



GEELONG REGION CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM NEWSLETTER



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GEELONG TEAMS HOT AS SEASON OPENS WITH BRIMBANK PARK CROSS - COUNTRY RELAYS

The opening of the Cross-Country Season is always a nervous time for athletes with many questions being asked. Questions like: What sort of shape am I in? How will I cope with the challenges of running up and down the testing Brimbank Park course? Have I done the required work to have a good run? Have I remembered to bring my Geelong racing singlet / crop-top? What time does the team bus leave?

Well, these and many other questions were about to be answered as twelve Geelong Region Teams nervously awaited the starter's gun on an unseasonably hot first Saturday of May.

The depth of our Division 1 Men's Team has been strengthened this year with the inclusion of both Mark Fountain and Richard Jeremiah from last year's all-conquering Under 20 Team. However, for the first race of the season we were also without Craig Mottram, Lee Troop, Darren Lynch, Rohan Perrott and Mark Tucker so Mark Fountain, Mark Boxer, Richard Jeremiah, Matt McDonough, Louis Rowan and Darren Riviere ran very well to finish a creditable fourth. Special mention must be made of Matt McDonough's excellent comeback run of 18.55 after almost 2 years battling injuries, including the dreaded osteitis pubis. Well done, Matt - it's great to see you on the way back.

Fast, consistent team running was to the fore in Division 4 where Jaime Werner, Dean Goddard, Simon Taylor, Andrew (I've been tapering for this race all year) Lambart and Nick Ashton staged a titanic battle with St. Kevin's before hitting the front in the shadows of the post. Well done, guys - great running!

Not to be outdone, our Division 7 Team also blitzed the opposition to run out easy winners with Ross Young, in his first cross-country race for years, recording a very impressive sub 21 minute time. Jamie Godwin also looks to be on the way back after a frustrating run of injuries last year, while Travis Trevarthen's sensible pacing and good recent form resulted in a whopping 3 minute improvement from last year's race. Well done Travis - all indications point to a great Winter Season. Rounding out the all-conquering quartet was Paul "Tucky" Wilson who anchored the "Division 7 All-Stars" team with his usual strong running form.

Last year Geoffrey Purnell was one of Geelong's Most Improved athletes. On Saturday he led off for the Veteran's Team with a fast opening leg to keep Geelong up with the leaders. John Moore, in his best distance running shape for years, then consolidated our position before we eventually finished just out of the placings.

In the Under 18 Men's Race, Tyson Mahon, fresh from a two week break, stumbled at the start before recording a solid time of just over 10 minutes for the 3 kilometre loop. Fourteen year old, Brenton Rowe, Australia's Under 15 Youth Champion over 1500 / 3000 metres, then duplicated Tyson's time in his leg. However, Brenton's day began while many of us were still fast asleep as he travelled from Dunkeld to Brimbank Park by car, train, car and finally bus. Well done, Brenton - it's great to have such a dedicated athlete in the Geelong Team.

Michael Kenny, in his first race for Geelong, ran very well against older athletes to cross the line in third place.

New Geelong recruits, Ben Lynch, Will Schofield and Steven Wishart all ran strongly against Victoria's best Under 16 athletes to finish out of the placings. Will would have slept well on Saturday night as he warmed-up for the relays with a game of school football on Saturday morning.

Last year, Geelong's Division Two Women's Team took out the premiership with a season of fast running, guts and dedication. Their reward was promotion to Division One for the 2002 Season. And with the return of Joanne Lambert to the team, hopes were high for a good season against the 'big girls'. Unfortunately, recent illness and injury problems stopped Pattie Galvin, Inge Magher and Andrea Cannell running up to their best form. However, watch out for a very determined group at Flemington on May 18! Joanne Lambert will also be hoping for a super run over 10 kilometres after her excellent first-up run.

Through injury, our Division 3 Women's Team was left a runner short. However, well done to both Christine Bauer and Cathryn Hoare who ran very well in their first run for Geelong.

Geelong entered a full set of Under Age Women's Teams for the Cross-Country Relays with all performing very well.

In the Under 20 Division, Jo Wall continued her recent fine form with a super-quick opening leg of 10.19. Track specialists, Phoebe Darbyshire and Rebecca Wiasak then took up the running to consolidate Geelong's position over the testing course. However, on the line, Geelong finished a very close second to the strong Box Hill Team.

After a lengthy rehabilitation from an ankle operation, Ashleigh Wall has steadily returned to running fitness over the last few months. And over the uneven Brimbank Park course, Ashleigh's ankle was fully tested as she ran a solid time of 12.22 for the opening leg of the Under 18 Team's Race. Second runner, Chelsea Merry, still eligible for Under 16 races, then recorded a time of 12.35, an improvement of nearly a minute from last season. New recruit, Erin Littlewood, enjoying her first outing at Brimbank Park, then ran strongly to cross the line with Geelong in seventh placing.

Arguably, the Women's races of the afternoon were run in the Under 16 and Under 14 sections where six keen and talented Geelong athletes went stride for stride with Melbourne's best.

Under 16 Team members, Taryn Rau and Brianna Ricketts recorded identical times (11.54) as they kept pace with the formidable Doncaster Team over the opening two legs. Geelong's final runner, Bianca Cheever then ran her leg more than a minute faster than last year, just failing to catch the leading runner by 7 seconds. Well done, Taryn, Brianna and Bianca - great running!

Kelsey Rau (12 years old), Laura Stekelenberg (10 years old) and Holly Lipson (11 years old) gave away years but not talent

and determination to their opposition as they ran brilliantly to finish a fine second to the strong Frankston Team. Laura's first up run for Geelong comes after a convincing win in the Southern Primary Schools Cross-Country during the week while Holly's Geelong Extra, Extra, Extra, Extra Small singlet covers a big heart! Well done on your excellent second placing Kelsey, Holly and Laura - it's great to see you running so fast!

With twelve teams entered at Brimbank Park, lots of assistance was needed to keep things ticking over. Special thanks to Lee Troop, John Perrott, Kirsty Trevarthen, Travis Zimmer, Elwynne Dunstan, Alan Wishart, John Schofield, Simon Watson, Wendy Wall, Geoff Wall, Andrew Merry, Tracey Rau, and Mary Stekelenberg who assisted with time-keeping and team management. Also, thank you to Lyn Taylor, Greg Trevarthen and Corey Manton who marshalled not one but two Divisions! Without you guys and gals we would not be able to put teams on the course.

However, Kevin Varker, a valued member of the Geelong Region Cross-Country Team, was unable to attend our first race. Tragically, Kevin's beloved wife, Pat passed-away on Friday the 3rd of May.

All members of the Geelong Region Cross-Country Team wish to extend their deepest sympathy to Kevin and family at this sad time.

A visit to the "Snake Pit" for a massage won't be the same without you, Pat!

As a mark of respect, all Geelong Region athletes wore black arm bands for the Brimbank Park Relays.

BRIMBANK PARK CROSS - COUNTRY RELAYS

(Saturday 4th May.)

For Geelong athletes who ran the Brimbank Park Cross-Country Relays last year, I have included your 2001 time in () so you can compare your progress (or otherwise). However, due to the conditions, most athletes reported that this year's course was 10 - 15 seconds per lap quicker.

DIVISION 1 MEN (6 x 6 km.)

Mark Fountain	19.16	
Mark Boxer	19.42	(20.27)
Matthew McDonough	18.55	
Richard Jeremiah	19.14	
Louis Rowan	20.50	
Darren Riviere	21.14	

4 th Place in 119.13 (first place Doncaster in 114.36)

Fastest - M Power (Glenhuntly)	- 17.53
- G Woyecha (Doncaster)	- 18.23
- R De Highden (Doncasster)	- 18.24
- S Forrest (Aths Nunawading)	- 18.27
- J Dwyer (St Kevins)	- 18.32
- N Harrison (Glenhuntly)	- 18.37
- S Field (St Kevins)	- 18.45

- R Gleisner (Ballarat YCW)	- 18.50
- M McDonough (Geelong)	- 18.55

DIVISION 4 MEN (5 x 6 km.)

Jaime Werner	22.22	
Dean Goddard	21.25	(22.55)
Simon Taylor	21.38	
Andrew Lambart	21.31	(21.33)
Nick Ashton	21.22	

1 st Place in 108.19 (second place St. Kevins in 110.09)

DIVISION 7 MEN (4 x 6 km.)

Jamie Godwin	22.17	(21.40)
Travis Trevarthen	22.34	(25.22)
Paul Wilson	23.16	(24.01)
Ross Young	20.59	

1 st Place in 89.09 (second place Aths. Nunawading in 99.25)

Note: Travis Trevarthen is Under 20.

VETERAN MEN (40 +) (3 x 6 km.)

Geoffrey Purnell	22.40	(23.20)
John Moore	25.04	(25.17)
Neil MacDonald	25.26	(25.36)

5 th Place in 73.10 (first place Keilor St. Bern. in 65.20)

Fastest - P Gaffney (Keilor St. Bern.) - 20.59

UNDER 18 MEN (3 x 3 km.)

Tyson Mahon	10.06	(10.26)
Brenton Rowe	10.06	
Michael Kenny	11.45	

5 th Place in 31.57 (first place Glenhuntly in 30.07)

Fastest - D Huffer (Glenhuntly) - 9.47
- A White (Box Hill) - 9.47

Note: Brenton Rowe and Michael Kenny are both Under 16 athletes

UNDER 16 MEN (3 x 3 km.)

Steven Wishart	13.27
Ben Lynch	13.52
Will Schofield	13.06

9 th Place in 40.25 (first place Frankston in 30.36)

Fastest - S Vance (Frankston) - 9.44

Note: Ben Lynch and Will Schofield are both Under 14.

DIVISION 1 WOMEN (4 x 6 km.)

Pattie Galvin	26.49	
Andrea Cannell	29.57	(28.06)
Inge Magher	29.03	(27.09)
Joanne Lambert	24.36	

9 th Place in 110.25 (first place Aths. Essendon in 92.27)

Fastest - S Jamieson (Aths Essendon)	- 20.41
- A Thompson (Glenhuntly)	- 21.03
- H McGregor (Knox Aths.)	- 21.14
- S Gibbs (Peninsula R.R.)	- 21.39

- I De Castella (Aths Essendon) - 22.01

DIVISION 3 WOMEN (3 x 6 km.)

Christin Bauer 32.28
Cathryn Hoare 30.56

D.N.F. (first place Ballarat YCW in 71.21)

UNDER 20 WOMEN (3 x 3 km.)

Joanna Wall 10.19 (23.37 - 6 km.)
Phoebe Darbyshire 12.51 (12.35)
Rebecca Wiasak 12.57 (12.51)

2 nd Place in 36.07 (first place Box Hill in 35.49)

Fastest - Joanna Wall (Geelong) - 10.19
- E Smith (Box Hill) - 11.14

UNDER 18 WOMEN (3 x 3 km.)

Ashleigh Wall 12.22
Chelsea Merry 12.35 (13.25)
Erin Littlewood 13.39

7 th Place in 38.36 (first place Sandringham in 36.51)

Fastest - E Voight (Sandringham) - 11.56

Note: Chelsea Merry in Under 16.

UNDER 16 WOMEN (3 x 3 km.)

Taryn Rau 11.54 (12.21)
Brianna Ricketts 11.54
Bianca Cheever 12.03 (13.08)

2 nd Place in 35.51 (first place Doncaster in 35.44)

Fastest - H Tomlinson (Box Hill) - 10.48

UNDER 14 WOMEN (3 x 3 km.)

Kelsey Rau 12.09
Holly Lipson 12.57
Laura Stekelenberg 13.28

2 nd Place in 38.34 (first place Frankston in 36.51)

Fastest - R Green (Frankston) - 11.59
- K Rau (Geelong) - 12.09

VOTES FOR "BEST PERFORMED GEELONG REGION ATHLETE" AT BRIMBANK PARK CROSS-COUNTRY RELAYS

For each race of the A.V. Winter Season 3, 2, 1 votes will be given by the committee to Men and Women athletes in Senior and Junior Age Groupings to decide the "Geelong Region's Best Performed Male and Female Athletes". For these awards Senior Age Groupings will be Open Age and Under 20 while Junior Age Groupings will be Under 18, Under 16 and Under 14.

Senior Men.

3. Matthew McDonough
2. Ross Young
1. Travis Trevarthen

Senior Women.

3. Joanna Wall
2. Joanne Lambert
1. Phoebe Darbyshire

Junior Men.

3. Brenton Rowe
2. Will Schofield
1. Tyson Mahon

Junior Women.

3. Kelsey Rau
2. Brianna Ricketts
1. Taryn Rau
1. Holly Lipson

RUNNER PROFILE

Rebecca Wiasak rounded off an excellent track season by winning the Under 20 Victorian 800 metre Championship and thus earning the much sought after laurel wreath for her 2002 Athletics Victoria registration number. Rebecca has also been an outstanding worker for Geelong Athletics with her role as Press Correspondent.

Rebecca Felicity Anne Wiasak

Occupation One Year Traineeship at the "Ryrie Cafe" / Studying "Fitness Instruction" at T.A.F.E.

School / Year Contrary to popular belief, I successfully completed V.C.E. last year scoring 94.95.

Age 17 - almost 18, but who's counting!

Date of Birth 24 / 5 / 84

Height not tall enough! **Weight** Neil, you didn't pay me enough to reveal this! (somewhere between 56 & 60 kg.)

Married / Single Single, but depends on who's asking. Also, this may change when Tyson proposes (that should get you a few Deakin "Pussy" points for next year, Tys! Ha, Ha!)

Coach Rudi Hochreiter

Personal Bests

100 m. 13.1 (my favourite distance)

400m. 58.8

800m. 2:13.82 (set at 2002 Vic Champs.)

1500m. 4:48.28

3000m. 11:30.58

5000m. 19.57 (Barwon Banks Fun Run 2001)

10000m. 44.29 (Flemington 2001)

Half Marathon There's no way known I will run the Burnley Half Marathon!

Marathon Twice as far as the Half Marathon - you've got to be joking!

Favourite Food Watermelon - I'm renowned far and wide for my fruit salad.

Food Eaten Before a Race My famous fruit platter - however, there's not much left after everyone has had a bit!

Favourite Drink I'd better say something legal, like water.

Favourite Movie Sport - "Cool Runnings". Other - "Life is Beautiful" and "Moulin Rouge"

Favourite Music / Band "Moulin Rouge" Soundtrack - last year's Coliban Relay runners will understand.

Favourite TV Show the recently axed "Ally McBeal"

Favourite Night Spot I'm proud to say that I have "not yet" been corrupted by the wicked outside world.

Favourite Holiday Spot Summer - Hindmarsh Island (notorious for "Secret Women's Business Scandal") It has the best beaches and the best water skiing. Winter - Falls Creek.

A Normal Winter Training Week (Competition Week)

- Mon.** am. Rest - Sleep In.
pm. Aths. Training. Track Session:
eg. 3 - 5 x 200 metres.
4 - 5 x 30 m. starts (50 %)
4 - 5 x 30 m. starts (100%)
4 - 5 x 60 m. starts (90%)
2 - 4 x 100 m. run-throughs.
1 x 600 m. steady.
plus
a game of basketball
- Tues.** am. Gym Session (weight training)
pm. Aths. Training.
3 sets of (250 m. + 150 m. + 80 m.)
plus
basketball training
- Wed.** am. Pool Session. eg. 200 m. swim warm-up +
drills + strength + flexibility exercises.
10 x 1 min. hard pool running / 30 secs
recovery between.
Cool-down swim.
pm. Aths. Training.
3 - 4 sets of:
sprint 30 m. / rest 1 min.
sprint 60 m. / rest 90 secs.
sprint 80 m. / rest 2 min.
sprint 100 m. / rest 3 min.
Run 250 m.
- Thur.** am. Gym Session (Weight Training)
pm. Long Run! Between 5 & 8 km. to Eastern
Beach and back **or** Hills Session
- Fri.** Rest Day!!!!
- Sat.** A.V. Winter Season Race.
- Sun.** am. Gym Session (Weights or Pump Class)
pm. Geelong Athletics Cross-Country.

Other Training / Recovery Sessions.

Specific strength and conditioning training (sometimes completed at home)

Favourite Training Session How can you have a favourite session?

Favourite Race 2002 Victorian Championships Under 20 800 metres. It was my first State Title and I won by leading the whole way. I also ran a P.B.

Best Ever Performances As above. Also, 2002 Pacific School Games - my first International Competition where I made the final and ran my previous 800 m. P.B.

Favourite Place To Train There's no place like home - Landy Field.

Toughest Ever Training Session

I don't think I've ever trained hard enough to call a session 'tough'. However, at the "OZ Squad" Training Day we did 2000

metres made up of: 400 fast / 400 slow / 300 fast / 300 slow / 200 fast / 200 slow / 100 fast / 100 slow, then repeat. I couldn't repeat!!! It was the first time I couldn't finish a track session.

Most Admired Runner Georgie Clarke - Someone to aspire to (and she's younger than I am!)

Advice to Other Runners I think I'm too young and inexperienced to give advice to others. Also, my words of wisdom are far too valuable to reveal! However, how about this: "in times of uncertainty and down periods - think positive / remember the good races." Also, when I'm not feeling motivated I remember that someone, somewhere is out training and improving and that I will not become better if I sit on my bum and do nothing. During races I often repeat the affirmation: "pain is temporary, glory is forever" and "second place is the first loser!"

Goals for the Future If you turn on the T.V. and do not see my smiling face, there is something seriously wrong. If I'm not running around on the T.V. at the Olympics hopefully, I'll be telling you about some other chick who is, as a Sports Journalist. There's no getting away from me!

While holidaying / training at Falls Creek over the Christmas holidays, I was fortunate to catch up with Kerryn McCann, Sonia O'Sullivan, Nick Bideau, Chris Wardlaw, and Victor Roethlin / Jirka Arndt for a chat and a coffee. These interviews will appear in the next few newsletters.

First cab off the rank is:

KERRYNN McCANN - AUSTRALIA'S QUEEN OF THE ROADS

Kerryn McCann is Australia's foremost female distance runner with many top class performances at the highest level over a number of years. I was fortunate to catch up with Kerryn between training sessions for a chat at The Milch in Falls Creek.

N.M. Kerryn, you've travelled from your home in Woolongong to Falls Creek again this summer. How many years have you been coming to the Victorian High Country to train over the New Year?

K.M. I first came to Falls Creek in 1996, just before the Atlanta Olympics. I didn't come here in 97 because I was having Benny, but I have been up here every year since then.

N.M. How long will you be staying this time?

K.M. I came up before Christmas for about 9 days, then went home for Christmas, and now I'm back for another two and a half weeks. I have a marathon in Osaka, Japan on the 27th of January so I'll head back home for 10 days to freshen-up.

N.M. Why have you chosen Osaka?

K.M. I've run there in 94 and I wanted to do a marathon early in the year and Osaka is a really fast course. It's also a women only race and I'm keen to have a crack at the Australian Record of 2 hours 23.51 held by Lisa Ondieki. Lisa actually ran her record on that course.

N.M. The lack of time change between Japan and Australia would certainly be a factor in you

choosing Osaka.

K.M. Yes. It's a nine hour flight but there's only a small time zone difference so I don't have to fly over too early. I'm flying over on the Wednesday for a Sunday race. It's much easier than say, flying to London where I would have to arrive three weeks before the race. Current thinking says that you need about one day recovery for each time zone you cross.

N.M. What are the benefits of Falls Creek as far as you're concerned?

K.M. I've run a couple of P.B.'s and an Australian Record for the Half Marathon (67.48) off training up here so it certainly works for me. I think there are a couple of reasons for that. Firstly, I think the altitude has an effect although 'Rab' (Chris Wardlaw) disagrees - he thinks it's more the training effect of a large group training harder. I also think it's the rest that I have up here. Back home I'm working part-time a couple of days plus looking after Benny and Greg and training which all means that I'm tired all the time. However, up here I get lots of rest and just run which means I feel good every session.

N.M. You seem to run very well up here over the challenging terrain. In fact, some of the fast men have great trouble keeping up with you. I remember Ray Boyd in 1999 / 2000 having many interesting duels with you. In the end I think he called a truce at three all.

K.M. Yes, we did have some fun. I always tell him that he should thank me because he ended up running a Sydney Olympic Marathon Qualifier not long after training at Falls Creek. (Ray ran 2 hours 13.26 at the Chicago Marathon in 1999) I reckon he got super-fit up here because I chased him around for a few weeks.

N.M. He claims that he was chasing you!

K.M. Well, I think that we both benefitted.

N.M. This year you should be super rested because you've got your own baby-sitter in Troopy staying with you. In fact, as we speak, Troopy and Benny are enjoying "Shrek" at the Glo Cinema next door.

K.M. Yes, Benny and Troopy are great friends. They play together.

N.M. The plans for the year after the Osaka Marathon?

K.M. Firstly the Commonwealth Games which are in July. I'm not 100% sure but I also think that the World Half Marathon Championships are on in May in Belgium. I last ran the World Half Marathon Championships in 1993 so I'd like to run those again.

N.M. Do you know any of your likely opposition for the Commonwealth Games? Obviously the Kenyan women will be strong.

K.M. Yes, they will but I'll have to wait and see. There's a lot of names that could run but the marathon is such a strange event with injuries ruling people out.

N.M. Do you know anything about the course?

K.M. Nothing at the moment. I'll find out as the Games get closer.

N.M. Your running history. How did your athletic career begin?

K.M. I started running when I was ten years old. Then I won a State Title when I was eleven or twelve. A few years later I won an Australian Cross-Country title at High School when I was 15. Then I gave it away for a few years but when I started running again I slowly improved, eventually turning to the marathon.

N.M. Your coach is Chris Wardlaw. How did you begin working with Chris?

K.M. I actually met Chris at the 94 Commonwealth Games. I

have been working with Chris ever since and have found that my running has improved out of sight under his guidance.

N.M. What changes did Chris make to your training?

K.M. Quite a lot of things. Before I started working with Chris I used to do a lot of 'hell sessions' and was always sick. Chris said that he wanted to look at my diary. Anyway, he found a pattern where I would be racing and training really hard, then I would get sick. This would follow a six week pattern where I'd race or train too hard then I'd come down with flu or bronchitis or tonsillitis. He was very surprised that I had not noticed what was happening but I thought that it was just me. However, when I look back, some of the training sessions I did were just ridiculous. For example, I'd be recovering from some illness then a day later I'd go out and do a really hard track session. I also did things like racing a week after a marathon or racing two half marathons too close together. Basically, my training was not consistent - it was all over the place. When I met Chris everything changed. Firstly, he had me doing the same training every week - fartlek Tuesday, track Thursday, strong run Saturday, and never miss a long run on Sunday. That was my training and I haven't changed it since 1994. I have been so consistent and that's the main reason my running has improved so much.

N.M. And has your general health improved?

K.M. Yes. I hardly ever get sick now.

N.M. Chris coaches you by phone and e-mail.

K.M. Yes. I'm 34 now and I find that I don't need a lot of direct coaching. Every week I e-mail Chris and let him know what I have done during the week. If there is a big race coming up I tend to talk to him a little more.

N.M. One of the benefits of the "Wardlaw System" is that you know what you're doing every session.

K.M. That's right. There's not many surprises, just good, consistent training. I just let Chris know my time for the "Quarters", how far I ran in the fartlek and how I'm feeling.

N.M. When you began with Chris, was the initial training very conservative in regards to mileage and intensity?

K.M. Yes, although the mileage gradually increased but the intensity of my training was so much less than what I was used to doing. In fact, I thought this new training was easier. But early on with Chris I got a bit of a rude shock. I was used to doing 400's at a fast pace but then I'd have a minute recovery. This way I was able to run the whole lot under 70 seconds on a grass track. However, Chris set me a "quarters" session of 8 x 400 metres with a 200 metre 'float' between. I think my first three were under 70 but then I hit a brick wall and was doing something like 85 seconds. I thought, 'what is going on?' But now I can get all my quarters down in the 70's with short recoveries which is much more specific to racing.

N.M. Up in New South Wales do you have many training partners or do you tend to train by yourself?

K.M. A few of my afternoon runs are by myself. There's a couple of guys in Woolongong that I've been training with for years that I run with some mornings. Some of the morning runs are at 6:30 so I can be back in time for work.

N.M. What sort and amount of training are you currently doing?

K.M. I do 180 kilometres a week. I have an easy day Monday and Friday, long run Wednesday and Saturday, fartlek on Tuesday, eight quarters on Thursday and a strong 16 kilometre run on Saturday.

N.M. Which days do you double-up?

K.M. Five days a week. Every day except Monday and Friday. When I double-up I do an easy 8 kilometre run in about 35

minutes.

N.M. Do you do any supplementary training to help you perform at you best?

K.M. Two days a week I meet some guys from the Surf Club to do a circuit. I incorporate it into my 8 kilometre afternoon easy run where we do sit-ups, push-ups, chin-ups, a bit of rowing - just pretty basic stuff.

N.M. I hear that your chin-ups are improving!

K.M. Yes! When I first started the guys had to lift me up onto the bar - and I counted that as 'one'. Then I just hung from the bar as the others did their chin-ups because I couldn't do anymore. Now I do two sets of ten, but I do cheat a little bit because I don't go all the way down.

N.M. Two sets of ten, unassisted? - that's great!

K.M. Yep! Unassisted!

N.M. That's better than the three recorded by a very fine Geelong runner with the initials C.M.

K.M. Well, I figure that I only have to pull up 46 kilos - he's a lot taller than I am and he certainly weighs a lot more.

N.M. So you have him covered in power to weight ratio?

K.M. I think so.

N.M. Do you do core stability work or stretching?

K.M. No, not really. Maybe a little stretching.

N.M. Many marathon runners claim their only stretching is bending over to tie up their shoe laces.

Your lead-up to the Osaka Marathon - have you changed anything or do you have a special session that you add?

K.M. Nothing. I don't want to change anything that has worked well for me in the past. I'm just happy to do what I usually do. If I change it around too much I might get injured or sick. I'm a big believer in just getting the sessions done and using common sense. Hopefully, I can run a little faster in sessions leading up to a big race but that's about all that might change.

N.M. And your taper?

K.M. The same sort of things. Two weeks before I do a two hour run then I ease right back. Then in the last week I do mainly light jogging and rest a lot.

N.M. Your diet. Is there anything special that you eat?

K.M. I eat pretty healthy food all the time but leading up to a race I really concentrate on my eating. During the last month I try to cut out any junk and concentrate on eating really good, low fat food. And then after a marathon I get stuck into the bad foods to see what I'm missing out on - as a sort of reward - strawberries and cream and ice-cream and that sort of stuff. After a race I can put on a couple of kilos very easily but that soon falls off when I start training again.

N.M. You don't have to worry about getting too lean? A lot of runners training as much as you do battle to keep weight on.

K.M. No, not really. I've never really worried about my weight. Somedays I get really hungry so I eat more, and other days, if I'm not so hungry, I eat a little less. I think my body has found its correct running weight.

N.M. Do you take any supplements and do you have regular blood tests?

K.M. Yes, I take Vitamin B, iron and Vitamin C. I usually have blood tests when I'm feeling a bit 'flat' to make sure everything is OK. However, my iron has been good for some time now.

N.M. What do you do after a marathon to

recover?

K.M. I take 6 weeks to recover and to get back up to 180 kilometres per week. After the race I have 4 - 5 days completely off which may not be a good thing but I feel that I have trained so hard that I deserve to have some time to spend with my family. Then, it's just a gradual build-up with me doing my first quality session about 4 weeks after the marathon.

N.M. Since you have been with Chris you have run P.B.'s all the way through from 3 k. to the marathon. Any particular reason why you can race so well over such a wide range?

K.M. Yes, from 3 k. up my P.B.'s have improved dramatically. Maybe having a baby has helped.

N.M. So you're crediting Benny for some of your P.B.'s?

K.M. He's certainly helped.

N.M. Big city marathons versus Championship marathons. Your thoughts on both and do you have a preference?

K.M. I like the big city marathons. They're enjoyable and a bit more relaxed. With the big city marathons the courses are usually faster, they look after you so well and they have pace makers.

But it's hard to compare - they're like cheese and chips. There's the pride of representing your country in the Championships versus the relaxed feeling of almost running for yourself in the big city races.

Also, I've found the Championship marathons, especially the Sydney Olympic Marathon, very stressful because you're representing your country. It was a great honour to run the Sydney Marathon because it was in my home country but in the back of my mind there was a feeling of "what if I stuff it up?" I was just glad that it went pretty well and it was certainly a wonderful experience. For the whole 42.2 kilometres the crowd was yelling for me and even though I was cramping badly towards the end of the race, I'll never forget the roar as I entered the stadium. I can't imagine ever feeling as good as I felt that day with the crowd yelling and screaming. That was definitely the highlight of my running career. Even now, if I watch the video, I get a bit emotional when I see myself running the last few hundred metres.

N.M. You were running on strongly at the finish.

K.M. Yeah, the crowd did that. I was pretty stuffed and cramping badly.

N.M. When did you start to feel not so good?

K.M. Probably about half way. Maybe I didn't have enough to drink.

N.M. Was that when Takahashi started to kick it down a bit?

K.M. Yeah. She put in a bit of a burst and I couldn't go with her. In the end I was pretty happy with 11th but looking back I think I could have done better if I had done things differently. I think I should have drunk more fluids in the days leading up to the race.

N.M. Do you find the men a help or a hindrance in the big city races?

K.M. Sometimes they can be a problem. Not so much in Chicago last year because I was pretty much on my own. In New York I had a few problems clipping runner's heels and missing a few drinks. However, it's also good to tack onto a pack of men and run as a group.

N.M. You mentioned the Chicago Marathon which was a few weeks after the September 11 Terrorist Attack. Did you have any doubts about the race going ahead and how did you stay focused?

K.M. At first we weren't sure what would happen but after we

were told that the race would proceed I just kept away from the papers and T.V. and tried to concentrate on running my best race. As it turned out the race was a fantastic event with record numbers.

N.M. It must have been amazing to compete in Chicago in the World Record race with Catherine Ndereba of Kenya running 2:18.47?

K.M. It was amazing, especially to come third. However, to come third and finish over 7 minutes behind the winner was a little weird. However, she's an amazing runner and there wasn't much I could do - I ran the best race I could.

(Kerryn ran 2:26.04)

N.M. Did you see her at all?

K.M. I saw her for the first mile, then she just took off and was gone!

N.M. What do you like to do when you're not running?

K.M. Not a lot. I love to look after Benny and he certainly keeps me busy. Soon we will be demolishing our house and rebuilding so that should keep me very busy choosing colours and fittings and furniture for the new house. Also, I love my garden, I love to read a good book, I love to cook.....

N.M. Your speciality being.....?

K.M. Any dessert. I love dessert.

N.M. It's funny that runners have a sweet tooth. Kerryn, you're a Mum and work part-time. What is a normal day for you?

K.M. I work two days a week, Monday and Tuesday, at the Commonwealth Bank. I really enjoy my work but it can be a bit hard to fit everything in, what with Benny and training and cleaning and cooking and shopping and paying bills. That's why I think I run so well at Falls Creek - all I have to do is concentrate on running and rest.

N.M. What time do you have your morning run?

K.M. Early. I try to get out early so I can get back and have breakfast with Benny. A lot of the people I train with work so I can get up at 6:30 to train with them or train by myself later in the morning. But I prefer to run with people so I get up early. I have my afternoon run at about 4 o'clock.

N.M. Finally, motherhood and running is a hot topic at the moment with Susie Power absolutely flying after giving birth to baby Jai. You also have reached a new level after giving birth to Benny. What reasons do you think are responsible for this phenomena?

K.M. Everyone asks me this question and I'm not really sure why. I'm not even sure if there's a scientific reason. All I know is that after the Atlanta Olympics I needed a break. I had been doing athletics basically all my life and I needed a rest. I'd wanted to have a baby for a long time and after Atlanta was the ideal time. During my pregnancy I didn't do a lot of running but towards the end of my pregnancy I was really big and I couldn't run and I started to miss the sport. Then, after Benny was born I gradually started running again. I was setting P.B.'s in my sessions. I was now really enjoying my running and feeling relaxed. Benny was far more important to me than running. Sometimes I'd be up all night with Benny, then go out and run a P.B. session the next morning. It's hard to explain things like that. I didn't feel any different to how I felt before I was pregnant. It was just that I was running so much further and my watch was telling me I was running a minute quicker. However, I did lose a bit of weight after having Benny. I was probably two kilograms lighter than ever before so that may have had an effect on my running.

N.M. Sounds like a happy runner makes a good runner.

K.M. Yeah I think so. And just being so much more relaxed about the sport. It just doesn't seem so important any more and so

I tend to enjoy it more.

N.M. Kerryn, thank you very much for your time. I hope you have a great run in Osaka.

K.M. My pleasure, Neil.

Note: Kerryn boosted her Commonwealth Games medal claims when she finished 4th in the Osaka International Marathon on Sunday the 27th of January. Kerryn was 10th at half-way and finished strongly in her third best time of 2 hrs 28 mins 30 secs, despite a recent illness. The race was won by Lornah Kiplagat of Kenya in 2:23.55. At the World Half Marathon Championships in Brussels on Sunday 5th May, Kerryn finished 11th in 1:09.47, just 41 seconds behind the winner, Berhane Abere of Ethiopia.

RUNNER PROFILE

Kerryn McCann

Occupation Business Banking Assistant with the Commonwealth Bank

Age 34

Date of Birth 2 / 5 / 67

Height 162 cm. **Weight** 46 kg.

Married / Single Married 10 years to Greg.

One child - Benton (4 years old).

Coach Chris Wardlaw

Personal Bests

1500m.	4.22
3000m.	8.50
5000m.	15.08
10000m.	31.55
Half Marathon	67.48
Marathon	2:25.59

Favourite Food Sticky Date Pudding / Desserts

Food Eaten Before a Race Toast and honey or jam

Favourite Drink Cup of Tea

Favourite Movie nothing stands out.

Favourite Book all Bryce Courtenay's books.

Favourite Music / Band "Super Jesus"

Favourite TV Show "Friends", "Malcolm in the Middle."

Favourite Night Spot too old!!!

Favourite Holiday Spot Noosa

A Normal Training Week.

Mon. am. 16 km. easy.

Tues. am. Fartlek Session. 16 km. total.
pm. 8 km. easy

Wed. am. 25 km. easy.
pm. 8 km. easy + exercises.

Thur. am. "Quarters" 8 x 400 metres with 200
metre 'float'. 16 km. total.
pm. 8 km. easy.

Fri. am. 16 km. easy + exercises.

Sat. am. 16 km. strong tempo run.

pm. 8 km. easy.

Sun. am. 35 km. easy
pm. 8 km. easy.

Total - 180 km. per week.

Two Week Taper Before Marathon

Sun. am. 2 hours easy
pm. 35 mins easy.

Mon. am. 60 mins easy.

Tues. am. 20 mins warm-up / Fartlek / 20 mins warm-down
pm. 35 mins easy

Wed. am. 80 mins easy.

Thur. am. 20 mins warm-up / 6 x 400 metres / 20 mins
warm-down
pm. 35 mins easy.

Fri. am. 50 mins easy.

Sat. am. 20 mins warm-up / 15 - 20 mins 'effort' / 20 mins warm-down.
pm. 35 mins easy.

Sun. am. 80 mins easy
pm. 35 mins easy.

Mon. am. 50 mins easy.

Tues. am. 20 mins warm-up / Fartlek - 2 x 90 sec, 2 x 60 sec, 2 x 30 sec, 2 x 15 sec / 20 mins warm-down
pm. 25 mins easy

Wed. am. 60 mins easy.

Thur. am. 20 mins warm-up / 6 x strides / 20 mins warm-down
pm. 25 mins easy.

Fri. am. 30 mins easy.

Sat. am. 30 mins easy.

Sun. **MARATHON**

Other Training / Recovery Sessions.

Massage / twice weekly exercises.

Favourite Training Session Saturday's strong tempo run.

Best Ever Performances 2000 Tokyo Half Marathon (Australian Record 67.48 - 3rd place),

11th in the Sydney Olympic Marathon,

3rd in the 2001 Chicago Marathon and in 2000 running

15.08 to break the Australian 5000 metre Record.

Favourite Place To Train Falls Creek.

Toughest Ever Training Session running up Mount Bogong in 1996. The whole session took 3 hours.

Most Admired Runner / Person Steve Moneghetti, Catherine Ndereba.

Advice to Other Runners "Be patient, don't overdo the training, enjoy the sport."

Goals for the Future to break the Australian Record for the marathon. Commonwealth Games this year and Athens Olympic Games in 2004. Another baby next year.

Anything else??? I have run 15.26 on grass for my Thursday "Quarters" session.

FLEMINGTON ROAD RACE (Saturday May 18)

1:30 pm.	Women Under 14	3 km.
	Women Under 16	3 km.
	Men Under 14	3 km.
	Men Under 16	3 km.
2:00 pm.	Women Open	10 km.
	Women Under 18	10 km.
	Women Under 20	10 km.
	Men Under 18	10 km.
	Men Under 20	10 km.
3:00 pm.	Men Open	10 km.

DON'T MISS THIS EVENING!

COMMONWEALTH GAMES MARATHON / TRIVIA NIGHT

Put **Sunday 28th July**
(starting at 5:00 pm.)

in your diary now
as this will be a fantastic night.

Come along to Buckley's to see
Troopy run the Commonwealth
Games Marathon on a big screen
(he's even promised to give
us all a wave!)

A delicious meal will also
be provided.

But wait, there's more!

The marathon will be followed
by a fantastic Trivia Night with
wonderful prizes galore so start
planning your table of 6 - 8 now.

More details at a later date.

Don't forget!
Sunday 28th July

**FINALLY, THANK YOU
TO THE FOLLOWING FOR
THEIR FANTASTIC SUPPORT
OF THE GEELONG REGION
CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM**

**BUCKLEY'S GAMING
CENTRE**

**GEELONG
PHYSIOTHERAPY
CENTRES**

**TONY STEWART AND
"THE ATHLETE'S FOOT"**

**CRICHTON COLLINS AND
THE
"PAKINGTON BAKERY"**

SUBWAY

REILLY'S U-DRIVE

**TONY KELLY AND
"THE BUSH INN HOTEL"**

**GEELONG
ATHLETICS INC.**