

## Wombies 2016

### *For the more light-hearted moments in orienteering...*

- **LATE FOR HIS OWN CORONATION.** NSW participants at the Melbourne Sprint Weekend in March waiting to start the sixth and final race were wondering where was the M70 winner? He had wrapped up the title with five straight wins. Nick Dent commented that earlier in the day he had been chatting with the missing orienteer who had said to Nick that he'll see him around 5pm this afternoon for the last race. At the time Nick thought that he was kidding about a 5 o' clock start and that he was trying to fool Nick into turning up late and to miss his start. As it happened the starts for the final race commenced at 3pm (1500 does not equal 5pm), so at 3:02pm the missing orienteer was phoned. He replied that his start time was 5.06pm and he'd been back to his son's café and had a couple of beers with lunch, and that he'd only just woken up. When told his start time was in fact in 4 minutes, at first he did not believe it, but after a little more persuading and confirming that his start was actually 15:06 not 5:06, he declared "Oh s\*\*t", wondered if he could still get a run, then jumped in his car and sped to the event in 20 minutes, and got a late, but not readjusted start. Fortunately having won the first 5 events, his first place was guaranteed. The winner for the most relaxed but least prepared Wombie, goes to **Ross Barr (GO)**.
- **YOU CAN LEAD AN M70 TO WATER, BUT YOU CAN'T MAKE HIM THINK** - at SL12 at Belanglo, Terry Bluett emerged from the bush with a rival to a drinks control on a track junction. Terry punched the control and had a drink but our wombie just stood there puzzled. As Terry was leaving, the wombie asked – in a serious breach of etiquette no less - 'Where's the control?' Terry replied: 'Right there in front of you.' **Ron Junghans (GO)**... come on down!
- **THINKING CAPS ON PLEASE!** At SL11 at Boxvale Tramway our wombie had an early start. Because it was cold he wore a cap. His cap was knocked off in the green so he went back and retrieved it. Off he set and soon realised that he had no map so he went back to where his cap had been to try to find his map. He had a good look but couldn't find his map. It wasn't far into the course so he decided to go back to the start and get another map. On his way back his cap fell off again. He bent down to pick it up and there was his first map - neatly folded in his cap! **John Hodsdon (SH)**
- **DISTRACTED BY A 'FORM LINE'** - in Milan two days before attending two orienteering carnivals in Europe (Swiss O Week and WMOC in Estonia), our wombie thinks a bike ride on the island in Lago D'Iseo sounded like a good idea. He takes the train, then a ferry, and begins the circumnavigation on the two-wheeler. Coming down a steep hill at speed, he claims he turned his head to look at an 'interesting' house and crashes into a rocky bank/wall - doing serious damage (broken ulna and finger etc). He then spends almost a week in hospital trussed up in bandages, eventually gets to St Moritz, manages to walk Day 4 at SOW with his arm in a sling, but then decides home and rehab is the better option. Who was going to cook for the Barr/Junghans/Lithgow families in Tallinn? **James Lithgow (GO)**

- **GUINNESS WORLD RECORD** – at SL12 two orienteers took more than 3.5 hours to do their 6km long course. Their times have not been ‘beaten’ anywhere this year according to our nominator. **Ross Duker (GO)** and **Michael Roylance (BF)**.
- **NO.2 LATE BECAUSE OF NO.2** – At the Aus champs this wombie was competing in the relays for the first time and assumed, from perusing results at previous relays, that the first runners would take at least half an hour. So off he trotted uphill to join the queue for the loo, confident that as second runner he would have plenty of time to return to the assembly area for the handover. However – and despite pushing in ahead of the third-leg runners to get to the loo earlier – his first runner was competing on an easy course and alas finished in just 12 minutes. While she frantically searched the assembly area, and fellow NSW orienteers likewise looked around and called out, our wombie was ‘on the job’ so to speak. Upon returning to the relay scene he had already eaten up 7-8 minutes of race time. **Ian Jessup (GO)**.