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COMMEMORATIVE 2024 NZ 10,000M CHAMPS

EVENTS FROM 7PM • SATURDAY 13 JANUARY
CALEDONIAN GROUND, LOGAN PARK, DUNEDIN

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50 years ago, Dick Tayler from Winchester South Canterbury, Arika Club's favourite son trained by the legendary Arthur Lydiard, stunned the athletic world when he seemingly came from nowhere to defeat the world champion David Bedford in the 10,000m, the opening track event of the 1974 Christchurch Commonwealth games. The American Track and Field magazine described this race as one of the top 25 races of all time, and on that day Dick Tayler set a NZ 10K record of 27:46 that still stands as a NZ resident record today.

Athletics Otago are thrilled that Athletics NZ have awarded them the hosting of the national 10,000m champs on the 13th January 2024 as a fitting tribute to the 50th anniversary of Dick's epic victory.

To attract the highest quality field of distance athletes seen in New Zealand for years, accommodation and a limited contribution to airfares is being offered on a first come/first served basis to elite Australian and New Zealand athletes.

Please apply in the first instance to russell@lunds.co.nz.

Generous prize money is also being offered. Prize money for the Senior Men and Senior Women NZ 10,000m races, with the Junior Men (running with the Senior Men) being eligible should they feature in the first 5 confirmed placegetters.

1st: \$750 • 2nd: \$500 • 3rd: \$400 • 4th: \$250 • 5th: \$100

In addition, \$1,000 will be put up for the first NZ male/female athlete to break their respective NZ 10,000m resident records (27.46.4, Dick Tayler) (32.00.17, Anne Audain).

The evening will comprise 4 races from 7.00–9.15pm as follows:

7.00pm: Open 10,000m/Relay combo
(sponsored by Tansley Electrical)

This is intended purely as a fun community event, no electronic timing with lap counting being the sole responsibility of the individual or team. Timing will be by Webscorer, with the mat at the start/finish line, where any/all changeovers are to take place.

Those running the full 10,000m on their own, will have priority over the inside lane, with 50 min being the cutoff in terms of estimated time/ability of all individuals or teams entered due to time constraints. Relay teams can comprise a maximum of 5 team members (not restricted by club, age or gender), with any combination of distances. A team of 5 could run a lap each, in any order, 5 times, and see how close they get to Dick's 1974 time of 27.45!

Qualification races for the 2024 World Cross Country to follow being:

8.00pm: Junior Women/U18 5,000m
(sponsored by Arika (Dunedin) Athletics & Harrier Club)

8.30pm: NZ Champs 10,000m — Senior Women
(sponsored by Lund Construction)

9.15pm: NZ Champs 10,000m — Senior & Junior Men
(sponsored by Impact Roofing & Plumbing)

Athletics Otago reserves the right to limit the entries to the championship events to the most competitive athletes due to the limited time available.

Entry and Entry Fees online at www.athleticsotago.co.nz

Open 10,000m/Relay entrants: \$25 each participant

JW/U18W 5,000m: \$25

NZ 10,000m championships: \$45

Entries close: midnight Saturday 6 January 2024.

The first 100 entrants (subject to finishing) to any of the above events will receive a 2024 Dick Tayler 50th Anniversary 10,000m commemorative medal.

The event will be live streamed with Dick Tayler himself at the event providing commentary on the races (together with experienced Athletics NZ commentators), and to present the championship medals.

Headline Sponsor:

Impact Roofing & Plumbing Limited

Supporting Sponsors:

Tansley Electrical, Lund Construction, Arika (Dunedin) Amateur Athletics & Harrier Club, LM Lofts & The Thomas Gregg Apartments