

CENTURION FOOTNOTES

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President	Terry O'Neill (C 18)	0400 190 988
Vice-President	Robin Whyte (C 29)	0414 279 639
Secretary	Tim Erickson (C 13)	0412 257 496
Treasurer	Stuart Cooper (C 5)	0421 470 949

DATES ... DATES ... DATES

With Australian States now opening up from the last of their covid restrictions, fingers and toes are crossed for a bumper 2022, with our own Australian Centurions qualifier at Coburg leading the way in April. As always, check the AURA calendar for the latest news (<http://aura.asn.au/>).

See below for a few highlights from the 2022 ultra walking world fixture. It's a work in progress!

Apr 9-10, 2022	Coburg 24 Hour Carnival (Aust Centurions 100 Miles Qualifier) See http://www.coburg24hr.org/24hr/race-entry/	Coburg, VIC
Apr 16-17, 2022	24 Heures de Château-Thierry	Château-Thierry, FRA
Apr 30 – May 1	La Marche du Grand Est 2022 (142km)	Vorges, FRA
May 7-13, 2022	6 Jours de France (https://www.6jours-de-france.fr/)	Vallon Pont d'Arc, FRA
June 1-5, 2022	Paris-Alsace Classic	Across France
June 4-5, 2022	Continental Centurions 100 Miles Qualifier See https://www.rotterdamsewandelsportvereniging.nl/	Schiedam, NED
June 4-5, 2022	USA Centurions 100 Miles Qualifier See https://fansultraraces.org/	Bloomnuton, MN, USA
July 3-9, 2022	6 Jours Du Grand Est (see https://www.6jours-grandest.fr/)	Pont-à-Mousson, FRA
Aug 20-21, 2022	English Centurions 100 Miles Qualifier See https://centurions1911.org.uk/next-events/100-miles/#prev	Middlesbrough, GBR
Aug 27-28, 2022	24 Heures de Wadelincourt	Wadelincourt, BEL
Sep 17-18, 2022	28 Heures de Roubaix	Roubaix, FRA
Oct 1-2, 2022	Inaugural Deutschland Centurion Walk	Bochum, GER
Oct 29-30, 2022	24 Heures de Dijon	Dijon, FRA
Nov 27, 2022	8 Heures d'Etampes-sur-Marne	Etampes-sur-Marne, FRA

WELCOME OUR NEWEST CENTURION – JOFFRID MACKETT (C82)

I am very excited to announce that we have a new Australian Centurion.

About a month ago, I was contacted by NSW ultra runner **Joffrid Mackett**. He was intending to try to walk 100 miles within the first 24 hours of the Canberra 48 Hour Carnival, which was held just over a week ago. As we had 3 centurions in action in the same event, I felt confident that we would be able to scrutinise his action and ensure that, if he did succeed, all would be above boards. So I contacted **Justin Scholz (C61)**, **David Billett (C50)** and **Anyce Melham (C65)**, and they all volunteered their services to keep an eye on Joffrid and to support him along the way.

You can check out all the results at <https://au.srichinmoyraces.org/events/48hour/previous-results/2022>. Here's a summary of how it panned out for them all.

Justin Scholz (C 61) headed off fast, reading the half way mark (50 miles) in 9:48:56 and powering through to reach the 100 mile mark in **21:21:32**. He then retired, job done. This was his 18th centurion walk, and another superb one. Here is how he summarised it on facebook:

Centurion #18 completed at Canberra in about 21 hours 22 minutes. The fast time belies the pain and suffering though, and a head that was never in the game. Very grateful to Sharon for sticking by me, and especially well done to Dave Billett who managed his 4th centurion, and Joffrid Mackett who got over the line for his first. Dave an old hand, and massaged the 100 miles nicely, but especially impressed by Joffrid who pushed hard for a very long time after a less than ideal first 12 hour tally.

David Billett (C50) was the next of the walkers, heading out at a conservative (for him) pace and intending to see how far he could get in the 48H. He passed the 50 Mile mark in 10:56:08 and reached the 100 mile mark in **23:25:03** for his fourth centurion finish. He then walked on to a final 48H distance of 250.316km.

Joffrid Mackett (C 82) was always within a few laps of David and reached the 50 mile mark in 11:23:55. That did not allow much additional time for the inevitable slowing down that can occur in the second half of the race, but he stuck at it gamely, reaching the 100 mile mark in **23:32:07** to become **Australian Centurion Number 82**.

Joffrid has been running the occasional ultra dating back to 2012 when he completed the Hume & Hovell 50km. In recent years, he has challenged himself with longer ultras, doing the Canberra 48H three times as a runner, with a PB of 276km in 2019. This is his first walk ultra and interestingly, he walked the 100 mile distance faster than he has done running. Must be a story there somewhere! Here is what he had to say after the event

I am stoked. I can honestly say I am significantly sorer after that 24 hrs than any 100mile trail run I have done, or the 48hr runs I've done. My legs are toast, and I blisters in places on my feet I've never had before. But I will know for next time. I naively thought I would have a rest for an hour or so, then go back out and see if I could better my Run PB (276). Again based on lack of understanding of the toll this would have on me. At this stage I am helping a mate who is doing the 48hr. I may pop out for a few laps later on, I am doubtful. Most rewarding thing I have done - thank you for letting me have a crack!

For the record, Joffrid did get back on the track for a few more laps, completing 205.915km.

Anyce Melham (C 65) was also in action, but as a runner. Anyce has been a huge supporter of the Sri Chinmoy ultras for over 30 years now and this was his second appearance in this event. In 2021, he ran 256km but this time around it was not his day, and he retired after 112km. Well done mate!

I attach photos of Justin and Joffrid and David (it's easy to pick Joffrid in a field with his trademark red beard!). Event website at <https://au.srichinmoyraces.org/events/48hour>. Lots of photos there.

Welcome to the club, Joffrid, and congratulations on a job well done! And congratulations also to Justin and David on yet another hundred each. **I'll have a full profile of Joffrid in the next newsletter, which will come out as soon as our Coburg 24 Hour Carnival is completed next week.**



Joffrid, Justin and David on their way to their respective centurion walk finishes



Joffrid and David caught by the camera



Joffrid with fellow competitor Ingo Ernst

2022 COBURG 24 HOUR CARNIVAL UPDATE

It's Tuesday as I write this newsletter, with our 2022 Coburg 24 Hour Carnival only 4 days away. We currently have a healthy 96 entries, with 25 of them walkers. As this is our official Australian Centurion qualifier for the year, I am excited to see so many pedestrians toeing the line. Here are profiles of all the walkers.

24 Hour Walk Women - 5

Christison, Linda	NSW	Linda stands out on the track, walking with the support of a walking stick. But she is not one to let such things effect her goals. She had been a runner for many years, with PBs ranging from 2.09 (800m) to 2.52 (marathon) and boasting 33rd place in the Boston Marathon and wins in the Adelaide, Traralgon and Sydney Marathons. She was training to go under 2:50 in 2004 when she began to lose co-ordination and was diagnosed with early onset Parkinson's disease. She was eventually no longer able to run, but could still walk with the help of a walking stick. In this mode, she completed 133km in the 2015 Adelaide 24H and has been astonishing us all since then with her ongoing walk efforts. Her walk PBs now stand at 154.027km (24H) and 236.703 m (48H). We are excited to welcome her and her sister Heather (who is in the 24H run) to Coburg for the first time.
Hogan, Lisa	NSW	We welcome Lisa to her first Coburg and what a way to start - with a 24H walk. To quote from her entry resume: "This is the beginning of my ultra experience in a formal setting but its a life long passion. My longest to date is 50km so I'm in training for April. I do this also in memory of my Dad, another keen walker who gave me the walking gene! Thank you."
Scholz, Sharon	VIC	This will be Sharon's 8 th appearance at Coburg. It was the scene of her first formal ultra in 2004 and she burst onto the scene with a 24H run distance of 184.120km. She quickly rose to the top of the Australian ranks and her run PBs stand at 71.9km (6H), 131.3km (12H), 224.8km (24H) and 333.026km (48H). A regular Australian ultra running representative (9 international reps including Worlds, Comm, Asian and Oceania Champs), she showed her versatility in 2013 by rewriting the walk record books with her win in the 24H walk in Sydney in June, becoming an Australian centurion into the bargain. Back as a walker this year, she is always a force with which to be reckoned.
Talcott, Erin	USA	We have a number of overseas walkers in our 24H walk field this year, the first of them being American Erin Talcott. Erin is not only a great ultra walker (she is a US Centurion with 23:31:35 and is a two time finisher in the multi day Paris-Alsace walk classic in France). She is also a multiple times USA racewalking representative,

		normally over the demanding 50km distance. She comes to Coburg fresh from competing as part of the USA team in the 2022 Racewalking World Championships in Oman (where she did the 35km walk).
Williams, Fonibear	VIC	Fonibear had entered our 2020 Coburg 24H walk. When it was cancelled, she rolled over to 2021, only to subsequently postpone her track debut for another year. 2022 will see her finally toe the start line at Coburg. She has done a few events in the past: the 45km Moonwalk in the Dandenongs and 3 Relay for Life events, as well as lots of crewing for her husband at his ultra adventures. Now it's her time.
24 Hour Walk Men - 13		
Billett, David	SA	David has 4 Coburg 24H finishes under his belt (2004-2007) and he hasn't been resting on his laurels since then. He continues to amass impressive run and walk stats: 63 ultramarathons, including 22 24-hour events, 7 48-hour events, 7 six-day races and 6 Coast to Kosciuszko finishes. Wow! He is also a four times centurion (walk 100 miles within 24 hours) and is back this time around to make it 5! Two weeks ago, he walked 250.316km in the Sri Chinmoy 48H in Canberra (including over 100 miles in the first 24 hours). Talk about a machine.
Isaacs, David	VIC	David competed in his first ever ultra at the 2021 Coburg Carnival, walking to a total distance of 107.573km in the 24H division. He is back again in 2022 and will be hoping to do even better. Alas, I think David is a late scratching – next year!
Kandelaars, Arie	NED	Arie is another one of our overseas walkers looking for a centurion walk finish (100 miles) this year. It will be his third visit downunder, after falling short of the required total in both our 2018 and 2019 events. It's a case of returning to complete unfinished business. Arie himself has 5 Centurion badges to his credit: African (2016, 23:52:00), English (2017, 23:49:27), NZ (2017, 23:36:29), Continental and USA (2018, 23:52:14). Five badges in quick succession and the aim is to add a sixth one in Coburg 2022.
Kani, Mark	VIC	Mark had done the You Yangs 50km (2016) and 100km (2017) as well as the Great Ocean Road Ultra Marathon, as well as 5 Melbourne Marathons. 2021 was his first serious track encounter and he walked 103.468km in the 24H walk her at Coburg. This will be his second Coburg outing and he is keen to improve on last year's time.
Kilmartin, John	VIC	John, from country Victoria, walked his first ultra in Melbourne in September 2012, completing 47.973km in 6H. He quickly improved, becoming an Australian centurion in 2015 with a 100 mile time of 21:11:56. Only months later, he became an English Centurion with a further 100 mile walk on the Isle of Man (21:26:48) and in 2016 he added the Continental Centurion badge (23:05:24). this would have been John's 9 th Coburg appearance but I believe he is another late scratching.
Lazar, Dennis	VIC	Dennis has done a few ultras over the last few years - Two Bays 56km, Rollercoast 3km, GOR 60km, Alpine Challenge 60km and Surf Coast Century 100. Now to up the ante with a 24 Hour walk.
Lim, Beow	VIC	Lim completed the Oxfam 100km back in 2016 and then decided to funnel that 100km trail experience to a 24 Hour walk on the track at Coburg. He entered our 2021 event and walked to a fine 122.988km and third overall in the walk division. His comment after the race: "Coupled with the kind weather, the event rated eleven out of ten!". Understandably, after his good experience in 2021, he returns in 2022 to go even further.
Scholz, Justin	VIC	Justin burst onto the ultra scene in 2009 and quickly rose through the ranks. With current running PBs of 77km (6H), 122km (12H) and 214km (24H), he is one of our top ultra track runners. He also has a number of Coast to Kosci finishes to his credit, with a best time of 31:21:12. Finally he is also a multiple Centurion walker with 17 100 mile walks to his credit. With some 11 Coburg appearances under his belt already, he has chosen the 24H Walk option this time around, and will be looking for his 18th 100 mile walk stat. And just as an aside, he walked 572.127km in the EMU 6 Day event in Hungary in May 2019, setting new Australian Walk records for 500km and 6 Days into the bargain. And by way of additional info, he and wife Sharon cycled a full lap around the Australian coastline last year, doing two further 100 mile track walks while in transit. Talk about versatile!
Sweet, Paul	VIC	It's always great to see one of our Coburg Harriers team mates in our Coburg Carnival so we welcome Paul to Coburg 2022. He tells me he has competed in 2 marathons as well as the 2021 Tan Ultra. In preparation for his 24H walk, he has been walking approximately 70km a week for the last year with some 100km weeks.

		That's a good prep, Paul. You are ready to go!
Talcott, Dave	USA	Dave is another of our international walking guests, after that 100 mile walk standard. He'll be there with his wife Erin who is in the women's 24H walk. Dave already has USA and English centurion badges and a 100 mile walk best time of 18:53:10. He is also a pretty handy racewalker, with medals at USA Open and World Masters level.
Tinson, Laurie	VIC	Laurie first competed in the 2003 Coburg 24H walk, returning for further walks in 2004, 2005 and 2008. After a significant break, he returned in 2015, walking 101.602km for in the 24H option. He was back again for the 2018 12H Walk, winning with 73.262km. In 2021, he returned for his 7 th Coburg, walking 75.827km in the 12H Walk. He had entered, ready to better his 24H PB, but is another late scratching.
Titley, Andrew	IOM	Andrew had planned to compete in the 24H Walk in our 2021 event, but had to postpone for a year due to our covid lockdown. Now with our borders open, he can finally complete his trip from the Isle of Man. He is a very accomplished ultra walker, with 4 centurion badges already to his credit (Britain, Europe, America and South Africa), as well as 18 finishes in the iconic 83 mile Parish Walk on the Isle of Man. I am looking forward to seeing him in action.
Van Den Brand, Remy	NED	Remy is one of a significant number of overseas entrants in the 24H walk. Like all the others, Remy will be aiming to complete 100 miles within the 24H limit to add a further centurion badge to his collection. He already has 2 - Continental European (2016, 21:15:01) and African (2016, 22:39:59).
12 Hour Walk Women - 2		
Billett, Lorraine	SA	Lorraine is more normally seen in crewing role for her son David, who is a regular on the Australian ultra scene. She has, however, occasionally dipped her feet into the ultra world herself, completing several 6H events (PB 40.969km) and 1 12H event (57.435km) in past years. In 2017, she decided to see if she could set some W70 Australian walking records and she was successful, reaching 92.105km in the 2017 Coburg 24H. She was back again in 2018, going even further with 101.378km. Now in the W75 division, she is keen to test herself against the next age group records.
Grace, Marnie	VIC	I know Marnie from the racewalking world, where she competes in Melbourne. She started running in 2013, never having run a km in her life. She completed the Princes Park 6 Hour Run in 2018 and racewalked the 2020 Virtual Melbourne Marathon half marathon in December 2020. She then turned her sights on Coburg, entering the 2021 6H walk division and winning with a great first up 45.421km. She returns in 2022 and will double her effort, attacking the 12 Hour walk.
12 Hour Walk Men - 3		
Hess, Albin	VIC	Albin dipped his feet into the ultra world with finishes in the 2012 Trails Plus Series (You Yangs, Tan and Marysville) and the 2013 Marysville 50km. Now competing as a Masters racewalker and concentrating on the ultra walk front, he has competed in the last 5 Coburg Carnivals (2016-2019 and 2021) and has PBs of 46.148km (6H) and 123.316km (24H). He is using this year's 12H walk as a stepping stone for his first 6 day event in Adelaide.
Richardson, Saul	NSW	Saul had his first ever long walk at the 2012 Sri Chinmoy 24H in Sydney, completing a good 128.8km. He then became a regular on the ultra scene, amassing walk PBs of 43.492km (6H), 80.800km (12H) and 139.028km (24H). He was last at Coburg in 2016 (his fourth Coburg appearance) and he has been bushwalking and pursuing lots of other interesting goals since then. It is great to see him back on the ultra scene and it is wonderful to welcome him to Coburg again.
Tewari, Anubhav	VIC	Anubhav has done a number of marathons (>30) over the last 15 years and a few Great Ocean Road 45km ultras. Last year, he competed in the 24H walk at Coburg and this year he returns for the 12H walk. They say that variety is the spice of life!
6 Hour Walk Women – 1		
Fitton, Sue	VIC	I don't have any stats on Sue so I assume she is dipping her toes into the ultra scene for the first time. So take it easy, Sue, and just enjoy the walk experience. Everyone will be out to support you in your first such endeavour.
6 Hour Walk Men - 2		
Alexandropolous, George	VIC	George first started dabbling around the edges of the ultra running scene with a few 50km runs in 2013-2014, but ramped it up a notch in 2016 and has been a regular

		competitor since then, with PBs of 4:55:33 (50km), 11:13:38 (100km), 155.197km (24H - Coburg 2019) and 587.344km (2018 Adelaide 6 Day 3rd place). This is his fourth Coburg appearance
Carter, Ken	VIC	Another of our local Coburg Harriers family, Ken is a regular walk competitor who has been doing our annual Coburg ultra for many years now. He has walk PBs of 32km (6H), 58km (12H) and 60km (24H). This year, he will once again participate in the 6H walk. Good luck Ken!

I am sure you will agree with me that the walks fields are filled with quality walkers, with the 5 overseas walkers already centurions. Add in our own locally produced centurions and you have some wonderful walking to watch.

24 HEURES DE BOURGES, BOURGES, FRA, 5-6 MARCH 2022

And now to a couple of European ultra walks. The first was the 24 Heures de Bourges in France in early March. One of the annual classics and the official French 24 Hour Walk Championships, it is also a qualifier for the 2022 Paris-Colmar. As always, it boasted strong fields.

Emmanuel Tardi reported that **Fabrice Henry** was the early leader, reaching 20km in 2:04:32, some 8 minutes ahead of **Alexandre Forestieri**. When Henry stopped after 35km, Forestieri took the lead, reaching the 50km mark in 5:35:5, 6 minutes ahead of **Serge Georgelin**. Georgelin caught Forestieri around the 100km mark, passed in 11 hours, and from then on they walked together. Maintaining their pace well, they reached the 170km mark in 21:52, and it was only in the last 30 minutes that Forestieri was able to break away to win by just over 630m.

In the women's race, **Christine David** led from the start, going on to win with a distance of 170.100km. And a special mention for 1939 born **Mickaëlis Boursain** who set new French (and possible World) W80 records for 50km (8:08:24), 100km (17:59:24) and 14 Hours (118.041 km).

24 Hour Walk Men

1.	FORESTIERI Alexandre	Ust Courir A Saint Tropez	186.392 km	7.766 km/h
2.	GEORGELIN Serge	Ea Cesson	185.747 km	7.739 km/h
3.	KERLAU Yves-michel	Cm Roubaix	182.060 km	7.586 km/h
4.	LETOURNEAU Florian	Ac Chateau Thierry	180.667 km	7.528 km/h
5.	LETESSIER Gilles	Rochefort Athletisme Club	178.469 km	7.436 km/h
6.	LACHE Cyrille	Ca Balma	177.191 km	7.383 km/h
7.	GRASSI Alain	Nl Dives-sur-mer	174.475 km	7.270 km/h
8.	HARDEL Claude	Co Les Ulis	174.329 km	7.264 km/h
9.	CAILLEAUX Patrick	Nl Ingre	167.301 km	6.971 km/h
10.	HIRSINGER Christian	Ultra Marathon France	164.490 km	6.854 km/h
11.	LEIJTENS Frans (NED)	Rotterdam W	163.630 km	6.818 km/h
12.	PINEAU Laurent	Athletisme Sud 17	162.587 km	6.774 km/h
13.	LANEAU Maxime	Us Camon	162.160 km	6.757 km/h
14.	GROS Gildas	Es Thaon	161.175 km	6.716 km/h
15.	BOURICHON Christophe	Entente Bassin Athletisme	154.267 km	6.428 km/h
16.	LINARD Benoit	Nl Neuvy-deux-clochers	153.032 km	6.376 km/h
17.	FILLIEUX Christian (BEL)	Ca Fameenne	150.402 km	6.267 km/h
18.	DELANGE Dominique	Aj Auxerre Section Marathon	145.596 km	6.067 km/h
19.	MAILLOT Marc	Grac Athletisme	141.331 km	5.889 km/h
20.	SADET Francois	Nl Mery-les-bois	141.025 km	5.876 km/h
21.	HELLER Denis	Athletic Club De Colombes	127.571 km	5.315 km/h
22.	GIRAUDEAU Denis	Ula Cornouailles	120.406 km	5.017 km/h
	GILLET Max	Nl Lascheres-le-m	80.000 km	DNF
	SIMIAND Frederic	Cjf Saint-malo	72.500 km	DNF
	SCHWING Martin	Nl Beauvais	46.555 km	DNF
	HENRY Fabrice	FR Cor Mar Verdon	37.500 km	DNF

24 Hour Walk Women

1.	DAVID Christine	CO les Ulis	170.100 km	7.088 km/h
2.	MAISON Sylvie	Strasbourg Agglomeration	165.550 km	6.898 km/h
3.	MULLER Cathy	Coeur De Lorraine Athletisme	161.396 km	6.725 km/h
4.	BIZARD PLANCHOT Emilie	Neuilly Sur Marne Athletisme	159.971 km	6.665 km/h
5.	BIZARD Claudie	Thiais Ac	143.441 km	5.977 km/h

6.	BIRAUD Sylvie	Athletisme Sud 17	140.720 km	5.863 km/h
7.	GANCI Anne-marie	Ca Balma	133.294 km	5.554 km/h
8.	BOURSAIN Mickaelise	NI Checy	118.041 km	4.918 km/h



The men's and women's podiums in Bourges (photo Guy Destre)

The final Paris-Colmar qualifier will be the 24 Heures de Château-Thierry which is scheduled for the weekend of 16-17 April 2022.

24H DE CAPITANY BY LES COLUME'RUNS

This second event is a new one on the European fixture, the inaugural 24 Heures de Capitany by Les Colume'Runs. The meet has been going since 2018 but, up till now, has only included 3 Hour, 6 Hour and 12 Hour categories. This year it was enhanced to also include the 24 Hour category. It is held in the French city of Colomiers, near Toulouse. This year was a big affair with 177 competitors in total, mostly runners but including 30 walkers. With Bourges on a week later, it did not feature any big names and the 24 Hour walk was won by **Dominique Delange** (145.346km).

24 Hour Walk

1.	DELANGE Dominique	FRA	M	145.346 km	
2.	MUNCH Frédéric	FRA	M	138.602 km	
3.	ODOUARD Dominique	FRA	M	125.114 km	
4.	BARBIER Florence	FRA	F	120.618 km	
5.	MEDICI Christian	FRA	M	117.246 km	
6.	EMONIERE Philippe	FRA	M	108.254 km	
7.	PIERRE Patrick	FRA	M	84.650 km	
8.	BLEUZE Valérie	FRA	F	73.410 km	
9.	BRUSQUET Stephanie	FRA	F	67.790 km	
10.	CHEVILLON Bernard	FRA	M	65.542 km	
	FERREIRA Julien	FRA	M	67.790 km	(DNF)

12 Hour Walk

1.	LACHÉ Cyrille	FRA	M	82.402 km
2.	CARIOU Carine	FRA	F	76.782 km
3.	RABOISSON Jacques	FRA	M	62.170 km

6 Hour Walk

1.	GAUTRET Bruno	FRA	M	45.310 km
2.	CAZENAVE Vincent	FRA	M	44.186 km
3.	OMPRARET Odile	FRA	F	43.062 km
4.	GANCI Anne-Marie	FRA	F	43.062 km
5.	PAPAIX Marianne	FRA	F	40.814 km
6.	MAURETA Vincent	FRA	M	37.442 km

7.	LEYGUES Roger	FRA	M	37.442 km
8.	CHAVANEL Thierry	FRA	M	37.442 km
9.	LE NORMAND Colette	FRA	F	36.318 km
10.	ARRIBET Pierre-Frédéric	FRA	M	35.194 km
11.	SAINTOST Nadine	FRA	F	30.698 km
12.	COSSON Maryse	FRA	F	28.450 km
13.	CAZALS Jean-Pierre	FRA	M	28.450 km
14.	CAZALS Anne-Marie	FRA	F	28.450 km
15.	SAINTE-COLOMBE Marc	FRA	M	26.202 km
16.	SAINTE-COLOMBE Françoise	FRA	F	17.210 km

VALE JOHN “PADDY” DOWLING

At this stage, I must acknowledge the passing of one of the greats of the ultra walking world, namely Ireland’s John “Paddy” Dowling. I first wrote up Paddy in one of my 2016 newsletters – it was indeed an inspirational story! Sadly, he passed away in the English city of Sheffield on Sunday 6th February 2022, aged 94 years. I have rewritten my article to acknowledge his life. You can read it at <http://www.vrwc.org.au/tim-archive/articles/wo-john-dowling.pdf>. There is also another wonderful obituary at <https://lancswalkingclub.com/2022/02/21/john-dowling-rip-ireland-and-sheffields-legendary-race-walker/>

He is remembered with great fondness and respect by the world wide walking community.

2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our Australian Centurions Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday 27th February in the Melbourne suburb of Caulfield. We had our best attendance for some years, with 11 of our centurions and here’s the proof:



*Back Row: Stuart Cooper, Pramesh Prasad, Bill Dyer, Tim Erickson, Karyn and Terry O’Neill, Justin Scholz
Front Row: Ian Jack, Michelle Thompson, Clarrie Jack, Sharon Scholz*

It was a belated opportunity to welcome **Pramesh Prasad (C82)** who qualified way back in April 2021. Every time we set a date, Covid forced a delay. Finally, welcome to Pramesh!

Also, you will remember from the last newsletter that there was a two way vote underway, between Pramesh and **Justin Scholz (C61)** to decide the winner of the 2021 Gordon Smith Award. Both walkers got their fair share of votes but it was Justin who won out. I'll be updating page <http://www.centurions.org.au/documents/Gordon%20Smith%20Award.pdf> as soon as I get a chance.



Club president Terry O'Neill with Pramesh (left) and Justin (right)

Of course, the necessary business of any AGM is to decide on who is to lead the club for the next year. You guessed it – we all got voted back in again!

Club Executive	President	Terry O'Neill (C18)
	Vice President	Robin Whyte (C29)
	Treasurer	Stuart Cooper (C 5)
	Secretary	Tim Erickson (C13)
General Committee	Records and Rankings Officer	Tim Erickson (C13)
	Assistant Secretary	-
	General members of Committee	Karyn O'Neill (C45) Michelle Thompson (C58)

Thanks to those generous souls who help keep the show on the road year by year.

OUT AND ABOUT

I was very pleasantly surprised a few days ago to receive an email from **Fred Brooks (C42)**. Fred had returned to England to live some years ago but has been back on a couple of occasion. He is back again now and staying with his family in Melbourne. I am looking forward to catching up soon.

Finally, here's a great pic of two of our members at the Australian Masters T&F Championships in Brisbane last weekend. **Pramesh Prasad (C82)** and **Colin Heywood (C75)**. Each won the maximum 3 racewalking medals possible in their respective age group divisions. I hear it was pretty warm and that the roadwalk course was pretty rough.

	1500m Track Walk	5000m Track Walk	10km Road Walk
Pramesh Prasad (M45)	7:44.75	27:18.10	53:47.05
Colin Heywood (M65)	8:10.19	29:04.42	1:01:18



Pramesh and Colin at the main stadium in Brisbane last weekend

UNTIL OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER

It's taken me a fair while to get this newsletter out and, although it is titled March, it is now early April. The April edition will follow quickly, once our annual centurion qualifier at Coburg this weekend has been completed.

To all our members and supporters, keep the head down and avoid the dreaded covid, but don't forget to keep walking!

Yours in centurion walking

Tim Erickson (C13)
Secretary, Australian Centurion Walkers
Victoria, Australia, 3044