



# THE WRAP

7-8 NOVEMBER 2015  
SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS NSW

## ALL GOOD FLINGS COME TO THOSE WHO RIDE

As the week leading up to the Fling progressed all eyes seemed to be on the weather. We're sure the Bureau of Meteorology were scratching their heads wondering why all the hits on Bundanoon's 7 day forecast. With our eye on their listing, we were always confident the weather would only play a very minor part in the weekend festivities. Some punters contacted us, distressed that their weather aggregator/ forecaster of choice was predicting up to 1000% more rain than that of the Bureau. It was with a sigh of relief that , as race day dawned for the 11th running of the CamelBak Highland Fling we could be pretty confident that there would be a shower or two, but no significant



rain.

With under 20mm of rain in the preceding weeks, well short of Sydney's rainfall and some other areas on the coast, the trail crew were happy to report that apart from a few boggy areas that would get increasingly chopped up throughout the race the trails were firm and fast. The cool day meant that riders were not too concerned about overheating out on the course but our headline sponsor, CamelBak were on hand to remind riders that regardless of the weather, carrying sufficient hydration is a must.

Our slogan for the 11th running of the CamelBak Highland Fling was "All good Flings...come to those who ride" and the Fling weekend in the Southern Highland bore that out. On Saturday, Bundanoon village was pumping with goodness as riders registering in the Old Methodist Church received the brand new 5th edition of our map of MTB trails in the Southern Highlands, vouchers to collect either a mini pump or bottle of lube from our friends at Maxxis as well as vouchers to collect nutrition gels from Lloydie and the GU crew.

This year we decided to add to the fun and hold a trail

running event on Saturday afternoon. So not only did we have a town full of dedicated MTBers, we also had a good number of trail runners registering, checking out the stalls, and wondering what what was going on with all these bikes at a trail running event! The Pearl iZUMi Bundy Run attracted a couple of hundred runners to enjoy a great course through Bundanoon and the adjacent Morton National Park. With a 6km course (The Teaser), an 11km course (the Quarter Marathon) and a 21km course (the Half Marathon) a good number of riders already entered in the Fling decided to make a weekend of it and have a go on Saturday as well. What was very satisfying was to see the number of couples and families with one partner doing the run and the other the ride.

Over 1000 riders headed to the Highlands to take part in the Fling this year, with nearly 100 Kids giving it their all a in the Todds Real Estate Kids Fling. At the shaved legs end of things in the Full Fling, the Men's Elite field was strong and tension and tactics were on display from the gun. In the Women's Elite field, a 5 strong category suddenly became only 3 by the time riders lined up start line. This allowed plenty of room for new contenders to make their mark in this sport. As the final race in the Maverick Marathon Series, riders were keen to give their best at the Fling and show to all their ability to not only finish at the pointy end of their category but to do it consistently across the year.

The 100Mile Fling continues to be a rarefied field with only a limited number of competitors willing and able to take on an extra lap of the Shimano Stage in Wingello Forest. From the praises sung about the single track network in Wingello Forest both on the day and in blogs following the race, you'd think more would be



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keen to go around again for another go at the awesome flowing trails on offer...maybe more next year will enjoy a quiet spin through Love Love Love and Send in the Clowns.

The festival atmosphere created in Bundanoon on Saturday afternoon and evening was bigger and better than ever this year. Like last year we had the Shimano and Specialized big rigs parked up and doing a roaring trade. The afternoon saw buskers entertaining in the streets, and more kids than ever got caught up in all the fun with over 60 of them enjoying a great couple of sessions of MTB Skills Courses at the small MTB track at the local YHA. The Rolloff World Championships was hotly contested with a new format and new location this year. With the winner being determined by the first across the line, not the longest roll, last year's contenders were hitting the books trying to determine what laws of physics now came into play, (would acceleration outweigh (pun intended) momentum?). In the end it was a mere whippet, Jamie Sell who took the rainbow jersey. The 2015 champion Grant Johnston audibly sobbing at the loss of his crown. But the highlight of the day for the riders has to be The Bundanoon Dash. This 6km sprint in Bundanoon is a great hit out between the Elites, and a good way to get 'in the zone' for all riders who roll up for it. This year they started on the heels of the runners in the Bundy Run and it was interesting to see some of the runners outpace some of the riders up the infamous Constitution Hill!

We were again proud to do our bit for the environment at the Fling with one obvious component being the great work done by The Moss Vale Community Garden. These tireless volunteers meticulously sorted waste all day Sunday resulting in a further reduction in our waste tonnage. The compostable waste from the Fling is now being consumed by worms at the Community Garden in preparation for food production.

By the end of Sunday just under 200 riders had finished the Full Fling, 15 gave it their best shot but didn't cross the finish line. Just over 500 finished the Half Fling, with only

a handful not making the distance. 7 Flinging Threesomes teams completed the course. 90 riders took on the new 23km Some Fling course. Of the 100Mile Flingers, 15 started and only 2 didn't finish.

Gilbert Romane of GiRoPhotos was our man in the field capturing the vibe of the day. Some of the photos he took show just how beautiful the countryside is that the Fling takes in. The ever reliable Marathon Photos were also on hand to capture your best race action. These pics are available for sale and can be found at their website ([www.marathon-photos.com](http://www.marathon-photos.com)) or by clicking on the camera icon next to your race result which you can get to via the results page of the CamelBak Highland Fling website.

We always receive a heap of social media posts and emails following the event, some with tales of woe, some with pleas for lost property, but the vast majority just to say how much they enjoyed their day in Bundanoon.

*"Just wanted to say a massive thank you to all the people who helped out yesterday. It's a really long day for you and we really appreciated having some smiling, friendly faces about!"*

*"I still have a massive smile on my face, we had the perfect day out. The final cut off was maybe a bit too close for comfort but just shows how perfectly we paced it!"*

*"Thanks again to everyone at Wild Horizons and all the RFS and other volunteers who make the Fling so special!"*

*Hopefully I'll see you again next year!*

*"Thanks for such a great event. The whole family had a good time on the Sunday with the kids race etc and we had a number of friends doing the run and it made for a fun weekend. The job your local schools and volunteers do is awesome, a stand out event".*



# THE THANKS

CamelBak have been involved with the Fling for a number of years and since 2013 as Headline Sponsor. With excellent products and a great team we are proud to partner with them on this great event.

Thanks to our Major Sponsors Ground Effect cycle clothing, GU nutrition, Specialized bikes, Shimano cycle gear, Maxxis Tyres and World Expeditions. All provided great prizes and support for our event. Frontier Equipment, Rock&Roll Lube and Limar helmets were Support Sponsors.

Other sponsors and prize supporters included Todd's Real Estate, sponsor of the Todds Real Estate Kids Fling, Aquamann Irrigation, the supplier of our water at water points and feed stations around the course, The Bundanoon Hotel, Yallambee Bed & Breakfast and Solar Springs Health Retreat. And many would want, I'm sure, to give their thanks to 4 Pines Brewery, the supplier of beer for the Last Chance Saloon, on the course 1km from the finish line. Did you give in to the temptation?

The course you all enjoyed this year simply would not exist without Greg & Diane Joice, Jack & Sylvia Jeffery, Jeff Blunt, Doug Roach, Mrs and Indra Singh, Matt & Donna Hescott from Sylvan Glen, Mark & Ulli Fisher and Trevor & Sheryl Liebowitz allowing us access to their properties. Please NEVER EVER, EVER ride these sections of private property at any other time. Savour them during the Fling. An additional thanks to the Jefferys who had to contend with their cattle getting a bit upset and tearing through 3 fencelines and holding up the race for some minutes. Their quick actions saved us a far more serious headache if the situation had not been contained. Some things you just cannot account for.

Our events are nothing without the world famous Dark Side; the crew who spend days putting out arrows, working on rego, building event centres, marshalling the course, transition etc. In our team there were 40+ people. Event Director & Operations Manager Danien Beets masterminded the show and it was great to have the sage mind of David West as Course Director. Huw Kingston, Mr Fling himself, has returned from his 12 month fund raising journey around the Mediterranean and slotted right back into kilt and microphone. But for the first time ever, he decided to have a go and rode a Half Fling on his trusty singlespeed. Barbara Ertz again had the registration team running smoothly. Ant Schnabel made it all happen at Ferndale Event Centre whilst Mark Raddatz made Wingello Transition zing with efficiency. Bev Atkins was again the perfect Hostess in the Mile High Lounge and Nicky Barry ran the always busy Frequent Rider Lounge. Alex McNee took control of Wingello Forest ably assisted by Pat Dellagiacomma and Bill Killick., Relative newcomer to the Dark Side Matt Walker, graduating up to controlling Penrose Forest whilst Craig Perrott monitored Jumping Rock. State Medical Assistance headed up a skilled crew of First Aid First Responders to patch up those who learned



to fly but not land softly. Barbara Ertz and Karen Evans made it happen for the Todds Real Estate Kids Fling with MC Chops (James Lamb) sharing the MC duties with Huw Kingston. Erica Galea looked after our Media/PR again gaining some great exposure for mountain biking on TV, press and radio. Brad Darch officiated as Master of the Rolls at the Rolloff World Championships and Steve Evans headed the crew that setup town for Saturday's festivities. Thanks to them, their teams and ALL the magical Dark Side.

The local Rural Fire Service brigades of the Southern Highlands had 60+ marshals on the course and did their usual magnificent job coordinated by David Stimson. The boys from Shimano kept bikes on the trail along with Greg Pointing from Bundanoon Bike Shop. The Maxxis team manned the Rock&Roll Lube station at Wingello Transition and Steve Martin and the team from Precision Timing made sure your efforts were accurately recorded. Thanks to Lynne Vaughan for bringing together the Kids MTB Skills course, raising money for Save the Children, and to Bundanoon YHA for hosting the kids on their great little track. Gilbert Romane from Giro Photos and Sylvian from EightyEight Photography shoved cameras into faces and spokes along with the crew from Marathon-Photos.com. On course again this year we had some entertainment to keep riders going. Our thanks to Serendipity the Choir for entertaining and spurring on the passing riders.



# THE RIDING

## SATURDAY

### THE BUNDANOON DASH

### THE BATTLE OF THE BUSINESSES

What better way to start the festivities than with a race with two faces. The Bundanoon Dash is a quick 6km sprint where the front line looks as serious and as able as the start line for the Elites the next day. Who would have thought 6km would bring out such tension and so many race faces but at the equivalent of \$30/min it's not a bad payday for the winner. But for the uninitiated who cast their eye beyond the very fit front line, there may have been some scratching of heads with the riders looking a little less serious wearing dog collars, a t-square or coffee cups strapped to the helmets and various other costumes and accessories indicating who they were representing in the Battle of the Businesses. This 'race within a race' is for local businesses with all entrant fees being donated to charities chosen by the podium winners. From the speedsters to those who rarely sit astride a bike, it was great to see people going to the effort in dressing bikes/riders. Bundanoon Newsagency got in fast and secured local gun rider (and previous winner) Nick Smith for their entry. With new entries from many including Jumping Rock Café and Bundanoon Bike Shop the seasoned battlers like Parish of Sutton Forest and Todds Real Estate were unsure of how the big race would play out. Props to all who took part. With Nick Smith looking a dead cert, it was only the minor placings that were in contention. In the end it was indeed Bundanoon Newsagency's Nick Smith taking the win in 10.38, a good 2.30 clear of second placed Bloor Plans' Roger Bloor and a close third to Roger Jackson from Todds Real Estate.

The entry fee pool was given away by the place getting businesses nominating their selected charities being:

- 1st place – Bundanoon Newsagency – donate \$280, 70% of pot to Muscular Dystrophy
- 2nd place – Bloor Plans – donate \$80, 20% of pot to Diabetes Australia
- 3rd place – Todds Real Estate – donate \$40, 10% of pot to Kollege of Knowledge Kommittee for Kids

Oh, and what about the Dash itself which put another \$525 into the Bundanoon RFS and offered \$1200 cash prize pool? 2015 saw a vocal crowd line the finish. Cameron Ivory (10:19) made it a hat trick of wins over the last 3 years. He stormed home to take the win by only 3 seconds from second placed Tristan Ward (10.21) Third position went to Lewis Cressy, only a second back

in 10.22. In the Women's field it was Open riders Lucy Bechtel and Eliza Kwan battling it out with Lucy coming in only 10 seconds ahead of Eliza. The podium was Lucy Bechtel (11:50) over Eliza Kwan (12.02) with Open Louisa Lobigs coming in third in 12:20

### THE ROLLOFF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

What better event to include on the Fling weekend than one that includes dropping your chain! The Rolloff World Championships would be the great leveller of the weekend. From its first showing at the Fling in 2012, this event has taken on a life of its own. 2012 and 2013 World Champion Glen Leechburch Auwers has twice flown to New Zealand to compete in the 'Redwoods Coast' at the Rotorua Bike Festival, and twice more returned to holiday and enjoy the trails using prize air tickets to do so. But this year would see an upset. Not only was Rolloff King Glen Leechburch Auwers not in attendance, but last year's winner Grant Johnson was concerned about the changes in course and rules and whether his preparation would have been better spent on pursuits geared towards acceleration instead of ....mass.



New format, new contenders, new World Champion!

As Highlands drizzle greased the new World Championship course and mist hid the contenders from view, a new, slim World Champion emerged. Many had doubted our belief that a change of format to 'first across the line' rather than the previous 'furthest to roll' might level the playing field. That it might reduce the advantage previously enjoyed by the big fellas. But so it proved to be. 2014 title holder, Grant Johnston, was soon reduced to a mere Ex World Champion; a man devastated and quite simply unable to believe in his own downfall. The mark of a man though is whether he will pick himself up, embrace the new format and perhaps even return next year having lost rather than gained weight.

The tall, thin missile shape of Jamie Sell, an elite mountain biker of some renown, took his most satisfying win to date as he cruised past the competition to his first Rainbow jersey.

With thanks Brad Darch, our new Master of the Rolls, former runner up in the 2012 Worlds, for adjudicating

If one thing is certain now, 2016 will see the 'Great Leveller' in mountain bike sports a wide open contest for the narrow, the wide and anything in between.

# SUNDAY

## THE KIDS FLING

While the racers were out on course, around 100 children from 4 to 12 were enjoying their very own Kids Fling on very much a real MTB course looping into the bush behind the event centre. Promoting cycling to young kids guarantees the future of our sport and encourages outdoor activity. The kids were inspired by you and it all goes some way to developing the Southern Highlands as a place that welcomes the bike. Thanks to Todds Real Estate of Bundanoon for supporting the Kids Fling and to Specialized for providing bikes for the draw. Each year this aspect of the Fling gets better and better. With more 'red zone' riders than the Fling and just as many tantrums, this year's Kids race saw wild jubilation, tears and chests puffed with pride.....all from the parents watching of course.

## THE CAMELBAK HIGHLAND FLING

### THE COURSE

The 2015 course had some key differences to last year. With many weary and broken riders coming across the line last year some head scratching was done to see if we could back off a few kms of distance and a few metres of climbing. With a little tweaking in the first kilometres of both Stage 1 - The Ground Effect Stage, and Stage 2 - The Shimano Stage, we felt less was more in terms of hitting the sweet spot. We reckon we got it right this year with fewer DNFs and not so many haunted broken looks on the finish line.....always a plus and All good Flings! The Shimano Stage through Wingello State Forest again saw the introduction of some new singletrack that has been developed in the last 12 months. Local trail advocacy group, Highlands Trails (also running the bar at the Event Centre) have worked tirelessly in the last year and achieved some great additions to the trail network.

The CamelBak Highland Fling route passes through native forest, pine forest, open farmland, tight singletrack, village roads – it is surely this variety, this absolute journey, that makes it such a great ride. The Fling is all about personal challenge: whether it be achieving a podium result, beating your mates or improving your result from last year, or just making the distance and still being able to walk afterwards (or not). Each and every rider in the CamelBak Highland Fling deserves congratulations.

## THE FULL FLING

Fling prize money meant some paydays were in the offing. With 2 time champ Peta Mullens and gun Queensland rider Jodie Willet unable to race, it was down to Briony Mattocks, Lucy Betchel and Eliza Kwan to decide the order for the finish. With the girls all keeping tabs on each other, this year saw a departure from previous years where the female contenders have been well spread in the field. Coming through Wingello Transition only a dozen seconds separated the 3. With leader Lucy Betchel pulling clear by about a minute on their return to Wingello transition and Briony Mattocks dropping 4 minutes off the pace, a clearer order appeared. Despite Briony clawing back almost 3 minutes on second placed Eliza, she made no ground on Lucy. In the end it was 2014 3rd place winner Lucy Bechtel who took the win in 5:31:54.7 over Eliza Kwan in second (5:35:43.0) and Briony Mattocks in third with a time of 5:38:35.1.

In the men's contest it was "game on" from the start. Attack after attack through the opening kilometres kept all riders looking around to see who was next to break. Mid way through Stage 1- The Ground Effect Stage, Kyle Ward and Andy Blair got away coming into transition about 30 seconds ahead of a group of 6. All strong riders, it was anyone's race and minds were considering tactics. Wily rider Anthony Shippard had a whisper to Kyle Ward and they broke early, giving it everything they had to break from the field and get into the Wingello singletrack with a gap on the bunch. Andy Blair stuck with them but cracks were starting to show. Kyle Ward was on form completing Stage 2 The Shimano Stage in a blistering time of 2:17:18.2, more than a minute faster than the next fastest. But with Andy Blair, Marc Willaims, Shaun Lewis and others chasing hard, any error or mechanical would be made to pay.



Murphy's Law came to visit Kyle with a rear tyre burp only 10km from the finish. Stopping to add a quick canister of air to get back on the trail, Kyle's luck ran out on him with a seal breaking and air going everywhere but into the tyre. Limping home Kyle could only manage a 6th place. At the end of Stage 2 The Shimano Stage there was under 30 seconds between Andy Blair and Marc Williams with Shaun Lewis chasing hard. But Andy continued to pull away from Marc in Stage 3 The GU Stage to come home with a lead over second placed Marc Williams of more than a minute. Lewis Cressy put everything he had into the final stage taking time off Shaun Lewis, but in the end it wasn't enough with Shaun taking out third. The podium for the Elite Men was Andy Blair in 4:30:24.0 over Marc Williams in 4:31:33.8 with third place going to Shaun Lewis in 4:34:24.6.

## THE 100 MILE FLING

In the 100Mile Fling, incredible athlete and multiple winner Ed McDonald fought hard the whole way against 2014 3rd place winner Sam Moffit . With nothing between them after Stage 1 The Ground Effect stage it was down to who could make the single track in the forest work for



them. Hugh Stoddart and Ollie Whalley, only a minute behind at the end of the first stage were also in contention as the riders headed into the forest. Two laps of Wingello trails took its toll and while Ed took only 7 minutes more for his second time around, those left in his wake added at least double that. After that it was a matter of crossing the fingers and hoping to get home incident free. Due to an incident on course with course marking, Ollie Whalley, through no fault of his own, short cut the course by approximately 7 minutes. Following a review of this post race, his second place on the line was adjusted to better reflect the race and third place awarded. The podium was Ed McDonald (7:32:57.2) over Sam Moffit (7:49:03.2) with third place going to Ollie Whalley (7:53:14.6)

Special mention must go to Meredith Quinlan, our only women's 100Mile finisher this year, finishing in a tough 10:35:28.1

## THE HALF FLING

The Half Fling this year was our closest finish ever with less than a minute covering the first 7 finishers. Last year's winner Masters Brad Morton showed his experience to bring home the win. Where last year Brad was the old man amongst a field of Open riders, this year there was only a single Open rider in the bunch fighting it out for the win. A pair of Masters, a pair of Veterans, a pair of Juniors and one Open rider.

The lead bunch worked together coming through transition with less than 7 seconds between them before turning for home. With all categories of the Fling (except the Elite Full Flingers) being timed as a mat start, experienced riders knew that the order across the line may not be represent the order of the times.

Kudos to the junior riders Matthew Dinham and Ben Metcalfe who worked together and stayed with the bunch to come in 3rd and 4th respectively. In a show of exceptional sportsmanship 3rd placed rider Matthew Dinham who came across the line marginally behind Ben Metcalfe asked that he be elevated to 3rd equal.

The podium was Masters Brad Morton (2:14:58.9) in first place over Veteran Adam Cooper in 2:15:05.6 with third equal going to Matthew Dinham and Ben Metcalfe in 2:15:06.6 and 2:15:06.8 respectively.

This year, as in previous, showed the great depth we have in the Half Fling field. With incredibly close times into transition and across the line, this race format will continue to deliver for years to come.

In the women's Half Fling field, despite the strong showing the riders struggled to catch sight of their competitors in amongst the men. Open rider Linda Stahlgren Bouveng dominated from the outset coming through transition a minute clear of Open Louisa Lobigs who was a further two and half minutes clear of Masters Geogina Landy. Continuing her domination, Linda Stahlgren Bouveng extended her lead in the return to Bundanoon sealing the win in a time of 2:45:05.6. Georgina Landy dug deep in Stage 3 to pass Louisa Lobigs and come in second in a time of 2:57:21.8. Louisa held on for third place in 2:57:50.8.

All other category place getters and full results can be found on [www.wildhorizons.com.au](http://www.wildhorizons.com.au) along with photos and reports.

The spirit out on course was great as always – rider helping rider, whether fixing mechanicals or yelling encouragement. It is truly a great sport of maturity, challenge and spirit.



## THE SOME FLING

The Casual Fling is dead....long live the Some Fling! If we are holding a Trail Running event on Saturday..... what else needs a mix up? How about ditching the participation Casual Fling, adding 10kms, timing it and calling it a race? Done. The Some Fling this year aimed at providing a development ground for the junior riders out there looking for a timed race, single track, hills and a podium. But we also found this race distance popular with many riders just looking for something requiring a bit less time in the saddle; both on the day and in training. At 23km and snaking through the best singletrack on offer this side of Penrose Forest, for many of the entrants this was no less challenging than the longer race distances on the day. With 92 entrants and some serious young riders in the mix, the start was always going to be hectic. Off the line the riders took a leaf from the Elite's book from a half hour earlier and gunned it for the first corner. Some others having competed in previous Casual Flings were a bit wide eyed and wondering who had hijacked their nice ride in the paddocks.

With no timing stations passed on this short course and most junior males communicating in grunts and single syllables, it has been a little hard to report an accurate blow by blow account of the race. But suffice to say Alby Kean (Junior Male) was excited to win the first Some Fling in 1:14:36.8. With clear air back to Open Male rider Jonathan Fudge coming in 1:18:40.4. Third placed rider was Junior Male Zac George in 1:22:03.2. In the women's field it was local junior Verity Evans, daughter of Wingello celebrity rider Karen Evans who led the field off the line and held on for the win in 1:31:26.5. Only 4 minutes behind was Super Masters rider Diane Farrar in 1:36:56.7 taking out second and Peta Stewart in third with a time of 1:42:41.6.



## MR AND MRS AVERAGE

In the spirit of rewarding participation which is the lifeblood of this event, we have a special prize for the Male and Female riders who completed their respective Fling in closest to the average time for their sex.

World Expeditions, one of our major sponsors has put together a \$3000 cycling holiday prize to be awarded to one of our Average winners. To determine the winner we decided an elimination coin toss was as good as any method. So we got World Expedition to toss between Mr & Mrs Average Half Fling and then did the same for Mr & Mrs Average Full Fling. The winners of those two tosses were then tossed to determine that (drum roll please ) Mrs Full Fling Average is the winner. We are very pleased to congratulate Catherine Wood on winning an amazing World Expedition Vietnam By Bike tour. A leader in their field, World Expedition tours have it all and this one will see Catherine pedalling through quiet highlands, palm lined beaches and French flavoured bustling cities (with a support crew and back-up vehicle to boot), staying in well-appointed hotels, and sampling local cuisine.

### Mr Full Fling Average - 6:34:32

2014 - 6:58:32, 2013 - 6:27:16, 2012 - 6:32:17, 2011 - 6:29:52, 2010 - 7:03

### Mrs Full Fling Average - 6:53:51

2014 - 6:45:42, 2013 - 6:49:21, 2012 - 06:46:15, 2011 - 6:45:22.6, 2010 - 7:28

In the Full Fling congratulations go to Catherine Wood, the 2015 Mrs Average Full Fling and Mark Davis, the 2015 Mr Average Full Fling.

### Mr Half Fling Average - 3:34:11

2014 - 3:50:24, 2013 - 3:46:52, 2012 - 03:41:13, 2011 - 3:48:15, 2010 - 3:59

### Mrs Half Fling Average - 4:00:53

2014 - 4:18:17, 2013 - 4:19:46, 2012 - 04:29:22, 2011 - 4:30:31, 2010 - 4:38

In the Half Fling congratulations go to Gillian Dabelstein, the 2015 Mrs Average Half Fling and Neil Prosser, the 2015 Mr Average Half Fling

Some interesting stats there. With a wetter track and only a minor reduction in course lengths, the times all round were expected to be reduced over last year, but it goes to show what the combination of a few less kilometres and a few less metres of climb can do for the legs. This year Mr Average Full Fling snuck ahead of Mrs Average Full Fling which is a reversal of last year and probably attributed to the reduction in Elite women numbers. In the Half Fling, Mrs Average had the fastest time ever.

We congratulate the above winners and ask them to contact us to collect their prizes.



## THE MAVERICK MARATHON SERIES

### Maverick Marathon Series 2015 Wrap-Up

The 2015 Maverick Marathon Series saw a tweaked line up of racing across the year, with the Queensland Flight Centre Epic included along with three races from the 2014 series of Capital Punishment, Giant Odyssey and of course our own CamelBak Highland Fling.

The Series saw some fierce racing across all fields, with the one to watch in the fourth and deciding race the full marathon men's elite which was close enough in point score to make the podium placings difficult to predict.

After the CamelBak Highland Fling round it looked like this:

#### Men's Marathon

- Andy Blair
- Shaun Lewis
- James Downing

#### Women's Marathon

- Jenny Fay
- Wendy Stevenson
- Jenni King

Full category results across the Maverick Marathon Series can be found at [www.maverickseries.com.au](http://www.maverickseries.com.au)

## THE COMMUNITY

As always the town of Bundanoon and the other southern villages got right behind the Fling. It's a point of pride for residents to get the comments from riders about the support they get from locals while in the race and in town. The superb catering provided by Highlands Trails, Bundanoon, Exeter, Penrose and Wingello School P&C's, the involvement of the local RFS Brigades, Moss Vale Community Garden, Bundanoon Pony Club, and Bundanoon Men's Shed in their different ways. So many riders comment on this aspect of the event and our community also comment on Flingers and their supporters for being the most polite and happy bunch of people to head into the district. Collectively local groups raised some \$20,000 for local community projects.



## THE MEMORIES

Marathon Photos had many photographers out on course to capture you in all your glory.....

They are now up and available for purchase on [www.marathon-photos.com](http://www.marathon-photos.com) so check out your efforts on the course!

Thanks again to all of you for being part of the 2015 CamelBak Highland Fling. Stick 12-13 November in your diaries, iPads and smart phones for the 2016 version.

If you have a Fling account or story you'd like to share then send it to [info@wildhorizons.com.au](mailto:info@wildhorizons.com.au). We'll put the good ones up on the website!

Look forward to seeing you at our Rock&Road event in April 2016 in Rydal NSW or join us to ride in Italy in May 2016

Enjoy the riding. Enjoy the summer.

Cheers...Danien Beets

Event Director

