

Points Awarded

Marlene – 8 points
 Sherryn W – 7 points
 Alan – 6 points
 Dave W – 5 points
 Vanessa – 4 points
 Sue – 3 points

Points Trophy Standings

Alan – 44 points
 Jeff – 41 points
 Helen – 40 points
 Brian – 36 points
 Sherryn H – 35 points
 Marlene – 33 points
 Sue – 32 points

*Whirlwind White wins at tropical Te Ngutu*

The biggest talking point of the day was Rachel being the first to arrive – I don't think she camped overnight like Tony did last year, but 9:20 Rachel that is pretty impressive – just make sure you read your e-mails and then you might catch up the fact it is a 10:00 start for this one.

Apologies all round, I besmirched Hawera's climate last week; little did I know they are in the middle of a heat wave – sunny Saturday (temperature of 15?) and tropical calm Sunday (must have been double digit temperature two days in a row – probably make the Daily News headlines tomorrow). A further apology to those who were hoping for the Hawera Howler – there are some twisted ones around like Jeff who like to battle the elements (don't worry Palmerston North awaits next weekend).

It was a hard day's racing today, but I actually enjoyed it in a perverse sort of way. This year we had a new course called the Tropical or Temperate Te Ngutu Foxtrot. The start was at the golf course (which according to Jeff is just a waste of farmland – we are guessing he is not into golf).



It provided great facilities though with comfort stops and shower facilities. The course was challenging with a gentle dip after half a Kilometre. By the 4th lap it was more like a gigantic mountain.

The Senior race saw some excellent battles with the majority of walkers really working hard. The early starters initially had Michelle as a likely winner as we struggled to close the gap on her. After the first lap the walky talky pair of Wilson and White became the whirlwinds. I had managed to close a lot of ground on Marlene and Sherryn (No.2) at 2.5K, but then they got on with walking. Tornado Tony looked like he would go through the whole field and by 5K he was very close to the leaders; unfortunately he had to back off in the second half and never closed the gap. Vanessa, Mike, Jeff and Harry started together with Wacky 30 seconds further back. In their first lap Mike (and for a brief moment – Harry, until his lack of walking caught up) made a bit of a gap on the others.

During the second lap Vanessa caught Mike like he was standing still as she powered past and opened a significant gap on him. At this point Jeff drifted off the back of the group and Wacky started to close. At the last turn with 1.25K left the race was wide open.

Results

Name	Grade	Estimated Time	Handicap	Clock Time	Race Time	Pts
Senior Men						
Alan Clarke	M	1:08:15	0:07:45	1:15:16	1:07:31	6
Dave Wackrow	M	0:59:15	0:16:45	1:15:32	0:58:47	5
Mike Nield	M	0:59:45	0:16:15	1:16:04	0:59:49	2
Peter Fox	M	0:57:00	0:19:00	1:16:35	0:57:35	2
Jeff Wells	M	0:59:45	0:16:15	1:17:30	1:01:15	2
Tony Burrell	M	1:04:45	0:11:15	1:17:48	1:06:33	2
Harry Terwiel	M	0:59:45	0:16:15	1:19:41	1:03:26	2
Vets						
Ivor Ellis	V3.5K	0:33:45	0:14:15	0:49:18	0:35:03	2
Sue Park	V	0:39:45	0:08:15	0:47:54	0:39:39	3
Brian O'Shea	V	0:42:00	0:06:00	0:47:59	0:41:59	2
Arthur Lester	V	0:39:30	0:08:30	0:48:01	0:39:31	2
Lorraine Eldershaw	V	0:36:30	0:11:30	0:49:20	0:37:50	2
Senior Women						
Marlene White	W	1:09:30	0:06:30	1:15:05	1:08:35	8
Sherryn Wilson	W	1:09:30	0:06:30	1:15:12	1:08:42	7
Vanessa Lowl	W	0:59:45	0:16:15	1:15:38	0:59:23	4
Helen Baverstock	W	1:11:15	0:04:45	1:16:17	1:11:32	2
Michelle Nicholson	W	1:16:00	0:00:00	1:17:23	1:17:23	2
Sherryn Hardy	W	1:05:15	0:10:45	1:18:36	1:07:51	2
Rachel Gilberd	W	0:59:15	0:16:45	1:19:14	1:02:29	2
Others						
Anne Fraser	5K	0:39:45	0:08:15	0:47:59	0:39:44	2
Kiara	1K				0:07:38	2
Helpers						
Trevor. Peter						2

The whirlwinds of White and Wilson had taken the lead and I had closed to a few seconds on them. Vanessa, Mike and Wacky were close enough to still come through. Try as I might I couldn't gain the last few seconds I needed and at 400 metres to go I knew it was over. The last 300 metres saw Marlene do her usual fast finish to win by 7 seconds from Sherryn (No. 2) and then a further 4 seconds back to me. Wacky had closed to within 16 seconds of me with Vanessa just 6 seconds adrift of him. Peter Fox took out fastest time of 57m35s and Vanessa fastest female in 59m23s. Well done to Marlene today – it has been a battle this year for you, but a very deserving win.

For the last two years Arthur had taken out 1st place in the Vet's section, with last year being in somewhat controversial circumstances with Sue crossing the line first, but the timekeepers had started her early. This year we had Brian (who seems to be getting faster as the season progresses) and Lorraine (Nana you are far too young to be in the Vets section) added to the mix. Brian was the first away; with us all hoping that he wouldn't have any trouble with the local livestock. I was worried on his first lap, a whole herd of cows were talking to him from their paddock, but he resisted their calls on got on with the race. Sue was next away with Arthur (the birthday boy at a sprightly 85) just 15 seconds behind her. Arthur closed on Sue and seemed to be determined to make it 3 in a row. Sue and Arthur worked together I pursued Brian who by now was making more noise than his friends in the paddock. With a few hundred metres to go Sue got past Brian, but Arthur was still not far behind. At the end though Sue had her usual strong finish and finally won on the battlefields of Normanby, just 4 seconds ahead of Brian and Arthur only another 2 seconds back Fastest time of the day was Lorraine in 37m50s. Ivor did his 3.5K in 35m3s – even after doing a few stretches along the way.

Not sure if we should mention the points trophy – that way maybe nobody will notice who is at the top of the table; could be demands for the books to be audited or something. Unless I treat the handicapper to a bottle of Grange I can't really see me winning the trophy!

Many thanks to Peter and Pat for an excellent morning tea.

Points Trophy

Name	Total	Wind Wand	Ivor's Oakura	Serena Sprint	Helen's Special	Norm Read	Ekiden	Open Walk	Links	Odd Ball	Time Trial	First Day	Fox Trot
Alan Clarke	44	8	2	2	2	2		2	2	5	5	8	6
Jeff Wells	41	7	2	4	7	2	2	2	7	2	2	2	2
Helen Baverstock	40	3	2	2	5	2	2	2	8	8	2	2	2
Brian O'Shea	36	2	2	5	2	6	2	2	2	2	7	2	2
Sherryn Hardy	35	2	5	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	8	2	2
Marlene White	33		2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	6	8
Sue Park	32		2	8	3	2		2	2	2	6	2	3
Arthur Lester	31	2	7	3	2	2		2		7	2	2	2
Mike Nield	31	2	4	7	2	4	2	1	2		2	3	2
Dave Wackrow	30	2	2	2		2	2	1	6	4	2	2	5
Tony Burrell	30	2	3	6		3	2	2	2	2	4	2	2
Harry Terwie!	29	4	6	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2
Serena Coombes	29	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	5	2	3	5	
Michelle Nicholson	27		2	2	2	8	2	2	2	3	2	2	2
Anne Fraser	24	2	2	2	8	2	2		2			2	2
Ivor Ellis	23		2	2	6	2		1	2	2	2	2	2
Dave Barrett	22		2	2	2	7		1	2	6	2		
Peter Fox	22	2	8	2	2	2	2					2	2
Lorraine Eldershaw	21	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2
Peter Dent	21	2	2	2	2	2		1	2	2	2	2	2
Trevor Suthon	21	2	2	2	2	2		1	2	2	2	2	2
Eric Kemsley	20	2	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	2			
Frances Kemsley	18	6			2	5		1		2	2		
Sherryn Wilson	15							2	2			4	7
Vanessa Lowl	15					2			2			7	4
Denise Clark	14	5			2	2		1		2	2		
Rachel Gilberd	12	2		2		2	2	2					2
Tanya Campbell	10	2	2		2	2		2					
Kim Fougere	9	2	2		2	2		1					
Sandra Moratti	8			2			2	2			2		
Neil Fagan	6	2				2			2				
Gaylene Phillips	4		2									2	
Marlaina Curtis	4	2	2										
Dennis Hastie	3		2					1					
Mary Hastie	3		2					1					
Greg Chapman	2	2											
Joelle Xavier	2	2											
Juniors													
Hannah Gilberd	7	3				4							
Graydon	3				3								