

Pukekura Wind Down - Richard Park Memorial Cup

Hands up anybody who noticed the Cherry Blossoms, Kowhai trees and Rhododendrons on Kaimata Street. Exactly, not one of you – you are meant to stop and smell the flowers at some point – how else am I meant to win an event? Contrast these colours with the subtle green, red, yellow and blue of the shoes - what a sight in the usual Taranaki sunshine for our last event of the season.

Ivor walked like a man possessed today, the moment the gun went, so did he. Ivor attended every event this year including the 2 relays and he saved his best to last to win the Richard Park Memorial by over a minute from Serena.

I do enjoy doing the handicaps for this event. My goal is to give the time-keepers as much work as possible in the shortest space of time. I know that over 90% of club members are going to go as hard as they can on the Season ending event and with everybody doing the same distance it's game on. Ivor was over a minute ahead of Serena, but then in the next minute, 14 walkers finished – that's what a handicap race is all about.

There were some excellent races out there today. In my group there was Arthur, Tom and Michelle. The last few battles between Tom and Arthur have been superb and today was no exception. Up Coronation Street Michelle initially took the lead, but by the time we moved into Up John Street Tom had got a gap and also passed Kathleen. Arthur though never gives up and sure enough by Brooklands hill Tom and Arthur were neck and neck with Kathleen hanging on. Arthur had his usual burst in the last few hundred metres and beat Kathleen by 5 seconds and then a further 3 seconds back to Tom. Fantastic racing again.

With about 1K to go I thought I might have a chance to get 2nd or 3rd but suddenly I had Serena and Anne race by me and all I could do was watch as the gap grew. Never mind 4th place was okay, oh well 5th once Dave Wackrow shot by on Liardet Street. It felt good to be walking again today so just to finish was good. I think the green shoes were a

different shade from the start of winter, but that was just the growth of moss from their inactivity.

Harry was fastest man home today in 27m11s; Serena was fastest woman in 30m30s and Neil was fastest Master in 36m38s.

That's another season done and dusted, a very enjoyable one, many thanks for a great time everybody. Good luck to everyone in the half next week. Right I am just off to see if I can buy some Hot Orange shoes; this seems the "in" colour at the moment!



Results

Name	Grade	Estimated Time	Handicap	Clock Time	Race Time	Points
Senior Men						
Dave Wackrow	M	0:29:15	0:16:30	0:45:06	0:28:36	6
Alan Clarke	M	0:37:00	0:08:45	0:45:13	0:36:28	5
Jeff Wells	M	0:29:15	0:16:30	0:45:37	0:29:07	2
Harry Terwiel	M	0:27:15	0:18:30	0:45:41	0:27:11	2
Dave Barrett	M	0:35:15	0:10:30	0:45:43	0:35:13	2
Tony Burrell	M	0:31:45	0:14:00	0:46:05	0:32:05	2
Eric Kemsley	M	0:26:15	0:19:30	0:48:02	0:28:32	2
Masters						
Ivor	V	0:45:45	0:00:00	0:43:53	0:43:53	9
Arthur	V	0:37:00	0:08:45	0:45:18	0:36:33	4
Tom Hastie	V	0:37:00	0:08:45	0:45:26	0:36:41	2
Mary Hastie	V	0:44:00	0:01:45	0:45:44	0:43:59	2
Neil Fagan	V	0:35:15	0:10:30	0:46:08	0:35:38	2
Sue Park	V	0:39:45	0:06:00	0:46:38	0:40:38	2
Senior Women						
Serena Coombes	W	0:31:30	0:14:15	0:44:45	0:30:30	8
Anne Fraser	W	0:33:00	0:12:45	0:45:03	0:32:18	7
Kathleen Adamski	W	0:38:00	0:07:45	0:45:23	0:37:38	3
Helen Baverstock	W	0:35:15	0:10:30	0:45:28	0:34:58	2
Marlene White	W	0:31:30	0:14:15	0:45:34	0:31:19	2
Michelle Nicholson	W	0:37:00	0:08:45	0:45:39	0:36:54	2
Frances	W	0:45:45	0:00:00	0:48:01	0:48:01	2
Helpers						
Trevor, Marion, Lorraine, Brian						2