

CENTURION FOOTNOTES

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DATES...DATES...DATES

April 19-20, 2008	Coburg 24 Hour Carnival, incorporating 2008 Australian Centurions Qualifying Event	Coburg, Victoria
May 31 – June 1, 2008	2008 Continental Centurions Qualifying Event Contact Hans van der Knaap (Secretary RWV) - Hansvanderknaap@cs.com	Schiedam, Holland
June 7-8, 2008	2008 USA Centurions Qualifier , FANS 24H event See http://www.fans24hour.org/	Minneapolis
June 18-21, 2008	Paris to Colmar Classic	France
Aug 16-17, 2008	2008 British Centurions 100 Mile Track Qualifier	Milton Keynes, England
Aug 29-31, 2008	Australian 48 Hour Championship	Caboolture, Queensland
Oct 4-5, 2008	Sri Chinmoy Australian 24 Hour Championship	Adelaide, South Australia
Nov 1-2, 2008	2008 New Zealand Centurions Qualifying Event See http://www.srichinmoyraces.org/nz/races/auck/24hr	Auckland, NZ
Nov 3-9, 2008	Colac 6 Day Endurance Event (TBC)	Colac, Victoria

All the main events are now in place for 2008. Mark Wall (email marnwal@hotmail.com) has written to advise on the British Centurions qualifier

It is to be held at Milton Keynes Stantonbury track on August 16-17 of this year. The centurions have limited the field to 35 competitors and it is assumed it will still be the RWA long Distance Championship. As one of the organisers, enquiries can be directed to me if their is any interest. The proposed entry fee will be of the nature of £25 to £30. The Hugh Neilson trophy (it incorporates his badge in its make up) goes to the first new Centurion to finish and in 2007 it went to the very experienced Annie Van Der Meer (she was a new British Centurion as it was her first attempt in the UK- despite her Paris-Strasbourg finish), so this is up for grabs.

On the local front, the Australian 48 Hour Championship will undergo a change of venue this year from the Gold Coast to Caboolture (Queensland). Race organiser Ian Cornelius has made the following announcement

The Gold Coast 24-48 is now at an end and will be replaced by the Caboolture 24-48. Geoff Williams has now confirmed that he will take the race over from 2008 and onwards, as Race Director for the Caboolture Historical Village who will own the race.

The 48 hour race will commence at 0900 on Friday 29 August and the 24 hour race at 0900 on Saturday 30 August. There will also be 6 and 12 hour options but I don't yet know the details.

Thanks to Geoff for taking this over. The major problem with the Runaway Bay setup is that the track was extremely hard which made it most difficult for athletes to produce their best results. The decomposed granite surface at Caboolture should be a marked improvement. I think it likely that Geoff will opt for manual lapscoreing. While the electronic scoring is an advantage in terms of accuracy and reliability it was not always easy to find out at short notice how many laps an athlete had covered and lacked the camaraderie of real persons doing the scoring.

The electronic scoring was not available to me this year which, together with a lack of volunteer support in this neck of the woods, coupled with the increasing hardness of a degrading track left little option than to find another venue and RD. I've also become much busier with my business which is impacting on my extra-curricular activities.

We've had some great times and witnessed some fine performances, but it's time to move on.

Sincere thanks from Chrissie and myself to the athletes and others for their support these last six years.

Cheers

Ian

Our own Centurion qualifying event is all set to go in 2 weeks time. We have a full field of runners and walkers so it will be an exciting event. One of the difficulties of participating in a track based event that includes both running and walking section is that it fills quickly and so not everyone can get a start – and there are normally more runners than walkers putting in early entries. So overall, we have 19 walkers (13 in the 24 Hour and 6 in the 6 Hour), including 6 of our current centurions. Fingers crossed that we get some first time finishers. The walk entry list reads as follows

24 Hour Walk	BROOKS, Colin COMMINS, Louis ESSAM, Phil FISHER, Pat (C 53) JORDAN, Steve LUDWIG, Andrew (C 25) O'NEILL, Terry (C 18) TINSON, Laurie WELSH, Craig (NZ)	COX, Catherine DeWILLIAMS, Deborah HOWORTH, Sandra O'NEILL, Karyn (C 45)	9 / 4 = 13
12H Walk	ATTRILL, David CARTER, Ken JACK, Clarrie (C 4) TURNER, Gary WHYTE, Robin (C 29)	PARRIS, Dawn	5 / 1 = 6

COBURG 6 HOUR WALKS, SUNDAY 30 MARCH, 2008

This year, responding to the increasing popularity of their Coburg 24 Hour Carnival, the Coburg 6 Hour Championships were split off to a separate date – Sunday 30 March. The day was perfect for ultra running and walking with cool overcast conditions for the 9AM start and temperatures that stayed in the mid teens for the duration of the event. Conditions threatened to worsen at various times during the 6 hours but any rain and wind seemed to bypass us. Of the 31 entries (21 in the runs and 10 in the walks), 24 made it to the start line and 23 finished the event.

I won't report on the running sections except to say that Essendon Harriers racewalker/runner **Danny Hawksworth** was a huge winner in the 6 Hour run. Danny made his intentions clear from the start, heading out briskly and maintaining his form superbly through the early hours. He passed the marathon mark in just under 3 hours and looked set for a distance well in excess of 80 km. Unfortunately, he slowed in the second half but still won convincingly with a wonderful distance of 77.802 for a new Championship record. Last year Danny won the 6 Hour event with 72.146 km so this year's winning distance was an improvement of over 5 km and pushes him right up in the all-time 6 Hour run rankings. Now Danny has yet another string to his bow – racewalker, steeplechaser, marathon and ultramarathon runner! All he needs now is the ultra-walker tag!

In the men's walk, **Terry O'Neill (C 18)** and **Clarrie Jack (C 4)** battled it out for the first 3 hours before Terry eventually broke free. From then on, it was plain sailing for him as he powered home with 52.983 km for a new Coburg Championship record and a new Australian M50 walk record. Clarrie hung on for second with 47.046 km ahead of local Melbourne athlete Steve Jordan who walked a big PB with 45.043 km

In the women's walk, **Karyn O'Neill (C 45)** (used to be Karyn Bollen until she married Terry just two months ago) was another competitor to do a big PB with her winning distance of 46.182 km. That made a walking double for the two newly weds. Dawn Parris walked fantastically to take second place with 43.737 km ahead of Sandra Howorth with 38.491 km.



Terry and Karyn O'Neill, Clarrie Jack, Danny Hawksworth and Dawn Parris in action at Coburg

6 Hour Walk Women	Num	Laps	Distance	Extra Dist	Total Distance
1. Karyn Bollen	51	115	46.000	0.182	46.182
2. Dawn Parris	53	109	43.600	0.137	43.737
3. Sandra Howorth	52	96	38.400	0.091	38.491

6 Hour Walk Men		Num	Laps	Distance	Extra Dist	Total Distance
1.	Terry O'Neill	45	132	52.800	0.183	52.983
2.	Clarrie Jack	42	117	46.800	0.246	47.046
3.	Steve Jordan	43	112	44.800	0.243	45.043
4.	Alex Poore	46	110	44.000	0.165	44.165
5.	Rudolf Skrucany	47	107	42.800	0.177	42.976
6.	Ken Carter	41	72	28.800	0.113	28.913

CHARLY SUR MARNE 8 HOUR WALK, FRANCE, SUNDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2008

The Charly sur Marne 8 Hour walk (see <http://www.marchons.com/charly-sur-marne-2008.html>) was the first long distance competition of the European year and as usual, it was a compulsory first outing for many competitors, with more than 80 individuals and a score of teams entering. The event started when the chimes of the church bell-tower signalled 8AM, in temperatures of only a couple of degrees, and around 100 walkers headed off into the unknown.



Charly sur Marne winners Urbain Girod and Corinne Dols in action
<http://www.marchons.com/charly-sur-marne-2008.html>

In the male category, Switzerland's Urbain Girod confirmed his pre-race favouritism, dominating the event with a fine display of speed walking and averaging 10.3 km/h for the full 8 hours. David Regy, the strong man of French walking, could not match it with Girod but was a clear second, well ahead of his French rivals. The men's event saw a superb 63 finishers with the first 16 all walking 70 km or further. These first 16 places follow

1.	Girod Urbain	CM Montey	SUI	80,972 km	7:50:25	10,328 km/h
2.	Régy David	EA Cergy Pontoise Athlétisme	FRA	78,391 km	7:52:55	9,946 km/h
3.	Thibaux Philippe	CA Agéen	FRA	75,810 km	8:00:54	9,459 km/h
4.	Bunel Pascal	Neuilly sur Marne Athletisme	FRA	73,229 km	7:51:24	9,321 km/h
5.	Paille Stéphane	SA Mérignac	FRA	73,229 km	7:51:25	9,320 km/h
6.	Naumowicz Dominique	Goehelle Athletisme	FRA	73,229 km	7:53:56	9,271 km/h
7.	Tournois Pascal	ASM Bar le Duc	FRA	73,229 km	7:55:42	9,236 km/h
8.	Van der gulik Frank	SV de LAT Amsterdam	HOL	73,229 km	7:57:57	9,193 km/h
9.	Ruelle David J	ogging Melun Val de seine	FRA	73,229 km	8:01:40	9,122 km/h
10.	Costils Alain	SPN Vernon	FRA	70,648 km	7:46:44	9,082 km/h
11.	Cys Jérémy	AC Château Thierry	FRA	70,648 km	7:54:39	8,931 km/h
12.	Georgelin Serge	Janzé athlétisme	FRA	70,648 km	7:54:57	8,925 km/h
13.	Letessier Gilles	PLM Conflans Ste Honorine	FRA	70,648 km	7:58:37	8,857 km/h
14.	Bovin Laurent	C A Montreuil	FRA	70,648 km	7:59:26	8,841 km/h
15.	Biebuyck Pascal	ASSA Renaix	BEL	70,648 km	8:01:33	8,803 km/h
16.	Labarre Bertrand	NL Saint Brice	FRA	70,648 km	8:04:30	8,749 km/h

In the women's event, last year's Colmar winner, Sylviane Varin, headed straight to the front and built up a lead of over a minute. She held this until the half way mark, at which time Corinne Dols caught and passed her, going into a fine win with a distance of 68.067 km. Varin faded to fourth but the minor positions were close with 5 walkers on the same lap. Overall, here were 17 finishers in the women's event.

1.	Dols Corinne	AFA Feyzin	FRA	68,067 km	7:58:15	8,540 km/h
2.	Forget Catherine	A F A Feyzin	FRA	65,486 km	7:46:36	8,421 km/h
3.	Camus Corinne	EFSRA Reims	FRA	65,486 km	7:51:42	8,330 km/h
4.	Varin Sylviane	SPN Vernon	FRA	65,486 km	7:52:36	8,314 km/h
5.	Berthon Corinne	SA Mérignac	FRA	65,486 km	7:57:23	8,231 km/h
6.	Anxionnat Claudine	RESDA Vosges	FRA	65,486 km	8:01:01	8,168 km/h
7.	Rodier Nicole	EFSRA Reims	FRA	60,324 km	7:51:21	7,679 km/h
8.	Naumowicz Véronique	Goehelle Athletisme	FRA	60,324 km	7:58:55	7,558 km/h
9.	Wolff Cosette	SCBA	FRA	60,324 km	7:59:51	7,543 km/h
10.	Dumont Raymonde	RCH JM	FRA	60,324 km	8:01:25	7,518 km/h
11.	Thanron-lescure Elisabeth	KM 520	FRA	60,324 km	8:02:51	7,496 km/h
12.	Roux Jacqueline	Janzé athlétisme	FRA	57,743 km	7:49:25	7,381 km/h
13.	Horvais Isabelle	Janzé athlétisme	FRA	57,743 km	7:50:58	7,356 km/h
14.	Baccarere Béatrice	SPN Vernon	FRA	57,743 km	7:55:13	7,291 km/h
15.	Imbro Nathalie	SPN Vernon	FRA	55,162 km	7:49:33	7,049 km/h
16.	Douet Christiane	Neuilly sur Marne Athletisme	FRA	52,581 km	7:48:26	6,735 km/h
17.	Paillard Corinne	NL	FRA	50,000 km	7:52:23	6,351 km/h

THE 2008 PARIS-COLMAR SELECTION EVENTS

The 8 qualifying opportunities for the 2008 Paris Colmar Classic are

1	200 km de GRAIDE (BELGIQUE)	18-19 August 2007
2	28 heures de ROUBAIX	15-16 September 2007
3	200 km de VALLORBE (SUISSE)	6-7 October 2007
4	28 heures de LA GUADELOUPE	27-28 October 2007
5	200 km de BOURGES	1-2 March 2008
6	200 km de CHATEAU-THIERRY	29-30 March 2008
7	200 km de BAR LE DUC (French Championship)	12-13 April 2008
8	200 km de DIJON	3-4 May 2008

I have previously reported on the first 4 events. In this newsletter, I can bring readers up to date on events 5 and 6.

200 KM de BOURGES, BOURGES, FRANCE, 1-2 MARCH, 2008

This event is always an interesting one. The 2006 edition was held in snow and adverse conditions. The 2007 edition saw a record field as it encompassed the French Championship. 2008 continued the positive trend with a field of 40 men and 10 women. See the full race report in <http://www.marchons.com/200-km-bourges-2008.html>

Corinne Dols continued on her winning way from Charly sur Marne, holding out Belurussian star Marina Tarasevich and fellow French walker Catherine Forget, all 3 walkers reaching 170.624 km in the 24 hour period. Jocelyn Eliezer, Corinne Berthon and Claudine Anxionnat showcased French depth, also covering in excess of 100 miles in the set time.

In the men's race, the retirement of Swiss star Urbain Girod handed the win to Russian Sergey Dvoretzki but he did not have it all his own way with Roubaix walker Dominique Naumowicz matching him with 194.618 km (although with a slower time). The quality of the field can be seen in the fact that the first 7 walkers all walked in excess of 180 km. English walker Kevin Marshall has been invited to contest the Paris Colmar and his 178.622 km was a PB.

The following finishing list shows the 36 walkers who walked in excess of 100 km in the required time.

1.	DVORETSKI Sergey	194km 618m	Sc Kuzgtu
2.	NAUMOWICZ Dominique	194km 618m	Cm Roubaix
3.	COSTILS Alain	191km 952m	Spn Vernon
4.	RUELLE David	189km 286m	Jogging Melun Val-de-seine
5.	DIEN Daniel	186km 620m	Club Sportif Cacl
6.	JOSE MOREIRA Bernardo (Esp)	183km 954m	Ca Bellver Siurell
7.	CLEMENTE Edouard (Esp)	181km 288m	Non Licencié(e)
8.	MARSHALL Kevin (Eng)	178km 622m	Surrey Walking Club
9.	GENIN Sébastien (Sui)	175km 956m	Cm Monthey
10.	HAUMESSER Marc	173km 290m	Ac Villeneuve D'ascq
11.	THEVENIN Pascal	173km 290m	A Marcheurs St Thibault Des Vi
12.	DOLS Corinne (F)	170km 624m	Assoc. Feyzin Athle.
13.	TARASEVICH Marina (F)	170km 624m	
14.	FORGET Catherine (F)	170km 624m	Assoc. Feyzin Athle.
15.	SCHAERLAECKENS Ludo (Bel)	170km 624m	Sparta Bornem

16. DOUBLET Cedric	170km 624m	Adour Pyrenees Athletisme 65
17. BOVIN Laurent	170km 624m	Ca Montreuil 93
18. ELIEZER Jocelyn (F)	165km 292m	Senart Combs Brie Athletisme
19. BERTHON Corinne (F)	162km 626m	Sa Merignac
20. ANXIONNAT Claudine (F)	162km 626m	R.e.s.d.a. Vosges
21. BUNEL Pascal	162km 626m	Neuilly Sur Marne Athletisme
22. GAUZE Francis	159km 960m	Fc Oloron
23. SPIESER Jean-paul	149km 296m	Pays De Colmar Athletisme
24. QUINQUETON Bernadette (F)	143km 964m	A Marcheurs St Thibault Des Vi
25. JOURD'HUY Frederic	141km 298m	Bazancourt Ac
26. BONVARLET Liliane (F)	141km 298m	Club D'athletisme De Decines
27. GLASER Jean-bernard	135km 966m	Neuilly Sur Marne Athletisme
28. LEFEVRE Bruno	133km 300m	Rethel Courir
29. PICHON Jean	130km 634m	A Marcheurs St Thibault Des Vi
30. ESTEVE Patrice	130km 634m	Ca Foecy*
31. GAUTIER Janine (F)	122km 636m	Senart Combs Brie Athletisme
32. SEGUI Santiago (Esp)	114km 638m	Gelec
33. LHERITIER Michel	109km 306m	Sainte Maure Athletic Club
34. SPEMENT Pierre	109km 306m	Em Bourges
35. AUVILLE Daniel	106km 640m	Speedy Club Provence
36. BIEBUYCK Pascal (Bel)	103km 974m	Non Licencié(e)



Left - 2nd placegetter in the men's event, Dominique Naumowicz

Right – Women's winner Corinne Dols

(<http://www.marchons.com/200-km-bourges-2008.html>)

200 KM de CHATEAU THIERRY, FRANCE, 29-30 MARCH, 2008

Sandra Brown (C 36) has very kindly sent me her own report on the Chateau Thierry qualifying event, held last weekend. She and husband Richard travelled from England to France for the event and Sandra walked superbly as usual, coming second to the incomparable Kora Bouffler, both women reaching the required 170 km well inside the 24 hours. In the men's event, Russian Serguei Dvoretzki won again, this time by 9 minutes, from Urbain Girod. On this occasion, the first 3 men all reached the required 200 km inside the 24 hour time limit and there were 21 finishers in all (16 men and 5 women). See full race details and reports at <http://www.marchons.com/article1014.html>

Richard and I have both been very busy at work this spring, so have had to put off any thoughts of a weekend visit to France till the end of March. And if it's the end of March - it must be time for Chateau Thierry!

Our trip via Eurostar and French railways worked well, and an early morning Eurostar on Friday enabled us to enjoy the rest of that day around the beautiful and fascinating "Marais" area in the old heart of Paris (once a marshy area on the right bank of the Seine) with its cobbled narrow streets and fine and ancient buildings (not a few of which are now excellent, friendly cafes and bars.)

On Saturday morning, the train whisked us along the Marne valley to the town of Chateau Thierry. The name says it all - the medieval castle sits atop its hill and walkers have to visit it on every circuit before dropping

down again to the riverside! The reputation of the event is that it is tough on account of the hills, but good performances are achieved there.

The race starts from the town hall with 3 smallish laps around the town centre. Our old friend Kora Boufflert, who last year impressively completed the full Paris-Colmar alongside the men, went off near the front with the leading men. Richard and I started steadily near the back of the field, settling into the race and enjoying a brief chat with people we haven't seen since last spring at Bourges. Remarkably, I never saw Kora again till the finish. We were on the same lap for 22 hours and 170kms, generally around 15 minutes apart, sometimes a few minutes more or less. At the end, ten minutes separated us, Kora leading the way in 21.49, me finishing in 21.59.39. I think we both enjoyed the event very much. We were both pleased that the rain in the final hours didn't affect us for too long. Neither of us is looking to do this year's Paris Colmar. Kora wants to try to qualify for the French women's 24h running team, where her ability to walk fast as well as run should stand her in good stead.

Kora was looked after as ever by her husband Eric, together with Eric's parents. Richard and I were on our own, so were relying on the organisers' feeding arrangements or having to stop to get our own food and drink, clothes etc. After a good 100kms, Richard stopped and provided much appreciated help to me as chef de mash.

At the end of the event, the hour change (to "summer time" in France and the UK) meant that we had to dash to the station for our train.

The final result brings home to me the lowish finishing rate. The repeated long, tough hill climb to the castle, and a later hill climb - plus of course the long downhills too - were taking their toll, and you could see people tiring. One of our Dutch friends (who is usually very tough and steadfast) retired at some point, as did a fair number of others, so that the course could have felt a bit lonely by the end if it had not been for the wonderful people who were walking in little groups for the local diabetic association.

It was great to be back at an event in France. The qualifying races are so friendly, well-organised and enjoyable, and we are made very welcome.

We are delighted that our fellow English walker Kevin Marshall has been invited to walk in this year's Paris-Colmar and is looking forward to it.



Left: Women's winner Kora Boufflert at the start

Right: Richard and Sandra Brown

<http://www.marchons.com/article1014.html>

200 km Men

1.	Dvoretzki Serguei	Dynamo Kemerova	RUS	200,000 km	23:07:57	8,646 km/h
2.	Girod Urbain	CM Monthey	SUI	200,000 km	23:16:53	8,591 km/h
3.	Thibaux Philippe	CA Agéén	FRA	200,000 km	23:32:56	8,493 km/h
4.	Letessier Gilles	PLM Conflans Ste Honorine	FRA	192,500 km	24:05:59	7,988 km/h
5.	Varain Cédric	AC Château Thierry	FRA	188,800 km	23:58:42	7,874 km/h
6.	Chatillon Nicolas	Meaux	FRA	177,600 km	23:56:17	7,419 km/h
7.	Cys Jérémy	AC Château Thierry	FRA	177,600 km	24:16:10	7,318 km/h
8.	Bunel Pascal	Neuilly sur Marne Athletisme	FRA	173,900 km	24:05:46	7,217 km/h
9.	Grados Daniel	CM Roubaisien	FRA	166,400 km	23:48:30	6,989 km/h
10.	Magnier Joël	CM Roubaix	FRA	159,000 km	24:15:43	6,553 km/h
11.	Baudrillard Antonio	PCA Neuf Brisach	FRA	155,200 km	24:04:27	6,447 km/h

12. Spieser Jean Paul	PCA Neuf Brisach	FRA	144,100 km	24:07:32	5,973 km/h
13. Beaumont Didier	ACCT	FRA	140,300 km	23:46:36	5,901 km/h
14. Tabouret Guy	US Toul	FRA	136,600 km	23:45:48	5,748 km/h
15. Rivière Sylvain	SPN Vernon	FRA	129,100 km	23:55:10	5,397 km/h
16. Lh�ritier Michel	Sainte Maure Athletic Club	FRA	121,700 km	23:46:4	5,120 km/h

170 km Women

1. Boufflert Kora	AS Cheminots Havrais	FRA	170,200 km	21:49:14	7,800 km/h
2. Brown Sandra	Surrey Walking Club	GBR	170,200 km	21:59:35	7,739 km/h
3. Naumowicz V�ronique	CM Roubaix	FRA	155,200 km	23:54:45	6,490 km/h
4. Moineau Isabelle	NL Etampes	FRA	132,900 km	24:11:58	5,492 km/h
5. Baccarere B�atrice	SPN Vernon	FRA	125,400 km	23:55:09	5,243 km/h

THE EXTRA MILE ENDURATHON

Jill Green (C 38) recently alerted me to a fantastic new ultra walk concept called the 'Extra Mile Endurathon', being run by the Los Angeles based Global Games Group. This is a charity and endurance marathon that differs from the norm in one major way – there is no set finish line. The premise is simple: participants must walk around a lap course within a city over and over again until there's only one person left standing. Once everyone else has dropped out, the last person in the race must walk an extra mile to become the winner and claim the money prize.

The EME was inspired by a Stephen King novel called 'The Long Walk'. The first four EME events were held in Germany, Spain, USA and Argentina in 2007. This year, these 4 countries will host the EME National League and the 2008 winners will represent each country in the EME World Championship which will take place on Dec 5th, 2008, in Las Vegas. Overall, EME events will be held in London, Paris, Rio de Janeiro, Sydney, Tel Aviv, Los Angeles, Seoul, Tokyo, New York and Boulder in Colorado in 2008. The Sydney event will be start on August 29th. How long it lasts depends on how long the walkers can keep going.

There are only two rules that participants must follows

1. No one can stop to rest. Although it is mandatory to stop at a red light, to buy nourishments or to use the restroom. It is strictly forbidden to sit down for sleeping or recovering. There's only one stipulated 10 minute stop per lap and that time can be used for whatever is needed
2. Participants must always stay together. No walker can walk away from the rest of the group and stay alone. It is a group walk for as long as you can stay with the group.

In the most recent event, which started in Buenos Aires in Argentina on November 30th 2007, a record 46 starters tested themselves, 4 beat the previous EME best of 63 hours and two (Ivan Lamas and Marcelo Muzika) walked together for 102 hours before making a decision to call themselves equal winners and stop. The total distance was not documented on the EME website (which is obviously more interested in the timeframe) but, since they had reached some 300 km in the first 63 hours, I suspect it may have been around 400km or more.



Buenos Aires EME winners Ivan Lamas and Marcelo Muzika – 102 hours of continuous walking

It's a great concept and I hope it develops. Check out website <http://www.extramileendurathon.com>

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Sandra Brown (C 36) recently sent me this absolutely fantastic photo from England. She commented:

Dear Tim

Inspired by your marvellous report on Australian 50 miles records, we thought you would like to have a copy of this fantastic period piece photo. It shows Tommy Richardson, UK Centurion no 100, setting a new world 50 mile racewalking record at the old White City stadium in west London in the 1930s. We fear we don't know who the supporter is, but they don't make them like that any more, even down to the gold chain in his waistcoat pocket. We have had this pic in the bathroom in London for many years to inspire us for our morning walks, and of course we remember Tommy as he was President of Centurions when we joined in 1982 and 1984. We thought you would like to add this to your collection.

Kindest regards

Sandra and Richard



Not to be outdone, I thought I would add the following photo of 1936 Olympic champion Harold Whitlock on his way to setting a new 4 Hour World record at White City in London in 1933.



The humble refreshment table has certainly changed over the years! Now the walkers fly by at such speed that it is an achievement in itself to successfully hand over the required items.

Tommy Richardson was no slouch as evidenced by his world record 100 mile walk **17:35:04**, achieved in his C100 track performance at Bradford in 1936. Alas, I do not actually have any details of his 50 Mile world record done at White

City. I have scoured through my many archived bits and pieces and books and have also done a pretty thorough search of the net but to no avail.

Whatever his time (and I assume it would have been well under 8 hours), it was surpassed in 1935 by Harold Whitlock in a special time-trial event set up at the White City stadium in London on 5th October. Leaving all the other walkers in his wake, he set a swathe of records that included an official World Record for the 30 mile distance (4:29:31.8) and British records for 40 miles (6:07:07), 50 miles (**7:44:47.2**), 6 hours (39 miles, 473 yds), 7 hours (45 miles 803 yds) and 8 hours (51 miles 1042 yds). The 1962 edition of the RWA book "The Sport of Race Walking" documented the RWA 50M track record as being held by Whitlock at 7:44.47.2. I wonder whether that has been broken and, if so, how far it has been reduced. Perhaps some of our English based readers might be able to do some research on that one!

FINANCIAL NEWS

Thanks to all those members and supporters who continue to support the club.

Incoming:	Carol Baird – 2008 newsletter postal subscription	12.00
	Carol Baird – donation	38.00
	Stan Jones – 2008 newsletter postal subscription	12.00
	Stan Jones – donation	38.00
	Jill Green – 2008-2009 newsletter postal subscription	36.00
	Jill Green – donation	14.00
Outgoing:	Postage and Photocopying	60.00
	Engraving – Gordon Smith Award 2007	9.00
	New Centurion tee shirts for 2008 event	450.00
Balance 06/04/2008		\$569.84

UNTIL OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER

I am counting down the days until our 2008 Centurion event. Will we have some new members to welcome to the club at the completion of the 24 hours. Fingers crossed!

Yours in Centurion walking

Tim Erickson (C 13)
Secretary, Australian Centurion Walkers Inc.
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