

Vetrun Extra – April 12

The Way We Were

1978 – four years after WAVAC was formed by John Gilmour, Cliff Bould and others, David Carr hosted a mixed terrain run around Dianella. I know, I know – the old-timers never stop going on about how much better everyone ran in the ‘old days’! Problem is, the figures seem to validate out their claims.

Bob Hayres and Rob Shand sent me this set of results from that July 23, 1978 Dianella run. Take into account a cold, wet morning that followed eleven days of ‘almost continuous rain’; a mixed route of hills, sand tracks, grass and road; and then consider those times over 5.2km.

After a cold and rainy morning, the rain held off long enough to complete the race and then set in again in the late afternoon. After 11 days of almost continuous rain, wind and cold, David Carr managed to organise a bright sunny day with no sign of rain at all. The organisation continued to the course marking and time keeping and recording the performances of the 27 participants (almost double the 1977 total) in the 5607m open handicap race on roads, sand tracks, grass and hills. The result of Dave Carrs Run at Dianella on Sunday 23rd July were:

| | | Time in | go at | actual time & position | 1977 |
|----|-------------------|---------|-------|------------------------|------|
| 1 | Noel Thomas | M40 | 30:56 | 8:05 22:51 | 11 |
| 2 | Brad Watson | M40 | 30:59 | 9:10 21:49 | 8 |
| 3 | David Hough | M45 | 31:00 | 10:00 21:00 | 4 |
| 4 | Bob Hayres | M45 | 31:11 | 8:45 22:26 | 10 |
| 5 | David Carr | M45 | 31:13 | 10:20 20:53 | 3 |
| 6 | Don Caplin | M35 | 31:15 | 11:20 19:55 | 2 |
| 7 | David Sheppard | M35 | 31:19 | 10:10 21:09 | 5 |
| 8 | Terry Carr | (INV) | 31:20 | 6:05 25:15 | 19 |
| 9 | Phil Wall | M35 | 31:27 | 12:30 18:57 | 1 |
| 10 | Bob Johnstone | M35 | 31:40 | 7:40 24:00 | 17 |
| 11 | Jim Martin | M50 | 31:46 | 8:05 23:41 | 14 |
| 12 | Bob Sammells | M40 | 31:49 | 10:10 21:39 | 6 |
| 13 | Terry Manford | M40 | 31:51 | 8:10 23:41 | 14 |
| 14 | Mike Berry | M45 | 31:52 | 9:45 22:07 | 9 |
| 15 | Dick Horsley | M65 | 31:57 | 7:50 24:07 | 18 |
| 16 | Alan Tyson | M50 | 32:07 | 9:10 22:57 | 12 |
| 17 | Gloria Sutherland | W35 | 32:20 | 2:00 30:20 | 25 |
| 18 | Frank Usher | M50 | 32:27 | 6:05 26:22 | 21 |
| 19 | Jim Coventry | M45 | 32:28 | 8:45 23:43 | 16 |
| 20 | Malcolm Shand | (INV) | 32:29 | 6:05 26:24 | 22 |
| 21 | Rob Shand | M45 | 32:30 | 10:50 21:40 | 7 |

| | | Time in | go at | actual time & position | | 1977 |
|----------------------|-------|-----------|-------|------------------------|----|-------|
| 22 Bev Wall | W35 | 32:49 | 3:30 | 29:19 | 24 | |
| 23 David Jones | M50 | 32:58 | 7:50 | 25:08 | 20 | 26:19 |
| 24 Eric Pearton | M45 | 33:01 | 9:45 | 23:16 | 13 | |
| 25 Allison Johnstone | W35 | 33:42 | 3:00 | 30:42 | 26 | |
| 26 Billy Watson | (INV) | 35:23 | 7:40 | 27:43 | 23 | |
| 27 Val Anderson | M55 | Not timed | 8:20 | - | - | |

Jill Pearton, still on the injured list assisted Peta Carr and Maureen Hayres in taking times and calculated the results. Bob Hayres presented Noel Thomas with a bottle of wine as winner of the handicap, his second in two races having taken off the CLIFF BOULD TROPHY. Gloria Sutherland also received a bottle of wine for being the first woman home. Pat Carr provided hot soup at the end of the run and afterwards the runners joined Jan Caplin, Nora Berry, Marion Shand, Valerie Tysar, Betty Usher and Lisa Jones and families for refreshments and barbeque.

Our thanks to Pat and David Carr for their hospitality and for organising a most enjoyable day.

Great running apart, there are some other points to note. The Vets (now Masters) were a very small group in those days – so much so that the club magazine report could name everyone attending, including non-runners, visitors, helpers and caterers. This run drew just 27 contestants and that doubled the previous year's field! It was all very convivial. Bottles of wine were awarded on the day to winners – possibly some of the ones bottled at another club run, known as the Walliston Wallop. That was annual event at Maurice and Rose Johnston's home. Like that one, Dianella was almost certainly hosted from their home by David and Pat Carr although the report doesn't mention that.

There's some satisfaction in finding this early report lacking in some respects – though we must forgive that, and the occasional typo, remembering that the whole magazine was produced with a typewriter!



This unsavoury-looking trio are Rob Shand, curly David Carr and Don Caplin after another club of the same era, on Rottneest. According to Rob, their fridge was stocked mostly with Spam and beer, which might explain the diners' lack of enthusiasm.

Vetrun Extra is a new service from Masters to keep our members in contact with each other and with their club during this difficult time.

Please do just that –stay in touch!

Let me know how you're coping, staying fit, occupying your time.

Email contributions for me to include in *Vetrun Extra* –send to vfdwaters@gmail.com.

I'll reply to all your emails and, if suitable, share your words on this page with all the members.