

## RACEWALKING AUSTRALIA MERIT AWARD RECIPIENTS - 2009

**40 Year Merit Award Recipients:** Ray Smith (VRWC), Harry Summers (VRWC), Deanna Rahill (NSWRWC), Frank Overton (NSWRWC), Brendon Hyde (NSWRWC), Robin Whyte (ACTRFWC)

**25 Year Merit Award Recipients:** Tim Erickson (VRWC), Bob Gardiner (VRWC), Mark Donahoo (VRWC), Ron Miller (VRWC), Duncan Knox (VRWC), David Smith (QRWC), Jill Huxley (NSWRWC), Tony Vecellio (NSWRWC), Judy Vecellio (NSWRWC), Heather Mitchell (NSWRWC), Andrew Mitchell (NSWRWC), Kirsten Crocker (NSWRWC), Nicolle Challinor (NSWRWC), Nigel Crew (ACTRFWC)

**15 Year Merit Award Recipients:** Peter Vysma (VRWC), Daryl Biggin (VRWC), Alan Lucas (VRWC), Clarrie Jack (VRWC), Peter Bennett (QRWC), Ron Keys (NSWRWC), Ann Jugovic (ACTRFWC), Edna Dundas (ACTRFWC)

NAME	<b>Ray Smith</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	40 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Ray Smith took up the sport of racewalking in 1947 and is still going strong some 62 years later. He competed in many of the early Federation carnivals, the last being the Canberra Carnivals of 1969-1971. Since then he has contributed mightily to the Federation as an official and as a racewalking judge. It is fair to say that Ray was present at just about every Federation and National Championship from the mid seventies until the late nineties. One of our IAAF International judges for many years, few have contributed more than Ray to the Federation cause. He is being nominated for the 40 Year Merit Award for competitor/official/administrator.
NAME	<b>Harry Summers</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	40 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Harry Summers took up the sport of racewalking in 1953, some 56 years ago. He competed in all available Federation events until he partially retired from the sport in around 1970. He returned in 1981 and has been VRWC president since 1983. In this capacity, he has been on the Federation Executive for 26 years, including a stint as RWA President. In this period, he has helped organise and run many of the Federation Carnivals that were Melbourne based. He was nominated for the 40 Year Merit Award for competitor/official/administrator.
NAME	<b>Tim Erickson</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	25 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Tim Erickson started racewalking in 1966, competing in his first Federation carnival in 1967 in the sub-junior category. Since then he has competed in many Federation Carnivals (at least 20 years worth). He has also attended the annual conference as a delegate (either VRWC or Aust Cent) since 1997, has maintained the Federation website since 1997 and has organised all Victorian based Federation carnivals since 2000. He is currently Federation Vice President. He was nominated for the 25 year Merit Award for competitor/official/administrator.
NAME	<b>Bob Gardiner</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	25 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Bob Gardiner started racewalking in 1953, some 56 years ago. He competed continuously until his retirement from international competition in 1972. During this period, he competed in many of the Federation carnivals on offer. Even after that, he has competed less seriously in a number of Federation carnivals, normally focusing on the shorter distances. He has been VRWC Vice President for many years now and is still a regular VRWC delegate at Federation conferences. He was nominated for the 25 year Merit Award for competitor/administrator.
NAME	<b>Mark Donahoo</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	25 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Mark Donahoo started his racewalking career in 1974 as a Junior and has a long association with the Federation. Originally competing in Federation events over the shorter distances, he progressed to the Canberra Carnival 20 Mile event in 1984 and

	has accumulated 16 participations in this gruelling event. He has been involved at a Federation level as the Secretary and has been a regular VRWC delegate at Federation conferences. He is a Federation Life Member and has accumulated well over 25 years of almost continuous service to the Federation as competitor/official/administrator.
NAME	<b>Ron Miller</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	25 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Ron Miller started his racewalking career with VAWC in 1955 as a 14 year old and raced until retiring in the early seventies. During this time, he competed in a number of Federation carnivals. From 1988 until 2000, Ron attended all Federation AGMs as a VRWC delegate and managed all VRWC teams to Federation events and was an official on many of these occasions. He also organised any Melbourne based Federation events during this timeframe and still acts as an official for any Victorian based Federation events. He was nominated for the 25 year Merit Award for competitor/official/administrator.
NAME	<b>Duncan Knox</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	25 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Duncan Knox started his racewalking career in 1972 as a 13 year old and has competed continuously since then. A consistent supporter of all Federation events, he has competed in the Canberra Carnival 20 Mile an amazing 29 times, as well as in many other RWA Carnivals over the past 37 years. Thus he easily qualified for the 25 Year Merit Award as a competitor.
NAME	<b>Alan Lucas</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	15 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Alan Lucas first attended a Federation event in 1965 at Narrabeen in NSW in a Robinson Shield competition. From then until the 1975 Alexander Cup in Melbourne, he was a regular competitor as well as managing Victorian Federation teams to Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne and also acting as VAWC delegate to a number of AFORWC AGM's. In 1982 he went to Canberra to compete and again in 2004&5 Alan has also competed in various years in between in Federation carnivals which were held in Melbourne. Hence he has easily accumulated at least 15 years of service as a competitor/administrator.
NAME	<b>Daryl Biggin</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	15 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Daryl Biggin competed in a number of Federation carnivals in the period from 1983 to 1989. Then from 1997-1999, he was the main organiser of the Provincial Walking Club and regularly attended the AGMs as club delegate as well as competing. When Ballarat Walking Club joined VRWC for Federation purposes in 2000, he has been at all Carnivals as either a VRWC delegate or as a team manager or competitor. He was also the main organiser of the RWA carnival that was held in Ballarat in 2002. He has accumulated more than 15 years as competitor/administrator.
NAME	<b>Peter Vysma</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	15 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Peter Vysma competed in a number of Federation events as a VAWC/VRWC competitor between 1970 and 1999. Since 1999, he has been a regular racewalking judge at most Federation carnivals as well as attending a number of RWA AGMs as a VRWC delegate. Hence he has accumulated more than 15 years as a competitor/official.
NAME	<b>Clarrie Jack</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	15 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Clarrie Jack has competed in the Canberra Carnival 20 Mile event on 15 occasions as well as being a regular competitor in many other RWA carnivals during the timeframe from 1966 onwards. Hence he was eligible for the 15 Year Merit Award as a competitor.

NAME	<b>David Smith</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	25 years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	David Smith has been a competitor in the LBG for some 28 years and President of AFORWC for the last 5 years. He has also been the main organiser of two AFORWC Carnivals in QLD.
NAME	<b>Peter Bennett</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	15 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Peter Bennett was a Director of AFORWC for some years. He has competed in the LBG for 16 years and has been on the Committee and Executive of QRWC for 15 years. He has been on the Jury of Appeal at the LBG for many years and regularly represents QRWC at the annual RWA General Meeting.
NAME	<b>Deanna Rahill</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	40 years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Deanna Rahill has been involved with Federation events since their inception as a walk judge and has represented NSWRC as a delegate at Federation Conferences for the last 13 years. For the last 10 years, she has been the awards officer for the Canberra Federation events. Deanna is a Life member of NSWRC and the AFORWC.
NAME	<b>Frank Overton</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	40 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Frank Overton has been a competitor at Federation events held in Canberra and other States since 1962 when he joined NSWRC. He is now a key official at the Canberra Federation carnival. Frank is also a Life member of our NSWRC.
NAME	<b>Brendon Hyde</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	40 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Brendon Hyde has been a regular competitor at Federation events since the early sixties and has accumulated 42 years of competitive service at last count.
NAME	<b>Jill Huxley</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	25 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Jill Huxley joined NSWRC in 1973 and has been an official/judge at Federation events both in Canberra and other States ever since. Jill was Secretary of the Federation for 17 years (1980-1989 and 2000-2008). She is a Life member of AFORWC and NSW club.
NAME	<b>Tony Vecellio</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	25 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Tony Vecellio joined NSWRC in 1973 and has been officiating at Federation events since 1974, never missing a year. He has been the chief judge on the Canberra 20 mile event for many years now. He has been NSWRC delegate to the Federation conference for over 15 years. He is also a life member of NSWRC.
NAME	<b>Judy Vecellio</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	25 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Judy Vecellio has been an official at the Canberra carnival since the late 1970s and a delegate to Federation conferences for the last 15 years. She has been a member of NSWRC since 1974 and is a life member of that club.
NAME	<b>Heather Mitchell</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	25 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Heather Mitchell has officiated at Federation Carnivals since 1984 and has been a NSWRC Delegate to Federation conferences for many years. She is also a life member of NSWRC.

NAME	<b>Andrew Mitchell</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	25 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Andrew Mitchell has been a member of NSWRC for 32 years and first competed in the Canberra carnival all those years ago in the Under 9 division. Since then, he has regularly competed but, more importantly, he has fulfilled the vital role of Federation treasurer for the last 14 years. He is a life member of both AFORWC and NSWRC
NAME	<b>Kirsten Crocker (Mitchell)</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	25 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Kirsten Crocker started competing in Federation events in 1984 and participated every year up till the last few years. Since retiring as a competitor she has officiated as a walk judge at Federation carnivals.
NAME	<b>Nicolle Challinor (Mitchell)</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	25 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Nicolle Challinor has been competing at the Canberra Federation events since 1984 and has represented NSWRC at other Federation events.
NAME	<b>Ron Keys</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	15 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Ron Keys is currently a member of NSWRC and has been officiating at the Canberra Federation events for over 15 years, principally as a timekeeper. Ron is a life member of NSWRC.
NAME	<b>Robin Whyte</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	40 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Robin Whyte has competed in all of the 42 LBG Carnivals with varying degrees of success. During this time Robin has also been a key member of the organising committee and, as well as competing, has been an official during these carnivals. Robin has held varying appointments on the ACTRC Executive over the past 40 years and is currently the Race Director. Robin is a life member of both ACTR&FWC and AFORWC.
NAME	<b>Nigel Crew</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	25 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Nigel Crew's participation in the LBG goes back to the very first event in 1966. Until the last few years, Nigel had been a regular competitor as well as assisting to coordinate and run the event. Nigel also sponsored the LBG Carnival for a number of years. Nigel is a life member of ACTR&FWC..
NAME	<b>Ann Jugovic (nee Staunton)</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	15 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Ann Jogovic has competed in the LBG since 1992 when she competed in the 20 mile event, completing it in 3:28. She has also assisted in the running of the event since that time. Ann is a financial member of ACTR&FWC.
NAME	<b>Edna Dundas</b>
TYPE OF MERIT AWARD	15 Years
STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION	Edna Dundas has been a member of ACTR&FWC since 1986 and has competed at the LBG carnival on several occasions. More importantly, she has been part of the organising committee and assisted in the running of the LBG and other racewalking events in numerous capacities, including time keeping, road marshalling, general assistance and as an official.