

CENTURION FOOTNOTES

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DATES ... DATES ... DATES

The 2024 European year has now kicked off with the 8 Heures de Charly (see report below), with the following races (amongst others) still to come.

Feb 24-25, 2024	24 Heures de Bourges	Bourges, FRA
Mar 30-31, 2024	24 Heures de Chateau-Thierry	Chateau-Thierry, FRA
May 18-19, 2024	Marche du Grand Est	Domrémy-la-Pucelle, FRA
May 28 - Jun 1, 2024	Paris Alsace Classic	Across France

On the local front, there will be lots of ultras in Australia, but many of them will be trail based and hence not conducive to fast walking, and there will be fewer track based ultras, given the current AURA/IAU ruling re track accreditation debacle. I see a few 2024 events have already been added to the AURA calendar at <https://www.aura.asn.au/upcoming-events>. I'll chat more about this later in the newsletter.

Four of the Centurion Clubs have announced dates for their 2024 qualifying events.

May 11-12, 2024	NZ Centurions Qualifier See https://nz.srichinmoyraces.org/races/auck/24hr	Auckland, NZL
May 18-19, 2024	Continental Centurions Qualifier See www.rotterdamsewandelsportvereniging.nl	Schiedam, NED
Jun 1-2, 2024	USA Centurions Qualifier See https://fansultraraces.org/	Minneapolis, USA
Aug 24-25, 2024	English Centurions Qualifier See https://eventswerun.co.uk/	Gloucester, ENG

8 HEURES DE CHARLY, CHARLY-SUR-MARNE, FRANCE, SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2024

The French long distance walking season got underway last Sunday with the annual staging of the 8 Heures de Charly. **Philippe Morel** was too good for his rivals, winning with a distance of 72.610km (a speed of just over 9km/hr). Minor placings went to **Maxime Laneau** with 7.024km and **Philippe Gilles** with 69.125km), while the women's section was won by **Chloe Raes-Maure** with 65.723km.

Full results at http://www.marchons.com/index.php?option=com_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=93&lang=fr. Emmanuel Tardi has lots of photos at <https://photos.app.goo.gl/UqWy3DJgLPqqwMQ6>.

8 Hour Walk

			Laps	Distance	Time
1.	MOREL Philippe	Ac Chateau Thierry	39	72.610 km	8:00:00
2.	LANEAU Maxime	Us Camon	38	70.024 km	8:00:00
3.	GILLES Philippe	Usm Montargis	36	69.125 km	8:00:00
4.	MALFONDET Alain	Nl Paris	39	68.409 km	8:00:00
5.	JOSE MORA Bernardo (ESP)	CA Siurell	35	66.749 km	8:00:00
6.	SEFFARI Abdelaziz	Afa Feyzin-venissieux	34	65.897 km	8:00:00
7.	MAURE Rene-jean	Neubourg Ac	33	65.732 km	8:00:00
8.	RAES-MAURE Chloe (F)	Neubourg Ac	33	65.723 km	8:00:00
9.	KERLAU Yves-michel	Cm Roubaix	37	65.289 km	8:00:00
10.	DELANGE Dominique	Aj Auxerre Section Marathon	35	64.251 km	8:00:00
11.	GOUET Magali (F)	Pays Saint-lois Athletisme*	34	64.111 km	8:00:00
12.	MARRADI Muriel (F)	Afa Feyzin-venissieux	36	62.679 km	8:00:00
13.	GROS Gildas	Es Thاون*	35	62.400 km	8:00:00

14. LETESSIER Gilles	Entente Rochefort Ocean Athlet	34	62.112 km	8:00:00
15. MAISON Sylvie (F)	Strasbourg Agglomeration Athle	34	62.043 km	8:00:00
16. SILVI Nathalie (F)	Nl Barzy-sur-Marne	31	60.577 km	8:00:00
17. TOP Virginie (F)	Baskets aux Pieds	31	60.577 km	8:00:00
18. HOUPLON Virginie (F)	Nl Barzy-sur-Marne	30	57.590 km	8:00:00
19. DUCRUET Nadia (F)	Ac Chateau Thierry	30	57.590 km	8:00:00
20. DE SOUSA Marie-lise (F)	Uai Nogent-sur-marne	33	57.489 km	8:00:00
21. ROSSI Armand	Us Metro Transport (paris)	29	57.279 km	8:00:00
22. VINCENT Robert	Ac Chateau Thierry	29	57.093 km	8:00:00
23. NEVEU Florent	Nl Bezu-saint-germain	28	56.953 km	8:00:00
24. MARTIN Thierry	Ac Chateau Thierry	32	56.779 km	8:00:00
25. JACOB Marcel	Nl Nogentel	32	56.549 km	8:00:00
26. SONNOIS Martine (F)	Racing Club Haut-jura Morez	31	56.370 km	8:00:00
27. BIZARD Claudie (F)	Thiais Ac	31	56.104 km	8:00:00
28. BALLAND Johann	Athletic Vosges Entente Clubs*	30	55.932 km	8:00:00
29. RIVIERE Sylvain	Val-de-reuil Ac	30	55.558 km	8:00:00
30. FAUBERT Stephane	Nl Longueville	29	55.462 km	8:00:00
31. RODIER Nicole (F)	Efs Reims A. *	28	54.912 km	8:00:00
32. DELARUE Jean-michel	Ac Cauffry-liancourt-rant-laig	28	54.707 km	8:00:00
33. HAGHEBAERT Eric	Arsl Belleau	27	54.325 km	8:00:00
34. ARNAULT Francoise (F)	Neuilly Sur Marne Athletisme	30	53.764 km	8:00:00
35. MOUGENOT Patrick	Marne Et Gondoire Athletisme	28	52.925 km	8:00:00
36. ARNAULT Jacques	Neuilly Sur Marne Athletisme	28	52.764 km	8:00:00
37. TILLIER Ludovic	Le Chesnay-rocquencourt 78 Ath	26	51.766 km	8:00:00
38. ANDRIANANTOANDRO Joel	Club 100 Marathon	29	51.175 km	8:00:00
39. NICOLAS Alain	Nl Dompnin	19	50.000 km	7:22:07
40. MAURICE Fabienne (F)	Ac Chateau Thierry	25	49.244 km	8:00:00
41. BEGIN Maxence	Val-de-reuil Ac	26	46.776 km	8:00:00
42. COLLOT Olivier	Nl Mirecourt	23	46.207 km	8:00:00
43. ALCOVER Camille (F)	Nl Draveil	21	42.758 km	8:00:00
44. NEVEU Karen (F)	Nl Bezu-saint-germain	21	42.758 km	8:00:00
45. CORMIER Mireille (F)	Nl Vic La Gardiole	25	42.637 km	8:00:00
46. LANDRU Noelle (F)	Nl Chailly-en-biere	21	38.656 km	8:00:00
47. FILLIEUX Christian (BEL)	CAF	21	36.764 km	8:00:00
48. HENRY Fabrice	Frijep Cor. Margny Verdon	13	34.550 km	3:50:33
49. LEROY Benjamin (BEL)	Houdeng Aimeries	9	24.250 km	2:48:19
50. VARAIN Cedric	Ac Chateau Thierry	7	19.100 km	2:16:05
51. PANNIER Josiane (F)	Havre Ac	7	19.100 km	2:39:05
52. VICTOR Etienne	Arnouville Gonesse Villiers-le	6	16.525 km	8:00:00



Philippe Morel, Maxime Laneau, Philippe Gilles and Chloe Raes-Maure

The carnival also featured an 8 Hour Walk Relay which was won with 69.035km.

8 Hour Relay

		Laps	Distance
1.	SportAide	MICHELOT R, LANDORMY J, LOUIS R	36 69.035 km
2.	Les Valseuses	ANXIONNAT C, BONVARLET L, BONVARLET P	34 66.015 km
3.	Les Eclipses d A2M	WEILER P, HAUSMANN D	33 65.350 km
4.	Les Comperes	PLAYE C, HAGHEBAERT P, PELLERIN A	36 65.057 km
5.	A R S L 1	BEAUMONT D, SAUGRAIN J, MOMCILOVIC A	33 61.204 km
6.	H ELP A2M	JOURDE P, MARTIN E, ROYER L	33 59.188 km
7.	Les Bleus de la Marche	HAS E, BOIVIN V, HAS R	33 57.165 km

The next French long distance walk will be the Bourges 24 Hours on the weekend of 24-25 February.

2023 AUSTRALIAN CENTURIONS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our 2023 AGM has now been held (minutes at <http://centurions.org.au/documents/2023%20AGM%20Minutes.pdf>), with the current Executive and Committee all agreeing to sign on for a further 2 year period. Our incoming committee is

Club Executive	President	Terry O'Neill (C18)
	Vice President	David Billett (C 50)
	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)
		Pramesh Prasad (C 81)

I have decided to continue as Secretary for the time being, to help guide us through the process of finding a new annual qualifying event. As explained already, there will be no formal qualifier in 2024, but there is the possibility of a new Melbourne based track 24H coming online in 2025, so we may look at the possibility of aligning ourselves with that event, should it proceed. But what of 2024? Read on.

POSSIBLE 2024 AUSTRALIAN CENTURION QUALIFYING OPPORTUNITIES

Since there will be specific Australian Centurion qualifier in 2024, the following 5 races have been identified as possible opportunities for walkers to qualify for Australian Centurion membership. Qualification is of course dependant on the willingness of the organisers to accept walk entrants and on our availability to have someone in attendance to judge the performance. I am socialising this with the various event organisers and so far all have been very supportive and welcoming.

BUTTER 24 (TRACK)

Griffith University Gold Coast, QLD

1-2 June 2024

<https://www.aaaracing.com.au/butter24>

SOUTHERN SYDNEY 24 HOUR ULTRA (TRACK)

Venue TBC

Date TBA - normally early June

<https://southernsydney24hourultra.com.au/>

ADELAIDE 24 HOUR FESTIVAL (ROAD)

War Memorial Drive, North Adelaide, SA

8-9 June 2024

<http://adelaide24hourfestival.com.au/>

AUSTRALIAN 6 DAY ULTRA MARATHON (ROAD)

Thorndon Park, Paradise, Adelaide, SA

Sunday 29 September 2024 to Saturday 5 October 2024

<https://australian6day.com.au/>

SA TRACK ULTRA 24 HOUR RACE (TRACK)

SA Athletics Stadium, Mile End, Adelaide, SA

9-10 November 2024

<https://satrackultra.com.au/event-details/>

If you wish to qualify as an Australian Centurion in 2024, you should target one of these events, talk to the organiser and confirm you can compete as a walker, then let me know (tim.erickson02@gmail.com) in good time so that I can confirm someone can attend and monitor your performance. Only then should you go to the next step and enter the event.

This workaround will be in effect for 2024. Hopefully we will have a formal qualifier in 2025, if things pan out.

I have updated our Australian Centurions website to reflect 2024 plans. See <http://centurions.org.au/event2024.shtml>.

2023 GORDON SMITH AWARD

In our last newsletter (December 2023), nominations for the 2023 Gordon Smith Award were announced:

- **Joffrid Mackett (C82)** - a new Australian 48H Walk record of 294.973km
- **Arie Kandelaars (C85)** - Australian Centurion Number 85 on his fourth attempt
- **Michelle Thompson (C58)** - a triumphant return at Coburg with another centurion finish
- **Sabina Hamaty** - new Australian 500km and 6 Days Records

Votes have now been counted in what was a very tight and high quality contest and I am pleased to announce that **Joffrid Mackett** has won this prestigious award for the **Best Australian Ultra Distance Walking Performance of the Year**.

Joffrid won the award for his new Australian 48H Walk record of 294.973km, done in the Sri Chinmoy 48 Hour Carnival in Canberra on the weekend of 25-26 March 2023. On that occasion, Joff powered through the first 100 miles in a time of 23:47:02, his second centurion walk and only slightly slower than he walked to qualify as a centurion in this same event the previous year. He then powered through the second 24 Hour period with barely a stop, working his way up through the field of runners to finish second overall (and first male) in the 48 Hour Australian Championship with a distance of 294.973km, bettering the Australian 48 Hour Walk Open Record by 11km (obviously also setting a new Australian M50 48H Walk record into the bargain) and claiming the Male Australian 48 Hour Run Championship. The only runner who finished ahead of him was American Camille Herron who set a new Women's 48 Hour World Record of 435.336km. No shame in being beaten by that sort of performance!



Joffrid competing in his record breaking walk in Canberra

You can read all about this award at <http://centurions.org.au/documents/Gordon%20Smith%20Award.pdf>.

JUSTIN AND SHARON NEARLY 2 YEARS INTO THEIR LONG RIDE



Time for an update on the continuing cycling adventures of **Justin (C61) and Sharon Scholz (C63)**. I'm exhausted just reading it!

Hi all. It's been a while, so here's a quick update of our trip around the world. Currently just over 34,000km completed.

We started 31 May 2022 in Amsterdam. After four long walking events (up to 161km in 24 hours) and a couple of cycling loops of Europe, the UK and Scotland, we started heading quickly south from Germany in early October 2022 to get away from the European winter.

Down through France, Portugal and Spain, and onto a ferry to Morocco. A 1300km loop of Morocco, including two passes of the Atlas mountains, then we flew to Cairo, Egypt, arriving there at the end of the first week of December.

Christmas and New Year in Cairo, then we cycled about 15,000km to arrive in Cape Town, South Africa, in early October 2023. We cycled through Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana and South Africa, plus briefly crossed the border into Zambia, at Victoria Falls.

We had a month of stop time in each of Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), Kampala (Uganda), Harare (Zimbabwe) and Cape Town (South Africa).

A four part flight then took us from Cape Town to Rio Gallegos, in the deep south of Argentina, South America. Cycled north from there, across Patagonia and then up and over the Andes Mountains and into Chile. A month in Santiago for Christmas and New Year.

Off again briefly north in the second week of January 2024, over the Andes and back into Argentina. East to Buenos Aires, where we are now coming to the end of a two-week stop period.

Next, we will go north 1500km to Asuncion, then east 1500km to Sao Paulo. A month in Sao Paulo. 600km to Rio de Janeiro, then after 10 days we fly back to Europe on 11 May, and will be in Europe until late August.

While in Europe we will again complete five long walking events. Two of these are "centurions", walking 161km in less than 24 hours, another is the "Parish Walk" in the Isle of Mann which is 135km AND hilly, in less than 24 hours. Plus, we will complete the Nijmegen four day marches in the Netherlands for the fourth time (50km walk each day for four consecutive days) and do a smaller, local 50km walking event with friends in Belgium.

After that, we will likely fly to Los Angeles, USA, cycle to Vegas, the Grand Canyon and then to Mexico City. From there to Cancun for a wedding in December, and though I can give you another five years of likely planning, that's enough for now!

UNTIL OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER

That's it for this short newsletter. Its main purpose was simply to let everyone know that the Australian Centurions are still open for business, have a workaround in place for 2024 and are hoping to return with our own qualifying event in 2025.

In the meanwhile, I shall continue with my regular newsletters in 2024, reporting on the long distance walking scene in Australia and around the world.

So it's time to dust off the walking shoes and get out into the fresh air!

With kind regards

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