

Taranaki Race Walking

*Points Awarded*

All participants – 2
points each

Not the Usual Skiden

This was to be an Ekiden weekend with a few differences, quite a few of the usual starters not coming this year, a new course and we made it all the way to Wanganui without a pit stop. A few of us got some sprint work practice in dodging the traffic while crossing the road when we stopped for lunch. All safely back in the van and Harry took over the driving from Wacky. Fortunately we had sat-nav and sat-nana, Lorraine sat behind the driver and helped out with all the important parts of driving, gear changing, cornering, braking and when to turn the windscreen wipers on and off.

Eventually we got the rooms sorted out at the motel, Jeff was a tad disappointed that Sherryn taking Alan's place for the relay did not mean that she would also be taking his place in the sleeping arrangements and sharing the room with him. Some of us managed to get a good night's sleep while others got to hear the rain bucketing down during the night and other people snoring. Sandra decided to be very friendly and give everyone at the motel a wake up call, eventually she found the unit with the milk that she was really after. Sunday morning, and though she couldn't go to mass, Anne decided to take the collection plate round instead, going by how quickly she got our fuel money she wasn't taking confessions at the same time.

Off to the new course, not as pretty as the usual one, but the surface to walk on was great, lovely and smooth. It even had an almost tunnel to go through each lap, not sure if steam train Mike gave a toot each time, considering he ended up with an extra leg to walk he could be forgiven for saving his breath for walking. The second A team got to start with the B teams which resulted in one overly zealous judge handing out yellow cards to a few very surprised B grade walkers, it didn't take long before he was advised of the error of his ways. Tony assures us he really didn't want to have to stay so close behind the Auckland walker for nearly all of his leg, he just had to wait for her to slow down so he could get past, yeah right! Even without our changeover specialist Ivor we still managed some interesting hand overs, I just can't understand why other teams have not followed our examples.

While the number one A team was concentrating on getting the better of Auckland there was a bit of drama with the B team. Dave decided he couldn't manage the walk without sat nana behind him every step so there was a bit of team juggling to be done. To still come home in second place was an absolutely brilliant team effort. Seriously Dave was very unwell, he was whiter than our club shirts.



Teams



Harry's son Alex tried to blind the opposition when he walked by exposing legs that were even whiter than white. Never the less those long legs got him through an unexpected 10kms in a very respectable time. Apparently Rachel had a few words of "encouragement" as she went past him, which may have helped him walk faster. Although Harry had packed just about everything else to bring down, tents, chairs, weights to slow down the opposition, he didn't have a second club shirt for Alex to walk in. The "I'm so generous I'll even give you the shirt off my back" Lorraine promptly offered hers. Luckily this didn't mean she had to whip it off while crossing the start/finish line. I thought the 21 gun salute from the local nearby gun club was a nice touch, not so keen on those barking dogs, very glad they never managed to get free. Did anyone else start singing "who let the dogs out"? Actually I was singing "don't let the dogs out!"

The trip home was decidedly quieter with a few people not feeling 100%. Harry's long distance training paid off and he drove all the way home getting us there safe and sound. Serena, Anne and Lorraine kept him fed and entertained, don't usually hear comments of "oh that's good, just roll your glute backwards and forwards on it". I got a bit worried when they offered Harry a turn, how distracted was our driver going to get? As per usual he took it in his stride and didn't even miss a gear change. If you're brave enough you'll have to ask Serena what it was she purchased that was giving them so much pleasure, she may even share the email address with you so you can get one of your own.

So another hugely successful outing by the club, not just the 2nd places for two of the teams, but also the way everyone pitched in to help, the encouragement for those out walking (with my plastic hands I named myself the chief handi-clapper) and of course the food – Brian's pumpkin soup was well worth the effort involved in getting it out of the thermos and into a cup. We can also add to the Tui billboards, courtesy of Helen's other half, "I'll txt you when we're leaving Wellington" yeah right, and my personal favourite, I only go on these trips for the deep, meaningful and intelligent conversations, yeah right.

Results

Team	Team Number	Name	Div	Lap 1	Lap 2	Lap 3	Lap 4	Lap 5	Lap 6	Lap 7	Lap 8	Total Time	Team Time	Time per K	Div Placing	K's Walked
The Common Taters Curse	8	Tony Burrell	A	05:57	07:55	07:59	07:52	07:50	07:48			45:21		06:18	2	7.195
The Common Taters Curse	8	Peter Fox	A	07:02	07:04	07:01	06:59					28:06		05:37	2	5
The Common Taters Curse	8	Rachel Gilberd	A	06:46	06:59	07:01	07:04	07:02	06:55			41:47		05:34	2	7.5
The Common Taters Curse	8	Eric Kemsley	A	06:38	06:53	06:53	06:57	07:02	07:04	07:04	06:47	55:18		05:32	2	10
The Common Taters Curse	8	Harry Terwiel	A	06:40	06:53	06:53	07:02	07:04	06:56			41:28		05:32	2	7.5
The Common Taters Curse	8	Peter Fox	A	07:37	07:25	07:26	07:24					29:52	4:01:52	05:58	2	5
Ms Mash Angels	9	Anne Fraser	A	06:58	09:03	09:01	09:11	09:28	09:20			53:01		07:22	5	7.195
Ms Mash Angels	9	Michelle Nicholson	A	08:55	09:08	09:15	09:12					36:30		07:18	5	5
Ms Mash Angels	9	Sandra Moratti	A	08:30	08:28	08:35	08:36	08:43	08:25			51:17		06:50	5	7.5
Ms Mash Angels	9	Serena Coombes	A	07:54	08:11	08:07	08:21	08:24	08:23	08:11	07:54	1:05:25		06:32	5	10
Ms Mash Angels	9	Marlene White	A	08:32	08:56	09:01	09:00	08:54	08:44			53:07		07:05	5	7.5
Ms Mash Angels	9	Helen Baverstock	A	08:53	09:06	09:09	08:54					36:02	4:55:22	07:12	5	5
Nana and Her Boys	45	Sherryn Hardy	B	05:56	08:02	08:13	08:13	08:06	08:02			46:32		06:28	2	7.195
Nana and Her Boys	45	Lorraine Eldershaw	B	08:44	09:01	09:10	09:12					36:07		07:13	2	5
Nana and Her Boys	45	Jeff Wells	B	07:56	07:47	07:45	07:58	08:03	07:55			47:24		06:19	2	7.5
Nana and Her Boys	45	Alex Terwiel	B	07:43	08:15	08:09	08:15	08:28	08:30	08:38	08:28	1:06:26		06:39	2	10
Nana and Her Boys	45	Mike Nield	B	07:29	07:47	07:52	07:57	07:48	07:49			46:42		06:14	2	7.5
Nana and Her Boys	45	D Wackrow/M Nield	B	07:48	07:46	07:51	07:45					31:10	4:34:21	06:14	2	5