

## Captains Report

After our recent AGM meeting I am pleased to be asked to continue the good works of our previous captains and take up this post, again the AGM has asked that we keep our posts fresh and voted for a three year rotation of the holders.

The Northern winter league the next day allowed further discussions with the 100 mile organiser and to further offer our support. Centurions racing included our new treasurer Richard Cole and your Captain. We discussed future long distance events with YRWC officials and the prospect of organising a 50 mile event as a gateway to Centurion qualification in the future.

Interest in Centurion qualification remains strong, however the organising of these events remains a challenge. The subject was discussed at a Lancashire race later in the month. Lancashire walking club are a club where support for long distance walking and Centurions remains strong and they were given best regards from the Centurion committee. It was nice to see Centurions who qualified at events such as the Blackpool track 100 still on the road race walking and again there was interest in a 50 mile race and the possibility of this will be discussed with the committee.

Your Captain acknowledges the commitment of Centurions supporting races Pam Ficken, Carl Lawton, Ron Wallwork, Dave Evans and others and it is their work and encouragement that is the backbone of our sport. It was good to see their support along with other Centurions racing at the Enfield league one of the few sunny days it seems this year. Centurions must continue to challenge themselves at any distance and I encourage to participate in Race Walking events where possible.

It would be impossible to note all our latest achievements and I would highlight the use of our facebook and web pages to inform our community of your events. Only by informing and recognising our achievements will the Athletic world see the multi faceted Athletes we are. I bring to the committees attention Centurions John Dowlings recent Mayors award, Sharon Gaytors ultra records, and the participation of former Captains Sandra Brown and Kathy Crilley aboard not forgetting the achievements of our Commonwealth games athletes to which messages of congratulation have been sent, perhaps Centurions of the future.

Finally I wish you well in the coming months for all your races and for those attempting qualification at the Wandel 100 and the Isle of Man, I and others will be there to support you. I am sure there will be many new Centurions to add to our number.

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