

Robin White, President of Moonah Homing Society- Bird Club

'Welcome! It gives me great pleasure to launch our exciting new website. Moonah Homing Society was formed in 1926 and has a proud history and tradition. Over the years the club has always catered for sprint and distance racing and has maintained a strong membership base. I hope that you enjoy browsing the following pages and gain from them an insight in our club and its members.'

A Short History of the Moonah Homing Society. Compiled by B. Jensen.

Cooley's Hotel, previously the Horse and Jockey, was the setting of the first meeting of the Moonah Homing Society. Local businessman, L R Hewitt, with the support of E J Keady, J Gaffney and A Schofield convened a meeting of all interested parties and racing began in late 1926.

In the early years meetings continued at the Cooley's Hotel with some special meetings taking place at houses of members.

In 1945 a new clubroom was constructed on council land in Hopkins Street. After the sale of this land the club moved into the vacant railway station and remained there until the station was dismantled.

During this time the society was struggling for support and had a core membership of only seven. This prompted the words from a then member that, 'we should go into recess.' Fortunately the membership did not agree and with some hard work, a change of flying systems to a combinations of velocity and overfly and a rostering of sprint and distance races, the club managed to continue and grow; Ten new flyers bolstered the ranks of the members. At this time flyer Ron Trepkowski made a major contribution to the club's survival by allowing the club to move into a room in his house.

A new era began for the club began in 1988 when it moved into the creche building at the Royal Hobart Showgrounds, Glenorchy. It was here that club grew strong and strengthened its membership base.

After 25 years the club was on the move again moving its clubrooms to the rooms under the heritage listed grandstand; The 'best' clubrooms in Tasmania. Currently the club boasts a flying membership in excess of 25 and a number of non flying social members and Saturday mornings are a scene of delight, with many members actively involved race days interactions.

Brian Coleman, winner of the Sprint Points and equal winner of the Overall Points for 2014. Brian, a sprint specialist is renowned for his competitive zeal and his tough, relentless training regime.

These qualities have made him a dominant force in sprint racing in the Moonah club over the past decade. Combining other pursuits and pigeon racing makes distance racing a difficult proposition for Brian however his keen eye for a good pigeon and his 'have a go,' attitude makes him a fierce competitor.