

CENTURION FOOTNOTES

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DATES ... DATES ... DATES

The 2024 European year continues, with results in this issue from the most recent races. A number of remaining races are scheduled, including the following

Oct 19-20, 2024	24 Heues de Lipsheim	Lipsheim. FRA
Nov 11, 2024	8 Heures d'Etampes	Etampes, FRA

US Centurions Secretary Rob Robertson has announced that his organisation will host a second 2024 US Centurion Qualifier on December 28th. It will be held in conjunction with the Across the Years multi day ultra at the Camelback Ranch, Glendale, Phoenix, Arizona (see <https://www.aravaiparunning.com/across-the-years/>). See the announcement at Information link https://www.unitedstatescenturionwalkers.com/?page_id=1717.

Dec 28, 2024	US Centurions Qualifier	Glendale, Phoenix, Arizona, USA
	See https://www.aravaiparunning.com/across-the-years/	

On the local front, there continue to be lots of ultras scheduled in Australia, but many of them are trail based and hence not suitable for fast walking.

Since there will be specific Australian Centurion qualifier in 2024, 5 races were 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. Three have been completed, the following 2 are still to come.

Sep 29-Oct 6, 2024	Australian 6 Day Ultramarathon (Road)	Thorndon Park, Paradise, Adelaide, SA
	See https://australian6day.com.au/	
Nov 9-10, 2024	SA Track Ultra 24H	SA Athletics Stadium, Adelaide, SA
	See 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.

EMU 6 DAY RACE, BALATONFURED-FURDO, VESZPREM, HUNGARY, 5-11 SEPTEMBER 2024

The 13th EMU 6 Day Race, held each year in Balatonfüred, Hungary, saw a number of additional titles on offer, including the GOMU (Global Organization of Multi-Day Ultramarathoning) World 6 Day Championship and the Hungarian National 6 Day Championship. This event is one of the few 6 Day competitions in the world which boasts an IAU Silver Label and is the only Hungarian ultramarathon race where official world records have been set during the past 11 years.

For the record, EMU stands for *Egyesület a Magyar Ultrafutásért*, which translates to *The Association for Hungarian Ultra-running*.

This year, the event was as popular as ever, selling out quickly (112 spots are on offer) and using a waiting list to let a few more in as places became available. The runners came from around the world, with the website noting entrants from 28 different countries. And of course, there were a few walkers in the mix, with England's **Sandra Brown (C36)** in action, alongside fellow Surrey Walking Club walkers **Kathy Crilley** and **Dave Hoben**. Sandra was one of the

standouts in the event, walking to a new **IAU W75 48 Hour Run World Record of 247km** and then marching on to a 6 Day total of 565.427 km. Here are the final results for the 3 walkers:

36 th	Sandra Brown (walker)	W75	GBR	W	565.427 km
90 th	Kathy Crilley(walker)	W75	GBR	W	334.259 km
100 th	David Hoben(walker)	M70	GBR	M	302.780 km

I reached out to Sandra via email after the event and she responded as follows:

We enjoyed the Balaton 6 days and were pleased with my 48H W75 record. This was my main agenda, having had a good crack at the 6 days and some shorter marks in the April 6 days in the Czech republic. As W70, I was never satisfied with what I achieved at 48h – British records but not really getting close to the world/European mark. This time, I knew what I had to do – stay out on the circuit as much as possible and keep pushing! I did it, with a new mark of 247kms, improving the previous 235 kms by a decent margin. The weather was again challenging – at Balaton, we had temperatures in mid 30s for 3 days followed by a day of heavy rain, then more hot days. I thought that I would not get near my 6 day mark but then finished with 565 plus kms, within a few kms of my 573 plus kms! I wished I'd anticipated that with a couple of days to go as I might have been able to improve the record, but I'm still pleased with 573.9kms in the conditions of that event.

This year, Sandra has done two 6 Day races, firstly in K6 Ultramarathon in the Czech Republic in April and now in Hungary. As a consequence, she has the following W75 records all awaiting formal accreditation from the IAU:

100 km	16.26.09
24 Hours	143.84 1km
100 Miles	27.00.29
48 Hours	247+ km
6 Days	573.994 km



Sandra with Kathy Crilley celebrating the new 48H Record mark

Now I normally don't discuss running results in this newsletter but I make an exception in this case, as the overall event was won by young Belgium runner **Matthieu Bonne** who broke Yiannis Kouros's 6 Day World Record with a remarkable distance of 1046.31 km. Further, the first woman, **Maráz Zsuzsanna**, finished 4th overall with a wonderful 805.555 km. You can check out the full results set at <https://emusport.hu/world-championship-2024>. For completeness, here are the first 5 finishers.

1 st	Matthieu Bonne	M30	BEL	M	1046.31
2 nd	Bartosz Fudali	M35	POL	M	842.733
3 rd	Beda Szabolcs	M45	HUN	M	818.879
4 th	Maráz Zsuzsanna	W50	HUN	W	805.555
5 th	Sárosi Gyula	M50	HUN	M	803.039

Bonne's finishing distance of 1046.29 km bettered Yiannis Kouros's historic mark of 1036.80 km that had stood for the last two decades. He is already a multi-sport legend, having completed the Marathon des Sables, done a number of extraordinary ultra cycling feats and excelled in open-water swimming, including crossing the English Channel and navigating Belgium's coast. See more at <https://www.matthieubonne.be/en/index.php>. This latest result adds to the legend.

And, if that's not enough, Denmark's **Stine Rex** set a new women's 6 Day World Record of 913.606 km at the 2024 *6 dagsløb i Åbybro* race in her home country only a few weeks previously. She bettered the women's record of 901.764 km set by Camille Herron in March at the 2024 *lululemon FURTHER* event in La Quinta, California. Prior to Herron's 2024 record, the women's six-day record had been untouched for 34 years.

This comes just three months after Rex set a women's 48 Hour World Record at the 2024 GOMU 48-Hour World Championships, held at Balatonfüred, Hungary, in June. Rex totaled 435.564 km on that occasion to surpass Camille Herron's record of 435.336 km by 228 meters.

This is indeed pretty extraordinary stuff!



6 Day Run World Bests to Matthieu Bonne and Stine Rex

6 HOUR WALK, THIERS, FRANCE, SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2024

A new race on the French calendar, held in the city of Thiers, 400km south of Paris. The lap was 2.800km in length, with a 10:30AM start time. There were only a small number of entrants but it will hopefully build in future years.

6 Hour Walk

1.	ROSELLO Frederic	M2M/76	44.250 km
2.	BAUDIN Jonathan	M0M/86	36.635 km
3.	SERRANO Estelle	SEF/93	32.450 km
4.	ALAIMO Geraldine	M3F/74	25.735 km
5.	COUPARD Celine	M3F/75	25.628 km

71ST 28 HEURES DE ROUBAIX, ROUBAIX, FRANCE, SEPT 14-15, 2024

Emmanuel Tardi was at Roubaix, in NE France, in mid September for the annual 28 Heures de Roubaix. It was the 71st edition and the event's 70th anniversary - the first one took place in October 1954. The start time was set for 11AM on the Saturday, with the finish at 3PM on the Sunday. The event included the French 100km Walk Championships for men and women, along with a 2 x 6 Hour Relay, with the first leg starting at 11AM on the Saturday and the second leg starting at 9AM on the Sunday.

There were 39 walkers in attendance at the start line in Barbieux Park on the Saturday morning, under a bright sunny sky, and ready to complete as many laps as possible on the 2km asphalt loop, a course that included a few undulations.

Olivier Parizot led for the first lap, before **Alexandre Forestieri** and **Pauline Marguet** took over. **Fabrice Henry** caught them by the 16km mark and eventually established a slight lead, leading them through the 50km mark in a brisk 5:35:49. Marguet was 5 mins behind at that stage (5:40:38) but soon took over the lead and was 6 mins in front by the 70km mark. However, a bad section at around the 80km mark saw her surrender the lead to Henry who went on to win the French 100km championships with 11:36:49, ahead of Belgian walker **Peter Asselman** (11:52) and fellow Frenchmen **Laxime Leneau** (11:57:20) and **Christophe Erard** (12:06:19), while Marguet took the French's women's 100km title with her time of 12:32:47.

After the 100km mark, many walkers stopped, either for a few minutes or a few hours. Henry continued to walk strongly till the 124km mark, where he stopped. This left Asselman as race leader and he went on for the full 28 Hours to a final distance of 217.216 km. He had won in 2023 so was a popular repeat victor. In the women's event, Marguet and **Sylvia Maison** stopped after 100km but **Claire Caoudal** continued on, winning the 28 Hours Walk with a final distance of 179.450 km.

The 2x6 Hours walk was won by Belgian walker **Benjamin Leroy**, with 52km on the Saturday and 48km on the Sunday. Emmanuel also had a stroll around in the 28 Hour event, calling it quits after reaching his goal of 50km. Well done mate!

Lots of photos and videos on the event facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100059938902383>
Emmanuel's photos are found at <https://photos.app.goo.gl/KQRoBDpYQDDiQyqm7>
Full results at <http://www.paris-alsace.fr/lesdirects/live-Roubaix24.htm>.

28 Heures de Roubaix Men

1.	ASSELMAN Peter	Lebekke - Belgique	217.216 km
2.	LANEAU Maxime	Us Camon	206.967 km
3.	VANDERCOILDEN David	Villeneuve D Ascq Fretin	204.967 km
4.	KERLAU Yves-michel	Cm Roubaix	199.656 km
5.	JOSE MORA Bernardo	Ca Siurell - Espagne	198.340 km
6.	RIGAL Jean-marc	Domont Athletisme	182.674 km
7.	SVENSSON Christer	Vaxjo Ais - Suede	175.845 km
8.	FORESTIERI Alexandre	Ust Courir A Saint Tropez	175.109 km
9.	ERARD Christophe	Asm Bar-le-duc	173.722 km
10.	DELANGE Dominique	Aj Auxerre Section Marathon	161.009 km
11.	TILLIER Ludovic	Le Chesnay-rocuencourt 78	156.368 km
12.	GRADOS Stephane	Cm Roubaix	147.293 km
13.	HENRY Fabrice	Frijep Cor. Margny Verdon	143.080 km
14.	PRUCKNER Jaroslav	Ac Mlada Boleslaw - Tchèqueie	116.640 km
15.	LHERITIER Michel	Sainte Maure Athletic Club	110.124 km
	PARIZOT Olivier	Nice Cote D'azur Athletisme	100 km
	VANDENBERGHE Renaud	Us Champagne-sur-seine	100 km
	SEFFARI Abdelaziz	Afa Feyzin-venissieux	100 km
	MERCIER Jean-pierre	Pays De Colmar Athletisme	100 km
	OLIVARES Mathieu	Neuilly Sur Marne Athletisme	90 km
	DANDOY Jeremy	Non Licencié	78 km
	TRIZZULLA Giacomo	Liège - Belgique	68 km
	MACHAL Francis	Cm Roubaix	60 km
	TARDI Emmanuel	LP Longjumeau	50 km
	GROS Gildas	Es Thاون	40 km

28 Heures de Roubaix Women

1.	CAOUDAL Claire	Cm Roubaix	179.450 km
2.	BIZARD Claudie	Thiais Ac	171.579 km
3.	TOP Virginie	Non licenciée	166.637 km
4.	MARGUET Pauline	Nice Cote D'azur Athletisme	155.954 km
5.	MAISON Sylvie	Strasbourg Agglomeration Athle	144.333 km
6.	DEPREZ Celine	Cm Roubaix	106.556 km
	MULLER Cathy	Ca De Champigneulles	100 km

French 100km Championship Men

1.	HENRY Fabrice	Frijep Cor. Margny Verdon	11:36:49
2.	LANEAU Maxime	Us Camon	11:57:20
3.	ERARD Christophe	Asm Bar-le-duc	12:06:19
4.	FORESTIERI Alexandre	Ust Courir A Saint Tropez	12:13:58

5. PARIZOT Olivier	Nice Cote D'azur Athletisme	12:49:33
6. KERLAU Yves-michel	Cm Roubaix	12:57:59
7. VANDENBERGHE Renaud	Us Champagne-sur-seine	13:50:42
8. SEFFARI Abdelaziz	Afa Feyzin-venissieux	13:59:11
9. RIGAL Jean-marc	Domont Athletisme	14:27:05
10. DELANGE Dominique	Aj Auxerre Section Marathon	14:33:23
11. GRADOS Stephane	Cm Roubaix	14:35:24
12. TILLIER Ludovic	Le Chesnay-rocuencourt 78	16:42:19
13. MERCIER Jean-pierre	Pays De Colmar Athletisme	18:23:33
14. LHERITIER Michel	Sainte Maure Athletic Club	22:17:29
OLIVARES Mathieu	Neully Sur Marne Athletisme	90 km
MACHAL Francis	Cm Roubaix	60 km
GROS Gildas	Es Thaon	40 km

French 100km Championship Women

1. MARGUET Pauline	Nice Cote D'azur Athletisme	12:32:47
2. CAUDAL Claire	Cm Roubaix	13:31:13
3. MAISON Sylvie	Strasbourg Agglomeration	13:33:18
4. MULLER Cathy	Ca De Champigneulles	13:59:40
5. BIZARD Claudie	Thiais Ac	15:20:30
6. DEPREZ Celine	Cm Roubaix	26:40:27

2x6 Hours Walk

1. LEROY Benjamin	Racio (Belgique)	99.657 km
2. MARECHAL Pascal	Ac Chateau Thierry	88.973 km
3. PANNIER Josiane	Le Havre Ac	83.339 km
4. SERRA-ROCHA Fernando	Non Licencié	76.001 km
TRIGOT Corinne	Cm Roubaix	42.000 km
FAUQUEUR DUDA Corinne	Cm Roubaix	24.000 km
FAUQUEUR Raymond	Cm Roubaix	24.000 km



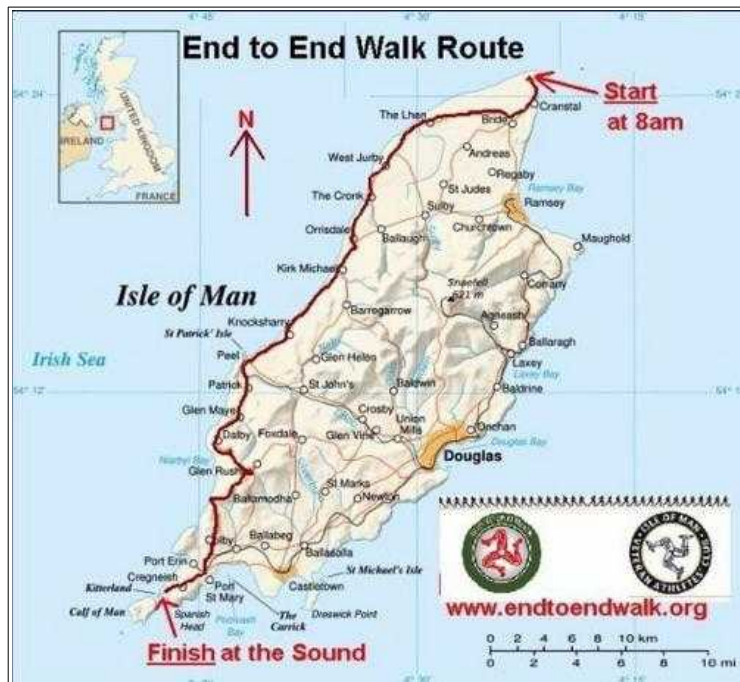
Peter Asselman, Fabrice Henry, Maxime Laneau and Pauline Margue (photos Emmanuel Tardi)



Claire Caoudal and Claudie Bizard

The next French long distance races walk will be on 19-20 October 2024 in Lipsheim, with a 24 hours walk, a 6 hours walk and other shorter distance races.

END TO END WALK, ISLE OF MAN, SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2024



The Isle of Man MFX Limited End to End Walk (<http://www.endtoendwalk.org/>) is an annual race walking event along the west coast of the Island from the Point of Ayre to the Sound, a distance of 39.22 miles (63 km). Regarded as one of the Island's premier competitive walking events, the event has been running since the early 1960s and traditionally attracts many seasoned walkers from the UK, Ireland and further afield.

This year's race started at 8am on Saturday 15th September and competitors had 10 hours 30 minutes to complete the course.

Many congratulations to **Callum Gawne** and **Lorna Gleave**, respective winners of the men's and women's titles. Callum produced a brilliant performance on his event debut, holding off a tremendous late charge from **Dean Morgan** to win by just under three minutes. His time of 6:27:24 is the fifth fastest recorded on the west-side course which has

been used since 2002. **Ryan Surridge** was third. Lorna retained the women's title she won last year, finishing seventh overall, and for the second successive year she has completed the Parish and End to End double. Her time of 7:29:26 was nearly three minutes faster than last year. Second was **Jayne Farquhar** and third **Kathryn Clough**. There were 136 finishers, 16 up on last year. That is the best since 2020 and the second best since 2012, which confirms that the event is really thriving.

Lots of photos on the event facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/iomendoendwalk>.

Isle of Man MFX Limited End to End Walk (first 50 places)

1st	Callum Gawne (111)	Senior Men	6h27m24s
2nd	Dean Morgan (196)	Men 40-44	6h30m12s
3rd	Ryan Surridge (268)	Senior Men	7h92m01s
4th	Tristan Shields (245)	Senior Men	7h14m55s
5th	Chris Addy (2)	Men 35-39	7h25m04s
6th	James Quirk (225)	Men 50-54	7h26m29s
7th	Lorna Gleave (122)	Women 40-44	7h29m26s
8th	David Walker (277)	Men 50-54	7h36m39s
9th	Dougie Scott (241)	Men 40-44	7h43m06s
10th	Jayne Farquhar (95)	Women 55-59	7h47m10s
11th	Ashley Humphrey (145)	Senior Men	7h48m51s
12th=	Kathryn Clough (48)	Women 50-54	8h01m45s
12th=	Richard Leigh (176)	Men 50-54	8h01m45s
14th	Lee Darbyshire (75)	Men 45-49	8h08m24s
15th	Peter Robertson (234)	Men 55-59	8h09m56s
16th=	Morgan Armstrong-Paton (8)	Senior Men	8h11m34s
16th=	Sarah Ohare (207)	Women 40-44	8h11m34s
18th	Michael Farnworth (92)	Men 50-54	8h13m08s
19th	Greg Hoskisson (143)	Men 45-49	8h14m04s
20th	Graham Jackson (148)	Men 55-59	8h16m42s
21st	Philip Knop (167)	Men 55-59	8h20m06s
22nd	Iveta Kamenova (154)	Senior Women	8h23m37s
23rd	Lucy Swift (269)	Women 50-54	8h26m49s
24th=	Dale Glover (123)	Senior Men	8h29m13s
24th=	Karen Mercer (189)	Women 40-44	8h29m13s
26th	Sam Greasley (126)	Senior Men	8h35m46s
27th	Nicola R Marshall (227)	Women 60-64	8h40m10s
28th	Yanisa Sananueah (238)	Women 55-59	8h43m27s
29th	Jonathan Gower-Jackson (125)	Senior Men	8h45m03s
30th=	May Hooper (142)	Women 55-59	8h47m24s
30th=	Philip Morris (198)	Men 45-49	8h47m24s
32nd	Ian Mackie (181)	Men 40-44	8h47m54s
33rd	Joshua Dunn (89)	Senior Men	8h48m00s
34th	Jim Macgregor (180)	Men 50-54	8h48m16s
35th	Ashley Burgess (26)	Men 35-39	8h49m52s
36th=	Stefan Kelly (159)	Senior Men	8h51m21s
36th=	Jerome Surridge (267)	Men 50-54	8h51m21s
38th	James Cochrane (50)	Men 45-49	8h52m19s
39th	Simon Cooper (56)	Men 55-59	8h52m35s
40th	Daniel Gibson (119)	Senior Men	8h53m23s
41st	Liam McCann (184)	Senior Men	8h53m41s
42nd	Ryan Healy (136)	Senior Men	8h53m57s
43rd	Zoe Lambie (173)	Senior Women	8h55m09s
44th	Bobbie Hemsall (138)	Senior Women	8h55m39s
45th	Nick Wallinger (279)	Men 50-54	8h56m42s
46th	Russell Walker (278)	Men 60-64	8h57m12s
47th	Ewan Wylie (15)	Senior Men	8h57m14s
48th	Stephen Caley (35)	Men 40-44	8h57m18s
49th	Anna Royle (237)	Senior Women	8h57m43s
50th	Ann-Marie Clucas (49)	Women 45-49	8h58m18s



Callum Gawne



The start from the Ayre Lighthouse



Lorna Gleave

MORE ON THE ENGLISH CENTURIONS 100 MILE QUALIFYING EVENT

In my last newsletter, I reported on the annual English Centurions qualifier which had been held at Gloucester in late August. I was unable to report on the actual 100 mile times for the 10 successful walkers, so I fix that omission with this month's newsletter.

Mixed 100 Mile

1.	Jonathan Hobbs	England	20:38:06
2.	Justin Scholz (C61)	Australia	21:20:49
3.	Ignace Mattya	Belgium	21:39:54
4.	Sharon Scholz (C63)	Australia	21:45:25
5.	Jantinus Meints (C73)	Netherlands	22:02:33
6.	Delef Santy	Belgium	22:07:04
7.	Frank Van Der Gulik	Netherlands	22:58:50
8.	Richard McChesney	New Zealand	23:23:15
9.	Andrew Titley (c84)	Isle of Man	23:32:02
10.	Kurt Tempels	Belgium	23:32:51

And here is winner Jonathan Hobbs' report

A life-long goal, 8 months of preparation and just under 18 hours and 45 minutes of walking to qualify as Centurion C1212 and win the race. I actually enjoyed the first 40 miles and at halfway I was less than 5 minutes off my (ambitious) plan. We were then hit by 1½ hours of driving, depressing, dreadful rain which used up most of my energy reserves. After that, it was a long, dark night and when the dawn finally cracked I was just determined to get to the end. The finish was emotional and I had the chance to thank my dad for his support throughout the race and to be congratulated by my Centurion brothers and sisters. I'm honoured to win the impressive Wilkinson Sword and the very special Hew Nielson 145 Trophy, as well as the Bill King Cup for the youngest finisher (my winning margin for that was 13 years). It was great to walk with some lovely competitors and generous supporters and everyone else who was with me in my heart and whispering in my ear.

Also, thanks to Colin Moore who penned the following race report for the Isle of Man Veteran Athletes' Club.

Gloucester Track Ultras event report 2024

Last Saturday 24th August 2024 saw the 99th version of the Centurions 100 miles walk which this year was staged at Gloucester Athletics Club.

Competitors included walkers from England, Belgium, Netherlands (including Frank Van Der Gulik, who would go on to complete his 18th consecutive English centurion distance), Australia (Justin and Sharon Scholz, the tandem riding couple who stopped off from their adventures to both complete the Parish Walk in June), New Zealand (Richard McChesney – whose exploits include walking 711 kilometres in a six-days event at Vallon Pont D 'Arc in 2023) and the U.S.A. as well as three members of I.O.M.V.A.C. – Andrew Titley, Russell Walker and Colin Moore. The Manx contingent was supported by Russell's wife Shelley and five times Parish Walk winner/ centurion in his own right Robbie Callister.

The course was a four hundred metres track loop, with the runners for the concurrent 24 hours running event using the inner three lanes whilst the walkers had the outer three.

With the clock counting down to the start the contestants were faced with torrential rain, though bizarrely it stopped about a minute from the whistle, and the day varied between sunshine and showers, which necessitated several changes of attire.

The main walking event started at 10 a.m. in an anticlockwise direction which did not vary, unlike the route for the runners, which switched directions every four hours and thus permitted Andrew, Russell, and Colin to witness and cheer on Sarah Webster's wonderful world record attempt over forty miles.

At midnight the accompanying fifty kilometres walk event commenced, with the entrants including Chris Flint, Parish Walk winner in 1997 and 1999.

When the dust had settled on Sunday morning, Andrew had completed a 17th 100 miles finish, and was subsequently presented with the most meritorious performance award. Russell had continued on to record an excellent eighty-four miles (320 laps), whilst Colin, thanks to some encouragement, cajoling and ironic humour from Robbie managed to exceed fifty miles (192 laps) for the first time in over five years.

The first to reach one hundred miles was young Jonathon Hobbs, winner also in 2022 at Middlesborough and he looks set to dominate the event for the considerable future with his relaxed racewalking style. The furthest distance was achieved by Richard McChesney, who managed 164.918 kilometres before the cut off.

During the presentation ceremony, the organisers announced that next year's event (the 100th English Centurion contest) would be held in Lewes, East Sussex, which is only just over a half hour train journey direct from Gatwick airport. Ancillary distances will be offered as well as the full one hundred miles, so it would be great to see a strong Manx contingent to continue its fine tradition of racewalking over the years.

56TH NIJMEGEN TO ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS, 21-22 SEPTEMBER 2024

Mid September saw one of the very popular ultra distance events of the European year, the annual Nijmegen to Rotterdam walk (see <https://www.rotterdamsewandelsportvereniging.nl/events/nr-160km-eng/>). This event started off way back in 1935 as Brussels to Rotterdam but in 1966 it was changed to its current route from Nijmegen to Rotterdam. It has been held annually since then except for a short COVID break in 2021 and 2022. Thus this year saw the 56th edition.

It got underway on the morning of Saturday 21st Saturday, with 62 walkers setting out from the Sports Hall De Boog in Nijmegen and hoping to complete the 160km walk to Rotterdam in the allotted 29 hours. Almost all were successful, finishing together on the Sunday at the PAC Sports Complex in Rotterdam. This event is not a race. Rather, it is a group walk, with the leaders travelling at a pace of 7km/hr. Regular cafe stops are scheduled every 20km, when the group reforms and then off they go again. A meal stop is scheduled at the 60km mark. This leads to a wonderful sense of comradeship, with everyone helping everyone else. It is indeed a wonderful concept. Amongst the finishers was **Thomas Leijtens** (the youngest walker in this event). To recognize his performance, organisers arranged for him to walk at the front and carry the RWV flag as the field entered Rotterdam. There was loud applause for Thomas and the other walkers as they arrived at the Langepad athletics track.

Well done to all the finishers. I have not seen the final listing yet but you can figure it out from the start list at <https://inschrijven.nl/dln/nijmegenrotterdam.html>. The walk included a number of our European based Australian Centurions and they all finished, of course - **Kim Janssens (C76)**, **Martin Vos (C79)**, **Jantinus Meints (C73)**, **Susan Clements (C35)**, **Adrie Ros (C74)** and **Gertrude Achterberg (C80)**.

A wonderful annual event and one of many held in the Netherlands.



A magical walk through the countryside



Thomas leads the group towards the finish line

UNTIL OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER

Another action packed edition completed, so enjoy the read. Next week I will be in Adelaide to watch the Australian 6 Day Championships and to cheer on the walk participants. I look forward to reporting on what are sure to be some noteworthy performances in the next newsletter. In the meanwhile, enjoy your walking!

With kind regards

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