

COBURG 24 HOUR CARNIVAL
HAROLD STEVENS ATHLETICS TRACK, COBURG,
9-10 APRIL 2022

Our 2022 Coburg 24 Hour Carnival saw a very healthy entry list of 110 athletes (83 runners and 27 walkers). Not everyone makes it to the start line each year and 2022 was no exception, with 95 athletes (70 runners and the 25 walkers) making it to the start line.

The Carnival boasted a variety of events – 24 Hour, 12 Hour, 6 Hour and Marathon – and saw us playing host as usual to the Victorian 24 Hour Track Championship.

Daytime conditions were perhaps a bit too warm, with temperatures peaking around 26C on Saturday before cooling to a pleasant 15C on Saturday night. Sunday dawned warm and sunny, ensuring more demanding conditions for our tired runners and walkers.

In the women's 24 Hour Run, new Zealander **Jaime Stevenson** led the field for the first couple of hours, before **Christy Lambert** caught and passed her. From then on, it was Christy all the way, passing the 12 hour mark with 100.8km and eventually reaching a final distance of 175.348km in her first ever 24 hour run. **Fleur Douy** passed Jaime at the 14 hour mark and went on to take second with 166.592km, a lot further than last year. Jaime held on well to take third with 158.533km.

In the men's 24 Hour Run, **Dion Finocchiaro** started like a train, intent on challenging his 6 hour and 100km PBs. He passed the 4 hour mark with 59.2km and looked on schedule for some great times. But it had been hot and Dion had been running hard, a combination that proved too much for him. He slowed in the fifth hour and eventually retired at 80km, reached in 5 hours and 38 minutes. With him now gone from the race, it was **Simon Austin** who found himself in the lead, ahead of **David Patterson** and **Phil Ryan**. Simon passed the 12 hour mark with 106km, around 10km ahead of David and Phil, and it was a case of just how big his win would be. He finished with 193.331km, nearly 17km ahead of Phil (176.582km) who had passed David in the final couple of hours, David finishing third with 163.596km.

24 Hour Run Women

1.	Christy Lambert	VIC	175.348 km
2.	Fleur Douy	VIC	166.592 km
3.	Jaime Stevenson	NZL	158.533 km
4.	Heather Christison	NSW	143.842 km
5.	Karen Chan	NSW	127.988 km
6.	Annmarie Darcy	VIC	126.225 km
7.	Cassie Smith	QLD	72.869 km

24 Hour Run Men

1.	Simon Austin	VIC	193.331 km
2.	Phil Ryan	VIC	176.582 km
3.	David Patterson	VIC	163.596 km
4.	Scott Marden	NSW	151.286 km
5.	Dean Metcalf	TAS	150.674 km
6.	Luke McDougall	VIC	138.024 km
7.	Jason Williams	VIC	131.063 km
8.	John Timms	VIC	118.013 km
9.	Colin Tickner	VIC	114.494 km
10.	Jared Truscott	VIC	101.187 km
11.	Dylan Joseph	NSW	91.356 km
12.	Ryan O'Hara	QLD	91.078 km
13.	Liam Green	VIC	89.600 km
14.	Shai Waitford	VIC	85.843 km
15.	Bill Bardsley	VIC	81.282 km
16.	Jason Hyde	VIC	80.000 km
17.	Dion Finocchiaro	VIC	80.000 km
18.	Duc Do	VIC	63.035 km
19.	Ken Marsh	VIC	62.205 km
20.	Tom Henderson	VIC	55.200 km
21.	Adam Miller	VIC	54.000 km

The 24 Hour Walk included 13 men and 4 women and boasted five international walkers of repute, all Centurions in their own countries (**Remy Van Den Brand** and **Arie Kandelaars** of the Netherlands, **Andrew Titley** of the Isle of Man and **Erin and Dave Talcott** of USA). Add in Australian Centurions **Sharon and Justin Scholz**, **Pramesh Prasad** and **David Billett** and we were going to be in for some very competitive and high quality walking.

In the women's 24 Hour walk, Erin led out, with Sharon always within a lap of so. Alas, the American started to suffer after 6 hours and surrendered the lead to Sharon. By the 8 hour mark, she had been forced to retire, leaving it to Sharon to power through to her 9th centurion finish, reaching the 100 mile mark in just under 23 hours. Content with her day's work, she then retired. Further back, NSW walker **Linda Christison** was intent on her own centurion qualification. Things looked good at the half way mark – she had covered 87km in the first 12 hours and only needed 74km in the second half. Alas, the wheels fell off at the 20 hour mark with her goal in sight, as her Parkinson's Disease kicked in, and she was forced off the track. To her credit, she came back on after recovering, eventually completing 149.136km in the 24 hours. It was so disappointing for her.

The men's 24 Hour Walk also had its own dramas, as first Pramesh Prasad, then Dave Talcott and finally Arie Kandelaars succumbed to the conditions and retired. Justin Scholz took control after the first couple of hours. Walking strongly, he passed the 12 hour mark with 99km, some 5km ahead of Remy Van Den Brand and seemingly well in control. But Remy had timed his walk to perfection and, from then on, he gradually bridged the gap, eventually catching and passing Justin with 4 hours to go. Remy reached the 100 mile mark in 21:04:52 and continued on, walking to a final distance of 175.029km. Justin reached his 100 mile goal in 21:17:26 (his 19th centurion walk) and stopped, his goal achieved. David Billett and Andrew Titley also reached the 100 mile mark (in 22:33:38 and 22:48:59 respectively), Andrew also content to stop then but David keen to walk on to a final distance of 170.137km

24 Hour Walk Women

1.	Sharon Scholz	VIC	161.668 km
2.	Linda Christison	NSW	149.136 km
3.	Fonibear Williams	VIC	60.125 km
4.	Erin Talcott	SA	58.343 km

24 Hour Walk Men

1.	Remy van den Brand	NED	175.029 km
2.	David Billett	SA	170.137 km
3.	Andrew Titley	IOM	162.114 km
4.	Justin Scholz	VIC	161.223 km
5.	Paul Sweet	VIC	132.591 km
6.	Mark Kani	VIC	121.360 km
7.	Beow Lim	VIC	111.342 km
8.	David Isaacs	VIC	91.300 km
9.	Arie Kandelaars	NED	73.931 km
10.	Dave Talcott	USA	70.368 km
11.	Dennis Lazar	VIC	51.218 km
12.	Pramesh Prasad	VIC	49.295 km
13.	Laurie Tinson	VIC	16.034 km

Five walkers completed 100 Miles (160.934km) within the requisite 24 Hours.

C83	Remy van den Brand	NED	21:04:52
C61	Justin Scholz	VIC	21:17:26
C50	David Billett	SA	22:33:38
C84	Andrew Titley	IOM	22:48:59
C63	Sharon Scholz	VIC	22:53:06

The 24 Hour Carnival also hosted the Racewalking Australia 100km walk championships, with placings as shown below.

RWA 100km Walk Championship Women

1.	Sharon Scholz	VIC	13:31:12
2.	Linda Christison	NSW	13:54:57

RWA 100km Walk Championship Men

1.	Justin Scholz	VIC	12:08:27
2.	Remy van den Brand	NED	12:47:08
3.	Andrew Titley	IOM	13:21:33

The meet also included 12 Hour and 6 Hour Run and Walk and Marathon Run Championships. The Marathons started at midday on Saturday, the 12H races started at 6PM on Saturday while the 6 Hour races started at 6AM on the Sunday morning.

The runs were won by **Michelle Thompson, Matt Callaghan, Nicola Wright, Steven O'Connell** (a fine 122.636km for the 12H), **Michelle Barwick** and **Dan Camac** (a fine 76.144km in the 6H). The 6H was the most competitive of the shorter runs, with fine times also by **Kevin Muller** (74.220 km), **Kay Bretz** (69.749 km) and **Stuart Hughes** (67.311 km).

Marathon Run Women

1.	Michelle Thompson	VIC	4:20:16 km
2.	Vanessa North	VIC	5:18:36 km
3.	Robyn Fletcher	VIC	5:26:41 km

Marathon Run Men

1.	Matt Callaghan	VIC	3:40:54 km
2.	Michael Collins	VIC	3:49:18 km
3.	Richard McCormick	VIC	4:10:59 km
4.	Peter Mahoney	VIC	4:43:35 km
5.	Stephen Pyle	VIC	5:02:17 km
6.	Paul O'Brien	VIC	5:42:07 km
	James Wolsencroft	VIC	DNF (24.568 km)

12 Hour Run Women

1.	Nicola Wright	VIC	83.250 km
2.	Lib Smith	TAS	79.271 km
3.	Aovana Timmerman	VIC	70.643 km

12 Hour Run Men

1.	Steven O'Connell	VIC	122.636 km
2.	Daragh O'Loughlin	VIC	118.311 km
3.	Mark Henderson	VIC	114.285 km
4.	Greg Wilson	VIC	100.940 km
5.	John Vlachos	VIC	100.939 km
6.	Hugo McNeill	VIC	98.369 km
7.	Danny McCarthy	VIC	78.610 km
8.	Rohit Sharma	NSW	76.317 km
9.	Trevor Marsh	VIC	55.904 km
10.	Greg Ponych	VIC	55.044 km
11.	John Nuttall	QLD	50.314 km
12.	Mark Sims	VIC	50.314 km
13.	Simon McFarlane	QLD	40.423 km

6 Hour Run Women

1.	Michelle Barwick	VIC	53.750 km
2.	Diane Nicholls	VIC	53.245 km
3.	Tracy Feiner	VIC	46.013 km

6 Hour Run Men

1.	Dan Camac	SA	76.144 km
2.	Kevin Muller	QLD	74.220 km
3.	Kay Bretz	VIC	69.749 km
4.	Stuart Hughes	VIC	67.311 km
5.	Paul Pratt	VIC	66.249 km
6.	Craig Vickers	VIC	61.323 km
7.	Martin Buden	VIC	60.500 km
8.	Troy Brown	VIC	57.017 km
9.	Paul Gibbs	VIC	55.532 km
10.	Kevin Combe	VIC	51.766 km
11.	Daniel Lewis	VIC	49.134 km
12.	Patrick Byrne	VIC	47.202 km
13.	Douglas Leith	VIC	45.481 km

The shorter walks were won by **Marnie Grace, Saul Richardson, Sue Fitton** and **Ken Carter**. Our challenge remains to attract bigger fields for these events, which continue to be under subscribed.

12 Hour Walk Women

1.	Marnie Grace	VIC	67.373 km
2.	Lorraine Billett	SA	39.192 km
3.	Elise Hess	VIC	12.024 km

12 Hour Walk Men

1.	Saul Richardson	NSW	64.027 km
2.	Albin Hess	VIC	54.906 km
3.	Anubhav Tewari	VIC	43.115 km

6 Hour Walk Women

1.	Sue Fitton	VIC	31.148 km
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6 Hour Walk Men

1.	Ken Carter	VIC	22.292 km
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The perpetual trophies were awarded as follows

Victorian 24 Hour Track Champion:	Simon Austin (VIC)
Coburg Endurance Award:	Ryan O'Hara (QLD)
Jim Gleeson Trophy:	Justin Scholz (VIC) and Sharon Scholz (VIC)
Gordon Smith Trophy:	Remy van den Brand (NED)

A number of walk performances bettered Australian age group records:

Linda Christison	50 Km Walk	W60 Residential	6:40:03
Linda Christison	50 Miles	W60 Residential	11:03 40
Linda Christison	100 Km	W60 Residential	13:54:57
Linda Christison	12 Hour Walk	W60 Residential	87.132 km
Lorraine Billett	6 Hour Walk	W75 All Comers and Residential	39.192 km
Remy Van Den Brand	24 Hour Walk	M45 All Comers	175.029 km
David Billett	24 Hour Walk	M50 Residential	170.137 km

2022 was the 35th annual staging of this iconic event. We will be back in April 2023 for another exciting weekend of racing. See you all then.

Tim Erickson
Race Director
Saturday 16th April 2022