

HEEL AND TOE ONLINE

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TIM'S WALKER OF THE WEEK

This week was a big week for walking in Australia with some great performances

- The Australian Junior T&F Championships in Sydney with its usual high quality walking across the board
- The new VRWC club records done by Kyle Swan, Jemima Montag and Corey Dickson
- The performances of Nathan Brill, Jesse Osborne and Jemima Montag whose 10,000m walks in Sydney all bettered the World Junior qualifying standards (again!) in Sydney
- The performances of our top walkers in the IAAF Challenge Series walks in Nomi, Japan, especially the PB walks of Dane Bird-Smith and Chris Erickson, up the front of the field
- Jared Tallent's huge walk in the IAAF Challenge Series walk in Lugano, Switzerland.
- The performances of our Victorian Masters walkers in their annual T&F Championships in Melbourne.

With so much to choose from, I have decided to award my Walkers of the Week to the two youngest winners on the list, namely **Corey Dickson** and **Rebecca Henderson**, who won the U14 3000m championships at the Australian Junior T&F Champs in Sydney. 11 year old Corey won his event by 14 secs with a PB time of 15:16.01 while 12 year old Rebecca won her event by 7 secs. Corey and Rebecca won their U12 2km championship events in the LBG Carnival in Canberra last June and they have now made the big step up into Athletics Australia competition, winning yet again. Well done!





Corey and Rebecca in winning mode in Sydney last weekend

WHAT'S COMING UP

Next Sunday sees our final VRWC races for the summer when we combine with the Victorian Masters for their annual 5000m track championships at Dolamore Oval, Mentone. The timetable is shown below with VWC 5000m, 3000m and 1500m track walks on as well.

| Sunday 23 rd March 2014, VMA Champs & VRWC Events, Mentone | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Venue: Ment | one Athletics Track, Dolamore Ova | l, Queens St, Mentone | | |
| 8.30am | 5000m VMA Championship | Masters Women | | |
| 9.15am | 5000m VMA Championship | Masters Men | | |
| 10.00am | 5000m and 3000m | VRWC Open | | |
| 10.40am | 1500m | VRWC Open | | |

That's all we have this weekend in Melbourne with the next and final round of AV Shield (Round 12) not scheduled until the following Thursday, 27th March. So you have no excuses for not joining us at Mentone!

Next weekend also sees Jared Tallent back in action at the IAAF Challenge Series event in Dudince, Slovakia. Jared will race in the 20km again as he hones his preparation for the World Cup in May. I believe that Ian Rayson will also be competing in the 20km event at that meet.

Finally, some of our Australian Masters walkers will be heading off later this month to the **World Masters Athletics Indoor Championships** in **Budapest** (see https://www.facebook.com/WMABudapest2014). The meet runs from **25-30 March** and includes 3000m track walks and 10km road walks.

AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR T&F CHAMPIONSHIPS, SYDNEY, 12-16 MARCH

The Australian Junior T&F Championships were held last week in Sydney and it was a huge meet with age groups from U14 to U20 in attendance and lots of top performances across the board. The walks were no exceptions with U14, U15, U16, U17, U18 and U20 events contested. Special thanks to Terry Swan for his VRWC gallery of photos from the meet - www.vrwc.org.au/coppermine. Lots reproduced here.

The first walks were the U17 and U18 5000m championships last Wednesday evening and, with good conditions, the performances were excellent. Well done to winners Tyler Jones (22:20.13), Adam Garganis (22:32.82), Jemima Montag (22:43.54 for a new meet record) and Zoe Boldiston (24:55.09). Quite a few of these walkers fronted up two days later for the U20 10,000m but more of that later.

| Men 500 | 00m Walk Under 17, 7:35P | M, Wed | 12 March | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------|----------|----------|-------------|--|
| 1. | Tyler Jones | 98 | NSW | 22:20.13 | | |
| 2. | Emmet Brasier | 98 | VIC | 22:41.43 | PB 0:22 | |
| 3. | Luke McCutcheon | 98 | QLD | 23:18.30 | PB 0:03 | |
| 4. | Simeon Leatherland | 98 | WA | 23:23.82 | PB 0:31 | |
| 5. | Ross Darlow | 98 | VIC | 23:37.79 | PB 0:46 | |
| 6. | Reese Walmsley | 98 | VIC | 24:05.85 | | |
| 7. | Aidan Kerr | 98 | NSW | 24:18.72 | PB 0:43 | |
| 8. | Nathan Brown | 98 | NSW | 25:22.25 | PB 0:37 | |
| 9. | Cooper Owen | 98 | VIC | 26:02.97 | PB 0:34 | |
| 10. | Thomas Hopkins | 98 | ACT | 27:27.58 | | |
| 11. | Damien Owen | 98 | NSW | 28:08.04 | | |
| Men 5000m Walk Under 18, 7:35PM, Wed 12 March | | | | | | |
| 1. | Adam Garganis | 97 | VIC | 22:32.82 | | |
| 2. | Declan Tingay | 99 | WA | 22:51.19 | PB 1:04 | |
| 3. | Louis Rose | 97 | TAS | 24:31.13 | | |
| 4. | Luke Jobson | 97 | NSW | 24:56.94 | | |
| 5. | Adam Mylonas | 97 | NSW | 26:57.26 | | |
| | Tom Doyle | 97 | NSW | DQ | | |
| Women 5000m Walk Under 17, 8:45PM, Wed 12 March | | | | | | |
| 1. | Jemima Montag | 98 | VIC | 22:43.54 | Meet Record | |
| 2. | Clara Smith | 98 | QLD | 23:30.73 | | |
| 3. | Emily Hamilton | 98 | VIC | 25:45.65 | | |
| 4. | Tahlia Hunt | 98 | TAS | 26:08.70 | | |
| 5. | Philippa Huse | 99 | VIC | 26:46.22 | PB 0:01 | |
| 6. | Paige De Lisen | 98 | VIC | 27:06.06 | | |
| 7. | Lauren Collis | 98 | VIC | 27:50.10 | PB 0:39 | |
| 8. | Rhiannon Minett | 98 | NSW | 28:21.10 | | |

| 9. | Sarah Kelland | 98 | NSW | 32:31.19 |
|-----|----------------|----|-----|----------|
| 10. | Karina Hopkins | 98 | ACT | 34:51.24 |
| | | | | |

Women 5000m Walk Under 18, 8:45PM, Wed 12 March

| 1. | Zoe Boldiston | 97 | VIC | 24:55.09 |
|----|--------------------|----|-----|----------|
| 2. | Jayde Hill | 97 | NSW | 25:40.02 |
| 3. | Zoe Hunt | 97 | ACT | 26:04.07 |
| 4. | Stephanie Grujoski | 97 | NSW | 26:46.44 |
| 5. | Jade Sanders | 97 | VIC | 27:34.86 |
| 6. | Lydia McKay | 97 | NSW | 28:52.91 |
| 7. | Holly Hughes | 97 | WA | 29:31.47 |
| | Bryony Beasley | 97 | NSW | DQ |





Left: Tyler Jones leads Adam Garganis

Right: Jemima Montag





Left: Vic girls Zoe, Philippa, Emily, Jemima, Jade, Lauren and Paige

Right: Zoe Boldiston

The U15 and U16 3000m walks were held the next afternoon in warmer conditions. Well done to winners Callum Burns 15:15.24, Declan Tingay (13:05.87), Eliza Clarke (14:44.93) and Jasmyn McDonald (14:58.15) - 4 events and all winners from different States. Now that is healthy. And a special mention to Victorian Philippa Huse who backed up after a 5th place PB in the U17 5000m the night before - second time around, she took silver in the U16 3000m in another PB - 15:05.94.

| Men 300 | Men 3000m Walk Under 15, 4PM, Thurs 13 March | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------|-------|----------|---------|--|
| 1. | Callum Burns | 00 | ACT | 15:15.24 | | |
| 2. | Jake Vidler | 00 | SA | 15:45.89 | | |
| 3. | Jayden Goode | 00 | SA | 16:09.73 | | |
| 4. | Hayden Millican | 00 | NSW | 16:25.59 | | |
| 5. | Jonah Mead | 00 | QLD | 16:31.47 | | |
| 6. | Elijah Harris | 00 | NSW | 17:11.37 | | |
| 7. | Hugh Collis | 00 | VIC | 17:32.45 | | |
| 8. | Callum Haig | 00 | QLD | 20:09.11 | | |
| | Ryan Thomson | 00 | NSW | DNF | | |
| | Kyle Bedford | 00 | NSW | DQ | | |
| Men 300 | 00m Walk Under 16, 4PM | A. Thurs 13 | March | | | |
| 1. | Declan Tingay | 99 | WA | 13:05.87 | PB 0:34 | |
| 2. | Kyle Swan | 99 | VIC | 13:22.57 | | |
| 3. | Alix Harlington | 99 | SA | 14:29.41 | PB 0:22 | |
| 4. | Jamie McCutcheon | 99 | QLD | 14:46.63 | PB 0:20 | |
| 5. | James Clay | 99 | NSW | 15:53.83 | | |
| 6. | Jordan Glover | 99 | NSW | 15:58.09 | | |
| 7. | Cory McGinniskin | 99 | NSW | 18:01.27 | | |
| | • | | | | | |
| | 3000m Walk Under 15, | | | | | |
| 1. | Eliza Clarke | 00 | VIC | 14:44.93 | | |
| 2. | Raquel Roukos | 00 | NSW | 14:52.68 | | |
| 3. | Katie Hayward | 00 | QLD | 15:16.23 | | |
| 4. | Gabby Hunt | 00 | ACT | 16:01.83 | | |
| 5. | Rhiannon Lovegrove | 00 | SA | 16:07.38 | | |
| 6. | Sarah Damin | 00 | SA | 16:16.77 | | |
| 7. | Sophie Crichton | 00 | NSW | 17:08.29 | | |
| 8. | Brodie Richardson | 00 | VIC | 17:34.19 | | |
| 9. | Clancy Smith | 00 | QLD | 17:59.80 | | |
| 10. | Molly O'Neill | 00 | NSW | 18:39.47 | | |
| Women 3000m Walk Under 16, 5PM, Thurs 13 March | | | | | | |
| 1. | Jasmyn McDonald | 99 | NSW | 14:58.15 | | |
| 2. | Philippa Huse | 99 | VIC | 15:05.94 | PB 0:38 | |
| 3. | Lucy Francis | 99 | NSW | 15:08.77 | | |
| 4. | Chelsea Goodhew | 99 | NSW | 15:25.23 | | |
| 5. | Ebony Burnard | 99 | NSW | 15:56.21 | | |
| 6. | Shanae Norton | 99 | NSW | 16:04.19 | | |
| 7. | Jordan Bardsley | 99 | ACT | 16:49.98 | | |
| 8. | Josephine Laufer | 99 | VIC | 17:29.91 | PB 0:56 | |
| 9. | Ally Grujoski | 99 | NSW | 17:39.14 | | |
| | Emily Hopkins | 99 | ACT | DQ | | |







Callum Burns, Declan Tingay, Kyle Swan, Jasmyn McDonald, Raquel Roukos and Eliza Clarke

The final walks (U14 3000m and U20 10,000m) were held on the Friday in warmer and very humid conditions. My walkers of the week, Corey Dickson and Rebecca Henderson, won the U14 walks in emphatic style before attention was turned to the highest quality walks fields of the meet - those for the U20 men and women. This was the official 2014 World Junior Championships trial and would also decide the 2014 World Cup U20 10km spots so there was a lot riding on it.

The men's event saw the usual battle between Victorians Nathan Brill and Jesse Osborne who slugged it out together for 21 of the 25 laps before Jesse slowed. The final result saw Nathan winning in 43:12.63 ahead of Jesse 43:38.63, both times under the World Junior qualifying standard. This confirmed their spots for Oregon and attention switched to the third spot which was taken, as expected, by Tyler Jones who almost certainly confirmed his World Cup spot alongside Nathan and Jesse. The quality of performance continued with Adam Garganis 46:41.51 and Kyle Swan (youngest in the field at 14 years of age!) 46:41.51. The women's race saw Jemima Montag take her second gold for the meet (she won the U17 5000m on the Wednesday) in a World Junior qualifying time of 48:25.18. Alas, she is too young for World Junior selection so she will have to be content with a World Cup U20 spot. The first eligible World Juniors walker to finish was second placed Jasmine Dighton and, given that she has already qualified, this probably seals a World Juniors spot for her. Again, lots of PBs amongst the girls.

Victoria finished on a high with golds in all 4 walks events on Friday, to take their tally to 8 golds from 12 events - a huge effort from the various State based coaches, none of whom are awarded any funding by AA (don't get me started!).

| Men 300 | Men 3000m Walk Under 14, 4:37PM, Friday 14 March | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|------------|------------|----------|--------------|--|--|
| 1. | Corey Dickson | 02 | VIC | 15:16.01 | PB 0:05 | | |
| 2. | Spencer Burns | 02 | ACT | 15:30.45 | | | |
| 3. | Harrison Mavin | 01 | NSW | 15:51.93 | | | |
| 4. | Lachie Sky | 02 | NSW | 16:19.04 | | | |
| 5. | Mitchell Baker | 01 | ACT | 16:26.10 | | | |
| 6. | Benjamin Reid | 01 | WA | 16:33.50 | | | |
| 7. | Joseph Rickard | 01 | VIC | 17:28.66 | | | |
| 8. | Daryl Ellis | 01 | WA | 19:24.70 | | | |
| | Oliver Chippendale | 02 | NSW | DQ | | | |
| Women | 3000m Walk Under 14, | 4:37PM. Fr | idav 14 Ma | arch | | | |
| 1. | Rebecca Henderson | 01 | VIC | 15:10.57 | | | |
| 2. | Tiahna Ruane | 01 | WA | 15:17.85 | PB 0:39 | | |
| 3. | Abbey McMillen | 01 | NSW | 15:19.37 | PB 0:58 | | |
| 4. | Zahra Hayes | 01 | VIC | 15:47.79 | | | |
| 5. | Jemma Peart | 01 | VIC | 15:58.58 | | | |
| 6. | Samantha Brown | 01 | NSW | 16:07.12 | | | |
| 7. | Taylor Langford | 01 | VIC | 16:51.35 | PB 0:11 | | |
| 8. | Tenyka Chapman | 01 | QLD | 17:16.38 | | | |
| 9. | Alexandra Sutherland | 02 | NSW | 17:36.98 | | | |
| | Arabella Phillips | 01 | TAS | 20:41.40 | | | |
| Men 100 | 000m Walk Under 20, 6: | 35PM Frid | av 14 Mar | ch | | | |
| 1. | Nathan Brill | 96 | VIC | 43:12.63 | WJ qualifier | | |
| 2. | Jesse Osborne | 95 | VIC | 43:38.83 | WJ qualifier | | |
| 3. | Tyler Jones | 98 | NSW | 46:08.96 | ws quantier | | |
| 4. | Adam Garganis | 97 | VIC | 46:41.51 | | | |
| 5. | Kyle Swan | 99 | VIC | 46:50.00 | PB 1:11 | | |
| 6. | Carl Gibbons | 96 | NSW | 47:39.45 | 1 1 1.11 | | |
| 7. | Jonathon Lord | 96 | NZL | 47:43.61 | | | |
| 8. | Kyle Bird | 96 | VIC | 47:54.03 | PB 1:01 | | |
| 9. | Louis Rose | 97 | TAS | 49:22.22 | PB 2:36 | | |
| | Lucas Taylor | 96 | VIC | 55:39.16 | 1 D 2.50 | | |
| 10. | Reese Walmsley | 98 | VIC | DNF | | | |
| | Jay Felton | 95 | NSW | DQ | | | |
| July Tellon July 10101 DQ | | | | | | | |
| Women | 10000m Walk Under 20, | 6:35PM, F | - | | | | |
| 1. | Jemima Montag | 98 | VIC | 48:25.18 | WJ qualifier | | |
| 2. | Jasmine Dighton | 96 | NSW | 50:39.41 | | | |
| 3. | Elizabeth Hosking | 95 | ACT | 50:40.61 | | | |
| 4. | Katya Martin | 97 | QLD | 51:12.18 | | | |
| 5. | Zoe Boldiston | 97 | VIC | 52:24.29 | PB 1:14 | | |
| 6. | Stephanie George | 96 | VIC | 53:33.74 | | | |
| 7. | Kate Holt | 96 | WA | 53:55.01 | PB 2:57 | | |
| 8. | Eloise Jackson | 95 | QLD | 54:39.64 | PB 2:50 | | |
| 9. | Tayla-Paige Billington | 97 | VIC | 55:08.59 | | | |
| 10. | e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e | 96 | NSW | 57:46.19 | PB 0:33 | | |
| | Amy Bettiol | 95 | NSW | DNF | | | |
| | Lucy-Rose Boardman | 96 | QLD | DNF | | | |







Corey Dickson, Rebecca Henderson, Nathan Brill and Jesse Osborne







Tyler Jones, Jemima Montag and Jasmine Dighton

AUSTRALIAN MASTERS T&F CHAMPIONSHIPS, HOBART, TASMANIA, 8-10 MARCH

I was not able to publish the times from the Australian Masters 10km roadwalks in last week's newsletter but they are now to hand. The top performers by Age Grades were Heather Lee, Andrew Jamieson and Heahter Carr.

| M40 | 1 | Lowe, Daniel | M38 | Western Australia | 1:01:28 | 62.44% |
|-----|---|--------------------|-----|-------------------|---------|--------|
| M40 | 1 | Nipperess, Dean | M42 | Queensland | 51:47 | 76.35% |
| | 2 | Smyth, David | M44 | Western Australia | 57:47 | 69.50% |
| M45 | 1 | Guevara, Argenis | M45 | Queensland | 59:51 | 67.63% |
| M50 | 1 | Hastie, Garry | M52 | Western Australia | 51:50 | 82.71% |
| | 2 | Evans, Simon | M53 | Victoria | 55:07 | 78.45% |
| M55 | 1 | Moore, David | M56 | Tasmania | 1:16:36 | 57.93% |
| M60 | 1 | Riddoch, Clyde | M60 | Victoria | 1:09:46 | 66.03% |
| | 2 | West, John | M63 | New South Wales | 1:21:28 | 58.29% |
| M65 | 1 | Jamieson, Andrew | M67 | Victoria | 53:44 | 92.38% |
| | 2 | Dickenson, Russell | M68 | Victoria | 59:37 | 84.25% |
| | 3 | Marsh, Lawrie | M67 | Tasmania | 1:07:03 | 74.03% |
| | | | | | | |

| | 4 | Richardson, Ian | M69 | Queensland | 1:09:56 | 72.69% |
|-----|---|------------------------|-----|-------------------|---------|--------|
| M70 | 1 | Seymon, Jim | M76 | New South Wales | 1:07:49 | 82.30% |
| | 2 | Ilgoutz, Gunther | M75 | Victoria | 1:11:30 | 76.95% |
| | - | Smith, Leigh | M78 | South Australia | DQ | |
| M80 | 1 | Hainsworth, Colin | M84 | South Australia | 1:18.44 | 76.28% |
| | - | Silcock-Delaney, Colin | M81 | Victoria | DQ | |
| | | | | | | |
| W45 | 1 | Sunderland, Nyle | W46 | Queensland | 1:01:11 | 73.06% |
| W55 | 1 | Leitch, Elizabeth | W58 | Tasmania | 1:04:52 | 77.93% |
| W60 | 1 | Carr, Heather | W64 | Victoria | 1:00:23 | 90.37% |
| | - | Lloyd, Nancy | W60 | New South Wales | DQ | |
| W65 | 1 | Feldman, Elizabeth | W65 | Victoria | 1:10:00 | 79.05% |
| W70 | 1 | Purcell, Joan | W72 | Queensland | 1:13:12 | 84.26% |
| | 2 | Trengove, Margaret | W70 | South Australia | 1:16:34 | 77.94% |
| | 3 | Schickert, Lynne | W72 | Western Australia | 1:20:35 | 76.54% |
| W85 | 1 | Lee, Heather | W87 | New South Wales | 1:25.06 | 95.31% |

SAMA TRACK WALKS, AIS STADIUM, MILE END, ADELAIDE, WEDNESDAY 12 MARCH

Thanks to Colin Hainsworth for the latest walk results from the South Australian Masters in Adelaide.

| 800m Walk |
|-----------|
|-----------|

| 1. | Kim Mottrom | 3:12 |
|----|------------------|------|
| 2. | Justin Hill | 3:26 |
| 3. | Mark Worthing | 4:33 |
| 4. | John Hore | 5:16 |
| 5. | Rodger Barber | 5:27 |
| 6. | Roger Lowe | 5:28 |
| 7. | Louise Schrama | 6:09 |
| 8. | Matthew Anderson | 6:10 |
| 9. | Jill Rogers | 6:20 |

5000m walk

| 1. | Richard Everson | 26:17 | M50 | 78.01% |
|----|-----------------|-------|-----|--------|
| 2. | Peter Crump | 27:50 | M53 | 75.58% |
| 3. | Jack Russell | 29:57 | M61 | 75.65% |
| 4. | Bill Starr | 34:53 | M71 | 72.70% |
| 5. | Rodger Barber | 36:34 | M75 | 73.11% |
| 6. | Norman White | 37:58 | M55 | 56.38% |
| 7. | Roger Lowe | 38:06 | M70 | 65.74% |
| 8. | James Hoare | 39:12 | M67 | 61.66% |

SAMA TRACK WALKS, AIS STADIUM, MILE END, ADELAIDE, SUNDAY 16 MARCH

And keeping to Adelaide where the Masters were back again on Sunday for 10,000m championships.

10,000m Walk

| 1. | Richard Everson | 53:47:8 | 1 | M50 | 78.37% |
|-----|--------------------|---------|---|-----|--------|
| 2. | Peter Crump | 56:59:4 | 2 | M50 | 75.87% |
| 3. | Gloria Holliday | 62:03"8 | 1 | W50 | 77.04% |
| 4. | Laurie Marsh (Tas) | 65:01:0 | 1 | M65 | 74.63% |
| 5. | Marie Maxted | 68:36:5 | 2 | W50 | 69.69% |
| 6. | James Hoare | 73:44:4 | 1 | M65 | 67.31% |
| 7. | Rodger Barber | 74:04"3 | 1 | M75 | 74.28% |
| 8. | Norman White | 74:47:5 | 1 | M55 | 58.51% |
| 9. | Roger Lowe | 79:53:6 | 1 | M70 | 64.42% |
| 10. | Matthew Anderson | 92:11:9 | 1 | M40 | 42.22% |

VICTORIAN MASTERS T&F CHAMPS, BILL SEWARD ATHLETICS TRACK, BURWOOD,15-16 MARCH

The Victorian Masters T&F Championships were held last weekend at the Bill Seward Athletics Track in East Burwood, with 3000m walks contested on Saturday (in strong winds) and 1500m walks contested on Sunday (in better conditions). The 3000m walks saw Heather Carr (W60 16:41.76 90.14%) and Ralph Bennett (M70, 17:10.13 87.89%) the best from an age graded perspective.

| 3000m | Track | Walks, Saturday 15 Mar | rch | | | |
|-------|-------|------------------------|-----|-----|----------|---------|
| W35 | 1 | Sandra Geisler | W36 | RNG | 15:21.88 | 76.42% |
| | 2 | Nicole Gunn | W35 | KSB | 23:07.67 | 50.56% |
| W40 | 1 | Kylie Irshad | W42 | SCA | 15:31.86 | 78.71% |
| W50 | 1 | Pam Tindal | W54 | VMA | 15:39.48 | 86.39% |
| | 2 | Donna Elms | W52 | PTN | 18:13.44 | 72.87% |
| | 3 | Robyn Shaw | W52 | WES | 18:34.24 | 71.51% |
| W55 | 1 | Julie Challen | W56 | VMA | 20:38.35 | 66.81% |
| W60 | 1 | Heather Carr | W64 | EAG | 16:41.76 | 90.14% |
| | 2 | Marlene Gourlay | W62 | VMA | 18:01.09 | 81.57% |
| | 3 | Alison Thompson | W61 | VMA | 18:17.41 | 79.46 % |
| W65 | 1 | Liz Feldman | W65 | VMA | 18:38.18 | 81.74% |
| | 2 | Celia Johnson | W66 | VMA | 21:05.31 | 73.15% |
| W70 | 1 | Gwen Steed | W71 | VMA | 19:50.94 | 83.15% |
| | 2 | Beverly Hugo | W74 | VMA | 23:30.56 | 73.45% |
| W75 | 1 | Pam Mews | W79 | VMA | 31:44.56 | 59.18% |
| | 2 | Valerie Case | W77 | VMA | 32:24.41 | 55.97% |
| M40 | 1 | Stuart Kollmorgen | M44 | COL | 14:06.56 | 81.26% |
| | 2 | David Smyth | M44 | COL | 15:15.70 | 75.12% |
| M45 | 1 | James Christmass | M46 | COR | 14:02.81 | 82.96% |
| M50 | 1 | Simon Evans | M53 | BOH | 14:56.56 | 82.73% |
| | 2 | Stephen Murphy | M53 | ATE | 23:55.39 | 51.67 |
| M55 | 1 | Mark Donahoo | M55 | ATE | 14:54.62 | 84.39% |
| | 2 | Chris Worsnop | M56 | OLX | 22:49.21 | 55.64% |
| M60 | 1 | Tim Erickson | M63 | COB | 16:38.05 | 81.75% |
| | 2 | Clyde Riddoch | M60 | WAV | 19:12.72 | 68.64% |
| | 3 | Gerald Sofianos | M64 | STK | 22:17.26 | 61.66% |
| M65 | 1 | Russ Dickenson | M68 | SCA | 16:54.97 | 84.96% |
| | 2 | Geoff Barrow | M65 | MEN | 19:44.93 | 70.35% |
| M70 | 1 | Ralph Bennett | M72 | VMA | 17:10.13 | 87.89% |
| | 2 | John Morrison | M74 | SAN | 21:14.52 | 72.91% |
| | - | Barrie Wicks | M73 | VMA | DQ | |
| M75 | 1 | Bob Gardiner | M77 | COL | 18:59.91 | 84.96% |
| M80 | 1 | Colin Silcock-Delaney | M81 | VMA | 27:16.58 | 62.82% |
| M85 | - | Sydney Elks | M85 | VMA | DQ | |

The pace was hot for Sunday morning's 1500m walks with James Christmass 6:21.66 and Sandra Geisler 7:06.37 leading the way in their respective events. Pam Tindal (W50 7:31.60 87.02%) and Bob Gardiner (M74 8:47.63 89.93%) the best overall.

| 1500m | Track | k Walks, Sunday 16 Mai | ch | | | |
|-------|-------|------------------------|-----|-----|----------|--------|
| W35 | 1 | Sandra Geisler | W36 | RNG | 7:06.37 | 80.12% |
| | 2 | Laura McLennan | W37 | VMA | 9:53.19 | 57.88% |
| | 3 | Nicole Gunn | W35 | KSB | 10:33.47 | 53.70% |
| W40 | 1 | Michelle Laufer | W44 | COL | 7:20.66 | 82.01% |
| | 2 | Clare Garganis | W43 | COL | 10:05.72 | 59.19% |
| W45 | 1 | Pia Hunter | W47 | BOH | 9:26.97 | 65.32% |
| W50 | 1 | Pam Tindal | W54 | VMA | 7:31.60 | 87.02% |
| | 2 | Donna Elms | W52 | PTN | 8:26.63 | 76.24% |
| | 3 | Robyn Shaw | W52 | WES | 8:38.68 | 74.47% |
| W60 | 1 | Alison Thompson | W61 | VMA | 8:27.44 | 82.77% |
| W65 | 1 | Liz Feldman | W65 | VMA | 8:37.29 | 84.81% |
| | 2 | Celia Johnson | W66 | VMA | 10:03.77 | 73.51% |
| W70 | 1 | Gwen Steed | W71 | VMA | 9:27.78 | 83.23% |
| | 2 | Beverly Hugo | W74 | VMA | 11:31.52 | 71.26% |
| W75 | 1 | Pam Mews | W79 | VMA | 14:32.68 | 61.02% |
| | 2 | Valerie Case | W77 | VMA | 14:45.27 | 58.24% |
| M40 | 1 | David Smyth | M44 | COL | 7:12.72 | 77.95% |
| M45 | 1 | James Christmass | M46 | COR | 6:21.66 | 89.83% |
| | 2 | Mal Grimmett | M48 | VMA | 9:36.16 | 53.63% |
| | 3 | Stephen Wright | M47 | COB | 12:17.99 | 46.84% |
| M50 | 1 | Simon Evans | M53 | BOH | 7:08.65 | 84.87% |
| | 2 | Stephen Murphy | M53 | ATE | 10:45.80 | 56.33% |
| M55 | 1 | Mark Donahoo | M55 | ATE | 6:57.14 | 88.77% |
| | 2 | Christopher Worsnop | M56 | OLX | 10:56.60 | 56.91% |
| M60 | 1 | Clyde Riddoch | M60 | WAV | 10:02.04 | 64.48% |
| | 2 | Gerald Sofianos | M64 | STK | 10:43.44 | 62.87% |

| M65 | 1 | Russ Dickenson | M68 | SCA | 7:58.54 | 88.38% |
|-----|---|-----------------------|-----|-----|----------|--------|
| | 2 | Geoff Barrow | M65 | MEN | 9:18.90 | 73.16% |
| M70 | 1 | Ralph Bennett | M72 | VMA | 8:16.07 | 89.50% |
| | 2 | John Morrison | M74 | SAN | 10:01.71 | 75.71% |
| | 3 | Barrie Wicks | M73 | VMA | 11:33.39 | 64.85% |
| M75 | 1 | Bob Gardiner | M77 | COL | 8:47.63 | 89.93% |
| M80 | 1 | Colin Silcock-Delaney | M81 | VMA | 12:15.38 | 68.45% |

BALLARAT RACEWALKING CLUB FOUNDERS CUP, BALLARAT, SUNDAY 16 MARCH

The rain held off for the BRWC's first official race of the year – the Daryl Biggin & Sharon Schnyder Founder's Cup 3km Handicap. Eleven eager competitors lined up, but it was young Mia Darlow, racing off scratch, who maintained her lead to win the trophy in a 53 second PB. Ross Darlow managed the fastest time of the day, strolling through in 15:59. Fantastic walks also by new members Matt Coon & John Kilmartin, and another BRWC record to Fraser Saunder.

Daryl Biggin & Sharon Schnyder Founder's Cup 3km Handicap

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Winner Mia Darlow with Daryl Biggin

2014 ASIAN 20KM RACE WALKING CHAMPIONSHIPS, NOMI CITY, JAPAN, SUNDAY 16 MARCH

The Asian Race Walking Championships is an annual race walking competition for athletes representing countries from Asia, organized by the Asian Athletics Association (AAA). It was established in 2006 and has featured races for senior men (20 km and 50 km) and women (20 km). After the inaugural 2006 event in Wajima, Japan, the competition was split into two events: the 20 km (both men and women) were incorporated into the All-Japan Race Walking competitions held in mid March in Nomi, Japan, and the 50 km event was held about a month later in mid April in Wajima, Japan. This continued until the year 2008, after which the 50km race was removed. Now there are only 20km races for men and women.

So this time around, it was 20km races for men and women in Nomi. Apart from being the Asian Championships, it doubled this year as an IAAF Race Walking Challenge event and quite a few Australians joined their Asian counterparts for what were two very competitive races.

As far as the Asian Championships were concerned, Hyunsub Kim of Korea won the men's 20km title with a new national record of 1:19:24, Japanese walker Yusuke Suzuki finished on the second place in 1:21:01 and India's Gurmeet Singh took third place in 1:21:30. Tongmei Zhou of China won the women's Asian 20km Championship with a time of 1:31:58 ahead of Rei Inoue of Japan with 1:32:56 amd India's Khusbir Kaur, who was in the lead for most of the race and ended up with 1:33:37, a new Indian record.

But there were lots of extra walkers in the mix, given that this was also an IAAF Challenge Series event as well as a Japanese National event. The organising committee have split the results into various categories, two of which are published below.

First to the International Races which incorporate the Asian Championship finishers also (noted with an *). There were lots of Australians in the mix in the men's event, led brilliantly by **Dane Bird-Smith** (third place and a new PB of 1:21:01) and **Chris Erickson** (10th place and a new PB of 1:22:19). Behind them were fellow Australians **Adam Rutter** (1:25:11 and on the improve), **Rhydian Cowley** (1:27:36) **Brad Aiton** (1:28:23 for his inaugural 20km effort), **Nick Dewar** (1:29:44), **Brandon Dewar** (1:36:36) and **Dean Nipperess** (1:38:55). In the women's event, the sole Australian was **Stephanie Stigwood** with 1:39:01. Boy, were the Indian men impressive - 4 in the first 8 in the listing below.

| 20km W | alk Men International | | | | |
|--------|-------------------------|-----|----|---------|-----------|
| 1. | Kim Hyun-Sub | KOR | 85 | 1:19:24 | * NR |
| 2. | Yusuke Suzuki | JPN | 88 | 1:21:01 | * |
| 3. | Dane Bird-Smith | AUS | 92 | 1:21:01 | PB 1:02 |
| 4. | Basant Bahadur Rana | IND | 84 | 1:21:29 | |
| 5. | Gurmeet Singh | IND | 85 | 1:21:30 | * |
| 6. | Kolothum Thodi Irfan | IND | 90 | 1:21:37 | |
| 7. | Georgiy Sheiko | KAZ | 89 | 1:21:44 | * |
| 8. | Devender Singh | IND | | 1:21:49 | |
| 9. | Park Chil-Sung | KOR | 82 | 1:22:16 | |
| 10. | Chris Erickson | AUS | 81 | 1:22:19 | PB 0:01 |
| 11. | Choe Byeong-Kwang | KOR | 91 | 1:23:01 | |
| 12. | Byun Young-Jun | KOR | 84 | 1:23:11 | |
| 13. | Kim Dae-Ro | KOR | 88 | 1:23:20 | |
| 14. | Adam Rutter | AUS | 86 | 1:25:11 | |
| 15. | Oh Se-Han | KOR | 88 | 1:25:50 | |
| 16. | Krishnan Ganapathi | IND | | 1:26:09 | |
| 17. | Rhydian Cowley | AUS | 91 | 1:27:36 | |
| 18. | Brad Aiton | AUS | 94 | 1:28:23 | Inaugural |
| 19. | Zhang Zhi | CHN | 94 | 1:28:25 | C |
| 20. | Choe Byeong-Ho | KOR | 95 | 1:29:41 | |
| 21. | Nick Dewar | AUS | 92 | 1:29:44 | |
| 22. | Hakmali Sauda | INA | 93 | 1:31:00 | * |
| 23. | Leng Xiao | CHN | 96 | 1:31:41 | * |
| 24. | Tse Chun Hung | HKG | 81 | 1:32:38 | * NR |
| 25. | Muhammad Harun | MAS | | 1:33:36 | * |
| 26. | Chang Wei-Lin | TPE | | 1:34:10 | * |
| 27. | Brandon Dewar | AUS | | 1:36:36 | |
| 28. | Edmund Sim | SIN | 83 | 1:36:58 | * |
| 29. | Dean Nipperess | AUS | | 1:38:55 | |
| 30. | Eswaran Rajan Deren | MAS | | 1:44:37 | |
| | Kang Kil-Dong | KOR | 92 | DNF | |
| | | | | | |
| | alk Women International | ~ | | | |
| 1. | Zhou Tongmei | CHN | 88 | 1:31:58 | * |
| 2. | Rei Inoue | JPN | 91 | 1:32:56 | * |
| 3. | Khushbir Kaur | IND | 93 | 1:33:37 | * NR |
| 4. | Jeon Yeong-Eun | KOR | 88 | 1:35:23 | * |
| 5. | Duan Dandan | CHN | 95 | 1:37:09 | |
| 6. | Galina Kichigina | KAZ | 88 | 1:37:28 | |
| 7. | Stephanie Stigwood | AUS | 90 | 1:39:01 | |
| 8. | Jessica Ching Siu Nga | HKG | 87 | 1:39:02 | * NR |
| 9. | Sholpan Kozhakhmetova | KAZ | 91 | 1:39:55 | * |
| 10. | Chang Chia-Feng | TPE | 93 | 1:43:30 | * |
| 11. | Elena Goh Ling Yin | MAS | 96 | 1:48:20 | * |
| 12. | Pua Ling En | MAS | | 1:48:23 | T |

The National 20km events for Japanese walkers are listed separately and, as usual, the standard was very high.

20km Walk National Japanese Men

| 1. | Kai Kobayashi | JPN | 93 | 1:22:25 |
|----|---------------|-----|----|---------|
| 2. | Yosuke Kimura | JPN | 93 | 1:22:41 |

| | 3. | Tomofumi Kanno | JPN | 93 | 1:24:54 |
|-------|-----|--------------------------|-----|----|---------|
| | 4. | Nobuyuki Harada | JPN | 93 | 1:25:03 |
| | 5. | Hironari Tomatsu | JPN | 93 | 1:25:14 |
| | 6. | Hotaka Ouchi | JPN | 91 | 1:26:16 |
| | 7. | Masaki Yamamoto | JPN | 93 | 1:26:41 |
| | 8. | Tsuyoshi Tasaka | JPN | 93 | 1:26:42 |
| | 9. | Genta Yamanaka | JPN | | 1:26:50 |
| | 10. | Tetsuya Tanighuchi | JPN | 93 | 1:27:24 |
| | 11. | Yuki Ito | JPN | 92 | 1:27:30 |
| | 12. | Toru Ozaki | JPN | 92 | 1:27:36 |
| | 13. | Yu Mikami | JPN | 93 | 1:27:44 |
| | 14. | Yuki Murai | JPN | | 1:27:53 |
| | 15. | Ryota Shiojima | JPN | 94 | 1:28:40 |
| | 16. | Katsuyu Ko | JPN | | 1:29:40 |
| | 17. | Gai Saito | JPN | 94 | 1:30:14 |
| | 18. | Yuta Kotobuki | JPN | 91 | 1:30:17 |
| • • • | | | | | |
| 20k | | alk National Japanese Wo | | | |
| | 1. | Kumiko Okada | JPN | 91 | 1:33:25 |
| | 2. | Fumiko Okabe | JPN | 90 | 1:37:56 |
| | 3. | Shiho Watanabe | JPN | 94 | 1:38:44 |
| | 4. | Sae Matsumoto | JPN | 93 | 1:39:58 |
| | 5. | Ayako Fukuda | JPN | 93 | 1:40:39 |
| | 6. | Nozomi Yagi | JPN | 94 | 1:42:08 |
| | 7. | Aoi Kanasaki | JPN | 92 | 1:42:47 |
| | 8. | Remi Okubo | JPN | 95 | 1:43:16 |
| | 9. | Hikari Tachibana | JPN | 92 | 1:44:17 |
| | 10. | Marina Hosaka | JPN | 93 | 1:45:15 |
| | 11. | Mai Nakahara | JPN | 93 | 1:46:08 |
| | 12. | Tomoko Aikyo | JPN | | 1:51:26 |

But there were a lot more walkers in the races overall (in fact well over 100 in the men's 20km) and some of them finished well up. I think that Dane was actually fourth rather than third, second place overall going to Japanese walker Isamu Fujisawa in a time of 1:20:23. And there was one further Japanese walker ahead of Chris Erickson with a time of 1:21:50 so Chris probably finished 12 the journey of the journey of the probably finished 12 the journey of the journey of the journey of the journey of the men's 20km) and some of them finished up. I think that Dane was actually fourth rather than third, second place overall going to Japanese walker Isamu Fujisawa in a time of 1:20:23. And there was one further Japanese walker ahead of Chris Erickson with a time of 1:21:50 so Chris probably finished 12 the journey of the j







Dane, Chris and Adam in action in the men's race (photos Satoshi Yanagisawa)

Chris Erickson reported on the races as follows

The pace wasn't too crazy to begin with but with 100+ in the men's race there were a lot of people in the first 500-600m to work through. Went thru 1km in 4:10ish then 8:12 for the lap. A lead group formed ahead with Dane who was with me at 2km but pushed ahead to join the leaders. I was content to sit with the 2nd pack and feeling good on the front of the pack and we walked consistently 8:12-15 per lap thru to 12km. Went thru 10km in 41:08 and at the stage it was myself and an Indian doing

the pace. He then picked it up at 12km and I started to tail off but still went 8:09 for 12-14km. Got a little lazy next lap and did 8:17 which then put me right on PB pace but I held together and picked off a couple of guys ahead of me and was 8:15 then 8:13ish last lap. So a very even walk and I felt good the whole way. I thought I had sub 82 in me at 12km but just could not hold it. The course was a 2km circuit thru a residential area and had 7 90deg turns but it was good in a way as it broke it up. It was a little windy, more so in the women's race after ours withe 300m stretch straight into the wind but besides that it was good.

Kym "Handsup" from Korea won in 79:20, apparently kicking away hard at 14km and dropping everyone. As it was a circuit and you could only ever see a couple of hundred metres in front of you so was impossible to know what was happening anywhere else than around you. The women's race had the worse of the conditions as the wind picked up, it got colder and rained lightly. Our conditions whilst cool were good.



Chris and Adam have some Japanese soup with Satoshi after the race (Satoshi spent a year at the AIS helping run the walks program so knows our walkers well)

ODESUR SOUTH AMERICAN GAMES, SANTIAGO, LIMA, 13-16 MARCH

Organización Deportiva Suramericana (ODESUR) is a multi-sports organisation that organises the South American Games every 4 years. The 10th edition of the multisport games took place at Santiago de Chile's National Stadium over the last few days, with the two 20,000m track walks held on separate days.

20km Walk Women, Thursday 13 March

Colombia's Lorena Arenas produced the goods on day one of competition, setting a South American 20,000m race walk record in the women's walk championship. 20 year old Arenas burst onto the national scene in 2012, winning the junior women's 10km race at the IAAF World Race Walking Cup. She then placed 22nd in the 2013 World Championships in Moscow and won the Chihuahua leg of the 2014 IAAF Race Walking Challenge earlier this year. Now she can add yet another top result to her growing resume - South American Games champion. She dominated the race early, passing the half way mark in 46:30.9 before storming home with a second half split of 45:16.0 for a final time of 1:31:46.9 and a new South American Record, ahead of Sandra Galvias 1:34:04.4 and Erick De Sena 1:36:37.3

"I felt very good, although the sun was very strong and it was warm at the track. The race left me very satisfied. My goal is to be in even better shape at the upcoming Taicang World Cup, where my target is to walk under 1:30. However, I'm happy with today's result. I was able to keep my pace and that brought me the record."

| 1. | Sandra Lorena ARENAS | COL | 93 | 1:31:46.9 |
|----|----------------------------------|-----|----|-----------|
| 2. | Sandra Viviana GALVIS | COL | 86 | 1:34:04.4 |
| 3. | Erica ROCHA DE SENA | BRA | 85 | 1:36:37.3 |
| 4. | Paola Viviana PEREZ SAQUIPAY | ECU | 89 | 1:41:01.4 |
| 5. | Cristal PALLALEF | CHI | 94 | 1:51:44.5 |
| | Wendy CORNEJO | BOL | 93 | DNF |
| | Claudia VALDERRAMA IBANEZ | BOL | 83 | DQ |
| | Elianay Santana DA SILVA PEREIRA | BRA | 84 | DQ |

20km Walk Men, Saturday 15 March

Colombia continued its walks domination in the meet with the gold and silver in the men's 20km, matching its performance a few days earlier with the women. 21 year old Eider Arévalo 1:22:11.1 bettered his team mate José Montana by just three seconds while Ecuadorean Mauricio Arteaga completed the podium with 1.23.19,3. Arévalo has a wonderful record thus far in his short career, winning the 2010 World Cup U20 10km in Chihuahua, repeating the victory in the World Cup in Saransk in 2012 and then taking the 2012 World Junior walk gold (40:09.74!) and competing in the London Olympics while still a junior. Most recently, he won the 20km in the IAAF Challenge event in Chihuahua earlier this year. Definitely one to watch.

| 1. | Eider AREVALO | COL | 93 | 1:22:11.1 |
|----|-------------------------|-----|----|-----------|
| 2. | José MONTANA | COL | 92 | 1:22:14.1 |
| 3. | Mauricio ARTEAGA | ECU | 88 | 1:23:19.3 |
| 4. | Richard VARGAS | VEN | 94 | 1:24:11.4 |
| 5. | Yerko ARAYA | CHI | 86 | 1:24:13.8 |
| 6. | Juan Manuel CANO | ARG | 87 | 1:24:45.0 |
| 7. | Marco Antonio RODRIGUEZ | BOL | 94 | 1:26:36.6 |
| | Moacir ZIMMERMANN | BRA | 83 | DQ |
| | Ronal Rey QUISPE MISME | BOL | 89 | DQ |
| | Andres CHOCHO | ECU | 83 | DQ |
| | Edward ARAYA | CHI | 86 | DQ |
| | | | | |

See more reports at



The women's 20,000m race walk podium at the ODESUR Games (© Copyright Giovani Dos Santos)

MEMORIAL MARIO ALBISETTI, LUGANO, SWITZERLAND, SUNDAY 16 MARCH

The big events just kept on coming last weekend with the biggest of them all on Sunday in Switzerland - the 12th edition of the Memorial Mario Albisettis in Lugano (see http://www.lugano-racewalking.com) is one of the most prestigious race walking events on the European calendar and also doubled as a European Athletics Race Walking Permit Meet and an IAAF Challenge Series Meet. Ukraine's Ruslan Dmytrenko and China's Liu Hong claimed the wins against star studded fields on a sunny and warm morning in the picturesque Swiss lakeside town - but more of that below. My report is lifted from that of Diego Sampaolo, published on the IAAF website (see https://www.iaaf.org/news/report/ruslan-dmytrenko-liu-hong-lugano-trophy).

20km Open Men

Japan's Takumi Saito took the lead during the first five kilometres of the men's 20km race race but the eight- strong chasing group - Ruslan Dmytrenko, the Chinese pair of Cai Zelin and Wei Chu, Slovakia's Matej Toth, Australia's Jared Tallent, Ireland's 2013 IAAF World Championships 50km race walk winner Robert Heffernan, Japan's Daisuke Matsunaga and Poland's Dawid Tomala – caught Sato at 5km, which they reached in 20:20. The eight-man leading pack went through at 10km in 40:30 before Chu and Tomala started to struggle in the next kilometre and drifted off the back of the group.

Tallent, a triple Olympic Games medallist, tried to force the pace at 15km, which was passed in 1:00:46, but Dmytrenko and Cai jointly responded and surged away, opening up a gap of 10 seconds at 17km (1:08:32). The pair then embarked on a head-to-head duel in the next two kilometres before Dmytrenko, fourth in the 20km at the 2012 IAAF World Race Walking Cup, edged ahead at 19km. Dmyrenko crossed the finish line in 1:20:08, improving his personal best by nine seconds. Cai finished second in 1:20:31, beating Toth by 11 seconds. The Slovak former World Cup winner will compete in the 20km event at the IAAF World Race Walking Cup in Taicang, China, on 3-4 May and then in the 50km at the European Athletics Championships in Zurich this summer. Tallent took fourth place in 1:20:55, coming home two seconds ahead of Heffernan. "I am very happy with my personal best on a nice course. I enjoyed walking in sunny weather conditions," said Dmytrenko.

| 1. | Ruslan Dmytrenko | UKR | 86 | 1:20:08 |
|------------|-----------------------|------------|----------|---------|
| 2. | Cai Zelin | CHN | 91 | 1:20:31 |
| 3. | Matej Tóth | SVK | 83 | 1:20:42 |
| 4. | Jared Tallent | AUS | 84 | 1:20:55 |
| 5. | Robert Heffernan | IRL | 78 | 1:20:57 |
| 6. | Daisuke Matsunaga | JPN | 95 | 1:21:17 |
| 7. | Yu Wei | CHN | 87 | 1:22:57 |
| 8. | Dawid Tomala | POL | 89 | 1:23:02 |
| 9. | Aléxandros Papamihaíl | GRE | 88 | 1:23:04 |
| 10. | Marco De Luca | ITA | 81 | 1:23:24 |
| 11. | Ihor Hlavan | UKR | 90 | 1:23:34 |
| 12. | Máté Helebrandt | HUN | 89 | 1:23:35 |
| 13. | Caio Bonfim | BRA | 91 | 1:23:52 |
| 14. | Erick Barrondo | GUA | 91 | 1:24:05 |
| 15. | Anibal Paau | GUA | 87 | 1:24:08 |
| 16. | Łukasz Nowak | POL | 88 | 1:24:45 |
| 17. | Nils Gloger | GER | 90 | 1:24:51 |
| 18. | Hédi Taraaoui | TUN | 89 | 1:25:20 |
| 19. | Lebogang Shange | RSA | 90 | 1:25:23 |
| 20. | Li Tianlei | CHN | 95 | 1:25:29 |
| 21. | Tom Bosworth | GBR | 90 | 1:25:45 |
| 22. | Daniele Paris | ITA | 84 | 1:26:15 |
| 23. | Marc Mundell | RSA | 83 | 1:26:19 |
| 24. | Zhang Hang | CHN | 91 | 1:26:26 |
| 25. | Brendan Boyce | IRL | 86 | 1:26:33 |
| 26. | Dušan Majdán | SVK | 87 | 1:26:55 |
| 27. | Massimo Stano | ITA | 92 | 1:27:01 |
| 28. | Xie Sichao | CHN | 93 | 1:27:32 |
| 29. | Leonardo Dei Tos | ITA | 92 | 1:27:46 |
| 30. | Hagen Pohle | GER | 92 | 1:27:47 |
| 31. | Luke Hickey | IRL | 94 | 1:28:00 |
| 32. | Wayne Snyman | RSA | 85 | 1:28:05 |
| 33. | Håvard Haukenes | NOR | 90 | 1:28:15 |
| 34. | Jamie Higgins | GBR | 94 | 1:28:20 |
| 35. | Arnis Rumbenieks | LAT | 88 | 1:28:45 |
| 36. | Marcel Lehmberg | | 92 | |
| 30. 37. | | GER ITA | 92 85 | 1:28:53 |
| | Mirko Dolci | | | 1:29:13 |
| 38. | Mohamed Ameur | ALG | 84 | 1:29:14 |
| 39. | Hichem Medjber | ALG | 82 | 1:29:14 |
| 40. | | CZE | 91 | 1:29:30 |
| 41. | Andreas Janker | GER | 83 | 1:29:34 |
| 42. | Alex Chavez | USA | 93 | 1:29:37 |
| | Nils Brembach | GER | 93 | 1:29:46 |
| 44. | Ozgur Ozan Pamuk | TUR | 93 | 1:29:50 |
| 45. | Ferhat Belaïd | ALG | 92 | 1:30:01 |
| 46. | Sahin Senoduncu | TUR | 94 | 1:30:38 |
| 47. | Joakim Sælen | NOR | 93 | 1:30:41 |
| 48. | Kostyantyn Puzanov | UKR | 91 | 1:30:45 |
| 49. | James Treanor | IRL | 93 | 1:31:02 |
| 50. | Gregorio Ajcam | GUA | 93 | 1:32:54 |
| 51. | Pavel Schrom | CZE | 91 | 1:34:12 |
| 52. | Hugo Andrieu | FRA | 92 | 1:34:13 |
| 53. | Taoufik Yesref | ALG | 93 | 1:34:39 |
| 54. | Tommaso Romagnoli | ITA | 91 | 1:36:41 |
| 55. | Riccardo Macchia | ITA | 90 | 1:36:55 |
| 56. | Ondřej Motl | CZE | 94 | 1:37:49 |
| 57. | Bruno Carrière | CAN | 92 | 1:38:52 |
| 58. | Mohamed Meddour | ALG | 90 | 1:40:03 |

| 59. | Lukáš Pazdera | CZE | 86 | 1:41:39 |
|-----|--------------------------|-----|----|---------|
| 60. | Andrea Romanelli | ITA | 86 | 1:43:32 |
| 61. | Ruggero D'Ascanio | ITA | 84 | 1:44:47 |
| 62. | Nichan Daimer | GER | 67 | 1:45:54 |
| 63. | Serkan Dogan | TUR | 92 | 1:46:33 |
| 64. | Mattia Ganucci | ITA | 90 | 1:51:29 |
| 65. | Josef Smola | CZE | 64 | 1:52:25 |
| 66. | Secundo Edison Gualotuna | ECU | 76 | 1:52:47 |
| 67. | Viktar Ginko | BLR | 65 | 1:53:28 |
| 68. | Afrim Memolla | ALB | 92 | 1:56:48 |
| | Ivan Losev | UKR | 86 | DNF |
| | Antón Kučmín | SVK | 84 | DNF |
| | Andreas Gustafsson | SWE | 81 | DNF |
| | Graziano Morotti | ITA | 51 | DNF |
| | Richard Wild | GBR | 70 | DNF |
| | Ato Ibáñez | SWE | 85 | DNF |
| | Takuya Yoshida | JPN | 90 | DNF |
| | Christopher Linke | GER | 88 | DNF |
| | Sándor Rácz | HUN | 86 | DNF |
| | Alex Flórez | SUI | 71 | DNF |
| | Bruno Morotti | ITA | 65 | DNF |
| | Alex Wright | IRL | 90 | DNF |
| | Perseus Karlström | SWE | 90 | DNF |
| | Émerson Hernández | ESA | 89 | DNF |
| | Takumi Saito | JPN | 93 | DQ |
| | Jakub Jelonek | POL | 85 | DQ |
| | Lorenzo Dessi | ITA | 89 | DQ |
| | | | | |

20km Open Women

Liu Hong, a medallist at the last three IAAF World Championships, edged young Italian rising star Eleonora Anna Giorgi by just four seconds in the womens race to win in 1:27:25. The Czech rising star Anezka Drahotova, the 2013 European junior 10,000m champion on the track and seventh in the 20km at the World Championships, drove a leading pack of Liu Hong, Giorgi, Poland's Agniewska Dygasz and Ukraine's Lyudmila Olyanovska for the first 10km, the five women going through halfway in 44:14. The group was then whittled down to just three women when Drahotova, Liu and Giorgi surged, increased their ace and went through 15km in 1:05:55. Liu and Giorgi broke away at 18 km quickly carving out a five-second gap over the Czech teenager and increased their gap to 20 seconds as they heard the bell for the final one kilometre lap. The Chinese star launched her kick in the final part of the race to claim her third win in Lugano with 1:27:25.

"It was a very competitive race against two very strong athletes. I am happy because I started my training only 40 days ago after recovering from a stress fracture. I am happy to win my third race here in Lugano", said Liu.

Giorgi crowned the best race of her young career with 1:27:29, improving her previous best time of 1:29:48 by over two minutes, and was just 20 seconds short of Elisabetta Perrone's national record. "I am used to walking in the chasing group. Today, I wanted to walk at the front and this change of tactic gave me a great feeling. I was thrilled to hear the fans supporting me along the course," said Giorgi. "I tried to keep the pace with Liu Hong and I managed to stay with her until the final 200 metres. I improved my personal best for the 10km twice clocking 44:14 in the first half and 43:15 in the second part of the race. I need just two more exams to get my degree at the University. It is not easy to combine study and sport but I manage to do both successfully. My goals are the World Cup in Taicang and the European Championships. My performance today makes me dream (of a medal) but I am aware that I have a lot of work to do. My race in Zurich is scheduled on 14th August. Fourteen is my favourite number as I was born on 14th September 1989 and I finished 14th at the Olympic Games in London."

Drahotova hung on to finish third and improved her own national record, set in Moscow, by almost a minute to 1:28:13. Dygasz and Olyanovska finished fourth and fifth in 1:29:08 and 1:29:26 respectively; with both women going under 1:30 for the first times in their careers. One small surprise was that Guatemala's Mirna Ortiz, the Area record holder with 1:28:31 from last year, didn't feature in the sharp end of the race and came home eighth in 1:32:21.

| 1. | Liu Hong | CHN | 87 | 1:27:25 |
|-----|----------------------------|-----|----|---------|
| 2. | Eleonora Giorgi | ITA | 89 | 1:27:29 |
| 3. | Anežka Drahotová | CZE | 95 | 1:28:13 |
| 4. | Agnieszka Dygacz | POL | 85 | 1:29:08 |
| 5. | Lyudmyla Olyanovska | UKR | 93 | 1:29:26 |
| 6. | Rachel Lavallée Seaman | CAN | 86 | 1:31:40 |
| 7. | Paulina Buziak | POL | 86 | 1:31:47 |
| 8. | Mirna Ortiz | GUA | 87 | 1:32:21 |
| 9. | Neringa Aidietytė | LTU | 83 | 1:32:22 |
| 10. | Brigita Virbalytė-Dimšienė | LTU | 85 | 1:32:48 |
| 11. | Déspina Zapounídou | GRE | 85 | 1:33:02 |
| 12. | Jo Atkinson | GBR | 85 | 1:33:43 |

| 13. | Yang Mingxia | CHN | 90 | 1:34:28 |
|-----|-------------------------|-----|-----|---------|
| 14. | Lucie Pelantová | CZE | 86 | 1:34:39 |
| 15. | Alina Matveyuk | BLR | 90 | 1:34:51 |
| 16. | Katarzyna Burghardt | POL | 85 | 1:35:01 |
| 17. | Valentina Trapletti | ITA | 85 | 1:36:11 |
| 18. | Katarzyna Golba | POL | 89 | 1:37:22 |
| 19. | Viktória Madarász | HUN | 85 | 1:37:54 |
| 20. | Agnese Pastare | LAT | 88 | 1:38:31 |
| 21. | Claudia Ştef | ROU | 78 | 1:39:09 |
| 22. | Laura Polli | SUI | 83 | 1:39:35 |
| 23. | Maritza Rafaela Poncio | GUA | 94 | 1:39:37 |
| 24. | Monika Kapera | POL | 90 | 1:40:20 |
| 25. | Mariavittoria Becchetti | ITA | 94 | 1:40:29 |
| 26. | Eliška Drahotová | CZE | 95 | 1:40:41 |
| 27. | Serena Pruner | ITA | 86 | 1:41:03 |
| 28. | Heather Lewis | GBR | 93 | 1:42:11 |
| 29. | Cisiane Lopes | BRA | 83 | 1:42:46 |
| 30. | Corli Swart | RSA | 91 | 1:43:07 |
| 31. | Michelle Turner | GBR | 72 | 1:45:23 |
| 32. | Monika Nawrocka | POL | 90 | 1:47:33 |
| 33. | Anett Torma | HUN | 84 | 1:47:47 |
| 34. | Alana Barber | NZL | 87 | 1:52:40 |
| 35. | Bariza Ghezelani | ALG | 93 | 1:53:21 |
| 36. | Brenda Gannon | IRL | | 1:53:52 |
| 37. | Viviana Valsecchi | ITA | 92 | 1:54:28 |
| 38. | Rebecca Collins | GBR | 91 | 1:57:02 |
| 39. | Corinne Henchoz | SUI | 64 | 1:59:39 |
| 40. | Anna Selníková | CZE | 94 | 2:06:15 |
| | Gladys Moretti | ITA | 91 | DNF |
| | Alessia Costantino | ITA | 94 | DNF |
| | Federica Curiazzi | ITA | 92 | DNF |
| | Marie Polli | SUI | 280 | DNF |
| | Mayra Carolina Herrera | GUA | 288 | DQ |
| | Sibilla Di Vincenzo | ITA | 83 | DQ |
| | Bethan Davies | GBR | 90 | DQ |
| | Asma Oukhlif | ALG | 91 | DQ |
| | | | | |





Ukraine's Ruslan Dmytrenko and China's Liu Hong claim victory in the 20km events at Lugano (photos www.iaaf.org)





Action from the men's leading pack - Matej Toth and Robbie Heffernan lead (photos Claire Tallent)

Right: Jared is pleased with his 4th place



18 year old Anežka Drahotová (12) leads the women in their race (photo Emmanuel Tardi)

The Junior 10km races were also keenly contested with wins going to Zaharías Tsamoudákis (42:35) and Nicole Colombi (49:28) while the U18 events went to He Xianghong (43:51) and Henrika Parviainen (48:58).

10km Junior Men

| am a | unioi Mich | | | |
|------|-------------------------|-----|----|-------|
| 1. | Zaharías Tsamoudákis | GRE | 96 | 42:35 |
| 2. | Muratean Karapınar | TUR | 96 | 42:40 |
| 3. | Jonathan Hilbert | GER | 95 | 42:42 |
| 4. | Daniele Todisco | ITA | 95 | 44:24 |
| 5. | Karl Junghannß | GER | 96 | 45:05 |
| 6. | Andrea Agrusti | ITA | 95 | 45:36 |
| 7. | Michal Morvay | SVK | 96 | 46:08 |
| 8. | Leonardo Baldacchini | ITA | 95 | 47:22 |
| 9. | Massimiliano Cortinovis | ITA | 95 | 47:27 |
| 10. | Hélder Dos Santos | POR | 96 | 47:35 |
| 11. | Heiner Terp | GER | 96 | 47:53 |
| 12. | Manuel Giordano | ITA | 94 | 50:01 |
| 13. | Marco Giordano | ITA | 95 | 52:26 |
| | | | | |

| | Heiner Terp | GER | 96 | DNF |
|--------------|--------------------------------|------------|----------|----------------|
| | Simone Ghilardi | ITA | 95 | DNF |
| | Süleyman Baytar | TUR | 95 | DQ |
| | Samuele Foresti | ITA | 96 | DQ |
| | | | | |
| | inior Women | | | |
| 1. | Nicole Colombi | ITA | 95 | 49:28 |
| 2. | Eleonora Dominici | ITA | 96 | 49:51 |
| 3. | Maxi Woelke | GER | 95 | 51:21 |
| 4. | Diana Cacciotti | ITA | 95 | 52:44 |
| 5. | Erika Parviainen | FIN | 95 | 52:48 |
| 6. | Annika Brembach | GER | 96 | 53:11 |
| 7. | Lea Dederichs | GER | 95 | 53:32 |
| 8. | Jasmine Nicholls | GBR | 95 | 54:03 |
| 9. | Maria Teresa Cortesi | ITA | 96 | 54:11 |
| 10. | | ITA | 96 | 55:53 |
| 11. | | ITA | 96 | 56:08 |
| 12. | | ITA | 96 | 56:26 |
| | Lisa Cani | ITA | 96 | 58:09 |
| 14. | | ITA | 96 | 60:12 |
| | Margherita Crosta | ITA | 95 | DNF |
| | Ellie Dooley | GBR | 95 | DQ |
| 101 II | 10 M | | | |
| 10km U 1. | | CHN | 0.0 | 12.51 |
| 1. 2. | He Xianghong Pietro Zabbeni | CHN ITA | 98 98 | 43:51 44:55 |
| 3. | | CHN | 98 97 | 44.33 |
| | Zhao Jianguo | | | |
| 4. 5. | Gong Fanglong | CHN | 98 | 46:01 |
| | Callum Wilkinson | GBR | 97 | 46:36 |
| 6. | Tomas Gdula | CZE | 97 07 | 46:55 |
| 7. | Alessandro Rigamonti | ITA | 97 | 47:33 |
| 8. | Cameron Corbishley | GBR | 97 | 48:24 |
| 9. | Paul Körner | GER | 97 | 50:11 |
| 10. | | ITA | 97 | 51:33 |
| 11. | <i>O</i> - | ITA | 98 | 52:04 |
| 12. | | ITA | 98 | 53:04 |
| 13. | Simone Manfredini | ITA | 98 | 55:59 |
| 10km U | 18 Women | | | |
| 1. | Henrika Parviainen | FIN | 97 | 48:58 |
| 2. | Xiao Xianghua | CHN | 97 | 49:27 |
| 3. | Emma Achurch | GBR | 97 | 49:31 |
| 4. | Giada Francesca Ciabini | ITA | 97 | 51:45 |
| 5. | Zhang Yan | CHN | 96 | 51:58 |
| 6. | Julia Henze | GER | 98 | 53:33 |
| 7. | Wang Xiaohui | CHN | 97 | 54:13 |
| 8. | Lidia Barcella | ITA | 97 | 54:43 |
| 9. | Beatrice Foresti | ITA | 98 | 55:38 |
| 10. | Prisca Simonetti | ITA | 98 | 56:44 |
| 11. | Molly Jade Davey | GBR | 98 | 56:52 |
| 12. | Linda Terzi | ITA | 98 | 58:23 |
| 13. | Lucie Novakova | CZE | 98 | 60:25 |
| 14. | Virginia Donadini | ITA | 98 | 63:15 |
| 15. | Federica Botta | ITA | 98 | 67:13 |
| | | | | |

Full results with splits: http://www.swisswalking.org/data/pdf/resultats/2014/2014/0316_lugano_trophy.pdf
Offial Photos (some great snaps here): http://www.swisswalking.org/fr/news/detail/213

Race video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jO7fRU7i1DM&feature=youtu.be

SERBIAN ROADWALK CHAMPIONSHIPS, BOR, SERBIA, SATURDAY 8 MARCH

Thanks to oMarchador (see http://omarchador.blogspot.pt/2014/03/predrag-filipovic-e-jelena-kostic.html) for their report on the Serbian roadwalk championship, held in Bor, 10km south of Belgrade, on Saturay 8th March. The best performance of the day had to be that of Predrag Filipović who won the men's 10km in the very fast time of 40:48.8, ahed of Vladimir Savanović 41:41.0 and Predrag Krstović 46:28.6. Jelena Kostić won the women's 5km title with a time of 27:48.8.

| 10km N | 1en | | | |
|--------|----------------------------|------|---------|--|
| 1. | Predrag Filipović | 1978 | 40:48.8 | |
| 2. | Vladimir Savanović | 1985 | 41:41.0 | |
| 3. | Nikola Lilić (U20) | 1996 | 45:36.2 | |
| 4. | Predrag Krstović | 1980 | 46:28.6 | |
| 5. | Predrag Pešić (U18) | 1998 | 48:19.9 | |
| 6. | Milan Zeković (U20) | 1995 | 49:52.0 | |
| 7. | Nikola Jovanović (U18) | 1998 | 52:57.3 | |
| 8. | Dimitrije Dejković (U18) | 1998 | 53:05.7 | |
| 9. | Danijel Nikolić | 1986 | 59:09.6 | |
| | Nenad Zdravković | 1995 | DNF | |
| 5km W | omen | | | |
| 1. | Jelena Kostić | 1994 | 27:48.8 | |
| 2. | Jovana Milosavljević (U18) | 1998 | 28:57.6 | |
| 3. | Milica Stojanović | 1993 | 29:18.7 | |
| 4. | Aleksandra Manić (U18) | 1998 | 29:33.4 | |
| 5. | Jelena Ivković | 1990 | 30:18.9 | |
| 6. | | | | |
| 7. | Marija Krstić | 1995 | 31:50.9 | |
| 8. | Vlastimirka Puškić (U18) | 1998 | 32:06.3 | |
| 9. | Milica Jović (U18) | 1997 | 32:21.3 | |
| 10km J | unior Women | | | |
| 1. | Milica Kostić | 1996 | 52:36.5 | |
| 2. | Danica Gogov | 1996 | 53:29.9 | |
| 3. | Jovana Drašković | 1996 | 61:27.8 | |
| 4. | Jovana Milošević | 1996 | 69:39.7 | |
| 3km Bo | oys | | | |
| 1. | Jovan Delčev | 1999 | 18:56.1 | |
| 2. | Miloš Petrović | 1999 | 19:10.4 | |
| 3. | Dimitrije Gavrilović | 2001 | 19:39.5 | |
| 4. | Marko Mićić | 2000 | 20:25.6 | |
| | Lazar Živković | 2002 | DQ | |
| 2km Gi | rls | | | |
| 1. | Milica Simić | 2000 | 12:16.6 | |
| 2. | Maja Stojanović | 1999 | 13:05.7 | |
| 3. | Milja Dimitrov | 1999 | 13:27.7 | |
| 4. | Vesna Matić | 2001 | 14:21.4 | |

2014 ASCOT HOTEL MANX HARRIERS OPEN MEETING, ISLE OF MAN, SATURDAY 8 MARCH

The annual Ascot Hotel Manx Harriers Open Meeting was held on the Isle of Man on Saturday 8th March in difficult and windy conditions. This year the meet also played host to the Nihill Shield Junior Racewalking Match between England RWA and Ireland, the shield being retained by the England RWA team. The new Pit Lane rule was used so any walk times with an * indicate a time penalt for that walker. Results read as follows.

Open 20km

| 1. | Alex Eaton | Manx Harriers | U20M | 1.39.38 |
|-----|------------------|----------------------|-------|----------|
| 2. | Jock Waddington | Isle of Man Veterans | M50 | 1.45.04 |
| 3. | Adam Cowin | Manx Harriers | U23 | 1.46.45 |
| 4. | John Egan | Bree | Sen M | 1.50.02 |
| 5. | Dale Farquhar | Manx Harriers | Sen M | 1.50.56 |
| 6. | Dave Walker | Manx Harriers | M40 | 1.52.59 |
| 7. | Vinny Lynch | Isle of Man Veterans | M50 | 1.56.34* |
| 8. | David Kidd | St. L. O'Tooles | Sen M | 1.57.20 |
| 9. | Stewart Jones | Manx Harriers | M40 | 2.01.57 |
| 10. | Andy Green | Manx Harriers | M60 | 2.01.57 |
| 11. | Andrew Titley | Isle of Man Veterans | M45 | 2.03.11 |
| 12. | Sarah Bourke | St. Coca's | Sen W | 2.06.29 |
| 13. | Darrin Oldam | Unattached | M45 | 2.11.06 |
| 14. | Eric Hynes | Swinford | Sen M | 2.11.19 |
| 15. | Philip Vermeulen | Unattached | M55 | 2.16.08 |
| 16. | Ed Walter | Manx Harriers | M35 | 2.19.43 |
| 17. | Mark Byrne | Redcar R.W.C. | M50 | 2.29.37 |
| | | | | |

| Open | 10km | | | |
|------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|--------|
| 1 | | Clonmel | U20M | 45.33 |
| 2 | | KCH | U20M | 54.41 |
| 3 | 1 2 | Wolverhampton & Bilston | U20M | 57.54 |
| 4 | | Manx Harriers | W50 | 58.26 |
| 5 | | Manx Harriers | W40 | 58.30 |
| 6 | 2 | Isle of Man Veterans | W40 W50 | 58.49 |
| 7 | C | Manx Harriers | U20W | 59.16 |
| 8 | | Manx Harriers | | |
| 9 | | | U20 | 61.39 |
| | | Unattached | SenW | 64.12 |
| | Dermot O'Toole | Unattached | M60 | 69.56 |
| | Stephanie Morley | Claremorris | U20W | 70.13 |
| | 2. Norbert Will | Northern Ireland Veterans | M75 | 71.20 |
| 1. | 3. Mary Tait | Unattached | W40 | 80.45 |
| | Steph Quayle | Manx Harriers | W45 | DNF |
| 5km | | | | |
| 1 | Aaron Egan | Clonmel | U17B | 23.35 |
| 2 | | Bexley | U17B | 24.29 |
| 3 | | Clonmel | U20M | 24.58* |
| 4 | | Manx Harriers | U17B | 25.00 |
| 5 | | Cambridge Harriers | U17G | 25.13 |
| 6 | | Ballinasloe | U20W | 25.15 |
| 7 | | Castlebar | U17B | 25.30 |
| 8 | | Mullingar Harriers | U17G | 25.31 |
| 9 | | Aldershot Farnham & District | | 26.19* |
| |). Sinead O'Connor | Celbridge | U20W | 26.22 |
| _ | Dearbhaile Beirne | Mohill | U17G | 26.47 |
| | 2. Joe Mooney | Adamstown | U17B | 27.05 |
| | 3. Ashling Heneghan | Westport | U20W | 27.11 |
| | 4. Edel Glennon | Mullingar Harriers | U20W | 27.17 |
| | 5. Orlaith Delahunt | Sligo | U17G | 27.25 |
| | 6. Karen Bourke | St. Coca's | U20W | 29.31 |
| | 7. Fina Hayes | Le Cheile | U17G | 30.04 |
| | 8. Aloisia King | | U17G | 30.04 |
| | | Tallaght | | |
| 1 | 9. Indigo Burgin | Cambridge Harriers | U17G | 31.22 |
| | * 1 mint | ite pit lane time penalty applied | | |
| 3km | | | | |
| 1 | | City of Sheffield | U15G | 14.15 |
| 2 | | Aldershot Farnham & District | | 15.07 |
| 3 | | Celbridge | U15G | 15.11 |
| 4 | | City of Sheffield | U15G | 16.26 |
| 5 | | Cambridge Harriers | U15G | 16.33 |
| 6 | Ben Allen | Leicester Walking Club | U15B | 16.47 |
| 7 | Sarah Glennon | Mulingar Harriers | U15G | 17.05 |
| 8 | Anna Bourke | St. Coca's | U15G | 17.32 |
| 9 | Sandra McWade | Mullingar Harriers | U15G | 17.53 |
| 2km | | | | |
| 1 | Kara Lane | Birchfield Harriers | U13G | 10.56 |
| 2 | Lucy Lewis Ward | Cambridge Harriers | U13G | 11.23 |
| 3 | | Manx Harriers | U13B | 12.40 |
| 4 | | Northern A.C. | U13G | 12.53 |
| | | | | |
| 1km | | | | |
| 1 | | Manx Harriers | U13B | 6.53 |
| 2 | Hannah Halsall | Manx Harriers | U11G | 7.08 |
| | | | | |





Left: 20k/10k start Right: year old Alex Eaton (photographs Murray Lambden)

OUT AND ABOUT

Australian Open 20km roadwalk champion **Kelly Ruddick** was honoured last week at the annual Australian Masters Athletics awards by being announced as the overall AMA Walks Award winner for 2013. Kelly is not only our current top open female walker, she has also be recognized as our top Masters walker. Since coming into the W40 division nearly 12 months ago, she has made her mark with five world records in 3000m, 5000m and 10000m as well as an Australian record in the 20 km. Congratulations Kelly.

The Spanish Masters Indoor Athletics Champs were held on 9th March in Zaragoza, Spain, and are fully reported by oMarchador at http://omarchador.blogspot.pt/2014/03/maria-jose-poves-com-recorde-do-mundo.html. Highlight was the new W35 World Record of 12:23.46 (3000m) set by 36 year old international and Olympic walker Maria Jose Poves.

VRWC CLUB RECORD UPDATE

Three new VRWC club records this week from the Australian Junior Championships in Sydney

| Corey Dickson | 3000m Track Walk U12 | 15:16.01 | Aust Junior T&F Champs, Sydney | 14/03/2014 |
|---------------|------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Kyle Swan | 10,000m Track Walk U15 & U16 | 46:50.00 | Aust Junior T&F Champs, Sydney | 14/03/2014 |
| Jemima Montag | 10,000m Track Walk U7 & U18 | 48:25.18 | Aust Junior T&F Champs, Sydney | 14/03/2014 |

JERZY HAUSLEBER (1930-2014)

I hardly know where to start when reporting the death of Jerzy Hausleber, the Polish coach who revolutionised the world of racewalking in the 1970's and who took Mexico from an unknown minnow to the world's strongest walking nation in less than 10 years.

Hausleber was born in September 1930 in Poland and died of cardiac arrest in March 2014 in Mexico City, Mexico, aged 83. As a young man in the Polish navy, he had visited Mexico in 1949 when his ship berthed in Veracruz. Little did he realise at that stage that he would spend the better part of his life in that country and become, in the process, a national hero.

It all came about in the leadup to the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City when, in 1966, General Jose de Jesus Clark Flores, then President of the Mexican Olympic Committee, initiated a project to bring international coaches to Mexico in certain target sports to increase the chances of medals at their first home Olympics. Why was walking targeted - perhaps the altitude factor mixed with the natural fluency and endurance of the Mexican people, or perhaps it was just seen as an easy target sport due to its small footprint internationally at the time. Regardless of why, he was one of 7 instructors brought to Mexico as part of the program, arriving on 30 th May 1966 and taking on a small group of 6 athletes. He was a little known coach an an ex-boxer. His racewalking credentials were few. Can you imagine the learning curve in going from Poland to Mexico in the sixties - language, customs and expectations to name a few.

One of those early pupils was an unknown 29 year old army sergeant by the name of Jose Pedraza. He was quick to learn, claiming the nation's first international title when he won the 10,000m walk at the 1966 Central American and Caribbean Games in San Juan,

Puerto Rico. He was soon to become world famous in what was the most controversial Olympic Games of all time. Commercialism had become an issue in the form of sponsorship and the wearing of branded running shoes (Nike and Adidas). The Black Power movement was beginning to find a voice. The Warsaw Bloc countries had invaded Czechoslovakia. The Mexican government had brutally put down riots over the poor living conditions of the impoverished population. And finally the altitude of Mexico City (7,347 feet above sea level) was the main topic of discussion for months before the Games. Many sports commentators were predicting deaths in the endurance events and much attention was focussed on the marathon and long walks.

If there were concerns about the altitude, it did not deter the athletes and good fields of 33 and 36 walkers contested the two walks—with Pedraza entered in both events. The great Russian walker Golubnichiy, in his third Olympics, was always going to be the walker to beat in the 20km championship. The World Record holder since 1958 (1:27:05), with Olympic gold and bronze medals already in his possession and coming off silver medals in the 1966 European and the 1967 Lugano Cup 20 km events, he was a big-event performer and the one who was seemed strong enough to beat the altitude.

The event was an unusual one. The starting time was 4.30pm and competitors finished the last 2km in darkness. Early on, Golubnichiy (USSR) and Laird (USA), who were leading, went straight instead of turning into the circuit. They lost some 20 yards but Golubnichiy caught the leaders again within 200 yards, while Laird never recovered and finished a disappointing 25th.

Oxygen debt hit most competitors early in the race and the second half was a struggle for all but the leading few. After 85 minutes of hard walking, Golubnichiy entered the stadium in first place, followed closely by teammate Nikolai Smaga. Then the 60,000-plus spectators went wild as a third walker appeared – Mexican champion Jose Pedraza. 200 metres from the finish, Pedraza passed Smaga and set his sights on Golubnichiy. As Pedraza pushed his body to the limit, he received three cautions but it would have taken a suicidal judge to disqualify the determined Mexican while the stadium echoed with chants of "May-hee-co" and "Pay-drah-zah." An international incident was avoided when Golubnichiy drew away slightly in the home stretch to win by a mere three yards. Mexican racewalking had arrived!



The famous finish – Golubnichiy looks over his shoulder with 90m to go to see Pedrza closing quickly.

Money soon flowed into the fledgling racewalking program and Hausleber was able to expand, bringing more walkers into the program. It did not happen overnight and not with generation-one but by 1976, Mexico was the undisputed top country in their new national sport of racewalking. Olympic medals in 1976 (Daniel Bautista 20km gold), 1984 (Raul Gonzalez 50km gold and 20km silver and Ernesto Canto 20km gold), 1992 (Carlos Mercenario 20km silver) and 1996 (Bernardo Segura 20km bronze), along with a whole string of world records, World Racewalking Cup medals and IAAF World Championship medals flowed from the program. (official records indicate that his charges won 118 medals in international competitions).

Hausleber's lasting contribution to the world of racewalking was his "Mexican" style. Gone was the classic "heel and toe", replaced by the fluid, "foot-hitting-the ground-going-backwards" mechanics that propelled the sport's performances to unheard-of heights. It must be said that some judges took a while to embrace the revolution, and "el profe" (the Prof - as Hausleber was often called) had to endure criticism for a string of Mexican DQs. What Hausleber taught Mexican stars like Gonzalez, Bautista, Mercenario, Mendoza, the dogged Bermudez and the supreme elegance that was Ernesto Canto, the Mexicans taught the rest of us. (Extracted from the email that Canada's Roger Burrows sent to people on his list.)

The world came to Mexico to learn from him and he opened his doors to one and all. It was tough work with hard sessions at heady altitudes and no one could keep up with the Mexicans. Yet through it all, the Mexicans flowed with a new found rhythm and confidence and a speed that was staggering to behold. The walking drills that Hausleber developed and promoted are now used world wide.



The always impeccably dressed Hausleber with some of his best - Raul Gonzales, Daniel Bautista and Ernesto Canto (photo http://www.excelsior.com.mx/adrenalina/2014/03/13/948450#image-3)

Hausleber was in Mexico for good. He was naturalised in 1984, received the decoration of the Aztec Eagle in 1993 and won the National Sports Award twice (in 1995 and 2011). The auditorium of the National Coaching School Sports (ENED) and the track of the National Center for Talent Development Sports and High Performance (CNAR) bear his name.

Even after bad health forced his retirement from the program, he continued to receive from the Mexican government, through CONADE (National Commission for Physical Culture and Sport), a monthly salary of 29,800 pesos, a chauffeur, a nurse and medical expenses.

Olympic champions Daniel Bautista and Ernesto Canto led the group of former athletes who attended his funeral service last week in Mexico City. Others present included the CONADE director Jesus Mena and the President of the Mexican Olympic Committee, Carlos Padilla.

His death drew tributes from many senior public figures and also many of the athletes he coached.

"This is a great loss for the sport and also for the Mexican walking. He was the coach who achieved the most in any sport for our country. No one produced so many Olympic medalists, World champions, Pan American and Central American winners," commented Ernesto Canto, who won the 20km race walk at the 1983 IAAF World Championships and 1984 Olympic Games. "There was nobody who was his equal, he leaves a great legacy. Not only was he an extraordinary coach, but he was also a great person and extraordinary human being."

Carlos Mercenario, the 1992 Olympic Games 50km silver medallist and three-time winner at the IAAF World Race Walking Cup, also paid tribute to his mentor. "Nobody led the way he did. Mexican sport in the international context has never had such good results. From Jose Pedraza in 1968 (the 1968 Olympic Games 20km race walk silver medallist and Mexico's first Olympic medallist in athletics) right up until the most recent medals, they were all a product of his knowledge."

Links for further viewing and reading: - check out the first link which is a fantastic 13 minute video on the history of Mexican race walking and Jerzy Hausleber by Mexican journalist Antonio Rosique.

www.marciaitaliana.com/ita/visualizza_video.aspx?id=27

http://omarchador.blogspot.pt/2014/03/morreu-jerzy-hausleber-1930-2014.html

http://www.marciaitaliana.com/ita/dettagli_news.aspx?id=1720

http://www.iaaf.org/news/iaaf-news/jerzy-hausleber-death

http://www.excelsior.com.mx/adrenalina/2014/03/13/948450



Hausleber jokes with Ernesto Canto in 2011 on the occasion of his National Sports Award

DATES...DATES

As usual, I finish with a list of upcoming events on the local, national and international fronts. Let me know of any errors/omissions.

2013/2014 Australian/Victorian Summer Season Key Dates

Sun Mar 23, 2014 VMA 5000m Track Champs and VRWC track walks, Dolomore Oval, Mentone, VIC

Sat Mar 29, 2014 Queensland Track Classic, Brisbane (QLD) - 5000m walks

Mar 29-30, 2014 LAVic State T&F Championships

April 3-6, 2014 92nd Australian Athletics Championships, Melbourne (VIC) - 10,000m walks

2014 International Fixture

| Mar 25-30 2014 | WMA Indoor Championships, Budapest, Hungary - https://www.facebook.com/WMABudapest2014 |
|------------------|--|
| May 3-4, 2014 | 26th IAAF World Race Walking Cup, Taicang, China |
| May 18, 2014 | Naumburg International Racewalks, Naumburg, Germany |
| July 22-27, 2014 | 15th World Junior T&F Championships, Eugene, Oregon, USA |
| Aug 16-28, 2014 | Youth Olympic Games, Nanjing, China. See http://www.nanjing2014.org/en/ |

2014 European Athletics Permit Meets

| Mar 22, 2014 | Dudinska 50, Dudince, Slovakia |
|--------------|--|
| Apr 5, 2014 | Grand Prix of Rio Maior, Rio Maior, Portugal |
| Apr 12, 2014 | Podebrady, Podebrady, Czech Republic |
| Jun 8, 2014 | British Grand Prix of Racewalking, York, England |
| Jun 13, 2014 | International Festival of Alytus, Lithuania |
| Aug 31, 2014 | Voronovo Cup, Moscow, Russia |

Remaining 2014 IAAF Challenge Series Walks

| Mar 22, 2014 | Dudince | SVK | Area Permit | C Category |
|-----------------|-----------|-----|------------------------|------------|
| Apr 5, 2014 | Rio Maior | POR | Area Permit | C Category |
| Apr 12, 2014 | Podebrady | CZE | Area Permit | C Category |
| May 3-4, 2014 | Taicang | CHN | IAAF World RW Cup | A Category |
| May 31, 2014 | La Coruna | ESP | IAAF Permit | B Category |
| Aug 10-14, 2014 | Marrakech | MAR | African Championships | C Category |
| Aug 12-27, 2014 | Zurich | SUI | European Championships | C Category |
| | | | | |

Looking even further forward

| July 3-14, 2015 | 28th Summer Universiade, Gwanju, South Korea |
|-----------------|--|
| July 2015 | 9th World Youth T&F Championships, Cali, Colombia |
| Aug 22-30, 2015 | 15th IAAF World Championships in Athletics, Beijing, China |
| July/Aug 2015 | 20th World Masters T&F Champs Stadia, Lyon, France |
| May 2016 | 27th IAAF World Race Walking Cup, Cheboksary, Russia |

July 2016 16th World Junior T&F Championships,?

Oct 26 -Nov 6, 2016 21st World Masters T&F Champs Stadia, Perth, Australia. See http://www.perth2016.com

Aug 2016 31st Olympic Games, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. See http://www.rio2016.org.br/en/Default.aspx

July 2017 10th World Youth T&F Championships, ?
July 2017 29th Summer Universiade, Taipei, Taiwan

August 5-13, 2017 **16th IAAF World Championships in Athletics, London, UK**May 2018 **28th IAAF World Race Walking Cup, Cheboksary, Russia**

July 2018 16th World Junior T&F Championships, ?

Apr 4-15, 2018 Commonwealth Games, Gold Coast, Queensland (racewalks on the program). See http://www.gc2018.com

2019 17th IAAF World Championships in Athletics, ?
July 2019 11th World Youth T&F Championships, ?
July 2019 30th Summer Universiade, Brazil

July 2020 32nd Olympic Games, Tokyo

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Copies of recent newsletters are kept on the VRWC website (http://www.vrwc.org.au)