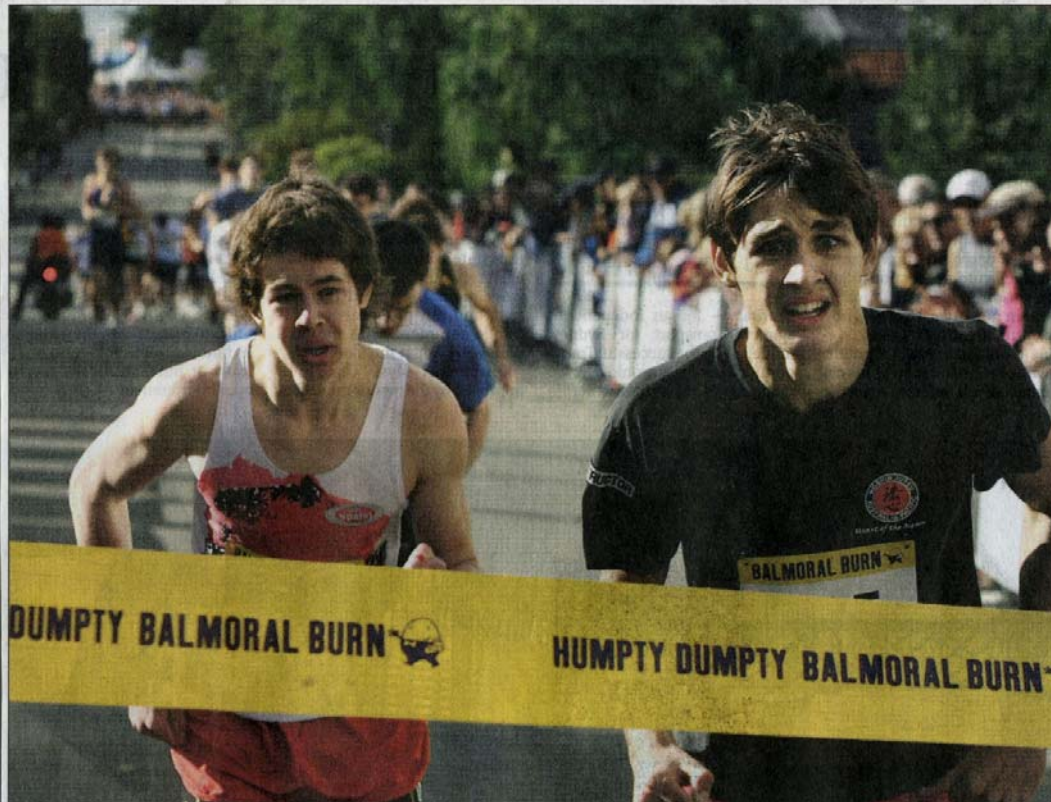


Great promotion for UTS Norths – page 3 of Sydney Morning Herald, 31 May 2010

UTS Norths members were prominent in the results:

Alex Pettigrew, 4th elite men, 1min 25sec, **Alex Godbold**, 7th elite men, 1min 26sec, **Daryl Puches**, 12th elite men, 1min 30sec, **Myalls Paterson**, 2nd U18 men, 1min 38sec (21st overall), **Matt Rutledge**, 3rd U18 men, 1min 40sec (24th), **Xavier Black**, 5th U18 men, 1min 44sec (32nd), **Lara Nicod**, 2nd elite women, 1min 46sec (37th), **Fran Schmiede**, 3rd elite women, 1min 47sec (45th), **Julia Cook**, 5th elite women, 1min 51sec (46th), **Flynn Douglas**, 16th open men, 1min 54sec (60th), **Stuart Paterson**, 2nd 50-59 men, 2min 5sec (96th), **Tristan Paterson**, 26th U18 men, 2min 32sec (230th), **Suzanne Brown**, 9th 40-49 women, 3min 4sec (456th)

Burn, baby, burn as great big hill taxes coalition of willing



What goes up ... Benjamin Ambrose, right, and Myalls Paterson tackle Awaba Street, Balmoral, to raise money and a sweat. Photos: Dean Sewell

John Huxley

ANOTHER north shore fitness-and-fun event, another opportunity for Tony Abbott to "hog the limelight", as the starter joked before sending off his batch of over-50s on the Balmoral Burn yesterday.

To be fair, the Opposition Leader, though easily persuadable, was not seeking publicity.

As he explained, while stripping off a retro Wallabies top to reveal nothing more provocative

than a T-shirt and modest running shorts, he is a regular competitor in the 420-metre race up the mountainous Awaba Street.

"It's a big challenge, a great day," he said, revealing that his tactics were simple: "to start with a run, drop to a jog and finish with a stagger". The race went according to plan.

Unusually, Mr Abbott found himself slightly upstaged by his one-time leadership opponent Joe Hockey, who had announced the previous night

that he would be walking to the South Pole. The news, delivered to the Humpty Dumpty Foundation charity which organises the burn and other more demanding events to raise funds for sick children, came as a surprise to Mr Abbott.

After a "say it ain't snow, Joe" moment, he recovered, replying with a smile, "Well, I hope it's not during the election campaign."

In fact, the portly Mr Hockey, who has already climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, has pencilled in

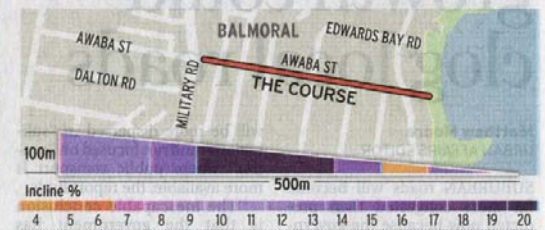
November next year for the fundraising trek.

"Yes, with some conditions we start the engine... the logistics are immense amongst other things," he said on Twitter.

The shadow treasurer also hit back at local residents who complained that preparations for the burn would leave the grassy foreshore gouged with ugly, muddy holes. "Well done Humpty Dumpty," Mr Hockey tweeted. "We raised over \$2m for sick kids last night. I am only



Over the top ... another sweaty Sunday for Tony Abbott.



sorry a small group of Balmoral locals are such pathetic sods." Fears that Balmoral by the sea would be transformed into Billancourt sur La Somme proved unfounded as the sun shone on the 10th running, walking, crawling of the burn.

As an estimated crowd of 7000 watched 3000 entrants tackle the big hill. They included the event creator Phil Kearns and fellow rugby players Matt Burke and George Gregan, the Olympic athlete Jane Flemming and

the paralympian Kurt Fearnley. For most people it was a family affair. Holly Dawson, 9, came with her father Mark, mother Sharon and friends Jess Mackay, 13, and Allie Green. Mark was team manager. Sharon ran twice, first in her age and later in the "pet and owner" section with dog Freddie. The three girls, all of whom were burn veterans, had one ambition: to run all the way.

The elite section "winner", on a day of no losers, was Lachlan Renshaw in 82 seconds.

Plus various members competed in school teams and made up numbers in corporate teams – notably, Stuart Paterson, Myalls Paterson, Alex Godbold and Flynn Douglas, running for Patronax Foundation, came 2nd in their category.