



Annual Report

2013/14

Office Bearers

- President:** Adrian Patti

Vice-President: Stuart McLay, Matthew Harpantidis

Treasurer: Phil Allen

Secretary: Samantha Carberry

Committee: Daniel de Bortoli, Nick Finch, Tom Kelly, Breanna Large, Charmaine Smith, Eddie Vining, Mitch Wooffindin, Bree Walker, Tom Robertson



Life Members

1982	Allen Stevens		Ed Oakley
1983	William Chambers	1994	Tom Kelly
	Joan Mahoney	1997	Sean Quilty
1984	Judith Banks	1999	Adam Robertson
1986	Jeff Chambers	2000	Murray Harding
	Ellen Perry	2002	Scott Young
	Debra Tomsett	2003	Dean Paulin
1987	Peter Ruff		Charmaine Smith
1988	Richard Davis	2007	Kate Downward
	Brian Pierson		Adrian Patti
	Graham Russell	2008	Roderick De Highden
	John Yarranton	2009	Phil Allen
1989	Tom Hassall	2011	Stuart McLay
	Michelle Pain	2012	Matthew Harpantidis
1990	Mark Tomsett		
1991	Diane Pain		
	Peter Stewart		
1992	John Hirst		
1993	Ivan Harding		



Acknowledgements



To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift

The club expresses its gratitude to:

- Manningham City Council for their continued support in keeping the venue up to scratch
- Bendigo Bank
- Adrian Patti, Charmaine Smith, Claire Walpole, Bronte Gange, Eddie Vining; our Winter Team Managers
- Doncaster Little Athletics Centre for their kind use of equipment and canteen facilities, at senior competitions at Doncaster
- Kiandra Lane for producing the D.A.C Newsletter
- Daniel De Bortoli volunteering to manage club uniforms.
- Eddie Vining for all the hard work put into keeping the website up to date.
- Adam Robertson for his work as gym coach and coordinator
- The Robertson family for cleaning the club rooms
- The officials who have supported the club throughout the year
- Our coaches for supporting our athletes
- The family and friends of members for assisting as volunteers during the winter and Shield competitions
- Eddie Vining for all his hard work in organising social events throughout the year
- Ivan Harding for the work on the equipment, facilities and liaison with Manningham City Council on the club's behalf.
- Fiona and Maree from Doncaster Little Athletics Centre for all their hard work in the canteen this summer for events held at the Doncaster venue
- Eddie Vining and Tom Robertson for their constant posting of photos, news and articles in the Manningham Leader and across social media
- Jenny Watson for her wonderful photography throughout the season



President's Report

Throughout this year the Doncaster Athletic Club has shown the athletics community its true colours. This Club has stuck together and supported each other through the bad times and celebrated the good times in a terrific way.

A lot of the success of the Club has been due to the hard work and determination of Stu McLay, Matthew Harpantidis, Samantha Carberry, Phil Allen, Charmaine Smith, Eddie Vining, Nick Finch, Daniel Debortoli, Breanna Large, Mitch Wooffindin, Breanna Walker and Tom Robertson. These hard working men and women give up time with their loved ones to help shape DAC. They all stood tall through the tough times and led from the front when the good times were to be celebrated. On behalf of the entire Club I'd like to extend heartfelt thanks for the great work they have done.

The winter season got off to a fantastic start with a great showing by all teams at the Jell's Park relays. As the season progressed there were a number of memorable performances from DAC members, many of them giving cross country a go for the first time. It was the Women's Open team led wonderfully by Clare Walpole, who broke Glenhuntly's stranglehold on the Division 3 title. The women will now take on the Division 2 Championships in 2014.

The Bill Chambers 6km Cross Country Handicap was also run over the winter with a downpour the night before meaning a late course change due to Ruffey Lake overflowing onto the course. Despite the trying conditions Alex Lyster took out the race with a great run.

Bundoora Park Cross Country, one of the Club's major fundraising events for the year, was held in June. This event is an extremely important one for the Club as it raises important funds for the purchase of much needed equipment such as hurdles and throwing implements. An enormous thank you to everyone who assisted, it was magnificent to see all the help we had on the day. Special mentions must go to Chris Goodwill who worked tirelessly all day and the hero Charmaine Smith whose skills and expertise made the day such a success once again.

As the winter season drew to a close and we began preparing for the track and field season tragedy struck. Tom Kelly, our coach, mentor, father figure and mate was taken away from us. On behalf of the Doncaster Athletic Club I would like to extend our condolences to the Kelly family. Tom's legacy and memory will live on. But from such sadness comes a new beginning with our redeveloped and resurfaced track being named the Tom Kelly Athletics Track in his honour. Official proceedings will take place later in the year. Every time we step on the track Tom's spirit will be with us.



The trivia night was a huge success thanks to the hard work of Eddie Vining, Nick Finch and Leah Finch. There was lots of fun had by everyone who attended. The push-up contest was a celebrated event, watching teams act out famous movie was a fantastic sight. Linda Finch's portrait of Tom Kelly was remarkable.

The revamped Shield competition was unpopular with some DAC members, but it didn't stop the impressive results. There have been some outstanding PBs and some noteworthy performances from members trying out new events for points. Due to these great efforts both the Open Men's and Open Women's teams took out the Red Zone titles, something we've not seen from the Club for over a decade. Good luck to all teams who made it through to the State Finals.

I cannot conclude without extending our gratitude to all DAC coaches and officials, without your countless hours of hard work our Club would not be able to offer the opportunities that we do for athletes of all abilities.

Finally, thank you again for affording me the privilege to lead the Doncaster Athletic Club over the past year.

Adrian Patti
President

Treasurer's Report

The Club has recorded a loss of \$12,677.21 for the 2013/14 season. This is mainly due to the purchase of 90 hurdles and another hurdle trolley for a total cost of \$16,545. Another major expense during the year was related to the function held at the track following Tom Kelly's funeral. The Club is still in a healthy financial state with total funds of about \$28,000.

Fundraising activities were again an important part of the Club income. The BBQ held at Bundoora Cross Country was a great source of funds as well as the sausage sizzle held at Officeworks. Thank you to Charmaine Smith and Breanna Large for managing these events. Thanks to the Finch family for arranging the Trivia night which was a great success. Athletics Victoria has advised that fees for 2014/15 season will increase by \$8. The committee recommends that the Club fees increase by an additional \$2. The Club is concerned about the lack of help provided by athletes/parents at athletic meetings, working bees and fund raising events. Consequently, the Club has included a \$50 levy on membership fees (\$25 levy for dual athletes). The levy will be reimbursed to members provided they help at Club events/functions on at least 2 occasions throughout the year. The new fees for 2014/15 will be:

Open	\$300
U18/20	\$280
U14/16	\$260
Youth	\$205
Dual	\$85

After 12 years as Club Treasurer I have decided to resign from the position. I have enjoyed my time as Treasurer and Registrar of the Club and wish to thank the Committee for their help and support throughout this period. I will continue to be involved in Club activities in the future.

Phil Allen



The club would like to extend their thanks to Phil Allen for his continuous hard work throughout the last 12 years. We wish him all the best with his future endeavours and look forward to his continued involvement with the club

Financial Summary:

Profit & Loss 1 April 2012 – 31 March 2013

	2013/14	2012/13
INCOME		
General Income		
Registration Fees	\$19,605.00	\$20,650.00
Canteen Earnings	\$6,021.05	\$6,244.20
Uniform Sales	\$2,760.00	\$3,330.00
Hire of Equipment/Track	\$2,850.00	\$2,800.00
Social Club	\$5,039.75	\$2,109.20
Donations	\$100.00	\$100.00
Tom Kelly funeral	\$518.00	\$0.00
Insurance refund	\$1,510.77	\$0.00
Interest	\$967.18	\$1,220.41
TOTAL INCOME	\$39,371.75	\$36,453.81
EXPENSES		
Athletics Victoria		
Registration Fees	\$13,660.00	\$13,615.00
Affiliation Fees	\$400.00	\$400.00
AGM		
Reports	\$594.00	\$312.07
Trophies/Dinner etc	\$1,869.18	\$1,610.34
Competition Expenses		
Winter Season	\$940.00	\$780.00
Summer Season	\$511.24	\$811.00
General Expenses		
Bank Fees	\$45.30	\$4.20
Coaches subscriptions	\$0.00	\$600.00
Clubroom Expenses	\$1,280.19	\$2,478.80
Equipment	\$16,545.00	\$2,056.00
Floodlighting	\$648.86	\$568.27
Track rental	\$2,089.00	\$2,019.00
Insurance	\$0.00	\$1,637.63
Postage	\$0.00	\$30.00
Printing & Stationery	\$21.47	\$25.00
Equipment Maintenance	\$537.61	\$90.00
Uniform Expenses	\$3,052.81	\$3,016.52
Sundry Expenses	\$50.10	\$464.70
Canteen Expenses	\$2,209.25	\$1,338.90
Social Club expenses	\$582.39	\$136.16
New sletter/Website	\$239.00	\$0.00
Tom Kelly funeral	\$6,773.56	\$0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$52,048.96	\$31,993.59
NET PROFIT/(LOSS)	-\$ 12,677.21	\$ 4,460.22
	2013/14	2012/13
INCOME		

Cheque Account balance	\$1,807.74	\$10,907.64
Debit Card balance	\$2,053.56	\$597.95
Investment Account Balance	\$22,253.23	\$27,286.15

Winter Report

“Most people never run far enough on their first wind to find out they’ve got a second”

Senior Women’s Report:

The 2013 Women’s cross country season saw one of the most highly participated and team orientated seasons the Doncaster Open Women’s team has seen for many years. Under the strong leadership of Claire Walpole, who managed the team from overseas for half the season, the Division 3 team won the premiership and the Division 4 team placed 3rd! This is an outstanding achievement after years of struggling to fill one team, let alone two or three per race.

Round 1 and 2: The season begun with Jells Park and Sandown relays, where the women filled three teams in each, showing the depth of their numbers. Following these two weeks, both teams were already competitive on the team ladders, after just two rounds.

Results; Division 3 team- 1st, Division 4 teams- 2nd and 5th
Division 3 team (Kath, Bronte, Claire)- 4th,
Division 4 teams (Alex, Simone, Sam) – 5th,
(Hannah, Laura, Charmaine)- 11th

Round 3 and 4: meant a longer drive, and again the women had high numbers, seeing up to seven members travelling the distance to run the infamous Brimbank course with the mountain hill. Following these two rounds the division three team was sitting on top of a closely contested team ladder!

Results; Bronte 25th, Claire 52nd, Maddie 59th, Simone 91st, Kate 98th, Tash 135th.

Bronte 11th, Kath 20th, Claire 57th, Maddie 74th, Amanda 85th, Sam 106th, Simone 112th.

Round 5: Bundoora took its toll on everyone, as the course seemed tougher and muddier than other years. Again, the women filled two teams and competed so strongly that the division three team won the round, and the division four team placed second in their division. This was a credit to the toughness of the runners, as the conditions were very tough.

Results; Bronte 15th, Kate 65th, Sam 70th, Simone 102nd, Maddie 112th, Claire 122nd, Laura 131st, Tash 141st.

Round 7: Albert Park 10km, was another tough day for the runners as it was longer than many of the women prefer, but again they filled 2 teams, with a couple of injuries preventing some finishing, it was a great effort, especially considering it was early Sunday morning!

Results; Round 7; Bronte 22nd, Maddie 79th, Simone 90th, Hannah 98th, Kate 99th, Georgia 103rd, Tash 155th.

Round 8: The long trip to Drouin was met with a short race, only 4km. We were lucky to fill one team, considering the location and the time it took to get there. The fence jumping, mud and farmyard smells proved to be no trouble for the division three team, as they again finished on top and solidified their place on top of the ladder.

Results; Bronte 18th, Kath 20th, Georgia 68th, Simone 76th, Hannah 81st.

Round 9: Second to last round saw the Burnley half marathon, which is always an unpopular race and numbers usually drop. Knowing that they needed at least one team to compete and finish to remain on top of the ladder, three women took on the 21km and completed it successfully.

Results; Bronte 35th, Maddie 66th, Sam 79th.

Round 10: Entering the last round we were on top of the ladder and needed only to finish top three to win the premiership. Emotionally, many women and girls turned out for this race to pay tribute to Tom Kelly. The unity of the club was incredible and the support from many other clubs made this day to remember.

The race itself was fast, and the division 3 team won their relay, securing the premiership for the first time in many years.

Results; Round 10; Division 3 team (Bronte, Maddie, Kath)- 2nd,

Division 4 teams (Sam, Simone, Kate)- 5th,
(Bree, Jemima, Leah)- 13th,
(Laura, Georgia, Brea)- 16th.

The season was one to remember, and has increased excitement for the coming season. The key to the season was the consistency of runners and the commitment to the team. Excitement has built for the 2014 season for cross-country and we hope that we can be just as successful and committed as the season passed.

Bronte Gange

Winter Report

Men's winter report

The winter season got off to a great start with the men's division 3 team taking out the Jells Park 6km cross country relay, and the Sandown 6km road relay. The U16 boys also had a great run at Sandown taking out the bronze medal. The 15km road race at Lake Wendouree saw some fantastic results from Ben Ashkettle who took out the bronze medal in 46.25 and Andrew Reddie who ran 51.40, but the team did not do so well finishing in 9th place.

This was the story of the cross country season for the open men and junior boys. There were some magnificent individual results but due to injury the teams did not fare so well.

Erick Niyiragira had a great run at both the Brimbank 16km cross country and 12km Bundoora Park cross country. The Tan relays was a great day for the club, there was some terrific results from D.A.C members, but the day belonged to everyone who took on a lap of the Tan in honour of Tom Kelly.

It was a tough year both the open men and junior boys, but we have learnt some valuable lessons on how to improve, let's hope the men can take a leaf out of the women's book and have a strong team presence.

Thankyou

Adrian Patti



“

Whether you believe you can do a thing or believe you can't, you are right”

Summer Report

Women's summer report:

The 2013/2014 summer season proved to be a very successful one for Doncaster's female athletes as throughout the season we had DAC records broken, state medallists, a number of athletes qualify for the Australian National Championships, and the Open women's team progressing to the Shield final with the U16 girls narrowly missing out. Our junior female athletes excelled this season collecting a total of 13 medals at the Junior State Championships, with a number of athletes medalling and competing in more than one event. Not only were we successful in the championship meets, but also week in week out at the shield competition. Although this season proved to be a challenging one with the changes to the zones and venues we managed to come together to achieve some excellent results.

The U14 girls finished 5th on the ladder with some impressive performances. Although they may have been short on numbers they made up for it in talent with Abbey Caldwell and Anna Musker burning up the track in the distance and sprints events – often showing up the open women and taking out their ages groups fast times week after week. Stephanie Ratcliffe also gave some very strong performances in the throws, particularly in the shot put. Both Abbey and Stephanie placed at the Junior State Championships, with Abbey finishing 2nd in the 800m and Stephanie receiving medals in 3 out of 4 throws events.

The U16 girls had a fantastic season finishing 3rd - missing out on 2nd place by only two points. Strong performances were seen across the board by Charlotte Bassett, Jessica O'Keefe and Emily Sharpe in the distance events. Charlotte put in an impressive performance at the Junior State's leaving with a silver and a bronze. A special mention needs to go to Kirsten Walburg for keeping her teams shield final aspirations alive by regularly competing in up to 9 events each Saturday! No idea where she gets the energy from! An amazing effort by all to remain so competitive throughout the season with only a handful of athletes competing each week.

The U18 girls were in a similar position to the U14's, incredibly strong performances but unfortunately the numbers weren't quite there and they finished a respectable 5th. Sarah Fitt had a killer season picking up two medals at the Junior State Championships and frequently taking the win in her age group in the hurdles and sprints. Natalie Rule had the distance events covered this season – often dominating across all age groups in the 800m and 1500m. Nat also put in a stellar performance at the Junior State's receiving a bronze and silver medal. Keeping the team afloat in the field events were Alice Evans – excelling in the hammer throw and gaining some experience in the pole vault, and Natasha Coumaros – who established herself as one of the club's top female throwers, particularly in the shot put and discus, as she received a silver medal in both events at the Junior States. With a few more competitors these girls will be a dynamite team!

The Open women did a fantastic job at keeping numbers up this season! We were on top of the ladder after the first few rounds and stayed there for the remainder of the season. Although we were sad to lose one of our strongest athletes, Bree Walker (to American College), it was exciting to see the return of several athletes to their top form including Nat Exon, Georgia Feben and Bronte Gange – who was in such good form we had to put her in the boys 400m heats where she ran an impressive 56.65s. Georgie Buckley and Courtney Yates were welcomed editions to the team as Georgie excelled in the distance events and Courtney dominated the women's high jump and 100m when she broke the 13 second barrier! Other athletes including Steph Larkin, Leah Finch, Claire Walpole and Maree Tunnecliffe and 'The Lane girls' (Tamara, Natasha, Mikaela and Kiandra) helped us stay on top of the ladder by competing in a range of events each week. Breanna Large and Nat Exon gained points in the throws, with Breanna taking out the javelin most weeks and Nat showing her strength in the discus and shot put. We had a big win in the 4x800 at the State Relay Champs with the open women taking out gold, and the only medal of the day for Doncaster. Kat Katsanevakis was back to her top form winning gold at the Open State Champs and later achieving a career best time of 202.81 in the women's 800m. Courtney Yates finished 3rd in the 100m hurdles and 5th in the high jump. Bronte Gange put in a strong performance finishing 5th in the 800m and Breanna Large finished 4th in the women's javelin, only to achieve a new career best of 42.43m a week later at an AV throwers meet.

Congratulations to all who competed this season. It was fantastic to see the female athletes encouraging each other and working together to achieve the impressive results that we did this season. A huge thank you goes out to our summer female captains Maree Tunnecliffe and Steph Larkin for making sure we killed it in the relays each week!

Summer Report

Men's summer report:

It's been another successful Track and Field season for the Doncaster Men, with several teams featuring highly on the Red Region Premiership ladder. Congratulations to the Open Men's team for securing the Division 1 Zone Premiership title and for the U/18 and U/16 boys for finishing in 3rd position.

In a season that has had its hurdles; with the passing of our beloved coach, limited track access for training as well as being relocated into a different competition that has forced members to travel extended distances, it's been rewarding to see the club still flourish and produce such outstanding results. The core group has stuck together and encouraged others to lend a hand and ensure that Doncaster continues as one of the strongest clubs in Victoria.

The Open Men's team has cued up a somewhat fairytale ending, with several seasons of work to get to the point they are now. A number of years ago, the Open team had been relegated into Division 3 as they struggled to fill enough events during club competition, but after winning the U/20 Premiership title, the focus soon became climbing back up the Divisional ladder. With some of Doncaster's top juniors now competing in the Open ranks, Doncaster finally had the numbers needed to make a stand during the 2011/12 season, where we were able to win our second successive state championship.

Again, with the start of a new season; a new round of juniors had progressed into the senior ranks, this time giving Doncaster the luxury of selecting our best athletes to represent the club during the State Shield Finals. With the depth available, it gave other athletes opportunities to compete in unfamiliar events, such as the walk, to ensure that points were scored across all the events. By the end of the 2013 season, Doncaster had won its third successive premiership.

Now that we're back in the Division 1 group, we're keen to go one step further, by winning the overall title. After winning 9 out of the 12 rounds during the 2013/14 season, we're in a strong position to accomplish this. Hopefully we can overcome the odds and prevail with our fourth championship title.

Looking at the individual performances this season, we've had James Joyce emerge as one of Victoria's top throwers after coming second at the Australian Junior Championships in Sydney in the U/16 Hammer Throw. Damon Zethoven also managed to get Silver in the same Championships in the U18 110m Hurdles showing he will be one to watch as he approaches the senior ranks. With the Australian Championships and Commonwealth Games selection trials to be held on the 3-6th of April we wish Tom Robertson (400m Hurdles), Wesley Spargo (400m Hurdles), Alex Di Medio (400m Hurdles), Ed Vining (800m) and Kevin Rassool (200m) all the best during this competition.

Eddie Vining



“A dictionary is the only place where success comes before work. Hard work is the price we must pay for success. I believe you can accomplish anything if you are willing to pay the price”

Handicap Summary

1st June 2014

The Bill Chambers Handicap: While the weather was against us the enthusiasm of our members prevailed. With torrential rain the night before and course alterations due to flooding many members took to the difficult course Saturday morning. Alex Lyster off 14 minutes took out the handicap in 42.48 (racetime of 28.48). More than half a minute behind was Ross Reber in 43.29 (racetime of 24.29) and finishing a close third was Rob Finch in 43.30 (a racetime of 23.30). The quickest member on the course was Andrew Reddie in 20.58. Andrew finished in 6th place overall.

25th March 2014

The Adam Robertson Javelin, David Baxter 4x100m Relay, Ivan Harding 800m, Peter Ruff Handicap and Tom Kelly Steeple, were all conducted on this night.

With the track freshly re-opened after resurfacing work, for many, it was the first time on the track since closing in December. Many were keen to test out the new track with fifteen members lining up for the Peter Ruff Handicap. The marks spanned from Wesley Spargo off 5m to Kirsten Walburg off 31m, making the race very exciting indeed. Peter Ruff arrived just in time to cast his eyes over the heats.

Both heats were extremely close with heat 1 qualifiers including Ben Macri, Courtney Yates, Wesley Spargo and Georgia Feben.

Heat 2 qualifiers included Clement Chan, Natasha Lane, Maree Tunnecliffe and Chow.

The final with an equal number of female to male members was looking perfect. Wesley was the back marker (5m), then there was Clement (10.25m), Ben (12m), Chow (14.5m), Courtney (16m), Maree (19.5m), George (20m) and Natasha (22.5m).

The race was a close one with Natasha holding the lead for almost the entire race until just on the line she was pipped by fast finishers Clement Chan and Ben Macri. It was a photo finish, and the ever reliable Jenny Watson was there with her trusty camera. After viewing the photo the top three were finalised, Clement Chan, Ben Macri and Natasha Lane. The winning time was 10.72.



Handicap Summary (cont'd)

The next event was the Tom Kelly Steeple for females. Tom's family popped down to get the race underway. Five girls stepped up to the line. Georgia Feben and Abbey Caldwell started the race strongly, but Abbey inched her way to the lead taking victory in 8.11.03. Georgia finished 2nd in 8.49.3, with Maree Tunnecliffe in 3rd with 9.54.5. This was followed by the Ivan Harding 800m men's event. With approximately a dozen competitors, Doncaster's middle distance domination was obvious. Many were very keen to take this event out. Riley Thompson was the front marker and got off to a great start. Ed Vining was the back marker. Riley did his best to hold off the competitors and it was Wesley Spargo who hit the front with 120m to go and held off a very strong finishing Ben Macri to take the win with 2.58.9 (off 56 secs), followed by Ben in 3.00.5 (off 30 secs) and Riley in 3rd with 3.02.06 (off 26 secs).

The final track event was the David Baxter Memorial 4x100m Relay. The teams entered included an U20 men and women team and an open men's and women's team. The open men's team got off to a great start from Wesley and never looked back. But as this is a handicap event the actual winning team is the one who runs the closest to their age group's club record. That was the open women's team which consisted of Natasha Lane, Georgia Feben, Mikaela Lane and Stephanie Larkin. The women ran 8.12 seconds outside the record, with the open men close behind running 8.69 seconds outside their club record.

While all these track events were going on the Adam Robertson Javelin was in progress and as per other years drew in quite a number of competitors. There was some impressive throws with Peter Coumaros throwing well, along with his son Conrad, after a \$100 bet with Dad that he could not throw further, Conrad managed to pull out a ripper. Eddie didn't quite have the form of previous years but still threw well. Many of our female members also threw well with Stephanie Larkin and Natalie Exon both throwing well over 20 metres.

Based on age and experience in Javelin throwing, Adam applied his unique handicap process. Peter Coumaros was declared the winner with an adjusted handicap throw of 45.57m (actual throw 35.57m). In second place was Natalie Exon with a handicapped adjusted throw of 45.31m (actual throw of 25.31m). And in third was Conrad Coumaros with a handicapped adjusted throw of 41.73 (actual throw 36.73m).

Charmaine Smith



Coaching Report



If I have seen farther than others, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants”

Looking back at the last twelve months for the club, it has been difficult to say the least. The unfortunate and sudden passing of arguably the greatest individual our club has seen, Tom Kelly. Dedication shown from Tommy week in week out was second to none. Tommy inspired, motivated, shared experiences and expertise to all types of athletes, he accommodated for the elite right down to the beginner level athlete. Saying he was a great man doesn't do justice, words cannot describe how influential he was on his own athletes and the wider community. We are all forever grateful for the hours and hours he put into athletes over the years.

The committee is working extremely hard to seek a long-term resolution to the unforeseen circumstances. As it is somewhat hard to find a replacement for someone of Tommy's calibre, we are endeavouring to find a solution as soon as possible to suit the needs and wants of all involved.

To make a situation even more difficult, our track was resurfaced. This meant it wasn't as easy for athletes to access facilities or go about their daily training activities. Although in the long run the track resurfacing is a great asset for our club which will hopefully prevent future injuries! Nunawading Athletics Track was made home for four months, and as a club we are very thankful for the commitment from them as they provided a top class service for all Doncaster members. Our track is now fully operational so we look forward to see masses of athletes at the track through the year!

Special mentions need to go out to Daniel De Bortoli, Bree Walker and Eddie Vining. Whilst all three aren't accredited coaches (yet), they took on board numerous athletes and acted as not only a coach but a mentor for these young athletes. Whilst Bree was only in the country for a few months preceding the devastation, she had young hurdlers idolising her and seeking her guidance. Daniel had a strong group of sprinters which has produced a Victorian Junior Championship medal, State Little A's finalist and many more great achievements. As Eddie is recognised by the junior athletes as the middle distance cult figure, he went far and wide to ensure training continued among the middle distance athletes. Through great communication over social media, Eddie week to week made anyone welcome to join him in a session and this has resulted in many personal bests from those who joined.

Currently, we have a strong contingent of eight enthusiastic and energetic coaches. All disciplines are accommodated for. **Adam Robertson** continues to provide strength and conditioning for all members, **Allan Watson** takes on board the throwing department, **Adrian Patti** encourages everyone to SMILE and conducts his social runners group once a week, **Kylie Italiano** is the one for all your vertical jump needs, **Patrick Ashkettle** delivers premium middle/long distance services, **Leana Joyce** and **Bert Tilley** are our sprinting and hurdling guru's, and you can find **Peter Ruff** in the sandpit for horizontal jumps. Do you need a coach? Are you unsure who to contact? Do you need some direction? Don't hesitate! Please call our coaching-coordinator Tom Robertson (0400084412) and he will steer you and your athletic career in the right direction.

Thank-you once again to all coaches of the Doncaster Athletics Club, each one of you is recognised in the highest of regards among the whole club and we are forever grateful for the tireless dedication put into our athletes throughout the year.

Tom Robertson

Records

“*Citius, Altius, Fortius
Faster, Higher, Stronger*”

Women

Event	Athlete	Performance	Existing Record	Age Group	Date and Venue	Approved
Pole Vault	Alice Evans (DoB 15 May 1997)	2.35m	Not Claimed	U17	19 October 2013, Shield Rd 1, Doncaster	April 2014
			Not Claimed	U18		April 2014
Hammer (3kg)	Julia Byrne (DoB 19 Oct 1998)	40.54m	U16 – 34.17 Julia Byrne (Feb 2013)	U16	27 October 2013, Lakeside Stadium, Victorian All Schools T&F Championships	April 2014
			U17 – 36.24 N Langton (Feb 1993)	U17		April 2014
			U18 – 36.24 N Langton (Feb 1993)	U18		April 2014
			U19 – 36.24 N Langton (Feb 1993)	U19		April 2014
Hammer (3kg)	Stephanie Ratcliffe (DoB 29/12/2000)	34.17	U14 – Not claimed U15 – 34.17 Julia Byrne (Feb 2013)	U14 U15	30 March 2014, AV Throwers Meet, Nunawading Athletics Track	April 2014
100m hurdles	Sarah Fitt	14.68	15.84 – B Rennie (1979)	U17	7 December 2013, National All Schools Champs, Townsville	April 2014

Men

Event	Athlete	Performance	Existing Record	Age Group	Date and Venue	Approved
Hammer (4kg)	James Joyce ⁽¹⁾ (DoB 12 Oct 1999)	48.12m	U15 – 35.60 James Joyce (Mar 2013)	U15 U16 U17	1 February 2014, Shield Rd 8, Lakeside Stadium	April 2014 April 2014 April 2014

Note: (1) James has subsequently achieved a performance that would additionally be a new U16 and U17 record. AV still needs to verify the performance before records can be approved.

“*A dictionary is the only place where success comes before work. Hard work is the price we must pay for success. I believe you can accomplish anything if you are willing to pay the price*”

Officials Report



The achievement of one goal, should be the starting point of another

Thank you to all the officials who have are registered with the Club and have worked at various events throughout the year. They are the back bone of all athletic meetings and without their commitment, time and effort the events could not be conducted.

The Club officials are Ivan Harding, Ellen Perry, Barbara Rumble, Simon and Olivia Ware, Martyn Kibel, Allan Watson, David Mitchell and Phil Allen. This season we welcome Sue Sturrock (Ellen's daughter) who has registered as an Athletics Victoria official for the first time.

Phil Allen



The Club would like to thank each and every member, official and coach for all their efforts throughout this last year. We look forward to your involvement with us next year!