

In Focus – The Thomas Family

Over the last year or so, Thursday runners can't have failed to spot the explosion of Thomases on to the track – three generations of them. Kim (36), Corey (34) and Michelle (32) grew up on a farm in Mundijong and have always been heavily involved in sport. Their mother (Carolyn Fawcett) and step father (Bob Fawcett) have encouraged them all the way and still do so by joining them on Thursday evenings and running alongside their children and grandchildren

Both Kim and Corey have represented WA at Australian Rules football, been placed in their relevant divisions at the state Kickboxing Championships and still play football for Mundijong. Kim races BMX with his boys (Mitch 9 and Jai 8) and Michelle's daughter (Chloe 12) and they all competed in the World BMX championships in Adelaide in 2009.



Kim started with Bateman/Bullcreek Little As when he was seven and continued until he was fifteen. After a break, he joined Perry Lakes where he competed from age nineteen to twenty three. He then had a spell in the country before moving back to Perth where the first thing he did was look up Masters Athletics. He started

running the following week and has loved every minute of it. Three years on, he has convinced his brother, sister, mother, step father and all the kids about how wonderful it is. He is still working on his wife (Monique) who feels she is too young to be a Masters athlete. Kim works and lives at Murdoch University as the veterinary farm manager looking after all the cows, sheep, horses, pigs etc for the veterinary undergraduate program.

He has competed in many championships, including the 2009 State Championships, and his medals are all memorable. He now does fewer field events and concentrates on running. He has entered 8 events in the AMA 2010 Championships and can hardly wait.

Kim has always enjoyed running and it has contributed to his fitness for other sports. At footy, he relishes being able to mix and match it against men fifteen years younger and he gets great satisfaction from seeing the whole family running together on a Thursday night.

Corey is also a product of Bateman/Bull Creek Little As where he competed from age seven to fifteen. His football career also started at seven and he has played for East Fremantle and state junior sides. He is still a regular player. He owns his own Skylight business and lives on a farm in Oakford with wife Nicole and three children - Chelsea 11, Storm 9 and Clayton 6.

Corey is mainly a middle distance runner but that didn't stop him entering everything from 60m to 10000m, plus field events and pentathlon in the 2009 State Championships. And winning ten gold medals was his most memorable achievement. He's looking forward to some challenging competition from the M30s from across Australia at Easter and to continuing with athletics for as long as he can.



Michelle watched Kim and Corey doing athletics for years and was always told that she was too young to participate. But she was determined to take part and started athletics in 1988 when she was ten. She competed in many Little Athletics championships and won a gold medal in the triple jump in 1988 and was overall champion girl.



Previously a confirmed sprinter, she has now begun to tackle the longer distances – which she says “kill her”. But she is a real all-rounder as is evidenced by the eclectic mix of events she entered in the 2009 State Champs. She had only been a Masters member for a short time but she came away with a fistful of medals.

Michelle, a single mother living with Chloe in Leeming, still has time to work with troubled and drug affected youth in a crisis shelter. She draws her motivation from Kim and really enjoys running with MAWA. She will be competing in the Nationals at Easter.