

COUNTRY CHAMPS

Regional Centres converge on Bunbury!

Bunbury played host to an excellent Country Championships weekend on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd November at the Bunbury Regional Athletics Arena. This event provides a great opportunity for Little Athletes from across our vast state to compete.

414 athletes travelled from regions as far as Christmas Island, Newman, Esperance, Kalgoorlie and Geraldton.

Christmas Island Little Athlete Samuel Hicks said "It was the first time I had ever seen a synthetic track let alone run on one. All the other competitors made me feel welcome. Thank you for the opportunity to compete and I am looking forward to the Championships next year. Maybe I will bring my brothers and sister."

Over 300 track and field events were conducted during the weekend for Under 6 to Under 17 age groups. Credit goes to the host centre at Bunbury LAC and everyone involved in various capacities.

Many Personal Bests were achieved and new friendships sparked through the weekend!

Centres represented: Bunbury, Eastern Goldfields, Narrogin, Northam, Geraldton, Lower South West, Esperance, Collie, Albany, Denmark, Merredin & Newman.

Remember you can stay in touch with exciting news and stories from us through these E-News editions, walittleathletics.com.au and [facebook.com/walittleathletics](https://www.facebook.com/walittleathletics).





STATE RELAY CHAMPS

The State Track & Field Relay Championships on Sunday 14th December were our final state run event of 2014. Here are some snaps from the action. Well done to all of the competing teams and hard working volunteers involved in officiating or helping across the arena.



JETSTAR JUMPS

Jetstar have recently come on board as national naming rights partner of Little Athletics. Our athletes have been jumping for joy. Here are some of them snapped at the Country Championships and at Dale LAC.

If you and fellow Little Athletes are getting in the star jump spirit, just send your photo to admin@walittleathletics.com.au and we'll be happy to add it here!



PINKLETICS

Pinkletics Teams Challenge!

WA Little Athletics hosted the 'Pinkletics' Teams Challenge on Sunday 16th November at WA Athletics Stadium. This event is an opportunity for our Under 6 to Under 10 age groups to experience participating at WA's main track in a fun, mixed team event.

It was great to see the athletes and officials embracing the pink theme by sporting some fun costumes. The 'Pinkletics' initiative is a partnership with the McGrath Foundation to raise breast cancer awareness and support their crucial work in the community.

The final event on the track was our popular surprise shuttle relay. This year, competitors had to sprint on the track with pool noodles.

All participants received a showbag and went home with beaming smiles.





CENTRE SNAPSHOTS

Plenty of smiles at Esperance LAC!

WA Little Athletics representatives Frank Jamieson (board member for Athlete Development) and Abid Imam (Development Officer) visited Esperance between 4th-6th November. This is our furthest southern Centre in WA.

The three day visit involved education sessions conducted for coaches and athletes at the Centre and numerous school visits through the Little Athletics Program for Schools (LAPS) and School Ambassador program. Five Esperance Little Athletes also made the trip to Bunbury to represent their community at the Country Championships. What a great effort.



Happy times at Hamersley!

The Hamersley Little Athletics Centre were fortunate to have a special guest in national 100m hurdler Shannon McCann at their meeting on 29/11. Shannon was on hand to offer coaching tips and well wishes to all athletes. The athletes also enjoyed photo and signing opportunities. Pictured on the right are the U12 boys who have become great friends and thoroughly enjoy meeting up for training and competition.



Phillip Hughes Tributes

The sporting world was shocked to learn of the passing of talented young Australian cricketer Phillip Hughes. Jetstar Little Athletics WA sends its condolences to his family, friends and teammates. There were Little Athletics Centres across WA paying respect by joining the #PutYourBatOut campaign and/or observing a minute silence before competition.

BILL & BETTY ALLSOPP RELAYS

Some photos from the hugely popular Bill & Betty Allsopp Twilight Relays at Ern Clark Athletics Track on Tuesday 25th November. Photos from Nick Shore.



UWA HOSTS 'BIG 6'

The UWA 'Big 6' event on 12th December 2014 showcased the top athletes in our state in 5 events on a Friday night at McGillivray Oval. This year's event featured special guests such as Kim Mickle (Commonwealth Games gold medallist) and Jack Hale (Australian U18 100m record holder). It was also great to see Jack Hale, from Tasmania, and Melville sprinter Lachlan McDermott visiting UWA Little Athletics at their training session a few days before the meet. Hale went on to run the 100m in 10.68 seconds against a strong headwind on grass. Well done to UWA Little Athletics on a terrific concept.



Holiday closure Please note the WALA Office will be closed from Wed 17th December and will re-open on Monday 5th January.

We hope everyone enjoys the holidays and we look forward to seeing you in 2015 for the rest of our Little Athletics summer season. Be Your Best



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