



Newsletter #20

Results and news from Wednesday 5th to Tuesday 11th December 2018

Last Saturday the Palmerston North Athletic and Harrier Club conducted the very first Arthur Eustace Memorial Meeting. Although the number of entries was somewhat disappointing, the standard of competition certainly was not with one new stadium record being established. Unfortunately the gusting winds saw many of the horizontal jumps record wind assistance in excess of the allowable 2 metres per second preventing them being recognised for ranking purposes.

In the triple jump, Anna Thomson took out the competition with her final round leap of 12.67m with a following of wind of 2.4m/s. Her third round leap of 12.62m however was achieved with a legal wind reading of 1.7m/s and bettered the existing stadium record of 12.44m which she set at the Jumps in Paradise meeting last March. Her brother Scott took out the men's triple jump with a wind assisted best of 14.64m. The long jump saw a good battle between the second and third placed jumpers at last season's national championships. Corinna Minko taking out the competition with a season's best 6.08m, with Ashleigh Bennett in her first completion back from injury happy with her 5.64m best. Jordan Peters would be pleased with his legal 7.22m in winning the men's long jump.

The women's 400 metres produced one of the best performances on the track with thirteen year old Monique Gorrie coming through over the concluding stages to run down Pavinee Watson. Her winning time of 60.72s being only one hundredth of a second short of Stephanie Dickins's record for 13 year olds. Watson recorded 61.64s for second with third place

getter Kimberley Walsh recording a personal best 62.52s.



Monique Gorrie coming through for the win in the final stages of the women's 400m race (Photo courtesy of Andrea Lambert and Mark Harris)

The 100m sprints saw two heats in the women's grade with Minko taking out the sprint in 12.81s from Bennett 13.37s. Chayille Collette in winning the B grade heat in 13.94s proved to be the third fastest over the 100m sprint. Watson took out the 200m in 27.08s from Walsh 27.81s and Gorrie 28.02s.

Brayden Grant proved to be the top male sprinter taking out the 100m in 11.77s the 200m in 23.96 and the 400m in 50.93s Joseph Chamberlain recorded a personal best of 52.38s in finishing second in the 400m.



Brayden Grant taking out the men's 100m (Photo courtesy of Andrea Lambert and Mark Harris)

Sam Mackinder ran a solo 17.79s to win the 100m hurdles whilst Emma Leader took 13.21s

to complete the 80m hurdles. It was a very excited Emma at last Tuesday's club night when she discovered that she had been clocked at 12.91s after a very polished display over the hurdles, a big PB and her first sub 13s run. The hard work is certainly paying off for her.

* * * * *



Hamish after his 2.25m jump at Nga Puna Wai on Saturday (Photo courtesy of Marcus Wolton)

Some great news out of Christchurch with former club athlete Hamish Kerr becoming the country's second best ever high jumper clearing 2.25m. He will no doubt be looking at that number one spot which is 2.30m. Also in the national round up of performances was great to see Stacey Gunn winning the Triple Jump in Dunedin with a 10.85m best.

* * * * *

Several of the very talented Whanganui athletes were part of the New Zealand Secondary School's team that competed in the Australian All Schools Championships in Cairns. One of the top results was the run of Emma Osborne who finished third in the 400m in a personal best of 55.58s which is an Athletics Manawatu Wanganui Open record for all grades from 15 year olds through to 20 year olds. She also recorded a PB in the 800m.

* * * * *

Was quite interested to see a Facebook posting photo of Ashleigh Gunn with a couple of the trophies she was presented with at the Freyberg High prize giving.

The Howell Manning Cup which would have been presented by two of the schools top sprinters of the late 1960's Pauline Howell and Glenys Manning. Pauline is probably familiar to many as Pauline Tonner, a long serving teacher at PNGHS. The other trophy was the S Oxenham Cup this cup would have been donated by Sylvia Oxenham who was the schools head girl in 1961. She is possibly better remembered as Sylvia Potts one of the country's finest. Certainly great trophies to have ones name on.

It is certainly impressive to learn that these trophies are still around after more than 50 years. Many significant trophies appear to have disappeared. I can recall many years ago attending a function in Levin where the attendees donated the Molly Dorne Trophy, a very impressive trophy that was to be awarded to the Athletics Manawatu Wanganui Athlete of the Year. The last time I can recall this trophy being presented was back in the 1990's when we held our championships on the Hastings all-weather track. Unfortunately there does not appear to be a record of to whom it was presented and this valued trophy sits somewhere where it doesn't belong. Would be lovely to get it back.

I know this isn't the only centre trophy that has gone walk about as there was a BNZ Cup for the most improved athlete. I think this one may have disappeared at the same time as the Molly Dorne Trophy and one from earlier was the one for the winner of the men's 100.

* * * * *

This weekend we have Jordan Peters, Corinna Minko and Pavinee Watson travelling to Hamilton to compete in the North Island championships.

Tuesday will be the final club night for this year. With Christmas Day and New Year's Day both being Tuesday, the next club meeting will be January 8.

We wish you all a safe and happy holiday!