

# CENTURION FOOTNOTES

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## DATES...DATES...DATES

First a flyer for the 2018 African Centurion qualifier. I am excited to hear that Sharon and Justin Scholz are attending.



**African  
Centurion**  
Robben Island | 2018  
100 Years Nelson Mandela  
through to you by OLD MUTUAL

# 20 - 21 October 2018

Walking 100 miles ( $\pm 160$  km) in 24 hours is not an everyday achievement, but a challenge that only a few in the world can achieve.

The African Centurion, brought to you by Old Mutual, will be hosted on Robben Island in Cape Town, South Africa on the 20 & 21 October 2018. This UNESCO World Heritage site is a significant landmark in South Africa's recent history, and we invite you to take part in the third annual installment of this internationally recognised event. This will be the last year that the event will be hosted on the island, so it is a truly momentous occasion.

This year's African Centurion also coincides with what would have been Mandela's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, making the location of the event that much more powerful and significant. African Centurion champions the spirit of Ubuntu (the Nguni Bantu term that encapsulates the belief in a universal bond of sharing that connects all humanity) and all that Madiba stood for and has also therefore selected to donate 10% of all sponsorship raised this year to the Mandela Rhodes Foundation.

The initiative started in Britain in 1911 and has since taken place in several other countries, including Australia, Malaysia, the UK, the USA and the Netherlands, with the aim of bringing people from all walks of life together and use walking as the medium. Entrants have 24 hours to complete a distance of 100 miles and can enter solo, or as a relay team of two or four, with the South African event being the only one to offer this option. Several support stations will be set up along the route for the walkers and supporters are welcome to join the event.

For more information on how to be part of a truly unique experience, visit [www.africancenturion.com](http://www.africancenturion.com).

Contact: [info@africancenturion.com](mailto:info@africancenturion.com)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AfricanCenturionWalk/>  
YouTube videos: <https://youtu.be/OPgSO2ddDN8> and  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Uijl2x0t6g>

And now onto our fixture. There are always ultra opportunities on offer for those walkers wanting a challenge. Some are shown below. In addition, the AURA calendar shows additional Australian ultra events that may suit serious ultra walkers – check it out at <http://aura.asn.au/>.

Aug 25-26, 2018	Wadelincourt 24 Hours Walk (2019 Paris-Alsace qualifier)	Wadelincourt, BEL
Sept 15-16, 2018	Nijmegen-Rotterdam (160km)	Nijmegen, NED
Sept 15-16, 2018	Roubaix 28 Hours Walk	Roubaix, FRA
Oct 7-8, 2018	<b>2018 NZ Centurions 24H Qualifier</b>	Auckland, NZ
	See <a href="https://nz.srichinmoyraces.org/races/auck/24hr">https://nz.srichinmoyraces.org/races/auck/24hr</a>	

Oct 20-21, 2018	<b>African Centurions 24H Qualifier</b> See <a href="http://www.africancenturion.com/">http://www.africancenturion.com/</a>	Capetown, SA (TBC)
Oct 28, 2018	Ned Kelly Chase (50km, 100km)	Wangaratta, VIC
Nov 25, 2018	8 Heures d'Etampes-Sur-Marne	Etampes-Sur-Marne, FRA
Feb 3, 2019	8 Heures de Charly-Sur-Marne	Charly-Sur-Marne, FRA
Feb 23-24, 2019	24 Heures de Bourges, France	Bourges, FRA
Mar, 16-17, 2019	24 Heures de Chateau-Thierry, France	Chateau-Thierry, FRA
Apr 6-8, 2019	Marche du Grand Est	Domremy-la-Pucelle, FRA
Apr 20-21, 2019	24 Heures de Dijon	Dijon, FRA
Apr 13-14, 2019	Coburg 24H Carnival ( <b>2019 Australian Centurion Qualifier</b> ) See <a href="http://www.coburg24hr.org/24hr/">http://www.coburg24hr.org/24hr/</a> .	Coburg, VIC
Jun 5-9, 2019	Paris Alsace Classic	Across France
Aug 18-19, 2019	<b>2019 English Centurions Qualifier</b>	Castletown, Isle of Man
Sept 26-28, 2020	Just A Walk In The Park – USA Centurion Qualifier See <a href="https://raceroster.com/events/2020/15288/not-just-a-walk-in-the-park-v30">https://raceroster.com/events/2020/15288/not-just-a-walk-in-the-park-v30</a> .	Owego, NY, USA

### OUT AND ABOUT

- **David Billett (C50)** was in action in the Adelaide 24 Hour Carnival in mid July, but as a runner rather than walking. He came 8<sup>th</sup> with an excellent run distance of 176.320km. Well done David!.
- I recently came across this wonderful website for England based ultra distance husband and wife team **Richard and Sandra Brown**: <https://www.ultrabrowns.co.uk/>. I have added it to our centurion website bookmarks. Check it out.
- Next year's English Centurion qualifier will again be on the Isle of Man, when it returns to the old capital of Castletown, the venue for the very successful 2015 hundred. The course will be 1 mile circuit taking in the historic harbour area, with entries opening on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2019. The date has been set for 18-19 August.
- I recently came across the superb English website <https://ultrarunningworld.co.uk/>, dedicated to ultrarunning, ultramarathon news and events. It has a free monthly magazine, to which anyone can subscribe. I have subscribed and have just finished reading issue 12 (June 2019). Check it out and make sure you subscribe to the newsletter.
- Well done to the Australian Ultra Runners Assn (AURA) who have now put all past copies of the quarterly AURA magazine online, from 1986 onwards. Lots of Australian ultra distance history here. Alas, it is for members only. Another good reason to join AURA. See <https://www.aura.asn.au/ultramag/>.

### 2019 PARIS ALSACE CLASSIC ANNOUNCED FOR 5-8 JUNE 2019

Paris-Alsace has been confirmed for 5-8 June 2019 (see <https://www.facebook.com/marchemythiqueorganisation>). It comes in the usual 3 flavours but, in a major change, men and women can enter in any of the 3 races.

- La Mythique: 430km in 3 stages (10+360+60)
- La Vosg  enne: 305km in 4 stages (10+35+200+60)
- La Noc  enne: 230km in 3 stages (10+160+60)

The qualifying races have been set as follows

- 24 Heures de Wadelincourt, Belgium 25-26 August 2018
- 28 Heures de Roubaix, France 15-16 September 2018
- 24 Heures de Bourges, France 23-24 February 2019
- 24 Heures de Chateau-Thierry, France 16-17 March 2019
- Marche du Grand Est 6-8 April 2019
- 24 Heures de Dijon 20-21 April 2019

With two additional ancilliary events listed

- 8 Heures d'Etampes-Sur-Marne 25 November 2018
- 8 Heures de Charly-Sur-Marne 3 February 2019

## JUSTIN AND SHARON AND JASMINE DO THE FOUR DAYS MARCHES NIJMEGEN

You will remember in our last newsletter that I let everyone know that **Justin Scholz (C61)** and **Sharon Scholz (C63)** had travelled to Europe to walk in the 102<sup>nd</sup> edition of the International Four Days Marches Nijmegen. I am now very pleased to present their report. Thanks and well done Justin and Sharon!

### Justin and Sharon and Jasmine do Nijmegen

Nijmegen. If you're not Dutch then you probably have no idea where this is. Or why it's significant.

With a population of about 175,000 people, and tucked away in the lower east of the country about 150km from Amsterdam and near the German border, it really is just a blip on a big world map. It has no great status in the Netherlands and is not even as the capital of its province of Gelderland. That status belongs to the smaller city of Arnhem.

Yet more than 1,000,000 people make the pilgrimage to Nijmegen each July to participate in a wondrous spectacle which should rightly be the envy of most other events around the globe.

Sharon and I have competed or participated in events in 11 different and diverse countries of the world – Australia, New Zealand, USA, England, Wales, China, Japan, Malaysia, Poland, France, and the Netherlands. And we've visited plenty more. But never had we participated in an event the likes of which the Vierdaagse offers enthusiasts from the world at large when we first met this challenge in 2017.

Imagine a non-competitive, non-timed, participation only event that attracts more entries each year than the road networks and infrastructure around Nijmegen can support, and you start to get an idea of the appeal and why the entry numbers are capped. Those aspiring to start for the first time must try their luck in a ballot each year.

Now imagine that apart from the 47,000 people who are fortunate enough to be granted a place on the start line for one of the three respective walk distances of 30, 40 or 50 km, up to a further 1,000,000 line the courses each day to lend support to those journeymen and women, each of whom are completing their respective distance for four consecutive days. It is then that you start to get a feel for what Nijmegen is all about.

Now consider the children out in force, including teenagers and young adults, who are filled with admiration for those pounding the pavements through the quaint country towns and offer snacks of cherry tomato and cucumber, marshmallows and crackers, and the ever-adored mini stroopwaffels and Zoute Drop. Oh yes, Nijmegen is becoming a special place indeed.

And then the music hits you on approach to villages from a vast range of DJ's, marching bands, soloists and small bands ranging from acoustic guitar and bongo drums to glockenspiels, bag pipes and piano accordions.

And then there's the plethora of locals who party in their front yards with stereo systems turned to loud at 5am and the beers flowing freely and majestically in the cool morning air. Or perhaps those delicious Dutch beers never stopped flowing from the night before, clearly in concert with the university student population which remains up all night to form inspirational guards of honour for the participants as they start each day as early as 4am.

With loud hails of success, and with high-fives in abundance it is easy to be jolted awake and filled with commitment and drive when starting the 50km journey just prior to sunrise each day. Yes, Nijmegen is a special place indeed.

In 2016 Sharon and I completed our Continental Centurion at Schiedam in the Netherlands. We were fortunate enough to be warmly welcomed by the entire Dutch community, but in particular by the Meints family and the Leijtens / Bunschotens.

Whilst Jantinus Meints and Frans Leijtens are Dutch centurions, they had also completed numerous other ultra-distance walk events in the country. As we chatted, it became apparent that there was a special nature to the Nijmegen event, which Frans had completed more than 25 times, and Jantinus 11.

Our curiosity piqued, we found ourselves in the fortunate position of being able to add the Nijmegen event to our European tour in 2017 when our primary purpose was to add the English Centurion to our four other centurion finishes (Australia, New Zealand, USA, Continental).

Such was the wonderment that we experienced, we suddenly found that our 2018 overseas trip required attendance at Nijmegen once again to allow our daughter Jasmine to enjoy the experience with us, albeit in the 30km event.

So after an 8 day visit to the USA we landed in Amsterdam at 7:50am on Friday the thirteenth of July. We reassembled our US\$99 bikes that we'd purchased in New York, unbuckled the wheels and made our way to Castle Meints in Woerden, about 40km away.



*\$99 bikes did the job required of the Scholz family and completed about 800km for the trip.*

Jantinus, Annette and son Luuk greeted us warmly and it wasn't too long before we were enjoying some flavoursome Dutch beer, recollecting our 2017 experiences and discussing specifics for the Vierdaagse.

The following day we set-off on the pristine Dutch cycling paths, which made a welcome change from the less-than-perfectly-maintained New York streets, and enjoyed our 100km cycle in perfect sunny and clear conditions to a campsite south of Nijmegen at Winkelsteeg, the usual home of Football Club SV Hatert.



*The Dutch do cycle path quality like no other*

During the few days leading into the four day event, the entire football club, including its four grass pitches and massive surrounding grasslands, are overwhelmed by a few thousand campers, of which we were just a few.



*Castle Scholz, Winkelsteeg, Nijmegen*

Jantinus had previously constructed Castle Scholz for us in the Eastern most section of the grounds where we were away from most noise and tucked-up adjacent to some trees for shade and ambience. A perfect setting indeed and the same that we enjoyed the previous year.

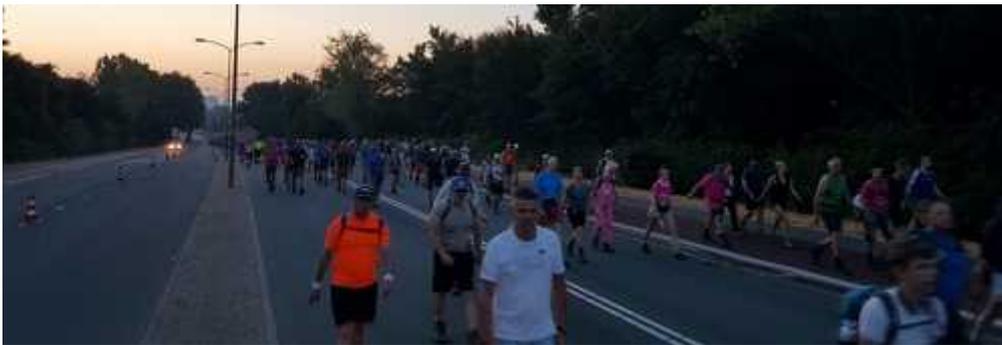
After a restful Monday, we headed to bed early with alarms set for 3:30am so we could get to the starting area about 6km away in time for a 4:15am start.



*The daily start between 4:00am and 4:30am*

The four days of 50km walking each day then proceeded, and on each day we followed a similar formula – alarm at 3:30am, onto the bikes by 3:55am and then after a 6km cycle we were starting between 4:15am and 4:20am. The only “blip” here was when I left my phone switched off overnight and the alarm didn’t go off. Thanks again Jantinus!

There was a general quagmire of bikes in the local streets as we arrived each morning, but being in the earliest and smallest start group of approximately 8,000 participants, we always managed to find a place to leave them. Our required start time was between 4:00am and 4:30am and there was no room for error.



*The 50km field as dawn breaks, about 10km into the second day.*

Stodious marshals will not let any participant start early, and similarly at the end of the day anyone that arrives prior to 12:00pm will have to wait prior to being signed in and handed their treasured “next day” checkpoint card.

For those who struggle, there is a clear cut-off time of 5:00pm and the ever-diligent marshals will not allow for an entrant to commence the following day if they do not make this time. It’s not harsh or unfair. It’s Dutch. It works, and it is to be admired.

By contrast, the 40km military march and 40km civilian march started each day with a contingent of about 23,000 people, and the 30km entrants started later again in two groups with total participation of 11,000. The latest start time on any day for any in the 30km event is 8:00am.

Sharon and I walked each day with Jantinus Meints and generally broke the day into three parts. The first two hours or so was spent weaving in single file between and around slower walkers. Whilst not a race, we three were keen to keep moving between 8:00 pace and 8:30 pace where we could ensure some fitness benefit, minimise time in the sun and maximise leisure and rehydration time after each day was complete.

The second phase saw us in thinner numbers and in full light conditions where we could walk three abreast, enjoy the crowd support, environmental conditions and conversation with each other and other walkers on the course.



*Dinner and rehydration at the campsite one evening with Jantinus*

Then the final stage was usually about 15km when the 40km and then 30km routes merged back into the 50km course. The congestion built, but it was enjoyed with the enthusiasm and support of the crowd and the general noise and excited burble that emanated from all those both on and off the course. In this final stage our pace generally slowed a little.

Jasmine, at 15 years old, wasn't quite sure what to make of the event prior to leaving Australia and was a bit nervous about the prospect of completing 30km by foot for four consecutive days. She had done single days of 30km and more a few times before we left, but wondered if the cumulative effect of the distance would wear her down or lead to soreness or blistering.

Veronica Bunschoten had generously agreed to accompany Jasmine as a begeleider (companion) with her own daughter Carolien also participating. Jasmine quickly realised that the Dutch are a warm and hospitable bunch, and speak English better than most of us! She is now considering doing the 40km or 50km in a future year if the opportunity arises, even if this is further than the mandatory distance for her age.

On the final day Jantinus, Sharon and I all arrived at the kWbn rest place about 11:30am and were greeted by Frans and Thomas Leijtens who had already arrived. Shortly after this and earlier than expected were Veronica, Carolien and Jasmine, and "Papa" Jo Leijtens who was completing his 30<sup>th</sup> four days event.



*2018 Vierdaagse finishers, L-R: Jantinus Meints, Sharon Scholz, Justin Scholz, Frans Leijtens, Veronica Bunschoten (begeleider), Jo Leijtens, Carolien Schluter, Thomas Leijtens, Jasmine Scholz, Ben Ram.*

Of course, kWbn stands for Koninklijke Wandel Bond Nederland which is linguistically manageable. Thankfully it wasn't specifically an RWV rest place (RWV = rotterdamse wandelsportvereniging).

We walked together for the final 8km that sunny and warm Friday 20 July, and celebrated our finish with thousands of others in the heart of Nijmegen. Yes, Nijmegen, a city not well known, unless you know about the Vierdaagse. And now you know.

We'll be back in Nijmegen as the event has such a wondrous appeal to us. We're not sure when, as the world is a very large place and there's plenty we're yet to explore. But we will be back...



*Left: Scholz family with 2018 Vierdaagse awards*

*Right: Scholz trophy board with five international centurion medals and Vierdaagse awards*

I am also very pleased that Jasmine has written a short piece for us as well – thanks and well done Jasmine!

#### **4 day marches Nijmegen – Jasmine Scholz**

Can you imagine? Imagine being a 15-year-old girl, from an Australian town only holding only 25 000 people. Then joining over 40 000 pairs of feet from all over the globe, on the other side of the planet, marching. That's the position I took when I walked the 4 day marches in Nijmegen. My name is Jasmine Scholz, and here's my walking story.

My parents had done the event the year before. They came home, ranting, about how extraordinary the experience of walking along with 40 000 other people was. The next year we were planning a family holiday and my parents ensured I would get to take place in the event. I assumed it would be amazing. But I wasn't prepared for the sheer number of people. The 4 days march is an event ran by a small group, but it becomes what it is because of the rest of the people. The ones walking the distance, albeit important, aren't the ones that make it what it is. The event wouldn't have the same charm, and overwhelming importance without the support. Kids, to grandparents all alike, watching the crowds, offering high fives and hand baked treats. That is one part of the event I didn't expect to be as spectacular as it was. Passing through all of the towns, there was always so much happening. The music would change every couple of hundred metres. It was wonderful getting glimpses of live performance as we walked. I'm a performer myself, and it would be a humbling experience to play in an event of such magnitude.

I am writing this and sending it in with suggestion from Veronica Bunschoten. I walked with her and her daughter Carolien for the 30k event. I also got to meet the rest of their lovely family who were also walking, Frans, Marjolien, Thomas, Sebastiaan and Ben. I would like to thank them all for being so kind to me, and making my first time at the 4 day marches as fondly remembered as it will be. After all of that distance my feet are a little bit sore, but I'll be over 16 next time I do the event, meaning I'll have to do the 40k. I am certainly hoping to come back. Bring it on!

Jasmine Scholz, age 15, Wangaratta, Australia.

## JUBILÉ CZUKOR, KOMLO, HUNGARY, SUNDAY 12 AUGUST

Emmanuel Tardi was in the south of Hungary in mid August for the final race of Hungarian racewalking legend and triple Olympian **Zoltan Czukor**. Zoltan's 'Jubilee' was held in his city of Komlo, with competitors striving to complete 100km on a 730m loop (meaning 137laps) in the middle of the city. The time limit of 12 hours was made tougher by the conditions, as the temperature quickly rose from 19°C at the 7AM start to around 37°C in the afternoon.

A large crowd had gathered to witness the start, which saw Zoltan head out with 2016 Olympian **Miklos Srp**. Miklos stopped after 25km, leaving Zoltan out front on his own. He passed the 40km mark in 3:56, 28 minutes ahead of Russian ultra star **Dimitri Osipov**, but was forced to slow and take a few breaks after cramps set in. He maintained his lead, passing 50km in 5:02 and 80km in 8:30, eventually finishing in 11:10:38, 18 minutes ahead of Osipov, who was the only other finisher. Zoltan walked the last lap with many Komlo citizens and lots of former Hungarian racewalkers.

1.	Zoltan Czukor	Hungary	1962	100.00 km	11:10:38
2.	Dimitri Osipov	Russia	1966	100.00 km	11:28:58
3.	Claudine Anxionnat	France	1951	82.490 km	11:59:01
4.	Emmanuel Tardi	France	1967	50.370 km	10:34:56
5.	Miklos D Srp	Hungary	1993	24.820 km	2:26:17



*Zoltan Czukor, Dimitri Osipov and Claudine Anxionnat*



*Dimitri Osipov, Zoltan Czukor, Claudine Anxionnat, Emmanuel Tardi and Miklos Srp (photos Emmanuel Tardi)*



The annual English Centurions qualifying walk was held as part of the 2019 Tower Insurance Isle of Man 100 Mile Walk Carnival in mid August at the Douglas National Sports Centre in Douglas. The meet also incorporating the RWA National Long Distance Race Walking Championships. For a change, it was track based rather than the usual road format, and this meant a restricted and smaller than usual field.

The fastest 100 Mile walker was USA's **Dave Talcott**, with a very swift 18:54:51. He was followed by IOM's **Karen Chiarello** (20:06:53) and Nederland's **Paul Jansen** (20:51:44).

USA Centurions coordinator Rob Robertson maintains a listing of all those centurions who have multiple badges (meaning they have finished centurion walks with more than one of the official centurion bodies). He has updated his Multiple Badge Centurion List to include the Isle of Man results. See <https://www.walk100miles24hours.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Multi-Centurions-1.pdf>.

Congratulations to **Marco Bloemerts**, the first Dutch walker to reach FIVE World Badges (only Australia to go now so will we see him here in 2019?) and congratulations **Dave Talcott**, **Paul Jansen**, **Ignace Matthys** and **Kris Hazenbosch** whose names have now been added to the Multi List.

And of course, the amazing **Sandra Brown (C36)** has done it again. That makes a grand total of 193 events of more than 100 miles for her. It is also her 7<sup>th</sup> hundred this year and her 32<sup>nd</sup> finish in the English Centurions annual qualifying event. She continues to build on a record that no one will ever challenge.

I asked Sandra for a race report and she quickly obliged, just in time for the newsletter. Thanks so much Sandra.

*I really enjoyed the event: great friendly atmosphere, excellent organisation and good venue, and some sterling and gutsy performances especially in the weather conditions – the worst rain we could remember during a 100 for many years. I'm sure that Dave T and Karen C [both impressive] could have gone faster but for the heavy rain and strong winds. Chris Maddocks did a great job in the commentary box.*

*Although this wasn't a 50kms event and we weren't aiming at 50kms records, it gave an opportunity for 50kms marks to be automatically captured. Those for Jaap Visser and perhaps Ed Shillabeer could be national or higher records. My own 50kms mark in Douglas [6.12.08] is a national W65 best – I would have been faster in a 50kms race and faster at age 65 than now, but it's good to have a mark any way.*

*The organisers, officials and helpers – and especially, Graham and Martin Young and Mark Byrne - all deserve huge credit for such a well-organised, smooth running and enjoyable event. The race had a great international quality, and it was inspiring to see classy and gutsy performances throughout the field including from Dave Talcott and Karen Chiarello in 1st and 2nd overall. Both would have been faster but for the heavy rain and strong wind. Everyone who finished dug deep to battle the storm. I was personally pleased with 22.05.01 in the conditions.*

*The 100 next year will again be in the IOM, when we look forward to returning to the old capital Castletown, the venue for the very successful 2015 100. The course will be 1 mile circuit taking in the historic harbour area, with entries opening on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2019.*

And Trevor McDermot has also put out a wonderful race report which I also include

*The demonstration of guts and determination from the competitors last weekend was an honour to witness.*

*All One Hundred Mile races are occasions, way more than just mere races, and suitably for this a Civic Reception had taken place the night before in Douglas Town Hall, where wonderful speeches from the Mayor and Eric Horwill framed the stage more than adequately for the various players to play their parts.*

*Conditions at noon the following day were blustery if not quite damp following the summer's heatwave. Officials bustled about on race official business, tents erected and usual acquaintances re-made along the sidelines. The staff at the NSC were most helpful, opening gates where required and finding facilities and rooms for us to use.*

*The belatedly arrival of Chris Maddocks and family (after serious travel problems) meant that we now had expert commentary for Dot to hand over to.*

*A quiet, eerie, and silent twilight lull occurred during Saturday evening when the flags completely stopped fluttering, as if to gather strength for the violence that was about to hit. A mist crept in and nestled itself snugly in and around the stadium, while under half-floodlights the circling walkers began to feel the strain of their labours.*

*We were handing out the usual rounds of fruit, nuts, jelly babies, marshmallows, mars bars, jaffa cakes, crisps, chocolate sugary/ savoury snacks, bespoke sandwiches and a popular tureen of vegetable soup courtesy of Michael George. Then KC aka Karen Chiarello flashed through 100km in 11.48, like a signal for Storm Ernesto to arrive. Are all storms named after Olympic 20km Champions? . . . .*

*What followed was a torrent of almost biblical proportions for six hours, when due to drainage problems on the NSC track the Referees were seriously considering using the 2<sup>nd</sup> lane. The walkers continued regardless and there was no longer any need for sponging.*

*Only two retired during that spell – Erin had stopped with hypothermia and valiantly tried to continue, along with popular Frans, meanwhile John saw out the worst of it carrying an umbrella (although the rain was bouncing harder off the surface) before finally stopping at 300 laps in 18 hours.*

*Have seen Dave Talcott in action before but not moving as well as this, muscling his way through a speedy final 10km, before the welcoming bacon sarnies arrived. I was also impressed by the courage of Paul Jansen and the no fuss, quiet attitude of Annic Deman who made 402 laps of a track look as much trouble as an average school run on a weekday morning.*

*The Centurion achievement of diabetic Dale Farquhar, with tears of joy from stressed-out Jayne, was worth the entrance fee alone and gave us vast personal delight.*

*Martin Fisher was never in doubt of yet another great performance, we weren't worried about him at all and neither was Judith.*

*As for Sandra, who carries a personalised tea cup (with postcode attached in event of loss). Mere words on facebook can never do her justice. Little, ever smiling lady with the massive numbers . . . simply arrives/ races/leaves us all stunned.*

*I've raised this question before but do we in the walking fraternity - and by that I mean Everybody in Race Walking - kind of, you know, how can I put this . . . take her for granted? When you consider that this was her seventh 'hundred' in 2018 alone, and she is now approaching her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, then it becomes obvious that some kind of official recognition by general press media, UKA, England Athletics, the RWA and anybody else is seriously overdue. We are fortunate to have been around when she graced the sport.*

*The evening presentation at Manx Yacht Club was a lovely, warm occasion with race DVD's handed out to all. And a mention here for the Belgian quintet who had entered, started, finished their Hundred and then attended all wearing matching centurion shirts.*

*Massive respect to Graham Young, Martin, and Manx Centurions for what they achieved with this event.*

*And for the man whose idea it all was, whose personal contribution may be unmatched by anyone, anywhere, for a (mere) walking race – Mr. Mark Byrne - to whom we are vastly indebted for the experience.*

Overall, 13 of the 22 starters reached the 100 Miles, with 8 of them first time finishers, thus gaining their English Centurions badge and number (**C1188-C1195**). Full results are at <http://my3.raceresult.com/71067/info?lang=en>. Official event photos have been made available at <http://isleofman.in/p396407747>.

If you want to see how bad the weather was, check out Frans Leijtens' short video of night time conditions - see <https://www.facebook.com/frans.leijtens.5/videos/2746794205346013/>. And for a fantastic photos by Frans, check out <https://preview.tinyurl.com/ycs37sja>.

1.	Dave Talcott	Shore Athletic Club	USA	402	18:55:41	M55	1	<b>C1188</b>	100 Miles
2.	Karen Chiarello	Manx Harriers	IOM	402	20:07:56	W50	1	C1136	100 Miles
3.	Paul Jansen	RWV Rotterdam	NED	402	20:52:45	M45	1	<b>C1189</b>	100 Miles
4.	Ignace Matthys	Dwars door Brakel	BEL	402	21:00:06	M55	2	<b>C1190</b>	100 Miles
5.	Frank van der Gulik	De LAT - Amsterdam	NED	422	21:44:31	M40	1	C1022	100 Miles
6.	Dale Farquhar	Manx Harriers	UK	402	22:03:37	M35	1	<b>C1191</b>	100 Miles
7.	Sandra Brown	Surrey Walking Club	UK	402	22:05:01	W65	1	C 735	100 Miles
8.	Kris Hazenbosch	CABW	BEL	402	22:12:58	M45	2	<b>C1192</b>	100 Miles
9.	Marco Bloemerts		NED	402	22:40:48	M50	1	<b>C1193</b>	100 Miles
10.	Patrick Vandeweyer	ROBA	BEL	402	22:45:31	M55	3	<b>C1194</b>	100 Miles
11.	Chris Van Cauwenbergh	Racing Club Gent Atl.	BEL	402	22:48:18	M50	2	C1139	100 Miles
12.	Annic Deman	12 uren van lauwe	BEL	402	23:11:35	W55	1	<b>C1195</b>	100 Miles
13.	Martin Fisher	Redcar RWC	UK	402	23:43:52	M55	4	C 788	100 Miles
14.	John Constandinou	Birchfield Harriers	UK	300	17:49:26	M45	3		Retired
15.	Frans Leijtens	RWV	NED	284	16:08:23	M40	2	C 949	Retired
16.	Erin Talcott	Shore AC	USA	250	14:36:14	W40	1		Retired
17.	Peter Duijst	RWV	NED	241	13:18:23	M45	4		Retired
18.	Jaap Visser	RWV Rotterdam	NED	220	13:11:51	M70+	1	C 944	Retired
19.	James Bassett	Manx Harriers	IOM	219	13:32:29	M40	3	C1175	Retired
20.	Edmund Shillabeer	Ilford AC	UK	187	11:23:51	M70+	2	C 590	Retired
21.	Patrick Le Gargasson	uaca saint-brieuc	FRA	166	10:04:39	M50	3		Retired
22.	Richard Gerrard	Manx Harriers	IOM	115	5:02:50	M45	5	UK	Retired

With 2 Centurion qualifiers to go, there is more long distance action to come for 2018. Remaining Centurion walks are

- Oct 7-8, 2018 **NZ Centurions 24H**, Auckland, NZ, see <https://nz.srichinmoyraces.org/races/auck/24hr>
- Oct 20-21, 2018 **African Centurions 24H**, Capetown, SA, see <http://www.africancenturion.com/>



*Left: Marco Bloemerts. the first Dutch walker to reach FIVE World Badges  
Right: Dave Talcott is congratulated on his fine walk*



*Left and centre: Sandra Brown and Dave Talcott in action  
Right: Erin Taylor-Talcott Karen Chiarello and James Bassett*

### 6 JOURS DE FRANCE, PRIVAS, FRANCE, 19-25 AUGUST

Just as the English Centurions qualifying event reached completion, an even more gruelling ultra distance walk got underway in France, with the 6 Jours de France (see <http://www.6jours-de-france.fr/>) kicking off in Privas on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August. As the name implies, it is a 6 day race and has separate run and walk categories.

Four English Centurion walkers were participating this year - **Richard McChesney (NZL)**, **Karen Lawrie (IOM)**, **Kathy Crilley (ENG)** and **Tony Mackintosh (IOM)**.



*Centurions Richard McChesney, Karen Lawrie, Kathy Crilley and Tony Mackintosh at the 6 Jours de France in Privas*

All was going well until Day 4 when wild weather kicked in and the race had to be put on hold. Thunder, lightning, heavy rain and hail assailed the race, flooding the track and partially destroying the timing tent. The organisers had to stop the race for 2h30 as the computers could no longer record the chips. When the race was eventually resumed, the lap length was reduced to 640m for 24 hours, before the full loop could be resumed.

The race was finally stopped after 146hr 30mins instead of the usual 144 hours. The extra 2hr30 was allowed to make up for the time off the track during the storm.

Final victory for the men went to **Patrick Cailleaux** with 608.283km, ahead of **Philippe Clement** (608.283km) and **Christophe Biet** (601.863km), while **Claudie Bizard** was the first of the women with 564.642km. **Richard McChesney** lead for the first couple of days but suffered badly from blisters on the mostly dirt track and spent a lot of time off the track in the second half. To his credit, he soldiered on, finishing 4<sup>th</sup> with 565.283km. **Kathy Crilley** broke the W70-74 6 Day world best with 350.343km and **Karen Lawrie** broke the W40-44 6 Day world best with 463.803km.

#### 6 Jours de France Walk Division

1.	CAILLEAUX, Patrick	M	FRA	608.283 km	144:37:37
2.	CLEMENT, Philippe	M	FRA	608.283 km	144:37:39
3.	BIET, Christophe	M	FRA	601.863 km	144:37:39
4.	MC CHESNEY, Richard	M	NZL	565.283 km	144:37:39
5.	BIZARD, Claudie	F	FRA	564.643 km	144:37:39
6.	ARITA, Seigi	M	SWI	558.883 km	144:37:39
7.	MACKINTOSH, Tony	M	IOM	505.663 km	144:37:37
8.	LE MANER, Serge	M	FRA	498.563 km	144:37:36
9.	LAWRIE, Karen	F	IOM	463.803 km	144:37:37
10.	ARNAULT, Jacques	M	FRA	458.463 km	144:37:39
11.	LINARD, Benoit	M	FRA	443.543 km	144:37:33
12.	SALOMEZ, Benedicte	F	FRA	400.923 km	144:37:39
13.	LESCURE-THANRON, Elisabeth	F	FRA	393.043 km	144:37:39
14.	BEN, Roger	M	FRA	388.423 km	144:37:39
15.	ARNAULT, Françoise	F	FRA	386.603 km	144:37:39
16.	LESCURE, Frederic	M	FRA	385.963 km	144:37:39
17.	PIERRE, Patrick	M	FRA	374.283 km	144:37:39
18.	ESTATOF, Bernard	M	FRA	356.483 km	144:37:39
19.	DECLOCQUEMENT, Jose	M	FRA	354.503 km	144:37:38
20.	CRILLEY, Kathy	F	GBR	350.343 km	144:37:38
21.	HAUSMANN, Martina	F	GER	327.803 km	94:54:25
22.	SOUILLE, Jean-pierre	M	FRA	262.363 km	144:37:39
23.	THANRON, Bernard	M	FRA	254.203 km	144:37:39
24.	BURGER, Alain	M	FRA	142.403 km	144:37:39



*Karen Lawrie, Françoise Arnault, Elisabeth Lescure-Thanron, Claudie Bizard, Patrick Cailleaux and Philippe Clément  
Photos from Emmanuel Tardi*

## 24 HEURES DE WADELINCOURT, WADELINCOURT, BELGIUM, 25-26 AUGUST

Emmanuel Tardi as in Wadelincourt in Belgium last weekend for the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the annual 24 Heures de Wadelincourt. This was the first of the qualifying races for next year's Paris Alsace Classic and saw very good fields in all divisions.

The race got underway at 1PM on Saturday, with walkers completing an initial lap of 1.608km, then settling into longer laps of 3.514km, thus enabling a 100km mark everyone (the carnival was hosting the Belgian 100km walk championship). The lap included a steep short climb in the middle. Emmanuel reports.

Wadelincourt is a very pleasant event because you don't walk in a city. You are in the countryside and the spectators include cows horses and sheep. This year, climatic conditions were perfect. The first part of the race was led by **Emmanuel Lassalle** until he stopped after 6 hours (he had come just for a long training walk). The lead then swapped to **Philippe Morel** and **Guido Vermeir** who were contesting the 100km championship. Once they stopped, **Jean-Marie Rouault** took over the lead position, holding this until race end at 1PM on Sunday. His final distance of 196.002km was very impressive. Second went to **Philippe Morel** with 188.219km while third went to **Daniel Vandendaul** with 182.351km. In the women's 54 hour walk, **Karine Zeimer** led all the way, winning with 172.231km, ahead of **Emilie Bizard** with 169.629km.

Ancillary events included 2x6 Hours (1-7PM on Sat, followed by 7AM-1PM on Sun) and a 6 Hour walk on Sunday morning.

### 24 Hours Men

1.	Jean-Marie Rouault	ASC Francophone	196.002	24:00:00	8.167 km/h
2.	Philippe Morel		188.219	24:00:00	7.842 km/h
3.	Daniel Vandendaul	CABW	182.351	24:00:00	7.598 km/h
4.	Saadi Lougrada	CM Roubaix	181.294	24:00:00	7.554 km/h
5.	Alexandre Forestieri	Courir a St-Tropez	173.109	24:00:00	7.213 km/h
6.	Daniel Duboscq	La Roche Blanche	168.572	24:00:00	7.024 km/h
7.	Alain Pellerin	AC Chateau-thierry	165.735	24:00:00	6.906 km/h
8.	Bertrand Labarre	CS Provins	153.779	24:00:00	6.407 km/h
9.	Mathieu Olivares	Neuilly-sur-Marne	144.650	24:00:00	6.027 km/h
10.	Daniel L Hoest	Wareme	132.331	24:00:00	5.514 km/h
11.	Christian Fillieux	Saint-Sauveur	127.599	24:00:00	5.317 km/h
12.	Olivier Sakesyn		122.245	24:00:00	5.094 km/h
13.	Alain Alexandre	REF Liege	117.570	24:00:00	4.899 km/h
14.	Patrick Kesselmark	Mareuil-les-Meaux	113.889	24:00:00	4.745 km/h
15.	Andre Rassaind	EA Centre-Isere	109.492	24:00:00	4.562 km/h
16.	Jeremy Dandoy	CM Roubaix	101.575	24:00:00	4.232 km/h
17.	Guido Vermeir	RC Gent	100.000	24:00:00	4.167 km/h
18.	Emmanuel Lassalle	CM Roubaix	61.346	06:40:52	9.182 km/h
19.	Peter Asselman	AC Lebbeke	61.346	07:52:55	7.783 km/h
20.	Cedric Varain	AC Chateau-Thierry	36.748	04:37:37	7.942 km/h

### 24 Hours Women

1.	Karine Zeimer	AO Nivernaise	172.231	24:00:00	7.176 km/h
2.	Emilie Bizard	Neuilly-sur-Marne	169.629	24:00:00	7.068 km/h
3.	Nathalie Steinville	ASFI Villejuif	151.287	24:00:00	6.304 km/h
4.	Annie Berthault-Korzhyk		100.993	24:00:00	4.208 km/h

### 100 km

1.	Philippe Morel		100.000	11:44:53
2.	Jean-Marie Rouault	ASC Francophone	100.000	11:46:51
3.	Guido Vermeir	RC Gent	100.000	11:52:54
4.	Saadi Lougrada	CM Roubaix	100.000	12:35:45
5.	Daniel Vandendaul	CABW	100.000	12:37:48
6.	Alexandre Forestieri	Courir a St-Tropez	100.000	12:44:40
7.	Daniel L Hoest	Wareme	100.000	12:54:40
8.	Daniel Duboscq	La Roche Blanche	100.000	13:17:15
9.	Karine Zeimer (F)	AO Nivernaise	100.000	13:21:04

10. Alain Pellerin	AC Chateau-thierry	100.000	13:41:41
11. Emilie Bizard-Planchot (F)	Neuilly-sur-Marne	100.000	13:47:14
12. Mathieu Olivares	Neuilly-sur-Marne	100.000	13:47:28



*Jean-Marie Rouault, Daniel Vandendaul, Guido Vermeir and Philippe Morel (photos Emmanuel Tardi)*



*Karine Zeimer, Emilie Bizard and Nathalie Steinvile*

For completeness, here are the results of the two shorter events.

#### **2x6 Hours Walk**

1. Pflieger Erik	Newfeel	101.614	12:03:48
2. Marechal Pascal	AC Chateau-Thierry	99.691	12:00:19
3. Bar-le-Duc	Penkalla M Penkalla A	91.713	12:01:54
4. Guillot Mickael	Pargny-sur-Saulx	90.431	12:02:27
5. Mougenot Patrick	MEGA	85.635	12:02:24

### 6 Hours Walk

1.	Malochet Dominique (F)	Cheminots Le Havre	47.937	06:02:31	7.934 km/h
	Playe Christophe		43.141	06:00:09	7.187 km/h
2.	Hanton Isabelle (F)	Vertigo	41.218	06:03:25	6.805 km/h
	Dumenil Valerie (F)		40.909	06:02:11	6.777 km/h
3.	Pruckner Jaroslav	Mlada Boleslav	40.262	06:06:37	6.589 km/h
	Vercaigne Martine		38.345	06:05:35	6.293 km/h
4.	Stradiot Ludovic	Basecles	36.113	06:04:24	5.946 km/h
	Tardi Emmanuel	LP Longjumeau	34.190	06:00:20	5.693 km/h

### FINANCIAL NEWS

Our bank balance remains healthy. Thanks to all those who have supported us so generously over the last few months.

Incoming:	Bank Interest	0.39
Outgoing:	Postage	18.50
	Annual Website Hosting payment	84.00
Balance:		<b>\$2388.68</b>

We do not charge an annual fee for membership but rely on the generosity of our members and supporters to keep us afloat. If you have not given lately, there is still time! Our bank details are

Bank: Westpac  
BSB Number: 033003  
Acct Name: Australian Centurions Walkers Inc.  
Acct Number: 123947

### UNTIL OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER

I always love to read the reports from around the world on what our local and / or far flung Australian Centurions are doing. And this issue is no exception, with lots of great reading for us all. It's been a cold and miserable winter here in Melbourne but winter finishes in a few days time and the weather must improve soon!

Yours in Centurion walking

Tim Erickson (C13), 1 Avoca Cres, Pascoe Vale, Victoria, Australia, 3044