



Contact: Noivedya Juddery  
0458 27 47 09  
02 6251 2813  
australia@worldharmonyrun.org  
GPO Box 3127  
Canberra ACT 2600

## Almost Home after 100 days on the Run

**Wednesday, 6 August:** Reaching Townsville yesterday, and passing its 100th day on the road, the World Harmony Run is now on the home straight of its 15,000 km epic journey around Australia.

On April 27 this year, a team of 16 international runners – from Canada, Iceland, Germany, Latvia, Italy, Russia, Czech Republic, Ireland, Romania, India, Switzerland, New Zealand and Australia – left Brisbane to run a continuous relay around the entire continent carrying a flaming torch, all in the name of global harmony.

Over the past 3 months the runners have scaled the heights of snow-topped Mt Kosciuszko, crossed the dry reaches of the Nullarbor, trodden the remote tracks of the Kimberley and travelled through the lush green paradise of Kakadu. From mountain to desert, from the Pacific Ocean to the Indian Ocean, the team has kept the flaming torch burning, as they met with diverse communities of people all across our nation.

The World Harmony Run, an initiative of life-long athlete and universal man of peace Sri Chinmoy, was first staged in 1987 and now incorporates more than 100 countries uniting thousands of communities and millions of people. The torch has travelled to Antarctica and the North Pole, and even into outer space in a Russian Space Ship.

The event is not a fund-raiser and does not have any political or commercial objectives. The runners, all self-funded volunteers, say they are running, "just for the inspiration and to meet with people who share the same ideals of international co-operation and friendship."

National Patron Ron Clarke, running legend and Mayor of the Gold Coast says, "The Run will bridge cultural and social barriers, and all the boundaries that separate nation from nation. It shows that athletics can be a powerful force for good."

"I'm really enjoying this experience – the feeling of vastness in this country is something very special." said Elke Lindner from Germany. "Australians are very open and friendly. I'm also impressed that Australians enjoy nature so much. We've learned that even Lord Mayors still go camping!"

During its travel down the Queensland coast, the team will pass through the towns of Mackay, Rockhampton, Gladstone, Bundaberg and Maryborough meeting with community leaders, locals and school children as they spread their message of goodwill. Their journey will culminate at the Closing Ceremony in Brisbane, on August 15.

For more information, a map of towns and cities the torch will pass through, as well as a 'Live From The Road' blog, go to [www.worldharmonyrun.org/au](http://www.worldharmonyrun.org/au)

### Contact Information

To arrange interviews with the international running team or for more information, please contact: Kapila Moses, Qld. Co-ordinator, Ph: 0427 773 011, [kapila\\_moses@worldharmonyrun.org](mailto:kapila_moses@worldharmonyrun.org)

Additional resources at: World Harmony Run Media Centre [www.worldharmonyrun.org/au/media](http://www.worldharmonyrun.org/au/media)