



**No Yolk - Tara's
Done It Twice!**

HOME RUNS

NEWS, EVENTS & UPDATES FROM THE HOBBOSS

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Secretary: Sarah Lowe
Treasurer: Peter Buissink
Handicapper: Mick Beasley
Editor: Clare Beaumont
Handicap Reporter: Michael Slee

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Past Patrons

Ted Joy and John Condon

Life Members

Geoff & Barb Wells, Mark Maloney, Eero Keranen, Peter Buissink, John Condon, John Gray, Michael Musgrove & Ted Joy

Email

enquiries@hobbos.org.au
 newsletter@hobbos.org.au



 **Pub Catch Up at Hopheads**



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- **Saturday 26 September - Monthly Handicap - Greenwich Reserve - Grand Final Edition**
- **Friday 2 October - Pub Catch-Up - Hobsons Bay Hotel - Williamstown**
- **Saturday 3 October - parkrun touring - Frog Hollow**
- **Sunday 25 October - Paced to Perfection - Greenwich Reserve**

The Hobbos - a social club with a running problem



MEMBERSHIP

2026 Memberships were due on 2nd April

<https://www.hobbos.org.au/new-membership-link/>

Adult: \$70 (unchanged)

Pensioner/Student/Concessions: \$30 (unchanged)

Children(part of a family):\$15each individually registered

(Family membership category discontinued)

Runners who are not financial members are free to enter the monthly handicap but are not eligible to win the PRIZED KENYAN EGG



FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

Don't forget our social media. It's a great way to share information or gossip, rather than waiting for the newsletter.

www.hobbos.org.au

From the Editor's Desk

with Clare Beaumont

Welcome to the September edition of Home Runs! The mornings are getting lighter, the weather is warming up, and spring is in the air. At last.

The highlight of the past month for me, and other Hobbos I am sure, was the chance to run in the Sydney Marathon. Sydney really knew how to put on a show and a World Major was a big ticket item on the bucket list for me. There were some great results, fun times and some very sore legs the next day after taking on the Sydney hills. More on that later in this edition. As one big race comes to a close, I know many Hobbos are entering their final few weeks of training for the Melbourne Marathon. Best of luck to everyone who will be taking part in the Festival in October.

I am enjoying our new monthly 'Pub Catch-Ups'. The details of the October catch-up are on this page.

In this edition we have results from the Athletics Vic XCR Tan Relays thanks to **Graeme Dewerson**, the latest Handicap results by **Michael Slee**; parkrun touring at Frog Hollow (what a great name) and Trail Time by **Scouty Pup**.

Keep an eye out on the Hobbos facebook page for **Mary** and **Helen's** volunteer call-out. Whilst the September handicap is full, they are still looking for volunteers for the October handicap and the Phar Lap event!



If you have any ideas and / or would like to contribute to Home Runs, I'd love to hear from you at: newsletter@hobbs.org.au



Jogging with Jimmy



Spring has arrived, and with it has come one of the busiest and most exciting periods of the year for the Hobbos. From marathon majors and relay racing through to parkrun touring and club volunteering, September has provided plenty of opportunities for members to wear our distinctive red with pride.

The first highlight of the month was the incredible Hobbos representation at the Sydney Marathon. With the event attracting runners from around the world, it was fantastic to see such a large contingent of club members make the trip north. Months of early morning long runs, weekend kilometres and disciplined training all came together on race day. Congratulations to everyone who crossed the finish line. Whether you achieved a personal best, completed your first marathon, or simply conquered the challenge of 42.2 kilometres, it was a tremendous achievement and one that the entire club can celebrate.

Back closer to home, the AV Tan Relays once again delivered one of the most enjoyable events on the Athletics Victoria calendar. The atmosphere around Melbourne's most iconic running circuit was outstanding, and it was great to see so many Hobbos teams taking part across a range of divisions.

With the completion of the Tan Relays, the 2026 Athletics Victoria relay season has now come to an end. Across Jells Park, Calder Park and the Tan, our club fielded strong representation throughout the season, demonstrating the depth and inclusiveness of our membership. A special thank you must go to John Gray, whose efforts coordinating relay teams across all three events ensured members had the opportunity to participate. Team selection, administration and late changes are rarely glamorous jobs, but they are vital to making these events happen. Thanks, John, for the countless hours you have invested in supporting the club.

The club's parkrun touring adventures continued earlier this month with a visit to Coburg parkrun. Once again, Hobbos members turned out in force, creating a sea of red around the course and becoming one of the club's most popular new traditions. These mornings have become about much more than running. They provide an opportunity for members to connect before / during the run, or while enjoying a well-earned coffee afterwards. It's fantastic to see the momentum behind these touring events continue to grow.

September also saw another successful Maribyrnong River Run, with 14 Hobbos volunteers giving up their Sunday morning to help deliver the event. Their efforts raised \$2,100 for the club, providing valuable funds that help support our activities throughout the year.

This is another great example of how volunteers are truly the lifeblood of a club like ours. While race results and achievements often receive the attention, it is the countless hours contributed by members behind the scenes that enable our club to thrive. Thank you to everyone who volunteered, assisted with planning and logistics, or supported the event on the day. Your contribution makes a genuine difference.

Congratulations also to all members who have continued to achieve personal milestones throughout the month. Whether you raced, volunteered, attended training sessions, participated in a relay team, or simply kept turning up consistently, every contribution helps strengthen our club community.

As we move into October, attention will naturally turn towards the next round of major spring events, including the Melbourne Marathon Festival. For those still in training, enjoy the process, trust the work you've already done, and remember that consistency remains the key ingredient to success.

Thank you to everyone who continues to make Hobbos such a supportive, welcoming and vibrant club. Whether you're chasing a personal best, volunteering your time, organising events, leading training groups or encouraging others along the way, you help make this community what it is.

See you out on the road, down at the track, or on the trails.

An advertisement for Symmetry Physio. The top half features a close-up of a person's legs in white socks and teal running shoes on a paved path. The bottom half is a purple banner with white text. The text reads: "Empower Your Health Journey", "Relief from pain, injury prevention, and achieving peak performance", "www.symmetry.physio", "84 Douglas Parade, Williamstown", and "9989 2444".

Empower Your Health Journey

Relief from pain, injury prevention, and achieving peak performance

www.symmetry.physio

84 Douglas Parade, Williamstown 9989 2444

LIGHT UP NEWPORT TRACK



SAFER. STRONGER. TOGETHER.

Support sports lighting at
Newport Athletics Track.

Better lighting. More opportunities.



SAFER TRAINING

Improve safety for
athletes, walkers
and our community.



MORE OPPORTUNITIES

Extend training hours
for athletes, schools
and local clubs.



HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

Encourage active
lifestyles and
better health.



FOR EVERYONE

A space for athletes,
families, seniors,
and all abilities.



SUPPORT OUR FUTURE

Investing in our
community today
for tomorrow.

SIGN THE PETITION AND HELP LIGHT UP NEWPORT TRACK!

Sign the Petition

Scan the QR code to sign our
petition on Change.org.
Every signature helps!



PLEASE ADD A COMMENT
TELL US WHY LIGHTING
IS IMPORTANT TO YOU.



Follow on Instagram

Follow our campaign for
updates, news and ways
to get involved.



LIGHTUPNEWPORTTRACK

Like on Facebook

Like our Facebook page and
help us spread the word
across our community.



Light Up Newport Track



TOGETHER, WE CAN LIGHT UP NEWPORT TRACK

*Thank you for
your support!*





hobbos.org.au

Hobbos 2026 Winter-Spring Program

Winter XC Handicap	Newport Lakes	Sun, 16 Aug, 8am
AV Ten Relays	The Tan	Sat, 12 Sep, 9am
Maribyrnong River Run (Volunteering)	Footscray Park	Sun, 13 Sep, 7am
Paced to Perfection	Greenwich Reserve	Sun, 25 Oct, 7:30am
11 th Annual Phar Lap 2-mile Handicap	Altona Coastal Park	Mon, 2 Nov, 6pm
Hobbos Half & 10k (Volunteering)	Logan Reserve, Altona	Sun, 8 Nov, 7am
Monthly Handicap	Greenwich Reserve	Last Saturday each month, 7:30am start

Find us on TeamApp, Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date on all our events





JULY HANDICAP



BY HANDICAP REPORTER – MICHAEL SLEE



SURPRISE WIN

No one was more surprised than Tara with her August win. Tara doubted herself 'as a runner' even after winning the April 'Anzac Day' Handicap.

At the presentation Tara described her final moments of the 5km race. Eero passed her not far from the home strait. Rather than drop her bundle, Tara told herself to 'go'. And she did. She closed in on Eero (he finished 5th) and slipped by. Next was Ray Barnard, who ran into 4th place. She passed Michael Musgrove (3rd) just before the finish line and held off a fast-finishing Philippe (2nd). Only 16 seconds separated the first nine finishers. That's one heck of a tight finish.

Tara only remembers responding to Eero – the rest is a blur and that often characterises a great run.

Tara's second Kenyan Egg was earned through a 31 second PB. There were six PBs and two AGPBs.

The fastest time of the day was Wayyln Turner with a super time of 17:39, a PB of 18 seconds. He was amongst a bunch of four Hobbos who all ran PBs and finished one after the other – Angela Schmerl finished 7th (PB of -0:24), Wayyln 8th, Jimmy Dwyer 9th (-0:15), Anastasia Aldred 10th (-0:05).

The field of 47 was met by virtually perfect conditions for running. Overcast, cool, no breeze.

Prior to starting the clock, a minute's silence was held to acknowledge the sad passing of Hobbo Ryan Keeley.

The volunteers did an exceptional job. Making the trip from my new home in Altona North I arrived well before 7:30 and all the jobs were done. The arch was inflated and in position, the clocks were out, the registration table had a small queue which never appeared to be as frantic as it sometimes can be. Online registration has certainly streamlined pre-race administration. I registered online the night before and received my starting time and was reminded how good my PB & AGPB actually were.

Morning tea was loud with social and post-race chatter, slurps of tea and coffee and the enjoyment of a restorative treat. At the post-presentation pack up there was a stockpile of Tim Tams; obviously the biscuit of choice for last minute Hobbos.

Please see the full august Handicap Results on pages 9 and 10



★ HANDICAP WINNER TARA



MICK BEASLEY'S ANALYSIS (FROM HOBBO'S FACEBOOK)

"Tara Fairbrother took out the win, followed by Philippe Delecheneau and Michael Musgrove. No less than nine runners beat the Handicapper - who does hold grudges - and plenty more were within a minute. Conditions were clearly good, and people have been putting the work in."

Wayyln Turner had the fastest time of the day, including an 18s PB. Which considering his time was under 18m, is simply bonkers, and left El Presidento's 15s PB and 18:25 trailing in his dust."



★ REFLECTION & RECOVERY ZONE





JULY HANDICAP



PODIUM FINISHERS



1ST

1st Place:
Tara Fairbrother



2ND

2nd Place:
Philippe Delecheneau



3RD

3rd Place:
Michael Musgrove

Hobbs Handicap August 2026- 372nd Running

Pos	Name	Finish	Time	Start	PB	AGPB	Split 1	Split 2	Points	Bonus	Total
Greenwich Cup											
1	Tara Fairbrother	49:33	28:18	21:15	28:49	28:49	14:33	13:45	20	12	32
2	Philippe Delcheneau	49:36	28:51	22:45	26:05	26:49	13:47	13:04	19	11	30
3	Michael Musgrove	49:42	39:52	9:50	35:15	40:12	19:56	19:56	18	12	30
4	Ray Barnard	49:44	32:34	17:10	22:12	26:49	15:50	16:44	17	0	17
5	Eero Keranen	49:46	28:36	23:10	16:13	26:52	12:54	13:42	16	12	28
6	Helen Vaxevarnis	49:47	25:42	24:05	24:53	25:29	12:59	12:43	15	9	24
7	Angela Schmel	49:48	25:58	23:50	26:22	26:22	12:53	13:05	14	12	26
8	Waylin Turner	49:49	17:39	32:10	17:57	17:57	8:49	8:50	13	12	25
9	Jimmy Dwyer	49:50	18:25	31:25	18:40	18:40	9:14	9:11	12	12	24
10	Anastasia Alfred	50:04	26:14	23:50	26:19	26:19	13:17	12:57	11	12	23
11	Susan Walker	50:05	31:05	19:00	22:44	25:17	15:51	15:14	10	0	10
12	Brian Armstrong	50:06	19:36	30:30	18:09	19:31	9:51	9:45	9	11	20
13	Elise Hardiker	50:08	31:08	19:00	28:59	30:40	15:51	15:17	8	7	15
14	Linda Viberg	50:11	26:31	23:40	26:30	26:30	13:25	13:06	7	11	18
15	Mary Wong	50:13	32:53	17:20	33:19	33:19	16:16	16:37	6	12	18
16	Karl Smith	50:14	24:24	25:50	24:16	24:16	12:16	12:08	5	10	15
17	Rob Falloon (Walk)	50:19	37:44	12:35	34:05	34:36	18:54	18:50	5	0	5
18	Ken Smith	50:20	45:40	4:40	22:28	42:17	23:09	22:31	5	0	5
19	Michael Slee (Walk)	50:27	40:12	10:15	38:43	39:25	20:06	20:06	5	4	9
20	Andrew Scardino	50:37	19:32	31:05	18:56	19:05	9:44	9:48	5	7	12
21	Peter Whyte	50:40	22:50	22:50	25:58	26:25	13:37	14:13	5	0	5
22	Tony Whitaker	50:41	26:11	24:30	26:05	26:05	12:50	13:21	5	11	16
23	Cain Speakman	50:44	19:24	31:20	19:07	19:07	9:40	9:44	5	9	14
24	Neil Speakman	50:49	24:54	25:55	23:15	23:56	12:31	12:23	5	2	7
25	Jac Wainwright	50:52	28:42	22:10	27:26	27:39	14:35	14:07	5	1	6
26	Anna Bowdiss	51:03	27:43	23:20	26:02	26:21	13:42	14:01	5	0	5
27	John Gray	51:06	21:01	30:05	18:51	20:11	10:20	10:41	5	3	8
28	Helen Harlandbous	51:09	36:19	14:50	34:21	34:48	18:37	17:42	5	0	5

Hobbs Handicap August 2026- 372nd Running

Pos	Name	Finish	Time	Start	PB	AGPB	Split 1	Split 2	Points	Bonus	Total
29	Victoria Santos	51:23	31:53	19:30	30:01	30:25	16:02	15:51	5	0	5
30	Matt Loader	51:26	24:26	27:00	22:06	22:25	12:07	12:19	5	0	5
31	Diane Donoghue	51:34	32:44	18:50	30:23	31:07	16:27	16:17	5	0	5
32	John Becroft	52:56	53:56	0:00	24:12	51:11	26:31	27:25	5	0	5
33	William Hart	53:47	31:57	21:50	27:59	28:27	15:59	15:58	5	0	5

Ineligible

1	Mark White	50:06	19:51	30:15	19:57	19:57	10:02	9:49	10	0	10
2	Adam Weatherhead	50:36	20:36	30:00	20:39	20:39	10:10	10:26	10	0	10
3	Peter Tippner	51:18	20:48	30:30	19:45	19:45	10:13	10:35	10	0	10
4	Tameka Day	48:38	21:08	27:30	18:45	20:02	10:40	10:28	10	0	10
5	Peter Parks	50:29	21:29	29:00	18:03	19:20	10:38	10:51	10	0	10
6	Katrina Lange	49:45	22:45	27:00	20:03	23:15	11:11	11:34	10	0	10
7	Naomi Howe	51:02	23:17	27:45	22:43	22:43	11:17	12:00	10	0	10
8	Simone Trigger	49:44	24:04	25:40	24:43	25:01	11:50	12:14	10	0	10
9	Leigh Kelly	49:28	24:28	25:00	21:33	21:45	12:19	12:09	10	0	10

Ineligible 2.5km

1	Lois Speakman (2.5km)	35:39	25:39	10:00	25:24	25:27	25:39		10	0	10
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Guests

1	Michael Browning	48:31	21:01	27:30	22:08	22:47	10:31	10:30	-	0	-
2	Darren Hexter	49:38	22:08	27:30			11:08	11:00	-	0	-
3	Adam Keranen	48:58	24:43	24:15	21:11	21:16	12:30	12:13	-	0	-
4	Richard Lange	42:52	35:22	7:30	42:53	42:53	17:55	17:27	-	0	-

Results are displayed in Finishing order for the Greenwich Cup, and by Elapsed time otherwise.

HANDICAPPER'S CORNER

BY HANDICAPPER - MICK BEASLEY

AUGUST 2026 HANDICAP



AN INTERESTING CONUNDROM

One of the features of the Handicap is that occasionally a new scenario presents itself to make things interesting. The July event was one of those occasions, and has caused more than a little bit of head-scratching about what was the correct thing to do.

We had an injury mid-race, with other competitors immediately stopping to assist and sacrificing their own race as a result. Those who stopped were simply doing what any decent human being would do if put in the same position. Those who saw that others were already rendering assistance and continued to race were also behaving rationally – as were those who were simply unaware that any incident had occurred.

So everyone was doing the right thing, yet what is unavoidable is that this had an impact on the results on the day – five members finished at the back of the field as a direct result (the injured member did not complete the full 5km). There is a pretty solid case that they would not have finished last had they not stopped.

Peter always reminds that we're not running for sheep stations and thus as far as the platings on the day and the Kenyan Egg is concerned, the results at the line can be allowed to stand without causing any serious injustice. It's unfortunate for those who stopped, but there is a tiny bit of the 200+ members to make the top ten, podium or victory during the year.

The position with the Cups is less clear-cut. With the limited number of discards permitted, the potential cost of stopping to render assistance is potentially quite high, on even catastrophic for the 2026 campaign. One self-delighting event was held on the same day, and this feels unjust. Furthermore, those who didn't stop have potentially received additional points by having up to five few people finishing in front of them, further affecting those who stopped.

On consideration, some form of restitution towards the Cups would be the correct course of action here. The question is what is fair – both to those who stopped, and to those who didn't?

We considered a blanket allocation of points – ten points for an ineligible run, twenty points for a volunteer, or something else. The challenge is circumstances vary so widely that a one-size-fits-all approach is doomed to be unfair in most cases.

Which leads to individual assessment with the intent to leave people with a similar position in the Cups that that they would have achieved had they not stopped.



We were fortunate that all affected parties had completed one lap, and we had their half-way splits. We also have their history for the rest of the year to date, and can use that to make a plausible model of how their second lap would probably have unfolded – based on previous months, how much slower or faster would their second lap have been? This then allows it to remain convincing after to be calculated, and the corresponding GC points which would have been achieved had they not stopped.

After crunching the numbers, the predictions were Helen 6th (21 points), Tara 7th (25), Jac 13th (15), Anastasia 18th (14) and Peter 31st (5). Helen and Tara would "probably" have been in a sprint finish for the line, and the nod went to Helen on the basis that she is the faster runner overall. These totals have been entered as their points towards the Greenwich Cup for the July Handicap. Points totals won on the day by all other participants are unchanged.

This highlights the problems with a single value, say 20 points which is both overly generous to some, and inadequate to someone who is having a shot at the GC podium.

Aside from the impact on the results, we also had a bit of confusion which led to the first aid kit being sent to the patient while the patient was being sent to the first aid kit. We have learned from the experience - there is now a first aid kit for the marshal, together with a lanyard or key mobile numbers to call to help with co-ordination.

Current Standings - Greenwich Cup

Place	Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Best	Eight	Notes	Total	This Type
1.	Tara Farbrother	(20)	5	17	32	24	16	25	32						173	n	17	
2.	Eero Keranen	10	10	26	29	26	22	(20)	28						171	a	112	
3.	Kari Smith	10	10	(20)	31	28	30	22	15						166	n	11	
4.	Michael Musgrove	29	31	(20)			20	27	30						157	e	279	
5.	Brian Armstrong	29	27			25	22	28	20						151	e	62	
6.	John Gray	19	16	12	11	31	(20)	20	8						137	e	123	
7.	Jimmy Dwyer	30	10	10	17	8	(20)	24							119	n	26	
7.	Linda Viberg	6	18	(20)	28		29	18							119	n	10	
9.	Dean Crowley	6	21	29	25	27									108	n	8	
10.	Cain Speakman	20	10	10		(20)	32	14							106	e	46	
11.	Sarah Lowe	10	5	14	18	25	28	5							105	n	30	
12.	Niel Speakman	17	13	27	10	(20)	6	7							100	e	42	
13.	Philippe Dielehenau	6	17	24		6	14	30							97	n	31	
14.	Magnus Vaseriys	31	(20)	6	10		24	5							96	n	10	
15.	Helen Vaxeranis	20		8	17			21	24						90	n	21	
16.	Belinda Ffieg	5	13	16	(20)	9	5	19							87	n	30	
17.	Andrew Scardino	10	17		10	(20)		11	12						80	n	35	
17.	Les Speakman (2.5m)	(20)	10	10	10		(10)	10	10						80	n	6	
17.	Peter Buisserk (Walk 2.5m)	(20)	10	10	10		(10)	(10)	(10)						80	n	3	
20.	Ray Barnard	5	5	10	6	(20)	6	5	17						74	e	104	
21.	Angela Schmeel					10	10	19	7	26					72	n	6	
21.	Anna Bordis	18	6	16	7	(20)			5						72	n	19	
21.	Jane Whitmore					10	(20)	21	21						72	a	41	
24.	Waylyn Turner					10	10	10	5	11	25				71	n	7	
24.	Helen Haralambous	10		5	13	24	5	9	5						71	n	19	
24.	Marco Valastro	8	9			(20)	10	14	(10)						71	n	18	
27.	Wit McKenzie		(20)	(10)	10		10	10	(10)						70	n	8	
28.	Anastasia Aldred	32						14	23						69	n	21	
29.	Mary Wong	(20)			10	10		10	18						68	n	4	

Hobbs Greenwich and Ted Joy Cups 2026

Current Standings - Ted Joy Cup

Place	Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Best	Best Eight
1.	Michael Maggrove	29	31	(20)			20	27	30					157	
2.	Brian Armstrong	29	27			25	22	28	20					151	
3.	John Gray	19	16	12	11	31	(20)	20	8					137	
4.	Cain Speakman	20	10	10			(20)	32	14					106	
5.	Ned Speakman	17	13	27	10		(20)	6	7					100	
6.	Ray Barnard	5	5	10	6	(20)	6	5	17					74	
7.	Diane Donoghue	(20)	5	5		5	20	5	5					65	
8.	Ken Smith	5	5		(20)	5	15	5	5					60	
9. (p)	Michael Slee (Walk)	5	5	5	9	9		5	9					42	
10.	Susan Walker				10	10		10	10					40	
11.	John Becroft	8			5		5	5	5					28	
12.	Graham Edwards		5			5								15	
13.	Jason Rees		10											10	
13.	Kieran Leonard				10									10	

(p) Have not completed 40 runs/walks but could still do so by the end of 2026

Points for Helping are shown in brackets - e.g. (20)

Number of records: 14

HOBBO'S PARKRUN TOURISTING – OCTOBER EDITION!

This month, the Hobbos parkrun touring crew is heading to Frog Hollow parkrun! If you're chasing an "F" for your Alphabeteer challenge, this is the perfect opportunity.



Date: Saturday 3 October



Location: David Collins Drive, Endeavour Hills, VIC 3802



Time: Arrive by **7:45am** for the First Timers Briefing and a Hobbos group photo



Frog Hollow is a flat, scenic out-and-back course around the lake, including a boardwalk section and a lap-and-a-half of the lake on the return. It is a great option for runners and walkers alike, whether you are hunting a PB, ticking off a new venue, or simply enjoying a Saturday morning with the Hobbos crew.

Whether you're chasing a PB, jogging, walking, volunteering or simply there for the post-run coffee catch-up, everyone is welcome



Post-parkrun: to be confirmed



The Hobbos parkrun tourist bus will be operating ! Comment on the Hobbos facebook page or RSVP via TeamApp if you would like a seat



See you at Frog Hollow, Hobbos!



The Hobbos touring at Coburg last month

AV XCR SERIES TAN RELAYS

BY GRAEME DEWERTSON



On Saturday 12th September, The Hobbos took part in the Athletics Victoria Tan relays. The runners were treated to perfect running conditions as they tackled Melbourne's iconic Tan Track with cool sunny weather and not a breath of wind.

John Gray did a fine job as always arranging and entering eleven Hobbos teams with four women's teams, seven men's including thirty-eight runners in all, not a bad turnout for an affiliate club!

For those that have not attended, the relays involve teams of between three and six runners completing a circuit of the Tan Track (3.8km) passing a timing chip from runner to runner. The course starts at the Pillars of Wisdom on Alexandra Avenue with runners going in a clockwise direction, there is little chance to settle into the run before you hit the Anderson Street hill which leaves your legs screaming for mercy! A right hand turn on to Birdwood Avenue provides some relief and a downhill section as you run around the top of the Royal Botanic Gardens and past the Shrine of Remembrance on the left. Runners then follow Linlithgow Avenue back around to complete the circuit, lap up the support from the rest of the Hobbos team and pass the baton to the next runner. The Relays include all the big Athletics Clubs, Knox, Mentone, Sandringham, Glenhuntly, and Melbourne Uni among others; the event caters to all ages and abilities and is a colourful and exciting experience, if you haven't run, you really need to get involved next year!



The Hobbos teams had a successful morning lead by the Female Div 4 team of Camilla, Rae and Laura who came second in their division; hard on their heels were the Div 5 men's team of Riain, Magnus, Wayyln and Jimmy who came third out of a field of seventeen. The fastest runners were Wayyln for the men who managed to beat the 14-minute mark with a lightning quick 13:58 and Rae for the ladies who continued her ridiculously good form with a time of 14:27.

Well done to everyone from the Hobbos who took part, supported the team and wore the red jersey with pride!

I'd like to dedicate this write-up to our fellow Hobbo, Ryan Keeley, who should have been there with us on Saturday and was very much missed.

We wish Ryan could have shared the day with us. Our thoughts are with his family and friends, and with everyone at the Hobbos who knew him and ran alongside him.

In memory of Ryan.



HOBBOS TRAIL TIME

AUGUST 2026

SCOUTY PUP'S OFFICIAL REPORT



Let me tell you, hoomans: Sunday in the You Yangs was prime running weather, and I, Scouty Pup, was absolutely on duty. Five hoomans showed up — and sure, it wasn't a big crowd, but as I always say, it's not about quantity. It's about the quality of the company... and the snacks. Mostly the snacks.

We cruised through a sweet 12 km loop of the park, starting with the climb up Big Rock. The hoomans puffed and shuffled their way to the Turntable while I trotted up like the majestic trail prince I am. Then came the Saddle — my second time up that day. Honestly, watching hoomans try to run uphill on only two legs is... adorable. Slow, but adorable.

But the Northern Range? Oh, that's where I really turned it on. I showed them how a proper athlete moves — smooth, fast, effortless. Meanwhile, they chit-chatted away, swapping stories, soaking up the Sunday sun, and generally having a lovely time. I approve. That's what trail running is all about: good company, good views, and good snacks in the woods.

Speaking of snacks... I'm just saying, there seemed to be plenty for the hoomans. Not quite enough for the star of the show. Something to improve next time.

And yes — we'd love to have you join us on our next Sunday adventure
18th October
15th November
20th December
Please bring snacks.



2026

TRAIL CALENDAR



running club melbourne



SEPTEMBER

- Surf Coast Century



OCTOBER

- Macedon Trail Runs
- Harrietville Half Marathon
- Great Ocean Trail Ultra



NOVEMBER

- 4 Peaks Bright Alpine Climb
- Grampians Peak Trail Race
- Marysville Marathon Festival
- Great Southern Endurance Run
- Ultra Trail Kosciuszko



DECEMBER

- Mt Buller Sky Run
- NYE Rock Around the Clock

Sydney Marathon

BY CLARE BEAUMONT

After months of training, countless runs up and down hills, and a short plane ride, it was great to finally arrive in Sydney for my third marathon and first World Major.

In the lead-up to the event, I saw many references to the race as "the most challenging of the World Majors" (I have no comparison, so I'm taking their word for it). I spent a lot of time studying the elevation profile, which looked more like a mountain range than a marathon course and filled me with a sense of panic, given that the inner west, as you all know, is flat as a pancake.

In search of hills, a few Hobobs made the You Yangs our weekly long-run location, and I lost count of the number of times I vowed never to go back there after the marathon. Of course, now that the marathon is done, I'm already looking back on those epic training runs—generally consisting of two laps of Great Circle Drive plus "add-ons" to reach our weekly distance target—with a sense of nostalgia. Thank you to Katy, Tony, and Sarah for sharing the pain in the lead-up.

Sydney truly turned on the magic for its big weekend. Against the backdrop of the harbour, blue skies, and iconic views, I couldn't believe how lucky I was to be taking part.

The marathon itself was extremely well organised. The aid stations were the longest I ever seen—fabulous—and it was great to see so many friendly volunteers lining the course. The crowds were phenomenal, and the on-course entertainment was top notch.

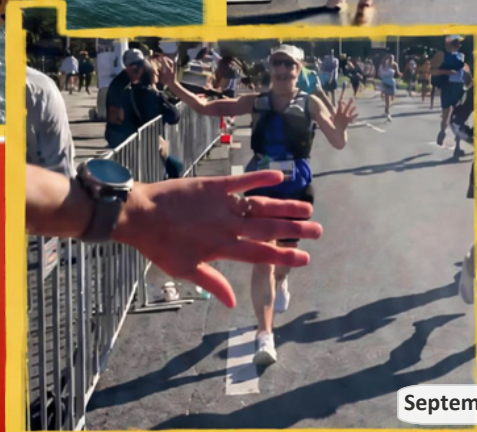
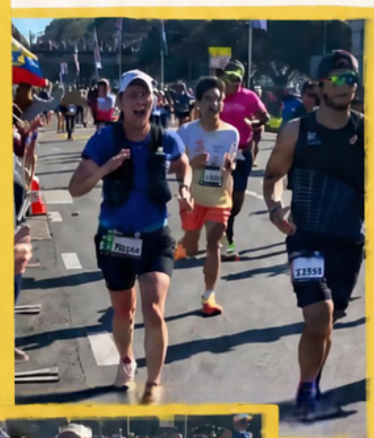
A special mention goes to the Hobobs Cheer Squad! I knew they would be waiting at the 17km mark and then again somewhere later on the course—although by that stage my brain had gone a fuzzy, so I can't remember exactly where but there is video evidence of me waving so it must have happened. The red Hobobs tops are impossible to miss. Even though those moments are fleeting, knowing you have friends cheering you on creates memories that last a lifetime. Thank you!

I really enjoyed the course—it felt like sightseeing and running a marathon at the same time. Crossing the Harbor Bridge early in the race was phenomenal. Then, InPyrmont, there's a corner where you pass under the bridge and the harbour suddenly opens up on your left. Unbelievable.

I had been dreading the hill around the 40km mark at Mrs Macquarie's Chair, but in all honesty, all the You Yangs training meant the hills were not an issue.

Of course, the best part was the finish line: running downhill with the crowds cheering you on and the Sydney Opera House in full view. It was possibly the most beautiful finish line I'll ever experience.

The Hobobs runners and cheer squad regrouped for beers afterwards to celebrate a fantastic weekend together!





Melbourne's leading inner-western suburbs recreational running club

Our club offers runners of all abilities the chance to achieve their goal, whatever that goal may be. Guests and visitors including beginners are always welcome at our events and training sessions, which are always free. We only ask that if you like running or training with us, that you support the club and join as a financial member after 3 sessions.

Our competitive membership fees give you many benefits including Athletics Australia accredited coaches and run leaders, insurance cover, Athletics Victoria affiliation and access to AV events and services. We also have family and reduced rate concession memberships.



Financial members qualify for discounts from our club sponsors:

Brad & Renee from The Running Company - Yarraville (77a Anderson Street)
Abby Speakman from Symmetry Physiotherapy, Williamstown (84 Douglas Parade)



JOIN US FOR REGULAR GROUP TRAINING SESSIONS AND SOCIAL RUNS:

- Track sessions every Tuesday morning (6.00am start) and Tuesday evening (6.15pm start) at Newport Park Athletics Track (or as advised), led by Athletics Australia accredited coaches, including warm up.
- Hill sessions on Thursday mornings and evenings - check the Team App or Facebook
- Sunday morning long runs for building endurance - check the Team App or Facebook
- Sunday morning Newport Lakes laps and occasional Sunday morning social well-being runs



JOIN US FOR REGULAR HANDICAP COMPETITIONS, WHICH SUIT ALL ABILITIES:

- Hobbos traditional monthly 5km handicap for runners and walkers on the last Saturday of every month. Check in by 7.40am. Walkers and early starts arrive early for a 7.50am start
- 1500m track events held around Christmas, Easter and Spring, and a 5000m track time trial
- Winter 3000m cross country event at Newport Lakes
- Two mile "Phar Lap" event on the Monday before Melbourne Cup at the old Williamstown Racecourse
- Daylight Savin Series, consisting of some of the above events, all followed by free BBQs.



The September handicap is #373