

Taranaki Race Walking Club

10km Club Championships

27 August 2017

Peter and Rachel 10k Club Champions

Excellent conditions out at Onaero today, just a slight breeze to keep you cool and a watery sun. Sixteen lined up at the start, with Trevor and his new assistant Marlene on the watches and Arthur & Francis at the 5km mark manning the drink stop.

It's not all that easy commenting on a race when you are at the back and in a short time everyone are just dots on the horizon and then nothing.

I had Sue keeping me company until the 2.5km cone, where she turned and walked back as she was just doing the 5km distance. It clearly states in the rules that only really ancient people can do 5km for this race but she fluttered her one good eye at Eric and him being a bloke, is a sucker for this sort of female wiles, so the rules were bent for her. Eye don't think you can try this on again Sue or eye'll complain.

Perfect Helen, who had returned from the wilderness after a long time away due to sickness was the nearest to me but just a speck ahead. I could only have been around 3.5km when the first walkers started approaching.

First was Peter carrying on with his good form all season after all the training he put in for the World Masters; Rachel take note! Eric would have been over 100m behind suffering the effects of little to no training and working seven days a week; you can't take it with you Eric!

Next came our Rachel only about 40m behind Eric looking all serious, well as serious as she can ever look but had time to give me a quick smile. Alan was only about the same distance behind her looking even more serious as he attempted to close the gap. He was followed by Sherryn with Jeff a respectful two steps behind her, then Ross. The fact that from Eric back to Ross, each were only 40-50m apart, suggested the last part of the race would be very interesting.

Serena was only about 15m behind Ross, continuing the ding dong battles these two have had all season.

You had to look the whole length of this long road before you saw the next person approaching. That'll be Dave I thought but as they neared, I could see that unless his hair had grown and changed colour since the race started it couldn't be him, no, it was Anne. No sweatband today, hair streaming behind her, face the colour of a stop light and sweat pouring off her, or should I just say she was just glowing?

Gaylene & Michelle were next, with only about 50m between each of the three of them. Then came Dave about 100m behind Michelle. The three girls certainly making him pay for beating them last time out. A long way back came Perfect Helen, muttering about us being lucky last. Then all of a sudden I saw someone else. "Who the Hell is that I thought?" it was Tony who I'd clean forgotten about. "I need some of Marlene's pills," he said as we passed, I took it his heart was playing up today. "I might have a chance to take him" I thought. Really? Dreaming again Brian?

It seemed to take forever before I reached the drink stop where Francis was chatting up Arthur, a quick swig and I was on my way back to run down Tony. Strange thing was, I never saw him & Helen again until the finish line. So I had to content myself with walking the rest of the way home on my own, contemplating what I would do when I won Lotto, as you do. I'm beginning to know what Ivor felt like now.

With a sigh of relief I saw the end in sight. Everyone was still there patiently waiting, when I thought they would all be around Tony & Anne's place eating them out of house and home. Michelle brought me out of my reverie by urging me to lift my head, stand up straight and go for it. The years dropped off me (well some of them did) as I did my best to comply, I think I even managed to straighten my knees for a few steps and crossed the line to thunderous applause. So thanks for that Guys.

I think the best part of the race was getting a cuddle from our Secretary at the end, I shall try to be last more often. Talking of last, I was thinking that I could donate a wooden spoon for the last person home after each race. I wouldn't have to bring it to the events but just cut a notch in it when I got home.

Marlene said although not competing, she enjoyed sitting there catching up on all the gossip with Trevor. It was then back to Tony's for a feed, pleasant conversation and the results, which Serena will send out.

VIEW FROM THE BACK

Today's Points

Anne 8 pts
Sherryn 7 pts
Peter 6 pts
Gaylene 5 pts
Jeff 4 pts
Ross 3 pts

Points Trophy Standing

Michelle 53 pts
Anne 51 pts
Serena 43 pts
Sue 39 pts
Ross 39 pts
Brian 37 pts
Sherryn 37 pts

Style Trophy Standings

Serena 74.00
Sherryn 71.50
Michelle 71.00
Alan 69.50
Tony 65.00
Ross 65.00
Hannah 56.50
Rachel 56.00
Anne 56.00
Sue 51.00
Marlene 40.50
Peter F 40.50
Eric 36.00
Dave B 30.00
Gaylene 38.00
Daniel 16.00

Today's Results

Member	Grade	Distance	Placing	Estimate	Actual Time	Difference	Points
Peter Fox	M60	10	1st	0:57:10	0:56:54	0:00:16	6
Ross Allen	M60	10	2nd	1:05:23	1:05:23	0:00:00	3
Tony Burrell	M60	10	3rd	1:06:41	1:14:26	0:07:45	2
Eric Kemsley	M65	10	1st	0:58:12	1:00:17	0:02:05	2
Alan Clarke	M65	10	2nd	1:02:00	1:02:13	0:00:13	2
Dave Barrett	M65	10	3rd	1:14:54	1:18:07	0:03:13	2
Jeff Wells	M70	10	1st	1:04:00	1:03:52	0:00:08	4
Brian O'Shea	M80	10	1st	1:28:20	1:29:12	0:00:52	2
Rachel Gilberd	W40	10	1st	1:00:10	1:01:02	0:00:52	2
Sherryn Hardy	W50	10	1st	1:04:40	1:03:40	0:01:00	7
Serena Coombes	W50	10	2nd	1:06:23	1:06:48	0:00:25	2
Michelle Nicholson	W55	10	1st	1:16:12	1:16:15	0:00:03	2
Helen Baverstock	W55	10	2nd	1:16:44	1:18:49	0:02:05	2
Anne Fraser	W60	10	1st	1:13:50	1:12:16	0:01:34	8
Gaylene Phillips	W60	10	2nd	1:14:38	1:14:04	0:00:34	5
Sue Park	W70	5	1st	0:43:59	0:46:45	0:02:46	2
Helpers	Trevor, Marlene, Arthur, Frances						

