

Race Report and Results: Goldsborough Gallop, May 17th 2015

This year, 2015, was the first year that the Goldsborough Gallop Trail Race was run. The inaugural trail race featured two distances; 8kms and 22kms, with both starting at the very scenic Arnold's Crossing of the Mulgrave River.

Despite a cloudy sky and occasional light drizzle, a small but sociable group of runners fronted up to the check-in table beside the river. A number of runners struggled unsuccessfully to erect a tarpaulin to provide some shelter from the threatening weather. However, the tarp' wasn't needed and those same conditions were ideal for running.

As with the Blacksnake Trail Race, 3 weeks earlier, staggered starts were trialled, with 22km runners starting at 7.30am and 8.00am. The aim was to bring as many runners to the finish in the shortest span of time. This was successful, with all finishers crossing the line within a 28 minute time span.

Following a riverside start, all runners were faced with an immediate 2.7km steep climb up the well-formed dirt road that leads to the Goldsborough Valley section of Wooroonooran National Park Day Use Area. The slightly muddy surface made for an interesting descent which took runners past the ultimate finish line with its covered BBQ's, tables and toilets.

The 8km competitors soon left the road to make their way up the coarse gravel walking track to the scenic Kearney's Falls. From there it was mostly back-tracking downhill to the finish. Don Elmer put in a great run, crossing the line in 43 minutes flat, seven minutes ahead of Shaun O'Donahoo in 50:14 and Dave Cuming close behind, crossing in 50:59. First for the ladies was a very happy Alison Smith. Her time of 52:19 put her just over a minute ahead of second placed Zoe Gill (53:33), with Lizzy Gander rounding out the place-getters in 55:49.

The 22km race was a truly global event with "internationally recognised" runners Nami Matsuoka (Japan) and Eden Rafael "Eddy" dos Santos Pedro (Brazil) mixing it with the Aussies. Competitors in this event bypassed the Kearney's Falls track and continued on to the Goldfields Track which ultimately leads to the Babinda Boulders. Adventure Sport NQ put on an excellent running event from the Babinda end of the Goldfields Track in July with 10km, 21km. and the testing 42km Goldrush Marathon on offer.

However, our runners ran the first 8kms of the Goldfields Track, as far as the East Mulgrave Causeway. This is a really beautiful crossing; so beautiful in fact that Alex Farkas and Eddy decided to cross the river twice just to soak up the view. Glen "Robbo" Robinson set a daunting benchmark time in this inaugural year, powering over the course in his seemingly effortless style to cross the finish line in just 1:40:30. How does he do it? Perhaps it was because Jarrod Ausburn and Keith Fearon were breathing down his neck. Jarrod took out second place in 1:50.43, with Keith less than 2 minutes further back in 1:52:26. For the ladies, Alena Scurrah showed she is recovering well from a knee injury with a powerful run that brought her to the finish in 2:05:53 Michelle Farkas continued a successful running year to take out second place in 2:14:45, while a 2:33:41 time gave an animatedly happy Nami Matsuoka third place.

We all felt for Scott Ratcliffe when a bung knee forced him to walking pace soon after the turnaround at the East Mulgrave Causeway. Alex alerted us to his plight and we thank National Parks Ranger Dan Fitzpatrick for a mercy pick-up.

Thanks to the volunteers! Pre-race, much time was spent behind the scenes on promotion and registration by the hardworking Mel Akmentins, Colleen Harisson and Robbo, with IT support from Sarah Dart. Race day help by Alison Smith, Robbo and Brenda O'Brien was much appreciated, as was the help of several runners who helped pack up after the racing and socialising.

Our major sponsor was once again "It's Extreme", with local owner Roy and their shop (located on Spence Street) have been a long-time supporter of our club, and gives a very generous discount to club members. Please support his business. Thanks also to Alan Courtney, who generously donated a surprise prize of a free entry to the annual Train Race (held on May 24th) and a running top.

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Results

8Km Race

Name	Bib	Finish Time	Overall Place	Gender Place	Age Group	Category Place
ELMER Don	199	43:00	1	1	50-59	1
O'DONAHOO Shaun	234	50:14	2	2	50-59	2
CUMING Dave	21	50:59	3	3	50-59	3
SMITH Alison	34	52:19	4	1	40-49	1
GILL Zoe	603	53:33	5	2	30-35	1
SIMMONS Chris	10	53:33	6	4	40-49	1
GANDER Lizzy	602	55:49	7	3	20-29	1
HALES Amanda	604	57:40	8	4	40-49	2
St AMAND Karen	118	58:36	9	5	40-49	3
OBRIEN Brenda	605	66:50	10	6	60-69	1
BARKER Natasha	105					DNS
BARKER Glenn	106					DNS
NARYWONCZYK Tynan	613					DNS
NARYWONCZYK Helena	615					DNS
OBRIEN Dave	29					DNS
TURCO Cameron						DNS

22Km Race

Name	Bib	Finish Time	Overall Place	Gender Place	Age Group	Category Place
ROBINSON Glen	7	1:40:30	1	1	40-49	1
AUSBURN Jarrod	176	1:50:43	2	2	20-29	1
FEARON Keith	78	1:52:26	3	3	40-49	2
SCURRAH Alena	91	2:05:53	4	1	30-39	1
St AMAND Mark	119	2:10:45	5	4	40-49	3
dos SANTOS PEDRO Eddy	609	2:12:32	6	5	30-39	1
BOSHAMMER Shane	608	2:14:15	7	6	30-39	2
FARKAS Michelle	82	2:14:45	8	2	40-49	1
SMITH Ben	30	2:23:33	9	7	30-39	3
MATSUOKA Nami	612	2:33:41	10	3	30-39	2
WATTS Angela	617	2:35:55	11	4	30-39	3
FARKAS Alex	83	2:38:30	12	8	50-59	1
RATCLIFFE Scott						DNF