

## Legends going the distance since 1978

RUNNERS who have completed 10 Melbourne Marathons are eligible to join the esteemed Spartans.

Within the celebrated club of endurance athletes is an even more illustrious group of individuals, the Spartan Legends, who were there in 1978 and have finished every Melbourne Marathon within the required cut-off time of seven hours since.

Starting with 88 members, the number of Legends has slowly whittled down.

They are now a group of seven extraordinary runners.

Recognised by their distinctive yellow singlets, the Spartan Legends are Frank Biviano, 73, John Dobson, 66, David Foskey, 71, Bruce "Digger" Hargreaves, 64, Manny Karageorgiou, 61, Wayne Thompson, 64, and Roger Weinstein, 67.

They have battled many hurdles along the journey, ranging from niggling injuries to more serious problems, such as bowel cancer for Biviano.

Members have also taken on challenges, such as the Kokoda Track and Mount Everest base camp trek for Karageorgiou and over 120 marathons for Hargreaves.

While the Legends' finishing times have slowed, their efforts to dedicate themselves to completing the Melbourne Marathon each year continues to be inspirational.