

## BILL McKINNA

*The following research was done in early 2004 when the daughter of the late Bill McKinna requested some information on his career. It illustrates the various sources available to a researcher and the sometimes difficult task of getting the required information to put a full resume together.*

Athletics Victoria records shows that Bill McKinna walked in a number of Victorian Track Walk Championships as follows

- 1932 - 1 Mile Walk (Footscray)
- 1933 - 1 Mile Walk (Footscray)
- 1947 - 1 and 3 Mile Walks (Glenhuntly)
- 1948 - 1 and 3 Mile Walks (Glenhuntly)
- 1949 - 2 Mile Walk (this had replaced the 2 separate walk titles of previous years) (Glenhuntly)

Footscray Harriers shut up shop some 10 years ago but Glenhuntly is still going strong and remains one of our top athletics clubs. It has its home ground in South Rd. Murrumbeena.

He probably also walked in the Victorian Roadwalk championships during those same years but my records only show the first 3 places in such events and Bill does not feature as a medalist. These events would have included

- Victorian 5 Mile Title (Eventually replaced by a 10 km title in 1946)
- Victorian 10 Mile Championship
- Victorian 50 km Championship

The Victorian track results are as follows

### VICTORIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1932 (held in 1931), Amateur Sports Ground

#### 1 MILE WALK (19 Dec)

- |     |                  |                  |          |
|-----|------------------|------------------|----------|
| 1.  | Bert Gardiner    | Moreland         | 6.45.0   |
| 2.  | Jack Cummins     | Moreland         | 20 yards |
| 3.  | Joe Mulcahy      | Malvern          | 15 yards |
| 4.  | V.Jones          | Coburg           |          |
| 5.  | J.Lockett        | Middle Park      |          |
| 6.  | L.Wright         | SSH              |          |
| 7.  | Robert Osborne   | SSH              |          |
| 8.  | F.McGuire        | Collingwood      |          |
| 9.  | G.Solomon        | Moreland         |          |
| 10. | C.Coghill        | EMH              |          |
| 11. | H.Coffey         | EMH              |          |
| 12. | George Isbister  | Footscray        |          |
| 13. | G.Miller         | Hawthorn         |          |
| 14. | Jack Pretty      | Footscray        |          |
| 15. | <b>W.McKinna</b> | <b>Footscray</b> |          |
| 16. | L.Guy            | VRI              |          |
| 17. | Ron McDonald     | Melbourne        |          |
| 18. | Francis Scully   | St.Joseph        |          |

### VICTORIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1933, Amateur Sports Ground

#### 1 MILE WALK (25 Feb)

- |     |                  |                  |          |
|-----|------------------|------------------|----------|
| 1.  | William Marsden  | Sandringham      | 6.46.8   |
| 2.  | Bert Gardiner    | Moreland         | 12 yards |
| 3.  | Jack Cummins     | Moreland         | 15 yards |
| 4.  | George Isbister  | Footscray        |          |
| 5.  | Joe Mulcahy      | Malvern          |          |
| 6.  | G.Northcott      | Malvern          |          |
| 7.  | Francis Scully   | St.Joseph        |          |
| 8.  | G.Delaney        | Moreland         |          |
| 9.  | J.Cooper         | Essendon         |          |
| 10. | Robert Osborne   | SSH              |          |
| 11. | F.Oke            | Ivanhoe          |          |
| 12. | V.Jones          | Coburg           |          |
| 13. | <b>W.McKinna</b> | <b>Footscray</b> |          |

14. Jack Pretty	Footscray
15. Joseph O'Farrell	St.Joseph
16. Jack Coffey	EMH
17. C.Shanahan	Carlton

### VICTORIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1947, Olympic Park

#### 1 MILE WALK (15 Feb)

1. George Knott	Collingwood	6.41.0
2. Alan Reid	Footscray	
3. James Pettigrove	Coburg	
4. Richard Coyle	MHSOB	
5. Ray Smith	Coburg	
6. G.Williams	Geelong G	
7. F.McGuire	Chelsea	
8. R.Field	SSH	
9. Gus Theobald	Glenhuntly	
10. <b>W.McKinna</b>	<b>Glenhuntly</b>	
11. W.Knott	Sth.Melb.	
12. G.White	SSH	
13. R.Dunning	Power House	
14. J.Clay	Sandringham	
15. M.Petherick	St.Marks	
16. B.Blakey	Glenhuntly	
17. H.Munro	St.Marks	
18. Len Hickey	Melbourne	
19. William Medcalf	Collingwood	

#### 3 MILES WALK (8 Feb)

1. Richard Coyle	MHSOB	21.30.0
2. Alan Reid	Footscray	
3. George Knott	Collingwood	
4. Gordon Stanley	Malvern	
5. F.McGuire	Chelsea	
6. H.Munro	St.Marks	
7. B.Blakey	Glenhuntly	
8. M.Petherick	St.Marks	
9. W.Knott	Sth.Melb.	
10. <b>W.McKinna</b>	<b>Glenhuntly</b>	
11. Gus Theobald	Glenhuntly	
12. R.Dunning	Power House	
13. James Pettigrove	Coburg	
14. K.McPhail	Old Xaverians	
15. William Medcalf	Collingwood	

### VICTORIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1948, Olympic Park

#### 1 MILE WALK (31 Jan)

1. George Knott	Collingwood	6.23.2
2. Richard Coyle	Melbourne	25 yards
3. Ted Allsopp	Williamstown	15 yards
4. Alan Reid	Footscray	
5. R.Dunning	Power House	
6. Cliff Barling	Williamstown	
7. Gus Theobald	Glenhuntly	
8. Ray Goulding	YMCA	
9. <b>W.McKinna</b>	<b>Glenhuntly</b>	
10. Ray Smith	Coburg	
11. William Medcalfe	Collingwood	
12. W.Knott	Sth.Melb.	
13. E.Ryall	Coburg	
14. V.Mead	Carlton	
15. James Pettigrove	Coburg	
16. B.Thomson	Old Xaverians	
17. M.Petherick	St.Marks	

18. A.Barling	Williamstown
19. R.Field	SSH
20. Norm Goble	Collingwood
21. J.Clay	Sandringham
22. Frank McGuire	Chelsea
23. C.Lowe	Geelong G

#### 3 MILES WALK (17 Jan)

1. George Knott	Collingwood	21.32.6
2. Richard Coyle	Melbourne	
3. Alan Reid	Footscray	
4. Ted Allsopp	Williamstown	
5. William Medcalfe	Collingwood	
6. Ray Goulding	YMCA	
7. B.Thomson	Old Xaverians	
8. Frank McGuire	Chelsea	
9. M.Petherick	St.Marks	
10. A.Phillpott	St.Marks	
11. W.Knott	Sth.Melb.	
12. E.Ryall	Coburg	
13. Cliff Barling	Williamstown	
14. R.Billings	Collingwood	
15. R.Field	SSH	
16. Gus Theobald	Glenhuntly	
17. Norm Goble	Collingwood	
18. Ray Smith	Coburg	
19. <b>W.McKinna</b>	<b>Glenhuntly</b>	
20. James Pettigrove	Coburg	
21. Don Keane	West Aust.	
22. H.Munro	St.Marks	

#### VICTORIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1949, St Kilda Cricket Ground

#### 2 MILES WALK (29 Jan)

1. Len Hickey	Melbourne	14.28.0
2. Ted Allsopp	Williamstown	14.56.0
3. Ray Smith	Coburg	15.02.0
4. Ray Goulding	YMCA	15.09.0
5. Cliff Barling	Williamstown	15.47.0
6. George Williams	Geelong G	15.54.0
7. William Grandy	Coburg	16.09.0
8. R.Billing	Collingwood	16.11.0
9. Frank McGuire	Chelsea	
10. J.Wallace	Geelong G	
11. W.Knott	Sth.Melb	
12. <b>W.McKinna</b>	<b>Glenhuntly</b>	
13. Gus Theobald	Glenhuntly	
14. John Freeman	YCW	
15. R.Grace	Old Xaverians	
16. B.Thomson	Old Xaverians	
17. Ian Marx	Essendon	
18. Norm Goble	Collingwood	
19. Richard Southee	YMCA	
20. Richard Coyle	MHSOB	
21. A.Priest	St.Marks	
22. E.Ryall	Coburg	
23. N.Danne	Old Melb	
24. C.Lowe	Geelong G	
25. R.Field	SSH	
26. J.Grealy	Sth.Aust	
27. William Medcalf	Collingwood	

The event for which you have a medal (1947 VAWC 50 km) would probably have been from the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds to Rockbank and Back or else might have been 10 laps of Albert Park Lake (both circuits were used over the years).

The Frankston event you mention would have been either the Melbourne to Frankston 25 Mile or the Melbourne to Frankston and back 50 Mile event (see the 1949 50 Mile result below). These were specialist walking events put on by the Victorian Amateur Walkers Club (VAWC) which is still going strong and is now called the Victorian Race Walking Club (VRWC). I am the Secretary and have most of the old results and club archives here.

Unfortunately the club records are held between about 3 of us and I have the complete club results from 1923-1931 and 1951 onwards. You want the results from the years in between (1932-1949) and these are with Ron Miller who was our previous club secretary.

Once I have extracted them from Ron and confirmed that these years are included in the documents he is holding, you would be most welcome to come over and pore over it all. The race results are all catalogued nicely by year and event and I would think that an hour or two would be sufficient to go through the relevant years and highlight any or all club events in which Bill participated.

I include a copy of the 1947 VAWC Club Photo which includes Bill. He is fourth from the left in the middle row as per the list of names.

I did manage to find the following result from some other long distance walking research I have been doing

#### **Oct 15 1949, 50 Miles VAWC Championship, St Kilda to Frankston and Return**

<b>1. McKinna, William</b>	<b>09:21:12</b>
2. Roche Harry	09:28:31
3. Goble, Norman	09:39:01
4. O'Farrell, Joseph	09:58:55
5. Gaylor, James	10:04:56

Retired:	Kelly, Thomas
	O'Grady, Fred
	Barling, Clifford

This is probably the Frankston walk that you remember and you mentioned in your letter. This would probably rank as his biggest success in walking from what I have been able to find out. The 50 Mile was a very prestigious event in those days and to win it was regarded as a very good feat.

He was indeed a minor official in the 1956 Olympic Games, being one of the Feed Station Stewards in the 50 km road walk which went from Melbourne to Oakleigh and return along Dandenong Road. He was one of 4 officials who manned the station at the 40 km mark. I have the full list of officials for that event if you are interested in a photocopy. He may have had other official jobs as well – not sure if that sort of information would be available nowadays.

I will be in touch when I have the rest of the material you may need.

Kind regards

Tim Erickson  
1 Avoca Cres  
Pascoe Vale, 3044

03 93792065 (AH)

terick@melbpc.org.au