

Saturday May 15th. VICTORIAN 10k ROADWALKING CHAMPIONSHIP
Albert Park

A good day for distance events greeted the competitors at the home of walking in Victoria at Albert Park. Cool, but a day with very little wind gave the walkers the chance for a comfortable 10k trundle (if there is such a thing!). The conditions were certainly conducive to fast times, of which there were quite a few.

Collingwood again had just the two competitors front the starting line, although it was pleasing to see **Ross Reid** along for a look. Ross is recovering from a debilitating neck and back injury and has been suffering much discomfort in recent months. Now on the move again it is hoped Ross might be back in racing mode very soon.

Stuart Kollmorgen followed up his win two weeks ago with a terrific effort to take out the Victorian title thus ensuring another laurel wreath on his singlet next season. **Bob Gardiner** was our other finisher recording a terrific time for 73 year old. It just goes to show that there's no substitute for class. Bob, a triple Olympian, Commonwealth Games medalist and ex world record holder continues to represent Collingwood Harriers with great distinction.

Along with the Victorian title, this event also provides the winner with the **Bert Gardiner Medal**. Bert was himself a leading walker in the 1920s and 1930s and although not a member of Collingwood Harriers, was a great supporter of our Club even before his son Bob signed up to the Black and White. Bert was appointed manager of the 1958 Commonwealth Games Team that competed in Cardiff, Wales. He is also, to a very large degree, responsible for much of the information included in the archive section on the AV website. Bert himself won this event in 1925.

On Saturday the medal was proudly presented to Stuart by Bob and it is reported, just as proudly received. Bert would have quite chuffed to have another Collingwood Harrier receive his medal.

RESULTS

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| 1 | Stuart Kollmorgen | 48:55 |
| 8 | Bob Gardiner | 59:43 |

Officials: Judy Mason was again on duty at the walks, keeping a keen eye on the competitors.