conversion tables;

publications;

articles, indexes, drafts and associated papers;

correspondence;

papers relating to organisations and events;

magazines, newspaper cuttings and scrapbooks;

photographs and slides;

sound recordings;

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personalia

25 standard boxes and 4 slide boxes

Access: Open, but subject to some access restrictions

Access conditions: Access to all registered researchers.

Notes: Old references: HA; NCAL XXV.H27

Physical description: Reel-to-reel recordings cannot be issued to researchers in their current format.

Copyright: Permission to make any published use of any material from the collection must be sought in advance in writing from the Director of Special Collections (email: special-collections@bham.ac.uk). Identification of copyright holders of unpublished material is often difficult. Special Collections will assist where possible with identifying copyright owners, but responsibility for ensuring copyright clearance rests with the user of the material.

Languages: English and German

Creator name: Abrahams, Harold Maurice (1899-1978), athlete, administrator, commentator and journalist

Custodial history: This collection was previously in the custody of the National Centre for Athletics Literature (NCAL).

Acquisition: Collection was bequeathed to the University of Birmingham in 1978.

Archival notes: Papers arranged and described by Mark Eccleston, October 2014, in compliance with General International Standard Archival Description (ISAD(G), second edition, 2000; and in-house cataloguing guidelines.

Related material: Other archive collections, formerly held as part of the National Centre for Athletics Literature (NCAL), are catalogued as collections distinct from this collection. They comprise both institutional archives and collections of personal papers of athletes, athletics

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administrators, journalists and others associated with the athletics world.

Catalogues of the institutional archives available on the online archive catalogue are as follows:

Amateur Athletic Association: papers, 1880-1992.
Finding No: AAA;

Midland Counties Amateur Athletics Association:
papers, 1900-1982. Finding No: MCAAA;

Midland Counties Cross Country Association:
papers, 1898-1985. Finding No: ATH/MCCCA;

Southern Counties Amateur Athletic Association:
papers, 1958-1983. Finding No: SCAAA.

Catalogues, or collection descriptions, of personal papers available on the online archive catalogue are as follows:

Adam, George Mair (1898-1989), athlete, coach and athletics administrator: papers, 1909-1989.
Finding No: ATH/GA;

Binks, Joseph (Joe) (1874-1966), athlete and athletics commentator: papers, [1920s-1950s].
Finding No: ATH/JB;

Cardew, Martin H. (b 1927), athlete: papers, 1964-1988. Finding No: ATH/MHC;

Cullum, Dennis Noel Johnson (1913-1985), athlete and coach: papers, [1930s]-1985. Finding No: ATH/DC;

Ives, Bert (1890-1975), athlete and athletics administrator: papers, [1920s-1970s]. Finding No: ATH/BI;

Jewell, John Christopher (1912-2001), athlete and athletics commentator: papers, 1897-2002. Finding No: ATH/JJ;

Lloyd-Edgley, Ralph: scrapbook, [c 1924]-[c 1931].
Finding No: ATH/RLE;

MacLean, Duncan (1884-1980), athlete and coach: papers, 1948-1977. Finding No: ATH/DM;

Monk, Walter Harry (Wal) (1896-after 1965), athlete:

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papers, 1918-1961. Finding No: ATH/WHM;

Morgan, Wilf (b 1935), athlete and athletics historian: papers, 1937-2012. Finding No: ATH/WM;

Newton, Arthur Francis Hamilton (1883-1959), athlete: papers, [c 1904]-[1990s]. Finding No: ATH/AN;

Payne, Howard (1931-1992), athlete: papers, 1899-[c 1975]. Finding No: ATH/HP;

Percy, Joe W. (1912-2001), athlete and athletics administrator: papers, 1910-1997. Finding No: ATH/JWP;

Powell, Edgar Robert Leslie (Peter), (fl 1920s-70s), athlete: papers, 1813-1988. Finding No: ATH/ERLP;

Richards, Wilf (b 1906), athlete and journalist: papers, 1924-[mid 20th century]. Finding No: ATH/WR;

Roberts, Dave (fl 1930s-1990s), athlete and statistician: papers, [1930s]-1991. Finding No: ATH/DR;

Simpson, Colin J. (1929-2011), athlete and athletics administrator: papers, 1945-1990. Finding No: ATH/CS;

Tatham, Wilfrid George (Gus) (1898-1978), athlete: papers, 1908-1960. Finding No: ATH/WGT;

Thomas, Dr Philip, athletics administrator and coach: papers, [c 1900]-[late 20th century]. Finding No: ATH/PT;

Vargas, Charles Climaco (1905-1975), athlete: papers, 1921-31. Finding No: ATH/CCV;

Ward, Leonard H., athletics coach: papers, [mid-20th century]. Finding No: ATH/LW;

Watman, Melvyn Francis (Mel) (b 1938), athletics journalist and statistician: papers, 1980-1993. Finding No: ATH/MW;

Wight, Robert M., athletics administrator: papers, [mid-20th century]. Finding No: ATH/RW;

Winter, Arthur E. H. (d 1990), athlete and athletics

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commentator: papers, [early 20th century]-1983.
Finding No: ATH/AW;

Yarrow, Squire Stevens (1905-1984), athlete and athletics administrator: papers, 1938-1984. Finding No: ATH/SY.

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| ATH/HA/1 | <p>Programmes, results, statistics, fixture lists and conversion tables</p> <p>Small collection of athletics programmes and related ephemera; results; statistics; fixture lists; and conversion tables. Material primarily relates to athletics meetings held in England during the mid-20th century.</p> <p>7 files and 7 items</p> <p>Access: Open</p> | 1931-[c
1977] |
| ATH/HA/1/1 | <p>Athletics programmes and related ephemera</p> <p>Two athletics programmes of AAA Championships held in 1963. Programmes provide information about meeting officials; the range of events available; details of handicap racing, if applicable; information about entrants; some results; details of prizes; advertisements for other meetings; and details of advertisers and sponsors.</p> <p>The sub-series also includes ephemera relating to athletics meetings held during 1977.</p> <p>5 items</p> <p>Access: Open</p> | 1963-
1977 |
| ATH/HA/1/1/1
-2 | <p>Athletics programme: track and field</p> <p>'AAA Championships' held at White City Stadium, London.</p> <p>Includes images of M. B. S. Tulloh, B. Kidd, G. D. Ibbotson; S. Antao; R. I. Brightwell; C. Weisiger; S. G. Taylor; M. B. S. Tulloh; H. R. Fowler; L. G. Edelen; M. Herriott; B. Lindgren; R. Rogers; D. L. Kilby; K. J. Matthews; C. Williams; T. Ohta; K. Sugioka; N. Okamoto; L. J. Silvester; P. K. Nikula; J. R. Valkama; J. V. McSorley; Z. Sumich.</p> <p>2 copies, both with extensive manuscript notes and</p> | 12-13
July 1963 |

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annotations.

2 items

Access: Open

ATH/HA/1/1/3 Competitors' information [1970s]

Comprises:

/1: English Schools Athletic Association Track and Field Championships held at Barnet Copthall Stadium, 5 July 1977

/2: Biographies of athletes benefitting from '3M Tartan Sponsorship'. Includes details about John Howell, Nicholas Phipps, Daley Thompson, Panayiotis Zeniou, Susan Longden and Moira Walls.

/3: Kraft Athletics, 1977

3 items

Access: Open

ATH/HA/1/2 Results 1931-[c 1977]

Small collection of results for athletics meetings, including international meetings, 1931-1977; and results of the European Cup, [c 1977]

2 files

Access: Open

ATH/HA/1/2/1 Results: European Cup [c 1977]

Small number of miscellaneous papers relating to the European Cup.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/1/2/2 Results: general 1931-1977

Comprises:

/1: 'Games of the XIX Olympiad: official bulletin' detailing men's decathlon final, 1968

/2: 'England versus Italy' held at Stamford Bridge,

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22 August 1931

/3: 'Great Britain versus Italy' held in Milan, 17 September 1933

/4: 'European Athletic Championships' held in Stockholm 19-24 August, 1958. Men's pole vault final results.

/5: 'Results of heats for 1500 & 100 metres' at unidentified meeting.

/6: 'Great Britain versus France: 20 kilometre road walk' organised by the British Amateur Athletic Board. Held at Battersea Park, 12 September 1964

/7: 'Data on 440 Hurdles' race' at unidentified meeting.

/8: Cards listing names of various athletes, events and results.

/9: 'Mexico 1968 daily events with references of photographs'

/10: Exercise book titled 'Olympic 1976' containing 'Olympics notes'

/11: Undated press cutting titled 'Results at Helsinki'

/12: Undated press cutting referring to University athletics meeting. Article written by Harold Abrahams.

/13: Press cutting listing results for unidentified Swedish athletics meeting [c 1963]

/14: Results booklet for unidentified event

/15-16: Miscellaneous press cuttings

/17: Details of unidentified 10,000m race held on 11 June 1977

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/1/3

Statistics

Typescript and manuscript statistics including data on the 1962 Perth British Empire and

[mid-20th century]

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Commonwealth Games; and various European Championships, 1934-1971.

4 files

Access: Open

ATH/HA/1/3/1 Statistics: general

[mid-20th century]

Comprises:

/1: 'World all-time best performers' compiled by Ian R. Smith. Refers to 2 miles, 3 miles and 5000 metres distances. Covers up to 1965.

/2: Graph comparing Bedford, Kimombwa and Foster.

/3: Table comparing countries, 1972

/4: 'World Records 1967-1976'

/5: 'Great Britain medallists 1948-1972'

/6: 'Oxygen consumption'

/7: 'Internationals by years', 1908-1957

/8: 'Southern Championships: best performances', 1950-1973

/9-11: Wallets with inserted labels; one titled 'Southern Championships'; one titled 'Great Britain v USSR'.

/12: Press cutting 'Die besten 3000m Hindernislauffer aller Zeiten'

/13: Press cutting 'Die weltbesten Kugelstober aller zeiten'

/14: 'Six miles all-comers' record' 20 May 1961

/15: 'Countries, years and events', 1896-1964

/16-17: Notebooks detailing names of athletes and accompanying results.

/18: 'World bests: putting the shot and steeplechase', up to 1972

/19: 'Great Britain versus Hungary', 1955-1967

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/20: Manuscript listing times for various meetings, 1924-1964

/21: Typewritten cards detailing times for various meetings

/22: 'Records', 1950-1974

/23: Miscellaneous records

/24: Listing of athletes, 1879-1961

/25: Booklet 'Olympics AAA Champ[ionships]' detailing names and results, 1936-1964

/26-28: Three notebooks titled 'United Kingdom Records'. Ordered alphabetically.

/29: Notebook detailing athletes names and results. Ordered alphabetically.

/30: Alphabetical listing of athletes. Includes biographical details.

/31: Exercise book containing notes relating to unidentified athletics meeting.

/32: Untitled graph

/33: 'Miles in Great Britain and by UK athletes anywhere', 1954-1971

/34: 'Great Britain versus Germany' men's and women's events, 1929-1971

/31-35: 'Kinnaird Trophy Inter-Club Contest' detailing names of athletes and results.

/36: Index card detailing names of athletes and results, [c 1956]

/37: Comprehensive alphabetical listing of athletes and results at various meetings.

/38: Typescript lists titled 'Miles in the UK'

/39: Press cutting concerning Lynn Davies. Written by Harold Abrahams, 4 September 1966

/40: Index cards detailing 'Worlds Best Marathons'; 'Progressive Records in 'Sporting Life Race', 1909-

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1965; and 'Progressive World Bests', 1951-1969

/41: 'Great Britain versus West Germany', 1929-1968

/42: Statistics relating to the 'Emsley Carr Mile'

/43: Undated photocopied article titled 'All-Time Mile Rankings'

/44: 'European Cup semi-finals and finals', Great Britain's men and women, 1965-1977

/45: 'AAA champions', [c 1890]-[1970s]

/46: 'AAA Championships: Overseas Winners'

/47: Wallets listing names of athletes

/48: 'Miles inside four minutes', 1954-1973

/49: 'Four Minute Milers'

/50-51: Notebooks containing statistics and notes relating to athletes athletes

/52: 'International Field Event Statistics'

/53: Statistics, 1974, listed in a German publication

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/1/3/2 Statistics: Commonwealth Games 1962

Comprehensive breakdown of statistics relating to the Commonwealth Games, 1930-1962.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/1/3/3 Statistics: European Championships [c 1971]

Breakdown of statistics relating to the European Championships, 1934-1971.

1 file

Access: Open

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- ATH/HA/1/3/4 Statistics: miscellaneous [mid-20th century]
- Miscellaneous statistics largely relating to unidentified athletics meetings. Some material can be identified and relates to the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games; Great Britain's Olympic representatives, 1948-1976; and Olympic Records from 1960. The file also includes a notebook titled 'Notes taken from a study of the minutes of the AAA, 1880-1889'.
- 1 file
- Access: Open
- ATH/HA/1/4 Fixture lists 1977-1978
- Comprises:
- /1: British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB) fixtures, 1977
- /2: BAAB fixtures, 1978
- 2 items
- Access: Open
- ATH/HA/1/5 Conversion tables [mid-20th century]
- Various conversion tables arranged for the high jump, long jump and pole vault. File includes associated correspondence and articles.
- 1 file
- Access: Open
- ATH/HA/2 Publications 1902-1989
- Collection of publications primarily produced by the government; the National Parks; and the International Amateur Athletic Federation. There are also a small number of miscellaneous publications collected by Abrahams, some of which provide histories of athletics events and biographies of athletes.
- 29 items
- Access: Open

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- ATH/HA/2/1 Government reports 1958-1975
- Comprises:
- /1: Parliamentary Debates, Hansard 'House of Commons Official Report' containing discussion on Youth Services, 20 March 1967
- /2: Parliamentary Debates, Hansard 'House of Lords Official Report' containing motion on Sport, 7 February 1968
- /3: 'Report of the Committee of Enquiry into the Development of Athletics', 1968. With annotations by Harold Abrahams.
- /4: 'First Report from the Select Committee of the House of Lords on Sport and Leisure', February 1972
- /5: 'First Report from the Select Committee of the House of Lords on Sport and Leisure together with the proceedings of the committee', March 1973
- /6: 'Second Report from the Select Committee of the House of Lords on Sport and Leisure together with the proceedings of the committee', July 1973
- /7-8: White paper 'Sport and Recreation', Department of the Environment, August 1975, Cmnd. 6200. 2 copies
- The file also contains typescript extracts from Hansard:
- /9: 'Sport: financial assistance', 20 November 1958
- 9 items
- Access: Open
- ATH/HA/2/2 Papers relating to National Parks 1945-1989
- Comprises:
- /1: 'National Parks and the Countryside' by Sir Norman Birkett, 1945
- /2: 'The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act', 1949. Introduction and annotations by R. N. Hutchings and financial notes

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by H. F. Full.

/3: 'Britain's National Parks' edited by Harold Abrahams, 1959. Photocopy of pp 5-25, 'The History of National Parks'

/4: 'Britain's National Parks' edited by Harold Abrahams, 1959. Photocopy of pp 111-123 'The First Ten Years of the National Parks Commission'

/5: 'Yorkshire Dales National Park' edited by I. G. Simmons, 1971

/6: 'The National Park Authority', 1987

/7: 'Yosemite, forerunner of the National Parks' by Lionel Mendoza. Cutting taken from 'Leisure Management', April 1988

/8: 'National Parks in England and Wales', 1989

8 items

Access: Open

ATH/HA/2/3 International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) handbooks 1951-1976

Each handbook contains manuscript annotations and amendments. Comprises:

/1: 1951

/2: 1967-1968

/3: 1976

3 items

Access: Open

ATH/HA/2/4 Miscellaneous publications 1902-1966

Comprises:

/1: Amateur Athletic Association 'Report of the Coming-of-Age Dinner held at The Trocadero, London, 8 June 1901', 1902

/2: 'The Research Quarterly of the American Physical Education Association', May 1933

/3: 'Report of the Physical Education Committee',

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published by the British Medical Association, April 1936. Reprint April 1937.

/4: 'The Birmingham Repertory Theatre' by T. C. Kemp, 1943

/5: 'Outrage' by Ian Nairn, 1955. With inscription to Harold and Sylvia Abrahams.

/6: 'Fifty Years of AAA Championships' by Harold M. Abrahams, [c 1962]

/7: 'British Athletics', 1962. Includes biographies of various athletes active that year.

/8: 'Running the World' by Jack Crump. Includes amendments by Harold Abrahams, 1966

/9: Map of London's transport systems, undated

9 items

Access: Open

Notes: /6 old reference: NCAL II.A3

ATH/HA/3	Articles, indexes, drafts and associated papers Various typescript, manuscript and draft articles written by Harold Abrahams and concerning various aspects of athletics including selection, organisation of meetings, sports journalism, wind speed data, timekeeping and speed. The series also includes a small number of manuscript articles written by Abrahams' brother, Sir Adolphe. 16 files Access: Open	[1920s]-[c 1977]
ATH/HA/3/1	Published articles Primarily comprises photocopies of typescript articles written by Harold Abrahams. Subjects of articles include the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games; reviews of athletics during the 1950s; articles published in 'World Sports'; amateur rules; review of Oxford and Cambridge, 1931; 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games; inter-varsity relays; and letters sent to newspapers. The file also contains material compiled by John	[1920s]-[1990s]

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Bromhead, former NCAL librarian, relating to Harold Abrahams. This material includes biographical details, bibliographies and lists of Harold Abrahams' publications.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/3/2 Selection [c 1976]

Typescript papers and articles concerning to selection. A number of papers relate to the selection of British entries in the marathon race at the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games. File also includes two issues of 'Athletics Weekly', 10 April 1976 and 22 May 1976.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/3/3 Organisation of athletics meeting [mid-20th century]

Schemes for draws for use at athletics meetings.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/3/4 Sports journalism [1950s]

Small number of newspaper cuttings and accompanying typewritten note titled 'Chataway'.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/3/5 Wind speed data [c 1976]

Correspondence, article and graph concerning the effect of wind on athletic performances.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/3/6 'The Technical Delegate' [mid-20th century]

Typescript uncredited article titled 'The Technical Delegate: his duties and competence'.

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- 1 file
- Access: Open
- ATH/HA/3/7 Timekeeping [mid-20th century]
- Various papers, correspondence and articles relating to photo finishing and timekeeping.
- 1 file
- Access: Open
- ATH/HA/3/8 British Athletics Annual [c 1977]
- Correspondence and associated papers relating to the publication of the British Athletics Annual, 1977.
- 1 file
- Access: Open
- ATH/HA/3/9 Encyclopaedia Britannica [1970s]
- Correspondence and associated papers relating to Harold Abrahams' article 'Athletic Games and Contests' published in the 15th edition of Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1974.
- 1 file
- Access: Open
- ATH/HA/3/10 Indexes and notebooks [mid-20th century]
- Various miscellaneous indexes compiled by, or relating to, Harold Abrahams. Includes indexes to slides and recordings; and notes concerning photographs.
- 1 file
- Access: Open
- ATH/HA/3/11 Speed [mid-20th century]
- Script for talk, and related newspaper cuttings, concerning relative speeds. File also includes radio script 'Training Your Muscles' by Philip Eggleton and Harold Abrahams, 1949.
- 1 file

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Access: Open

ATH/HA/3/12 'BBC Talks' [1940s]-
[1970s]

Typescripts of talks and associated correspondence. Most talks are dated during 1940s and 1950s although there is some material dated 1970s. The file also includes miscellaneous papers and material relating to the death of John Edward Lovelock.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/3/13 William Webb Ellis [mid-20th
century]

Typescript material relating to William Webb Ellis. Includes humorous articles concerning the development of rugby football in England during 1823.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/3/14 Olympic Greats [1970s]

Notes and related correspondence concerning 'Olympic Greats', a project in which Abrahams wrote and researched individual athletes. File also includes minutes of a meeting of the Publications Committee, British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB), 28 April 1975.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/3/15 Various talks and scripts [mid-20th
century]

Talks, scripts and notes on various subjects including some not related to athletics: typescripts concerning 'The Tichborne Case' and 'The Trial of Mrs Maybrick'.

Athletics-related material includes articles written by Harold Abrahams for inclusion in newspapers; material relating to the Olympic Games, in particular the 1952 Helsinki Olympic Games; papers about Sydney Wooderson, Yvette Williams, Arthur Wint and A. W. 'Nick' Winter; article titled 'Sport,

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Professionalism and the Olympics'; material relating to unidentified interviews concerning athletics in 1923 with reference to the Boy Scout movement; transcript of an oral history interview between Harold Abrahams and John Bromhead which discusses biographical details, Olympic Games and long jumping; manuscript notes on the history of the Olympic Games; manuscript extracts from letters by Baron de Coubertin which were sent to British newspapers; notes relating to the history of the marathon distance with reference to 1896 Athens Olympic Games; table showing the lay-out of heats for qualifying for semi-finals and finals; and an article on the techniques required to be an announcer.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/3/16 Papers of Sir Adolphe Abrahams

[c 1928]-
[mid-20th
century]

Manuscript articles written by Harold Abrahams' brother Adolphe. Comprises 'Shortness of breath'; and 'The limit of athletic capability'.

The file also includes sheets of medical statistics compiled by Adolphe Abrahams which include medical details of H. M. Abrahams, W. G. George, W. Pollock Hill, R. D. Bell, J. E. London, Cpl Ferris, C. J. Van Geysel, Dr Stallard, C. W. Gill, R. S. Starr, Joseph Simpson, G. F. Peaker, H. A. Johnston. These statistics appear to have been compiled during 1928.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/4 Correspondence

[mid-20th
century]

Files of correspondence collected by Harold Abrahams including correspondence with Rainbird Books concerning the publication of a book about the 1948 London Olympic Games; with the BBC; with the International Amateur Athletic Federation; and general correspondence largely ordered alphabetically.

4 files

Papers of Harold Abrahams

Access: Open

ATH/HA/4/1 Correspondence with Rainbird Books [1970s]

Correspondence with Rainbird Reference Books concerning the publication of a book about the 1948 London Olympic Games.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/4/2 Correspondence with the BBC 1976

Three letters concerning recordings held at the BBC and the use of them in a talk '50 Years of Broadcasting', March-April 1976

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/4/3 Correspondence with the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) 1977

Correspondence with John Holt as well as notices sent to Harold Abrahams from the IAAF. Material appears to have been sent to Abrahams in his role as a member of the IAAF Technical Committee.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/4/4 General correspondence [mid-20th century]

Correspondence arranged alphabetically. The rear of the file includes correspondence relating to F. Kiely, 1946; Dorando, 1948; the Crick Run at Rugby School, 1975; correspondence between Abrahams and Guinness Superlatives Ltd.; and a copy letter from Abrahams to G. D. Goodrich, 1973.

The file also includes a letter written by Harold Abrahams describing his interest in athletics; the achievements of his elder brother [Sir Sidney 'Solly' Abrahams]; his training methods prior to winning the 100m at the 1924 Paris Olympics; and his opinion about Jewish National Sport, the Maccabi, which he did not support as he thought British Jews should play their part in British national athletics and not

Papers of Harold Abrahams

encourage a separatist movement.

1 file

Access: Open

- | | | |
|------------|--|-----------|
| ATH/HA/5 | Papers relating to organisations and events | 1936-1977 |
| | Small number of papers relating to the administration of the Olympic Games; the Amateur Athletic Association; the Sports Council; and the International Amateur Athletic Federation. | |
| | 4 files | |
| | Access: Open | |
| ATH/HA/5/1 | Papers relating to the Olympic Games | [1970s] |
| | Typescript and manuscript material relating to the administration and organisation of Olympic Games. Papers include some minutes and reports of the International Olympic Committee, British Olympic Committee and British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB). There are also papers concerning eligibility and amateurism; tallies of results; data on Mary Rand and Lynn Davies; and a notebook titled 'Rules: Olympic Games'. | |
| | 1 file | |
| | Access: Open | |
| ATH/HA/5/2 | Papers relating to the Amateur Athletic Association (AAA) and British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB) | 1936-1977 |
| | Miscellaneous papers including Report of International Board of AAA, 1936; papers relating to BAAB meetings held during the 1970s; Abraham's suggestions, as President, to the Rules Revision and Records Committee of the AAA, primarily concerning high jumping and pole vaulting, 1977. The file also includes a typescript review of the AAA Coaching Scheme by Anthony Abrahams [son of Sidney 'Solly' Abrahams and nephew of Harold Abrahams], 1959; typescript copy of 'The Byers Report', with manuscript annotations, concerning the development of athletics under the direction of AAA and BAAB, 1968; newspaper cuttings concerning Frank Byers; typescript copy of 'The Tupholme Report'; and correspondence between the AAA and BAAB concerning television rights, | |

Papers of Harold Abrahams

1962-1963.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/5/3 Papers relating to the Sports Council [1970s]

Small number of miscellaneous papers concerning 'Amateurism and Olympic Sport'; a copy of the royal charter, issued by HM Queen Elizabeth II, concerning the establishment of a Sports Council in 1972; and material relating to the proposed new athletics federation for the United Kingdom including an administrative structure chart compiled by C. A. Sinfield.

1 file

Access: Open

Notes: Old reference (for Sinfield material): NCAL XVIII.G7

ATH/HA/5/4 Papers relating to the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) 1976-1977

Comprises:

/1: Meeting papers for 'The Thirtieth Congress' held in Montreal, 20-22 July 1976

/2: Minutes of Council Meeting held in Dusseldorf, 18-20 March 1977

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/6 Magazines, newspaper cuttings and scrapbooks 1920-1978

Magazines, largely issues of Athletics Weekly; scrapbooks; albums; and loose newspaper cuttings collected by Harold Abrahams. Early newspaper cuttings refer to Abrahams' athletics achievements whilst later cuttings include numerous articles written by Abrahams himself.

5 volumes, 5 files and 61 items

Access: Open

Papers of Harold Abrahams

ATH/HA/6/1	Magazine issues	1955-1978
	Primarily comprising incomplete sequence of loose issues of Athletics Weekly. There are also a small number of miscellaneous magazines collected by Harold Abrahams.	
	61 items	
	Access: Open	
ATH/HA/6/1/1	Athletics Weekly	1955-1978
	Incomplete series of 'Athletics Weekly' retained by Harold Abrahams, with accompanying index listing articles. Comprises:	
	/1: Manuscript index titled 'A selection of articles in Athletics Weekly', 1950-1957	
	/2: Volume 9, Number 34, 20 August 1955	
	/3: Volume 10, Number 26, 30 June 1956	
	/4: Volume 10, Number 40, 6 October 1956	
	/5: Volume 10, Number 50, 15 December 1956	
	/6: Volume 11, Number 26, 29 June 1957	
	/7: Volume 12, Number 26, 28 June 1958	
	/8: Volume 13, Number 25, 20 June 1959	
	/9: Volume 13, Number 26, 27 June 1959	
	/10: Volume 13, Number 36, 5 September 1959	
	/11: Volume 14, Number 25, 18 June 1960	
	/12: Volume 14, Number 26, 25 June 1960	
	/13: Volume 14, Number 27, 2 July 1960	
	/14: Volume 14, Number 36, 3 September 1960	
	/15: Volume 15, Number 24, 17 June 1961	
	/16: Volume 15, Number 25, 24 June 1961	
	/17: Volume 15, Number 26, 1 July 1961	

Papers of Harold Abrahams

- /18: Volume 15, Number 33, 19 August 1961
- /19: Volume 15, Number 35, 2 September 1961
- /20: Volume 16, Number 25, 23 June 1962
- /21: Volume 16, Number 26, 30 June 1962
- /22: Volume 16, Number 27, 7 July 1962
- /23: Volume 16, Number 35, 1 September 1962
- /24: Volume 16, Number 49, 8 December 1962
- /25: Volume 16, Number 50, 15 December 1962
- /26: Volume 17, Number 24, 15 June 1963
- /27: Volume 17, Number 25, 22 June 1963
- /28: Volume 17, Number 26, 29 June 1963
- /29: Volume 17, Number 37, 14 September 1963
- /30: Volume 17, Number 41, 12 October 1963
- /31: Volume 18, Number 23, 6 June 1964
- /32: Volume 18, Number 25, 20 June 1964
- /33: Volume 18, Number 26, 27 June 1964
- /34: Volume 19, Number 25, 19 June 1965
- /35: Volume 19, Number 28, 10 July 1965
- /36: Volume 19, Number 34, 21 August 1965
- /37: Volume 20, Number 25, 18 June 1966
- /38: Volume 20, Number 28, 9 July 1966
- /39: Volume 20, Number 34, 20 August 1966
- /40: Volume 20, Number 35, 27 August 1966
- /41: Volume 21, Number 24, 17 June 1967
- /42: Volume 21, Number 27, 8 July 1967
- /43: Volume 22, Number 23, 8 June 1968

Papers of Harold Abrahams

/44: Volume 22, Number 25, 22 June 1968

/45: Volume 22, Number 30, 27 July 1968

/46: Volume 23, Number 22, 31 May 1969

/47: Volume 23, Number 30, 26 July 1969

/48: Volume 23, Number 44, 1 November 1969

/49: Volume 23, Number 45, 8 November 1969

/50: Volume 24, Number 22, 30 May 1970

/51: Volume 24, Number 26, 27 June 1970

/52: Volume 25, Number 30, 24 July 1971

/53: Volume 26, Number 33, 12 August 1972

/54: Volume 27, Number 1, 6 January 1973

/55: Volume 32, Number 1, 7 January 1978

/56: Volume 32, Number 2, 14 January 1978

/57: Volume 32, Number 6, 11 February 1978

/58: Volume 32, Number 13, 1 April 1978

58 items

Access: Open

ATH/HA/6/1/2 Miscellaneous magazines

[1965]-
1972

Comprises:

/1: 'Der Leichtathletik', 7 September [1965]

/2: 'Women's Athletics', Volume 1, Number 7,
November 1968

/3: 'Journal of the International Athletes' Club',
Volume 1, Number 2, July 1972

3 items

Access: Open

Languages: English and German

Papers of Harold Abrahams

ATH/HA/6/2	<p>Scrapbooks, albums and loose newspaper cuttings</p> <p>Scrapbooks, albums and loose newspaper cuttings largely featuring articles about, or articles written by, Harold Abrahams.</p> <p>5 volumes and 5 files</p> <p>Access: Open</p>	1920- [1970s]
ATH/HA/6/2/1	<p>Scrapbooks and albums</p> <p>Scrapbooks and albums primarily comprising newspaper cuttings but one album also including photographs, athletics programmes, fixture lists, cartoons, selection letters and posters. Albums with later newspaper cuttings include numerous articles written by Harold Abrahams himself. Majority of material concerns varsity and inter-varsity athletics, the Olympic Games, the Commonwealth Games, AAA Championships and various international meetings.</p> <p>5 volumes</p> <p>Access: Open</p>	1920- [mid-20th century]
ATH/HA/6/2/1 /1	<p>Scrapbook with athletics programmes</p> <p>Volume primarily comprising newspaper cuttings but also includes photographs, athletics programmes, fixture lists, cartoons, selection letters and posters. Majority of material relates to varsity athletics and most newspaper cuttings are captioned. There is also material relating to Harold Abrahams' attendance at the 1920 Antwerp Olympic Games.</p> <p>Athletics programmes relate to track and field meetings:</p> <p>'Magdalen College, Oxford versus Caius College, Cambridge' held at Ifley Road Track, 5 February 1920</p> <p>'Jesus versus Caius Athletic Sports', 13 February 1920</p> <p>'Emmanuel versus Caius Athletic Sports', 24 February 1920</p> <p>CUAC [Cambridge University Athletic Club]</p>	1920- 1921

Papers of Harold Abrahams

'University Sports', 10 March 1920

CUAC [Cambridge University Athletic Club]

'University Sports', 12 March 1920

'Oxford and Cambridge Athletic Sports' held at Queen's Club, West Kensington, 27 March 1920

Acton Harriers' 'Sports Meeting' held at Gunnersbury Park, Acton, 8 May 1920

'Great International Athletics Sports: 11th Molinari SC Annual' held at Stamford Bridge Grounds, Fulham, 24 May 1920

Amateur Athletic Association 'The Championships for 1920' held at Stamford Bridge Sports Grounds, 2-3 July 1920

'International Amateur Athletic Contest: England, Ireland, Scotland' held at Alexandra Athletic Grounds, Crewe, 10 July 1920

'Achilles Club 'A' versus RMC Sandhurst Athletic Sports' held at Queen's Club, West Kensington, 15 July 1920

Polytechnic Harriers 'Marathon Race and Athletic Sports' held at Stamford Bridge Grounds, 17 July 1920

Histon and Impington Horticultural Society and Amateur Athletic Union 'Athletics Sports and Bicycle Races', 29 July 1920

Liverpool Workingmen's Conservation Association 'Second Grand Victory Amateur Athletic Sports' held at New Brighton, 2 August 1920

'Caius versus Downing Athletic Sports', 23 and 26 November 1920

'Cambridge versus Oxford Relay Races' held at Fenners' Ground, Cambridge, 3 December 1920

'St John's versus Caius Athletic Sports', 3 February 1921

'Magdalen Oxford versus Caius Cambridge Athletic Sports', 11 February 1921

'Trinity versus Caius Athletic Sports', 18 February

Papers of Harold Abrahams

1921

'Cambridge University Athletic Club University Sports', 3 March 1921

'Cambridge University Athletic Club University Sports', 5 March 1921

'Oxford and Cambridge Athletic Sports' held at Queen's Club, West Kensington, 19 March 1921

Fixture list:

Cambridge University Athletic Club, Michaelmas Term, 1920

Cambridge University Athletic Club, Lent Term, 1921

1 volume

Access: Open

ATH/HA/6/2/1 /2 Album 1926-1927

Volume comprising newspaper cuttings relating to athletics, July 1926-October 1927

1 volume

Access: Open

ATH/HA/6/2/1 /3 Album 1927-1929

Volume comprising newspaper cuttings relating to athletics, November 1927-August 1929

1 volume

Access: Open

ATH/HA/6/2/1 /4 Album 1929-1930

Volume comprising newspaper cuttings relating to athletics, August 1929-1930

1 volume

Access: Open

ATH/HA/6/2/1 /5 Album [mid-20th century]

Volume comprising undated newspaper cuttings

Papers of Harold Abrahams

concerning track and field athletics. Articles by Harold Abrahams appear to have been mostly written during the late 1940s or early 1950s.

1 volume

Access: Open

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|---------------------|
| ATH/HA/6/2/2 | Newspaper cuttings | [1920s]-
[1970s] |
| | Newspaper cuttings concerning varsity and inter-varsity athletics, with references to Harold Abrahams' achievements during the early 1920s; cuttings relating to the Wes Santee controversy over his 'professional' status; and miscellaneous cuttings including some material relating to the Olympic Games. | |
| | 5 files | |
| | Access: Open | |
| ATH/HA/6/2/2
/1 | Inter-varsity athletics meetings | [c 1923] |
| | Manuscript copies of extracts taken from various newspapers relating to inter-varsity athletics meetings Oxford versus Cambridge, March 1923; and Oxford and Cambridge versus Harvard and Yale', July 1923. | |
| | 1 file | |
| | Access: Open | |
| ATH/HA/6/2/2
/2 | Cuttings taken from Der Leichtathlet | 1971-
1972 |
| | Cuttings dated November 1971-May 1972 with accompanying index compiled by Harold Abrahams. | |
| | 1 file | |
| | Access: Open | |
| | Language: German | |
| ATH/HA/6/2/2
/3 | Cuttings relating to Wes Santee | 1956 |
| | Newspaper cuttings and magazine article concerning the banning of Wes Santee following a dispute with the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) over his amateur status. | |

Papers of Harold Abrahams

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/6/2/2
/4

Miscellaneous cuttings

[1920s]-
[1970s]

Collection of miscellaneous newspaper cuttings and related papers. File includes article by Sir Lancelot Royle and Harold Abrahams titled 'Olympic Games: past and present'; cuttings concerning the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games; copies of articles relating to 1924 Paris Olympic Games; and cuttings relating to D. G. A. Lowe.

The file also includes a copy of 'The Times' originally issued on 26 February 1807.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/6/2/2
/5

Index to newspaper cuttings

[mid-20th
century]

Manuscript alphabetical index relating to unidentified newspaper articles.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/7

Photographs and slides

1924-
1976

Photographs and slides primarily depicting athletes, athletics meetings and athletics stadiums throughout much of the mid-20th century. There is coverage from various Olympic Games and Commonwealth Games meetings. Many slides are captioned and indexed.

4 slide boxes and 22 files

Access: Open

ATH/HA/7/1

Photographs

[mid-20th
century]

Small number of photographs and negatives, the majority unidentified.

2 files

Access: Open

Papers of Harold Abrahams

ATH/HA/7/1/1	Photographs	[mid-20th century]
	<p>Small number of photographs, majority without captions, taken during the mid-20th century. Images depict Harold Abrahams addressing an IAAF delegation in Budapest, 1966; and the Sybil Abrahams trophy.</p>	
	1 file	
	Access: Open	
ATH/HA/7/1/2	Negatives	[mid-20th century]
	<p>Small number of unidentified photographic negatives. Some images appear to depict Greece and others depict hurdling technique.</p>	
	1 file	
	Access: Open	
ATH/HA/7/2	Slides	1924-1976
	<p>Extensive sequence of slides, mainly depicting athletes. There are images from numerous Olympic Games as well various other track and field athletics meetings. Many slides are captioned and indexed.</p>	
	4 slide boxes and 20 files	
	Access: Open	
ATH/HA/7/2/1	Glass slide boxes	1924-[c 1960]
	<p>Extensive volume of glass slides, with accompanying index, depicting images of athletes and athletic stadiums. The slides include images taken at Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games and various other track and field meetings. Many slides are captioned.</p>	
	4 slide boxes and 1 file	
	Access: Open	
	Notes: Stored on glass slide shelf.	
ATH/HA/7/2/1/1	Glass slides: box 1	1948-1956
	<p>Comprises 95 black and white glass slides with accompanying index. The slides largely relate to the</p>	

Papers of Harold Abrahams

1956 Melbourne Olympic Games and features a number of competitors including Kuts, Pirie, Connolly, Dumas, Bell, Danielsen, Oerter, Da Silva, Krzesinska, Brasher, Jenkins, Tishkyewich, Campbell, Courtney, Fikotova, Read, McDaniel, Richards and Cuthbert.

1 slide box

Access: Open

Notes: Old reference: Box 23 number 1

ATH/HA/7/2/1 /2 Glass slides: box 2 1924-1956

Comprises 95 black and white glass slides with accompanying index. The slides relate to the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games as well as earlier athletics meetings. There are images from the 1924 AAA Championships, 1924 Paris Olympic Games and unidentified events, possibly Olympic Games, in 1948 and 1952. Includes images of Tishkeyevich, Delany, Jesse Owens, [Sydney] Wooderson, Peltzer, Disley, Bannister, Nurmi, Czermak, McDaniel, Osborn, Richards, Gailly and Finlay.

1 slide box

Access: Open

Notes: Old reference: Box 23 number 2

ATH/HA/7/2/1 /3 Glass slides: box 3 1936-1958

Comprises 90 black and white glass slides with accompanying index. The slides include images taken at the 1948 London Olympic Games and the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games. There is also material relating to unidentified events, possibly Olympic Games, held in 1936 and 1952; and the British Empire and Commonwealth Games held in Cardiff in 1958. Images include S. Cawley, Richards, Disley, Carpenter, Vickers and Rowe.

1 slide box

Access: Open

Notes: Old reference: Box 23 number 3

ATH/HA/7/2/1 /4 Glass slides: box 4 1958-1960

Papers of Harold Abrahams

Comprises 70 black and white glass slides with accompanying index. The slides largely relate to the 1958 Cardiff British Empire and Commonwealth Games and the 1960 Rome Olympic Games. Images include Thomas, Tyshkevich, Ken Jones, Hoskin, S. Allday, Sloper, Elliott, Halberg and Thompson.

1 slide box

Access: Open

Notes: Old reference: Box 23 number 4

ATH/HA/7/2/1 /5 Glass slides: index [c 1960]

Typescript index, master copy, for glass slides stored at ATH/HA/7/2/1/1-ATH/HA/7/2/1/4

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/7/2/2 Slides relating to the Olympic Games 1956-1976

Extensive volume of slides depicting images of athletes and athletic stadiums at Olympic Games held between 1956 and 1976. Slides are accompanied by indexes compiled by Harold Abrahams. A number of slides are captioned.

9 files

Access: Open

ATH/HA/7/2/2 /1 Slides: Melbourne Olympic Games 1956

Slides primarily relating to the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games. With accompanying report.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/7/2/2 /2 Slides: Rome Olympic Games 1960

Slides primarily relating to the 1960 Rome Olympic Games. With accompanying index.

1 file

Access: Open

Papers of Harold Abrahams

- ATH/HA/7/2/2 /3 Slides: Tokyo Olympic Games 1964
Slides primarily relating to the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games. With accompanying index.
1 file
Access: Open
- ATH/HA/7/2/2 /4 Slides: Tokyo Olympic Games 1964
Slides primarily relating to the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games. Majority of slides are labelled with names of athletes or events.
1 file
Access: Open
- ATH/HA/7/2/2 /5 Slides: Mexico Olympic Games 1968
Slides primarily relating to the 1968 Mexico Olympic Games. With accompanying index.
1 file
Access: Open
- ATH/HA/7/2/2 /6 Slides: Mexico Olympic Games 1968
Slides primarily relating to the 1968 Mexico Olympic Games. With accompanying index.
1 file
Access: Open
- ATH/HA/7/2/2 /7 Slides: Munich Olympic Games 1972
Slides primarily relating to the 1972 Munich Olympic Games. With accompanying index.
1 file
Access: Open
- ATH/HA/7/2/2 /8 Slides: Montreal Olympic Games 1976
Slides primarily relating to the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games. With accompanying index.
1 file

Papers of Harold Abrahams

- Access: Open
- ATH/HA/7/2/2 /9 Slides: Montreal Olympic Games 1976
- Slides primarily relating to the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games. With accompanying index.
- 1 file
- Access: Open
- ATH/HA/7/2/3 Miscellaneous slides [mid-20th century]
- Comprises:
- /1-10: Extensive number of slides taken at various athletics meetings during the mid-20th century. Majority of slides are labelled with names of athlete or event. It is not always possible to determine the year or name of the athletics meeting. Those that can be identified include images taken at a meeting held in Rome, 1974; a meeting held in Helsinki [possibly the 1952 Olympic Games]; and numerous miscellaneous slides including some personal.
- 10 files
- Access: Open
- ATH/HA/8 Sound recordings [mid-20th century]
- Reel-to-reel recordings comprising a mixture of recordings relating to athletics events as well as some personal recordings. Recordings relating to athletics include interviews with athletes, recordings from Olympic Games and recordings taken at athletics dinners. Personal recordings illustrate Abrahams' interests in heraldry, royalty and opera.
- 100 tapes
- Access: Closed
- Physical description:** Reel-to-reel recordings cannot be served in their current format.
- ATH/HA/8/1 Reel to reels [mid-20th century]
- Reel to reel recordings. Comprises reels entitled:
- 7 inch tapes:

Papers of Harold Abrahams

- /1: 'Mikado: Iolanthe'
- /2: 'Princess Ida'
- /3: 'Dear Charles'
- /4: 'Mr Abrahams; Heath [...]'
- /5: 'Act 1 of Engaged'
- /6: 'Harold Abrahams and Donald Findlay', 23 May 1969
- /7: 'George Cross O.M.'
- /8: 'Trial by Jury; HMS Pinafore'
- /9: 'World of Sound; Victoria Cross'
- /10: 'Free/Copy'
- /11: 'VC/GC'
- /12: 'Thespis, presented by The Glebe Operatic Society, 1 March 1969. Wedding and Reception'
- /13: 'What makes an advocate'
- /14: 'Moon; Twenty Questions'
- /15: 'Dinner, LAC [London Athletic Club], 21 May 1963
- /16: 'Unused'
- /17: 'Free'
- /18: 'Protest against possible tour of Great Britain by South Africans led by Peter Hain, 1970s tour'
- /19: 'Macbeth; Sybil; Olympics; Royal Wedding'
- /20: 'Lecture 15.9.65 BBC Memories. What makes a commentator'
- /21: 'Rex Alston interview' [of Harold Abrahams] in 'People Today'; Desert Island Discs, Roy Plumley and Harold Abrahams; Pirates of Penzance; Trial'
- /22: No label
- /23: 'Interview with Mr Atkinson by Mr Abrahams',

Papers of Harold Abrahams

31 January 1967

/24: 'November 1966; December 1966; March 1967; May 1967; July 1967; Athletics 1967; November 1967; Merry Widow'

/25: 'Music only'

/26: '1200'

/27: 'In Town Tonight, Harold Abrahams and Mrs A[brahams] on their Australian Trip'

/28: 'MFL-H, 24 June 1963'

/29: No label

/30: No label

5 inch tapes:

/31: Various topics, 1966-1968

/32: 'Ireland'

/33: 'Tokio'

/34: Illegible

/35: Various, including several 'Memories' [c 1967]

/36: Various, including interviews with Emil Zatopek, Sir George Stewart Robertson and Jessie Owens

/37: 'G&S Film; Tauber; Mikado'

/38: 'Dunkie' Wright, BBC Radio 4, 1967. Interviews with A. Fergus Murray, J. Lachlan Stewart and Donald F. Macgregor

/39: '1948 Olympics opening ceremony'

/40: 'G. Carlsen, USA, 1968; Soapbox; Patience; Alva Liddell, 11 April 1969'

/41: No label

/42: 'Brightwell; Dorothy Hyma[n]; Ann Packer; Mary Rand; The record breakers; David Exeter; Film ISN; Comedy of Errors'

/43: 'Odette; George Cross; Mrs Hall 30.3.66; Kay

Papers of Harold Abrahams

14.5.66; Macmillan'

/44: 'DON F/600'

/45: 'Profile', Harold Abrahams interviewed by Richard Somerset-Ward, September 1968

/46: No label

/47: 'Olympic '69 including Clark on 10,000; Lillian Board'

/48: 'Memorial Service to Geoffrey Richard Lionel Abrahams'. Box also contains printed Order of Service and similar sheets for Ernest Clynes, Florence Millichap, Harry F. V. Edward and James 'Jimmy' Wood

/49: 'HRH Prince Charles; Jesse Owens and Harold Abrahams, Jamaica, 6 August 1966; launching of Apollo 18 May 1969'

/50: 'Music only: Fiddler on the Roof'

/51: 'Heath; Powell; Night of Nights; Lord Hall; BAAB; Sharon Lewis; Barnard, Sheppard, Allport, Hahn; Muggeridge'

/52: 'PJNB; Eisenhower; Alistair Cook; Memorial Service; Pink Champagne'

/53: 'Engaged Acts I and II'

/54: 'BAAB meeting, 24 May 1969'

/55: Several athletic events and athletes, 1928-1964

/56: 'Robey'; meeting 1918

/57: 'Harold Abrahams, LNE, 12 July 1974, interview'

/58: 'Lillian Board; L.B. on 'Buts'; Noel Coward; Greer Garson; Barbara Castle-Cross'

/59: 'June 1969, The Rt. Hon Philip Noel Baker'

/60: Athletics, various

/61: 'HMS.P.; MacM, 1946'

/62: 'Athene, 6 June 1969'

Papers of Harold Abrahams

/63: Various athletic events and athletes, 1934-1958

/64: 'Muggeridge; Moran'

/65: 'Engaged Acts I, II and III'

/66: Various, mostly non-sport

/67: 'Eldan; HMA; AGM; DID Miss Ryan'

/68: 'Sweden; Kim; Caspar; HMA at Edinburgh; Cecil King'

/69: 'Royalty; Alistair Cooke; My Music'

/70: 'Ross'

/71: Various

/72: 'Ireland'

/73: 'Munich, Memorial Service'

/74: 'Wilson and Mrs; B of B Service; Macbeth; Roumania'

/75: 'House of Temperley; JLM mermaid'

4 inch tapes:

/76: Various, including Denes Howell

/77: 'Coote'

4.5 inch tapes:

/78: 'WAAA Dinner'

/79: '1952 year; Noel Coward'

/80: 'Free'

/81: 'Free; S.Africa'

3 inch tapes:

/82: 'Ellen Terry'

/83: 'HMA'

/84: No label

Papers of Harold Abrahams

/85: 'Mikado; Peter L; David Frost; Julie Andrews'

/86: No label

/87: No label

/88: 'Free'

3.25 inch tapes:

/89: 'Bob Hope; South African; Princess Alexandra; David Sheppard; Lord Constantine; Noel Coward'

5.75 inch tapes:

/90: 'My Fair Lady; Pineapple Poll; Apartheid; Mikado; Rehearsal Yeoman'

/91: 'Sport 59'

/92: 'My Fair Lady; Pin. U.S.A.; Sound of Music; Yeoman'

/93: 'Jinks; BAAB; AAA 1959'

/94: 'Iolanthe, Saddlers Wells orchestra, 1 January 1962'

/95: 'RIBI Conference, 13-16 October 1966; recording of address given by Harold Abrahams, 14 October 1966; Rotary Talk'

/96: 'Athletics 1963; Pinafore (USA)'

/97: Various

/98: 'Athletics 1958; Olympics appeal'

/99: 'ABRAMS [sic] Zatopek'

/100: 'Gondoliers Glyndebourne'

100 tapes

Access: Closed

Physical description: Reel-to-reel recordings cannot be served in their current format.

ATH/HA/9

Personalia

Personalia collected by, or relating to, Harold Abrahams comprising diaries and notebooks;

[mid-20th century]-
[1980s]

Papers of Harold Abrahams

miscellaneous notes; material relating to Chariots of Fire film; biographical information including photocopied obituaries; and menu cards and invitations to events.

11 volumes and 5 files

Access: Open

- | | | |
|--------------|---|--------------------|
| ATH/HA/9/1 | Diaries | [mid-20th century] |
| | Appointment diaries and notebooks primarily used to record birthdays of athletes and anniversaries of sporting achievements. | |
| | 6 volumes and 1 file | |
| | Access: Open | |
| ATH/HA/9/1/1 | Appointment diaries | 1950-1963 |
| | Volumes partially used. Comprises: | |
| | /1: Appointment diary, 1950 | |
| | /2: Appointment diary, 1963. Includes a list of telephone numbers and a newspaper cutting detailing the 'Court Circular', 20 May. | |
| | 2 volumes | |
| | Access: Open | |
| ATH/HA/9/1/2 | Birthdays and anniversaries | [mid-20th century] |
| | Diaries used to record the birthdays of athletes and the date of world records, Olympic records, British records and notable events from history. | |
| | 4 volumes | |
| | Access: Open | |
| ATH/HA/9/1/3 | Birthdays and anniversaries | [mid-20th century] |
| | Index cards containing addresses and telephone numbers. | |
| | 1 file | |
| | Access: Open | |

Papers of Harold Abrahams

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| ATH/HA/9/2 | <p>Notes and miscellaneous papers</p> <p>Notebooks; material relating to Chariots of Fire; biographical information which appears to have been inserted into this collection by John Bromhead; and menu cards and invitations to events collected by Harold Abrahams.</p> <p>5 volumes and 4 files</p> <p>Access: Open</p> | [mid-20th century]-
[1980s] |
| ATH/HA/9/2/1 | <p>Notebooks</p> <p>Comprises:</p> <p>/1: '1946'. Contains lists of events and personalities.</p> <p>/2: 'Notes 1948'. Contains details of Statutes and individuals in government.</p> <p>/3: 'Broadcasting'. Contains historical notes.</p> <p>/4: 'OM notes'. Contains notes about the Order of Merit.</p> <p>/5: 'Knights of England'</p> <p>5 volumes</p> <p>Access: Open</p> | [mid-20th century] |
| ATH/HA/9/2/2 | <p>Miscellaneous notes and jottings</p> <p>Notes comprise typescript list of newspaper headlines taken from the Daily Express, Sunday Express and Daily Mail; typescript paper concerning competition payments between Oxford and Cambridge Universities, signed Noel Hulton; lists of books; table of rainfall, 1933-1962; and miscellaneous personal items including collected quotations.</p> <p>1 file</p> <p>Access: Open</p> | [mid-20th century] |
| ATH/HA/9/2/3 | <p>Material relating to Chariots of Fire</p> <p>Papers, presumably compiled by John Bromhead, relating to the film 'Chariots of Fire'. The file also includes some papers relating to the sale of Harold</p> | [1980s] |

Papers of Harold Abrahams

Abrahams' medals. Largely photocopies of newspaper articles.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/9/2/4 Biographical information 1969-1978

Material, presumably compiled by John Bromhead, largely comprising photocopies of obituaries of Harold Abrahams. File also includes an undated souvenir programme for a lecture on athletics given by Abrahams and 'A Birthday Salute to Harold Abrahams', 13 December 1969.

1 file

Access: Open

ATH/HA/9/2/5 Dinners and events [mid-20th century]

Small amount of miscellaneous material relating to dinners and other events attended by Harold Abrahams. File includes a guest line for a dinner held in honour of Viscount Simon, 20 October 1953.

1 file

Access: Open