



## HEEL AND TOE ONLINE

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### WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT IN AUSTRALIA

At this stage of the year, Australian walkers would normally be gearing up for the summer season, with track races getting underway in the next month or so. That might still happen in States where Covid has been under control for many months now, but here in Victoria, I can't see any activity any time soon. My best guess is that interclub might get underway after Christmas if our count stays down. But it's all guesswork and speculation at this stage. Stay tuned!

### PAUL F DEMEESTER TALKS MATTERS IAAF AND IOC

Thanks to US Attorney at Law Paul F. DeMeester for another insightful analysis. That is the 27<sup>th</sup> in a row and it's a beauty. You can see links to all Paul's articles at the bottom of webpage <http://www.vrwc.org.au/save-the-50km.shtml>.

### WORLD ATHLETICS DOLLARS AND CENTS: DOOM AND GLOOM

By Paul F. DeMeester

World Athletics finally published its first annual financial report on 10 September 2020. A special Congress was convened in late 2016 to enact reform and transparency. What took so long? (See [World Athletics 2019 Annual Report and Accounts](#).) The 88-page brochure is glossy enough, with plenty of color photos, one of which shows Liu Hong receiving an award at the annual Monaco gala, and another displays Yusuke Suzuki crossing his golden finish line at the Doha Worlds Men's 50K Race Walk Event. (Report, at pp. 17, 47.) Now, I am not one to complain of typos in official documents. Just look at any of my legal briefs to see why. But then again, I fly solo in my writing. What's the excuse of well-staffed World Athletics and its fancy audit accounting outfit Ernst & Young to twice refer to "Accounting Policy" in a heading? (Report, at pp. 42, 57.) Doesn't anybody over there proof-read anymore?



*Liu Hong gracing the Monaco stage (second from right)*



*Suzuki's 50K Worlds gold improved on Hirooki Arai's London silver*

The report reflects the commercial branding attitudes of its President, Seb Coe, in stressing building “*a better product*,” establishing “*more partnerships that generate more revenue*” and “*more media opportunities*.” (Report, at p. 7.) World Athletics is “*particularly proud of the 10-year partnership we signed with the Wanda Group in 2019*.” (Report, at p. 22.) The commercial agreement is touted as “*the largest commercial partnership in the history of World Athletics*.” (Report, at p. 22.) Indeed, but at what price? The 200m, steeplechase, discus throw and triple jump were axed from the Diamond League. Keep this up and soon enough, athletics will be relegated to be the half-time show at World Cup matches featuring 60m sprints.

The Coe influence is further felt in the compass World Athletics is holding to see in which direction it should go. Two years ago, World Athletics commissioned a Nielsen study about athletics. (Report, at p. 23.) You may have heard of the Nielsen ratings. Nielsen is the company that tracks who is watching what on television, so that corporations can aim their ads at gullible buyers in order to get them to buy more soap, candy and all sorts of medicine (never mind the disclaimers). The effort may have been a waste of money on the part of World Athletics. Did we really need an expensive study to learn that 78% of athletics fans are proud of the athletes from their home country? (Report, at p. 25.) Moreover, I have some doubt about the results. The study claims that “*48% of the global population between the ages of 16-69 run*.” (Report, at p. 24.) Really? I look at the group of people I know, a group that includes many active folks, and 48% is a gross overestimation. Bear in mind that I live in an area of the world where physical activity is revered. But even for that group, I suspect that 48% obesity might be a more accurate measure. Of course, Coe wants to let survey research dictate what World Athletics should do. So, I propose the Coe Doctrine: every year, Nielsen does a survey to find out which event is the least watched and brings in the least amount of advertising potential to World Athletics. The powers that be can then delete that event from future championships. In the end, all that's left will be the 60m half-time show. Coe won't care, as he fancies himself ruling the Olympic roost by then.

The gist of the report does not paint a rosy picture. Coe's stewardship managed to result in a loss of \$ 27.6 million in 2018 and \$ 17.2 million in 2019. (Report, at p. 47.) Total equity and reserves dwindled from \$ 73.7 million at the end of 2017 to \$ 28.8 million at the end of 2019. Liabilities during this same period more than doubled to stand at \$ 31.5 million at the end of 2019. (Report, at p. 48.) And that's before the COVID-19 pandemic wreaked havoc on sport finances! World Athletics was counting on the Olympic Dividend “*to smoothen its long-term expenditure patterns*.” (Report, at p. 57.) In the first of my *Pandemic Chronicles* (Heel and Toe of 24 March 2020), I referenced a news report from Reuters estimating the post-2012 Olympic Dividend to the IAAF to have been \$ 47 million. The auditors have already seen the future of red ink on the Monaco World Athletics palace walls: “*should Covid-19 result in the cancellation of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics more significant rationalization of expenditures would be required unless further income or other sources of liquidity were identified*.” (Report, at p. 57.)

Further income? Other sources of liquidity? Right, if the pandemic continues, and the Tokyo Olympics tumble, the time may come to invoke Article 83 of the World Athletics Constitution, the provision dealing with dissolving the organisation. And no, the Diamond League may not be able to come to the rescue. World Athletics owns only 35.2% of Diamond League AG, a Swiss-based company. World Athletics admits that it does not control the organisation. Thus far, “*decisions have always been taken unanimously and without control being exercised by World Athletics, even in day-to-day operations*.” (Report, at p. 58.) Will that consensus still exist when the chips are down? Or will decisions simply reflect tough business calls made by MBA types trying to make a mark? So much for our sport.

Financial accountability by World Athletics has been long overdue. Now that a glimpse has been revealed, the picture looks dire. Seb Coe has decisively put the fortunes of World Athletics in the money basket of corporate sponsorships and media income. The 2019 Annual Report indicates that his house of cards is extremely vulnerable to a tiny bug.

## TASMANIAN MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS, WENTWORTH PARK, HOBART, SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

Thanks to Dave Moore for the results of the 2020 Tasmanian Masters 5km Road Walk Championships, which were held in conjunction with Tasmanian Race Walkers Club meet at Wentworth Park. He reported:

In the Masters Championship, our competitors ranged from the spritely 30's to 70 plus age groupings and from first timers to our experienced evergreens. **Elizabeth Leitch** W65 led the field from start to finish to storm home in a new age group record. Her steely determination and solid walking technique have been a feature of heralking and were well and truly on display today. A showdown was on the cards for the Gold in the M70 age group between **Ron Foster** and **Wayne Fletcher**, and it was Ron who gained his ascendancy over Wayne by the 3km mark and was next over the line. The surprise of the day came from newcomer **Teresa Hatten** W35, who did a quite smart 38.14 in her very first 5km. Teresa chased down Wayne Fletcher and had Ron Foster well within in her sights. She demonstrated good walking technique and, going by her first venture over 5km, has great potential for faster times.

### TMA 5km Road Walk Championships

W35	1.	Teresa Hatten	38.14
W65	1.	Elizabeth Leitch	34.21
M60	1.	Dave Moore	56.12
M70	1.	Ron Foster	37.27
	2.	Wayne Fletcher	38.07

The only TWRC competitor to compete alongside our Masters was **Oliver Morgan** who also did his first 5km. He made a very good choice as he attained a string of PB's at his 1, 2, 4km splits and a good final time for his 5km (split PB's 1k 5.21, 2k 10.51, 4k 22.10).

### TRWC 5km Walk

1.	Oliver Morgan	28.05	First One
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Left: Elizabeth Leitch, Wayne Fletcher, Teresa Hatten, Ron Foster and David Moore  
Centre and right: Ron Foster, Teresa Hatten and Wayne Fletcher (photos Wayne Fletcher and Rosemary Coleman)

## 46<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL RW FESTIVAL, ALYTUS, LITHUANIA, FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

Emmanuel Tardi was judging in Alytus, Lithuania, last Friday at the 46<sup>th</sup> edition of that city's international roadwalking meet. He tells me the 20km walkers were racing over a 1km lap (500m out and back) on a very good road surface. The men's race started at 5:30PM and the women at 5:35PM. See more at the event website: <http://www.alytusfestival.lt/>.

The IAAF report (<https://www.worldathletics.org/news/report/alytus-race-walk-istanbul-usti-nad-labem-half>) reads as follows:

World bronze medallist **Perseus Karlstrom** returned to the roads for the first time in seven months at the International Race Walking Festival in Alytus on Friday, winning the men's 20km event in 1:20:58. And, with the Olympic qualifying window now open for road performances, the Swede's winning mark counts as a qualifying performance for the Tokyo Olympics next year.

Karlstrom set off at a steady pace with Britain's 2016 world U20 champion **Callum Wilkinson** close behind, passing through 5km in 20:38, a couple of seconds ahead of Ukrainian duo **Nazar Kovalenko** and **Ivan Losev**. After reaching half way in 40:32, the leading duo began to increase the pace and they passed through 12km in 48:31. Unable to maintain that pace, Wilkinson drifted back slightly while Karlstrom powered on ahead. By the time he reached 17km (1:08:40), he had a 20-

second lead over Wilkinson. Karlstrom slowed slightly in the final km, but he crossed the line in 1:20:58 to finish two seconds inside the Olympic qualifying standard. With a strong final circuit, Losev and Kovalenko came through to take second (1:21:10) and third (1:21:12) respectively, while Wilkinson was fourth in a PB of 1:21:21. "My goal was to have a good race and go for the victory," said Karlstrom. "I didn't have a specific time in mind. It's been a really strange year and it's good to have at least one race before winter training."

In the women's race, **Brigita Virbalyte-Dimsiene** had Hungary's **Viktoria Madarasz** for company during the early stages, passing through 8km together in 36:08. But the Lithuanian, cheered on by the home supporters, gradually began to pull away and by 14km, her lead over Madarasz was almost one minute. Virbalyte-Dimsiene, the fourth-place finisher at the 2018 European Championships, maintained her pace to the end and finished in a season's best of 1:30:54, just inside the Olympic qualifying standard. Madarasz was second in 1:33:41, comfortably ahead of Spain's **Ainhoa Pinedo** (1:37:50).

You can check out another race report at <https://www.european-athletics.org/competitions/race-walking-permit-meetings/news/article=karlstrom-makes-victorious-return-the-20km-race-walk-alytus/index.html>

You can also watch a full video of the races at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TB723kVKA1o>.

#### 20km Men

			5km	10km	15km	20km
1.	Perseus KARLSTROM	SWE	20:38	40:32	1:00:32	1:20:58
2.	Ivan LOSEV	UKR	20:40	40:49	1:01:03	1:21:10
3.	Nazar KOVALENKO	UKR	20:39	40:48	1:01:03	1:21:12
4.	Callum WILKINSON	GBR	20:38	xx:xx	1:00:43	1:21:21
5.	Aliaksandr LIAKHOVICH	BLR	20:39	40:42	1:01:03	1:22:06
6.	Artur MASTIANICA	LTU	20:43	41:05	1:01:41	1:22:55
7.	Marius ŽIUKAS	LTU	21:09	42:04	1:02:54	1:23:27
8.	Teodorico CAPORASO	ITA	21:09	42:04	1:02:54	1:23:47
9.	David KENNY KING	IRL	20:43	41:08	1:02:22	1:25:37
10.	Brendan BOYCE	IRL	21:07	42:04	1:03:19	1:25:51
11.	Stefano CHIESA	ITA	20:45	41:43	1:02:46	1:26:10
12.	Ruslans SMOLONSKIS	LAT	21:37	43:32	1:07:24	1:31:26
13.	Pavel OLKHOVIK	BLR	22:21	44:41	1:07:48	1:31:41
14.	Jakub JELONEK	POL	21:23	43:59	1:07:31	1:31:50
15.	Normunds IVZANS	LAT	23:33	47:14	1:11:57	1:37:47
16.	Deimantas KUKIS	LTU	25:46	51:50	1:18:15	1:45:01
17.	Deividas BALEVICIUS	LTU	25:29	51:20	1:18:34	1:47:05
18.	Edgars GJACS	LAT	24:26	49:13	1:16:53	1:50:20
	Tadas ŠUŠKEVICIUS	LTU	21:15	26:00		DNF
	Manuel GIORDANO	ITA				DNF

#### 20km Women

1.	Brigita VIRBALYTE-DIMŠIENE	LTU	22:34	45:06	1:07:49	1:30:54
2.	Viktoria MADARASZ	HUN	22:34	45:23	1:08:52	1:33:41
3.	Ainhoa PINEDO	ESP	24:26	49:00	1:13:23	1:37:50
4.	Anastasiya RAROUSKAYA	BLR	23:56	48:32	1:14:08	1:40:10
5.	Austeja KAVALIUSKAITE	LTU	25:14	50:07	1:15:29	1:41:41
6.	Adrija MEŠKAUSKAITE	LTU	25:48	51:35	1:17:24	1:42:51
7.	Modra IGNATE	LAT	25:32	51:35	1:18:56	1:46:55
8.	Elina LACE	LAT	29:22	59:21	1:29:43	2:01:18
9.	Vita ORMANE	LAT	30:18	1:02:25	1:35:55	2:10:47
10.	Ligija CIRULE	LAT	30:57	1:03:28	1:37:44	2:13:17
	Sigute Broennecke	GER				DNF

#### 10km Junior Men

1.	Dzmitry SHMIDT	BLR	22:22	44:35
2.	Ryan ROBERTS	IRL	28:40	57:46

#### 10km Junior Women

1.	Emily MACHUGH	IRL	24:37	50:30
2.	Migle DAMYNAITE	LTU	27:10	54:48
3.	Eva DELAHUNT	IRL	28:19	58:04



*Perseus Karlstrom in action during the race and later on the top spot of the podium*



*Left: Brigita Virbalyte-Dimsiene and Viktoria Madarasz  
Right: Emmanuel Tardi (far left) with the rest of the judging panel in Alytus (photos Emmanuel Tardi)*

**28 HEURES DE ROUBAIX, ROUBAIX, FRANCE, 19-20 SEPTEMBER 2020**

As soon as Emmanuel Tardi's flight landed in Paris, he was in his car and driving to Roubaix, in the north of France, for their annual 28 Hour Race. Due to Covid restrictions, there was only French walkers this year - no Dutch, no English, etc - and that meant a small field of only 34 walkers gathered for the 11AM start on Saturday morning. The lap was 2km in length, in the beautiful Parc Barbieux in the centre of the city.

**Serge Georgelin** led the first part of the race, reaching 50km in 5h30 and 100km in 11h45, but he stopped in the middle of the night after 116km. This meant that **Alexandre Forestieri** was now in front, a position that he kept to the finish, recording a final distance of 216.312km. He finished 4km ahead of **Maxime Laneau**, with **Pascal Marechal** 2km further back in third place. In the women's walk, **Sylvie Maison** led from start to finish, with a final distance of 187.762km.

**28 Heures de Roubaix**

1. FORESTIERI Alexandre	Ust Courir A Saint Tropez	216.312 km	7.725 km/h
2. LANEAU Maxime	Us Camon	212.312 km	7.583 km/h
3. MARECHAL Pascal	Ac Chateau Thierry	210.368 km	7.513 km/h

4.	LETESSIER Gilles	Non Licencié	204.732 km	7.312 km/h
5.	BALLAND Johann	Athletic Vosges Entente Clubs	183.347 km	6.548 km/h
6.	DEPARDAY Fabien	UA des Cotes d Armor	179.958 km	6.427 km/h
7.	DELANGÉ Dominique	Aj Auxerre Section Marathon	176.148 km	6.291 km/h
8.	YVERT Louis	Cm Roubaix	174.468 km	6.231 km/h
9.	TINTIN Ronald	Ao Charenton	168.818 km	6.029 km/h
10.	PICOT Gérard	Rando Montfermeil	166.452 km	5.945 km/h
11.	DUET Denis	Jogging Aventure Roncquoise	160.657 km	5.738 km/h
12.	GROS Gildas	Es Thaon	159.172 km	5.685 km/h
13.	DALOZ Robert	Neuilly Sur Marne Athletisme	147.706 km	5.275 km/h
14.	GUILLOT Mickael	Ac Chateau Thierry	146.931 km	5.248 km/h
15.	GRADOS Stephane	Cm Roubaix	140.843 km	5.030 km/h
16.	ROBERT Jean-pierre	Athle Halluin-val-de-lys	139.983 km	4.999 km/h
17.	RASSAIND Andre	Al Voiron	137.775 km	4.921 km/h
18.	OLIVARES Mathieu	Neuilly Sur Marne Athletisme	136.368 km	4.870 km/h
19.	ROCHA Fernando	Athletic Vosges Entente Clubs	129.347 km	4.620 km/h
20.	ARNAULT Jacques	Neuilly Sur Marne Athletisme	88.995 km	3.178 km/h
	GEORGELIN Serge	Ea Cessonaise	116.000 km	
	DANDOY Jeremy	Cm Roubaix	106.000 km	
	TRIZZULLA Giacomo	Rfc Liege	102.000 km	
	BOUDIGNON Thierry	Ultra Marathon France	102.000 km	
	HASSEVELDE Sebastien	Touquet Opale Athletisme	76.000 km	
	LHERITIER Michel	Sainte Maure Athletic Club	58.000 km	
	BIEBUYCK Pascal	Ath Ac	40.000 km	
	SEYNAEVE Serge	Cm Roubaix	26.000 km	
	FAUQUEUR Raymond	Entente Littoral Athletisme No	26.000 km	
	DEBEURNE Philippe	Cm Roubaix	10.000 km	
1.	MAISON Sylvie	Strasbourg Agglomeration Athle	187.762 km	6.706 km/h
2.	BIZARD Claudie	Thiais Ac	171.059 km	6.109 km/h
3.	GILLARD Lydia	Marche Mythique Organisation	150.317 km	5.368 km/h
4.	ROCQUAIN Melanie	Non Licencié	133.983 km	4.785 km/h



*Maxime Laneau, Alexandre Forestieri, Pascal Marechal, Sylvie Maison and Claudie Bizard (photos Emmanuel Tardi)*

Lots more photos at <https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10220992302751422&set=pcb.10220992307831549>.

#### 11<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL SPRINT TRIATHLON IN RACE WALKING, DRUNEN, NEDERLAND, SAT 12 SEPT 2020

Thanks to Frank van Ravensberg for the results of the 11<sup>th</sup> International Sprint Triathlon in Race Walking, held at the Sportpark De Schroef, Drunen, on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September. First to his report:

The 11<sup>th</sup> sprint triathlon in race walking was won by **Rick Liesting** and **Anne van Andel**. Rick took home his second overall victory (he won the event in 2016), while Anne was successful for a third time (after wins in 2014 and 2019). After 9 editions in Veenendaal

and 1 in Hilversum, the sprint triathlon moved to Drunen, in the southern part of the Netherlands. The chief organiser was Theo van Houten (DAK Drunen). Former raceleader Frank van Ravensberg was asked to lead the medal ceremony.

With 27 participants, the event had more walkers than the two previous editions. The weather in Drunen was fine: dry and sunny weather, 20 degrees and not too much wind.

Again the best Dutch race walkers were there and, two weeks after his 20 km title win, Rick Liesting won this sprint triathlon. **Paul Jansen**, last years edition's winner, only made it difficult for Rick in the 1000m. In the end Rick won all three distances (3000m, 1000m and 2000m) and the general classification. The third place became a battle between **Rob Tersteeg** and **Remco de Bruin**. In the end Rob was just a little bit faster than Remco. No podium for Remco, but Remco was happy with a Dutch M55 record.

For Anne van Andel it was an easy win. She didn't have to show her best shape to take her third victory. She won the three distances with a big gap. **Liesbet De Smet** took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in her 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive participation. Again a podium place for the friendly Belgian walker. **Sandra Maas** was expected to take 3<sup>rd</sup> place, she took more than half a minute away from **Loes van Bremen** on the first distance. But Loes had walked the 3000m conservatively and still had a lot of energy in the tank for the other two distances, allowing her to take 3<sup>rd</sup> in the gc. Five youngsters found their way to Drunen and they showed good form, with **Mick van Bremen** as the youngest participant.

#### Men seniors/masters/U20/U18:

	Name	Country	Classification	3000 m	1000 m	2000 m	Total points
1	Rick Liesting	NED	M40	12:37.4	4:00.4	8:26.9	746
2	Paul Jansen	NED	M45	13:01.6	4:13.0	8:50.2	779
3	Rob Tersteeg	NED	M40	13:58.7	4:20.0	9:16.8	818
4	Remco de Bruin	NED	M55	14:03.7	4:23.0	9:19.3	824
5	David Annetts	GBR	M55	14:00.2	4:42.1	9:35.6	850
6	Wilfried van Bremen	NED	MSen	15:46.4	4:44.1	10:28.1	914
7	Henk Plasman	NED	M60	15:45.2	5:05.8	10:31.8	937
8	Richard Christian Wiltsh	GER	M55	16:37.6	5:26.6	11:33.7	1006
9	Gerrit Riezebos	NED	M60	17:37.2	5:36.0	11:41.3	1039
10	Gaetan Piette	BEL	M35	19:01.0	5:33.2	12:45.3	1096
11	Marco Bernatzki	GER	M50	19:13.8	6:13.2	13:04.8	1150
12	Joost van der Plicht	NED	M70	21:18.6	6:54.9	14:21.5	1272
13	Ad van Oijen	NED	M75	22:33.4	7:07.7	14:48.8	1323
14	Bauke te Nijenhuis	NED	M80	23:04.3	7:26.6	15:11.7	1364
15	Ad Martens	NED	M70	19:16.8	DNS	DNS	386

#### Women seniors/masters/U20/U18:

	Name	Country	Classification	3000 m	1000 m	2000 m	Total points
1	Anne van Andel	NED	WSen	15:16.1	4:55.5	9:57.7	900
2	Liesbet De Smet	BEL	W35	17:33.8	5:25.7	12:21.6	1048
3	Loes van Bremen	NED	WSen	19:49.8	5:32.7	12:52.2	1115
4	Sandra Maas	NED	W35	19:13.8	5:57.3	13:04.8	1134
5	Larissa Droogendijk	NED	W45	20:45.2	6:45.7	13:47.1	1234
6	Hendrika Karin Bogards	NED	W60	24:49.1	7:57.1	16:18.9	1463
7	Anja Deij	NED		DNS	7:54.1	DNS	474

#### Youth U16/U14/U12/U10/U8 (two distances):

	Name	Country	Classification	600 m	400 m	Total points
1	Casper Deij	NED	Boys U12	4:24.6	2:50.6	1089
2	Nora Suijkerbuijk	NED	Girls U12	4:31.2	2:51.7	1108
3	Marit van Bremen	NED	Girls U8	4:55.0	3:03.9	1196
4	Luna Suijkerbuijk	NED	Girls U10	5:04.4	3:07.4	1228
5	Mick van Bremen	NED	Boys U6	6:30.2	3:58.9	1573



Left: First 2000m heat: Gaetan Piette left, Marco Bernatzki second left and oldest walker Bauke te Nijenhuis (84yo) on the right  
Right: Mick van Bremen, the youngest walker



David Annetts, Anne van Andel, Rick Liesting, Marit van Bremen, Luna Suijkerbuijk, Nora Suijkerbuijk and Casper Deij



Podium Girls: 1 Nora Suijkerbuijk, 2 Marit van Bremen and 3 Luna Suijkerbuijk, with Frank van Ravensberg  
Podium Boys: 1 Casper Deij and 2 Mick van Bremen



## RAMSEY BAKERY END TO END WALK, SUNDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

The Ramsey Baker End to End Walk (<http://www.endtoendwalk.org/>) is an annual race walking event from the Point of Ayre to the Sound, hugging the west coast and travelling from the northern tip to the southern tip of the Isle of Man. It is one of a number of huge participation events held on the island each year, but this year was different, with the race almost exclusively a local affair, given covid travel restrictions.

While numbers might have been effected, it was still a big event by any standard, with a field of 215 walkers. What is even more impressive is the fact that 139 of the walkers finished the full distance within the 10 hour limit, with the rest stopping at one or other of the checkpoints along the way. Think of the organisation that goes on behind the scenes, with all the marshals, water station stewards, judges and sweeper crews ensuring a seamless day's walking for everyone.

**Richard Gerrard** continued his recent domination of the event, with his seventh consecutive victory. Gerrard finished the 39.22-mile route in 6:37:18, slightly faster than his 2019 winning time of 6:38:10 and not far from his 2014 PB of 6:29:23. But he needed to race hard to win, given that two-time Parish Walk winner **Liam Parker** was making his debut in the event and shadowed him the whole way. It was only towards the end that Richard was able to break free, eventually winning by just over 3 minutes. It was an impressive debut for Liam.

Last year's winner Hannah Hunter was probably a favourite in the women's event but I don't see her in the results so it looks to me like she was a DNS. The win went to last year's third place finisher **Sophie Dvorakova** with a time of 7:31:37

Photos at Photos: <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10158720528959630&set=pcb.10158720537294630>. I managed to find this fine shot in the gallery.



*Richard Gerrard (right) and Liam Parker (left) in action last Sunday in the End to End*

Full results at <https://my.raceresult.com/151523/Live>. The top 25 finishers are shown below

Ramsey Bakery End to End Walk (39.22 miles) – first 25			
1.	Richard Gerrard	M45	6:37:18
2.	Liam Parker	SM	6:40:25
3.	Adam Killip	SM	6:58:36
4.	Noel Ash	M45	6:59:18
5.	James Quirk	M45	7:07:13
6.	David Walker	M45	7:16:34
7.	Simon Gawne	SM	7:17:54
8.	Kevin Edwards	SM	7:18:46
9.	Connor Gilbert	SM	7:23:58
10.	Michael Bonney	M55	7:27:24
11.	Michael Readshaw	M60	7:27:59
12.	Paul Sayle	M40	7:30:07
13.	Sophie Dvorakova (W)	SW	7:31:37
14.	Tristan Shields	SM	7:32:47
15.	Andrew Dent	M45	7:39:02
16.	Tony Edwards	M55	7:41:39
17.	David Williams	SM	7:42:15
18.	Louise Gimson (W)	W40	7:42:39

19.	Andrew Dawson	M50	7:46:58
20.	Richard Leigh	M45	7:47:15
21.	Andy Green	M65	7:47:15
22.	Lorna Gleave (W)	W35	7:47:28
23.	Stephanie Burton (W)	W55	7:50:39
24.	Chris Cale	M45	7:52:31
25.	Ben Scott	M45	7:54:28

## OUT AND ABOUT

- Three weeks ago I reported that former NZ international judge **Don Chatterton** had been awarded a Life Membership by Athletics New Zealand. Sadly, I must now advise that Don died on Saturday evening after a long battle with cancer. I wrote up some of his many achievements and milestones at that time (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/125535907470191/>). It's worth revisiting that article by way of celebrating a very full and well lived life.
- I am sure all Australian based readers are familiar with the superb Australian Athletics Historical Results website <http://athletics.possumbility.com/>, coordinated by the Australian Athletics History Group led by Paul Jenes OAM and Peter Hamilton. A new Tasmanian Athletics Historical Results website has just gone online. It seeks to replicate the possumbility site, but in a Tasmanian context. I've had a look and give it 10/10. Well done to Site Curator and Principal Researcher Brian Roe OAM. Check it out at <http://history.tasathletics.org.au/>.
- London based New Zealand ultra walker **Richard McChesney** has added another long distance feat to his growing list of accomplishments - walking all 270 London Tube Stations in five days. That required 523km of walking along a carefully planned route. As proof, he took a selfie outside each and every one of the stations. And he has put together a great little youtube video to document the challenge - you can access it on his website at <http://richardwalkslondon.com/>.
- USA based walker and coach **Dave McGovern** had done it again with another book. *The Complete Guide to Competitive Walking* looks like a superb new take on competitive walking, complementing and building on his previous publications. See more at <https://racewalking.org/shop-books.html>.
- Former IAAF President Lamine Diack has finally had his day in court, accused of corruption, influence-trafficking and money laundering. His son Papa Diack was also accused of corruption, money laundering and breach of trust charges, but refused to attend the trial in France (Senegal refuses to extradite him). It all turned pretty ugly with the father, in an attempt to extricate himself, trying to put all the blame on his son and calling him a 'thug'. Former Russian Athletics Federation President Valentin Balakhnichev and Alexei Melnikov, the former head Russian athletics distance coach, also stood trial but they also refused to cooperate with the long-running French investigation. And what's the trial about - covering up Russian doping cases, so athletes could compete at major events including the London 2012 Olympic Games and the 2013 World Championships in Moscow, in exchange for cash. Was justice finally going to be served. See <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1098442/papa-massata-conspiracy-french-trial>.
- Yes, they were all found guilty - read the details at <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1098547/balakhnichev-vows-appeal-prison-sentence> and at <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1098494/diack-guilty-of-corruption>.
- It's the end of a most unsavoury saga. This brilliant article explains how it unfolded when police got access to Diack's computer after arresting him in a hotel room in 2015. See <https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/sep/16/how-lamine-diacks-16-year-reign-in-charge-of-iaaf-led-to-a-jail-term>.
- And as that trial finishes, another one starts - this time Mark Schmidt, the German doctor accused of being part of an international blood doping ring. Schmidt was arrested last year after police carried out raids at the Nordic Ski World Championships in Seefeld in Austria and in the German city of Erfurt. At least 23 athletes are believed to have been involved in the blood doping network in Germany and Austria. See <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1098518/mark-schmidt-doping-trial-begins>.
- Bahrain's Hassan Chani is set to be stripped of the gold medal he won in the 10,000 metres at the 2018 Asian Games in Jakarta after being banned by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) for doping. The 32-year-old, who was originally born in Morocco before switching to Bahrain, has been found guilty of blood doping following analysis of his athlete biological passport (ABP). Sounds like EPO to me. He is one of a growing number of foreign Bahrain nationals getting caught. Institutional doping? See <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1098538/another-bahrain-athlete-guilty-of-doping>.
- The major sports are trying to limp along and deal with Covid. The US Open Tennis, the Tour de France and the US Open Golf have all been successfully completed. I didn't think they would make it through but they did! And the Formula One Grand Prox Motor Racing continues. Well done to them all!
- Hungary looks set to make a late bid to stage the 2020 European Cross Country Championships following its cancellation. Dublin was scheduled to host the championships on December 13, only for it to be cancelled due to concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic. Hungary reckons they can do it. I have my doubts given the huge surge in Covid cases in Europe and the rest of the world. See <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1098450/hungary-bid-european-cross-country-2020>.

- The challenges of athletes trying to maintain their training towards the 2021 Olympics! The German Boxing Federation (DBV) have said a "large part" of their Olympic team has tested positive for coronavirus during a training camp in Austria. A 25-member delegation made the trip to the training camp at Längenfeld in Tirol. DBV director Michael Müller told Agence France-Presse that 18 boxers and seven staff members would now be quarantined at the camp. See <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1098400/german-boxing-team-quarantined>.
- This is an interesting, if slightly ominous, development. The Vienna City Marathon has been pushed back from April 2021 to September 2021, with organisers claiming this will provide an "improved overall COVID-19 situation". See <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1098596/vienna-marathon-pushed-back-to-september>.
- I reported last week on a new Oxford University based study *Regression to the Tail: Why the Olympics Blow Up* that concluded that Olympic Games are amongst the most costly and financially most risky type of mega-project that exist. They always blow their budgets in a big way. The IOC immediately came out with all guns blazing to refute the argument. Professor Bent Flyvbjerg of the Saïd Business School then wrote back to IOC President Thomas Bach with a point-by-point rebuttal of his criticisms of the paper. See <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1098412/bent-flyvbjerg-letter-thomas-bach>.
- Tokyo 2020 chief executive Toshiro Muto then joined the fray, dismissing the study by the Oxford academics. The paper had suggested that Tokyo 2020 would be the most expensive Games in history, putting the cost at \$15.84 billion. Muto seemed big on talk but short on specifics in his comeback. See <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1098482/muto-dismisses-olympic-cost-report>.
- The IOC then produced its own research paper *Cost and Revenue Overruns of the Olympic Games 2000-2018* which suggested that core capital investments for recent Olympic Games ONLY suffered cost overruns of between 13 per cent and 178 per cent. See <https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1098516/french-german-study-olympic-games>.
- It does all keep one entertained during the long Melbourne covid lockdown!

#### MARCIADALMONDO AND OMARCHADOR ROUNDUP

It is great to see races from around the world, a number of which are reported below by marciadalmondo. I will leave it to readers to check them out for themselves.

- Sun 20 Sep - Taian (CHN): second day - wins to Zhaxi Yangben (50km men) and Liu Hong (20km women)  
[http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli\\_news.aspx?id=3882](http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli_news.aspx?id=3882)
- Sat 19 Sep - Kumagaya (JPN): Great results at the All Japan Inter-Corporate Track & Field Championships  
[http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli\\_news.aspx?id=3881](http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli_news.aspx?id=3881)
- Sat 19 Sep - Taian (CHN): Wang Kaihua wins China Autumn Walking Championship 20km  
[http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli\\_news.aspx?id=3880](http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli_news.aspx?id=3880)
- Thu 17 Sep - Diyarbakir (TUR): another Turkish record for Salih Korkmaz  
[http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli\\_news.aspx?id=3879](http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli_news.aspx?id=3879)
- Fri 18 Sep - Taian (CHN): Preview of China's Race Walking Championships on Saturday and Sunday  
[http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli\\_news.aspx?id=3878](http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli_news.aspx?id=3878)
- Fri 18 Sep - Alytus (LTU): Results of the 46th International Race Walking Festival  
[http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli\\_news.aspx?id=3877](http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli_news.aspx?id=3877)
- Tue 15 Sep - Kosice (SVK): Matej Toth and Maria Czakova win the finals of the Slovakian club league  
[http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli\\_news.aspx?id=3876](http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli_news.aspx?id=3876)
- Mon 14 Sep - Albi (FRA): Gabriel Bordier and Eloise Terrec win French 10km Championships  
[http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli\\_news.aspx?id=3875](http://www.marciadalmondo.com/eng/dettagli_news.aspx?id=3875)

and lots of news as usual this week from omarchador

- Sun 20 Sep - Kaihua Wang wins the Autumn Chinese 20km Championship  
<https://omarchador.blogspot.com/2020/09/kaihua-wang-venceu-os-campeonatos.html>
- Sun 20 Sep - Rick Liesting and Anne van Aniel win 2020 Sprint Triathlon in Drunen  
<https://omarchador.blogspot.com/2020/09/rick-liesting-e-anne-van-andel-vencem.html>
- Sun 20 Sep - Results of the Polish U20 Athletics Championships

<https://omarchador.blogspot.com/2020/09/campeonatos-de-atletismo-sub-20-da.html>

- Sat 19 Sep - Perseus Karlström wins at Alytus with Olympic qualifier  
<https://omarchador.blogspot.com/2020/09/perseus-karlstrom-ganha-em-alytus-e.html>
- Sat 19 Sep - Brigita Virbalyte wins at Alytus with Olympic qualifier  
<https://omarchador.blogspot.com/2020/09/brigita-virbalyte-vence-em-alytus-com.html>
- Fri 18 Sep - Matej Tóth imposes himself in the Slovak club league final in Košice  
<https://omarchador.blogspot.com/2020/09/matej-toth-impoe-se-na-final-da-liga-de.html>
- Fri 18 Sep - Results of the Berlin-Brandenburg Youth Championships in Strausberg  
<https://omarchador.blogspot.com/2020/09/campeonatos-jovens-de-berlin.html>
- Thu 17 Sep - Preview of the Walks Festival in Alytus, Lithuania  
<https://omarchador.blogspot.com/2020/09/festival-de-marcha-amanha-em-alytus.html>
- Wed 16 Sep - Lithuanian titles for Marius Žiukas and Brigita Virbalyte in Druskininkay  
<https://omarchador.blogspot.com/2020/09/titulos-lituanos-para-marius-ziukas-e.html>
- Tue 15 Sep - Bordier and Terrec win French championships at Albi  
<https://omarchador.blogspot.com/2020/09/bordier-e-terrec-vencem-campeonatos-de.html>

### DATES...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. It continues to change quickly as a result of COVID-19 issues.

#### Australian/Victorian Key Dates – 2020

None!

#### International Dates

Sep 26 (Sat), 2020	International Race Walk Meeting, Zaniemysl, Poland (Includes Polish 20km Champs)
Oct 10 (Sat), 2020	Podebrady Walks Meet, Podebrady, Czech Republic (see <a href="https://www.podebrady-walking.cz/en/">https://www.podebrady-walking.cz/en/</a> )
Oct 24 (Sat), 2020	Dudince EA Permit Meet (20km men/women and 50km men)
Oct 20-22, 2020	Lake Taihu Tour, Suzhou, China (CANCELLED)
Nov 7 (Sat), 2020	NZ Road Walk Championships, Bruce Pulman Park, Auckland, New Zealand
July 23 – Aug 8, 2021	<b>32<sup>nd</sup> Olympic Games, Tokyo and Sapporo</b>
July, 2021	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> World Masters T&amp;F Championships</b> , Tampere, Finland
Aug 8-19, 2021	<b>World University Summer Games</b> , Chengdu, China
Aug 20-21, 2021	<b>18<sup>th</sup> World Athletics U20 T&amp;F Championships</b> , Nairobi, Kenya (POSTPONED FROM 2020)
Jan 2022	<b>Oceania Masters Championships</b> , Norfolk Island (POSTPONED FROM JANUARY 2020)
TBA, 2022	<b>9<sup>th</sup> World Masters Indoor T&amp;F Championships</b> , Edmonton, Canada
Apr 23-24, 2022	<b>29<sup>th</sup> World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships</b> , Minsk, Belarus
July 15-24, 2022	<b>18<sup>th</sup> World Athletics Championships</b> , Eugene, USA
July 27 - Aug 7, 2022	<b>XXII Commonwealth Games</b> , Birmingham, GBR
Aug 11-21, 2022	<b>European Athletics Championships</b> , Munich, GER
TBA, 2022	<b>19<sup>th</sup> World Athletics U20 T&amp;F Championships</b> , Cali, Colombia
TBA, 2023	<b>24<sup>th</sup> World Masters T&amp;F Championships</b> , Gothenburg Sweden
Aug 2023 (TBC)	<b>19<sup>th</sup> World Athletics Championships</b> , Budapest, Hungary

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