

2026 POWERCOR STAWELL GIFT ATHLETE INFORMATION GUIDE



2026 POWERCOR STAWELL GIFT

Saturday April 4 - Monday April 6

Central Park, Stawell, Victoria, Australia

VICTORIAN ATHLETIC LEAGUE
STAWELL ATHLETIC CLUB
STAWELL GIFT EVENT MANAGEMENT
360 SPORT & ENTERTAINMENT
GRAVITY MEDIA
CHANNEL 7
LITTLE ATHLETICS VICTORIA
NORTHERN GRAMPPIANS SHIRE



"EVER FOREMOST"

EVENT TIMETABLE



Saturday, 4 April 2026

EVENT	TYPE	TIME
Welcome to country		9:15 AM
Northern Grampians Shire Council Womens Handicap – 800m	Heats	9:30 AM
Hipworth Athletic Club Under 18 Handicap – 800m	Heats	9:40 AM
Powercor Little Athletics Victoria Handicap – 800m	Heats	9:55 AM
Change Our Game Womens' Handicap - 70m	Heats	10:33 AM
Arthur Postle Handicap – 70m	Heats	11:20 AM
Past Runner's Association Masters' Handicap – 1600m	Final	11:54 AM
Arthur Postle Handicap – 70m	Heats	12:04 PM
Official Opening Ceremony of the 2025 Powercor Stawell Gift	Opening Ceremony	12:32 PM
Powercor Womens Gift – 120m	Heats	12:42 PM
Powercor Stawell Gift Handicap – 120m	Heats	1:29 PM
Stawell Gift Hall of Fame Backmarkers Handicap – 1600m	Final	2:07 PM
Powercor Stawell Gift Handicap – 120m	Heats	2:15 PM
Dulkeith Technologies Hank Neil Masters' Handicap – 100m	Heats	2:53 PM
Northern Grampians Shire Council Women's Handicap – 800m	Final	3:42 PM
Hipworth Athletic Club Under 18 Handicap – 800m	Final	3:52 PM
Powercor Little Athletics Victorian Handicap – 800m	Final	4:02 PM
Fashions at Central Park Parade		4:07 PM
Stawell Family Central Park Frontmarkers' Handicap – 400m	Heats	4:17 PM
Stawell Gold Mine Bill McManus Backmarkers' Handicap – 400m	Heats	4:38 PM
Close of 200m Handicaps		5:10 PM

Sunday, 5 April 2026

EVENT	TYPE	TIME
Powercor Little Athletics Victoria Boys' Handicap – 100m	Heats	9:25 AM
Powercor Little Athletics Victoria Girls' Handicap – 100m	Heats	9:55 AM
Change Our Game Womens' Handicap – 70m	Semi	10:26 AM
WH Earle Handicap – 550m	Heats	10:45 AM
Fiji Airways Lorraine Donnan Women's Handicap – 400m	Heats	11:07 AM
Stawell Times News Under 18 Boys Handicap – 100m	Heats	11:28 AM
Skillinvest Under 18 Girls Handicap – 100m	Heats	11:51 AM
Victory Restricted Handicap – 1600m	Final	12:26 PM
Change Our Game Womens' Handicap – 70m	Final	12:35 PM
Bill Howard Handicap – 100m	Heats	12:45 PM
Stawell Times News Under 18 Boys Handicap – 100m	Semi	1:26 PM
Skillinvest Under 18 Girls Handicap – 100m	Semi	1:34 PM
Arthur Postle Handicap – 70m	Semi	1:42 PM
VAL Under 14 Series Handicap – 100m	Final	1:59 PM
Masters Handicap Open – 300m	Heats	2:09 PM
35+ Handicap Womens – 300m	Heats	2:38 PM
Arthur Postle Handicap – 70m	Final	2:52 PM
Stawell Times News Under 18 Boys Handicap – 100m	Final	3:02 PM
Skillinvest Under 18 Girls Handicap – 100m	Final	3:05 PM
Bill Howard Handicap – 100m	Semi	3:13 PM
Powercor Little Athletics Victoria Handicap – 400m	Heats	3:29 PM
Official Supporters Club Stawell Frontmarkers' Handicap – 1600m	Final	4:05 PM
WH Earle Handicap – 550m	Final	4:15 PM
Furphy Jack Donaldson Handicap – 200m	Heats TBC	4:25 PM

Monday, 6 April 2026

EVENT	TYPE	TIME
Powercor Lineys 120m Handicap	Final	9:30 AM
Dulkeith Technologies Hank Neil Masters' Handicap – 100m	Semi	9:40 AM
Northern Grampians Shire Council Handicap – 800m	Heats	9:55 AM
Deakin University U18 Series - 400m	Final	10:24 AM
Powercor Little Athletics Victoria Handicap – 400m	Final	10:34 AM
Stawell Athletic Club Jack Donaldson Handicap – 200m	Semi	10:44 AM
Powercor Little Athletics Victoria Boys Handicap 100m	Semi	11:03 AM
Powercor Little Athletics Victoria Girls Handicap 100m	Semi	11:09 AM
Dulkeith Technologies Hank Neil Masters' Handicap – 100m	Final	11:20 AM
LIVE TELEVISION BROADCAST COMMENCES		
Herb Hedemann Invitation Handicap - 1600m	Final	11:38 AM
Promotion - Cathy Freeman anniversary etc		
Powercor Women's Gift- 120m	Semi	12:00 PM
Powercor Stawell Gift – 120m	Semi	12:43 PM
Fiji Airways Lorraine Donnan Women's Handicap – 400m	Final	1:20 PM
Stawell Gold Mines Bill McManus Backmarkers' Handicap – 400m	Final	1:30 PM
Powercor Women's Gift- 120m	Final	1:45 PM
Krause Bricks Backmarkers Invitation Handicap- 120m	Final	2:05 PM
Powercor Stawell Gift – 120m	Final	2:20 PM
LIVE TELEVISION BROADCAST CONCLUDES		
RAFFLE TICKET DRAW		2:35 PM
John Toleman Grampians Handicap – 3200m	Final	2:50 PM
Northern Grampians Shire Council Handicap – 800m	Final	3:05 PM
Masters Handicap – 300m	Final	3:15 PM
35+ Women's Handicap - 300m	Final	3:25 PM
Furphy Jack Donaldson Handicap- 200m	<i>Final</i>	3:35 PM
Powercor Little Athletics Victoria Boys' Handicap – 100m	Final	3:45 PM
Powercor Little Athletics Victoria Girls' Handicap – 100m	Final	3:55 PM
Bill Howard Handicap – 100m	Final	4:05 PM
Stawell Family Central Park Frontmarkers' Handicap – 400m	Final	4:15 PM
Presentations of Cummings, Walker and Lewis Trophies		4:25 PM
Powercor Little Athletics Victoria Handicap – 1600m	Final	4:35 PM
Sean Quilty Masters 45+ Series - 800m	Final	4:45 PM



VENUE ENTRY



GENERAL ADMISSION

All Tickets Must be purchased via Ticketek.

We strongly encourage all tickets to be purchased in advance to minimise delays at the venue.

Ticketek Box Offices are located at both gates at Central Park for those unable to purchase tickets online.

At the point of sale at the Ticketek Box Offices, purchasers will be required to provide personal details, such as name, date of birth, address, email address and phone number as part of the ticketing transaction in the same manner as an on-line ticket purchase.

More details [HERE](#)

ATHLETE & REGISTERED TRAINER PASSES

Athletes who have entered to compete will need to collect their 'Athlete Pass' for the weekend from the Stawell Gift Hall of Fame. Collection is available on Good Friday from 10.30am - 4.30pm and then from 8.30am each day till the last event. Athletes will receive three wrist bands, one for each day as part of their athlete pass.

Registered Trainers and coaches can collect their passes from the Stawell Gift Hall of Fame – the full list of VAL registered Trainers can be found [HERE](#). Please note if your name is not listed you will need to purchase an entry ticket from Ticketek as registrations with the VAL have closed.

EVENT PROGRAM \$5

The event program will be available for purchase from the Stawell Gift Hall of Fame and from both the White & Maroon entry gates.

Athletes will find their designated heat, handicap and race colour, in the program. There will be a new program for Easter Monday with all semi-final & final fields.

Athletes and trainers will need to purchase a program; they are not covered by the entry fees.

A live program can be found at val.org.au which will have the heat draws, colours, handicaps, and is populated with results as races are finished, and lists progressions to future rounds (with the exception of the Powercor Stawell Gift and Powercor Women's Stawell Gift semi-final draws).

LIVESTREAM & BROADCAST

The 2026 Powercor Stawell Gift will be broadcast live and free on Seven and 7plus.

- Easter Saturday 4th April: From 9.25am on 7plus
- Easter Sunday 5th April: From 9.25am on 7plus
- Powercor Stawell Gift Easter Monday 6st April: From 9.25am on 7plus and 11.35am to 2.30pm on Channel 7. Then 2.30pm to 4.40pm on 7plus



Download the 7plus app for your Smart TV, mobile or tablet [NOW!](#)

ATHLETE INFORMATION

RACE ACCEPTANCES



All runners must 'accept' for their race, prior to taking the start line.

Acceptances close 20 minutes prior to the first heat of that event. **Athletes who fail to accept for their race may be subject to a fine or not permitted to compete.**

Athletes competing in several events throughout the weekend can accept for the first race and subsequent events at the same time. Please check in early. If you have accepted for an event but can no longer take your place in the race, please scratch 20 minutes prior to the event start time.

If you have decided to withdraw from an event, officials must be notified that you are a 'scratching' from that particular event.

The acceptance and scratching stewards are located in the secretary's tent (ph: 5358 1326) located on the infield at Central Park, near the circle track finish line.

Scratching from the Powercor Stawell Gift 120m & Powercor Women's Gift 120m

Scratching's must be made in writing and delivered to the Club no later than **7:00pm Friday, 3rd April, 2026** (Good Friday). Please email admin@stawellgift.com to scratch prior to this time.

Athletes do not need to 'accept' for either 120m Gift, they're considered 'accepted' and running if they have not scratched by 7pm the night before.

Jack Donaldson Handicap 200m

Runners must accept for the 200m by 5:10pm Saturday, 4th April, 2026.

Heats will then be drawn and published for Easter Sunday. If you do not 'accept', you will be deemed to have scratched from the event and will not be added after the 5.30pm cut off.

Athletes please note – your colours will not be available to collect from the colour tent until 15 minutes before the first heat of the event that you are in.



ATHLETE INFORMATION

ATHLETE BIO'S

To help us provide the most up to date information during the 2026 Powercor Stawell Gift Carnival, we kindly ask all athletes who have registered to compete to fill out their athlete bio, specifically if you are competing in races featured on the live broadcast on Easter Monday including the Powercor Stawell Gift 120m, Powercor Women's Gift 120m, Bill McManus Backmarkers 400m, Lorraine Donan Women's 400m, Invitational 1000m.

<https://www.stawellgift.com/off-the-track/athlete-bios/>

Your information will only be used for broadcast purposes.

VICTORIAN ATHLETIC RULES AND REGULATIONS

All events will be conducted under Victorian Athletic League (VAL) rules and regulations. These can be found [HERE](#)

It is imperative you make yourself familiar with the rules, conditions, and guidelines prior to your event.

ATHLETE HANDICAPS

Athlete handicaps for the 2026 Stawell Gift have been declared and available [HERE](#).

Any handicap queries should be directed to the VAL via handicaps@val.org.au

DRUG TESTING

The Victorian Athletic League anti-doping policy is the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy, effective from 1 January 2021, and can be found [here](#) on the Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) website.

All members, participants and non-participants in the Victorian Athletic League are bound by these rules. SIA will be conducting random testing at the 2026 Powercor Stawell Gift carnival.

ACCESS/ WARM UP

Friday 3rd April, 2026 (Good Friday)

There is **strictly** no warming up allowed on the arena on Good Friday. Athletes and trainers can utilise the Stawell Athletics Track, located 7-15 Lamont St, North Park, Stawell. However please note that there is a football match being played there on Good Friday, and access will only be available from 4pm.

Saturday 4th – Monday 6th April

Athletes may warm up on the arena, however when events are being conducted you must sit down in the middle of the venue. **When not competing or warming up, athletes should leave the infield.** Please be reminded that only registered athletes and trainers are permitted on the infield. This is a VAL rule in which fines and/or penalties may be enforced.

RESULTS

Event results and progressions will be available in a number of places –

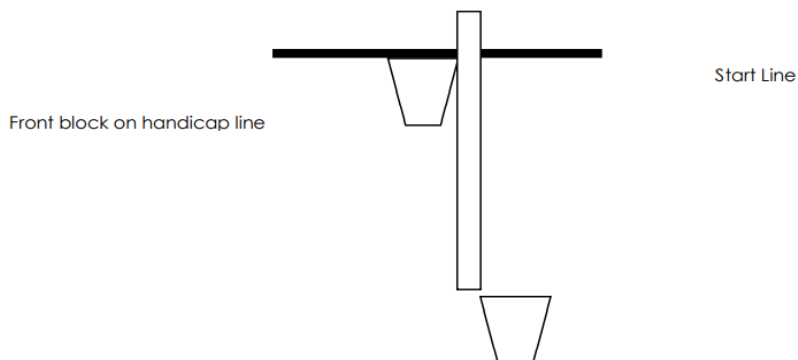
- Via the Live Program at val.org.au
- On the board next to the main grandstand
- Online on the VAL website at the end of the day
- Broadcast throughout the venue



ATHLETE INFORMATION

STARTING

Athletes can place the front block or foot behind the start line where they have been handicapped. So long as this block is on the line it does not matter if your hands are in front of the line.



Starting Instructions:

Sprint events ($\leq 200\text{m}$): "On Your Marks" ... "Set" ...and the gun.

Circular events (300m+): Two whistles and the gun. First whistle is "On your Marks", Second whistle is "Set"; then the gun.

*Blocks are not permitted for events 300m+

VAL rules. There are no size restrictions as to the length of spikes.

. This means the spot where the athlete with the lowest handicap is starting. You will be given instructions by the starter then told to walk out to your mark or handicap starting position.



COLOURS / ATTIRE

Prior to the marshalling of your event, you must collect your designed race colour/number singlet as indicated in the event program. The colour singlet tent is located on the outside of the arena to the right of the Stawell football Club rooms on the back straight.

SAC/ VAL colours must be worn for all races. You will not be able to collect your colour until 15 minutes before the first heat of your event. Athletes should not be bare chested on the arena at any stage – you must wear some sort of attire underneath your colour.

RACE MARSHALLING

For all sprint events (<400m) you will be called to marshal just before your scheduled event time and will await starters instructions.

For all circular events (400m+) you will be called to marshal at the backmarkers handicap

PRESENTATIONS

If an athlete wins a final, they will be required to attend the presentation dais to be presented with their sash immediately following the race.

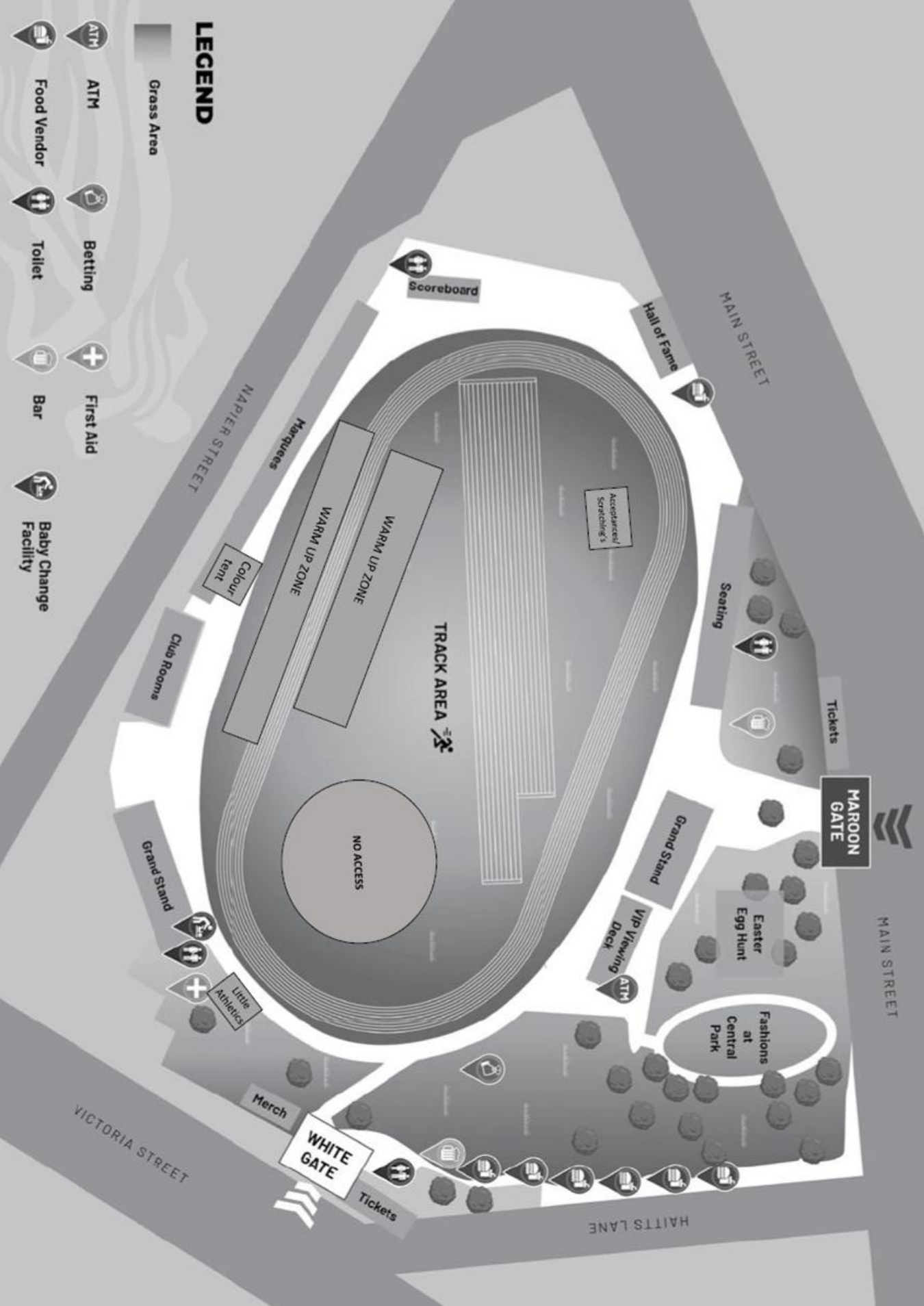
PRIZEMONEY

All prizemoney will be paid via electronic transfer – athletes will need to complete the below scan the QR code on the Stawell event page at val.org.au *There will also be a QR code at the colour tent where you can scan and complete the prizemoney claim form.

Please note due to the high volume of transactions, payouts can take a few weeks to be processed.

If you have any issues entering your details or claiming your prizemoney, please email admin@sgemltd.com.au

VENUE MAP



EVENT INFORMATION



Saturday, 4th April 2026

FASHIONS DAY

Event Start Time	Box Office Opens	Gates Open
9:30am	8:30am	9:00am*

Sunday, 5th April 2026

FAMILY DAY

Event Start Time	Box Office Opens	Gates Open
9:25am	8:30am	9:00am*

Monday, 6th April 2026

FINALS DAY

Event Start Time	Box Office Opens	Gates Open
9:30am	8:30am	9:00am*

*Competing athletes & Registered Trainers can enter via the Stawell Gift Hall of Fame from 8.30am each morning.





BETTING

Think you can pick a winner?

Bookmakers will be on-site at Central Park for the 2026 Powercor Stawell Gift. Spectators will be able to place bets related to adults on open age races at the 2026 carnival, however, minors participating in those events will be excluded from all betting markets – good luck!

The Stawell Gift Betting Rules can be found [HERE](#)

Gamble responsibly



FASHIONS DAY AT CENTRAL PARK

The 2026 **Fashions at Central Park**, will once again give ladies (and gents) the opportunity to showcase their latest autumn carnival looks at the Powercor Stawell Gift this Easter Saturday.

Winners are judged on elegance, exceptional style and classic carnival race wear (must be 18 to be eligible).

Lady of the Day: \$1000, hamper
Best Dressed Gent: \$1000, hamper
Best Hat: \$250, hamper

SCHEDULE & ENTRIES AVAILABLE ONLINE: [HERE](#)

Entries open Easter Saturday between 1.30pm - 3.00pm

Judging from 3.15pm
Fashions Day presentation 4.10pm

EVENTS OFF THE TRACK

BOOK LAUNCH

Cathy Freeman is a star who shines on as an inspiration.

The new book, "That Race", celebrates the 1996 Stawell women's 400 metres, and the rise of a superstar. But it's much more. It's the six other women in that race, plus eight from other sports whose journeys will stay with us. Each story explores significant life moments away from the roar of the crowd.

VAL board member and runner, David Griffin, has authored this incredible book, and will be released on Good Friday at 6pm in the Stawell Football/Netball Clubrooms (enter via Napier Street).

Alongside the book release, a Q&A with Cathy Freeman, plus much more.

Book your ticket to the launch via bit.ly/that-race-book, with all proceeds going to charity.



2026 SASH CLUB FUNCTION – Sunday 5th April 2026

If you have won a race or trained a winner over nominated distance at any Stawell Gift, you are invited to attend the 'Sash Club' function at the Powercor Stawell Gift.

Join Host Jason Richardson at the Central Park Stawell Football Club Rooms on the evening of Sunday April 5, 2026 with your family and friends as we celebrate Stawell Gift winners and their coaches over all distances of current and winners over the decades.

The aim of the Sash Club is to bring together the running community not only at the Stawell Gift but throughout the year to celebrate our great sport and the many friendships and connections going back over many decades.

A nominal cost of \$20 covers entry and nibbles. Drinks on sale at bar prices.

Function starts at 5.30pm on Sunday night – order your ticket [HERE](#)

STAWELL GIFT FAMILY DAY

Join us for Family Day this Easter Sunday at the 2026 Powercor Stawell Gift.

Experience the fun of Family Day at the Powercor Stawell Gift with a host of activities for the whole family to enjoy on Easter Sunday at Central Park, Stawell. And its all free for under 12's. Join the hunt for more than 7,000 easter eggs, get your face painted or meet the stars of Australian athletics. Enjoy family fun at Central Park even if you're not running. Come and meet our Powercor mascots, Max and Pippa, enjoy fun activities and giveaways, or ride high above the ground to see the world like a liney.

Sunday Family Day activities include:

- Kids Athletics Clinic – 9.00am – 9.25am
- Face Painting – 10.00am – 4.00pm
- Easter egg hunt – 11.30am – 12.15pm (must register before)
- Sports and Fun Zone with Kelly Sports – 1pm – 3.30pm

For more details and to registration for the Easter egg hunt please click [HERE](#)

STAWELL GIFT HALL OF FAME

The Stawell Gift Hall of Fame, located at Central Park in Stawell, is a must-see attraction for school groups, locals and visitors alike.

An integral part of our nation's history, the Hall of Fame is a veritable treasure trove, complete with artefacts, memorabilia, multimedia clips and archives dating back to the inception of the Gift in 1878.

A magnificent vision library of Gift finals is available for your viewing pleasure.

Search the touchscreen to look up races from the 1950's through to current day – including Gift finals and some of the other great moments that make up the long and colourful history of the Gift.

8 Main Street, Stawell – at Central Park

MORE INFORMATION

VICTORIAN ATHLETIC LEAGUE

Phone: (03) 5437 3507

Email: val@val.org.au

www.val.org.au

STAWELL ATHLETIC CLUB & HALL OF FAME

Location: 8 Main St, Stawell, Victoria, Australia 3380

Phone: (03) 5358 1326

Email: admin@stawellgift.com

www.stawellgift.com

EVENT MEDIA ENQUIRIES

360 Sport & Entertainment

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