

VICTORIAN RACE WALKING CLUB



ANNUAL REPORT

2015

VRWC COMMITTEE FOR 2014/2015

OFFICERS

President	Stuart Cooper
Senior Vice President	Mark Donahoo
Junior Vice President	Heather Carr
Treasurer	Ralph Bennett
Secretary	Tim Erickson

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Club Captain - Women	Heather Carr
Club Captain – Men	Terry O'Neill
Club Captain – Junior Women	Stephanie George
Club Captain – Junior Men	Reese Walmsley
Publicity Officer	Stuart Cooper
Raceday Registrar	Damien Elms
Handicapper	Mark Donahoo
Delegate to Athletics Victoria	Peter Vysma
Judging Coordinator	Peter Vysma
Club Coach	Don McLaren
RWA Liason Officer	Mark Donahoo
Club Records Officer	Terry Swan
Ordinary Members	Tony Doran, Michael Bodey, Harry Summers
	Marlaine Stanway, Bob Gardiner
Auditor	Simon Evans

LIFE MEMBERS		PRESIDENTS	
1928	Frank O'Rourke *	1978	Mabel Robinson *
1933	Alfred Robinson *	1983	Ray Smith *
1933	Frank Byrne *	1987	Robert Gardiner
1933	William Billsborrow *	1987	Ronald Miller
1936	James McDonald *	1990	Thomas Daintry *
1938	Rupert Blackley *	1990	Harold Summers
1946	Edward Drayton *	1998	Alan Johnson
1948	Herbert Gardiner *	2001	Mark Donahoo
1948	Jack Larkin *	2005	Tim Erickson
1955	James Gaylor *	2007	Peter Vysma
1955	Norman Goble *	2008	Marlaine Stanway
1955	Fred O'Grady *	2008	Barbara Gardiner **
1956	Frank McGuire *	2008	Joyce Summers **
1959	Charles Jacobson *	2009	Lloyd Nichols
1960	Jack Cummins *	2010	Kate Suich **
1961	Augustus Theobald *	2012	Stuart Cooper
1964	Ralph Field *	2014	Michael Bodey
1964	George Knott *	2014	Judy Mason **
1971	Radcliffe Grace *	2014	Gordon Loughnan **
1975	Elsie Jacobson *		
		1923-1925	Robert Croll *
		1925-1928	William Dickenson *
		1928-1929	Rexx Merrick / Frank Byrne *
		1929-1931	Frank Byrne *
		1931-1937	Edward Drayton *
		1937-1941	Alfred Robinson *
		1946-1976	Alfred Robinson *
		1976-1983	Raymond Smith *
		1983-2013	Harold Summers
		2013-2014	Bob Gardiner
		2014-	Stuart Cooper

* deceased
** honorary life members

SECRETARIES		TREASURERS	
1923-1924	Victor Dowling	1923-1926	Rex Merrick
1924-1925	Rex Merrick	1926-1928	Ern Fitzgerald
1925-1926	Frank O'Rourke	1928-1931	Jack Coffey
1926-1927	Rex Merrick / Fred O'Grady	1931-1936	Rupert Blackley
1927-1931	Alf Robinson	1936-1937	Rupert Blackley / Ian McDougall
1931-1932	Alf Robinson / Rupert Blackley	1937-1939	Ian McDougall
1932-1936	Rupert Blackley	1939-1940	Ben Blakey
1936-1937	Rupert Blackley / Ian McDougall	1940-1941	Clem Marshall / Rupert Blackley
1937-1940	Ian McDougall	1941	Douglas Murrell
1940-1941	Clem Marshall / Rupert Blackley		
1941	Douglas Murrell	1946-1947	Ben Blakey
1946-1947	Ben Blakey	1947-1949	Alex Philpotts
1947-1949	Alex Philpotts	1949-1950	Noel Bomford
1949-1950	Noel Bomford	1950-1952	Vic Sharp
1950-1952	Vic Sharp	1952-1973	Norm Goble
1952-1971	Norm Goble	1973-1982	Charles Jacobson
1971-1974	Alan Lucas	1982-1983	Elsie Jacobson
1974-1975	Bruce Thorne / Greg Ellis	1983-1990	Ray Smith
1975-1976	Greg Ellis	1990-1994	Bob Gardiner
1976-1984	Alan Minter	1994-1998	Tony Barrett
1984-1988	Doris Waters	1998-1999	Brian Glover
1988-2000	Ron Miller	1999-2007	Michael Bodey
2000-	Tim Erickson	2008-	Ralph Bennett

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

When I joined the then-VAWC in 1967, Alf Robinson was president. He'd held the position for 30 years and would hold it for nine more, followed by Ray Smith, Harry Summers and Bob Gardiner. Big shoes to fill! My first year in the post has coincided with a period of controversy (no stranger to our sport) and upheaval in the world of race walking at large, and one of change and adjustment at the VRWC.

The positives first. Jared Tallent won another IAAF World Championship 50km medal (silver), again demonstrating how to produce the goods when it counts. In doing so he served once more as a role model for all Australian athletes on the international stage. Congratulations, Jared.

At the World Masters Championships in Lyon, in fiercely hot conditions, our walkers also saw success through Heater Carr (3 golds!), Mark Donahoo, Ralph Bennett and Stuart Kollmorgen. Several other VRWC members also finished, some just outside the medals. Well done, everyone. Nor should we forget Jemima Montag and Kyle Swan, who learned plenty at the World Youths in Cali and justified their selection.

It's nothing new for race walkers to gain press coverage for the wrong reasons. Events of 2015, however, went beyond what somebody's phone cam might have picked up. We saw our sport (and, indeed, the broader world of athletics) smeared with the foulness of unprecedented corruption and cynicism. Yet we also saw, we hope, the beginning of a great cleansing. Russian walking's systematic and state-sponsored drug cheating – suspected by all and long known by many – was finally proven and laid bare to the world. What might earlier have been supposed to be the skullduggery of a few rogue coaches and their charges has been exposed as a well of rotteness spreading beyond the borders of race walking and beyond Russia, even into the ranks of the IAAF hierarchy. And, as if race walking hadn't enough PR issues already, those whom many of its followers hitherto saw as its exemplars – the Russian 'champions' and their coaches – now stand condemned as the very ones to have dragged the sport into the sewer.

A squeaky wheel usually gets the grease. Jared Tallent's campaign for justice – for himself and for every clean, fair-minded athlete out there – appears to have borne fruit at last. We can only hope that the final outcome sees, not only the just rewards for Jared and other victims of cheating, but a change of culture and mindset (along with personnel) in Russia, the IAAF and any other organization or individual tempted to place profit ahead of the integrity of their sport and, especially, the physical and mental health of those in their care.

On the local front, the VRWC has experienced another positive year. The highlight of the season – hosting the AA Road walking championships and RWA Carnival in August – was a great success, with high technique standards and impressive racing on show, as well as a welcome financial boost for the club.

Membership, despite a slight drop, is still strong, but this is a ball we can't take our eye off. Numbers among the senior men and juniors, in particular, have fallen away. We have to confront what many track & field clubs have had to face for years – there are so many more competing interests out there to grab one's attention (work, study, other sports, non-sporting interests, relationships) than there were in the 'good old days', and race walking clubs around the country are feeling the pinch.

We are, of course, blessed with having a home base and courses – always a huge plus when it comes to attracting new recruits. But a stable venue is not, of itself, an automatic magnet. All VRWC members (and anyone else who enjoys the sport) should become ambassadors of race walking, in the sense of selling it, not just defending it. We all know our sport's benefits: health, fitness and wellbeing, great companionship and camaraderie, competition at any age and at whatever level one chooses to compete, relative freedom from injury (specifically impact injury), low cost outlay (always a biggie!), and a proud and successful history of Australian involvement internationally.

And let's face it – as advocates, we sometimes have to defend the sport against public negativity, most of which derives from myth and misinformation. This might be more of an issue when looking for older recruits; children know nothing of the controversies and love testing each other out in impromptu walking races – which is what makes schools and Little Athletics such fertile recruiting ground. The issue for race walking is less about attracting athletes as about keeping them long-term. This is where a strong club structure, culture and fellowship is vitally important. One is more likely to stay at a club that welcomes them as athletes and as people, which caters consistently for their needs and provides a pathway for improvement and fulfillment of personal goals.

Which brings me to Tim Erickson.

Tim joined the VAWC the year before I did. A heel 'n' toe fanatic, from the outset he dedicated himself to being the best walker he could be. Apart from a few years' hiatus in the early 70's owing to studies, Tim applied himself with a passion to training and racing, achieving the heights of international status and earning Olympic selection (of which the global politics of the day would cruelly rob him.)

Made of stuff too tough to be broken by this disappointment, Tim continued competing at top level until his body called 'enough'. By now a family man, he threw himself into support roles in the club (having already taken on the stewardship and revitalization of the Australian Centurions Club). Tim took over publication of the club's 'Heel & Toe' magazine, making it an online weekly with a worldwide distribution and a treasure trove of race results, articles, anecdotes and features from far and wide.

But it is as Club secretary for 15 years that Tim's contribution to the health and future of the VAWC has been priceless. Nothing has escaped his eye for detail or his talent for organization and communication. From race day preparations through prizes and awards, committee matters, purchasing and maintenance to public speaking and liaison with outside agencies, Tim has been the glue that has bound the club together. Backed by an experienced and dedicated committee, he has ensured that all boxes are ticked so that we, the members, can have the most enjoyable and rewarding sporting experience possible. Tim's Order of Australia award is testament to the high regard his efforts have earned him.

Tim steps down today, and in doing so he leaves the Club in a sound and healthy position, ready to confront the challenges ahead.

Therefore, my thanks go to Tim for his dedication and commitment, not just to the club, but to the sport of race walking itself.

Thanks also to Mark Donahoo, Peter Vysma, Bob Gardiner, Ralph Bennett, Terry Swan, Heather Carr, Michael Bodey, Terry O'Neill, Harry Summers, Tony Doran and Damien Elms (committee and various race-day tasks), and to Barb Gardiner, Wendy Cooper, Marlaine Stanway and Donna Elms (canteen). Thanks also to our regular judges – Peter Vysma, Gordon Loughnane, Lloyd Nicholls, Michael Bodey and Sue Taylor – and to everyone who has helped in many and various ways to keep our race program going throughout the year. Keep coming back!

It's time for other members to stand up and take on the myriad roles that go into running any sports club. We urge you not to be intimidated by the tasks involved – help is there for all who need it, and there is plenty of experience at the club on which you can count. Many hands make light work. Let's all put our many hands to the wheel so as to ensure that the future for the VRWC remains bright.

Stu Cooper
President, VRWC
29th November 2015

SECRETARY'S REPORT

2014/2015 was another successful and busy year for the club.

From a membership perspective, our membership dropped slightly from 158 to 151. While this still leaves us much larger than any other specialist walking club in Australia, it is a further slight drop, especially considering the fact that we hovered around the 200 mark consistently for a number of years recently. This has implications, both from a financial perspective and from a participation perspective. In the 2015 winter season, we averaged 51 walkers per week over the 19 weeks of the main winter season with a high of 69. This winter season just finished, our numbers showed a slight improvement, averaging 53 walkers per week over the 18 weeks of the main season with a high of 74 (on 23rd May).

The challenge next year will be to make our club as attractive as possible to our current members and as welcoming as possible to prospective new members.

And now to the many positives on which I am pleased to be able to report. Let me start first of all with the various activities we have undertaken over the year.

As usual, VRWC hosted a large number of championships at Albert Park. These included

- The Victorian 5km Teams roadwalk championships (January 2015)
- All 5 days of the 2015 Athletics Victoria roadwalking championships (May-September 2015)
- The Victorian Country roadwalking championships (May 2015)
- The 2015 Victorian Schools roadwalking championships (June 2015)
- The 2015 Victorian Masters Association roadwalking championships (June and August 2015)
- The 2015 Australian Masters Association 20km roadwalking championships (June 2015)
- The Australian roadwalking championships (August 2015)
- Our own VRWC club championships (five sets in all).

We combined with Michael Gillies-Smith of the Bendigo Walkers Club to put on an inaugural Castlemaine NAB 500 meet at the Botanical Gardens in Castlemaine. This was our winter season opener, held on Sunday 12th April and was deemed a great success, attracting 34 walkers and distributing a significant amount of prize money, due to Michael's keen chasing of sponsorship. In particular, the local branch of the National Australia Bank came to the fore with a significant donation. This event will open our 2016 Winter Season on Sunday 10th April 2016. We thank Michael for his significant contribution with this event.

We also hosted the Victorian Masters 5000m track championships in March 2015 and helped Athletics Australia run the Australian 50 km roadwalk championship in December 2014 at Fawkner Park, providing equipment and manpower on both occasions.

We generally charge these other organizations for helping to run their championships and our income this year was enhanced by the following payments

- AV payment of \$675 for hosting the 2015 AV roadwalk championships
- AA payment of \$250 for helping them run the AA 50km championship
- AA payment of \$600 for hosting the 2015 Australian roadwalk championships.

These additional income streams allowed us to push nearly \$5000 back to our members, spread between International Teams Fund grants, Club Teams Fund awards, Merrifield Award monetary prizes, prizes day awards (4 prize days were held during the winter season with prize pools in the vicinity of \$250) and our end of winter season presentations.

Neil Ryan, the proprietor of Runners World Kew, continued with his generous sponsorship of our summer and winter seasons, with major awards totalling \$5000! We are so grateful to Neil for his ongoing support.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|---|
| • Summer – Top Male | Kyle Swan | \$500 cash and \$500 Runners World gift voucher |
| • Summer – Top Female | Jemima Montag | \$500 cash and \$500 Runners World gift voucher |
| • Winter - Open Men: | Ralph Bennett | \$500 cash and \$500 Runners World gift voucher |
| • Winter - Open Women: | Heather Carr | \$500 cash and \$500 Runners World gift voucher |
| • Winter - Junior Men: | Kyle Swan | \$500 Runners World gift voucher |
| • Winter - Junior Women: | Jemima Montag | \$500 Runners World gift voucher. |

We continued to enhance our RFID Chip Timing System with the purchase of further chips, software and hardware. Ralph Bennett and Terry Swan continue to run with this challenging new technology and we are already seeing the benefits.

VRWC participated in the various Racewalking Australia Carnivals this year as part of RWV. In June, 50 Victorian walkers travelled to Canberra for the Lake Burley Griffin Carnival, with many of the walkers participating in more than one event to help in the teams competitions. Their efforts in winning a whole swag of individual and team medals ensured we were close to NSWRC in the progressive RWA Brennen Shield points. RWV then won the RWA Postal Challenge in July and went on to win the Brennen Shield overall with a dominant showing in the Australian roadwalk championships in August in Melbourne. Thus we can once again all bask in the reflected glory that we are the top Australian racewalking club.

Communication continues to be one of our strongest assets. This year, the Heel & Toe newsletter was published 52 times (the 7th year in a row that this milestone has been achieved) to a distribution list of some 450 email addresses. Terry Swan ably wielded the camera as our official club photographer, adding large numbers of photos weekly to our online gallery. Stuart Cooper fed our weekly results to the Press and ran our Facebook page for internal club communication. Our website was regularly updated with all race results and race splits from our RFID system. What a team!

Our Club Records continued to take a hammering this year with 34 new ones set. Our most prolific record breakers were Heather Carr (5) and Kyle Swan (4). Certificates, designed by Emily Swan, were presented to every record breaker and the current list of club record holders is maintained on our website.

Our Masters walkers also led by example, winning State and National titles and performing brilliantly at the 2015 World Masters Championships in Lyon. Heather Carr led from the front with 3 individual golds, ably supported by Mark Donahoo (1 bronze and 1 silver), Andrew Jamieson (1 silver), Ralph Bennett (1 silver) and Stuart Kollmorgen (1 bronze). We were also very pleased to see club member Heather Carr added to the Austrian Masters Association Hall of Fame. This is a much deserved honour.

The club boasted a whole swag of Australian Champions during the last 12 months

- Australian Schools T&F Championships, Adelaide, 7-9 December 2014
Eliza Clarke U16 3000m 13:41.13
- Australian 50km Roadwalk Championship, Melbourne, 14 December 2014
Chris Erickson Open 50km 3:56:38
- Australian U14-U18 T&F Championships, Sydney, 12-15 March 2015
Tayla-Paige Billington U20 10,000m 50:11.05
Rebecca Henderson U15 3000m 14:20.37
Georgia Clarke U14 3000m 15:09.93
- Australian Roadwalk Championships, Melbourne, 30 August 2015
Regan Lamble Open 20km 1:32:51
Tayla-Paige Billington U20 10km 49:32
Kyle Swan U18 10km 45:10

This year saw international representations by a lot of our elite walkers.

- IAAF World Championships, Beijing, China, August
Chris Erickson 50km 13th 3:51:26
Chris Erickson 20km 32nd 1:25:15
Rachel Tallent 20km 34th 1:36:27
Kelly Ruddick 20km DNS (sick)
- World Youth Championships, Cali, Colombia, July
Kyle Swan 10,000m 33rd 50:42.5
Jemima Montag 5000m 11th 23:46.6

- World Universiade, Kwanju, Sth Korea, July

Rhydian Cowley	20km	12 th	1:28:12
Rachel Tallent	20km	7 th	1:37:40

We are privileged to have as club members so many of Australia's current international representative walkers. These elite club members are backed up by a large pool of talented youngsters who will hopefully provide the next generation of champions. Our challenge is to provide a nurturing environment in which they can continue to develop and hone their walking skills until they are ready to take over the mantle. And, of course, there are the many club members who race for the love of the sport and to maintain their health and well being in a constructive and enjoyable way. All are vitally important to the club.

All this ensures that Victoria remains the State of choice for racewalkers and major championships and it gives our Victorian walkers maximum opportunity to achieve their sporting goals.

It takes many people working together to run a successful club like ours. It is always difficult to single out particular people but I would like to mention a few. My apologies to anyone I have missed.

- Harry, Bob, Damien, Mark and Ralph who shoulder much of the burden of race day coordination.
- Peter, Gordon, Lloyd, Michael and Stuart who form the backbone of our judging panel, with some of them on deck nearly every week. Special mention to Peter who fulfils the role as VRWC Chief Judge to coordinate and oversee this vitally important task.
- Barb, Kate, Wendy and Marlaine who provide for us all in the canteen and kitchen.
- Ian, Stuart, Harry, Bob, Don, Stacey, Mark, Michael, Susan, Gerard, Alan, Claire, Frances, John, Tony and the many helpers and parents who look after the timekeeping and recording and equipment setup and pulldown each week.
- Terry who mans the cameras each week
- Justin who rides the bike on racedays

I must also acknowledge the hard work of the many coaches and club administrators who bring new blood into our sport and who then point their aspiring walkers to our club. This is a very big factor in our large membership.

Finally I would also like to acknowledge the Middle Park Bowling Club and Parks Victoria. MPBC are very supportive landlords, their facilities are top of the range and they give us a headquarters which is the envy of other clubs. Parks Victoria allow us to use the service roads around Middle Park for our races and, like the Bowling Club, the Albert Park rangers are uniformly supportive and value us as park users.

Thank you to our VRWC Committee who are all quiet achievers. We meet monthly to review and plan and guide the club forward. All the initiatives you take for granted are the results of Committee review and deliberation and planning.

This time around, I am standing down from the position of Secretary. It has been a most enjoyable and satisfying 15 years in the job but family considerations force a change on me at this time. I will still maintain my association as an active club member and will continue with the club newsletter and website but the day to day running of the club will devolve back to the committee. I am confident that the new committee can continue to support our strong club structure and continue to grow the club into a new era.

Tim Erickson
 Secretary, VRWC
 29th November 2015

49th AFRWC WALKING CHAMPS, WESTON PARK, CANBERRA, 7 JUNE 2015

The 49th Lake Burley Griffin Racewalking Carnival in June was a huge success as usual, with big fields (over 200 walkers in total), exciting races, great performances and good weather – and a fine sunny day as an added extra!

With 50 RWV walkers competing in a variety of events, it was the usual big Victorian representation and the Racewalking Victoria team performed admirably, winning 21 individual medals and 10 teams medals. The RWV honour list read as follows:

Individual Gold	Quentin Rew	Open Men 20 Miles	2:21:17
	Karyn O'Neill	Open Women 20 Miles	3:46:59
	Adam Garganis	Open Men 10 Miles	1:12:52
	Aaron McDonough	Masters Men 10 Miles	1:26:21
	Donna Elms	Women Fitness 5 Miles	54:02
	Kyle Swan	U20 Men 10km	43:38
	Tayla-Paige Billington	U20 Women 10km	49:36
	Joel Prys	U10 Boys 1km	5:06
	Gemma Lillie	U10 Girls 1km	5:53
	Josh Jensen	U12 Boys 3km	10:38
	Corey Dickson	U14 Boys 2km	9:12
	Jemma Peart	U14 Girls 2km	9:23
	Jemima Montag	U18 Girls 5km	22:52
	Individual Silver	Nathan Brill	Open Men 10 Miles
Chelsea Karagiorgos		U10 Girls 1km	6:35
Harrison Karagiorgos		U12 Boys 2km	10:41
Allanah Peart		U12 Girls 2km	9:42
Zahra Hayes		U14 Girls 2km	9:36
Kyle Swan		U18 Boys 5km	23:56
Individual Bronze	Corey Dickson	U16 Boys 3km	14:48
	Heather Carr	Masters Women 10 Mile	1:37:48
Team Gold	Open 20 Miles	Quentin Rew, Brad Simpson, Terry O'Neill	
	Open Men 10 Miles	Adam Garganis, Nathan Brill, Aaron McDonough	
	U10 Boys 1km	Joel Prys, Eden Morgan, Stefan Mandic	
	U12 Boys 2km	Josh Jensen, Harrison Karagiorgos, Joel Prys	
	U12 Girls 2km	Alanna Peart, Charlotte, Hay, Brianna Briet, Claire Noonan	
	U14 Boys 2km	Corey Dickson, Will Thompson, Nikola Mandic	
Team Silver	U14 Girls 2km	Jemma Peart, Zahra Hayes, Rebecca Henderson	
	U18 Boys 5km	Kyle Swan, Reese Walmsley, Corey Dickson	
	U18 Girls 5km	Jemima Montag, Kathleen O'Mahony, Charlotte Hay	
Team Bronze	U12 Boys 2km	Heath Beveridge, Eden Morgan, Angus Hay	

With the 50th LBG carnival to take place in 2016, we will be looking to put a huge team into place.

AUSTRALIAN ROADWALK CHAMPIONSHIPS, MELBOURNE, 30 AUGUST 2015

A home carnival always provides a home advantage and this was the case in the Second Federation Carnival, held in conjunction with the 2015 Australian Roadwalk Championships in Melbourne on Sunday 30th August. With 17 individual medals and 10 Teams medals, RWV was the dominant club.

Individual Gold	Regan Lamble	Open 20km Women	1:32:51
	Tayla-Paige Billington	U20 Women 10km	49:32
	Kyle Swan	U18 Men 10km	45:10
	Josh Jenson	U12 Boys 2km	10:04
Individual Silver	Rhydian Cowley	Open 20km Men	1:27:16
	Simone McInnes	Open Women 10km	54:17
	Adam Garganis	U20 Men 10km	45:39
	Corey Dickson	U14 Boys 3km	14:25
	Zahra Hayes	U16 Firls 5km	25:16
	Chelsea Karagiorgos	U10 Girls 1km	06:38
Individual Bronze	Nathan Brill	Open 20km Men	1:31:36
	Pam Tindal	Open Women 10km	55:17
	Lucas Taylor	U20 Men 10km	59:37
	Nikola Mandic	U14 Boys 3km	14:28
	Alanna Peart	U14 Girls 3km	15:51
	Jemma Peart	U16 Girls 5km	25:42
	Lewis Rickard	U10 Boys 1km	5:55
Team Gold	Open 20km Men	Rhydian Cowley, Nathan Brill, Jason Kozica	
	Open 10km Women	Simon McInnes, Pam Tindal, Wendy Muldoon	
	U12 Girls 2km	Claire Noonan, Brianna Briet, Gemma Lillie	
	U14 Boys 3km	Corey Dickson, Nikola Mandic, Will Thompson	
	U14 Girls 3km	Alana Peart, Kathleen O'Mahony, Chloe Karagiorgos	
	U16 Girls 5km	Zahra Hayes, Jemma Peart, Rebecca Henderson	
Team Silver	Open 10km Women	Carolyn Rosenbrock, Donna-Marie Elms, Robyn Shaw	
	U12 Boys 2km	Joshua Jensen, Joel Prys, Harrison Karagiorgos	
	U18 Girls 5km	Brodie Richardson, Jessica Lillie, Charlotte Hay	
Team Bronze	U16 Boys 5km	Hayden Walmsley, Joseph Rickard, Angus Hay	

This outstanding performance, when added to our solid performance in the LBG Carnival earlier in the season, ensured that RWV won the Brennen Shield as the highest scoring RWA club in their various championships.

RWV also won the annual RWA Postal Challenge, contested in July.

Hence we can hold our heads up high for 2015 knowing that we are part of the strongest Federation club for the year.

2015 WINTER SEASON AWARD WINNERS

ATHLETICS VICTORIA TROPHY WINNERS

NORM GOBLE TROPHY	Most points earned in Mens AV Championships	Chris Erickson, ATE
BETTY NEWMAN TROPHY	Womens Walking Team Champions	Eaglehawk YMCA
AVIS REDMAN TROPHY	Best Under 16 Girl Walker	Zahra Hayes, SBE and Jemma Peart, BYC
TOM DAINTRY TROPHY	Best Under 14 Girl Walker	Alanna Peart, BYC

VRWC RUNNERS WORLD SPONSORSHIPS

Open Men	Ralph Bennett
Open Women	Heather Carr
Under 20 Men	Kyle Swan
Under 20 Women	Jemima Montag

VRWC FASTEST TIMES POINTS & HANDICAP POINTS COMPETITIONS

Masters Women 60+	Fastest Times Points	Heather Carr
Masters Women 60+	Handicap Points	Karyn O'Neill
Masters Men 60+	Fastest Times Points	John Morrison
Masters Men 60+	Handicap Points	John Morrison
Masters Women 40-59	Fastest Times Points	Pam Tindal
Masters Women 40-59	Handicap Points	Donna Elms
Masters Men 40-59	Fastest Times Points	James Christmass
Masters Men 40-59	Handicap Points	Gerard Feain
Open Women	Fastest Times Points	Sandra Geisler
Open Women	Handicap Points	Merilyn Thompson
Open Men	Fastest Times Points	Quentin Rew
Open Men	Handicap Points	Quentin Rew
Under 18 Women	Fastest Times Points	Philippa Huse
Under 18 Women	Handicap Points	Jessica Lillie
Under 18 Men	Fastest Times Points	Adam Garganis
Under 18 Men	Handicap Points	Adam Garganis
Under 14 Girls	Fastest Times Points	Kathleen O'Mahony
Under 14 Girls	Handicap Points	Chloe Karagiorgos
Under 14 Boys	Fastest Times Points	Hayden Walmsley
Under 14 Boys	Handicap Points	Hayden Walmsley
Under 12 Girls	Fastest Times Points	Charlotte Hay
Under 12 Girls	Handicap Points	Charlotte Hay
Under 12 Boys	Fastest Times Points	Angus Hay
Under 12 Boys	Handicap Points	Angus Hay
Under 10 Girls	Fastest Times Points	Elise Carbery
Under 10 Girls	Handicap Points	Elise Carbery
Under 10 Boys	Fastest Times Points	Eden Morgan
Under 10 Boys	Handicap Points	Harrison Karagiorgos

VRWC JACK LARKIN TROPHY - HIGHEST POINT SCORING COUNTRY ATHLETES

Men	James Christmass
Women	Heather Carr

VRWC MERRIFIELD AWARDS - COMBINED FASTEST TIMES AND HANDICAP POINTS

Masters Men 60+	John Morrison
Masters Women 60+	Karyn O'Neill
Masters Men 40-59	Mark Donahoo
Masters Women 40-59	Pam Tindal
Open Men	Quentin Rew
Open Women	Sandra Geisler
Under 18 Men	Adam Garganis
Under 18 Women	Jessica Lillie
Under 14 Men	Hayden Walmsley
Under 14 Women	Brodie Richardson

VRWC STYLE AWARDS

Men Adam Garganis
 Women Pam Tindal

VRWC CLUB TEAM FUND RECIPIENTS

30 walkers competed in the Teams Events in the LBG Carnival in age groups from Under 18 and down:

Alanna Peart, Angus Hay, Arnika Nelson, Brianna Briet, Brodie Richardson, Charlotte Hay, Chelsea Karagiorgos, Chloe Karagiorgos, Claire Noonan, Corey Dickson, Eden Morgan, Emily Noonan, Gemma Lillie, Harrison Karagiorgos, Hayden Walmsley, Heath Beveridge, Jemima Montag, Jemma Peart, Jessica Lillie, Joel Prys, Josh Jensen, Kathleen O'Mahony, Kyle Swan, Maddison Clark, Nikola Mandic, Rebecca Henderson, Reese Walmsley, Scott Peart, Stefan Mandic, Will Thompson

VRWC PLACE GETTERS, POINTS COMPETITIONS

Fastest Time Points – Women				Handicap Points – Women			
Masters 60+	1	Heather Carr	31	Masters 60+	1	Karyn O'Neill	34.5
	2	Karyn O'Neill	26		2	Gwen Steed	32.5
	3	Pam Mews	24		3	Pam Mews	28.0
Masters 40-59	1	Pam Tindal	37	Masters 40-59	1	Donna Elms	33.0
	2	Wendy Muldoon	28		2	Pam Tindal	31.0
	3	Donna Elms	26		3	Wendy Muldoon	25.0
Open	1	Sandra Geisler	17	Open	1	Merilyn Thompson	14.0
	2	Merilyn Thompson	10		2	Sandra Geisler	11.0
	3	Natalie Laurie	9		E3	Alana Barber	5.0
			E3		Natalie Laurie	5.0	
			E3		Simone McInnes	5.0	
U18	1	Philippa Huse	24	U18	1	Jessica Lillie	22.0
	2	Jessica Lillie	17		2	Philippa Huse	14.0
	E3	Tayla-Paige Billington	16		3	Paige De Lisen	12.0
	E3	Paige De Lisen	16				
U14	1	Kathleen O'Mahony	32	U14	E1	Chloe Karagiorgos	29.0
	2	Brodie Richardson	27		E1	Brodie Richardson	29.0
	3	Chloe Karagiorgos	23		3	Kathleen O'Mahony	22.0
U12	1	Charlotte Hay	26	U12	1	Charlotte Hay	36.0
	2	Grace Louey	22		E2	Grace Louey	20.0
	3	Ruby Paton	17		E2	Ruby Paten	20.0
U10	1	Elise Carbery	22	U10	1	Elise Carbery	29.0
	E2	Chelsea Karagiorgos	21		2	Chelsea Karagiorgos	25.0
	E2	Gemma Lillie	21		3	Gemma Lillie	23.0
Fastest Time Points – Men				Handicap Points – Men			
Masters 60+	1	John Morrison	21	Masters 60+	1	John Morrison	27.0
	2	Barrie Wicks	20		2	Barrie Wicks	20.0
	3	Bob Gardiner	16		3	Bob Gardiner	18.0
Masters 40-59	1	James Christmass	33	Masters 40-59	1	Gerard Feain	37.0
	2	Mark Donahoo	30		2	Mark Donahoo	34.0
	E3	Gerard Feain	25		3	James Christmass	27.0
	E3	Terry O'Neill	25				
Open	1	Quentin Rew	22	Open	1	Quentin Rew	14.0
	2	Jason Kozica	9		2	Jason Kozica	7.0
	3	Chris Erickson	5		3	Chris Erickson	5.0

U18	1	Adam Garganis	38	U18	1	Adam Garganis	27.0
	2	Kyle Swan	32		E2	Kyle Swan	23.0
	3	Reese Walmsley	28		E2	Reese Walmsley	23.0
U14	1	Hayden Walmsley	30	U14	1	Hayden Walmsley	38.0
	2	Corey Dickson	24		2	Corey Dickson	22.0
	3	Nikola Mandic	11		3	Nikola Mandic	14.0
U12	1	Angus Hay	30	U12	1	Angus Hay	42.0
	2	Heath Beveridge	27		2	Heath Beveridge	28.0
	3	Josh Jensen	26		3	Will Thompson	21.0
U10	1	Eden Morgan	20	U10	1	Harrison Karagiorgos	17.0
	2	Harrison Karagiorgos	17		2	Eden Morgan	16.0
	3	Joel Prys	8		3	Joel Prys	8.0

VRWC OFFICIALS AND HELPERS - 2015 WINTER SEASON PRESENTATIONS

The following officials and club helpers were each awarded a certificate and a small gift of appreciation, in recognition of their unstinting work during the winter season.

Officials (21)

Alan Walmsley
 Bob Gardiner
 Claire Garganis
 Damien Elms
 Don McLaren
 Frances Attard
 Gerard Feain
 Harry Summers
 Ian Laurie
 John Morrison
 Justin McLaren
 Lachlan Feain
 Mark Donahoo
 Mark O'Mahony
 Ralph Bennett
 Simon Baker
 Stacey McLaren
 Susan Taylor
 Terry Swan
 Tim Erickson
 Tony Doran

Judges (5)

Gordon Loughnan
 Lloyd Nichols
 Michael Bodey
 Peter Vysma
 Stuart Cooper

Canteen (4)

Barb Gardiner
 Kate Suich
 Marlaine Stanway
 Wendy Cooper

PERPETUAL TROPHY WINNERS

Gus Theobald Trophy	20km Open Men Club Championship – Summer	Terry O'Neill	2:07:24
Heather Carr Trophy	10km Masters Women Club Championship	Not presented	
Mabel Robinson Trophy	10km Open Women Club Championship	Pam Tindal	56:57
Alf Robinson Trophy	20km Open Men Club Championship – Winter	Quentin Rew	1:24:09
Elsie Jacobson Trophy	15km Open Women Club Championship	Kelly Ruddick	1:10:12
Ray Smith Trophy	35km Club Championship	Michelle Thompson	3:48:03
Jared Tallent Trophy	50km AV Championship	Not presented	
Bert Gardiner Medal	10km AV Championship	Chris Erickson	40:36

TREASURER'S REPORT
FINANCIAL YEAR - 1 October 2014 - 30 September 2015

The period October 2014 to September 2015 was another relatively quiet financial year for the Club. We finished the year with a loss of \$2,689, leading to a decline in Club assets but still a healthy \$153,996.

Membership numbers and attendant race fees remained reasonably high and in line with last year.

Our return on investments in the form of bank term deposits has continued to reflect the low 'risk-free' investment interest rates.

Over all, our expenses and income for most line items are well matched; that is, most activities and other major expenses are managed on a cost-recovery basis

In consideration of our reduced income in the previous financial year, honoraria were reduced by ten percent.

In summary, the Club's financial position remains sound, if slightly depleted.

It is intended that the accompanying statements of accounts will be audited shortly following this Annual General Meeting. An audit report will be presented to your management committee for further action where necessary.

Please feel free to approach me, or any other Club Committee member, if you would like clarification of any aspect of the Club's accounts. The full accounts are available for perusal at any mutually convenient time.

I acknowledge the continuing valuable services of Mark Donahoo, Harry Summers, Ian Laurie, Damien Elms, Michael Bodey, Russ Dickenson, Stu Cooper, and others who have helped with the recording of race entries, the collection of fees, and race timing (big thanks again to Terry Swan for technical help with the timing system). Our canteen ladies, Barbara, Kate, and Wendy - and Marlaine when she is not too busy on other duties - have continued to provide a welcoming and very valued service to our race-day participants. Heather Carr, with Marlaine's assistance, has been a stalwart with the uniforms. Thanks also to Donna Elms for the numerous tasks she takes on when others are not available.

Ralph Bennett
VRWC Honorary Treasurer
29th November 2015