

CENTURION FOOTNOTES

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ENTRIES ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE 2026 CENTURION QUALIFIER



Southern Sydney Track Ultra
Campbelltown Athletics Track, Sydney
Saturday 4 - Sunday 5 July 2026

This the official 2026 Australian Centurions Qualifier
Come and join us in Sydney in July 2026 - great weather, great racing,
great post-race holidaying!

Walk events include
24 Hour Walk (including Centurion 100 Mile)
12 Hour Walk
6 Hour Walk
3 Hour Walk

Racewalking Australia 100 km Walk Championships

I start this newsletter with a reminder that our annual qualifying race returns next year and will be held in conjunction with the **Southern Sydney Track Ultra** at the Campbelltown Athletics Track in Sydney on the weekend of **4-5 July 2026**. I have been going to this event for some years now and can attest to its quality which is top notch.

This will be our preferred and fully supported option for anyone wishing to try for Australian Centurion membership in 2026. The carnival will offer a whole range of walking options – 24 Hours, 12 Hours, 6 Hours and 3 Hours – and all categories will include trophies for placegetters. Further, all entrants in the 24 Hour and 12 Hour races are automatically eligible to contest the Racewalking Australia 100 km Walk Championships.

The big news is that entries are now open. Just point your browser to <https://southernsydneytrackultra.com.au/> and sign up. You can check out the current entry list at <https://www.onlineentry.com.au/AppEntrant.aspx?Eventid=5703>. There are 73 competitors so far, including a number of walkers in various categories.

Just as at Coburg, walkers will have their own dedicated walking lane (Lane 7).

We will be there to fully support all walkers and to recognise their efforts (and hopefully hand out plenty of new Australian Centurion Badges).

What better place to be in 2026 than Australia's premier tourist destination!

DATES ... DATES ... DATES

Reviewing the year, some key 2026 dates are already known, including 4 of the annual Centurion qualifying races (Continental, New Zealand, US and Australian). Note the 2026 NZ Centurion Qualifier in Auckland will be held earlier than usual to avoid clashing with the Asia/Pacific Championships in late May 2026. Secondly, the next edition of the NZ 6 Day Ultra Marathon in Christchurch has been brought forward to March/April 2026.

Interestingly, there will be no English Centurions qualifier in 2026 but they plan to be back in 2027 – read the announcement at <https://centurions1911.org.uk/postponement-2026-100-mile-race/>.

Mar 21-22, 2026	NZ Sri Chinmoy 24 Hour Track Championship Including 2026 New Zealand Centurions Qualifier	Auckland, NZL
Mar 28-29, 2026	24 Heures de Château-Thierry	Château-Thierry, FRA
Mar 30 – Apr 5, 2026	NZ 6 Day Ultra Marathon	Christchurch, NZ
May 23-24, 2026	RWV Wandelweekend Including 2026 Continental Centurions Qualifier	Schiedam, NED
Jun 1-7, 2026	Paris-Colmar Classic (100 th anniversary edition)	Across France
Jun 6-7, 2026	FANS 24 Hour Race Including 2026 US Centurions Qualifier	Bloomington, USA
Jun 20-21, 2026	Manx Telecom Parish Walk	Isle of Man
Jun 27-28, 2026	24 Heures de Haute-Saintonge	Montguyon, FRA
Jul 4-5, 2026	Southern Sydney Track Ultra Including 2026 Australian Centurions Qualifier	Sydney, NSW

And of course, there are always opportunities on the Australian front. A good starting point is the 2026 events page on the AUTRA website: <https://www.autra.asn.au/upcoming-2026>.

Mar 20, 2026	Sri Chinmoy 48 Hour Track Race (48H, 24H, etc)	Canberra, ACT
Jun 20, 2026	Adelaide 24 Hour Festival (24H, 12H, 6H, 3H)	Adelaide, SA
Jul 4, 2026	Southern Sydney Track Ultra (24H, 12hH 6H, 3H, Marathon) Including 2026 Australian Centurions Qualifier	Sydney, NSW
Aug 29, 2026	SA Track Ultra (24H, 100M, 100km, 50M, 50km)	Adelaide, SA
Sep 27, 2026	Australian 6 Day Ultra Marathon Festival	Adelaide, SA

8 HEURES DE CHARLY-SUR-MARNE, CHARLY-SUR-MARNE, FRANCE, FEBRUARY 8, 2026

Thanks to Emmanuel Tardi who was in Charly-sur-Marne in early February for the 27th edition of Les 8 Heures de Charly. There were 54 walkers (32 men, 19 women and 3 teams) present for the 8AM start and, after a first lap of 3.650km, walkers settled into laps of 2.575km, ensuring that 50km occurred at the end of a lap. As per previous years, the lap was reduced to 500m in the last hour. The weather was perfect, with no wind and with the sun out after the first hour. The temperature was 5°C at 8am and 14°C at 11am, pretty good for February in Europe.

In the men's event, **Alexandre Forestieri**, **Alain Malfondet** and **Fabrice Henry** (a relay walker) headed out together, with **Maxime Faiteau** 200m in arrears. Faiteau joined Forestieri in the lead around the 40km mark and they then started to walk together. There is an award for the first to pass the 50km point and this was decided in a terrific sprint, Faiteau recording 5:17:50 just ahead of Forestieri with 5:17:52. Faiteau eventually broke clear at 60km, going on to win by a small margin of less than 500m. In the women's race, **Veronique Bessot** led out, followed by **Adeline Brastel** and then **Muriel Marradi** and that's the way it stayed till the end.

And we must note the performances of a couple of super masters walkers – 78 year old **Daniel Faubert** passed 50km in 6:14:21 and 80 year old **Paul Himmesoete** passed 50km in 6:29:00. Paul was a long distance walker in the 1970s and 1980s and had a 200km PB of in 22:13 set in 1985 in Lagny. And oh, Emmanuel had a hitout in the 10km walk, finishing in a time of 1:24:04.

8 Hour Walk Women

1.	BESSOT Veronique	Domont Athlétisme	68.110 km
2.	BRASTEL Adeline	ESFRA	65.023 km
3.	MARRADI Muriel	AFA Feyzin-Vénissieux	63.671 km
4.	MAISON Sylvie	S2A IBAL	62.696 km
5.	TOP Virginie	AC Château-Thierry	61.532 km
6.	CAOUDAL-KERLAU Claire	C.M Roubaix	59.455 km
7.	SILVI Nathalie	NI Barzy sur Marne	58.155 km

8.	BARRAUD Céline	AC Margny-les-Compiègne	57.476 km
9.	BIZARD Claudie	Thiais AC	57.207 km
10.	MERCADIER Lucile	NI Varredes	56.883 km
11.	DELAFAITE Nadia	USC Nouvion s/Meuse	55.305 km
12.	DUCRUET Nadia	AC Château-Thierry	53.903 km
13.	RODIER Nicole	ESA Witry les Reims	51.625 km
14.	GALLO Emmanuelle	NI Trilport	51.176 km
15.	PENA Guylaine	NI Trilport	51.176 km
16.	YASAR Emilie	NI Trilport	51.176 km
17.	SANTIN Sophie	NI Roissy en Brie	43.493 km
18.	LEPRETRE Lydivine	CAP 21	42.923 km
19.	TILLIER Marie	Le Chesnay Rocqencourt 78	24.762 km

8 Hour Walk Men

1.	FAITEAU Maxime	EPA 86	73.966 km
2.	FORESTIERI Alexandre	UST Courir à St Tropez	73.482 km
3.	MALFONDET Alain	NI Paris	71.471 km
4.	OLIVARES Mathieu	Neuilly/Marne Athle	66.457 km
5.	KERLAU Yves-Michel	CM Roubaix	64.047 km
6.	VANDENBERGHE Renaud	US Champagne sur Seine	63.678 km
7.	FAUBERT Daniel	SA Bayeux	63.523 km
8.	LEIJTENS Frans (Pays-Bas)	RWV	63.293 km
9.	HIMMESOËTE Paul	AC Château-Thierry	61.701 km
10.	MARTIN Thierry	AC Château-Thierry	60.980 km
11.	FAUBERT Stéphane	CS Provins	60.523 km
12.	DELANGE Dominique	CA Périgueux Athlétisme	59.091 km
13.	CHEKAB Saïd	NI	58.591 km
14.	PIERMAY Stéphane	AC Château-Thierry	58.469 km
15.	ROSSI Armand	Métro Athlé Anthony	57.383 km
16.	JACOB Marcel	NL Nogentel	57.301 km
17.	LABARRE Bertrand	NI	56.394 km
18.	VINCENT Robert	AC Château-Thierry	56.286 km
19.	BOHREN Christophe	NI Recy	55.556 km
20.	PELLERIN Alain	M.M.O	55.489 km
21.	TILLIER Ludovic	Le Chesnay Rocqencourt 78	54.484 km
22.	HIERNARD Alain	NI Château-Thierry	52.892 km
23.	DUCHEMIN Alain	AC Château-Thierry	51.613 km
24.	HAGHEBAERT Eric	AC Château-Thierry	51.348 km
25.	MERCIER Jean-Pierre	NI Saint Amarin	47.510 km
26.	DEMONCEAUX Thomas	AC Château-Thierry	40.923 km
27.	YASAR Erburul	NI Trilport	38.376 km
28.	TOUTAIN Eric	U.S Ivry	35.366 km
29.	BIEBUYCK Pascal (Bel)	AC des Collines (Bel)	31.975 km
30.	MONTIGNY Patrick	U.S Ivry	29.216 km
	NICOLAS Alain	NL Domptin	DNF (47.925 km)
	LONGATTE François	ES Montgeron	DNF (37.125 km)

8 Hour Walk Relay

1.	Hen-Ry-Playe	Henry F - Playe C	70.391 km
2.	Les compagnons de Route	Pannier J - Mougénot P	59.731 km
3.	Les Zamours (Bel)	Fillieux C - Fillieux C	45.396 km

10km Walk

1.	STOLL Matthias	S2A IBAL	53:11
2.	BROU Florent	CA Montreuil 93	57:04
3.	STEFFANELLY David	AS Mantes	59:44
4.	NOGRE Yannick	SC Brie-Comte-Robert	1:00:17
5.	FER Eric	SC Brie-Comte-Robert	1:03:42
6.	CHOCHOY Christine	GA Noisy-le-gd	1:04:13
7.	BRASTEL-JUNG Emilie	S2A IBAL	1:04:48
8.	BIEBUYCK Corentin	Saint Sauveur Leuze (Bel)	1:13:06
9.	DELARUE Jean-Michel	ACCLR	1:18:07

10. BORDIER Daniel
11. TARDI Emmanuel
12. BIEBUYCK Matheo

AC Chateau-Thierry
 LP Longjumeau
 Saint Sauveur Leuze (Bel)

1:22:51
 1:24:04
 1:24:37



Paul Himmessoete, Fabrice Henry, Alexandre Forestieri, Alain Malfondet and Daniel Faubert



Maxime Faiteau, Adeline Brastel, Muriel Marradi and Véronique Bessot (photos Emmanuel Tardi)

24 HEURES DE BOURGES, BOURGES, FRANCE, FEBRUARY 28 – MARCH 1, 2026

Thanks to Emmanuel who also sent us a race report, results and photos from the 24 Heures de Bourges, held at the end of February. This prestigious French race has been held since 1997 and this year boasted a good turnout of 31 walkers for the 1PM Saturday start. According to reports, the weather was very good, around 10°C and sunny during the day. The loop was 1km in length around Le carré d'Auronm.

The event hosted the French national long distance walk championship so saw the best French walkers in action.

In the men's race, **Alexandre Forestieri** and **Michael Boch** led out, followed by **Vincent De Bontin** and **Fabrice Henry**. It was the first 24H walk for Boch, who last year was in the French national 24H running team (his run PB is

260km). Boch led till until 80km before he slowed, stopping after reaching the 100km mark in a time of 11:40:50 and then coming back in the last hours to be in the rankings. De Bontin dominated, reaching the 200km mark in 23:41:41 and then dawdling through to a final winning distance of 200.782km.

In the women's race, **Veronique Bessot** led from beginning to end, finishing with a distance of 186.289 km, a PB by some 3km. **Pauline Marguet** and **Chloé Raes-Maure** were next to finish, also beating their PBs, while fourth place went to **Karine Zeimer** who ran 214km in 24 hours a few years ago.

For the first time, the ancillary event was a double marathon rather than the usual 2 x 6H. The first marathon started at 1pm on the Saturday, with no time limit, and the second marathon started at 6am on the Sunday, with a 6 hour time limit.

Once again, elderly walkers stood out -78 year old **Daniel Faubert** was in action on the 24h, reaching 50km in 6:01:21 and 100km in 12:46:50 to set new M75 French bests, while 85 year old **Robert Daloz** completed the marathon walk in 6:29 and is thinking about doing a longer walk in Chateau-Thierry next month .

24 Hour Walk Men

1.	DE BONTIN Vincent	EA Cergy-Pontoise Athletisme	200.782 km	24h
2.	FORESTIERI Alexandre	UST Courir à Saint Tropez	181.749 km	24h
3.	MALFONDDDET Alain	NI Paris	179.194 km	24h
4.	PARIZOT Olivier	Nice Côte d'Azur Athletisme	173.738 km	24h
5.	KERLAU Yves-Michel	CM Roubaix	170.239 km	24h
6.	RIGAL Jean-Marc	Domont Athletisme	164.502 km	24h
7.	FAITEAU Maxime	Entente Poitiers Athle 86	154.266 km	24h
8.	FAUBERT David	NI Coutens	148.809 km	24h
9.	PIERMAY Stephane	AC Château-Thierry	146.562 km	24h
10.	MAILLOT Marc	GRAC Renwez	137.848 km	24h
11.	GAIGNE Ludovic	Athle Theix	136.602 km	24h
12.	BATTIST Bruno	Domont Athletisme	130.631 km	24h
13.	FAUBERT Daniel	Stade Athletique Bayeusain	122.384 km	24h
14.	BOURICHON Christophe	Entente Bassin Athletisme	122.272 km	24h
15.	BOCH Michael	AC Vallee Ste-Marie-Mines	114.406 km	24h
16.	GILLES Philippe	USM Montargis	114.222 km	24h
17.	OLIVARES Mathieu	Neuilly-sur-Marne Athletisme	109.266 km	24h
18.	ROCCO Jean-Marie	NI Pessac	100.611 km	24h
19.	TCHEMENIAN Yan	Pays Basque Athletisme	92.646 km	24h
20.	THOUVENEL Jean-Charles	NI Bocquegney	130.000 km	20h13'38"
	HENRY Fabrice	Frijep Verdon	120.000 km	14h25'18"
	LANEAU Maxime	US Camon	106.000 km	13h32'24"
	VICTOR Etienne	Ent Roissy Pays de France	72.000 km	20h47'49"

24 Hour Walk Women

1.	BESSOT Veronique	Domont Athletisme	186.289 km	24h
2.	MARGUET Pauline	Nice Cote d'Azur Athletisme	178.031 km	24h
3.	RAES-MAURE Chloe	Entente Athletique de l'Eure	176.242 km	24h
4.	ZEIMER Karine	Entente Poitiers Athle 86	171.474 km	24h
5.	MAISON Sylvie	Strasbourg Agglomeration Ath	167.972 km	24h
6.	BIZARD Claudie	Thiais AC	145.087 km	24h
7.	CHOTARD Blandine	NL Plogastel Saint-Germain	141.609 km	24h
	DUCRUET Nadia	AC Château-Thierry	100.000 km	16h39'59"

Marathon Walk, Saturday (42.195km)

1.	VAN HILLE Dominique	Nice Cote d'Azur	4h40'18"
2.	VANDENBERGHE Renaud	US Champagne-sur-Seine	5h05'20"
3.	PORTANTE Frederic (BEL)	CACDC	5h11'06"
4.	MARRADI Muriel	AFA Feyzin-Venissieux	5h22'47"
5.	PELLERIN Alain	Marche Mythique Organisation	5h26'24"
6.	BIEBUYCK Pascal (BEL)	CACDC	5h31'28"
7.	CAUDAL-KERLAU Claire	Cm Roubaix	5h32'44"
8.	MOROSI Thomas	Saint-Germain des Fossés	5h36'51"
9.	PANNIER Josiane	Havre AC	5h54'44"
10.	MOUGENOT Patrick	AC Chateau-Thierry	6h04'41"

11. DALOZ Robert
12. LONGATTE Francois

Neuilly-sur-Marne Athle
ES Montgeron

6h29'08"
6h42'05"

Marathon Walk, Sunday (42.195 km)

1. VAN HILLE Dominique
2. VANDENBERGHE Renaud
3. PELLERIN Alain
4. MARRADI Muriel
5. MOUGENOT Patrick
6. MOROSI Thomas

Nice Cote d'Azur
US Champagne-sur-Seine
Marche Mythique Organisation
AFA Feyzin-Venissieux
AC Chateau-Thierry
Saint-Germain des Fossés

5h08'13"
5h20'18"
5h31'33"
5h43'44"
6h02'13"
5h58'00"

Combined Double Marathon, Saturday and Sunday (84.390km)

1. VAN HILLE Dominique
2. VANDENBERGHE Renaud
3. PELLERIN Alain
4. MARRADI Muriel

Nice Cote d'Azur
US Champagne-sur-Seine
Marche Mythique Organisation
AFA Feyzin-Venissieux

9h48'43"
10h25'51"
10h58'08"
11h05'14"



Vincent De Bontin, Olivier Parisot, 24H de Bourges - Daniel Faubert and Alexandre Forestieri



Chloe Raes-Maure, Veronique Bessot, Pauline Marguet and the women's podium (photos Emmanuel Tardi)

Other events included 5km, 10km and half marathon. I include the Half Marathon Walk results for completeness.

Half Marathon Walk, Sunday

1.	LEFEVRE Marc	Athle 78	2h34'25"
2.	ANXIONNAT Claudine	AVEC	2h45'43"
3.	BIEBUYCK Pascal (BEL)	CACDC	2h55'01"
4.	PANNIER Josiane	Havre AC	3h04'22"
5.	PANNIER Magali	NL Le Havre	3h04'22"
6.	LONGATTE Francois	ES Montgeron	3h15'08"

8TH 24 HEURES DE CAPITANY, COLOMIERS, FRANCE, FEBRUARY 28 – MARCH 1, 2026

Held on the same weekend as Bourges, the 24 Heures de Capitany (<https://chrono-start.com/events/24-heures-de-capitany/>) is an annual event that has been held since 2018 at the Capitany Sports Complex in Colomiers. Organised by Les ColumRuns, there were 4 options: 24 Hours (run, walk and Relay of 4), 12 Hours (run and walk), 6 Hours (run and walk) and 3 Hours (run only) on a flat protected loop of 1.124 km. Thanks to Emmanuel for sending me the results.

Last year, the event saw a record turnout, with over 250 participants and this year the participant record was broken once again.

The walk fields were very good (28 in the 24H, 13 in the 12H and 20 in the 6H). Overall the 24H winners were **Laurent Pineau** with 157.710km and **Laetitia Nunes Varela** with 152.090 km.

24 Hour Walk

1.	PINEAU Laurent	S/L HAUTE SAINTONGE ATHLETISME (17)	157.710 km
2.	CHEKHAB Saïd	CTM MONTPON MENESTEROL (24)	153.214 km
3.	DOUX Fabrice	S/L UA GUJAN-MESTRAS (33)	152.090 km
4.	NUNES VARELA Laetitia	BISCARROSSE OLYMPIQUE (40)	143.098 km
5.	DELANGE Dominique	CA PERIGUEUX ATHLETISME (24)	139.726 km
6.	TILLIER BARRET Ludovic	LE CHESNAY-ROCQUENCOURT 78 (78)	128.486 km
7.	BIRAUD Sylvie	S/L HAUTE SAINTONGE ATHLETISME (33)	122.866 km
8.	JARRIAULT Denis	ULTRA MARATHON FRANCE (12)	121.742 km
9.	RATEAUX Floriane	MARCH'MALAU (64)	117.246 km
10.	HARISTOY Christophe	URT (64)	114.998 km
11.	LE NORMAND Colette	COLOMIERS (31)	110.502 km
12.	FAVAUDON David	NORDIC EVASION 77 (77)	109.378 km
13.	MULLER Philippe	MONTPON MENESTEROL (24)	101.510 km
14.	DEGEORGE Laurent	BISCARROSSE OLYMPIQUE (40)	100.386 km
15.	VENTURA Philippe	S/L ATHLE 632 FONSORBES (32)	100.386 km
16.	HUBER Gaspard	S/L LA POSTILLONNE DE LONGJUMEAU (91)	97.014 km
17.	MONNIER Yann	SAINT YZAN DE SOUDIAC (33)	92.518 km
18.	ODOUARD Dominique	AUREC (43)	88.022 km
19.	BARBIER Florence	PLAISANCE DU TOUCH (31)	85.774 km
20.	LEDUN Marin	AS SOUSTONS RUNNING (40)	84.650 km
21.	GRIZARD Philippe	CHAUSSIN (39)	76.782 km
22.	AUZERIC Laurent	PONT DE L ARN (81)	76.782 km
23.	TEISSIER Vanessa	MONTLIEU LA GARDE (17)	74.534 km
24.	CERVERA Arnaud	TOURNEFEUILLE (31)	70.038 km
25.	PELLETIER Thierry	CA VILLENAVE D'ORNON (33)	65.542 km
26.	GALVEZ Florence	LES COUREURS FOUS DE SERIGNAN (34)	61.046 km
27.	DONADIEU Jean-Baptiste	BISCARROSSE OLYMPIQUE (40)	54.302 km
28.	SABALÇAGARAY Morgane	QUINT FONSEGRIVES (31)	39.690 km

12 Hour Walk

1.	FERREIRA Julien	LEYRENNE AC (87)	83.526 km
2.	FAVRIOU Laurent	FAVRIOU TEAM (17)	75.658 km
3.	DECAMPS Julie	AUCAMVILLE (31)	73.410 km
4.	LACROIX Bruno	CO-KM 42 ST JUST LE MARTEL (87)	73.410 km
5.	MIORIN Robert	UNION SPORTIVE CENON ATHLETISME (33)	72.286 km
6.	BRIDAY Elodie	LLUPIA (66)	72.286 km
7.	INCONNU	MONTAUBAN (82)	70.038 km

8.	HENNI Claudie	MURET (31)	68.914 km
9.	CABRERA Brigitte	AUREVILLE (31)	65.542 km
10.	ROUGIÉ Bénédicte	LABASTIDE D'ANJOU (11)	62.170 km
11.	MOREAUX Jean-Francois	CA VILLENAVE D'ORNON (17)	61.046 km
12.	SERRANO Christophe	CARCASSONNE (11)	41.938 km
13.	COHIN Bernadette	CANDILLARGUES (34)	21.706 km

6 Hour Walk

1.	GAUZE Francis	FC OLORON (64)	52.054 km
2.	GAUTRET Bruno	HTAPF (31)	48.682 km
3.	LAFARGUE Isabelle	FC OLORON (64)	47.558 km
4.	STINDEL Yann	ST SEURIN DE PALENNE (17)	45.310 km
5.	GOMIS Oriane	BISCARROSSE OLYMPIQUE (40)	45.310 km
6.	EHRET Sarah	LE TEICH (33)	45.310 km
7.	LOUBERE Fabienne	BISCARROSSE OLYMPIQUE (40)	45.310 km
8.	BOTTAIS Régis	LA SALUCEENNE (33)	44.186 km
9.	MEDICI Christian	SAINT JEAN DU FALGA (09)	40.814 km
10.	BRAS Stéphanie	LABASTIDE SAINT SERNIN (31)	38.566 km
11.	MAZIERES Philippe	ATHLETIC CLUB LAURAGAIS (31)	36.318 km
12.	BELLANCA Valerie	BRUGUIERES (31)	35.194 km
13.	OUF Patrick	CAMPARAN (65)	34.070 km
14.	DENAT Josette	ATHLE EXPIRE LE 08/02/2027 (31)	30.698 km
15.	SAINTOST Nadine	ACFA TOULOUSE (31)	28.450 km
16.	PETIT Annick	ACFA TOULOUSE 31 (31)	27.326 km
17.	ROBIN Guilaine	ARAT RANDONNEE PEDESTRE (31)	25.078 km
18.	PETIT Pascal	POUCHARRAMET (31)	18.334 km
19.	CABROL Chrystelle	ACFA TOULOUSE (31)	16.086 km
20.	BOUE Bernard	ACFA TOULOUSE (31)	9.342 km

A NEW FILE FROM EMMANUEL TARDI

This sounds a bit like the Emmanuel Tardi newsletter, with him providing all 3 race reports as well as a new statistics file for the website. And it's a beauty, with a comprehensive list of long distance walk results from the XIX century to now. To check it out, navigate to page <http://centurions.org.au/centranks.shtml> and scroll down until you find Emmanuel's many fine stats files. Click on the *Grand Fond Marche* link and the spreadsheet will be downloaded to your PC.

	memories.
Ch France 20km Anglais.pdf	And now with the same sort of huge effort, Emmanuel has gathered the complete results of all the French National 20km Championships for Men (including U23 and Masters races) : 1893-2023
200km marche piste -24h.pdf	All time ranking list - 200km in under 24 Hours (last updated October 2024)
00-Tour d'Alsace V5.pdf	The Tour d'Alsace was a very famous long distane walking race in France. In total, 48 instances were held between 1935 and 1992. The format included multiple stages (sometimes 3 in a day) spread over a week. Famous winners included Gilbert Roger, Florimont Cornet, Henri Caron, Roger Quemener and Gregorz Urbanowski. This document has the complete results from all 48 races.
Grand Fond Marche (xlsx file)	A huge long distance walk results file which captures most races from the XIX century onwards (over 30,000 entries in excel format). A monumental effort by Emmanuel! Last updated March 2026

The file includes 30000 results and, being in excel format, it is searchable and can be massaged into various sort formats. Emmanuel acknowledges that it is by no means complete and he hopes to keep adding to it over time.

It starts with the 1892 Paris-Balfort race, one I had never heard off. And there are lots of others from the early days that are new to me. It is a great addition to our ever growing ultra distance walking library.

The very first name on the list is New Zealander **Kate Wiltshire** who in 1876 became the first NZ woman to cover 100 miles in 24 hours. This was of course back in the days of pedestrianism and was one of many early female walking marks. Some of the other performances that spring to mind from this period include those of Mary Frith (1815), Esther Crozier (1817), Emma Freeman (1823), Mary McMullen (1826-27) and Mary Kelynack (1851), not to mention Australian Margaret Douglas (1858 onwards).

Emmanuel's document does not try to include the performances of these pedestriennes (or their male pedestrian counterparts). Rather, apart from including Kate Wiltshire, he restricts himself to performances done in documented races held under the more stringent scrutiny that came about in the early days of modern athletics.

But since he does include Kate Wiltshire, I thought I should talk a little about her.

KATE WILTSHIRE – NEW ZEALAND PEDESTRIENNE

Born Kate Rider, she was the daughter of a British Army private and came from St Pancras, London. At 19 she met Berkshire-born 30-year-old railways plate layer Joseph Lewis Wiltshire on the immigrant ship *Pleiades* in 1872. They married in 1873 in Christchurch, four months after arriving.

Joseph Wiltshire had been an English long-distance pedestrian and he encouraged the petite Kate (44 kg) into competition in New Zealand. She appeared in a snappy costume free of the prevailing restrictions in women's dress and, with Joseph, did her bit to raise the tone of the sport often associated with rowdy public house betting. It was one of the few activities where men and women could openly compete against each other. Kate's finest achievement was covering 100 miles in Auckland in 1876 making good her advertised status as 'The Greatest Female Pedestrienne in the World'.

As an interesting side note, she was a great great grandmother of former NZ Prime Minister Jacinda Adern.

The only known sketch of Kate from her walking days is the following one, based on a photograph that was sent to the popular British weekly *Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News*, and shows her in the walking costume in which she completed her 100 miles in 24 hours. (around a track on the inside of the City Hall Theatre on Auckland's Queen Street).



David Colquhoun has published a detailed and very readable biography of Kate which can be accessed at <https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/periodicals/TLR20130101.2.7>. It is well worth a read.

2025 AUSTRALIAN CENTURIONS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our 2025 Australian Centurions AGM was held in Melbourne on Sunday 22nd February, followed by a very pleasant luncheon. We confirmed our Club Executive and Committee for the next 2 years – no changes, still the same faces!

Club Executive	President Vice President Treasurer Secretary	Terry O'Neill (C18) David Billett (C 50) Stuart Cooper (C 5) Tim Erickson (C13)
General Committee	Records and Rankings Officer Assistant Secretary General members of Committee	Tim Erickson (C13) - Karyn O'Neill (C45) Michelle Thompson (C58) Pramesh Prasad (C 81)

Thanks to everyone who continues to put their hands up and help us run the club.



*Centurions luncheon: Bill Dyer (C15), Michelle Thompson (C58), Clarrie Jack (C4), Tim Erickson (C13)
Karyn O'Neill (C45), Terry O'Neill (C18), Stuart Cooper (C5) and Ian Jack (C4)*

UNTIL OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER

Lots of news in this newsletter and more to come later this month. Consider what's happening in the next few weeks:

Mar 20-22	Sri Chinmoy 48 Hour Track Race (48H, 24H, etc)	Canberra, ACT
Mar 21-22	NZ Sri Chinmoy 24 Hour Track Championship	Auckland, NZ
Mar 28-29	24 Heures de Château-Thierry	Château-Thierry, FRA
Mar 30 – Apr 5	NZ 6 Day Ultra Marathon	Christchurch, NZ

I can't be everywhere but I'll be in Canberra for the Sri Chinmoy weekend and am looking forward to catching some great performances.

Until our next newsletter, keep well and keep walking!

With kind regards

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