

# Ron Clarke Classic

## Geelong, VIC, 17th December

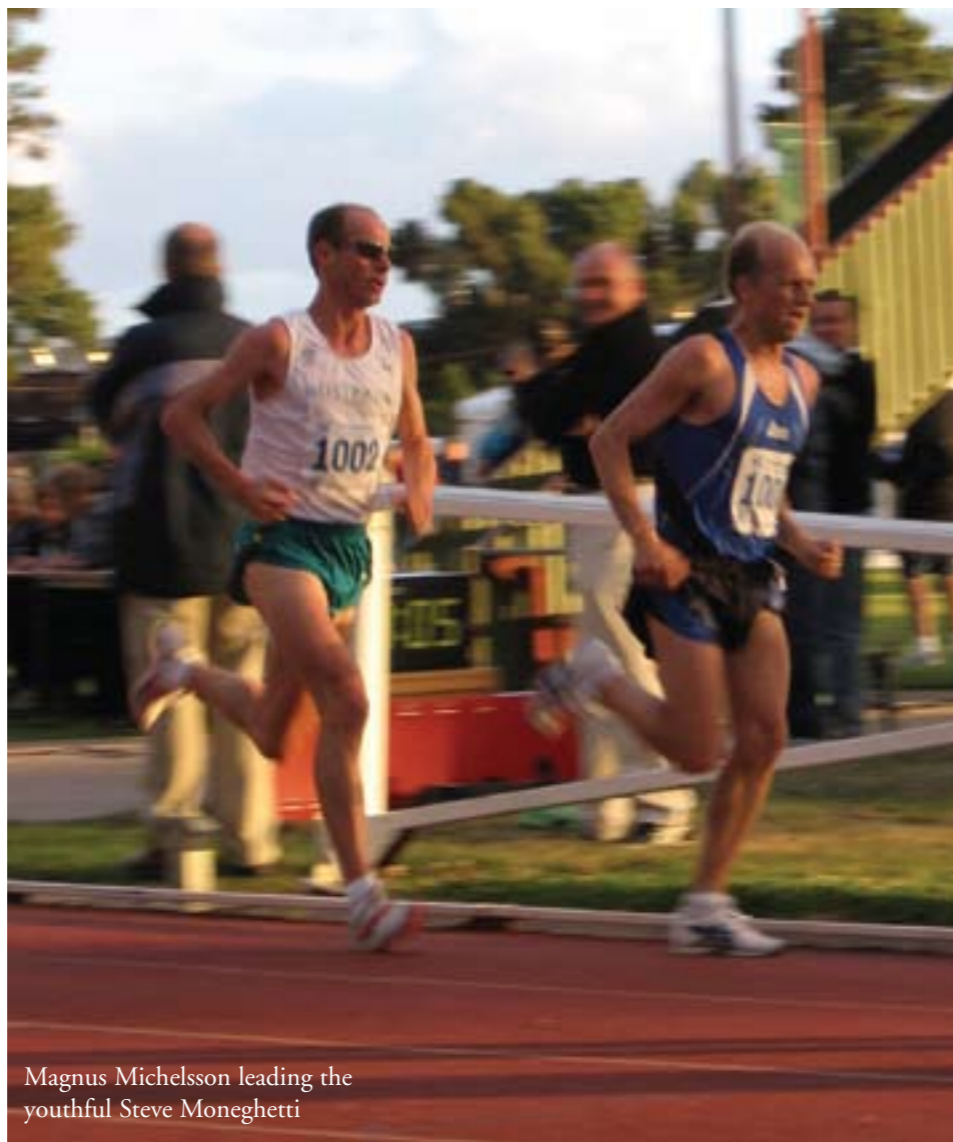
Written by Trent Harlow

In his first foray into event management, Australian marathon representative and local celebrity/skinny man Lee Troop hosted this inaugural track meet. The meet was designed to give runners one last hit-out before Christmas and to honour the two world records that Ron Clarke had established at Landy Field in 1965. And with the Commonwealth trials just around the corner, there were some quality athletes in attendance.

The main races of interest included the women's 800m, the seldom run men's mile, and the draw card event – an attempt by fellow local legend, Steve Moneghetti on the World Master's 1hour track record. Unfortunately blustery winds and an unseasonal cold snap meant times were a little lacking. The hotly contested 800m was a good example with Commonwealth Games aspirants Libby Allen and Katherine Katsanevakis sprinting to the line in 2.07-2.08. These girls are both clearly in great form and with suitable conditions in the New Year should see some Commonwealth qualifying times come their way.

The men's mile was a one-sided affair with local rising star Louis Rowan dominating from the gun. He hit 800m in 1.56 but was unable to hold the pace in the wind and just missed the famous 4min barrier. Rowan is definitely a strong contender for a 1500m birth at the Commonwealth Games – Ironically, two other 6 foot 2 Geelong athletes (Craig Mottram and Mark Fountain) are currently the other main prospects for these representative positions.

The highlight of the evening was definitely Steve Moneghetti's bid at the hour record. Led strongly through halfway by Magnus



Magnus Michelsson leading the youthful Steve Moneghetti

Michelsson, Mona was the man everyone had come to see. With 5 laps left the emotion rolled out of the usually analytical Mona as he realized he was going to get the record. His fist shaking and pumping of the Aussie emblem as he circulated through the 'crowd tunnel' that had been formed by buzzing attendees, left all witnessing the great man with a tear of pride. Mona ran on strongly to give the crowd and his family what they were hoping for, breaking the record by around 300m.

The meet attracted 1800 people which considering weather, showed enormous potential and it clearly has a regular place on the Australian distance running calendar. Well done to Troopy and his hired hands.



Ron Clarke setting the one hour record in 1965

### Women 1 Mile Run - Fagg's Mitre 10

1. Anna Worland	4.57.43
2. Serena Coxhell	4.58.40
3. Josie Gellert	5.03.22
4. Susan Michellson	5.03.84
5. Kylie Edwards	5.09.35
6. Kristen Wyatt	5.31.28

### Women 800 Metre - Fagg's Mitre 10

1. Libby Allen	2.07.47
2. Katherine Katsanevakis	2.08.18
3. Erica Sigmont	2.09.19
4. Anneli Uys	2.11.05
5. Kylie Harris	2.14.99
6. Nora Henry	2.19.76

### Men Veterans 1 Mile Run - PowerFitness

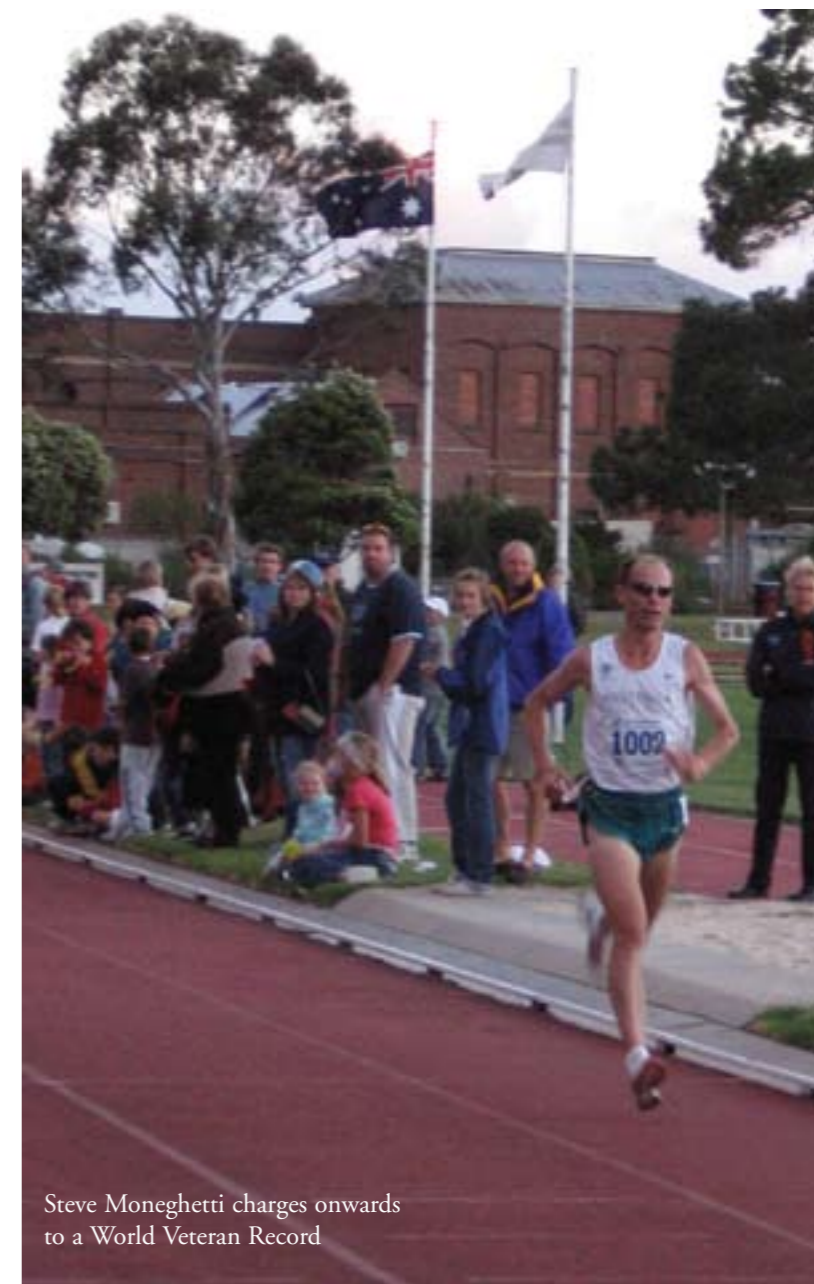
1. Dennis Boyle	4.41.82
2. Charlie El Hage	4.53.45
3. Graeme Watkins	4.53.91
4. Tony Kelly	4.55.06
5. Darren Riviere	4.57.06
6. Ken Walker	5.08.78

### Girls High School 1500 Metre - Subway

1. Kate Sly	4.52.98
2. Brittany Wood	4.55.65
3. Sarah James	4.55.94
4. Lynne Duthie	4.58.41
5. Eliza Curnow	5.00.06
6. Georgie Buckley	5.01.84

### Boys High School 1500 Metre - Subway

1. Ryan Christian	4.15.67
2. Michael Kenny	4.18.61
3. Tim Kilfoyle	4.20.06
4. Sam Withington	4.25.82
5. Oliver Dunbabin	4.26.51
6. Daniel Payne	4.29.03



Steve Moneghetti charges onwards to a World Veteran Record

### Results

#### Men 1 Hour - Wheeler Investment

1. Steve Moneghetti	19710m
2. Magnus Michelsson	19470m
3. Rowan Walker	19023m
4. Mark Boxer	17695m
5. David Wynn	17530m
6. Brett Coleman	17205m

#### Men 1 Mile Run - LaParisien/Wharfshed

1. Louis Rowan	4.00.42
2. Clint Perrett	4.08.67
3. Zac Ashkanasy	4.08.70
4. Mark Gorski	4.10.32
5. Nick Ashton	4.12.45
6. David Ruschena	4.12.71

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