

# CLUB RACES *cont.*

C Stevens 1994 17m 46s, E Henshaw 2002 17m 31s. There are gaps in the statistics so some top runs may be missing and although direct comparisons are not possible, all the above times represent excellent runs.

A sampling of winning teams follows.

1935 L Lanigan, R Houlihan, H Chappell, E Bentley  
1940 C Arroll, N Shorter, W Pelham, A Clow  
1946 A E Clayton, B Leydon, C J Francis, B Stuart  
1952 R Smith, A Sullivan, J A Darroch, P Penlington  
1956 B Stuart, H Chiron, L Haysom, G Darroch  
1961 T Dix, T Cowley, G Blair, A Prendergast  
1965 L Darroch, G Allott, P Forbes, I Field  
1970 C W Fell, G Weston, F Smedley, K Stone  
1975 F King, S King, R Merton, A Harrison  
1981 L Stevens, F Stewart, P King, T Mouldley  
1987 J Wotherspoon, S Lee, L Smith, P Forbes  
1994 G Fisher, C Smith, D. Lanigan, M Lea  
1999 Y Jarvis, R Davis  
2002 L Davis, E Henshaw  
2004 M Stevens, J Ward

## OSBORNE CUP

Donated by Mr E J Osborne, Mayor of Birkenhead between 1936 and 1953, and Patron of Calliope Harrier Club for almost as long, the Osborne Cup Road Relay event was first contested in 1936. Mr Osborne is closely identified as the main instigator of the development of the War Memorial Park with all its amenities including the playing fields and grandstand that Calliope members now actively utilize. Right through to 1978 the Osborne



*The Kohn Cup*

Cup Relay started in Devonport and over four two-and-a-half mile legs continued through to Birkenhead. The first lap in 1953 finished at Takapuna Grammar School, the second at the Wairau-Shakespeare Road corner, the third about a mile past the Albany turnoff and the fourth at Zion Hill. The course was originally determined and measured by Len Lanigan. In present

day terms the laps were from the Esplanade Hotel Devonport to St Leonards Road, then to Westlake Girls' High, then to the corner of Hogans Road and Glenfield Road, and then to the top of Recreation Drive. The laps were basically the same over the years.

From the available records best times for each lap were: Lap one – C Harvey 1966 11m 43s 1. R Diamond 1975 12m 24s 2. S Thomson 1974 12m 26s 3. Lap two – L Vincent 1965 13m 17s 1. R Jenner 1975 13m 54s 2. K Orchard 1970 13m 58s 3. Lap three – G Shaw 1974 12m 40s 1. K Harvey 1966 13m 02s 2. N Ambler 1946 and I Studd 1970 13m 27s 3=. Lap four – R Diamond 1974 13m 04s 1. N Ambler 1945 13m 08s 2. J Ralston 1967 13m 23s 3. All fine runners from different eras.

The Cup is of course contested for on a handicap team basis, and examples of winning teams from the Devonport-Birkenhead period are:

1936 L Lanigan, V Ushakoff, A Clayton, N Shorter  
1940 G Ambler, F Hardman, A Clow, D Delany  
1945 A Darroch, R Good, N Jenkins, N Ambler  
1950 B Earnshaw, M Haynes, R Ambler, A Clayton  
1955 G Hicks, G Collings, J Young, R Brickland  
1960 L Vincent, T Appleby, T Cowley, G Darroch  
1966 D McGovern, C Harvey, J Schooltink, I Smith  
1971 R Stevenson, R Voyce, A Prendergast, G Bateman  
1974 S McOnie, P Forbes, G Shaw, W Morris  
1977 G Chaplin, J Rigby, K Church, K-A Stewart

Due to the usual bugbear of traffic problems, the Osborne Cup Relay was transferred in 1979 to a course running from the top of Recreation Drive down Onewa Road and then via Lake, Raleigh and Pupuke Roads back to Recreation Drive. Winning team in 1979 was L Vincent, F Stewart, G Howarth and M Glen. Glen had to withstand a huge challenge that day by Tyrell Jaggard who needed resuscitation at the finish line. Jaggard incidentally is a true Calliopian who gets so focused he can run beyond the point of exhaustion. Attempting a marathon on one occasion he woke up in an ambulance. Graeme Wells was a similar runner. When the compiler turned to interview Wells after he had completed an interclub relay race lap, Wells had disappeared. Strange noises were coming from a large nearby ditch where Wells was discovered spreadeagled face down. After being congratulated for putting in the effort expected of him, he was asked why he hadn't run faster. On two occasions C W Fell collapsed and had to be hospitalized. In neither case had he completed his lap. Working on the basis that once was an accident and twice a mistake, he was approached with the suggestion that in future he finish his laps before collapsing.

## CLUB RACES *cont.*

In 1983 Calliope was running the Relay over a fast circuit based on the Northcote Shopping Centre. Three years later it was on to a new course, the same Hinemoa Street circuit used for the Eyre Teams. Teams of usually three harriers these days are handicapped, there is a staggered start and the first team to finish is the winner, the same rules as for the earlier races. One runner does two laps (3.5k), and the other two runners one lap each. Fastest Osborne Cup times over two laps (from the available records) are: R Jonkers 11m 03s 1. S Gerrand 11m 34s 2. E Henshaw 11m 41s 3. For one lap: P Jonkers 5m 42s 1. E Henshaw 5m 43s 2. M Lea 5m 45s 3. Some winning teams are:

1986 E Fuller, S Gerrand, B Smith, H Jonkers

1989 M Lea, S Mouldey, P Goodin, M Stevens

1994 B McLean, R Delaveau, C Smith, M Rooney

1998 B Logan, K Robert, J Rhodes

2001 G Moore, G Carmichael, N Hargis

2004 C W Fell, K Fell

There was another Osborne Cup Relay trophy competed for by Calliope. This was a track and field contest. Six events were contested with teams of three athletes. The

four track events 220 yards, 440 yards, 880 yards and 1 mile were run as relays, while the two field events of high jump and shot put were based on the total throws of each team. However this competition of the 1940s and 1950s appears to have been short-lived, unlike its road relay race counterpart which is still keenly contested.



*Trevor Mouldey leads Tony Lane on the Osborne Cup, Northcote circuit*

### AMBLER SHIELD

First held in 1947, there is a fascinating story surrounding the running of the first race. Harry Ambler, a keen supporter of Calliope, had donated the Shield which is for a cross-country race run on a true handicap basis. For a number of years though it was run on a half cross-country half road course. Harry, accompanied

by his son Ray, stood watching the race unfold. An initial disquiet turned to near anguish as he saw his



*Calliope road champs 1971 — P. Jones, R. Diamond, —, R. Stevenson, C.W. Fell, J. Walker, R. Voyce, G. Bassett, K. Orchard, —, S. Thomson, G. Bateman*