

# THE SPARTAN

Reg No A0043579R

CLUB PATRON - Robert de Castella

February, 2016

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**Website:** [www.melbournemarathonspartans.com](http://www.melbournemarathonspartans.com)

**Postal:** P.O. Box 162., Rosanna Vic 3084



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi Spartans,

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2016. I hope you have rounded the corner into 2016 in good health and spirits personally and that your loved ones are similarly doing well.

At Committee we've just had our first meeting for the year and it's always great to catch up with our close knit little team. There are several exciting things happening in 2016.

Our Teganuma competition will be happening again and I will be meeting with the organisers in a fortnight when they visit from Japan. We will finalise arrangements for this year and will post details on the Spartans website as soon as they are finalised. It would be just great if this competition became a regular fixture on the

Spartan calendar. The organisers have indicated that this year they are not able to facilitate a reciprocal arrangement for Japanese runner/s to come here for the Melbourne Marathon but they hope to make this happen very soon.

This year is also the first year that the Great Ocean Road Carnival will have a 60km distance on offer. We applaud this initiative from IMG as it invites runners from all over the world to visit this stunning patch of coastline. Despite the tragic fires of the last Christmas period, we hope runners will enter in great numbers to support the area and the local businesses.

Our Spartans Constitution will be finalised at the next committee meeting and we will be presenting this to members on the website for perusal and for eventual ratification at this year's AGM in September.

We hope to have an exciting announcement of a really exciting initiative from one of our very own Spartan Legends and will post it on our Spartans website as soon as it becomes official.

Speaking of exciting, it looks almost certain that scintillating South African running machine Bruce Fordyce, 9 times winner of Comrades will be in Sydney mid July for a friend's wedding. We would love to gauge interest from Spartan members, their families and for that matter, any fans of ultra running as to the feasibility of flying Bruce down to Melbourne and putting him up for a couple of nights to hear this great man speak. Just thinking out loud, after last year's very well attended mid-year Hall of Fame Run, it would also be a wonderful opportunity/excuse to schedule our 2016 Hall of Fame Run at The Tan around mid July to coincide with Bruce's possible visit. Imagine running several laps of The Tan with the great man. Maybe I'm just dreaming but you can't blame a man. Please email us to register your interest as an indicator for possible venue and catering purposes. Having heard this legend speak several years ago and watched some of the background vision of his runs, I can tell you it's definitely goose bumps territory. Meeting him in person and hearing his inspirational words is highly recommended for any Spartan or aspiring Spartan wishing to super-charge not only their running but their life!

In the last several years we have resolved to grow our merchandise range by one every year. Based on suggestions from member input, we have narrowed our focus to a couple of merchandise possibilities for this year and will announce our decision very soon. We thank members for supporting the club and its initiatives. This has been very gratifying and we hope you will continue to support our growing list of merchandise so we can all tell the world just how proud we are to be a Spartan!

This year's AGM has already been booked for Monday September 19 at the MCG's Harrison Room. We are preparing a great program for members so, please, in the words of Molly, do yourself a favour and mark the event in your calendar even at this early stage.

Given that 2017 is the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our beloved Melbourne Marathon and the 30th anniversary of Spartans, we aim to commemorate the year and AGM in deservedly memorable style and arrangements have already commenced.

A special shout out to 15 year Spartan Ray Cilia up in Shepparton who is still doing it rather hard particularly after his carer Ken Bolitho suffered a serious injury after a recent fall resulting in greatly reduced capacity. If any Spartans are heading up that way and you've got time to pop in for a cuppa, we can pass on your details to them. In true marathon style, this dynamic duo keep on keeping on. More power to you guys!

Finally, I wonder if I could enlist the help of as many of you as possible regarding the naming of runners in photos over our 38 year history. When you get a moment, and you have the inclination, please settle down with a cuppa and visit the Melbourne Marathon Spartans website, click on the 'runners' tab and scroll down to 'race photographs' or follow <http://melbournemarathonspartans.com/race-photographs/> . The images are all from scans that Chris Muirden made in preparation for his book 'The Wall' and among these many were donated by Immediate Past President John Dean. We would be grateful for the identification of any runners in those photographs starting all the way back in 1978. If you want to look at the 1978 photographs, Mike Peters at <https://ausrunning.net/> has provided a spreadsheet of 1978 entrants holding name, entry number and Spartan number. Send an email to [djfoskey@ozemail.com.au](mailto:djfoskey@ozemail.com.au) for a copy of the spreadsheet. The 1982 photos have been through this process – check any that have comments. We think photo 07-05-2012\_28 is Deek talking to Bill Rodgers but we aren't absolutely sure. So if you can put a name to any of the faces in any of the photos that aren't already identified, please email us stating the name/s and the ID number of the photo/s. Conversely, if you know anyone that has run in past Melbourne Marathons, drop them a line to hop onto the website to see if they can either find themselves in the photos or if they recognize some faces, which may have changed substantially, along with the hairstyles, in the past 38 years. Our aim is to individualise this fine chronicle of our great event in time for our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year by naming as many of the nameless faces as possible that have pounded that fine bitumen since 1978.

Yours in sweat,

Jay Fleming  
(S1012)

### FROM THE SECRETARY

Dear Spartans,

I hope you all had a great summer and are staying injury free. Not much to report from me at this time of year except as per Jay's Report, a reminder to look at our Website - especially at the historical photos recently loaded:

[www.melbournemarathonspartans.com](http://www.melbournemarathonspartans.com). Our Webmaster, David Foskey, does a great job at keeping it up to date.

Happy running always ☺  
Felicity Doolan  
(SF0080)

### **2016 MELBOURNE MARATHON – 16 OCTOBER**

Have you registered yet? If not you can click on the following link to enter:

<https://melbournemarathon.eventdesq.com/>

If you are not already part of a Team, please join ours. It is simply called "Spartans".

### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2015/2016 - \$20**

If you haven't paid your membership for this financial year it's not too late as it's valid until 30 June 2016, payment options are below:

Payment options are below:

<b>EFT:</b> Melbourne Marathon Spartans Club BSB: 633-000 Account No: 139201743  Please include name and/or Spartan Number	<b>Cheque via Post:</b> "Melbourne Marathon Spartans Club" PO Box 162 Rosanna Vic 3084  Please include name and/or Spartan Number
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If you are a current member, you do not need to fill in a Membership Form each year however are most welcome to. Obviously if any of your details have changed we would like to know so that our database is up to date. The Form is available via the link below or just drop us an email on [spartans.team@hotmail.com](mailto:spartans.team@hotmail.com).

[http://www.melbournemarathonspartans.com/files/SPARTANS\\_MEMBERSHIP\\_FORM\\_2015\\_16.pdf](http://www.melbournemarathonspartans.com/files/SPARTANS_MEMBERSHIP_FORM_2015_16.pdf)

### **WINNER!**

At our February Committee Meeting, we drew our lucky winner. **PETER BLACK (\$1065)**. A copy of "The Wall" is on its way to Peter. Remember you have to be a financial member to be eligible for your name to be drawn!

## VICTORIAN ROAD RUNNERS



Join the **Victorian Road Runners** on the first Saturday of each month at the Tan, commencing at 7.30 am for a 4km or 8km (or more!). Jay hopes to see you for a lap or two and a catch up on Saturday, 2 April. <http://www.vrr.org.au/>

## MILESTONES

If you are going to run your 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 or 35<sup>th</sup> Melbourne Marathon in 2016, we would like to hear from you so we can acknowledge your milestone! Remember that you can purchase your Spartan singlet to run your milestone marathon. Please email: [spartans.team@hotmail.com](mailto:spartans.team@hotmail.com).

## MY FAVOURITE RUN

Do you have a favourite run you would like to share with us? If so, please email us at [spartans.team@hotmail.com](mailto:spartans.team@hotmail.com) and I'll include in the next Newsletter.



### **ADVERTISING ON THE WEBSITE!**

Don't forget, we now have advertisers: <http://melbournemarathonspartans.com/advertisers>

**Please identify yourselves as Spartans when you visit them.**

Would you like to advertise your business or know of someone who would? Please email Committee member John Kaparelis via [spartans.team@hotmail.com](mailto:spartans.team@hotmail.com).

### **SPARTANS' CLUB STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

To advance the sport of marathon running to athletes of all ages and abilities and to encourage and assist all runners to achieve Melbourne Marathon Spartan status.

To provide a platform and environment for runners to receive and to build upon their achievements enabling progression through the various Spartan milestone singlet colours.

Assist in the promotion and publicity of the Melbourne Marathon and the charities it supports.

### **BENEFITS OF BEING A SPARTAN**

The Melbourne Marathon Spartans Club is a club consisting of marathon runners from all walks of life, ages and abilities that have achieved Spartan status by having run ten Melbourne Marathons.

The benefits of membership include regular newsletters, organised training runs, being presented with a Spartan singlet after ten years and subsequent milestone Spartan singlets each five years, the opportunity to attend our AGM and hear a top-line guest speaker, being able to avail of refreshments and free massage after finishing the marathon, receive benefits and discounts from companies that advertise on our website.

### **Contact Information**

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#### **Life Members**

Paul Basile, Peter Battrick, John Dean, John Dobson, Peter Feldman, Jack Fredrickson, Christine Hodges, Ken Matchett (Dec'd), Conor McNeice, John Raskas, Ron Young, Shirley Young, Peter Ryan, Maureen Wilson

COMMITTEE		
<b>President</b>	Jay Fleming	0418 374 783
<b>Vice President</b>	Paul Basile	0439 718 281
<b>Treasurer</b>	Rod Bayley	9077 7192
<b>Secretary</b>	Felicity Doolan	0411 405 529
<b>Webmaster</b>	David Foskey	0432 146 747
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	John Dean	9337 7179
<b>Committee</b>	Cath Bombardieri	0407 996 356
<b>Committee</b>	John Dobson	0412 688 287
<b>Committee</b>	John Kaparelis	0447 447 448
<b>Committee</b>	Ashley Page	0448 866 025
<b>Committee</b>	Colin Silcock Delaney	5598 6090

### Website References:

[www.melbournemarathon.com](http://www.melbournemarathon.com)  
[www.melbournemarathonspartans.com](http://www.melbournemarathonspartans.com)  
[www.coolrunning.com.au](http://www.coolrunning.com.au)  
[www.vicmastersaths.org.au](http://www.vicmastersaths.org.au)  
[www.athsvic.org.au](http://www.athsvic.org.au)  
[www.athletics.com.au](http://www.athletics.com.au)  
[www.vrr.org.au](http://www.vrr.org.au)  
[www.runnersworldonline.com.au](http://www.runnersworldonline.com.au)  
[www.run4yourlife.com.au](http://www.run4yourlife.com.au)  
[www.traralgonmarathon.org.au](http://www.traralgonmarathon.org.au)  
[www.sixfoot.com](http://www.sixfoot.com)  
[www.parkrun.com.au](http://www.parkrun.com.au)  
[www.ausrunning.net](http://www.ausrunning.net)  
[www.runningcalendar.com.au](http://www.runningcalendar.com.au)

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS NEWSLETTER

All Spartans have great stories. If you would like to share one please email us at [spartans.team@hotmail.com](mailto:spartans.team@hotmail.com). We would love to hear from you ☺.