

UP-FRONT

Editorial

By: Bryan Mayall

Welcome to the second summer edition of our Up Front for the 2015-16 season. Our Track and Field season is well and truly under way. Well done to our small team who recently competed at Oceania Masters Champs at Rarotonga. Another big year for our Masters with the WMA Champs in Perth next October a big focus.

Well done to our victorious All Blacks for winning back to back R.W.Cups. What an inspiration to see their reward for all their commitment in getting the job done. Sadly we had to say farewell to our captain fantastic Ritchie McCaw who has finally called it a day on a great and wonderful career. Also on that note, we said our farewell to another of our All Black great, Jonah Lomu, who sadly passed away recently.

We also said farewell to Murray Savage in Tauranga recently who passed away after a brief illness. Lastly we have had to say goodbye to our friend and fellow athlete Bruce Clarke who passed away Sunday after a tragic shot put accident at Auckland Friday 27 November.

In conclusion all the very best to all our athletes for the remainder of the 2015-16 season. Finally thanks to all my contributors who have made this edition possible and a very Merry Christmas to all from the Up Front team.

Coming events 2016
January 16 -17 WBOP Masters Champs Tauranga

January 24 – AMA Meeting Two at Mount Smart

February 27-29 NZMA T & F Champs Dunedin

March 13 WBOP Trophy Day Porritt Stadium.

March 20 AMA Meeting Three at Mount Smart

 For further details on AMA events go to www.ama.org.nz
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Subscription Reminder

Subscriptions are now due for the 2015/2016 season. For those members unpaid and wishing to remain members, please send your subscription of \$60 to our Membership Secretary Judy Chandler.

For those unpaid, we would like to remind you that it is Vetline policy to purge the polls in December. From that point only financial members will remain on the mailing list.

Snippets

Our dear friend and well respected ex fellow athlete and WBOP Life Member Fred Copeman is now living in a rest home in a Omakaroa Rest Home.

His address is Acacia Rest Home, 134 Hamurana Road Omakaroa. His phone number is 075480135. He is doing okay and would love to hear from any of his friends.

Presidents Report Murray Clarkson

I write this report having recently heard of the passing of Bruce Clarke after a tragic accidental event. Our thoughts and support are with the Clarke Family.

Warm-up Meetings. The two meetings at Porritt were notable for the presence of some new faces that were keen to compete. Both events were held on fine days and those participating had their usual camaraderie and competition. A notable feature was a "Family" participation of the Sinclair family in the 2000m showing that everyone is welcome to compete.

The North Island Champs was an example of an event taking place in difficult circumstances with inadequate equipment and Officials. This was not helped by the unfortunate accident prior to the start of the event proper. As investigations and reports are ongoing on this it is inappropriate for me to comment at this stage. Our athletes performed well against a disappointing entry list.

Rarotonga – As you will read in Bruce Solomon's report, a group from our centre attended this event and was successful with titles and placings. Being retired, we had the luxury of spending a further 10 Days in Rarotonga and enjoyed a spell of fine weather, albeit a little windy. We got to know the staff of our resort (Club Raro) and the local athletic community and were looked after. We would recommend a day trip to Atutaki if you have the time as although slightly commercialized, is great value as a one-off experience. We would also recommend the Snorkeling at Muri Beach. Pristine clear water and warm weather. A fun trip all round.

The Oceania Throws competition was a great success at Edgecumbe College and Rene Otto is doing a great job in fostering throwing events at the school. We look forward to following up at the same venue next year. A new member signed up at this event – encouraging sign.

We have our WBOP champs coming up on 16/17 January in Tauranga and the programme is now on the website. We encourage all to take part in this event along with the pre-Nationals event on 14 Feb. The Nationals are being held in Dunedin which is a long haul for us. The controversial Partnership Agreement is to be tabled at this meeting and we encourage you to make sure your views are expressed to me or a committee member.

Merry Christmas and an injury free year to all those members and their families that I will not have the chance to see prior to Christmas. Remember that fitness lost takes twice as long to regain. Take care.

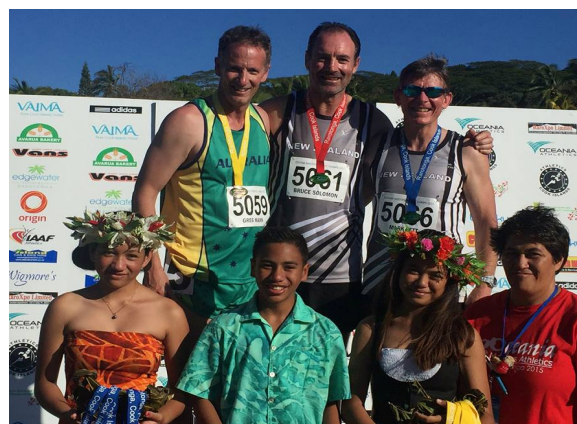
Oceania Championships Rarotonga 5-10 October 2015 Bruce Solomon

Around 270 athletes competed in the highly successful 2015 OMA Championships held at the National Stadium in Rarotonga. New Zealand had a total of 106 (46F & 60M) athletes competing. 25 Championship records were set, and complete results are provided under the Results web page.

<http://www.oceaniamastersathletics.org/pdfs/results/champs/updated%202015%20OMA%20championship%20results.pdf>



Eric de Lautour competing at Rarotonga



Bruce Solomon surrounded by some of the locals

The **Clem Green Trophy** awarded to the best performance in a 1500m (based on age-graded percentage) was won by New Zealand's **M95 Eric de Lautour**. with an age-graded percentage of **88.16%**.

What can one say about travelling to a beautiful Island, not only to compete against fellow Masters Athletes, but also to have time out to explore the main Cook Island Rarotonga.



Like most travel arrangements go, this trip wasn't without its hic-cups. Firstly there was a three hour flight delay leaving Auckland (which meant we arrived at Rarotonga at 3am), reducing sleep time before the 60m Heats which started at 11am the same morning.

Personally I didn't plan too well. My thoughts were to explore the Island each morning, and compete in my Sprint events scheduled for each afternoon. Very rarely do we have heats, but there were only six lanes at the track, so every one of my Sprints had a Heat scheduled for around 10am. Never mind, the rewards were well received from the lovely Island folk who presented the medals.

I only arrived on the Tuesday morning and the day was very windy. Speaking to other athletes who arrived days earlier, the wind had been consistent for the past few days. Wednesday and Thursday the wind dropped completely, and we had steady soaking rains, and finally, Friday full sunshine and a perfect, very hot and humid day. This worked out well for me personally as the 400m went straight to a final, and I had my first morning off, so beach exploring was much appreciated.

Waikato BOP Masters Athletes – Medal winners:

MALE

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
M51 Brendan Magill	400LH, TJ, 3kStep		800m
M52 Bruce Solomon	200m, 400m, Pent	60m, 100m, SP	
M60 Barry Watson	Half Marathon	2kStep	
M60 Peter Ayson	100m, 200m, 400m		800m
M66 Graeme Adams			2kStep
M68 Murray Clarkson	1500m	800m	8000m
M72 Ron Price			Half Marathon
M77 Stewart Foster	300LH		60m, 100m, 200m
M85 Hector Mein	HJ, WT, Pent	60m, 100m, LJ	
M95 Eric de Lautour	800m (R), 100m (R), 400m, 1500m		

FEMALE

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
W46 Brenda Davis	JT, SP	WT, HT, DT	
W65 Evelyn King	Half Marathon		8000m
W66 Barbara Allen			800m
W68 Sheryl Gower	200m, 400m	60m	
W50 Linda Reynolds		400m, 800m, 2kStep, 1500m, Half Marathon	



A very happy looking New Zealand team



Bruce Solomon in full flight



Murray Clarkson leading the way

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Oceania Throws Pentathlon Challenge September 27 Bruce Clarke

The very popular annual event is a postal result competition between throwers in New Zealand and Australia. Each country conducts its own provincial competition and all the results are collated together. 35 men and 25 women participated.

Overall highest points scorer in the men was Ron Johnson (80) Auckland 3410 pts. Best WBOP thrower was Bruce Solomon (50) 2550 pts, 13th overall

Overall highest points scorer in the women was Helen Searle (75) Queensland 4436 pts. Best WBOP thrower was Bev Savage (65) 3257 pts, 4th overall.

The WBOP Centre held its competition in Sept. at the Edgecumbe College Sports Academy. As usual Rene Otto was the perfect host and convenor. Thanks Rene, it was a wonderful day and those BBQ sausages and food and drink at the end were great. A big thank you to those really fine students that helped with the officiating duties etc, also Murray, Fay and others.

Final Results

WBOP entries Men:	Hammer	Shot	Discus	Jav	Weight	
David Couper (35	35.07	10.86	25.97	42.21	11.24	2420 pts
Ian Clarke (45)	26.73	8.14	25.8	33.6	8.67	2252 pts
Rene Otto (45)	34.71	9.72	0	19.15	9.47	1855 pts
Bruce Solomon (50)	26.01	11.11	34.19	37.47	9.01	2550 pts
Brendan Magill (50)	0	6.66	19.71	30.51	5.68	1262 pts
Bruce Clarke (7	21.31	6.84	22.00	18.00	9.73	2307 pts
Ray Laurie (80)	22.36	5.98	16.08	13.65	8.03	2118 pts
Hector Mein (85)	16.77	5.92	12.45	14.09	7.2	2139 pts

Women:

Althea Vercoe (40)	22.03	5.17	15.68	11.36	6.11	1379 pts
Brenda Davis (45)	34.38	9.86	27.12	22.13	10.95	3134 pts
Bev Savage (65)	27.62	7.77	20.59	12.74	10.44	3257 pts
Marion Clarke (70)	16.07	4.35	9.61	7.99	5.67	1806 pts
Jill Sherburn (75)	18.36	6.81	13.79	14.24	7.47	2786 pts

OVERALL PLACINGS Men: Pts Age Grade place Overall Place

Bruce Solomon (50)	2550 pts	2 nd	13 th / 34
David Couper (35)	2420 pts	2 nd	16 th / 34
Bruce Clarke (75)	2307 pts	3 rd	18 th / 34
Ian Clarke (45)	2252 pts	1 st	20 th / 34
Hector Mein (85)	2139 pts	1 st	22 nd / 34
Ray Laurie (80)	2118 pts	3 rd	23 rd / 34
Rene Otto (45)	1855 pts	2 nd	27 th / 34
Brendan Magill (50)	1262 pts	5 th	34 th / 34

Women:

Bev Savage (65)	3257 pts	1 st	4 th / 25
Brenda Davis (45)	3134 pts	3 rd	5 th / 25
Jill Sherburn (75)	2786 pts	2 nd	7 th / 25
Marion Clarke (70)	1806 pts	6 th	24 th / 25
Althea Vercoe (40)	1379 pts	1 st	25 th / 25

Feature: Althea Vercoe (40) and Jill Sherburn (75) having their first attempts at a throws pentathlon. An outstanding effort.


Jill Sherburn in action

A happy group of Throwers
WBOP Masters Warm Up Meeting 25 October Judy Chandler

Our Summer track season is off to a fine start with our first track and field meeting. It was the Sunday in Labour Weekend holiday so we were unsure just how many folk would join in. We had at least 25 competitors so we were thrilled with that, great weather too. Plenty of race distances to have a try at, seven track race distances from 60m to 2000m, all hand timed and five throwing events to keep folk busy.

Bruce Solomon and Darryl Conn were busy busy each competing in eight events. Our President Murray Clarkson also busy racing in six events.

A big welcome to newcomers on the day, Marie Claire Lepina, Eileen Mullen, Daniel Mullen and newest member Craig Sinclair. Craig was first home in the 800m, 1500m, and 2000m. Marie Claire was busy with three track races and three throws. Eileen and Daniel trying out the throwing events.

Auckland Masters Athletes Laine Inivale, Brodie Inivale Fuzzy Maiava and Tuariki Delamare here especially for the throwing events. Great to have them all here again. A surprise and real treat to see Ann Harris competing in her special event the 800m finishing in 3.08.00. Well done Ann, back on track after some time away, we look forward to more. Mark Henderson too, back in form after an injury problem last season.


Julia Lile, Daryl Conn, Murray Clarkson, Bruce Solomon and Stephen Burden

Firstly the Men's 60m sprint won by Bruce Solomon (M50) 7.60. Stephen Burden (M50) in 8.0. The 100m – Bruce Solomon 12.10 closely followed by Stephen Burden in 12.60. 9.0. Bruce Solomon 150m in 18.50. 200m Bruce Solomon 25.70. The 400m Bruce Solomon 67.90 and Mark Henderson (M50) 70.10. The men's 50 age group very well represented. The 800m with five competitors won by new member Craig Sinclair (M45) 2.35.00 from Ian Clarke (M45) 2.37.00. Craig also won the 1500m in 5.27.00 and the 2000m in 7.48.00. Julia Lile (W50) won the 60m 8.30, 100m 13.40 and 200m 28.30, a great start to the season for Julia. Marcia Petley (W85) the sole entrant in the 150m 37.09. The 400m Sheryl Gower (W65) 88.00 and Joan Mayall (W70) 113.00. Ann Harris (W40) 800m in 3.08.00

Was very special for me to see Craig Sinclair competing. Last time I saw him he was a pupil at Hillcrest Normal School when I was a teacher aid there in the 70s and 80s.

Many thanks to all helping out on the day. Bryan Mayall our announcer, Jeanette Vedder-Price time keeper, and Marion Clarke time keeping and recording for us as well. Thank you to everyone for bringing the delicious food for afternoon tea.

Throws Report Bruce Clarke

Ray Laurie (80) Tauranga, Brenda Davis (45) Whakatane, Bruce Solomon (50) Tauranga, Brodie Inivale (35), Laini Inivale (45), Fuzzy Maiava (50), Tuariki Delamare (60) all from Auckland, were a welcome boost to local numbers.

Such was the enthusiasm and camaraderie amongst the throwers everyone vowed to return to warm-up meet two on November 22nd. Overall there were five female and 15 male throwers.

There were three new "Have a Go Throwers"

Marie-Claire Lepina (W40), Eileen Mullen (W55), Daniel Mullen (M30)

WBOP Masters Warm Up Meeting 22 November Judy Chandler



Our second meeting went really well with interesting weather, lovely and fine after a wet Saturday, but such a wind! Nearly was blown over twice and one gust blew the 'one lap to go' bell right off the table by the finish.. As at our last meeting, we had eight different race distances to choose from..

Not quite so many competitors as last meeting. We were delighted to have Linda Scott a new masters member from Northland here for the day, Fiona Sinclair our newest new member and Peter and Kirstin Bosch. Down from Auckland came Laini Inivale, Dave McMillan and Sam Pou, here for the throws, they always make our day special.

Peter Bosch, Craig Sinclair, Joseph Price, Paul Daborn

Exciting finishing in the 60m and 100m from Paul Daborn (50) and new member Joseph Price (45) from Tauranga crossing the line together. Paul 7.9 and 12.5 and Joseph .8 and 12.8. Linda Scott (40) first home in the 60m in 10.3 from Sheryl Gower (W65) 10.6. Kirstin Bosch (40) 11.0 and Gail Dryland (65) 13.4. Women's 100m Sheryl Gower (65) 16.2, Linda Scott 17.2 (40) and Fiona Sinclair (40) 19.0

The 150m - Paul Daborn (50) 18.7 from William Sinclair 19.7, Mark Henderson (50) 20.1, Peter Bosch (30) 21.7 and Craig Sinclair (45) 22.8.



The 200m - Sheryl Gower (65) 38.2, Joan Mayall (70) 44.0. Men's 200m won by Paul Daborn (50) 26.8 from Ian Clarke (45) 28.5. Craig Sinclair (45) 31.5.

400m - Won by Ian Clarke (45) in 67.4, Mark Henderson (50) 71.8, Craig Sinclair (45) 73.7, Peter Bosch (30) 75.0 and Murray Clarkson (65) 76.7. Fiona Sinclair (40) won the women's 400m in 1.46.4, Joan Mayall (70) 1.53.4 and Gail Dryland (65) 2.22.5. Then after these 400m races were finished we had a Sinclair family special 400m for the last race of the day.

800m. Only two in men's 800m Peter Bosch (30) 2.46 and Murray Clarkson (65) 6.03. Kirstin Bosch (40) first home for the women in 3.37 from Joan Mayall (70) 4.11 and Gail Dryland (65) 5.34. 1500m women Kirstin Bosch (40) first home again in 7.59 Fiona Sinclair (40) second in 8.15. Craig Sinclair (45) won the men's 1500m 5.18, Murray Clarkson (65) 6.03 Peter Bosch (30) 6.06.

Linda Scott, Sheryl Gower, Kirsten Bosch

The 2000m was a remarkable race, a first time total Sinclair family race. With Daniel 7.46; Craig (Dad) 7.55; Ruby 8.32; Matthew 9.21; David 10.6 and Fiona (mum) 12.52. What fun to watch.

Four competitors enjoyed the long jump, Peter Bosch (30) 4.66m, Joseph Price (45) 4.49, Mark Henderson (50) 3.94 and Craig Sinclair (45) 3.91.

We all enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea and I think nearly everyone stayed on for that. Thank you so much to all our helpers, Bryan our announcer and timekeeping team Marion and Jeanette and all the field event helpers, Marion also racing over to help with the long jump in between her timekeeping and recording and Craig Wilson not competing this time but helping out everywhere.

Throws Report Bruce Clarke

Twelve throwers participated as against twenty entrants in round one. A weekend of inclement weather was possibly the reason of the downturn in numbers.

There were three women throwers, two local regulars, Sheryl Gower (68) Gail Dryland (65) and newcomer Linda Scott (44). Linda quickly learned the art of throwing the Javelin for the first time in her life with a very creditable 15.49m throw as with the Weight Throw 8.03m and a superb 23.59m Discus.

Best male throwers on the day were Hamilton's Kevin Bradley (70) Weight Throw 15.29m, Hammer 30.86m . Ian Clarke (45) Javelin 35.59m.

Auckland's Laini Inivale (48) Shot 12.9m, Discus 31.85m

All throwers are looking forward to competing at the North Island Masters Champs 27-29 Nov. at Mount Smart

For full set of results see insert page

Marcia Petley's Next Magazine Woman of The Year Award

Bryan Mayall

Congratulations to Marcia for being awarded the Next Woman of the Year Award in the Sport Category on 8 October this year.

This is what the Judges had to say about Marcia.

"Marcia has rewritten the book on the importance of keeping active in latter years. Nothing stands between this amazing woman and success. The saying is that Life is a marathon not a sprint. Marcia is in the lead"



Tribute to Bruce Clarke

Bryan Mayall



Bruce sadly passed away on Sunday 6 December 2015 after a tragic accident on Friday 27 November at Mount Smart Auckland. We all said goodbye last Friday in a wonderful send off at Seddon Park Funeral Home. It was truly a privilege to be there and hear the many wonderful tributes and stories about our Brucie.

My memories of Bruce in Masters Athletics go back over 20 years and have memories of competing against him. Bruce was a very competitive competitor and very supportive and encourager of fellow athletes. Bruce also was very passionate about his sport at all levels. Bruce became involved with Masters Athletics (then called Veteran Athletics) around the mid 80's

Bruce was a valued committee member of the WBOP Masters Athletics for many years and also heavily involved

along with Stewart Foster with the organisation of the annual Porritt Classic over many years.

Bruce was well remembered for his involvement in many volunteer organisations . He commenced his involvement with the Waikato Winter Show as a member and steward in 1954. He held a variety of positions including a committee member for 40 years. He also held the position of President in two terms and now a life member and patron.

Bruce also was captain of the Hamilton Boy's Brigade from 1964 to 1989.



Bruce also was manager of the Frankton Rugby Club Senior teams in 1999 -2004 He became manager of Hamilton Peace Cup Teams 2002-2004.

This is what Bernie Amundsen Senior Coach said " Bruce was totally reliable, articulate, well organised and well respected. He was a key part of the team and a great contributor."

In December 2012 Bruce was awarded a Hamilton City Council Civic Award.

Lastly Bruce joined the Lodge Frankton Athletic and Harrier Club in 1986. In 2006 he became President of the Club after serving as a committee member for many years.

In 2010 he was elected a life member of the club.

Bruce was absolutely committed and passionate to his Lodge Frankton Club.

Bruce you were truly a Rock Star in all respects and will be sorely missed.

Tribute to Murray Savage

Ray Laurie

The 2015/2016 season will never be forgotten. It will not be for the athletic achievements of our athletes, but for the flood of bereavements that have befallen several of our members, namely Hector Mein, Bev Savage, and Marion Clarke who are now without their spouse. One positive, has been for the way so many of our members have shown their support and sympathy.

Although our current members will no doubt appreciate the contributions that Bruce Clarke has made towards our enjoyment of athletics, the more recent members of Waikato/BOP Masters Athletics, would be unlikely to be aware that the personable gentleman accompanying Bev Savage to our competitions, has also been an outstanding athlete, official, coach and administrator.

As a senior athlete, Murray was a member of the Hawera club and competed in national sprint events as a provincial representative and along with Beverly, also competed widely overseas. He was mentioned in Arthur Grayburn's "History of New Zealand Veteran Athletics" as a prominent athlete returning to athletics when the new Veteran's section was started. However this activity was short lived as an unfortunate accident damaged his knee and his ability to continue as a competitor.

Having moved to the Waikato and the Frankton Club, and no doubt, due to Bev's prowess as a thrower, Murray continued to have more than a passing interest in athletics. Thus he was able to use this knowledge as a "starter", a coach from children through to masters athletes and the disabled, then later extending this to committee activity and ultimately to the pinnacle as President of Waikato Masters Athletics for a few years in the early 90's.

Thanks Murray for the contribution you made to the sport of Athletics for all these years you were involved.

North Island Masters Athletic Champs Auckland 27-29 November Julia Lile

Auckland Masters Athletics hosted the 2015 North Island Masters Athletics Champs at Mount Smart Stadium. Auckland put on a great weekend with many North Island championship records broken along the way.

On a sad note, the start to the weekend did not go well at all. Bruce Clarke, Frankton Athletics Club President, was involved in an unfortunate accident while warming up for the shot put on Friday night. Tragically Bruce's injuries were too severe and he passed away on the 6 December. Our sincere condolences go out to the Clarke family and friends, we will all miss his enthusiasm and expertise in things athletics. RIP Bruce.

Friday night was a little wet but the athletes boxed on, Saturday dawned with mixed weather, however by lunchtime the skies cleared and the sun came out. Sunday was perfect, with ideal conditions for good performances. As always the Waikato Bay of Plenty team punched well above the rest.

North Island records achieved by WBOP members as follows -

60m: Bruce Solomon M50 7.48, and Hector Mein M85 14.01. Sheryl Gower and Julia Lile had times that surpassed the NI records but unfortunately the wind readings were 2.9 and 2.3 respectively.

3000m: Steeplechase M45 Craig Sinclair 12:40.53.

10,000m: walk M55 Mark Gray 1:08.49.4.

Long Jump: Hector Mein M85 2.23m

Triple Jump: Stephen Burden M55 11.03m (his winning jump was 11.34 but the wind was over the limit at 2.4). Hector Mein M85 again with a jump of 3.60m.

High Jump: Hector Mein M85 secured a North Island best performance of 0.90m

Javelin: Veronica Romagnoli W45 threw 27.39m

For the full results refer to the NZ Masters website www.nzmastersathletics.org.nz or Auckland Masters www.ama.org.nz

Thanks to Auckland Masters for putting on a great weekend at a wonderful venue.

Membership Update**Judy Chandler**

A big welcome to our new Masters Athletics members for this year. Evelyn King (W65), Joseph Price (M45), Althea Vercoe (W40), Craig Sinclair (M45) and Fiona Sinclair (W40). Also welcome back to Tulip McRoy (W65) and Liam Killalea (M60). Wishing you all the very best.

Our WBOP membership is 67.

