



## Presidents Christmas Newsletter 2023

May I start by wishing all our fellow Centurions, past and present, their families and friends, and all the officials and helpers warm wishes for the coming Christmas and New year. Without all of these individuals we would have been unable to have completed 98 x 100 mile Centurion events since 1911. A truly remarkable achievement.

At this time of year we also remember those who have passed since our last newsletters.

				Date passed away
C464	Dave Boxall	Brighton & Hove AC	1971 Ewhurst 100	January 2023
C340	Dick Hyland	London Vidarians WC	1963 Brighton to London & Back	19/12/2022
C368	Jan Kon	AV40 Delft	1965 Chigwell 100	February 2023
C402	Wout van Wieringen	RWV	1966 Leicester to Skegness	18/04/2023
C442	Ton Soeters	LAT	1969 Bristol 100	May 2023
C641	Henni van Wezel	Sv de LAT	1978 Leicester to Skegness	01/12/2023
C 669	Ken Mason	Surrey WC	1979 Ewhurst 100	13/03/2023
C717	Mick Holmes	York Postal WC	1982 Leicester 100	01/07/2023
C776	Willem Brouwer	OLAT	1983 Ewhurst 100	July 2023
C914	Mike Aris	Surrey W.C.	1993 London	June 2023
C1007	Hugo Prinsen	OLAT	2004 Colchester	November 2023

After the difficult times which we have all endured, we succeeded in holding the 98<sup>th</sup> UK Centurions event in Middlesbrough for a second year in succession. While the numbers were down on previous years it was still deemed by all a success, with 20 entries for the 100mile, and a further 12 entries for a 50k which was held in conjunction to the main race. Three Dutch participants qualified as Centurions and everyone had a very enjoyable weekend, thanks partly to the weather being better than the previous year.

As for the future: Officials at Gloucester AC have confirmed that their track and facilities have been booked for the holding of a 100 miles event on 24/25 August 2024. It is important that the facilities are checked and the Committee has agreed that Chris Flint, our secretary, and Sue Clements, our webmaster and archivist, should visit the site early in the New Year. It will be an opportunity to meet the club officials, assess the facilities, review what additional support is needed, the availability of accommodation for officials for the event, and engage with the local media. More detailed information will be circulated shortly.

We eagerly anticipate reaching our 100<sup>th</sup> 100 in the not too distant future, if all goes to plan in 2025.

The AGM is to be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024 as an on-line Zoom meeting. Chris our secretary will provide details of how to attend the zoom meeting in due course.

We are also inviting nominations to join our committee and help shape the future of the Centurions. Please consider putting yourselves forward or target another Centurion to do so as the committee has important roles to be undertaken. Nominations should be made to Chris Flint.

I would like to thank and give gratitude to our committee members for the hard work done during the past twelve months. Chris our hardworking secretary, Richard Cole our treasurer, Sue Clements our website organiser and archivist, Roger Michell, our Captain, and Pam Ficken, Martin fisher, Eric Horwill (Past President), Carl Lawton, Steve Kemp, and finally our thanks go to Ian Richards and Richard McChesney who will be standing down at the AGM for their advice and support.

I would like to express my thanks to both Chris and Roger for attending the Dutch Centurions reunion and the presentation of awards and trophies at Hilversum, near Amsterdam, in November.

Finally at 2.00pm on Christmas day, as is our tradition, please raise a glass and toast "The Centurions".

A very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year to you all.

**David Jones, President. C987.**