

# The Odd Ball Relay

21 June 2015



## The Straka Oddity – Bell Block

How lucky we were having this event on the Sunday and not the Saturday – in fact the weather was so bad at 10:00 on the Saturday we would have had to cancel. This is Taranaki though, the weather is odd and conditions today were dry with a keen wind for the last few laps. This event has been aptly named – the distance is odd; the laps are an odd distance but everybody has a ball. To add to the oddity, Julie Straka (Mike’s better half) donated some odd ball prizes to the winners – thus the event becomes the “Straka Oddity” – I decided to refrain from calling it Straka’s oddity, because some of you can be a bit cutting and may think it referred to Mike.

When we came up with this concept a year ago, I wondered if you would all take to it. A normal estimated time event can be a bit trying for some of our brains, but throw in a partner; you walk 3 laps at one pace and then a further 4 laps at another and then try to finish at 11:00 without a watch. What makes this event though is the fact you get to walk with somebody else from the Club, who you wouldn’t normally walk with. Denise and I were able to catch up on life, it didn’t seem a year since we had last done so (no we didn’t sing AC/DC songs on the way). Sandra had a smile on her face after going 3 laps with Harry and Sue was relieved to get her breath back after her 3 laps with Mike. One of the more unusual oddities of this event is the fact that Brian doesn’t want to talk to anybody. I remember last year when I was enjoying a chat with Denise and Brian came past, well he just didn’t want to join in the conversation, he just grunted. This year Marlene tried having a discussion with him for the first lap, but just got no reply so she had to walk in silence for 3 laps (mind you I bet she could hear some heavy breathing). I am sure as well that Mary got a chance to talk to her son and make sure he is behaving himself – she had a captive audience for over 40 minutes.

---

### *Today’s Points*

**Rachel 8 pts**  
**Hannah 8 pts**  
**Arthur 6 pts**  
**Sherryn H 6 pts**  
**Dave B 4 pts**  
**Jeff 4 pts**  
**Alan 4 pts**  
**Denise 4 pts**

---




---

### **Points Trophy Leaders**

**Mike 29 pts**  
**Arthur 28 pts**  
**Sherryn H 27 pts**  
**Alan 26 pts**  
**Rachel 26 pts**  
**Harry 25 pts**  
**Tony 25 pts**

---

Congratulations to Rachel and Hannah for finishing just 17 seconds after 11:00 – an exceptional piece of calculating. This is the second estimated time event that Rachel has won this year, so maybe she will become the new handicapper. Well done to Rachel and Hannah on becoming the inaugural winners of the Straka Oddity trophies. Thank goodness Rachel decided to keep the start time she had dreamt up on the Saturday, she was very tempted to rework it when seeing everybody else starting a long way in front! In second place were Sherryn and our very own club metronome – metro Arthur; they arrived at 47 seconds after 11:00. Last year I had put poor old Arthur with Harry and they had finished in last place, 3:30 minutes before 11:00. This year I put Arthur with No. 1 who is obviously so much better at calculating her time than Harry – now what is your secret Sherryn? Tied for 3<sup>rd</sup> place were Alan with Denise (AC/DC) and Jeff with Dave Barrett. Jeff and Dave arrived 53 seconds early and AC/DC were 53 seconds late.

I think it has worried Tony all year that he arrived at the finish line before 11:00 last year – this year I think he was determined to be late so he decided to stop and get his glasses and then warmup before he carried on. In the end he was 2 minutes 23 after 11:00 – so life is now back to normal. Worst estimate on the day was Tanya and Wacky, but probably understandable when Wacky was the slow one and Tanya the quick one. Harry and Mike took the prize for joint fastest times of the day – except of course there isn't a prize – Harry it's all about closest to estimate!

The placings today have changes the Points trophy with a big reshuffle – Mike is still in the lead on 29, but Metro man has moved 1 point behind, with another point back to No. 1 and then another point back to Rachel and Alan.

Thank you to Peter for the timekeeping and to Wacky who ably assisted after walking 3 laps. A fantastic morning tea at Brian and Marlene's and many thanks to Rachel for the entertainment. Many thanks to all club members for making this such an enjoyable experience.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Est Start Time</b>	<b>Finish Time</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Hannah and Rachel	9:52:00	11:00:17	00:17	8
Arthur and Sherryn (No. 1)	9:41:15	11:00:47	00:47	6
Dave and Jeff	9:47:30	10:59:07	00:53	4
Alan & Denise (AC/DC)	9:37:15	11:00:53	00:53	4
Marlene and Brian	9:28:48	10:58:51	01:09	2
Dennis and Mary Hastie	9:36:00	11:01:32	01:32	2
Sue and Mike	9:43:00	10:58:05	01:55	2
Ivor and Helen	9:36:37	11:02:00	02:00	2
Sandra and Harry	9:51:00	10:57:52	02:08	2
Frances and Tony	9:36:00	11:02:23	02:23	2
Tanya and Wacky	9:35:00	10:57:21	02:39	2
Helpers				
Peter				2

## Points Trophy

Name	Wind	Ivor	Sere	Norm		Open	Odd	Gibb	First	Fox	Kaim	Road	Burn	Mart	2nd	Wind		
	Total	Wand	Oak	Sprint	Read	Ekid	Links	Walk	Relay	Trial	Day	Trot	Road	Cham	Up	Wang	Day	Down
<b>Mike Nield</b>	29	2	7	6	5	2	2	3	2									
<b>Arthur Lester</b>	28	2	8	2	2		7	1	6									
<b>Sherryn Hardy</b>	27	2	2		7	2	5	3	6									
<b>Alan Clarke</b>	26	3	2	2	2	2	8	3	4									
<b>Rachel Gilbert</b>	26	8	2	2	2	2	2		8									
<b>Harry Terwiel</b>	25		2	2	8	2	6	3	2									
<b>Tony Burrell</b>	25	7		7	2	2	2	3	2									
<b>Dave Wackrow</b>	24	6	5	4	2	2	2	1	2									
<b>Eric Kemsley</b>	23	2	6	5	2	2	3	3										
<b>Jeff Wells</b>	23	4	2	2	3	2	3	3	4									
<b>Lorraine Eldershaw</b>	19	5	2	3	2	2	2	3										
<b>Brian O'Shea</b>	17		3	2	3	2	2	3	2									
<b>Denise Clark</b>	17	2	2		5		3	1	4									
<b>Gary Fenwick</b>	17		2	8	2		4	1										
<b>Helen Baverstock</b>	15	2	2	2		2	2	3	2									
<b>Marlene White</b>	15		2	2	2	2	2	3	2									
<b>Tanya Campbell</b>	15	2	2	2		2	2	3	2									
<b>Dennis Hastie</b>	13		2		6		2	1	2									
<b>Frances Kemsley</b>	13	2	2	2	2		2	1	2									
<b>Mary Hastie</b>	13	2	4		2		2	1	2									
<b>Michelle Nicholson</b>	13	2		2	2	2	2	3										
<b>Ivor Ellis</b>	12	2	2	2	2	2			2									
<b>Serena Coombes</b>	12	4	2	2		2	2											
<b>Anne Fraser</b>	11		2		2	2	2	3										
<b>Dave Barrett</b>	11	2	2				2	1	4									
<b>Peter Dent</b>	11	2	2	2	2			1	2									
<b>Sue Park</b>	11	2			2		2	3	2									
<b>Trevor Suthon</b>	11	2	2	2	2		2	1										
<b>MaryAnne Costeloe</b>	10	2	2	2	2		2											
<b>Gaylene Phillips</b>	8	2	2	2			2											
<b>Sandra Moratti</b>	8			2	2	2			2									
<b>Peter Fox</b>	7		3		2	2												
<b>Sherryn Wilson</b>	7				2		2	3										
<b>Neil Fagan</b>	4	2			2													
<b>Juniors</b>																		
<b>Hannah Gilbert</b>	22		2	4	3	2	3		8									
<b>Olivia Gilbert</b>	7			3	2		2											