

## **2018 AGM Web masters report**

The website is the main channel of communication for the Centurions.

The mission is

- to reach out to the world to tell everyone who we are - ie race walkers who have competed in a 100 miles race within a time limit of 24 hours.
- keep the movement alive by telling the history and achievements of Centurions
- inform fellow Centurions of Committee decisions.
- inform fellow Centurions and other race walkers of forthcoming races and events to promote participation in long distance races.
- advice on training, nutrition, etc, to encourage racewalker and non race walkers to take up the challenge.
- promote opportunities to take part in races abroad - Holland, Belgium, France etc...
- keep in touch socially - to gather and participate in social events and walks, and sadly with obituaries of old friends.

### **Web pages under development**

I am currently working on creating a list of British, World, age records, etc, which Centurions have achieved over the years.

To this end, I am in touch with UK statistician Andy Milroy and Nick Marshall in the USA . Primarily they compile ultra running results, but they are beginning to appreciate that race walkers can notch up good and often better results walking. For example, Nick compiles best 100 mile results by 70 years+ and I have succeeded in getting John Borgars acknowledged on this listing.

Also under development are listings of NZ Centurions and Continental Centurions, US Centurions and multi Centurions - as well as Manx (British) Centurions.

Another area I am developing is the collation of race results by race venue (eg Rouen, Bazancourt, Roubaix, etc.)

Frenchman, Guy Destre, has begun publishing these lists and it is fascinating to see our representation over the years: Paddy Dowling way back in the early 70s. Paddy, by the way, is still held in high regard on the French race walking scene.

1971 Rouen winner was Colin Young.... and again in 1972... and then you get to the 1990s and the the top female walkers are dominated by British Centurions...

Memories are very important. It helps those Centurions who have hung up their trainers to keep touch with the current as well as the past race walking scene.

Which brings me to the obituaries. When I am adding memories and tributes for the website, what strikes me most is that surviving families and friends really appreciate their loved ones truly treasured their Centurion status way and above everything else they had achieved in their lifetimes. And that says everything. My thanks to everyone who contributes their memories of our fallen Centurions - I assure you - it is very much appreciated by their loved ones.

Re stats - how many people have looked at the website? Well, quite a lot as it turns out..

Number of “**visits**”

- highest in August 2017 was 12,315.
- unique visitors : highest 5526 (Aug). Average throughout the years = 2500

Most visited pages:

- news
- training
- fixture page

“Visits” by country:

- USA
- UK
- Germany
- Russia

As ever, I’m grateful to Centurion Dave Ainsworth for keeping me up to date with news of Centurions - but it would be good to hear from other other Centurions personally - of races, and events you have been involved in. We need to share our experiences to encourage would-be Centurions to come along and take part and get involved.

Other methods of communications are the Centurions Facebook page and a new Twitter feed....

That said, there does have to be a balance, as “corporate comms “ has to go through every channel to reach out to everyone. I certainly recognise that not everyone uses Facebook, Twitter as well communicating in hard copy as not everyone has a computer and email account.

So, as ever, my annual plea is...do let me know what you are doing, whether racing, supporting, volunteering and other social bits and pieces. It makes it more real and you never know - it may well encourage others to do like wise.

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Web Manager