

# In Focus – Maurice Creagh

## The genial Irishman



A longstanding club member, Maurice is a font of Australian running lore which he recounts in his strong Irish brogue. He started running in his native Ireland about fifty years ago with a local club – mostly cross country but with some track racing too. Leaving the Emerald Isle in 1968 in search of adventure Maurice ended up in Melbourne, running with the East Melbourne Harriers.

His work in the mining industry took him to various locations in Australia, but he always found an outlet for running. He ran with Copper City Athletic Club in Mt Isa, and in 1972 came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Country Championships in Bundaberg. He also won the 1500m and 5000m in the Queensland Championships. In the '80s he was a member of the Goldfield Harriers and took part in the famous Golden Mile foot race through Kalgoorlie.

Nowadays he prefers the 5000m and 10000m. He runs with the Marathon Club in addition to being a regular on both our Sunday runs and the Thursday track sessions. In the recent 4x1500 relays he pocketed state records in both the M55 and M60 age groups and in the National Championship relays he was part of the M55 team that set a state record in the 4x800m.

*JO – March 2008*