

## MOST PROLIFIC CENTURIONS

Which centurions have achieved the largest number of centurion badges from the 8 clubs which hold or have held qualifying events? Going back to the 1970's when there were only 4 such clubs, it was easy. The first person to earn all available badges was **Chris Clegg** who got there in 1977. His 4 badges were earned as follows

### **Chris Clegg**

June 1947	Age 30	London to Brighton and Back	21:39:42	British Centurion 135
Sept 1971	Age 54	Colombia, Missouri, USA	22:46:14	American Centurion 7
Oct 1975	Age 58	Melbourne, Australia	22:34:14	Australian Centurion 11
June 1977	Age 60	Sint-Oedenrode, Holland	23:18:55	Continental Centurion 53

With the New Zealand Centurions forming in 1998 and the Malaysia Centurions forming in 2001, it was then possible to earn up to 6 badges and two people did so – **Sandra Brown** and **Jill Green**. Their qualifying performances were

### **Sandra Brown**

1-2 July 1983	Leicester, England	22:18:24	British Centurion 735
May 1984	St Oedenrode, Holland	21:05:07	Continental Centurion 131
10-11 July 1999	Auckland, NZ	19:00:47	New Zealand Centurion 4
18-19 Sept 1999	Melbourne, Australia	19:14:56	Australian Centurion 36
19-20 Sept 2000	Golden, Colorado	22:35:45	American Centurion 50
25-26 Aug 2001	Genting Highlands, Malaysia	182.032 km	Malaysian Centurion 7

### **Jill Green**

20-21 July 1992	Leicester, England	23:13:59	British Centurion 898
15-16 May 1999	Weert, Holland	22:13:52	Continental Centurion 282
18-19 Sept 1999	Melbourne, Australia	21:15:35	Australian Centurion 38
19-20 Sept 2000	Golden, Colorado	23:35:07	American Centurion 53
07-08 July 2001	Auckland, NZ	22:18:08	New Zealand Centurion 8
4-5 Aug 2003	Genting Highlands, Malaysia	164.350 km	Malaysian Centurion 20

Going down the list, **Herbert Neubacher** qualified in 5 of the 6 countries way back in 2001. Alas, he then retired from centurion walking so never got his sixth badge. His performances were as follows:

### **Herbert Neubacher**

May 1989	Holland	21:21:57	Continental Centurion 203
13-14 Aug 1999	Battersea Park, London	21:40:38	British Centurion 959
18-19 Sept 1999	Melbourne, Australia	21:03:07	Australian Centurion 37
19-20 Sept 2000	Golden, Colorado	23:36:38	American Centurion 54
07-08 July 2001	Auckland, NZ	22:18:08	New Zealand Centurion 9



*Sandra Brown, Herbert Neubacher and Jill Green in January 2004 – 17 centurion badges between them*

Since the Malaysian Centurions ceased operations after their 2005 qualifying event, 5 was the most anyone could earn from then on.

Australian **Geoff Hain** (in 2008) and husband and wife pair **Rudy Schoors** and **Caroline Mestdagh** (in 2010) each amassed the maximum available 5 badges apiece in this period.

#### **Geoff Hain**

16-17 Oct 2004	Adelaide, SA	23:30:38	Australian Centurion 49
1-2 Oct 2005	New Zealand	162.474 km	New Zealand Centurion 14
19-20 Aug 2006	Isle of Man, UK	23:31:43	English Centurion 1051
17-18 Nov 2007	Grapevine, Texas	23:25:14	American Centurion 68
31 May – 1 Jun 2008	Schiedam, Holland	23:18:30	Continental Centurion 368

#### **Caroline Mestdagh**

28-29 July 2007	Battersea Park, ENG	23:37:45	English Centurion 1061
31 May – 1 Jun 2008	Schiedam, NED	23:00:52	Continental Centurion 366
19-20 April 2009	Coburg, VIC	22:40:27	Australian Centurion 56
5-6 June 2010	Minneapolis, MN	23:01:38	American Centurion 72
02-03 Oct 2010	Auckland, NZ	22:51:46	New Zealand Centurion 17

#### **Rudy Schoors**

28-29 July 2007	Battersea Park, ENG	23:37:45	English Centurion 1062
31 May – 1 Jun 2008	Schiedam, NED	23:00:52	Continental Centurion 367
19-20 April 2009	Coburg, VIC	22:01:45	Australian Centurion 55
5-6 June 2010	Minneapolis, MN	23:01:38	American Centurion 73
02-03 Oct 2010	Auckland, NZ	21:37:25	New Zealand Centurion 15

The situation changed in 2016 with two initiatives

- Firstly, an inaugural African Centurion event was held on Robben Island, Cape Town, South Africa.
- Secondly, US Centurion coordinator Rob Robertson produced (and continues to maintain) a full listing of everyone with 2 or more badges. You can check it out at <https://www.walk100miles24hours.com/centurions-with-multiple-world-badges/>.

In the inaugural African Centurion meet, Sandra Brown successfully qualified as African Centurion number 9, thus taking her tally to 7. With that additional finish, she stood alone at the top of the list.

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25-26 Aug 2001	Genting Highlands, Malaysia	182.032 km	Malaysian Centurion 7
22-23 Oct 2016	Robben Island, South Africa	22:22:14	African Centurion 9

This started anew the rush for badges and we soon had 7 walkers with 6 badges (**Jill Green, Caroline Mestdagh, Rudy Schoors, Justin Scholz, Sharon Scholz, Rob Robertson** and **Marco Bloemerts**) and 6 walkers with 5 badges (**Herbert Neubacher, Geoff Hain, Jantinus Meints, Marco Bloemerts, Kim Janssens** and **Andrew Titley**). From then onwards, the numbers get very big.

The landscape changed once again in 2022 when an inaugural German Centurion race was held. **Rudy Schoors, Kim Janssens, Justin Scholz** and **Sharon Scholz** all finished, taking their count to 7, alongside Sandra Brown.

As of July 2024, we now have 5 walkers with 7 badges, 7 walkers with 6 badges, 5 walkers with 5 badges and 13 walkers with 4 badges.

Tim Erickson  
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