

Helen's Special

We all have strange thoughts I am sure during these events, well hopefully it's not just me. About half way through the race I just couldn't stop singing, "I wanna be Brian's girl, I wanna be Brian's girl (to the tune of Bobby's girl; now that shows my age). I had better explain before I get locked up. I started with Serena on handicap and she was 30 seconds up on me by 1km, Marlene had caught me and left me by 5km. Up ahead I could see that Anne and Helen were also walking very well - yep all of Brian's girls walked well today. Not sure what they were on; there are various theories though, Rachel gave them tips last week about pre-race warm-ups or perhaps drug testing could be appropriate - Serena was drinking something like "go Faster" with ginseng in it - we certainly didn't hear her sing, but she certainly hummed along.

What a marvellous day in North Taranaki, no wind, sunshine and about 14 degrees. No wonder everybody went so fast. In these conditions it is a fast course and the times prove it with only 7 people over handicap time out of 20 starters.

In the Senior Men's and women's event today, it looked like an all girl's affair and only Mike spoilt the party. Serena was on a mission as she took off from the get go, I thought I was standing still. Up ahead Kathleen was making the early in roads into first place with Anne and Sherryn going well. Marlene seemed to be lonely without Serena and also started to go through the field. Coming strongly from behind were Mike, Harry and Eric. Jeff and Wacky thought it was a Sunday stroll and seemed to think they should get sympathy from the Handicapper - well guess what, dreams are free. Once Serena caught Sherryn, she seemed to drag her along as well and it was a long time before she shook her off. Once Serena got the lead it was only a case of whether Harry or Mike could catch her. Mike tried his hardest, apparently he had a very good head of steam, but even his best impressions of a train weren't quite enough to catch Serena. Sherryn, Marlene and Anne held on for the next places. Eric backed up his fast time from last week and was fastest Man in 53m46s. Serena was fastest woman in 64m47s.

The Vet's race was an excellent one today. I watched the race unfold and I could see I had the handicapping about spot on. Tom and Sue were working together to catch Ivor and he was doing his best to keep them out. Neil was finishing very strongly in trying to catch all of them. Ivor couldn't quite hold out Tom and Sue; you also knew that Sue would do one of her renowned sprints at the end. Sue deservedly was first home by 2 seconds from Tom and then another 10 seconds to Neil. Neil took fastest time in 35m24s.

When you examine the results on a handicap basis then it is clear that those who won today deserved to win. Serena is putting a lot of work into training for the Wellington half, Mike and Harry are on big mileage for the Wellington marathon;

Marlene and Anne are picking up the mileage, Kathleen reckons its something to do with her compression pants. Sherryn, well with a surname like Hardy, I am expecting some great wine; Eric is training for the Masters. Sue is on the comeback (and threatened me with the dog), Tom's just a nice guy and Neil is super-charged.

Many thanks to all the helpers today (Trevor, Marion, Brian and Vanessa). Also many thanks to Helen and Doug for a great morning tea - that soup is well worth the effort of the race.



Results

Name	Grade	Est Time	Handicap	Clock time	Race Time	Pts
Senior Men						
Mike Nield	M	1:02:30	0:14:00	1:14:21	1:00:21	8
Harry Terwiel	M	0:59:00	0:17:30	1:15:03	0:57:33	4
Eric Kemsley	M	0:54:00	0:22:30	1:16:16	0:53:46	2
Alan Clarke	M	1:07:30	0:09:00	1:16:20	1:07:20	2
Tony Burrell	M	1:04:45	0:11:45	1:16:59	1:05:14	2
Jeff Wells	M	1:01:15	0:15:15	1:20:50	1:05:35	2
Dave Wackrow	M	1:01:00	0:15:30	1:22:14	1:06:44	2
Vets						
Sue Park	V	0:40:30	0:05:00	0:45:12	0:40:12	2
Tom Hastie	V	0:40:30	0:05:00	0:45:14	0:40:14	2
Neil Fagan	V	0:35:30	0:10:00	0:45:24	0:35:24	2
Ivor	V	0:43:15	0:02:15	0:45:30	0:43:15	2
Arthur	V	0:37:15	0:08:15	0:46:05	0:37:50	2
Mary Hastie	V	0:43:15	0:02:15	0:47:39	0:45:24	2
Senior Women						
Serena Coombes	W	1:07:30	0:09:00	1:13:47	1:04:47	9
Sherryn Hardy	W	1:09:30	0:07:00	1:14:28	1:07:28	7
Marlene White	W	1:07:00	0:09:30	1:14:38	1:05:08	6
Anne Fraser	W	1:12:00	0:04:30	1:15:00	1:10:30	5
Kathleen Adamski	W	1:15:45	0:00:45	1:15:19	1:14:34	3
Helen Baverstock	W	1:13:15	0:03:15	1:17:09	1:13:54	2
Michelle Nicholson	W	1:16:30	0:00:00	1:17:43	1:17:43	2
Helpers	Vanessa, Marion, Trevor, Brian					2

Points Trophy Standings

Name	Wind	Ivor's	Odd	Norm	Ekiden	Helen's
	Wand	Oakura	Ball	Read		Special
Total						
Sherryn Hardy	37	4	6	9	9	2
Neil Fagan	25	7	2	9	5	2
Serena Coombes	25	2	2	3	7	2
Ivor Ellis	23	2	8	7	2	2
Vanessa Lowl	23	8	2	2	7	2
Eric Kemsley	21	6	2	7	2	2
Kathleen Adamski	19	9	2		3	2
Arthur Lester	17	2	4	5	2	2
Mike Nield	17	3	2	2		2
Tanya Campbell	17	2	9	2	2	2
Marlene White	16	2	2	2	2	2
Tom Hastie	15	2	3		8	2
Alan Clarke	14	2	2	4	2	2
Jeff Wells	13		7	2	2	2
Brian O'Shea	12	2	2	2	2	2
Harry Terwiel	12	2		2	2	2
Helen Baverstock	12	2	2	2	2	2
Lorraine Eldershaw	12	6	2		2	2
Michelle Nicholson	12	2	2	2	2	2
Anne Fraser	11			2	2	2
Dave Barrett	10	2	2	2	2	2
Tony Burrell	10	2	2	2		2
Trevor Suthon	10	2	2	2	2	2
Joelle Xavier	9	2	5			2
Denise Clark	8	2	2	2	2	
Marion Dent	8		2	2	2	2
Mary Hastie	8		2		4	2
Dave Wackrow	6				2	2
Dennis Hastie	6			2	2	2
Frances Kemsley	6	2	2	2		
Sue Park	6	0	2	2		2
Rachel Gilberd	4			2		2
Sandra Moratti	4				2	2
Juniors						
Cody Campbell	14	4	2	3	5	
Noah Campbell	12	2	2	6	2	
Jacob Campbell	10	3	2	5		
Jaide Coombes	7	5	2			
Hannah Gilberd - G9	4			4		
Nicole Moratti - G10	4				4	
Deanna Moratti - G12	3				3	
Renee Moratti - G14	0					