

## **Andrea Harvey**

### **Category- Volunteers**

Andrea is well known to Little Athletics Queensland members as the Association Secretary from September 1981 to 2003. Her involvement however at other levels is just as extensive and goes back as far as 1975 when she was the founding member of Kenmore Little Athletics Centre.

Andrea's involvement in Little Athletics was a family affair, after her eldest son showed interest in Athletics, and the family attended a meeting that resulted in the beginning of Kenmore Little Athletics Centre. All three of their children participated in Little Athletics, and her husband, George, ultimately went on to become President of the Australian Little Athletics Union from 1990 – 1994. Andrea was heavily involved in a range of roles at centre, state and national level.

She held positions at Kenmore Little Athletics Centre as a Centre Recorder and Records Officer between 1977 and 1982 and was a member of the Centre Management Committee from 1979 to 1982. In 1980 Indooroopilly Club was formed within Kenmore Centre and Andrea took on the roles of Club Manager for 2 years and Club Coach having attained her Level 1 ATFCA qualifications for a similar period. In 1984 she was awarded the very first Life Membership of Kenmore Centre.

At Little Athletics Queensland level, Andrea was Chief Recorder from 1979 to 1982, Records Officer from 1980 to 1984 and a member of the Convening Committee for the Australian Teams Championships (ATC) in 1981, 1989 and 1996. She was a Little Athletics Queensland representative at Australian Little Athletics Conferences from 1986 to 1993 and Chief Recorder for the ATC in 1981. Andrea was awarded Little Athletics Queensland Life Membership in 2001, and Little Athletics Queensland have named an annual centre award for Administration in her honour.

From 1990 to 1993 Andrea was the Records Officer for Australian Little Athletics and in 2000 was nominated by ALA to receive the Australian Sports Medal awarded by the Australian Government.

Andrea is a qualified Sports Administrator and in 1983 achieved Level 2 accreditation with the Australian Society of Sports Administrators (ASSA). In 1986 ASSA recognised her contribution to sports administration in Queensland by upgrading her membership status to that of Fellow of the Association.

## **Ken Gardiner**

### **Category- Volunteers**

Ken Gardiner has been involved in Little Athletics in NSW for 41 years. Ken, like most volunteers, became involved in Little Athletics through his own children. This first involvement was with the Finley Little Athletics Centre in the Riverina area of NSW in 1972. Ken is still a coach for Finley Little Athletics Centre to this day.

By the 1973/74 season, Ken was already heavily involved with the sport and took on the role of Riverina Zone Coordinator. Amazingly, Ken is still the Zone Coordinator for the Western Riverina Zone today, although he has not held this position continuously. He has on 4 occasions over the years held the position of Zone Coordinator - twice for the Riverina/Eastern Riverina Zone in the 70's & 80's and twice for the Western Riverina Zone from 1994-1998 and again from 2002-2012. Now, the name Ken Gardiner is synonymous with the term athletics in the Riverina area.

Ken's involvement has not however been limited to the local area. He was the assistant carnival manager at the LANSW State Championships in the mid 70's and continued as a chief high jump official throughout the 80's and 90's.

Ken was a LANSW State Team Manager from 1991 to 1995 and a Vice President of LANSW from 1993 to 2000. He has coached at numerous LANSW coaching camps and clinics over the years; presented at Introduction to Coaching Courses, Basic Event Instruction Courses, Officials Accreditation Seminars; and mentored countless officials and coaches.

Amazingly, Ken has only missed one LANSW Annual Conference in the last 40 years!! For obvious reasons, Ken was awarded Life Membership of LANSW in 1987.

Ken is still involved in Little Athletics today. He is and always will be one of Little Athletics NSW biggest contributors!

## **Patrick Mills**

### **Category- Sportsmen**

Patrick "Patty" Mills is an Indigenous Australian professional basketball player who currently plays for the San Antonio Spurs of the National Basketball Association. In the NBA, he has also played for the Portland Trail Blazers. He is one of the first Indigenous Australians to play basketball in the NBA, and is one of the youngest players ever to suit up for the Australian national basketball team, the Boomers. At the 2008 Olympic Games, he had the Australian team highest scoring average with 14.2 points per game, and at the 2012 Olympics, Mills had the highest scoring average of all players from all countries, with 21.2 points per game.

Born in Canberra, he was first exposed to basketball as a four-year-old with *The Shadows*, an Indigenous Australian team that his parents established.

Patrick participated in Little Athletics at Woden Little Athletics Centre from the age of 7 to 12. He excelled across a whole range of events and held records in many events, 6 of which still stand today.

At the age of 15, Patrick was selected for the ACT under-18 squad to compete in the Australian National Championships. The following year, Patrick accepted a full-time scholarship with the Australian Institute of Sport where he continued to develop as a player. He also made a strong impression at the 2005 Australian Youth Olympic Festival, where the team won gold.

In January 2006, he received the RE Staunton Medal as top player in the Australia under-20 national championships. In April that year he was named to the World team of under-20 players that played a US team of the same age group at the Nike Hoop Summit in Memphis, Tennessee. He was one of 22 players invited to try out for the Australia squad for the 2006 FIBA World Championship, becoming the youngest player ever to participate in a Boomers training camp. While he was in training with the Boomers in July, he was named by Basketball Australia as the Junior Male Player of the Year. He went on to be named the 2006 Basketball Australia Player of the Year, and in the same year, also received two major awards from Indigenous Australian organisations—The Deadly's Award for Most Promising New Talent in Sport and NAIDOC's National Sportsman of the Year.

Patrick became involved with the "Wears my Shirt" foundation, co-creating t-shirts which are sold with the aim of raising much needed funds for victims of the 2010 Queensland floods and other natural disasters, raising over \$40,000. He is also an Ambassador for the Cottage by the Sea charity, which supports disadvantaged children by providing leadership and outreach programs as well as developing their self-esteem in a positive, healthy, seaside environment.

## **Kimberlee Green**

### **Category- Sportsmen**

Kimberlee Green is an exciting and talented member of the NSW Swifts and the Australian Netball Diamonds team. Kim commenced playing netball at the age of 8, and at the same time she was also a member of the St George Little Athletics Centre in Sydney, showing great talent as a track and field athlete.

Kim twice represented LANSW at the Australian Little Athletics Championships; first as an U13 in Canberra in 1999 and then again as an U15 Multi-Event athlete in 2001 in Melbourne. Kim actually won the gold medal in the Multi-Event in Melbourne, just beating none other than Sally Pearson (McLellan) overall, and her time in the hurdles was only 0.1 seconds behind Sally.

Kim already has a string of Australian netball representative honours to her name, including selection in the Australian U21 Team, six consecutive years in the Australian Squad and a member of the Australian Diamonds Test Team since 2008.

Kim began her representative netball career playing in the Commonwealth Bank Trophy for the AIS Canberra Darters in 2001. Following one season with the Darters, she made her move to the Sydney Swifts, where she spent the following 6 seasons. In 2006 & 2007 she was involved in the Swifts' Premiership wins. In 2008, following the introduction of the new Trans-Tasman netball competition (the ANZ Championship), Kim secured herself a regular starting role with the newly formed NSW Swifts. They went on to win the inaugural ANZ Championship and Kim gained her reputation as one of the most formidable mid-court players in the tournament.

Kim has been in the Australian Netball Squad since 2005 and made her Australian Diamonds Test Debut in September 2008 against the New Zealand Silver Ferns. Kim is a current member of the Diamonds team and already has a number of test caps under her belt. During her international career, Kim has won a bronze medal at the 2009 World Netball Series in Manchester, and a silver medal at the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi. Kim was also a member of the victorious Australian Team at the 2011 World Netball Championships in Singapore.

Kim is a versatile netballer and can play all three mid-court roles, with Centre being her position of choice. It is anticipated that Kim will have many more international games in her career ahead.

## **Shane Crawford**

### **Category- Achievers**

Shane Crawford is a former Australian rules footballer, having played for the Hawthorn Football Club in the Australian Football League. He is currently an Australian television personality who appears regularly on the *AFL Footy Show*.

Shane spent his childhood in Finley, New South Wales and competed at Finley Little Athletics Centre. It has often been said that had Shane pursued athletics rather than AFL, he could have been a national 800m runner. He was selected by Hawthorn with the 13th pick in the 1991 AFL Draft and made his debut in 1993.

Shane played 305 career AFL games. He is also a four-time All-Australian player and played in three International Rules series' for Australia. He became Captain of Hawthorn in 1999 and that season also won the AFL's top individual honours, the Brownlow Medal and the Leigh Matthews Trophy. He has won four Hawthorn *Best & Fairest Awards* and came second in the Brownlow in 2003, missing out by just one vote.

In 2008, Shane won his first Premiership in his 305th AFL match, aged 34. He played more AFL games before receiving his first Premiership Medal than any other player in AFL history.

He ended his career after Hawthorn won the 2008 Grand Final, and is now remembered as one of the greatest midfielders in the modern era of AFL football. In 2012 Shane was inducted in the Australian Football Hall of Fame.

Shane is currently a television presenter on Channel Nine. He is now a permanent panel member of *The Footy Show*. In 2009 Shane set five Guinness world records during broadcasts of *The Footy Show*.

Shane is an Ambassador for Breast Cancer Network Australia. In September 2010, Shane completed a 780 km run from Rundle Mall in Adelaide to the Channel 9 studio in Melbourne to raise awareness for breast cancer. He took a total of 11 days to complete the run. In 2013 he cycled from Melbourne to Perth in a fundraising event named "Tour de Crawf". He raised over \$1.32 million for the Breast Cancer Network Australia, cycling a total of 3,600 kms – that's an average of 170 kms per day. Through his charity achievements for Tour de Crawf, plus That's What I'm Walkin' About and Celebrity Apprentice, Shane has now raised more than \$2.5 million for Breast Cancer Network Australia.

## **Jane Flemming**

### **Category- Track & Field**

Jane Flemming started Little Athletics in under 8 in 1973, at Fairpark Little Athletics Club, part of Knox Little Athletics Centre. She competed in the 1975/76 State Championships, winning silver in 60m Hurdles and 100m Hurdles, and winning gold in the 4 x 100m relay. In 1977 she finished at Knox Little Athletics Centre, as they didn't offer age groups beyond U12, then joining Knox Women's Club. She went on to accept a full time scholarship at the AIS in 1985. She competed in her first Commonwealth Games in 1986, winning silver in the Heptathlon. In 1987, she represented Australia at her first World Championships, and again in 1988 at her first Olympic Games.

In 1990, Jane won gold in the Long Jump, and also in the Heptathlon at the Commonwealth Games in Auckland, setting the Australian record for the highest Heptathlon points score, a record that still stands today. She again represented Australia at the 1992 Olympic Games in the Heptathlon, but unfortunately suffered an injury in the first event, and was unable to complete the event.

In 1993, Jane was named Australian Female Athlete of the Year, and in 1994 she competed at the Commonwealth Games, in three separate events, winning silver in the Heptathlon.

Over 9 seasons of Australian National Championships, she won a total of thirteen open titles – 5 in the Heptathlon, 5 in the 100m Hurdles, 2 in the 100m and 1 in the 100 yard event.

1997 saw Jane announce her retirement from athletics to focus on media and commercial commitments. Since then, she has started several successful businesses, published a book, and become an Ambassador for the National Breast Cancer Foundation. She has commentated at a number of Commonwealth Games, Olympic Games and World Championships, and hiked the Kokoda Track and climbed Mt Kilimanjaro to raise money for charity. In 2008, her twin sons were born, Samuel and James, and 12 weeks later, the whole family, including the new additions, were in Beijing for her commentary commitments for the Olympic Games. Jane's businesses continue to be successful, and she is also an established MC and keynote speaker for a range of occasions.

## **Sally Pearson**

### **Category- Track & Field**

Sally Pearson is a name synonymous with athletics in Australia. She has represented Australia in 5 World Championships, 2 Olympic Games and 2 Commonwealth Games, and has enjoyed many successes throughout her career.

Sally began in Little Athletics at the age of 11 at Helensvale Little Athletics Centre in Queensland. Primarily a sprinter and hurdler, she was also a capable long and high jumper, and won a swathe of Little Athletics and primary school titles. In 1999, at the state championships, Sally met Sharon Hannon, who was to become her long-term coach. Sadly, this coaching relationship came to an end just last week, on good terms.

Sally rose to prominence in 2001, when at the age of only 14, she won the Australian under-20 100m title. After injury setbacks during 2002 she made her international debut at the 2003 World Youth Championships in Canada and won gold in the 100 m hurdles. The following month, still only 16 years old, she represented Australia at open level at the 2003 World Championships in Paris, France as part of the 4 x 100 m relay team. She was the youngest Australian athlete to be selected for this competition. In 2004 she won bronze in the 100 m at the World Junior Championships, and just missed out on a medal in the 100 m hurdles.

In 2005, Sally won four medals at the Commonwealth Youth Games in Bendigo and then at the Australian championships became the first woman to win the 100m/100m hurdles double after dead heating in the hurdles. She competed in her first Commonwealth Games in 2006, winning bronze in the 4 x 100 m relay.

In the lead up to the 2008 Olympic Games, she shifted her focus solely to the 100 m hurdles. Sally ran the fastest time ever by an Australian at the Olympics in the 100m hurdles. She then bettered this in her semi-final, qualifying for the final. Sally ran brilliantly, winning silver, and Australia's first ever Olympic medal in the 100m hurdles.

At the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi, India, Sally was ultimately disqualified after winning the 100m sprint. She then went on to win gold in the 100m hurdles. She also won gold at the 2010 World Cup. 2011 saw her win gold at the World Championships, with the fourth fastest time in history. Her near perfect results saw her claim 15 of the 16 100m hurdles races she competed in throughout the year.

In November 2011 the IAAF awarded Sally as the 2011 Female Athlete of the Year. She is the first Australian to receive this award.

Coming into the 2012 London Olympics, for the 100m hurdles Sally had won 32 races from 34 starts. Sally won gold with a new Olympic record time of 12.35s. She also won gold at the 2012 World Indoor Championships.

Sally competed in Moscow at the 2013 IAAF World Championships, and despite a limited preparation due to injury, won silver. We look forward to seeing much more of Sally in the future. Sally is a great advocate of Little Athletics, and can always be found encouraging young athletes and acknowledging her beginnings in Little Athletics.