

## **Annual Report.**

Our 31<sup>st</sup> year.

Another year and unless some unusual challenge appears, its difficult for the mind to reflect of your efforts to over come diversity, like Hotham 2007 and 2008.

This year was pretty ordinary. Parks had the trails in top condition and surely the joys of just running in superb weather and meeting the best people will be with you for years.

Again Hotham provided some heat to keep us on our toes or heels. Heat or cold isn't always the debilitator. The very ordinary Mystic Hill with perfect conditions flattened our 2004 and 2008 champion Vanessa Haverd, only to see her bounce back strongly in the dreaded heat on Hotham to scamper up in 1.57.36 and could have gone round again.

With some \$9000 in give a ways, nearly every entrant got a gratuity and here I must thank the many business houses of Bright for their very strong support. A list of these appears on this website and I would sincerely hope when any of you or friends returns to the area you support these businesses and tell them Reggie sent you.

I thank the chick that produced the tray of delicious cake at Mystic and I missed a piece.

History in the making and the efforts of ladies, young and old, this arduous challenge, never ceases to amaze me.

World champion orienteer Hanny Allston is certainly no exception. For the first time in 31 years a good girl beat a good boy and this boy is no slouch. David Osmond is a 5 time King and should have a massive 7 titles to his credit, yet this lovely young girl, admired by all, showed David her very attractive rear end in a classic run on both Mystic and Hotham.

Talking of champions, Paul Crake another 5 times champion. With times that will probably never be bettered and is now a paraplegic, has just got married to a very dedicated girl Daniela. They live in Italy and I am certain all those who know Paul will wish him a complete recovery and a happy future life. His email address is.

[empirekid@hotmail.com](mailto:empirekid@hotmail.com)

It was good to see some of the old stars again. Anthony Scott holds 5 age group records in the 35 – 49 section. Jenny and Peter Mitchell don't show up in the records, but Pete's marathon feats are testimony to his running ability, Kelvin Marshall back after 9 years, is without doubt one of the best ultra runners in Australia. He trotted up Hotham in 2.16.14 and for a training run jogged back. So much for the heat.

Billy's Bushies big contingent were some 25 less and this reflected to 100 less over the 4 days over all.

Numbers were down after day one, but strangely new entries increased for the next 3 days.

Without doubt my special thanks to all our helpers. They are the 4 peaks.

Another year passes and I listen to all the creaks and groans of old age. I feel for all of you and hope these problems diminish progressively as life goes on. I doubt it?

Elaine and I send our best wishes to each and everyone of our very large family and wish you all the best for

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY HEALTHY 2010**