

CLUB UNIFORM

Mr Bill Taylor, founder of Calliope Harrier Club, had been a member of Olympic Harrier Club, Wellington, and when he moved to Northcote in 1928 he took with him a copy of Olympic Harriers' Rules and Regulations Members' Card 1925. This is discussed in more detail elsewhere but what is relevant here is Item 2. The Olympic wording is "The Club colours shall be black with a badge on breast of jersey depicting a white gate encircled by a white circle." Calliope's read "The Club colours shall be black with a badge on breast of jersey depicting a white five-barred gate surmounted by a white C". This remained the uniform until around 1959 when it was decided that our singlet was too similar to that of the Olympic Club.

The uniform was changed to a black singlet with the club monogram on the left breast and a two inch white stripe from right shoulder to left hip, front and back. Shorts were black with a one inch white stripe down each side.

It was time for a change in 1979 and approval was sought and received in time for the 1980 season. The singlet was changed to a plain black one with the word CALLIOPE screen-printed in white

in letters approximately two inches high across the top of the singlet with the club monogram of a barred gate superimposed with a capital C, again in white, underneath the lettering.



From the 1940s

*Back: C. Francis, M. Merz, B. Morrison, B. Crompton, A. Clayton, D. Moller, A. Clow, T. Good, M. Haynes, B. Garret, N. Ambler, L. Lanigan, N. Jenkins
Front: —, T. Collins, J. A. Darroch, R. Merz, B. Stuart*



Auckland cross-country champs, early 1970's

A major change was initiated in 1984. The point was made by the harrier section and accepted by the executive that while our rivals had updated their uniforms utilizing new materials and styles, Calliope had not and that the singlets after a short life span looked shabby. After some discussion the following was approved for implementation in 1985. The singlet was to be black with a white mid panel, approximately 13cm in width, with the word CALLIOPE printed in black in capital letters approximately 4.5cm in size; with the club logo underneath approximately 4.5cm in size; with the word BIRKENHEAD printed under the logo in capital letters approximately 1.25cm in size. The rationale was that it was hard to successfully screen-print white lettering on to a black singlet, that black printing on a white panel would be more distinctive, that the singlet was of modern lightweight material, and that

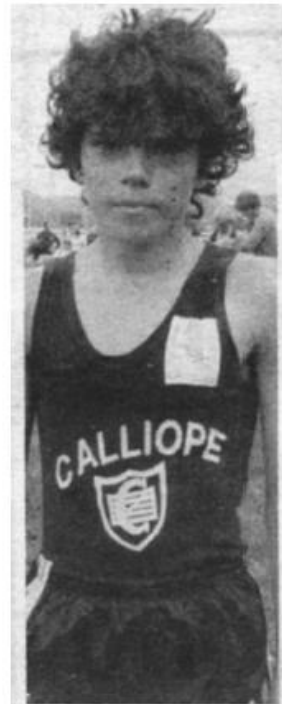
CLUB UNIFORM *cont.*



Steve Fairley, 1995

Calliope would be better identified with the district it ran from. While the change was a big one, it involved no break with the tradition of Calliope being the black and white club that its history dictated. For long races run in the heat of the summer, an optional largely white uniform was permitted, with the badge immediately identifying the club.

The distinctive and modern uniform that we now wear was initially adopted and manufactured in late 1997. Made of a lightweight, fast-drying material, it is of a cutaway design with large white panels on each side. The black centre panel has successfully been printed with the word CALLIOPE in white letters 3cm high. Under it is the club logo 6cm in size and the word BIRKENHEAD about 0.8cm, both in white. The words and logo are in the centre of the singlet. The shorts are black with white panels on each side. All-in-all a very smart uniform which measures up very well against that of all other clubs and which obviously is in keeping with Calliope's proud black and white tradition.



Altan Ramadan of Calliope-Birkenhead Harrier Club who is showing impressive form in early season midgets' races.

Altan Ramadan, Midget, 1982



Don McPike at the Domain, 2000