

CENTURION FOOTNOTES

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DATES...DATES...DATES

The 2016 ultra racing calendar is filled with lots of challenging events for walkers. Some of the key dates are shown below. In addition, the AURA calendar shows quite a few additional Australian ultra events that may suit serious ultra walkers – check it out at <http://www.aura.asn.au/events.html>.

Feb 27-28, 2016	24 Heures de Bourges	Bourges, FRA
Sun Mar 7, 2016	Coburg 6 Hour Track Championships	Coburg, VIC
Mar 18-20, 2016	Inaugural 48H/24H/12H/100km/6H Track Races See http://cbr.48hr.ktkc.com.au/	AIS Track, Canberra, ACT
Mar 26-27, 2016	24 Heures de Chateau Thierry	Chateau Thierry, FRA
Apr 16-17, 2016	Coburg 24 Hour Track Championships 2016 Australian Centurions 24H Qualifier See http://www.coburg24hr.org/24hr/	Coburg, VIC
Apr 23-24, 2016	24 Heures de Dijon	Dijon, FRA
May 14-15, 2016	2016 Continental Centurion 24H Qualifier See http://www.rotterdamsewandelsportvereniging.nl/index.php?page=rwv-wandelweekend-english	Schiedam, NED
June 1-4, 2016	Paris-Alsace Classic	Paris-Alsace, FRA
Jun 18-19, 2016	Sri Chinmoy 24 Hour, 12 Hour & 6 Hour Track Race	Campbelltown, NSW
Jun 30, 2016	Start of 2016 Swedish Fotrally (http://www.fotrally.se/)	Sweden
Aug 6-7, 2016	105th English Centurions 100 mile qualifier (Redcar RWC) See http://www.centurions1911.org.uk/redcar-100-miles.html	Redcar, Teeside
Sept 24-25, 2016	2016 USA Centurions 24H Qualifier Enter at https://raceroster.com/events/2016/7132/not-just-a-walk-in-the-park See also https://www.facebook.com/NotJustAWalkInThePark/?fref=ts	Owega, NY
Sept 17-18, 2016	Roubaix 28 Hours Walk	Roubaix, FRA
Oct 1-2, 2016	New Zealand Sri Chinmoy 24 Hour Championship Incorporating the 2016 New Zealand Centurions 24H Qualifier	Auckland, NZ

Close to home, our **2016 Australian Centurions qualifier** is gazetted for the weekend of 16-17 April, on the track at Coburg (Melbourne). We also have a Coburg 6 Hour Track Championship 6 weeks before, on Sunday 7th March. Entries are already open and the field is building. You can enter at <http://www.coburg24hr.org/24hr/>.

All 5 Centurion qualifiers have now been set (see above for further details and websites)

Apr 16-17, 2016	2016 Australian Centurions 24H Qualifier	Coburg, VIC
May 14-15, 2016	2016 Continental Centurion 24H Qualifier	Schiedam, NED
Aug 6-7, 2016	2016 English Centurions 100 mile qualifier	Redcar, Teeside
Sept 24-25, 2016	2016 USA Centurions 24H Qualifier	Owega, NY
Oct 1-2, 2016	2016 New Zealand Centurions 24H Qualifier	Auckland, NZ

OUT AND ABOUT

I must pass on the sad news that **Stan Jones (C 10)** died on the evening of Monday 11th January in Perth. He was in a nursing home, having been transferred back and forward between there and a number of hospitals in the previous two months. He had terminal cancer and the end was a relief from what was a very testing time for him and his family. He was 90 years of age and, along with Mike Porter who is also 90, occupied a special place in our club as one of our two elder statesmen. The funeral is expected to be next week. We are thinking of Stan's family at this time.

I include an obituary to Stan later in this newsletter.

I had a few good chats over the Christmas period via email with **Fred Brooks (C 42)**, now resident in England. I have extracted a few bits and pieces for our older centurions who will all know Fred

*I had another couple of bouts in hospital with Quinceys which is in a way swollen tonsils where you cannot eat or swallow, very painful indeed, this is the third time in about 15 months. I had it my childhood and teens ,but never in Australia so I reckon it is a pommie disease. This year has been a year of reflection for me. 75 years ago, when over 3.000,000 million English children were upsurged from their families and sent on the evacuation, I was one along with my two elder sisters. Every month we meet at a pub in Birmingham to talk about those dark days which hopefully will never happen again. It's also the first anniversary on the demise of my old mate **Stan Miskin (C 23)**. I can still vividly remember when he said that he would help me get my Centurion Badge. On arrival on his door step on the first day of training, this is what Stan said to me and I quote "Well son I am going to add what my coach said to me but being where you're from, I have added a few words of my own. I said to Stan what are the instructions and he replied "Walk you Pommie Bastard Walk". What a great piece of advice! I wish all the members of the club a merry xmas and a Happy New Year, Fred.*

I also heard from **Carol Baird (C 39)** who has completed a couple of iconic long walks during the 2015 year – the [Heyson Trail](#) in South Australia and the [South Coast Track](#) in Tasmania. Great to see Carol still doing so much.

Last May/June I returned to South Australia to complete walking the Heyson Trail, the northern section I walked in 2013 and to complete the 1200 km journey stretching from Parachilna Gorge in the north to Cape Jervis in the south. The southern section was from Spaulding to Cape Jervis, it took 5 weeks, back packing carrying all my gear. I am still running the Six Foot race and 2015 saw my third best time in nine races, 5h33m, I trained really hard to pull up uninjured and in good condition as I flew to Tasmania the following Tuesday after the race to do the South Coast Wilderness walk, it is considered one of the hardest walks. Although it was only eight days it was a completely satisfying and exhilarating experience and yes one of the hardest walks I have done. I am into training again for my 10th Six Foot Race, it certainly gets harder as you get older but I am happy to still be running well. I would love to have another go at an ultra walk, the last effort I tried in Melbourne my back caught up with me, I now get my back taped for all my long races and it really does help. If I knew that when I last walked in Melbourne, it may have been a different outcome, who knows??

Sandra Brown (C 36) is another one always on the move. She emailed to say she “was just home from a Dorset LDWA group social walk through lovely countryside made very wet by the rain we’ve been having, but under fine skies - great gathering of the group for the first walk of the year. Straight in to the bath, pile of muddy socks left behind in the porch!

A number of us joined club president Terry O'Neill's family in helping **Terry (C 18)** celebrate his 60th birthday on Sunday 10th January in Melbourne. We were very pleased to welcome English Centurion **C-984 Peter Ryan** who is currently visiting Australia.



Peter Ryan (C 984), Ian Jack (C 17), Tim Erickson (C 13), Bill Dyer (C 15), Terry O'Neill (C 18), Karyn O'Neill (C 45), Clarrie Jack (C 4)

Lois and I were very chuffed last week to see our son Chris officially announced as part of the 2016 Australian Olympic team. Chris won the 50km selection trial in the 2015 Australian Championship in December in Melbourne, thus guaranteeing his spot. It is his third Olympics, having competed in 2008 and 2012. We are now planning our trip to Rio in August this year. Exciting times!



Chris competing in the 2015 World Championships in Beijing last August

VALE STAN JONES (C 10): 12/08/1925 – 11/01/2016

C10. Stan Jones
18-19 October 1975
22:04:59
George Knott Athletic Field, Clifton Hill, Victoria

Stan Jones, who was born in England in 1925, became a runner at a young age, competing for Polytechnic Harriers in London and representing Great Britain in the 1948 Olympics marathon in London. His Olympic debut was a torrid race for Stan, who was 7 days shy of his 23rd birthday at the time - he was the final finisher, in 30th place, with a time of 3:09:16. The route chosen for that marathon was one of the most gruelling designed - the only flat sections were the laps of the track at the start and finish. Outside the stadium, the route went steadily uphill from Wembley, through Stanmore, Edgware and Mill Hill and then on through the fields of Radlett to Elstree Cross, a climb of over 300 feet before the runners began their descent at Watling Street. This, combined with the sultry weather and strong winds, wrought havoc. Overall, none of the favourites finished in the top 10 and, of the 41 starters, only 30 finished.

He continued running socially for many years, although this remained the high point of his career. Work and marriage and family now took centre stage. He was a member of the British army for some 20 years, training as an elite SAS paratrooper. A man's man, he even survived briefly being a POW in East Germany, escaping by diving into a frozen river from a truck while crossing a bridge while tied up!

Some years ago, he sent me some details on the time he marched in the Nijmegen 3 day march in Holland in 1953. It illustrates Stan's enthusiastic approach to life.

As I said, I did it in an Army team. I was a Sergeant in the Parachute Regiment in those days and they billeted us in the Dutch Army Barracks at Nijmegen for one week.

On the first morning, we were starting at 7AM but many people had already started. There were people everywhere and this went on for 4 days. It was truly a wonderful experience. We found ourselves walking with an Israeli Team. They had 2 girls in the team and they were the fittest people I have ever seen. When we stopped for lunch, all the blokes collapsed in their packs and these 2 girls danced around playing guitars. It's hard to

believe but after a 30 minute break, all those blokes would get up moaning but the girls would sling the guitars over their backs and away we would go. Remember that the army teams wore boots, gaiter webbing and rifles. It was hard but great.

If I remember correctly, there were 4000 walkers. We covered some beautiful countryside along the Rhine. The oldest walker was a Dutch man 91 YEARS OLD and he never misses one. And he did it in DUTCH CLOGS made out of wood - with no socks on. He was simply fantastic. We had the pleasure of meeting him - a lovely man.

Stan married Barbara in 1946 in the aftermath of the Second World War, a marriage that lasted for some 60 years, until Barbara's death in the early 2000's.

Stan and Barbara migrated to Australia in the mid-sixties with their family and settled in Melbourne. As someone who had always kept fit, it was natural that he should look for an outlet for his enthusiasm. He joined St Stephen's Harriers soon afterwards and was a regular A Grader in Interclub in Melbourne. He was also a regular racewalking judge and now mixed racewalking with his running.

Stan completed his 100 mile walk in 1975 at 50 years of age at the George Knott Athletics Track in Clifton Hill. At that time, his son was ill and he drove across to WA, picked him up, drove him back to Melbourne and then did the 100 miler. This meant that he went for 5 days with literally no sleep - and the last 24 hours of this marathon was the worst of the lot (as we all know). So that makes Stan's 100 miler even more remarkable.

This period coincided with a golden period of walking in Victoria with a large number of active distance walkers. This led to the largest field yet seen for the Centurion event with 21 starters. The weather was cool to cold during the night hours of the Saturday night with light rain on the Sunday morning before clearing to fine weather for the finish. These ideal conditions helped all competitors and the race saw 4 finishers and a new Australian record over the intermediate distance of 50 miles.

The race was started by Cr. George Knott of the Collingwood City Council on the radio time 'pips' at 6.00 p.m, on Saturday 18th October. Excellent facilities were provided by the Collingwood Harriers in their dressing rooms, shower and canteen facilities and the public address system was used extensively to acquaint competitors of their progressive times. Stan led for most of the race but had to lower his colours to Mike Porter in the closing stages, crossing the finish line second in 22:04:59 and becoming Australian Centurion number 10. The finishing list read as follows

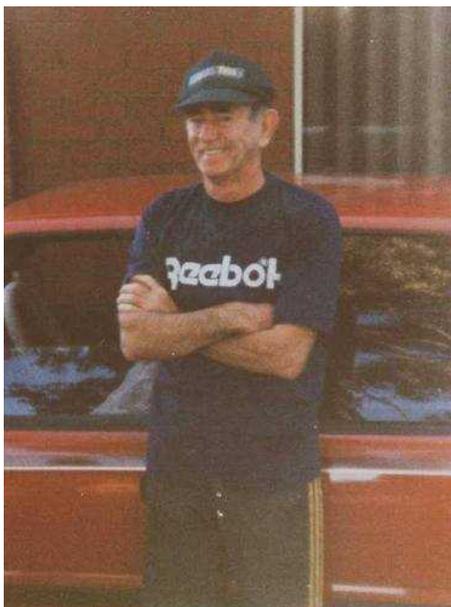
C9.	Mike Porter	50	Frankston A. A. Club.	21:45:47
C10.	Stan Jones	50	St. Stephens Harriers.	22:04:59
C11	Chris Clegg	58	USA	22:34:14
C12.	John Harris	25	Queensland	23:18:15



Stan Jones in action at Clifton Hill in 1975

Upon retirement, Stan moved to Western Australia where he now took up coaching. Amongst his protégées was a young Graham Watt who would eventually move to Melbourne and become an Australian Centurion himself. It says a

lot about the man that the youngsters he trained over there in the 80's and 90's held him in high regard and continued their contact with him long after their own athletics careers had finished.



Stan at Kewdale, Perth, in 1993 (photo Jonathan Philips)

With the lure of Masters athletics, he resumed racing, competing for a number of years at State level and occasionally travelling interstate to Australian Masters competitions. He regularly won golds and silvers at both State and National level and still holds a large number of Western Australian Masters walk records which I have listed below. The best of them is definitely his M60 20km which stands at an impressive 1:55:43. Always fit, he was still capable of finishing 30km walk races in his 70's.

Current Western Australian Masters records – Stan Jones

M60 20km Walk	1:55:43
M75 10km Walk	1:08.18
M75 1500m Walk	9:28.1
M75 3000m Walk	19:25.5
M75 5000m Walk	33:31.8
M80 10km Walk	1:11:42
M80 1500m Walk	9:43.6
M80 3000m Walk	20:36.4
M80 5000m Walk	34:08.6
M85 1500m Walk	11:30.27
M85 3000m Walk	23:37.3
M85 5000m Walk	40:20.0

His last two major meets were in 2009 when he won two M80 golds in the Aust Masters T&F Champs in Adelaide (5000m 38:23 and 10km 1:18:28) and in 2010 when he won three M80 silvers in the Australian Masters T&F Champs in Perth (1500m 11:01, 5000m 38:18 and 10km 1:19:24).

It was then time to hang up the shoes.

We will remember Stan as an Olympian, as a Centurion, as a racewalker and coach, but most of all we will remember the man. Vale Stan Jones.

Tim Erickson
January 2016

JOHN KILMARTIN KEEPS UP A BUSY RACING SCHEDULE

John Kilmartin (C 67) is definitely our hardest working centurion at the moment – he just keeps popping up in races literally every month. As mentioned in our last newsletter, he was in New Zealand in early October for the NZ Centurions annual qualifying walk. He was back in action 4 weeks later, walking an excellent **4:57:19** in the Portland 3 Bays Marathon in country Victoria in early November. That is an excellent marathon walk time and confirmed that John had bounced back well from his disappointment in the New Zealand Centurions qualifier.

Then a couple of weeks later he was back in New Zealand for their 50km roadwalk championship on Saturday 21st Nov November. He had competed in this event in 2014 and had won in just on 6 hours in atrocious conditions. He was no doubt hoping that the weather would be better in 2015 but this was not the case as once again walkers battled rainy, cold and very windy weather on the seaside course in the Auckland suburb of Devonport. The 2015 50km event, which started first at 7AM, featured John along with NZ walkers Mark Gray and Graeme Jones. Graeme was well ahead throughout until forced to stop around 35km, meaning that John was the first finisher once again. His time of **6:03:55** was pretty good considering the conditions.

NZ Open Men 50km Championship

John Kilmartin (C 67)	Australia	6:03:25
Mark Gray	Tauranga Ramblers	6:46:24
Graeme Jones	Napier Athletics Club	DNF



John Kilmartin competing in New Zealand in November 2015

Fast forward a further 6 weeks and John was back in action the Narrabeen All-Nighter, a 12 Hour run/walk event that is held each year in Narrabeen, NSW. This year's event, which was held on the weekend of 1-2 January 2016, saw John come 16th against the field of runners with a total distance of **71km** (11:53:05). He was powering through well early but must have encountered a few issues as his total distance was down on his more recent wonderful walks.

I am sure that John will bounce back quickly from this minor setback. I am reminded of the old saying “You can't keep a good man down”.

24 THE HARD WAY, OKLAHMA CITY, USA, 24 OCTOBER 2015

USA Centurion walker **Rob Robertson**, who has entered our 2016 Australian Centurions walk at Coburg, was in action in late October, walking in the 12 Hour event at the *24 The Hard Way* race in Bluff Creek Park, Oklahoma City, OK. For the record he completed an excellent **92.698km**. This was a prelude to another 24 Hour walk effort a month later in Texas (see below).

What was even more exciting was to hear that USA Centurion walker **Ivo Majetic** walked in the 24 Hour division,

finishing with a distance of 108 miles. It was his first race in some 15 years and came on top of only 2½ months training. Both excellent efforts. More info at event website <http://friendsofmultisport.com/event/24-the-hard-way>.

I chatted via email with Ivo who responded as follows

I was glad that I did 100+ miles in my first race after so long break but I am still too far from my best results from the nineties. I hope I will do better in spring. Thank you for invitation for the Australian Centurion. Right now I would like to focus on walking 20 km in 24 hours, possible do another Paris-Alsace race and possibly 100 miles in Owego, NY in Sep 2016. I am not saying no to Australian Centurion but I cannot fit it in my race plan for spring 2016.

For the record, Ivo completed the Paris-Colmar classic 4 times during the nineties, representing the Czech Republic on each occasion. He now lives in America.

1993	47 th Paris-Colmar	518km	10 th	71 hrs 55 mins
1996	50 th Paris-Colmar	520km	3 rd	64 hrs 23 mins
1997	51 st Paris-Colmar	534km	3 rd	66 hrs 44 mins
1999	53 rd Paris-Colmar	521km	10 th	72 hrs 03 mins

2015 ULTRACENTRIC ULTRA RUN, MEADOWMERE PARK, GRAPEVINE, TEXAS, 19-22 NOVEMBER

The Ultracentric, which has been held annually for nearly 30 years now, is a huge affair over 3 days with races of 72 hours, 48 hours, 24 hour, 12 hours and 6 hours. While is is principally a running event, we do see the occasional walker participate and this time around the flag was waved by 52 year old USA Centurion walker **Rob Robertson**.

In last year's Ultrcentric, Rob had contested the 12 Hour division and walked an excellent 90.123km. Earlier this year he competed in the USA Centurions qualifying event in Minneapolis in June, successfully reaching the 100 mile mark in 22:37:49 to become USA Centurion number 78. This year's Ultrcentric 24 Hour event was his second 100 mile attempt and it proved a lot tougher than his first - rather than tell you what happened, you can read all about it in his blog at <http://www.walk100miles24hours.com/2015/11/22/2015-ultracentric-24-hour/>. Well done Rob on a truly gutsy performance.



Rob Robertson in action in an Oklahoma 12 Hour last month – he walked a PB 92.698km on that occasion

MKH KAJANG 12HOUR INTERNATIONAL WALK 2015, KAJANG, MALAYSIA, 12-13 DECEMBER

The Malaysia 12 Hour had its normal December scheduling again in 2015 but was held in a different venue, moving from Seremban to Kajan, just outside Kuala Lumpur. As usual, it was held overnight which makes sense when you consider that KL is on the equator and hence hot all year round. The race was held over a 1km road loop and saw a huge number of walkers (over 300 in the 12H). The concept is a bit different to other walking races in that each time

you receive a red card, you are docked a lap. That gives you plenty of incentive to walk well – losing a kilometre off your total distance is a pretty tough penalty!

This year, the walkers had to battle rain at times and hence the total distances were a little down on previous years – the winning distances were 90km (men) and 79 km (women). You can see plenty of great photos at https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipOxnLhpdPk8TEzmADr-hxFuZDoip6-V-q5A_0avsLLbFRnyE0yrx9YLWQ_A8-rzYw?key=ZUZTX3A2dFhGUW9FUW9ITmdNNFVhM182T2O5Oktm.

Excellent summary article at <http://www.thestar.com.my/metro/scoreboard/2015/12/21/hattrick-of-wins-for-norliana-armed-forces-lass-wins-in-three-categories-at-12hour-walk-in-kajang/>.

Full results at <http://www.racewalkermalaysia.com/> - I post the first 20 below.

12 Hour Women (first 20 of 153)		Laps	Cards	Final	Time
1.	NORLIANA BINTI MOHD RUSNI	80	1	79 km	11:53:35
2.	CHANG I-YIN	75	0	75 km	11:53:08
3.	TAN BOON GAIK	74	0	74 km	12:00:10
4.	ANN CHUA	71	1	70 km	11:51:16
5.	YEN YI CHOY	70	0	70 km	11:52:56
6.	ANNETTE CHOONG CHEW LEE	69	0	69 km	11:52:49
7.	WONG CHOI YUEN	68	0	68 km	11:53:08
8.	SIOW YUN MEE	65	2	63 km	12:00:10
9.	CHOI KAM HAR	62	1	61 km	09:25:40
10.	CHAN CHOON MUI	61	0	61 km	11:53:09
11.	T.YOKESWARI A/P S.THURASINGAM	58	0	58 km	11:51:54
12.	WAI KUAN GOH	55	0	55 km	09:13:30
13.	YAP LEE YEEN	55	0	55 km	10:50:57
14.	CHEUNG HANG PING FIONA	54	0	54 km	12:00:09
15.	CH'NG TENG TENG	53	0	53 km	10:35:06
16.	CHOOI FERN LOH (PENNY)	52	0	52 km	06:34:09
17.	MAYBEL CHUNG	52	0	52 km	11:47:24
18.	LEE SIEW WUI	51	0	51 km	10:52:30
19.	SIM SOO FONG	51	0	51 km	10:52:30
20.	CHOO YUEN LENG	51	0	51 km	10:58:15

12 Hour Men (first 20 of 171)		Laps	Cards	Final	Time
1.	MOHD NOR AZUAN BIN MD NOR	92	2	90 km	11:54:49
2.	FRANCISCUS LEIJTENS	90	0	90 km	12:00:15
3.	PETER JAMES BACK	90	2	88 km	11:52:03
4.	MICHAEL CHARLES CAMPANIELLO	88	0	88 km	11:59:20
5.	ENG HUP BOH	82	1	81 km	11:49:55
6.	LO YAU WING	81	0	81 km	12:00:12
7.	SIVA SUBRAMANIAM A/L V.GURWANAI DU	77	0	77 km	12:00:11
8.	FOONG FATT HENG	74	0	74 km	12:00:10
9.	CHUA ENG SIONG	76	3	73 km	11:52:50
10.	SURESH KUMAR GOOBINNAAN	74	1	73 km	12:00:14
11.	OLIVER KER	72	0	72 km	11:53:09
12.	KRISHNAN A/L RENGASAMY	72	0	72 km	12:00:10
13.	ABD WAHID BIN KASSIM	71	0	71 km	12:00:18
14.	HANSEN CHUA CHIN SHEN	70	0	70 km	11:36:41
15.	DR DEVINDER SINGH	70	0	70 km	12:00:17
16.	GUANDASAMY A/L SINNASAMY	69	0	69 km	12:00:11
17.	PARAMESWARAN A/L GOVINDASAMY	69	0	69 km	12:00:16
18.	LIEW KAT SEONG	68	0	68 km	12:00:10
19.	AZMAN BIN ABDULLAH	67	0	67 km	11:50:35
20.	YEOW KOCK CHENG	67	0	67 km	12:00:15



Walkers in action in Kajang

THE 2015 GORDON SMITH MEMORIAL AWARD IS AWARDED TO

This annual award, named after Australian Centurion Number 1, is awarded for the **Best Australian Ultra Distance Walking Performance of the Year**. Award criteria are as follows

1. It is restricted to performances done in Australia.
2. It is awarded for the best SINGLE performance.
3. All Australian Centurions will vote on a short list of performances, as proposed by the Executive.

Previous winners are	2005 Deryck Skinner (C 51) 2007 Terry O'Neill (C 18) 2009 Peter Bennett (C 24) 2011 Michelle Thompson (C 58) 2013 Tim Erickson (C 13)	2006 Stan Miskin (C 23) 2008 Deryck Skinner (C 51) 2010 Peter Bennett (C 24) 2012 Barry Loveday (C 62) 2014 Michelle Thompson (C 58)
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As is always the case, we had a number of very worthy local nominations in 2015 and it was tough to whittle it down to four. But our Executive did come up with 4 nominees which are listed below in date order.

- **Robin Whyte (C 29) - M70 6 Hour Walk - 50.741 km**
The 2015 Coburg 6 Hour Walk Championships, held at the George Knott Athletics Track in Clifton Hill on Sunday 9th March, saw 73 year old Robin Whyte (C 29) win the men's walk with an Australian M70 group record distance of 50.741km. Robin has set a string of age records through the younger age groups over past years but this was his first longer walk for a few years. He showed he has lost none of his stylish walking.
- **Karyn O'Neill (C 45) - W60 6 Hour Walk - 46.032 km**
Also walking in the 2015 Coburg 6 Hour Walk Championships, 60 year old Karyn O'Neill (C 45) completed a splendid 46.032km to set a new W60 record. She then went on in the Coburg 24 Hour event to set a new W60 12 Hour record and then had her best ever winter season of walking with the Victorian Race Walking Club. It has indeed been an excellent year for Karyn but her 6 Hour performance stands out as her finest.
- **Michelle Thompson (C 58) - new 100km and 12 Hours W45 and Open records**
Michelle Thompson (C 58) was in top shape at the annual Coburg 24 Hour Championships, held in Melbourne on 18-19 April 2015. She dominated the first 12 hours, powering through well ahead of anyone else and on record pace. She was rewarded with Australian Open/W45 records for 100km (11:38:04) and 12 Hours (103.209km), performances which only a small number of Aussie men have ever matched. She then stopped to have her feet checked and decided to retire on advice as the rain had wreaked havoc with her toes and it was a case of stop now or do some real damage. But it was already a case of a job well done as she had set some superb standards that are sure to last.

- **John Kilmartin (C 67) - Australian Centurion Number 68 - 21:11:56**

If the first 12 hours at the annual Coburg 24 Hour race belonged to Michelle Thompson, the second 12 hours belonged to 63 year old Ballarat walker John Kilmartin. Attempting his first 24 hour walk, he powered through to his 100 miles with almost unbelievable consistency, never more than 1-2 seconds variation from lap to lap. His 50 mile splits tell the story: 10:33 followed by 10:38 for a final 100 mile time of 21:11:56, becoming Australian Centurion 68 into the bargain. He then walked a couple of extra laps for insurance purposes and called it quits, job done for the day. A very impressive first up effort indeed!

Our centurions have now completed voting and I am very pleased to announce that our 2015 winner is **John Kilmartin (C 67)**. We will be presenting the perpetual trophy to John at our AGM on Sunday 31st January in Melbourne.

THE 2015 CENTURIONS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IS UPON US

As announced separately, the 2015 Australian Centurions AGM will be held at the Leighoak Club, 1555 Dandenong Road, Oakleigh (Melbourne) on Sunday 31 January 2016, commencing at noon and followed by lunch. The main item of business will be the election of a new Executive and Committee to lead the club for the next 2 years. The following nominations have been received

Club Executive	President	Terry O'Neill (C18)
	Vice President	Robin Whyte (C29)
	Treasurer	Lois Erickson
	Secretary	Tim Erickson (C13)
General Committee	Up to two general members of Committee	Karyn O'Neill (C45)

Please advise our Secretary Tim Erickson by Monday 24th January if you wish to attend. We need to confirm numbers for our luncheon booking.

Acceptances can be done via email (terick@melbpc.org.au) or telephone (0412 257 496) or via mail to

Secretary, Australian Centurion Walkers Inc.
1 Avoca Cres
Pascoe Vale
Victoria, 3044, Australia

FINANCIAL NEWS

With our financial year now just closed (as of 31 December 2015), we finish with a bank balance of \$837.51, thanks to a very generous donation from **Fred Brooks (C 42)** in England. With our 2016 centurion qualifying events quickly coming up and with the usual regular yearly costs to meet, now is the time for all members to make their annual contribution towards the running of the club. Remember we have no annual membership fee but rely on the good will of our centurions to keep the club going financially.

Income	Bank Interest	0.19
	Fred Brooks – donation	478.00
	Tim Erickson – donation	100.00
Expenditure	Purchase of 2016 RWA 100km Championship medals	45.00
	Postage costs	<u>14.00</u>
Balance		\$837.51

UNTIL OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER

The last 12 months have seen some sad times for us. **Stan Miskin (C 23)** died on 21st Dec 2014, **Steve Jordan (C 64)** died on 15th Dec 2014 and **Geoff Peters (C 20)** died on 21st February 2015. And just as I write this, I learn of the passing of **Stan Jones (C 10)**. This new year is a time for us to reflect on their contribution to our small but elite club and to remember them and all our other members and ultra friends. We form a special community united in our enjoyment in walking. May we have many more years of this joy filled activity.

Yours in Centurion walking

Tim Erickson (C 13), 1 Avoca Cres, Pascoe Vale, Victoria, Australia, 3044