

CENTURION FOOTNOTES

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DATES ... DATES ... DATES

We are getting towards the end of our 2022 calendar year. As always, check the AURA calendar for the latest Australian news (<http://aura.asn.au/>). All the centurion qualifiers, except for that of the African Centurions, are now in place. The African Centurions website and facebook page have not been updated for a couple of years and they seem to have gone to ground. Here are the remaining 2022 dates I have captured.

Oct 29-30, 2022	24 Heures de Dijon	Dijon, FRA
Nov 12-13, 2022	Sri Chinmoy NZ 24H Championship See https://nz.srichinmoyraces.org/races/auck/24hr 2022 NZ Centurions 100 Mile Qualifier	Auckland, NZ
Nov 27, 2022	8 Heures d'Etampes Sur Marne	Etampes Sur Marne, FRA
Dec 28-29, 2022	Second 2022 US Centurions Qualifying Event See https://www.unitedstatescenturionwalkers.com/?page_id=1717	Pheonix, Arizona, USA

Looking forward to 2023, our own Australian Centurions qualifier leads what is sure to be a busy year

Apr 15-16, 2023	Coburg 24H Carnival (including 2022 Australian Centurions Qualifier) Coburg, VIC, AUS See more information at http://www.coburg24hr.org/24hr/ . Entries are now open.
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The qualifying events for the 2023 Paris-Alsace Classic have also now been published

Nov 27, 2022	8 Heures d'Etampes sur Marne
Feb 5, 2023	8 Heures de Charly sur Marne
Feb 25-26, 2023	24 Heures de Bourges
Mar 25-26, 2023	24 Heures de Château-Thierry
Apr 29-30, 2023	Marche du Grand Est (awaiting confirmation)
May 30 – Jun 3, 2023	Paris-Alsace Crédit Mutuel

EMU 6 DAY RACE, BALATONFÜRED, HUNGARY, 8-14 SEPTEMBER 2022

Our race reports start with the annual EMU 6 Day race (<http://www.emusport.hu/en/index.html>) which is held each year in Balatonfüred, Hungary. We know it here in Australia as Justin Scholz walked it in 2019, completing 572.179 km for a new Australian Residential Record. This year saw English walkers **Sandra Brown (C 36), Richard Brown and Kathy Crilley** in action.

The race was held on a flat bitumen lap of length 898.88km In the men's race, Hungarian runner Gábor Rakonczay won, ahead of Polish runners Michal Koziarski and Pawel Zuk. The women's crown was taken by Hungarian runner Zsuzsanna Maráz who was third overall in an outstanding debut. But perhaps the most impressive performance came from 73 year old Sandra Brown who finished as the fourth placed woman with a W70-74 World's Best Mark of 610.964km (see more below). Well done also to Richard Brown (432.894km) and Cathy Crilley (381.493km).

Full results are available at <https://statistik.d-u-v.org/getresultevent.php?event=84342>. Here is an extract of the significant placings

6 Day Race Results (66 participants)

1.	Rakonczay, Gabor	HUN	1981	844.108 km	M	1
2.	Koziarski, Michal	POL	1986	801.264 km	M	2
3.	Maraz, Zsuzsanna	HUN	1970	760.512 km	F	1
4.	Zuk, Pawel	POL	1975	759.911 km	M	3

5.	Papp, Janos	HUN	1959	715.955 km	M	4
6.	Schiemann, Karsten	GER	1969	714.248 km	M	5
7.	Bohm, Michael	GER	1964	710.213 km	M	6
8.	Waszkiewicz, Tomasz	POL	1974	664.628 km	M	7
9.	Saraz, Baladev (Pavol)	SVK	1976	647.307 km	M	8
10.	Szarvas, Matyas	HUN	1961	638.204 km	M	9
11.	Reichsmann, Gabor	HUN	1975	637.602 km	M	10
12.	Birenboim-Navon, Galit	ISR	1973	637.583 km	F	2
13.	Irrgang, Michael	GER	1964	620.199 km	M	11
14.	Cotugno, Gabriela Andrea	ARG	1976	618.723 km	F	3
15.	Brown, Sandra (W)	GBR	1949	610.964 km	F	4
...						
45.	Brown, Richard (W)	GBR	1946	432.894 km	M	35
...						
50.	Crilley, Kathy (W)	GBR	1947	381.493 km	F	11



Left: Sandra in action during day 3
 Centre: Sandra at the final presentations
 Right: Sandra is congratulated by race organiser Zoltan Kiss

More photos will hopefully be uploaded to Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/emu6day/>.

Sandra reports for us as follows:

Richard and I are recently back home from a trip to Hungary including the well-regarded EMU international 6 days race.

After an early flight we had 2-3 excellent days looking around Budapest – a great historic and cultural capital city, which we have visited before, but not for a while. Then we met with two SWC friends to go by train to Balaton, a pretty tourism area with a large lake, mountains and vineyards. This is the venue for the highly regarded annual international 6 days race held within a holiday park site, a perfect race venue. Richard and our friends had done this race before but I hadn't. The race is very well organised, and the organiser, an experienced ultra-athlete, understands athletes' needs as well as having a highly professional approach and team of helpers.

Unfortunately Richard had developed a chest infection. He started and finished the race, and completed an excellent 432 kms, but rightly took it carefully, with rests. This meant that, while doing circuits himself, he could also give me some valuable help, eg with drinks and food, in the last couple of days.

I managed to set new records: a British W70 record for 48h, and, most significantly, a World W70 record for running/walking 6 days. [The records are running or go-as-you-please records, but in fact I walked all the time.] The W70 6 days world record had stood for 30 years and we took part in the 1993 6 days race near Sacramento

in the USA when that record was set by the great US ultradistance runner Helen Klein. Helen's 6 day record was a threshold-breaking 600 kms, and my new record is almost 611 kms. Her distance for 6 days as W70 remained better than any distances set by younger ladies in the W65-69 category, so the record was regarded as very challenging. I hardly dared imagine I could do it, but after the first 48h we knew it might be on – provided things held together! I exceeded Helen's distance to break the record with 2.5 hrs to spare and then added almost 11 kms.

After the race, of course I felt sleep-deprived, slow, stiff and painful – my own silly fault, but ultrarunners love this cocktail of agony and ecstasy! We got back on Thursday evening and everything is getting better day by day.

We learnt of the Queen's death during the race. The organiser thoughtfully placed candles in front of a union jack flag alongside on the circuit, a much appreciated gesture.

And, because I know you have been wondering what Sandra has been up to this year, I asked her!

In early June I did the LDWA Trans-Pennine 100. It was very tough, all around the Dark Peak and beyond, a rough, tough moorland/upland landscape of "edges" etc where millstones used to be made. In fact the route and topography were fabulous I thought – the uplands mixed with beautiful lowland, old villages, farmed historic estates etc, and of course the LDWA welcome and checkpoints etc were wonderful. I went round with a fellow Dorset LDWA member. Neither of us had been 100% and he still had some chesty issues, but we went steady and enjoyed doing it together. Afterwards of course he said never again but was then quickly thinking about where next year's LDWA 100 will be!

In August, Vicky and I had booked up a girls weekend which included both doing a track 24h [what a crazy family.] we had a fantastic happy weekend – but it was one of those super-hot sizzling weekends we've had this year with mad temperatures. The organiser started by warning all the runners to just be careful and treat it as a steady training weekend. He had a sprinkler of water going, huge amounts of water for use in drinks, and ice creams! Vicky exceeded 100 kms and I did 73 miles, and we were both well-pleased in the circs we had lots of fun and survived!

The Balaton 6 days was excellent a great experience. My first time there, though Richard and most of the other Brits and other participants of all nations were regulars – they knew how well organised a race it is. It was a pity R wasn't 100% but I hope we'll be back another year. I last did a 6 days in 1995 [with my 1,000 miles and LEJOG 830+ in late 90s too], and am reminded what an amazing experience it is. You are lucky in your multi-day events in Australia!

RAMSAY BAKERY END TO END WALK, ISLE OF MAN, SUNDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2022

On September 18, the Ramsey Bakery End to End Walk (<http://www.endtoendwalk.org/>), over a distance of 69 km, was held on the Isle Of Male. This is, after the Parish Walk, the biggest Manx walk and attracted 160 registrations this year. Centurion and English international racewalker **Dominic King** who was a first time entrant, won easily with a time of 6:11:24, bettering the course record of Centurion Michael George, who refereed the event.

However, I did note the following facebook post which raises a few concerns re the future of the event.

While the quality at the front of the race was superb in this year's event, the worrying decline in competitor numbers in athletics events continues. A total of 70 finishers (37 men, 33 women) is the lowest since the event was switched to the west-side course in 2002. Back in 2009 and 2010 there were over 200 finishers. This year's entry (including non-starters) was 160, down from 278 last year.

As John Cannell rightly pointed out the other day, these numbers are still good compared with the earlier years of the event up to the 1990s when the entry was often in single figures. However, what is so alarming now is the speed of the decline in interest in the End to End Walk.

Additional worries for this great event going forward are the loss of the sponsor for the past 20 years due to the sad demise of Ramsey Bakery, and the retirement of some key members of the organising committee after this year's race. I really hope that several others will now step up and get involved in the future of this event – it has a rich history and deserves to continue to be one of the jewels on the local athletics calendar.

Full race results are to be found at <https://my.raceresult.com/184213/results>. Here are the top 10.

1.	Dominic King (75)	Men 35-39	6:11:24
2.	Simon Gawne (49)	Senior Men	6:23:36
3.	Dean Morgan (101)	Men 35-39	6:25:12

4.	James Quirk (120)	Men 50-54	7:02:57
5.	Tony Edwards (41)	Men 60-64	7:19:18
6.	Neil Wade (149)	Senior Men	7:19:20
7.	Hannah Moore (98)	Senior Women	7:21:10
8.	Sophie Dvorakova (40)	Senior Women	7:28:45
9.	Josh Knights (77)	Senior Men	7:34:28
10.	Steph Burton (12)	Women 55-59	8:02:51



Winner Dominic King (photo from latest CVN newsletter, Frans Leijts)

INAUGURAL DEUTSCHLAND CENTURION WALK, BOCHUM, GERMANY, 1-2 OCTOBER 2022

The inaugural German Centurion walk has now been completed. Organised by Nigerian born and now German based centurion **Charles Arosanyin (C 46)**, it attracted a good field, with 27 entrants from the Isle of Man, England, Netherlands, Belgium and Australia (**Justin Scholz (C 61)** and **Sharon Scholz (C 63)** were our two representatives). Most of the entrants were already Centurions in their own right and keen to try out a new race and hopefully add another centurion badge to their collection.

After a bit of uncertainty about whether the race would actually proceed (information was pretty sparse) and with quite a few teething issues, it eventually got underway at 10:30AM on Saturday 1st October in the German city of Bochum. And once it was underway, it was time for the walkers to put their concerns behind them and focus on the job at hand. The lap was a little over 2km in length so 73 laps would be required to reach complete the hundred.

Dutch walker **Edwin van Wijngaarden** dominated, winning with a very good time of 19:13:30, ahead of Manx walker **Noel Ash** (20:20:19) and Belgian walker **Peter Asselman** (20:35:37). Justin and Sharon walked together as usual, with both crossing the finish line with a time of 22:04:27, Sharon the first of the women and Justin the fifth of the men. Overall, 15 of the 27 starters reached the 100 mile standard and were awarded inaugural Deutschland Centurion badges. This was done differently to other centurion events, with the men and women awarded numbers separately. Thus the 15 men received C1-15 badges while the two women received their own C1-2 badges.

100Mile Walk					Laps	Dist	Time	Cent No	
1.	8	Edwin van Wijngaarden	m	1978	NED	73	162,06 km	19.13.20	1
2.	24	Noel Ash	m	1975	IOM	73	162,06 km	20.20.19	2
3.	26	Peter Asselman	m	1980	BEL	73	162,06 km	20.35.37	3
4.	33	Guido Vermeir	m	1958	BEL	73	162,06 km	21.41.32	4
5.	23	Sharon Scholz	f	1976	AUS	73	162,06 km	22.04.27	1
5.	15	Justin Scholz	m	1975	AUS	73	162,06 km	22.04.27	5
7.	28	Rudy Schoors	m	1965	BEL	73	162,06 km	22.21.47	6
8.	13	Jef Glassee	m	1964	BEL	73	162,06 km	22.32.50	7
9.	32	Chris van Cauwenberghe	m	1964	BEL	73	162,06 km	22.42.48	8
10.	12	Kim Janssens	m	1973	BEL	73	162,06 km	22.50.37	9

11.	36	Claire Bass	f	1973	GBR	73	162,06 km	23.07.05	2
12.	20	Jantinus Meints	m	1958	NED	73	162,06 km	23.16.06	10
13.	29	Detlef Santy	m	1986	BEL	73	162,06 km	23.27.55	11
14.	17	Gunter Luypaerts	m	1975	BEL	73	162,06 km	23.27.55	12
15.	6	Christopher Burn	m	1975	IOM	73	162,06 km	23.47.17	13
DNF	11	Gino Masto	m	1959	BEL	57	126,54 km	18.34.14	
DNF	27	Remy van der Brand	m	1975	NED	52	115,44 km	15.52.46	
DNF	19	May Hooper	f	1968	IOM	48	106,56 km	15.52.46	
DNF	22	Mike Vankerkhove	m	1984	BEL	47	104,34 km	15.52.46	
DNF	3	Arjan Bogerd	m	1972	NED	47	104,34 km	21.11.31	
DNF	21	Michael Bonney	m	1962	IOM	40	88,80 km	11.46.11	
DNF	30	Stewart Jones	m	1972	IOM	40	88,80 km	12.07.29	
DNF	25	Peter Duijst	m	1972	NED	38	84,36 km	11.46.08	
DNF	10	Gertrude Achterberg	f		NED	36	79,92 km	11.50.50	
DNF	34	Wilko Koster	m	1967	NED	31	68,82 km	9.33.12	
DNF	35	Martin Vos	m	1969	NED	30	66,60 km	9.33.12	
DNF	18	Margy Michiels	f	1962	BEL	27	59,94 km	8.15.07	

Quite a few of our European based Australian Centurions were in action - **Rudy Schoors (C 55), Kim Janssens C 76), Jantinus Meints (C 73), Chris Burn (C 72), Remy van der Brand (C 82), Gertrude Achterberg (C 80) and Martin Vos (C 79).**

Thanks to Justin who has shared his thoughts on the inaugural event.

I'm not sure when exactly I first became aware of the German centurion, but I mentioned this in my 2021 diary on 31 December, preparing thoughts for 2022. Ultimately, that event then became Sharon's and my key focus for the year, prior to setting off on a tandem bicycle tour of the world.

Naturally, we were excited about this addition to the international centurion ranks, and immediately set about finding out what we could about the event. Afterall, it's a long way from Australia, and we'd need to ensure we were properly prepared.

Unfortunately, information was difficult to come by, and so we decided that we should hedge our bets and look for other convenient excuses to be in Europe. The Nijmegen four day marches was top of the list, followed by the Continental centurion if the dates made sense. Both in the Netherlands, that was a sensible start, and allowed us to catch up with very good friends.

At this time of decision making, we were having a new frame built for our tandem bike as bike we were riding was of poor quality and kept breaking. That frame built became problematic, and so we ultimately decided to have a new bike built. The world's two probable best options were Thorn Cycles in the UK, and Co-motion in the USA.

Having already decided to head to Europe, this made the decision to go with Thorn a little easier, and we made arrangements to pick the bike up directly from the store in Bridgwater, Somerset, after the Nijmegen four day marches. It also worked for us to then cycle to the UK centurion in Middlesbrough, prior to heading back to the European mainland and attending the new centurion in Germany.

Four events and a new bike. Our plans were set!

We kept trying to get information about the German event as we toured about, but had no real success, and thus decided we should arrive in Bochum for the event at least 3 or 4 days early. A chance to check the course, and track down the event director in person if required.

We arrived on Tuesday prior, and surveyed the course on the Wednesday. As we were finishing a walk and cycle, the event director actually found us, thanks to the Australian flag on the back of our tandem bicycle.

He cycled us around the course, and we were shocked that this course was entirely different from what we or anyone else we were aware of, had previously been led to believe.

Things got worse from there, and this report is not the place to go into that depth of discussion.

However, Shaz and I prepared well, and were magnificently hosted and crewed for by a lovely local family – the Hermanns. Their care and support helped to ensure we would succeed, especially as the weather forecast was for lots of rain, and the course itself was quite undulating.

Thankfully, we only experienced rain in about the first five hours, with minor showers after that. Conditions otherwise were about perfect. Cool but not cold, clear and crisp air.

We powered along, aiming as usual for somewhere around 46 – 48km in the first 6 hours, and over 90km by the 12 hour mark. We achieved that and were nearly 93km with 12 hours remaining.

Often at this point we take some insurance and slow down a lot, but decided on this occasion to keep walking strongly. We were sore and tired, but nothing was screaming at us that may have indicated an oncoming injury or other concern that could lead to ultimate failure.

We were very happy with 22 hours and 4 minutes, and funnily enough we were just 4 seconds slower than our continental centurion time from early June. Had we not had heavy rain and the need to stop for 30 minutes in Middlesbrough, our UK time would also have been very close to that as well. (UK time was 22:42:43)

This German course though, required an additional 1500m of climbing, and thus we were pleased with the outcome and believe it was a better result for us than either that of the Netherlands or the UK.

We were pleased to see 15 people successfully achieve a centurion in difficult circumstances. And personally, I am very happy to have achieved my 22nd centurion and become the most prolific Australian, overtaking the great Peter Bennett from Queensland who has completed the feat 21 times.

Shaz and I are now on our way south, to escape the oncoming European winter, and are looking forward to the adventures that await us on the roads ahead. If anyone is interested in following our journey, I post a story to my Facebook page most days. The link is <https://www.facebook.com/JustinS007>



Sharon and Justin in action at Bochum (photo from Justin)

Ok, from the above comments, there were issues with the event, but I don't want to take away from the efforts of race organiser Charles Arosanyin who put his money on the line and who did get the event run and completed. Well done Charles, I appreciate your efforts!

With the German Centurion race completed, there are now a total of 8 world badges in existence. Of course, the Malaysian Centurion is no longer walked (last one was in 2008) and the African Centurion has gone quiet after stagings from 2016 to 2019. And time will tell whether the German Centurion will stand the test of time. Let's hope so.

Four walkers have joined Sandra Brown at the top of Rob Robertson's listing, each with 7 badges – Rudy Schoors, Kim Janssens and Justin and Sharon Scholz. A further 5 walkers have 6 badges. Then the list starts to get pretty big pretty quickly!

Check out Rob latest update at <https://www.walk100miles24hours.com/centurions-with-multiple-world-badges/>. Below is a cut and paste of the top walkers thus far.

CENTURIONS with MULTIPLE WORLD BADGES											
BADGE HOLDER			BRITISH	CONTINENTAL	UNITED STATES	AUSTRALIAN	NEW ZEALAND	MALAYSIAN	AFRICAN	GERMANY	
1	F	SANDRA BROWN	GBR 7 UK C735 1982	CN C131 1984	US C50 2000	AU C36 1999	NZ C4 1999	ML C7 2001	AF C9 2016		
2	M	RUDY SCHOORS	BEL 7 UK C1062 2007	CN C367 2008	US C73 2010	AU C55 2009	NZ C15 2010		AF C25 2017	DE C7 2022	
3	M	KIM JANSSENS	BEL 7 UK C1111 2013	CN C487 2021	US C98 2022	AU C76 2019	NZ C27 2019		AF C22 2017	DE C10 2022	
4	M	JUSTIN SCHOLZ	AUS 7 UK C1173 2017	CN C437 2016	US C76 2015	AU C61 2012	NZ C21 2015		AF C32 2018	DE C5 2022	
5	F	SHARON SCHOLZ	AUS 7 UK C1174 2017	CN C436 2016	US C77 2015	AU C63 2013	NZ C20 2015		AF C33 2018	DE C6 2022	
1	F	JILL GREEN	GBR 6 UK C898 1992	CN C282 1999	US C53 2000	AU C38 1999	NZ C8 2001	ML C20 2003			
2	F	CAROLINE MESTDAGH	BEL 6 UK C1061 2007	CN C366 2008	US C72 2010	AU C56 2009	NZ C17 2010		AF C24 2017		
3	M	JANTINUS MEINTS	NLD 6 UK C1101 2012	CN C388 2011	US C80 2015	AU C73 2018			AF C31 2018	DE C12 2022	
4	M	ROB ROBERTSON	USA 6 UK C1169 2016	CN C454 2017	US C78 2015	AU C68 2016	NZ C25 2018		AF C11 2016		
5	M	MARCO BLOEMERTS	NLD 6 UK C1193 2018	CN C410 2015	US C90 2018	AU C77 2019	NZ C22 2017		AF C13 2016		

There has been a bit of discussion post-event about the future of centurion walking and whether it is time to bring the various chapters into line with something like a governing body or an overall agreed set of rules. At the moment, each chapter can set its own rules. Here are some of the differences

- The English Centurions only recognise performances walked in their annual event which is strictly governed by racewalking judges and qualified officials.
- The Australian Centurions will accept performances done in other Australian events provided we are notified beforehand and can get scrutineer(s) there to verify the performance. We do not require the presence of racewalking judges – we judge the walkers ourselves.
- They Malaysian Centurions used to dock 1 lap for each infringement rather than just issue a warning. They also awarded a new centurion number each time you qualified, not just the first.
- The Deutschland Centurion has now decided to issue separate badge numbers for men and women.

I am sure you can see the issues. Justin Scholz has had his thinking hat on since the German Centurion event

Below are my thoughts in relation to the future of international centurion events, and particularly, my request to consider some formalisation of any events proposed for the future. Though the process detailed here is already extensive, this information is primarily provided to serve as a useful discussion piece. If ultimately desired by general consensus, then more formal documentation can be finalised and adopted. Read it at <http://centurions.org.au/documents/Formalisation%20of%20the%20Brotherhood%20of%20International%20Centurions.pdf>.

I am sure there will be ongoing discussion on which I can keep everyone posted.

ADELAIDE 6 DAY FESTIVAL, THORNDON PARK, PARADISE, SA, 2-8 OCTOBER 2022

While the walkers were busy in the Deutschland Centurion event in Germany, our own local ultra athletes were in South Australia for the annual Adelaide 6 Day Festival (<https://adelaide6day.com.au/>). This event has been going for quite a few years now and offers 4 different categories: 6 Days, 3 Days, 2 Days and 1 Day. The 6 Day event is of course the blue riband category and attracts the biggest fields. The lap is an undulating 1425.5m cement circuit in Thorndon Park in the Adelaide suburb of Paradise.

The 6 Day event kicked off on Saturday 2nd October, with the shorter races to be held later. While all may have started off ok, conditions soon deteriorated as a huge cold front swept across southern Australia, with race organiser Ben Hockings describing what happened next: *I think in the annals of the Adelaide 6 Day it will forever be referred to as Tornado Tuesday*. It was a scene of total devastation with hardly a tent left standing and walkers having to cope with all their possessions wet through. Yes, it eventually cleared and conditions improved for the final days but it made what is already a very tough event even tougher.

The 6 Day Race is the one which has attracted my attention as there were two walkers amongst the field of 26 starters. South Australian **David Billett (C 50)** and Victorian **Albin Hess** had both contacted me beforehand to advise they would be competing and trying for a few walk records, if I could organise scrutiny. Thanks to Adelaide based centurion **Peter Crump (C 66)** who came to the rescue, spending a lot of time onsite helping and supporting both walkers and keeping me informed of their progress. I was also able to follow via the very comprehensive online tracking site <https://eventstrategies.racetecresults.com/results.aspx?CI=90&RI=443> which now shows the full results. I have extracted the finishing places of the first 17, down to and including Albin.

1.	Stephen WRIGHT	M	55-59	477	680.948 km
2.	David BILLETT	M	50-54	426	607.921 km
3.	Stephan KENT	M	65-69	424	604.412 km
4.	Perry NEWBURN	M	65-69	423	602.986 km
5.	Matthew WOODMAN	M	45-49	361	514.694 km
6.	Tamas LORINCZ	M	50-54	352	503.050 km
7.	Sarah BARNETT	F	45-49	349	498.774 km
8.	Niboddhri CHRISTIE	F	45-49	331	471.962 km
9.	Ben LAVERY	M	20-24	318	453.475 km
10.	Steven HOULDSWORTH	M	50-54	311	443.729 km
11.	Andrew MEAGHER	M	50-54	293	417.693 km
12.	Tony AYRIS	M	50-54	292	416.825 km
13.	Thomas BILLETT	M	25-29	289	411.969 km
14.	Nicholas O'NEILL	M	40-44	266	379.207 km
15.	John TIMMS	M	80-84	264	377.317 km
16.	Karen CHAN	F	50-54	262	374.278 km
17.	Albin HESS	M	60-64	262	374.180 km

Overall, 52 year old David Billett walked magnificently to work his way though the field of runners and snatch second place overall in the dying hours. His final distance of 607.921 km is an Australian Residential record, second only to Gerald Manderson's All-Comers record of 622.000km. On the way through, he bettered Peter Bennett's 200km walk Open record of 29:35:53 with his time of 29:17:54 and bettered Justin Scholz's Open 500km record time of 4D + 23:00:04 with his time of 4D + 20:29:53

David Billett	200km Walk	Residential and All-Comers	Open	29:17:54	Adelaide, SA	8/10/2022
	500km Walk	Residential	Open	4D + 20:29:53	Adelaide, SA	8/10/2022
	6 Days Walk	Residential	Open	607.921 km	Adelaide, SA	8/10/2022

These performances were of course also M50 Residential and All-Comers records. So a very successful week for David.

200km Walk	Residential and All-Comers	M50	29:17:54	Adelaide, SA	8/10/2022
500km Walk	Residential and All-Comers	M50	4D + 20:29:53	Adelaide, SA	8/10/2022
6 Days Walk	Residential and All-Comers	M60	607.921 km	Adelaide, SA	8/10/2022

No less significantly, David also completed 100 miles in the first 24 hours of the event (something he has done in quite a few multi-day events). His 100 mile time, rounded up to the end of his current lap, comes out at **23:30:30**. This is his sixth Centurion walk, an impressive stat.

62 year old Albin is a regular walker in our Coburg 24 Hour Carnival but this was his first multi-day event. He started off very conservatively but showed great determination, seeing out the full 6 days and finishing in 17th spot with a distance of 374.180km. He also set a number of Australian records.

Albin Hess	48 Hours Walk	Residential and All-Comers	M60	172.486km	Adelaide, SA	8/10/2022
	200km Walk	Residential and All-Comers	M60	59:43:37	Adelaide, SA	8/10/2022
	6 Days Walk	Residential and All-Comers	M60	374.180km	Adelaide, SA	8/10/2022

I should also mention another of our regular walkers/runners in the person of **John Timms**. John turned 80 a couple of days before the event started and was keen to attack a few of the Australian M80 running records. Wow, was he successful! Like Albin, he kept at it for the full 6 days, eventually finishing 15th with 377.317 km. Apart from this record, I also saw a comment that he took the 200km M80 record with a time of 54:57:59. I'm also guessing that he took the 48H record as well.

I close the report with a breakdown of David's record breaking performance.

The event commenced at 10:00am on Sunday, and one lap of the course was 1425.5 metres. David walked continuously until the 200km mark, reached in a time of 29:17:54. Along the way, he passed the 100 miles mark in a time of 23:30:30 (rounded up to the end of the lap) and passed the 24 hour mark with a distance of just over 164km. I'll let him take up the story from then.

My 200km split was recorded by race officials. It was taken at 140 laps, plus 430 metres. There was a crowd of around 10 people there to celebrate with me, Peter Crump included.

After completing 200km, I then had my first sleep for the race: two hours from 3:30 to 5:30pm. After this, I embarked on attempting to break Peter Bennett's 48 Hour Residential Record (280.203km) and Barry Loveday's All-comers record (283.500km). When I restarted, close to 6:00pm, I was left with 16 hours to complete about 80km.

Unfortunately, this was not quite enough time to challenge the records. I completed the 185th lap at 44:52:35 and concluded that I could not cover another 17 kilometres in three hours, gave up and went to bed at that time (7:00am). I should note that the weather, after being quite warm for the first 30 hours or so, became cold, windy and rainy from the late afternoon on Monday, and continued to be so during the night. This made pushing for the 48 hour record all the more difficult. My decision to give up on the record was also taking my health into consideration over the next four days. I was already zigzagging over the course, through sleep deprivation: I did not want this to be getting any worse!

Back on the track, I passed the 48 Hour mark (185 laps) with a distance of 263.717km. Then it was time to look further forward, with the 500km and 6 day records still on offer.

I reached the 500km mark at 6:29am on Thursday (4D + 20:29:53) to set a new Open Residential record along with M50 Residential and All-comers records. After the huge party at my 200km moment, the 500km milestone was reached with absolutely nobody about.

With that task now complete, I was now ready to embark on my journey to the Six Day record. I only needed another 72km to break the Australian residential record, and if I was feeling bold: 122km to beat the all-comers record of 622km! But first – some sleep! I went to bed just before 7am, with no further laps completed, and slept until 12:00pm.

I entered the course again at 1:05pm. I had just under 21 hours left in the race. My aim was 600km. This would require just under five kilometres an hour, and was quite achievable. Reaching 622km would need almost six kilometers per hour – an unrealistic task with tired legs!

So to the final result, with a distance of 607.921km, a new Open Residential record and M50 Residential and All-comers records. For the (unofficial) record, I reached 600km in 5D + 22:42:37.

Finally, here is a link to the lapsheets. Click on my name to view all of my laptimes.
<https://eventstrategies.racetecresults.com/results.aspx?Cid=90&Rid=443>.

Thanks to Peter Crump for the following photos. You can see more at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/adelaide6day>.



Left: David Billet shows good walking form

Right: A shot of fellow walker Albin Hess, giving a good view of the cement path on which the competitors raced



David celebrates as he passes the 200km mark (actual point marked in second photo)



David passes 600km



Albin in the final hour



David finishes and drops his marker

UNTIL OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER

What an action packed edition, with inspirational performances from around the world. Here in Australia, it is spring and the warmer weather gives us all a chance to dust off our walking shoes and savour the outdoors.

I wish all our readers a wonderful next few months.

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