

## Presidents Report 2018/2019

2018/2019 has been a big year for the Orange Runners Club! Thank you for the opportunity to lead the Club for the past year as your President and I have endeavoured to do my best in the pursuit of the aims of the Club. We are a family club and encourage all members young and old, fast and slow to become involved and achieve their individual goals whatever they may be.

As with all Clubs, there is an element of evolution over time and people come and go and directions change. It is pleasing to see so many more members challenging themselves like never before – more people taking up trail running, half and full marathons – members are feeding off the energy of other members in search of new challenges and pushing their limits. Hopefully the Club can stay relevant to these goals into the future.

I would like to touch on some of my highlights over the last 12 months:

- Registrations have increased to nearly 460 members making us one of the largest running Clubs in NSW. Very pleased that the number of juniors have continued to increase.
- Our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner at Duntryleague was a great night last September with over 110 current and past members in attendance. We were thoroughly entertained by guest speaker Jason Belmonte along with recollections of the Club from Garry Williams, Jane Fairgrieve and Michael Sharp. Also, thank you to Michael for the display of items and newspaper reports.
- The Introduction of flexible start times on Wednesdays to try and make it easier for members to get their run in (5:45pm cut off)
- Achievement medals been presented when members achieved certain milestone runs (i.e. 25, 50, 75, 100, 200 etc or 1900 in the case of Gary Taylor).
- Often breaking the 100 runners mark on Wednesdays.
- New courses at Spring Creek Dam, Shiralee and Highland Heritage Estate. There were also changes to the courses at Berrilee, Stagecoach, Clergate and Gosling Creek (mainly due to safety).
- The purchase of new timing mats – they are much more compact and easier to transport.
- Negotiated with Orange City Council new lighting on the Elephant Park shed to light up the surrounding area – particularly important at this time of the year.
- Obtained approvals from Orange City Council and the Police for our Sunday runs.
- Further development of our website functionality (championship points, Personal Bests & Season Bests along with improved runner summaries).
- The trail running has developed further this year with more members having a go for the very first time with both short and long course options now available. We even had our first away trip to the Blue Mountains recently with 16 members undertaking the UTA22 training course. There was also the development of a Trail Running Package to cover all aspects of trail running for the Club.
- Junior Spring Racing Carnival is always a hit with the kids and hopefully encourages them to keep running as they get older.
- Successful Pizza nights in July & April where there were nearly 100 in attendance.
- Our City2Surf weekend with a training session and run at Gosling Creek.
- Two uniform orders have been well supported. Also, the reintroduction of long sleeve options to the range.

- Great to see so many ORC members competing in external events – not only competing but placing overall or in their respective categories (obviously a display of the strength of the Club).
- ORC teamed up with the Great Volcanic Mountain Challenge and adopted the Family Fun Run as our Sunday event.
- Presentation Day and Christmas party in December was a great success. Congratulations to all of our award winners, in particular our reigning Runner of the Year, Alicia Ross and Junior Runner of the Year, Hugh Daintith.
- The major highlight of this year was our successful Orange Running Festival. There was an increase in numbers by about 400 to well over 1800 competitors. Ever since our first Festival in 2007, the Club has been able to raise significant funds to support our local organisations who support us in the delivery of the event.

## **Thankyou**

There are quite a number of thankyou's that I would like to make. Thankyou to our Orange Runners Club Committee consisting of Greg Shapter (Vice President), John Betts (Secretary), Judy Tarleton (Treasurer) and ordinary committee members Jane Fairgrieve, Michael Sharp and Richard Eggleston for all of your support and hard work this year.

Auxiliary members who all carry out important jobs: Michael Sharp & John Hannan (timing), Sally Kitto & Richard Eggleston (newspaper articles), Mike Cooper (course marking), John Moss (safety), Alistair Merrifield (website), Glenys Rosser (member recognition) and Anna Daintith (uniform).

Thank you to our Trail Running Coordinator David Ross & Assistant Coordinator Alison Spurway along with your team of helpers, Alicia Ross, Iain McLean, Mitch Essex and Ian Spurway

Members who took the timing mats and equipment to Sunday runs – your efforts are appreciated. Corcorans, Fahys, Spurways, Richard Eggleston, McArdles, John Betts, Greg Shapter, Fairgieves, Fitzpatricks, Ed Maclean, Kim Jarvis and the Ross Family.

Thank you to the Festival Committee led by Richard Eggleston, Assistant Coordinators Mitch Essex and Ian Spurway, Treasurer Tim Edmonstone, Secretary John Betts. Along with Committee members, Iain McLean, Mel Bolton, Stewart Vidler, Letitia Vidler, Sally Kitto and Leanne Corcoran. Then there were all the members that assisted in the weeks leading up to and during the weekend to make the Festival such an amazing success (your efforts don't go unnoticed).

And finally, you cant have a great club without great members.

Together we achieve individual goals!

Anthony Daintith  
President