

## ALEX HUTT OAM- AWARDED 1980s



A member of Sutherland Athletics Club, Alex Hutt was a most competitive athlete, loving the 800m distance in particular, and was a very strong supporter of athletics in the Shire.

He was a delegate to ANSW, a board member for winter events, and for many years he organised the Sydney City to Surf races, and the Sydney Morning Herald Half Marathon events.

The Sydney City2Surf has been held as an annual event since the first run on 5 September 1971, initially as a 15.1 km run that commenced in George Street, adjacent to Sydney Town Hall. It was conceived by the staff of *The Sun* and inspired by the Bay to Breakers event in San Francisco. The first event was jointly organised by the Amateur Athletic Association of NSW and the NSW Women's Amateur Athletic Association, with many of the entrants registered athletes belonging to the registered Athletic Clubs that were part of these two bodies.

Alex owned the metal fabrication company at Caringbah, which employed fellow Vet athlete Ron Whitham, and loaned a company truck to transport whatever was required for our functions and events. The same factory also manufactured the equipment the club might need to conduct events during our Championships, such as flags.

Alex was awarded the Order of Australia Medal in the Queen's Birthday honours list on 14 June 2004, for distinguished service to athletics as an administrator, and to the community through the Rotary Club of Cronulla.

*"When he was no longer able to run, he turned his hand to walking. This found him trekking through Ireland, the UK, parts of continental Europe and South America and many other overseas and local areas. Throughout his busy life his wife Alison and his children never lacked attention. He built their home and made it special. His son Phill said that his 74 years of living life to the full simply wore him out" – Norm Windred*

Alex passed away in 2006. His Thanksgiving Service was a celebration of an amazing life, was held at St Phillips Anglican Church in Caringbah on May 17th, and was packed to the rafters by people from many walks of life, wishing to pay tribute to him.