

# Herald Sun/Citylink Run for the Kids

Sunday, April 9th, 2006

by Andrew Wear

The inaugural Herald Sun/Citylink Run for the Kids was a resounding success, with over 20,000 people taking on the unique 14.7km course. Becoming Victoria's biggest ever fun run, more than \$400,000 was raised for the Royal Children's Hospital.

**R**UN FOR the Kids looks set to become a regular feature on the Melbourne race calendar after its overwhelming success this year.

Attracted by the prospect of running the unique course that took in the Bolte Bridge and the Domain Tunnel, race director and marathon legend Steve Moneghetti expressed his astonishment at such an impressive turnout.

"The response to this event was nothing short of phenomenal. We found ourselves in the extraordinary position of having to limit the size of the field to ensure everyone had a safe and enjoyable experience – and wanted to come back next year!" Moneghetti said.

With the event doubling as the first event on the Athletics Victoria Winter Series calendar, almost 600 club runners started the race, filling virtually all of the top positions.

Charismatic wheelchair athlete Richard Colman took line honours in 31min 53 sec, while Rowan Walker from Geelong Region was first in the open

men's category in 44.42. Toby Rayner from Glenhuntly (44.51) and Liam Adams from Athletics Essendon (45.31) finished second and third respectively.

Lisa-Jane Weightman, who believes the race has the potential to match it with Sydney's City to Surf, was the first woman to cross in 50.13

However the biggest applause was reserved for second place getter, Kate Smyth (51.19). Delirious and severely dehydrated, Smyth became a national hero during the Commonwealth Games when she goose-stepped and eventually collapsed over the finish line in the Marathon. The Glenhuntly athlete was followed by Robyn Millard (APS) in 51.54. **RAYL**



Competitors making the most of their day out



Geelong's Scott Randall in full flight

It was a huge turn out for the first 'Run For The Kids'

RESULTS	
<b>Male</b>	
1. Rowan Walker	44.53
2. Toby Rayner	44.50
3. Liam Adams	45.31
4. Rod De Highden	45.38
5. Travis Longmuir	45.53
6. Scott Rantall	46.06
7. Martin Fedmowski	46.12
8. Chris Hamer	46.24
9. Lachlan McArthur	46.41
10. Linton Gloster	46.48
<b>Women</b>	
1. Lisa-Jane Weightman	50.13
2. Kate Symth	51.19
3. Robyn Millard	51.54



Photos: Herald & Weekly Times