



## Obituary: Michael Carter

16/4/1939 - 30/05/2019

We deeply regret to advise our readers of the passing of Michael, one of our great and loyal members over many years. Michael was instrumental in starting Cursus and made a significant personal contribution to the Club and its members.

Michael died on 30th May after a 14 month battle with cancer.

His brother Peter writes:

My brother Mike and I joined the Harriers towards the end of 1956. The Melbourne Olympics might have inspired us to start doing a bit of running but it was that indefatigable recruiter, Noel Burrows, who signed us up. We three were in the Heidelberg Senior Scout group and, for some reason, we liked to start our Friday night meetings with a run around the block (a fairly large block). Noel in his wisdom, maybe, thought he saw some talent so soon we were running Inter-Club in the middle distance events.

Unbeknown to us our father Harold Carter ran for the club in the 1920's and briefly served on the Committee. Mike's son Roger also ran for Ivanhoe thus constituting a three generation family (a "club record" I think).

Mike soon tried race-walking (Peter Bethel's influence) and this became his mainstay (along with cross-country).

Mike, John Boas and I invented Cursus and organized it for a long time. Mike, who took Latin at school (the smart guys always did Latin at Northcote High School), came up with the name Cursus (L. meaning "to run"). He served on the Committee from 1959 to 1969.

To finish with, a cautionary tale on how NOT to prepare for an important race:

In the first week of September 1959, Mike and I went skiing at the Rover Scout Chalet on the edge of the Bogong High Plains. Nowadays the Chalet is accessed via Falls Creek (an easy ski if you are a bit of a fitness buff) but back then access was from the Omeo-Shannon Vale side – a long walk through the bush

carrying skis as well as rucksack. We were determined to be back for the Victorian 10 mile Championship to be held on Saturday 5th. at Studley Park, Clifton Hill, so, on the Friday we left the Chalet, hiked back through the bush to Shannon vale, hitch- hiked to Bairnsdale, "slept" the night at the railway station on the concrete floor on our groundsheets, caught the first train to Flinders St., then the train to Heidelberg, some lunch and a shower, back on the train to Clifton Hill and the start of the race. Starter's gun, 10 miles to go, we could barely raise a trot, sheer agony, sheer folly. What were we thinking of! You could say we finished way off the pace.

Peter

*A funeral service and celebration of his life will be held on Tuesday June 18<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon at the Eltham Community and Reception Centre 801 Main Rd. Eltham. All are welcome.*

## Annual General Meeting season 2018/19

The Annual General Meeting and presentation of trophies was held on Wednesday night 22<sup>nd</sup> May at the pavilion at Ivanhoe Park. There was a reasonable attendance with a pleasing number of juniors present.

It was great to see Noel Burrows attending after a long illness and Graham Warry, who was Cursus Editor in 1975. Graham was on his way to the airport for a trip overseas but still found the time to attend. Well done Graham.

Nominations for Committee positions were held and it was very pleasing to see the entire Committee from last year continue with the challenge ahead. As with last year, the general feeling amongst the Committee is that we are on track, but we have much unfinished business to set the Club up for the future.

Congratulations to all on the Committee, they have done a great job with some tough decisions over the past couple of years.

For the record, the new Committee for season 2019/20 is:

President: Jeff Franklin  
Vice President: John David  
Secretary: John Edney  
Treasurer: David Burke  
General Committee: Michael Wallis, Richard Russell, Braden Fraser, Mary Langdon, Barry Greig, James Lynch

Following the election of office bearers we proceeded to present medallions and trophies, details listed elsewhere in this report. Congratulations to all winners.

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## Non-Competing or Social Members ....a new strategy

As discussed in our last edition of Cursus, loyalty to Ivanhoe Harriers runs deep. Since adopting this strategy it has been very pleasing to see plenty of our retired members re-joining under the \$30.00 non-competing plan. It looks like we have hit on a winner here so if you have not already re-joined, please do so and stay connected to your Club. Apart from the very important social aspect, we need our numbers to grow to ensure that we can develop some political power in the future.

Past members rejoining include: Mark Worsnop, Ashley Woods, Adam Franklin, Barry Greig, Nick Hoogenraad, Noel Burrows, Michael Wallis, with many others confirming that they will rejoin and be a part of our future....let's get on board.

The Committee will decide on a date for our first Annual Reunion luncheon in the near future.

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## History Revisited, memories of the great Alf Watson

The Club was recently contacted by Michelle Watson, daughter of Thomas Watson, who is 90 years young and living in Geelong.

Thomas was a member of Ivanhoe Harriers in 1940's and has a marvellous collection of memorabilia, dating from 1914 and covering the glittering career of Alf Watson, his very famous Uncle.

Alf Watson was Captain of Swimming and Athletics at Ivanhoe Grammar School, was Captain of Ivanhoe Harriers and a Victorian and Australian Champion who represented Australia at the 1928 Olympics in Amsterdam and the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. In his time, Alf was a household name and in 2014 the Club honoured Alf with the title of Captain of our Team of the Century.

Photo below shows Thomas Watson proudly holding his lovely Ivanhoe Harriers silver trophy which was awarded for season 1946/47.



Newspaper article below shows the awesome form of Alf Watson in his prime.



EVERGREEN HURDLER, ALF. WATSON, the Ivanhoe veteran, who defeated Don. McLardy, the Australian champion, in the 120 yards hurdles at Olympic Park on Saturday. Watson also won the 440 yards hurdles.

# President's Report

## (Précis taken from the Annual Report)

The most significant matter to report for the season was the departure of the Club from Willinda Park in Greensborough on 30th November 2018. We had been a joint tenant for approximately 19 years, sharing the rental cost with Little Athletics and Diamond Valley Athletic Club. As time went on, our Club struggled to meet the costs involved and our numbers dwindled. It was a brave but necessary decision of the Committee to exit Willinda Park. In the end, the decision was clear, regular usage of the facility over the past few years was down to two or three athletes and we were paying over \$3,000.00pa for this access. If this were to continue the Club would not have survived.

Apart from an annual saving of circa \$3,000.00pa we have negotiated training rights at Chelsworth Park, Ivanhoe East and the Collingwood Track at Clifton Hill where Ivanhoe Grammar School also does most of its training. These arrangements perfectly suit both parties.

### Competition

The Club had a very successful Cross Country season, ably managed by John David. The Senior Men's team placed 5<sup>th</sup> in Division 5 with Vince Mancuso having a great season.

In summer Track and Field we placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Men's 40+ but our standout team was our Under 18 Men's team which placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the State Shield final.

In addition, it was very pleasing to see 5 athletes contest the Vic Championships and Thomas Langdon win the Victorian Under 18 Country 1500m Championship. Congratulations to Ben Eddings in making the final of the Australian Championships in the Under 17, 100m. Well done Ben, a talented young man.

### Recruiting

We have continued to grow and expand our relationship with Ivanhoe Grammar School and have been delighted to welcome seven new members with a direct connection to the school. New members of the Club this season are: Claude Aquino, Alberto Cocchis, Ben Eddings, Felix Esperson, Monty Frankish, Vince Mancuso, Gianni Mancuso, Madelaine Page, Andreas Raschella, and Nelly Tragardh.

However, our churn rate is too high with almost 50% of our list failing to rejoin for the following season. This is a common problem across all Clubs and needs to be addressed.

This Committee has been outstanding with great support and load sharing during the season. This has been a very stable group and I congratulate the team as we strive together to rebuild the Club. We have two main priorities ahead of us. The recruitment and development of larger numbers of young athletes and the establishment of a new home base in Ivanhoe. These items are a work in progress.

Our recruiting strategy is critical as we strive to rebuild the number of young families involved in the Club. The gradual decline of our "Club Family" over many years has left us weak in this area. Every Club needs a strong core of committed families.

### Finance

Our financial position at the end of our financial year is good with a closing Bank Balance of \$13,428.56, a solid increase on last year. Our major fundraiser this season was our marvellous Trivia Night which raised \$2,495.00 and the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle which raised a very handy net profit of \$1924.20. Well done to the Committee and all members who assisted.

### Initiatives

Many initiatives have been undertaken by the Committee this season which have positively impacted the Club and its image.

- A very successful Trivia Night attended by over 100, thanks to John Edney.
- Continuation of sponsorship from East Ivanhoe Foodworks.
- Negotiation of training rights at Collingwood Harriers track.
- Coaching three times weekly at Chelsworth Park.
- Coaching clinics for Ivanhoe Grammar School and formal appointment to coach middle distance and cross country teams for the School.
- Improving our Facebook exposure thanks to Braden Fraser.

Many individuals have contributed to the running of the Club this season and I wish to recognise outstanding personal effort. Officials are a valuable and required resource. Jill Wallis continues to support the Club after many years of dedicated service and in particular, Barry Greig, Mary Langdon and Richard Russell provided marvellous assistance to the Club during the year. We ran a roster during the summer months to spread the workload and the following good people assisted at Track & Field. Richard Russell, Phil Ramsay, David Burke, John David, Jill Wallis, Biju Philip, Michael Wallis, Simon Rigoni, Andrew Edney, Mary Langdon, James Lynch and Barry Greig.



Everyone gave of their valuable time to ensure that the Club could meet its obligations. Sincere thanks to all for this great contribution. Our usual obligation each Saturday was to provide 3 Club Helpers, this season we were able to share the load between 12 people which was a huge improvement on previous years....our Club Family is growing.

Cursus is the lifeblood of the Club and keeps us in touch with our past membership, our new membership and results. We have produced ten

editions of Cursus this season, an increase on last year. I firmly believe that Cursus is one of our best assets.

Finally, I encourage all athletes and previous athletes to re-register for the 2019/20 season and make a difference to your Club. It is your loyalty and support to the Club that needs to be demonstrated to take Ivanhoe back to its former greatness.

Jeff Franklin

## Trophy Presentations – Season 2018/19

<b>STATEWIDE TROPHY:</b> Awarded to the athlete scoring the most Cross Country points	<b>Vince Mancuso</b>
<b>HUGH LOWE MEMORIAL TROPHY:</b> The most outstanding senior athlete in winter competition.	<b>Vince Mancuso</b>
<b>W.A.RAWLINSON TROPHY:</b> The best athlete in the Club.	<b>Rhys Rigoni</b>
<b>F.J.HOLPEN TROPHY:</b> Awarded to the most consistent A Grade athlete in Shield competition.	<b>David Burke</b>
<b>ST.JAMES IVANHOE TROPHY:</b> Most improved track & field athlete	<b>David Greig</b>
<b>JACK McCANN TROPHY:</b> The Club Member making the most significant contribution to the Club.	<b>John Edney</b>
<b>BOAS/HANCOCK TROPHY:</b> Most outstanding field event athlete.	<b>Rhys Rigoni</b>
<b>BUFFALO SPORTS / ATHLETES FOOT TROPHY:</b> The most improved junior athlete	<b>Josh Philip</b>
<b>GEOFF LEGGE TROPHY:</b> The most outstanding performance by a junior in any event from 800m-10,000m	<b>Thomas Langdon</b>
<b>LEW HALL TROPHY:</b> The most significant commitment to the Club by an under 23 athlete.	<b>Sam Daniel</b>
<b>6K CROSS COUNTRY HANDICAP:</b>	<b>David Purser</b>



Vince Mancuso receiving his Statewide trophy for most points scored during the Cross Country season. Vince had a wonderful season.



Christian Ishkan receiving his medal for a great season in 2018/19



Sam Daniel receiving his Lew Hall trophy awarded to an Under 23 athlete who has demonstrated significant contribution to the Club. Sam had a great track and field season.

## Cross Country at St Anne's Winery - Saturday, 1 June 2019

Following our very successful Relay at Jells Park on 4<sup>th</sup> May the 8k cross country at Myrning was keenly awaited. John David was not very well so did not race but still attended as Team Manager. Well done John. Our fastest was Vince Mancuso, full results as follows:

Vince Mancuso	32:04
Chris Branigan	35:35
Gianni Mancuso	39:41
Enrico Cementon	42:18
Chris Struve	43:01

Well done guys, we placed 7th.



Vince Mancuso in the 8km at St Anne's

