



MEDIA RELEASE
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Troop Triumphs In Hobart

The 7th of February was a day of firsts in the city of Hobart. The first time the community had been permitted to run over the Tasman Bridge. The first time a major event finished out the front of Salamanca and it was Lee Troops first victory at the inaugural B&E Personal Banking Hobart Run The Bridge.

Over 1300 athletes took to the start line in the first ever B&E Hobart Run The Bridge. The course was thought to be a challenging one with two steep climbs and some up and down terrain over the 10 kilometres. It was thought that the course would be a slow one due to the hills but this thought was blown away by Lee Troop who savaged the course in a sizzling time of 29 minutes 41 seconds. Troop was closely followed by Shane Nankervis (29mins 53secs) and Mark Tucker (30min 13secs), who just missed out on the Tasmania 10km trifecta. The elite boys had a surprise on their tails with age group athlete David Thomas coming in for 4th overall in a time of 30 minutes 20 seconds!

The girls race proved to be close with Tassie athletes filling the podium. Race favourite Hanny Alston (35mins 24secs) triumphed over event ambassador Donna MacFarlane (35mins 47secs) with Melanie Daniels (35mins 58secs) rounding out the top 3. Olympian and World Champion Sonia O'Sullivan showed what a true champion she is with fourth place in 37 minutes 29 seconds.

The day saw just on 1300 athletes take place in a 10km run or walk that took in some of Hobart's great sites. Starting from one of world's great cricket grounds in Bellerive Oval the run snaked it's way around the coastline up onto the famous Tasman Bridge and down into the heart of Hobart in Salamanca. Athletes of all ages, shapes and sizes set their own challenge and completed a course that is one of the most beautiful in the world.

Event organiser Kerry Stubbs from t3 Events was particularly excited with the new partnership.

“This has been a great start to what will become an iconic event for the people of Tasmania. We had no expectations for the first year with our goal being to run a safe, enjoyable event for our participants. We believe that we have done this and this event will improve as it ages like a good wine. We are really looking forward to 2011 and seeing more athletes try out this challenging but beautiful course.”

The 2010 B&E Hobart Run The Bridge was a long time in the making and the efforts of the major stakeholders played a major role in ensuring the event took place need to be acknowledge. Thanks must go to the Tasmanian Government, Clarence City Council, Hobart City Council, DIER, Tasmania Police, Salamanca Retailers Association and Cricket Tasmania.

The B&E Hobart Run The Bridge will return in 2011 bigger and better where it is hoped more Tasmanians will take on what is now known as a true challenge!