

Charlie Weston C584 Captain Centurion's Centenary Christmas letter 2011

Dear Fellow Centurions

Season's Greetings to you all!

After serving as your Captain for the last 8 years, I have decided to step down having had the great pleasure and honour to serve you especially during our Centenary Year. I wish to thank the President and all Committee Members for their assistance to me during my time as Captain. I especially thank those Centurions who sent donations to help with our costs and it is much appreciated.

Sadly I have to inform you of the death of the following Centurions during the past year.

A. TOMPKINSON C280	L. SCHOL C291	I. McLEOD C710
K. KRUYMER C397	P. SARGENT C430	
L. GWINNELL C436	J. HURLEY C513	
P. MARKHAM C526	P. van GERMERT C770	

We shall remember all of them and we have sent our condolences to their respective families. It is fitting to recall that L. Schol was the first Dutchman to qualify as a Centurion in the UK and so began our remarkable relationship with the Dutch walking fraternity

Annual General Meeting

35 Centurions attended this year's A.G.M. which was held on 29th January 2011 at the historic Toynbee Hall in East London. All our Officers were re-elected unopposed. The nominations as Vice Presidents for Colin Young C317, Gerrit de Jong C456 and Jack Thomas C606 were accepted and plaques awarded.

Arrangements for the Centenary Dinner and 100 mile event were discussed and supported. I would like, on your behalf, to thank our Hon. Secretary Chris Flint C849 and his Committee. We are all very appreciative of their hard work during 2011.

Parish Walk (Isle of Man)

There was once again a record entry of 1753, of whom 1543 made a record number of starters, including 18 Centurions, 14 of whom completed the full 85 miles. Jack Woddington C1034 led from the 10.5 ml point and was never challenged to win the race for the 4th consecutive year in a PB of 15. 01.48. 159 Walkers completed the full distance. 1099 passed through the 32.5 mile checkpoint.

Surrey W.C.100 miles

This year's event was held on the inner service road of Lingfield Park Race Course on 2nd and 3rd July. There were 77 starters of whom 36 completed the 100 miles. The winner was a new Centurion-Bart Snoeren C1083 in a time of 19.04.07. Sandra Brown C735 was 2nd. This was her 24th time to be 1st Lady in 25 completed Centurion 100 miles events in the UK. 3rd was R. Pistorius C1084, another new Centurion. Winning team was R.W.V. Rotterdam, and 2nd was SV de LAT Amsterdam. I wish to thank our President, Carl Lawton C750 for joining me at the finish line to welcome and congratulate the 15 new members as listed below to the Brother/Sisterhood.

C1083	B. SNOEREN	DAK Daunen (Netherlands)	19.04.07
C1084	R. PISTORIS	R.W.V “	20.26.26
C1085	F. de ROECK	R.W.V “	20.33.02
C1086	E. GOEMAN	R.W.V “	20.33.02
C1087	ILONA KLINKENDON	R.W.V “	21.04.02
C1088	E. VOOGT	R.W.W. “	21.32.01
C1089	WENDY THURRELL	L.D.W.A.	21.33.35
C1090	TARA WILLIAMS	L.D.W.A.	21.33.35
C1091	W. van CHAPPELLE	A.V. Cike Arnham “	22.46.31
C1092	K. FALCONER	L.D.W.A.	22.54.23
C1093	SARAH LIGHTMAN	Leicester W.C.	22.55.58
C1094	SUZANNE BEARDSMORE	unattached (Newbury)	23.23.43
C1095	ANGELA ALSTRACHEN	Enfield & Haringey	23.42.48
C1096	M. PEMEN	R.W.V. (Netherlands)	23.48.37
C1097	R. CNUUDE	OLAT “	23.54.30

Our thanks must once again go to Vice-Captain Piet Jensens C389 for bringing a large contingent of Dutch and Belgian competitors to our event. We received an invitation from the Centurion Vereniging Netherlands

for our Officers to attend their 41st AGM at Geel in Belgium on 3rd December 2011. Chris Flint and Kathy Crilley presented certificates and trophies won at the 2011 Lingfield Park event. The meeting organised by Centurions Rudy Schoors C1062 and Caroline Mestdagh C1061 was a great success.

Roubaix 28 hours

A small party of Centurions travelled to France to compete in this ultra distance race. Ken Watts C859 completed 164.800m and Bob Watts C838 147.800m. Kathy Crilley C933 and Cath Duhig C986 competed in the 24 hour Relay team event.

Centurions at Enfield League (courtesy of Ron Wallwork C893)

To mark the Brother/Sisterhood's Centenary Year, the *Enfield & Haringey AC* presented a number of Centurion awards to the Enfield League 2011 series. In all, 25 Centurions raced during the year and a further 8 acted in an official capacity, either judging or marshalling. The League's leading Centurion was Sean Pender C1067 in 6th position, whilst Alan O'Rawe C791, who took part in all 12 races, was pipped for second spot by a mere 2 points by David Sharp C578. Angie Alstrachan C1095, who had qualified at Lingfield in July was the highest placed of 4 ladies who participated in the series.

The 85th Enfield Open Seven which took place on its traditional second Saturday in November. The race was started and the prizes presented by the much respected Colin Young C317, who competed in the 1951 Enfield Open. Martin Fisher C788 was the fastest of the 13 Centurions who toed the starting line, second was David Sharpe C578 and 3rd David Kates C936. Those Centurions who assisted at the event were Colin Young C317, Tony Perkins C675, Carl Lawton C750, Pauline Wilson C798, Ken Roost C557, and Colin Bradley C853. Mal Blyth C383, Ken Livermore C386, and John Cannell C388 also took part. Amazing that they should meet up again after 45 years when they qualified in the 1966 Leicester to Skegness.

Enfield League (Centurions Walkers 2011)

C386 Ken Livermore	C890 Bill Sutherland
C388 John Cannell	C893 Ron Wallwork
C540 David Ainsworth	C933 Kathy Crilley
C578 David Sharpe	C934 Pam Ficken
C661 Mick Barnbrook	C936 David Kates
C685 Tony Perkins	C963 Chris Cattano
C788 Martin Fisher	C972 Paul King
C789 Oliver Browne	C984 Peter Ryan
C791 Alan O'Rawe	C986 Cath Duhig
C849 Chris Flint	C1067 Sean Pender
C856 Gary Smith	C1069 Mark Wall
C858 Stuart Bennett	C1075 Steve Kemp
	C1095 Angie Alstrachen

Officials

C317 Colin Young
C373 Doug Fotheringham
C384 Malcolm Blyth
C577 Ken Roost
C625 Peter Emery
C798 Pauline Wilson
C740 Carl Lawton
C853 Colin Bradley

Other events in this Centenary year which involved Centurions included the Monaco 8 day race on 12-20 November in which Richard Brown C completed 412.272 miles, and Sandra Brown was 6th overall finisher in the 24 hours completing 112.229 miles and Kathy Crilley 90.496 miles and 14th overall. During the weekend of 18-19th November a small group completed the coast-to-coast Hadrian's Wall Trial non-stop covering the 86 miles in 29 hours. It included Centurions Olly Browne, Norman Smith C976, Chris Cattano Steve Kemp, Kim Howard C1020, Chris Flint, Sean Pender and Steve Allen who were ably supported by Angus Browne and John Constandinou. A great walk which I believe is to be repeated.

Dates for your Diary in 2012

31 March-1 April Chateau Thierry 24 hours individual and relay, 26-27 May Dutch 100 Miles at Schiedam, near Rotterdam, 7 July Tribute Lunch to former UK Olympians in London, 22-23 September 100 Miles at Colchester, and 15-16 September Roubaix 28 hours individual and relay.

I extend my warmest wishes to you all and hope to meet up with many of you at our AGM in 2012. In time honoured tradition, please join me in raising a glass to fellow Centurions worldwide at 2pm on Christmas Day. The toast is "The Centurions". God Bless and a Happy Christmas and New Year to you all.

Charlie Weston C584, Centurions Captain 1911.