

THE CENTURIONS



A HISTORY

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Definition:

A Centurion is one who, as an Amateur, has walked in competition, in Great Britain, 100 miles within 24 hours.

BRIEF HISTORY

*“Now the matchless deed’s determined,
Dared, achieved and done.”*

The Centurions are the most exclusive athletic body in the world. No other organisation demands the same high standard of performance. There are no patrons or honorary members.

Number One was Mr. J.E. Fowler-Dixon, the doyen of long-distance walking and running, who as long ago as 1877 walked 100 miles in 20 hours 36 minutes 8 seconds. No amateur athlete created an important long-distance record until twenty years later, when “Teddy” Knott walked from London to Brighton within nine hours.

The two paragraphs above have been printed in this handbook at least since its 1938 edition; whether or not they are strictly accurate may be debated for years to come. For instance, was Fowler-Dixon really the ‘doyen’ of long-distance walking? Were there really no important amateur performances between 1877 and 1897? Only extensive research will tell, as there is nobody alive today who can recall past performances with any great clarity.

The Pre-History

The Centurions were formed in 1911 by a number of athletes who had qualifying performances as per the definition above which is also the second rule of the “Centurion Society”, but before going into the known Centurion history, some mention must be made of our predecessors.

In the 18th & 19th centuries there were many ‘Pedestrians’, such people as Hugue, Foster-Powell, Barclay, Wilson, Payson-Weston etc., their exploits and feats of endurance are well chronicled. It is most likely that these and many more could have qualified as Centurions had they been around in modern times, possibly even in their own times, but one must consider the mode of dress and the road conditions in those bygone days. Added to these doubts is the fact that these ‘Pedestrians’ usually performed for a wager or other form of recompense, and therefore they were certainly not amateurs; also, a form of jog-trotting was considered as walking; something that would not pass the scrutiny of modern day judging! The routes or venues for the great feats were many and varied: The York Road, Newmarket Heath, and in the case of George Wilson, a half mile up and back on Hare and Billet Road, Blackheath for his 1,000 miles in 1,000 hours attempt. Another popular venue was the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, which was opened in 1862 and affectionately known as the “Aggie”.

With acknowledgements to Surrey Walking Club – Gazette and Record.

The Aggie was a tan (?clay) track of eight laps to the mile, around the body of the hall. The track had overhead gas lighting and British workmen in their thousands would gather to watch the races, almost all of them puffing away on their clay pipes or Woodbines. This was a very stuffy atmosphere for the walkers who would shuffle around the little circuit hour after hour, or even day after day. It was in these circumstances, in 1880, that Billy Howes walked 100 miles in 18 hours 8 minutes 50 seconds, and, continuing, completed 127 miles 1210 yards in 24 hours.

The question arises, should Billy Howes have been made a Centurion? By virtue of that performance, the answer would be Yes; but Billy Howes was a professional, so the answer is No. **In completely different circumstances , there were at least two great amateur events, one was a 100 mile match, in which Mr. Fowler-Dixon “walked an opponent off his legs” and made a record of 20 hours or so.** (see above) In fact, Fowler-Dixon beat his opponent, E.M.R. Dundas, by about 2 miles; and both broke the previous record. **The other being a 24 hour event held in 1881, when Archie Sinclair reached 100 miles in 19 hours 41 minutes 50 seconds and continued on to 120 miles in 23 hours 53 minutes 3 seconds. These events took place at the old Lillie Bridge ground in Fulham.**

So the question again arises, should these 3 walkers have been made Centurions? To date, nothing has been discovered about Dundas, and it is assumed that he died before the turn of the century. Of Sinclair, all that is known is that he died prior to 1907. As for Fowler-Dixon, he lived to the grand age of 93, his death was reported in the press in October 1943. All three were paced to their performances, (something that would not be allowed in modern times) but pacing may have been within the rules in those days, so Fowler-Dixon, as the only one alive when the Centurions were formed, would be the only one of these three to be “qualified”. More than 100 years have passed since Teddy Knott first broke the nine hour barrier on the Brighton Road, an achievement that has been bettered many times by many great walkers. In those days over 100 years ago, no one could have known how important this stretch of road, between London and the South Coast, would become to walkers of all abilities, and especially to Centurions.

Knott was a great lover of the sport of walking and, being a very modest man, was convinced that there were others to be found who could beat his time; so he, in association with fellow members of the South London Harriers, in 1899, founded The Surrey Walking Club. Later, in 1903, this time with fellow members of The Surrey Walking Club, he founded the Garratt Walking Club which later became the London Vidarians Walking Club; a friendly rivalry exists to this day between these old clubs. Later still, in 1907, he assisted in the formation of The Road Walking Association, and was made its first president.

The Surrey Walking Club (S.W.C.) for the first two years of its existence had only a handful of members, but, in the early part of the 20th century young walkers entered its fold and soon it became the premier road walking club of the world. A scheme of trials was drawn up which provided that any member walking from London to Brighton and Back (a distance of 104 miles 1130 yards) within 24 hours should receive a gold medal.

On October 31st – November 1st 1902, E.H. Neville, on behalf of the S.W.C., promoted the first London to Brighton and Back time trial. In this race against the clock, Jack Butler created the first authentic record for the double journey of 104½ miles, by accomplishing the distance in 21 hours 36 minutes 27 seconds. Unfortunately, it seems that, in these early days little or no consideration was given to times at the 100 mile point. It is also possible that the precise position of the 100 mile point was not considered important! In the 1902 time trial G.H. Schofield and W.J. Taylor also completed the double journey within 24 hours. Of the 9 who started out, 6 failed to finish, one of them being the promoter, E.H. Neville. There were now two important events being held on the Brighton Road: the double journey time trial and the single journey which, since the first official walking record of 10 hours 56 minutes by B. Trench in 1868, had now become an annual event being staged in alternate years by The Polytechnic Harriers and Surrey Walking Club. In 1903 a third event, The Stock Exchange London to Brighton walk, was started. The race (one of the few remaining “closed” races) was won by E.F. Broad.

In 1903 H.W. Horton, F.J. Wakefield and E.H. Neville all broke Jack Butler’s record. E. Ion-Pool and E.C. Wray also completed the double journey within 24 hours.

In June 1907, the record set by H.W. Horton was beaten by more than 2¼ hours, when T.E. Hammond did the double distance in 18 hours 13 minutes 37 seconds. Pundits of the day thought that this record would be unbeatable. Hammond was followed home by 5 others, one of whom was W. Brown, so far the only true Centurion! He lived to celebrate his 103rd birthday in 1981.

In 1908, two Surrey Walking Club members attempted the Brighton and Back. Neither finished!

On September 11th – 12th 1908 the first 24 hour track walking race of the 20th century was held at the White City Stadium in London, when T.E. Hammond created a new track record for 100 miles in 18 hours 4 minutes 10 seconds. He set up many other records and eventually recorded 131 miles 580 yards within the 24 hours. 16 others, 4 of whom already had a 100 in 24 under their belts, also completed the event.

In the following year another 24 hour track race was held at the same venue, the winner being T. Payne who had competed the previous year. He covered 127 miles 542 yards in the 24 hours, an improvement of almost 19 miles on his previous performance. He also bettered the figures for several intermediate distances. 24 others, 21 of them for the first time, also completed the event. The popularity of long distance walking, it seems, had taken a hold on the walkers of the day, certainly on the track anyway.

The Foundation

Early in 1911, E.R. “Bob” Gillespie, who had walked 106 miles without stopping in the 1908 24 hour race, conceived the idea of forming the Centurions, and as a result of discussions with Hammond and Neville a meeting was arranged of those who were qualified. This meeting took place at the ‘Ship & Turtle’, 131 Leadenhall Street, London, on the 11th May, 1911 which just happened to be the 131st day of the year. One of those present at this inaugural meeting was T.E. Hammond, the 24 hour world record holder, his record being 131 completed miles. The number 131 has no particular significance to Centurions, except for these co-incidences; but it is interesting to note that Centurion number 131 was S.G. Last. (How many Centurions who, when qualified for the first time, have said that it will also be the last?)

At this inaugural meeting it was decided to form a brotherhood to be called ‘CENTURIONS’. James Edwin Fowler-Dixon, being the senior person present and having the longest standing qualifying performance (34 years), was elected president for life, and would bear the burden of being No. 1 (C 1). Fowler-Dixon’s performance has been discussed above, and so in many ways it is fitting that he is distinguished from those who followed from 1902, when events were begun on a regular basis. There were or would have been many others who had walked 100 miles with 24 hours, but they could not be considered for membership as many were professionals or had passed on, and therefore would not be able to take an active role. It also seems that there were some ‘qualified’ walkers who did not take up the option of membership. The reasons why are unknown.

The Minutes of the first 2 meetings of the Brotherhood of Centurions are reproduced on the following pages.

J. E. Fowler - Director (claimant) No. 11 X
 E. R. Gillespie No. 22.
 Thos. E. Hammond. No. 10.
 J. H. Warr No. 42.
 T. E. Habisshaw No. 25.
 Wm. F. Mitchell No. 43. X
 H. Swabey No. 13.
 J. R. Banner Hoss No. 11. X
 E. C. Libby No. 9. X
 A. Broad No. 28. X
 Wm. Taylor No. 4.
 F. A. Merrill No. 7. X
 E. J. Pool No. 8.
 E. C. Haynes. No. 46

Above are the signatures of those
 present at the first meeting of Centurions
 held at The Ship and Turtle, 131
 Leathhall Street, E.C. 11th May 1911. c 6/10 PM
 — the 131th day of the year.

— Minutes. —

Minutes of the first meeting held at The Ship and Turtle, 131 Leadenhall Street, E.C. 11th May 1911 at 6.30pm.

Proposed by J.R. Barnes Moss and seconded by E.H. Neville that the Society is hereby formed and called “**Centurions**” and that one of the necessary qualifications for membership shall be that the proposed member is an amateur and has walked 100 miles or more within 24 hours.

Proposed by E.R. Gillespie and seconded by J.R. Barnes Moss that Mr. Fowler-Dixon be elected Life President of Centurions.

Proposed by E.H. Neville and seconded by E.F. Broad that Mr. T.E. Hammond be elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Proposed by E.R. Gillespie and seconded by E.H. Neville that the membership be limited to 100 (one hundred).

Proposed by J.R. Barnes Moss and seconded by E.F. Broad that there be no compulsory subscription for the 1st year but donations of not more than 2/6d per annum be accepted from members towards the working expenses of the society.

Proposed by F.H. Wallis and seconded by E.C. Wray that the drafting of rules be left to a sub-committee consisting of Messrs E.R. Gillespie, E.H. Neville, J.R. Barnes Moss, with the President and Hon Secretary ex officio.

Proposed by E.H. Neville and seconded by J.R. Barnes Moss that each member shall bear the number of his qualifying performance, such number to be allotted in accordance with the chronological order in which the performance was accomplished.

Proposed by T.E. Hammond and seconded by E.H. Neville that a meeting of Centurions be held bi-annually and at such other times, as, in the opinion of the President and Hon. Secretary may be desirable.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

J.R. Barnes Moss *Chairman 4/7/11*

The following were present at the second meeting held at The Ship and Turtle, 131 Leadenhall Street, E.C. on 4th July 1911.

<i>Thos. E. Hammond</i>	<i>J.R. Barnes Moss</i>	<i>W.G. Prior</i>
<i>H.C. Taylor</i>	<i>Frank P. Webb</i>	<i>E. Gilbert Mitchell</i>
<i>W.T. Mitchell</i>	<i>G.H. Schofield</i>	<i>J. Butler</i>
<i>E.R. Gillespie</i>	<i>Wm. Taylor</i>	<i>T.C. Habishaw</i>

The following propositions were made by:-

E.R. Gillespie, seconded by G.H. Schofield that Messrs Daffern & Co's Centurion badge be adopted in silver, blue & white.

W.T. Mitchell that the second design submitted by that firm failed to find a seconder.

W.T. Mitchell seconded by T.E. Hammond that a stroll be held on Sunday 27th August, meeting at The Horse Shoes Hotel, Tottenham Court Road, W. at 10.30am and that postcards re the same be sent to each member.

The drafting of the rules by the sub-committee were accepted enbloc as follows:-

1. The Society shall be called "Centurions".
2. Any applicant for membership must be an amateur and have walked not less than 100 miles in 24 hours.
3. The membership shall be limited to 100 to whom numbers shall be allotted corresponding to the chronological order of their qualifying performances.
4. That the Society shall meet bi-annually and at other times as may be decided by the President and Hon. Secretary.
5. That members shall be elected at any general meeting of the Society and their election must be unanimous.

E.R. Gillespie

Rule 3 was amended at a meeting held on 1st October 1930.

Following the second meeting of the Centurions on the 4th July 1911 there was another Brighton & Back time trial which was held on the 14th – 15th of that month, the only new qualifier being T.E. Bartlett who holds the distinction of being the first member to be officially elected by his peers at a Centurion meeting held on January 30th 1912. It is interesting to note that in previous editions of this handbook, his performance was recorded as being made in the 1909 track race. It is now known that this is incorrect.

In August 1912 there was another Brighton & Back time trial in which there were 3 new qualifiers, one of them being Charles J. Culling who would later be elected as the Hon. Secretary a position he held from 1922 to 1955, an unbroken span of 33 years.

1913 was a memorable year when many different things affecting the Centurions took place, the first being that T.E. Hammond and E.H. Neville of the Surrey Walking Club put up a trophy for the first man home in the Brighton & Back race. In those days, in order to compete in a Brighton & Back event, the entrant had to be enrolled as a member of the S.W.C. It was not necessary to be a first claim member. The Hammond-Neville trophy as it was called would therefore always be won by a club member. To this day the base still exists, but the whereabouts of the 2 foot tall nymph figurine is unknown. At a meeting of the Centurions on the 21st May, a proposal was made that a list of Centurions should be produced. It was decided that those who were qualified but had not taken up membership should be omitted from the list, but a note of their names and performances should be made. To date, a copy of these lists has regrettably never been found. In July there was a Brighton & Back race in which 9 men started. The race was held in gale force conditions with heavy rain, and so it is no wonder that only 3 finished; it is reported that all of the three were 'well built gentlemen' and therefore had more protection against the elements than their fellow competitors. Harold Rhodes, who had qualified the year before, won the race by more than 2¼ hours from the 2 new qualifiers, and so became the first holder of the Hammond-Neville trophy. In August, Harold Rhodes was elected Secretary and Treasurer to follow in the footsteps of E.R. Gillespie and T.E. Hammond. The first edition of this handbook was published, containing the details of Centurion numbers 1 to 54. In October there was another Brighton & Back time trial in which two new members qualified.

1914 was another memorable year for good and bad reasons. In May, the S.W.C. rescinded their rule that competitors in the Brighton & Back time trial should be enrolled as members of their club, thus making the Brighton & Back an open event. In the race which was held in July, the magazine "Health & Strength" funded a veterans event for walkers over the age of 45, to be held in conjunction with the main race. The 4 veterans who started had a 45 minute pre-start from the main field. One veteran, George Hesketh of Lancashire, completed along with 5 newcomers from the main race, the winner being Edgar Broad by more than 2 hours. All of the new men were elected to the Centurions at a meeting held on 4th September. At that meeting, Jack Butler and H.W. Horton were elected Life Members. From simple beginnings, the Centurions now had a firm base on which to build. There were 62 registered members, and the sport of long distance walking was once again becoming popular, the only prize being membership of this exclusive society. All of this early work was to come to an abrupt halt.

On August 4th war was declared – THE GREAT WAR. Centurion activities as well as most walking events were suspended for the duration. Most of the 62 Centurions were of suitable age and therefore signed up to fight for their King and Country. It is not known how many (if any) Centurions were killed in action, as a roll of honour was never kept. Of the many young men who gave their lives, there were a number of race walkers – good walkers and back markers, some of whom would have undoubtedly have become Centurions – such are the fortunes of war.

Soon after the armistice was declared in 1918, race walking got back into its stride, but it was not until 1921 that the distance men got their chance to qualify for membership of the Centurions, the event once again being the Brighton & Back. Unlike the 1913 event, this time it was held in heat wave conditions. Of the 12 who started, 3 were to complete, the winner being Edgar Horton (not related to H.W. Horton). One of those who failed to complete was A.A. Stiff who, on his return journey, took a wrong turning at Redhill and proceeded towards Dorking on the A24, instead of Croydon on the A23. It is believed that he found himself a bed and slept off his exertions. In his report on the race, Henry Colldén of Surrey Walking Club expressed severe misgivings about the future of this event due to the heavy traffic on the Brighton Road, and his concern for the safety of walkers. He had counted 98 charabancs (coaches) during his travels up and down this famous road.

In February 1922 the 3 qualifiers from 1921 were officially elected to membership of the Centurions, and Charles J. Culling was elected Secretary, the start of his 33 year term of office.

The Stiff and Makeham Affair

In February 1924, a saga which was to last 4 months began. As was the custom in those days, A.A. Stiff and O.F. Makeham applied for membership of the Centurions, (membership never was and never has been automatic) following their separate efforts in May and August 1923. Their time trials, which were held on the Brighton & Back route, were adjudicated by the Garratt Walking Club, and therefore started from the G.W.C. headquarters at Mitcham. After 3 months of correspondence and discussion, a section of the route from Mitcham to Coulsdon, plus a loop circuit in Coulsdon was re-measured. It was found that the distance, after several re-calculations, was approximately 1½ miles short of the 100. Stiff had completed with only 1 minute 20 seconds in hand, Makeham may have had enough time in hand, but his time on that occasion has not been discovered. They did not actually complete 100 miles and therefore it was decided at a meeting held on 23rd June 1924 that they could not be elected as Centurions. This was not all that would be heard of Stiff or Makeham as readers of this handbook will discover.

In June 1926, the first death of a Centurion was officially recorded in the minute book. By a strange quirk of fate, (or was it yet another coincidence?) it was E.R. Gillespie, the man who first had the idea of forming the Centurions, that had passed away. It is known that he was not the first, but was the first to be recorded. Later in that month the Brighton & Back was on again. The road surface had been greatly improved, and so the burning question of the day was, would Tom Hammond's record from 1907 remain intact? 14 men completed the event, 3 of them being existing Centurions, 2 from the 1921 event, the other being E. Hailstone who had qualified in the 1909 track race. The winner was W.F. 'Billy' Baker in a remarkable time of 18 hours 5 minutes 51 seconds. Hammond's record of 19 years was beaten, and once again the questions were asked, how long would this new record stand? and was there anyone who could beat the 18 hours for the Brighton & Back? Of the 10 new Centurions, apart from Billy Baker, 2 must be mentioned. One is Oscar Makeham, mentioned above, the second is Donato Pavesi, an Italian by birth. He was not the first 'non-British' walker to qualify for membership of the Centurions, but was the first to be accepted with full rights. The last man to complete the event was A.A. Stiff in a time of 25 hours 25 minutes 26 seconds, but he was outside the 24 hour mark at 100 miles.

In November 1928, Oscar Makeham wrote to the secretary suggesting that the Centurions should write to George Lind. Makeham had noticed that Lind had never been at any

Centurion meetings, and he was not sure Lind had been fully accepted. At a meeting held on the 11th June 1929, George Lind, a Russian by birth, was welcomed into the fold and presented with his badge, number 24; 21 years after his qualifying performance in 1908. After his acceptance, George Lind took a very active role and often acted as chairman at Centurion meetings. At that same meeting it was announced that the Race Walking Association (R.W.A.) had lowered the upper age limit to 60 years for the 1929 race, but they made a special exception for A.A. Stiff.

1929 was a milestone year for many reasons. The Surrey Walking Club had made a decision to promote the Brighton & Back race on a 4 year cycle, the race to be held in the year following the Olympic Games. Although the 1926 race did not conform to this pattern, for reasons unknown, the 1913 & 1921 races did, and so it seemed to be a natural move. There had previously been a proposal for a 100 mile race to be held in the Epsom area of Surrey, to be held in 1928, but it was voted against on an amendment in favour of the S.W.C. race due for 1929.

In June, the Brighton & Back race was held. The winner for the second time was Billy Baker in a time of 18 hours 38 minutes 8 seconds. There were 14 newly qualified Centurions, plus 3 who were existing Centurions. Of the 3 existing Centurions, Jimmy Thomas C65, at the age of 56, became the first man to complete the Brighton & Back 3 times, the only other Centurion with 3 completions was Henry Swabey C13 (1907 B & B, 1908 & 1909 track). The other existing Centurion was B.W. Smith who retired at the 100 mile mark. The only one of the newly qualified Centurions to stop at the 100 mile mark was A.E.H. Winter. (Why do more than is necessary?) This was the first time that an accurate record of retirements at measured distances was kept. From this record it has been discovered that A.A. Stiff, in what must have been his final attempt, retired at 10½ miles (Big Ben) after 2 hours 1 minute 37 seconds. Stiff, who we know had twice done the distance, never did qualify. In November 1929, Oscar Makeham on behalf of the Centurions, attended the funeral of "Teddy" Knott. Although Teddy Knott was never a Centurion, he was in many ways the inspiration for the long distance walkers and Centurions that would follow in later years. In December, a new handbook was produced covering numbers 1 – 89, this was the 3rd edition.

So far, with the exception of the White City track races in 1989 & 1909, all Centurion performances had been achieved on the Brighton road, and as the pattern had now been set, the next race would not be until 1933. Only a few things worthy of note occurred between the 1929 & 1933 races. The first being that J.C. Johnson C78, of the Surrey Walking Club, requested the help of fellow Centurions to act as marshalls and judges for a new 38 mile event from Hastings to Brighton, to be held in 1930. (This 'classic' event would last for 50 editions, finally ending in 1987). In October 1930, E.H. Neville C7, suggested that the Centurions should promote a Brighton & Back in 1931. This was turned down, as the Centurions were a Society, not a Club, and were therefore unable to promote an event in their own right. At that same meeting rule 3, which limited membership of the Centurions to 100, was rescinded and amended to read that 'Centurions would be awarded sequential numbers in chronological order of their performance without limitation'. In April 1931, a proposal was made that a circular letter should be sent to all Centurions at Christmastide. In October 1931, a letter was received from the Yorkshire Walking Club suggesting a 100 mile event in Yorkshire. In December 1932, a special dinner was held to mark the coming of age of the Centurions (21 years).

The 1933 London to Brighton & Back race was held on 23rd-24th June. The main question being, would Billy Baker achieve the hat trick? The question was easily answered as Billy was unable to race. In fact he never again raced over the classic distance, but was often present to support and encourage other walkers. Of the 17 starters, 10 were to finish, the

winner being Dan Gum of Essex Beagles in 18 hours 53 minutes 7 seconds. A.F. Spicer C76, was the only existing Centurion to complete the race.

In October 1933, a benevolent fund was established for the purposes of assisting any Centurion in need. To date, few demands have been made on this fund. In 1934, the Christmas letter first mentioned in 1931 was sent to all Centurions whose addresses were known.

On the 11th May 1936, the Centurions held a Silver Jubilee Dinner at Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese, Fleet Street, London. Before going into dinner, a short meeting was held.

The Aldred Affair

Mr. E. H. Neville stated that Mr. James Aldred of the Lancashire Walking Club had approached him and claimed eligibility for membership of the Centurions by virtue of his having walked from Manchester to Blackpool and Back in October 1927, a distance of 102½ miles in 21 hours 1 minute 16 seconds. The Centurions present at the meeting agreed unanimously that Mr. James Aldred should be elected C99, subject to him supplying proof of his performance. F.R. Scott C77, stated that he competed in the Manchester to Blackpool in 1927, and that he saw Mr. Aldred turn and start on the return journey, he thought that after consulting his records of the race he might be able to substantiate the claim of Mr. Aldred. *This claim would keep the Centurions occupied for 14 months, until it was finally resolved in 1937.* Mr. Aldred's claim was discussed at the next two Centurion meetings in August and October, and each time it was held over pending undisputed evidence from the Lancashire Walking Club. In the meantime a race was held in which there were 13 new qualifiers all of whom were elected to the Centurions.

This was the first time that northern walkers could qualify on home ground, as the race was promoted by the Yorkshire Walking Club. It was a 24 hour track race held at Bradford on 18th – 19th September. This race had first been suggested 5 years earlier in 1931. The winner of the race was officially J. Prior C92, who completed 118 miles 1200 yards in the 24 hours. The only other person to complete the 24 hours was P. Kitson – “A local youth” – who managed 90 miles and a few yards. Another youth was 19 year old George Hall from Birmingham, who was to become the youngest walker to qualify for membership of the Centurions.

The first man to reach 100 miles was T.W. Richardson in the remarkable time of 17 hours 35 minutes 4 seconds, beating Tom Hammond's 1908 world record by just under 30 minutes. After a short rest he continued to achieve a distance of 101 miles 1230 yards, stopping precisely on the stroke of noon after 18 hours. As number 99 was still in dispute, the new qualifiers were given numbers 100-112, therefore Tommy Richardson was awarded the much coveted number 100. *In his articles for the Race Walking Record, John Keown, writing about the 20's and 30's stated that “To mark the occasion, the Centurions allocated Tommy Richardson the number 100, not the next number on the list which was No. 99.”* For many years, Centurions have held the misguided belief that No. 99 was an unlucky number, and that Tom Richardson was awarded C100 as a mark of respect for his supremacy as the leading long distance walker of the day. Unfortunately this is not correct.

At a meeting of the Centurions held on January 6th 1937, letters from Mr. Robert Eastwood, secretary of the Lancashire Walking Club and Mr. Chas Lambert, official timekeeper of the Manchester to Blackpool and Back walk in October 1927, were read and discussed at great length. The chairman, E.C. Wray, stated that rule 5 read “That members shall be elected at any general meeting of the Society and their election must be unanimous”. Because the

members present were not all in agreement, Mr. James Aldred was not elected a Centurion. James Aldred never did qualify, or perhaps never tried again?

At the next meeting, held in April, the secretary, Chas Culling, stated that he intended to propose that all applications for election to the Centurions must be made within 3 months of the qualifying performance and be accompanied by all relevant evidence. The James Aldred affair was finally laid to rest at a meeting held on 3rd July 1937, when it was unanimously agreed that C99 should not be awarded to any Centurion, but should be left out of the numbering. This decision was confirmed at the next meeting held in October 1937.

Whilst the Aldred affair was going on, as 1937 followed an Olympic Year, Surrey Walking Club promoted another Brighton & Back. Of the 17 starters, 11 were to complete the full journey, 8 of them becoming new Centurions. The winner was Jonnie Henderson of the Sussex Walking Club. He was later to become a founder member of Steyning A.C. Of the 3 existing Centurions, both A.F. Spicer C76 and J. Prior C92, completed their hat-tricks, becoming the 3rd and 4th Centurions to achieve this feat. Of the 119 pre-war Centurions, only 4 others were to achieve the hat-trick or better. The 4 were A.D. McSweeney C94 (3), T. W. Richardson C100 (6) J. O'Neill C102 (3) and G. Hall C107 (8).

In July 1938, a new handbook was produced which included a foreword and short history of the Centurions, which had been compiled by E.H. Neville and E.C. Wray. At this meeting the chairman suggested that the time was ripe for another 24 hour race in London, the last being held in September 1909 – 29 years ago. Because the Centurions are not a promoting body, the secretary was requested to write to the Stock Exchange A.C., to see if they would promote the event in 1939 with assistance from the Centurions. This matter was considered by the Stock Exchange A.C. but was decided against in January 1939. A sub committee was formed to consider the proposed 24 hour track race, but all to no avail, for soon the world would once again be at war. Prior to the war, of the 119 listed Centurions, 9 had passed away, the majority of those remaining still being relatively young men, but only a few were young enough to serve their King and Country.

The War Years

At the outset of war, long distance competitions were naturally suspended, as were most other walking events. At a meeting in December 1939, the secretary reported that owing to the blackout etc., he did not call the October quarterly meeting, but it was decided that the Centurions should carry on as best as possible. Meetings were held on a fairly regular basis, but unfortunately one of the regular announcements at these meetings would be the report of the death of yet another Centurion. One such report was made at a meeting in January 1941, when it was announced that H.W. Horton C5, and his wife were killed by an enemy bomb, a direct hit on their home in Walworth, South London. In October 1941, A.D. McSweeney C94, published the first issue of Race Walking Record in an attempt to keep people abreast of the walking scene in the limited conditions. The Race Walking Record is still in publication today and is the oldest athletics magazine in regular circulation. In May 1942, it was proposed that the chairman at Centurion meetings should be in order of seniority (by age), therefore E.C. Wray C9, took the chair from E.H. Neville C7. It had always been an unwritten rule that the lowest numbered Centurion should be chairman. This proposal was rescinded at the next meeting in favour of the unwritten rule.

In October 1943, J.E. Fowler-Dixon Centurion C1, passed away at the age of 93. His death was reported in the press at the time, but was not reported to the Centurions until their next

meeting in January 1944. For the first time in their 32 year history, the Centurions had to elect a new president. The position fell to Jack Butler, C2, the obvious choice.

In April 1944, a Centurion version of Race Walking Record called 'Centurion Notes' was published, giving a summary of Centurion meetings and letters received. A second issue was published in April 1945. Unfortunately, not much is known about these early publications as copies have not yet come to light, but a few copies of 'The Centurion' which succeeded it are available. From here the history of the Centurions (except for the races) is rather sketchy as the minute book covering the period 1945-1961 has not been found.

Soon after the termination of hostilities the Metropolitan Walking Club set up the long awaited track race that had been discussed and planned as far back as 1937. This event, held on 14th-15th June 1946, was staged at the White City Track, the scene of the famous 1908 and 1909 track races which were so instrumental in the formation of the Centurions. It was also the first 24 hour race to be held in London in the 37 years since those two great events. It rained heavily throughout the race and a large part of the track was waterlogged. Of the 26 who started, 4 would complete 100 miles and retire, one of them being Jonnie Henderson, the winner of the last qualifying event in 1937, he was 34 minutes behind the leader at the 100 mile mark. 4 others were to continue for the full 24 hours, the winner being Percy Reading of the Polytechnic Club. He set new figures for 19 hours, 110 miles and 20 hours. Tom Richardson's 100 mile time from 1936 and Tom Hammond's 24 hour distance from 1908 were undisturbed. And so the Centurions gained 7 new members. Before the start of this race the Centurions held a short meeting at which the death of Tom Hammond was announced. Tom had been captain from the formation of the Centurions. Earnest Neville C7, was elected to take over the role of captain.

In October 1946, a questionnaire was sent to all Centurions seeking their opinion on a new trophy to be purchased by the Society, and also asking for contributions to a maximum of £1.00 for its purchase. Many suggestions for the style and title of this trophy were received. It was eventually decided to purchase a handsome three handled silver cup which would be called 'The Hammond Cup' in memory of the late captain. Purchased early in 1948, it was the first real asset to be owned outright by the Centurions and would be presented to the first existing Centurion finishing the 100 miles in 24 hours race.

In June 1947, the Surrey Walking Club revived the Brighton and Back. This time it was in the year preceding the Olympic Games and the S.W.C. committee decided to re-start their 4 year cycle, the only difference being that it would be held in the year before instead of following the Olympic Games. *(By a lucky chance it means that S.W.C. will be promoting the 100 mile race in their centenary year, although this wasn't considered at the time.)* 28 started the race, in which 15 completed the full distance and 2 were to retire at the 100 mile mark. The Centurions gained 15 new members. The 2 existing Centurions who both completed the full distance were, Percy Reading and Tom Richardson, both previous winners on the track, but they had proved to themselves that they could also do it on the road. The winner of the race was Stan Horton of the promoting club, the first person to greet him at the finish was his father, Edgar Horton C63, the winner of the 1921 event. An hour and twenty three minutes later, Edgar Horton was able to congratulate another of his sons, Maurice, in 4th place. So in one event the Horton family had established two firsts in the annals of Centurion history, the first father and son(s) combination and the first brothers to become Centurions. 2½ hours after Maurice Horton had finished there was a second brother combination when Frank O'Neill qualified to join his brother Jim C102, who had retired just after the turn at Brighton.

In September, the newly qualified Centurions were formally accepted to membership and presented with their badges by the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Bracewell Smith, at a special function held at the Mansion House. This was the first time that a Mansion House Reception

had been held for an individual athletic body as distinct from a National or International team. There was to be yet another first for 1947. The Centurions decided to create a 'Companionship Award', the first being granted to Sir Bracewell Smith. A design for a badge was produced but it seems that they were never struck, and there is no evidence of any further awards.

Early in 1948 sufficient funds had been collected to go ahead with the purchase of the 'Hammond Cup' which was retrospectively awarded to both Percy Reading C121 and Stan Horton C128 for their wins in the 1946 and 1947 races. Later in that year, Earnest Neville who had effectively retired from his work as a solicitor in the City of London, moved to Surbiton in Surrey. One of the first tasks he set himself was to make contact with the local athletics club, where he arranged a 24 hour track race which was held in August. 14 started, 8 of them completing 100 miles while 2 retired. The remaining 6 continued for the full 24 hours. One of the 6 was H. Barraclough C109 of the Yorkshire Walking Club who had cycled 200 miles from his home in Bradford to take part. He walked 102 miles in the 24 hours and then proceeded to cycle back to Bradford, more than 500 miles in total! The first to reach 100 miles and then retire was Stan Horton C128, thus winning the Hammond Cup for a second year. The winner of the race was A.J. Stirling-Wakeley, the first of 3 new Centurions. The other 2 were L.W. (Timber) Woodcock, a brother in law of Stan & Maurice Horton, and H.D. Neilson. At the end of the year, the treasurer, E.C. Haynes C46, retired due to ill health after more than 12 years service. The newly elected treasurer was G.S. Doubleday C142, who would hold the position for more than 50 years, something he could not have expected at the time.

In May 1949, the Centurions held their first meeting outside of London. The meeting was held in Manchester following the National 20 mile championships. In September, the Yorkshire Walking Club held another 24 hour track race at Horsfall Playing Fields, Bradford, the scene of the famous 1936 race where Tom Richardson set his record for 100 miles. 23 started, 11 of them completing 100 miles or more, 6 were still on their feet at the end of the 24 hours, however 2 of them failed to reach the magic 100, H. Barraclough C109, failing by just under 2 miles. The winner of the race was Tom Richardson C100, he was first to reach 100 miles and thus was awarded the Hammond Cup, but he made no impression on his own record time set 13 years earlier. He continued to achieve a distance of 116¾ miles in just over 23 hours; knowing that his lead in this race was unassailable and that he could not approach Tom Hammond's 1908 record distance, he decided to retire. Tom had now become a member of the hat-trick club, only 4 Centurions had done this before him. Another Centurion to join this elite club was Norman Smith C122, of Yorkshire Walking Club, his hat-trick being achieved in the 3 post war track races of 1946, 1948 and 1949.

There were now 152 recorded Centurions, sadly 30 had passed away. As there was no race in 1950 it is worth giving a brief resume of the first 40 years. Not counting the 1877 track race at Lillie Bridge, and the failed attempts, there had been 20 occasions where Centurions had qualified for the coveted badge and distinctive number. 14 of them were on the Brighton Road, 3 at the White City Track, 1 at the Motspur Park Track and the only 2 races that were held north of London, namely the 2 Bradford track races.

Although there was no race in 1950, there was a race in France that is worthy of note. The race, held on 14th-15th October, took place on a 3 laps to the kilometre track at Montreuil on the eastern outskirts of Paris (a place that would become very important to some Centurions in later years). The winner was Henri Caron, a handsome young Frenchman who never competed in Britain, and therefore never joined the ranks of the Centurions. He set new world record figures at a number of times and distances during the 24 hour race, the first being at 15 and 16 hours. He was approximately 2 kms in front of the 1936 records set by Tom Richardson, and 10 minutes ahead of Tom's time at 90 miles but failed to beat him at 100

miles. So Tom's time of 17 hours 35 minutes 4 seconds still stood as the record. The other records to fall were those set by Tom Hammond C10, in 1908. He broke all records from 170km to 210km as well as those at 110, 120, 125 and 130 miles, finally breaking the 24 hour record that had lasted for 42 years by 1 mile 745 yards, to set a new distance of 132 miles 1325 yards. A remarkable performance by an athlete who would have been a great asset to the Centurions, if only he had raced in Great Britain!

The Dispatch Years

In 1951 the Centurions celebrated their 40th birthday. They say that life begins at 40, and it certainly did for the Centurions. From 1951 there has been an unbroken sequence where long distance walkers have had at least one opportunity every year to qualify for membership of the Centurions.

To mark the occasion Earnest Neville C7 and Earnest Wray C9 were elected as Life Vice Presidents in recognition of their work for the Society during its first 40 years. This action left a vacancy for the position of Captain which was filled by Billy Baker C66. Tom Richardson C100 and Percy Reading C121 were also elected as Vice-Captains. In May, a new edition of the handbook, the 5th, covering numbers 1- 153 was published.

The 1951 race was the familiar Brighton and Back promoted by Surrey Walking Club and organised by E.H. Neville, it was said to be his swansong. He had originally intended that the race should coincide with The Festival of Britain celebrations, and would start and finish at the Festival Gardens site in Battersea Park. Unfortunately this was one occasion when Earnest's remarkable powers of persuasion were to fall foul of the overwhelming authority of a much greater organisation. There was however one major difference from all of the previous races.

Mr. Charles Eade, editor of the "Sunday Dispatch" newspaper, made an offer to sponsor the event. This offer was gladly accepted and thus began a friendly and helpful connection between the newspaper and long distance walking. The race was held on 6th-7th July, following weeks of publicity by the "Sunday Dispatch". 45 entered of whom 36 started. 25 competitors completed 100 miles, 20 of them continuing for the full distance. Of the 25, four were existing Centurions. L.E. Lambert C133, being the only one to retire at the 100 mile mark.

Stan Horton C128, who at one stage made a serious challenge for the lead, completed his hat-trick. The winner of the race was A.J. Stirling-Wakeley C143, in a time of 18 hours 46 minutes, thus becoming a winner on both road and track (a feat that had only been achieved previously by Tom Hammond C10 in 1907 and 1908). His intention had been to break Billy Baker's 1926 record, and although he started well he had a very bad patch just before the dawn, when Stan Horton had closed to within 2 minutes and actually had him in sight, however Jack Wakeley rallied, and with the sun on his back, moved effortlessly away to secure his victory. He won not only the Hammond Cup but also the Hammond-Neville trophy, as this was a S.W.C. race. He also became the first holder of a splendid 12 inch diameter silver punchbowl presented by the "Sunday Dispatch". It is interesting to note that 4 hours after he had finished the race, having had a bath and a short nap, Jack was dressed in his working clothes (full evening dress), and he took his position as chief percussionist in the orchestra pit of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. As he struck up the opening drum roll for the overture of the 5½ hour Wagnerian epic 'Die Meistersinger', there was still over an hour for those left on the road to qualify as Centurions. It is not recorded when he eventually got back to his Wimbledon home, but his day had been at least 36 hours long,

having had a rehearsal under the watchful eyes (and ears) of Sir Thomas Beecham at 1.00pm the previous day.

One of the 36 competitors in this race was the 50km champion of France, Claude Hubert, who in finishing 4th became the 3rd overseas athlete to join the ranks of the Centurions. In view of the success of the 1951 race, the “Sunday Dispatch” felt that nothing should be left undone to assist in building up, not only active participation in the sport of Road Walking, but also public interest. To provide as widespread an appeal as possible, it was thought that the best means of putting it before the public eye was to hold an annual 100 mile walk, using London as the hub, which the “Sunday Dispatch” would sponsor. Therefore, in 1952 the first of these epic events was arranged in conjunction with the R.W.A., the route chosen being Bath to London. Two main reasons lay behind this choice: first, the enthusiasm for road walking existent in the West Country, second, the historical setting going back to times when Roman Centurions marched the Road to London.

It is fair to say that this was in every respect a tremendous success; 48 walkers set out in front of considerable crowds at Bath and were cheered along the way well into the night. No one who saw the people in the towns of Chippenham and Calne could fail to be impressed, and indeed touched, by the enthusiasm with which they greeted the walkers as they went by. The favourite to win this race was Percy Reading, the winner of the 1946 track race; but serious competition was expected from the Whitlock brothers, Harold and Rex. Harold, the 1936 Olympic Games 50km gold medallist, failed to finish but brother Rex went on to win in 17 hours 44 minutes 40 seconds and was met by a good crowd at the finish at Chiswick. Percy Reading was the early leader but had a bad spell over the Wiltshire Downs when he dropped back from first to sixth place. It was due to the excellent attendance of Jill Shirley, who often attended the ‘Poly’ boys, that he overcame his problems to finish in second place. The one person she did not attend was her brother, Seymour. He was being looked after by his father, and was hoping to have something special to celebrate. As the clock turned midnight, Dad turned to Seymour and said, ‘Happy birthday son, time to call it a day. There’ll be another time’, and there was! Of the 48 starters, 38 completed, 27 of them, the highest number so far becoming new Centurions.

In 1953 the Surrey Walking Club or to be more precise, Timber Woodcock C144, decided that the time was right to give distance walkers another opportunity to attack records, and with the assistance of the “Sunday Dispatch” promoted a 24 hour track race at Motspur Park on July 3rd-4th. This was the fourth post war track race, and although there were some good men in the field, no records were broken. Of the 21 starters, 10 completed 100 miles with 4 going on for the full 24 hours. The winner was the Frenchman, Claude Hubert C156, who had aspirations of breaking the world record held by his fellow countryman, Henri Caron at 132 miles. In the end he had to settle for the fourth best distance in Britain – 125 miles 1591 yards, the 3 best being: T. Hammond C10 – 1908 – 131 miles 580 yards, P. Reading C121 – 1946 – 129 miles 749 yards, and T. Payne C18 – 1909 – 127 miles 542 yards. The race brought 4 new members into the hat-trick club, namely Ron Andrews C124, with 3 completions all on the track, Hew Neilson C145, Willy Watson C146 and Fred Plumb C151 all with 2 track and 1 road completions. The leader of the pack though was Tom Richardson C100 with 4 in the bag.

One month later many of the competitors in the Motspur Park track race were on the road again. This time the race was organised by the Midland Area R.W.A. and once again sponsored by the “Sunday Dispatch”. The race started from the ring road, Yardley, Birmingham and finished at Wembley Stadium, a distance of 103½ miles. 53 started, the greatest number to date in a 100 mile event, 29 finished with nobody retiring at the 100 mile mark. The race winner was Tom Richardson in 18 hours 56 minutes 36 seconds (18-18-07 at 100 miles), who finally managed to join Tom Hammond and Jack Wakeley in the very

exclusive road and track winners club. 5 Centurions joined the hat-trick club, 4 of them doing it in successive years, 1951, 52 & 53, the fifth being George Hall C107, who first qualified in 1936. One walker who had something to celebrate was Bill Falconer of Wibsey Park Harriers, he qualified on his 58th birthday. Another new feature of this race was an inter-club team competition which was won by Royal Sutton Coldfield with G. Hall, E.M. Wilde and P.G. Mallins. The race itself had two small problems. Firstly it had been established months before the start that it would be an exact 100 miles, but at the last moment the start had been set back some considerable distance and this, with many detours included, increased the total distance to 103½ miles. Secondly, and perhaps more important, was the safety aspect. The road, with its constant stream of all night lorry traffic, was much too busy and dangerous for such an event and many competitors stumbled over the kerb on numerous occasions faced, as they were, with the glare of oncoming traffic.

As a result of the problems encountered in the Birmingham race, it was decided that finishing in London might be too dangerous, therefore in 1954 the race went north. The route chosen and organised by the Northern Area R.W.A. was well known to distance men. The course was the Manchester to Blackpool, but started in the reverse direction as it was a double journey.

At 4.00pm on Friday 23rd July, the Mayor of Blackpool started 42 men on their journey to Manchester and back. In normal circumstances the first few miles along the seafront would have been very pleasant and the walkers would have been cheered along the way by crowds of holidaymakers, however on this occasion the seafront was deserted. Reporting on the race, Pat Reekie of the Sunday Dispatch said: "Relentless rain, which soaked competitors to the skin and chilled them to the marrow before they had covered fifty yards, bore in from the sea and continued throughout the first twelve hours of the race".

20 of the competitors completed the journey, 9 of them for the first time. The first of the new Centurions was G.J. Birchall in the excellent time of 19 hours 32 minutes 27 seconds, he also created a Centurion first as he walked throughout with G.P. Birchall C101, the first father and son combination to complete in the same race. R.A. Ditchfield C194, became the only new member of the hat-trick club and was followed home 7 minutes later by Tom Richardson who completed his 6th and final 100. The race winner was Vic Stone of Polytechnic Harriers in the near record time of 17 hours 22 minutes 26 seconds. It was thought at the time that this might be a new 100 miles road walking best, but an analysis of Baker's 1926 record, after a remeasuring of the Brighton Road by Timber Woodcock, shows that Baker's time at 100 miles was approximately 17 hours 17 minutes and 30 seconds. The intermediate times would support this view, i.e. Baker: 50¼m, 8h 10min - 85½m, 14h 31min. Stone: 50m, 8h 24min - 84½m, 14h 27 min.

Vic Stone would be the first to admit that much of his success was due to the excellent attendance of Jill Shirley, who so often attended the 'Poly' boys, notably Percy Reading, on their long distance jaunts. Vic Stone was honoured for his performance by the Governors of the Polytechnic who presented him with the "Studd" trophy as the 'best sportsman of the year'. Vic had been considered for the honour alongside other internationals from all other sports, not only athletics. The only other walker to have received this prestigious trophy was Jack Butler, the President and longest standing Centurion, more than 40 years earlier.

In 1955 Charles J. Culling, C51, retired as Secretary after 33 years and was honoured with the position of Life Vice-President as was Billy Baker C66, Tom Richardson C100 was elected as the new Captain with A.D. McSweeney C94 being chosen to replace him as Vice Captain. The new Secretary was to be J. G. 'Tod' Slaughter C218 and for the first time an Assistant Secretary, L.H. King C224 was appointed.

With 1955 being the year before the Olympic Games, it was once again the turn of Surrey Walking Club to promote the event, as usual on the familiar Brighton Road, the date chosen

was 1st-2nd July. Before this race took place, S.W.C. promoted a completely different type of 100 mile race. There would be no new Centurions as this was a race of 25 miles per day over 4 days. It was held from May 31st – June 3rd at a holiday camp at Hopton-on-Sea, where most of the competitors brought their families for an enjoyable week's holiday. In total 23 walkers faced the starter on at least one of the four days, 14 of them competing each day. The winner of the first day's race was a 20 year old youth named Colin Young, by 4 minutes from Vic Stone the winner of the previous year's Blackpool to Manchester & Back. On the second day Vic Stone reversed the positions by the same 4 minutes. On the third day, Young re-took the lead when he beat Stone by just 12 seconds. On the fourth day Young had an advantage of 8 seconds over Stone and so they started as near as possible on level terms. Perhaps it was the intense rivalry between Young and Stone that allowed Ted Hipkins (the event organiser) to win on the last day. He beat Young by a mere 7 seconds with Stone a further 54 seconds behind. In the final reckoning Young had won the event in 15 hours 22 minutes 35 seconds on aggregate, just beating Stone by 62 seconds. Everyone agreed that it was a magnificent event that should be repeated; unfortunately it never was.

To return to the main event of 1955, the Brighton & Back, there was an entry list of 92, 72 of them facing the starter. This was by far the greatest number ever to set out on an event of this distance and duration. Almost two thirds of the field, 47 in fact, made it to the 100 mile mark, 31 of them for the first time. This was the greatest influx of new blood the Centurions had ever seen. 21 retired at the 100 mile mark, the other 26 going all the way. Two great rivals, Hew Neilson and Vic Stone took the lead right from the start and stayed together for 20 miles. Neilson gradually drew away and built up what was to become a winning lead of 17½ minutes by the turn at Brighton. Stone was possibly suffering from his exertions in the 4 day 100 a month earlier, but was the stronger on the return journey. From being 12 minutes behind at the 100 mile mark, he had closed to just under 7 minutes at the finish. Hew Neilson's time at the finish was 18 hours 26 minutes 27 seconds, the third fastest time for the course, behind Tommy Hammond 18-13-27 in 1907 and the record time of 18-05-52 by Billy Baker in 1926. While Neilson and Stone were having a ding dong battle at the front, a special mention must be made of two who were strolling along at the back. They were Fred Duff and Archie Brown. Fred, while attempting to qualify in his own right, also took on the mantle of escorting Archie all the way, for Archie at almost 60 years of age was a St. Dunstaner and became the first blinded walker to join the Centurions. They both reached the 100 mile mark in the same time of 22 hours 12 minutes 7 seconds but Fred insisted that Archie should take the honours and have the next available number. Not content with achieving their aim, they continued on to the end to finish comfortably within 24 hours. There were 5 newcomers to the hat-trick club, one being Vic Stone C202, another was Alf McSweeney C94 who had first qualified in the 1933 race. Others were making their 4th and 5th completions, but the leaders of the pack, joining Tom Richardson on 6 completions, were the first and last at 100 miles: Hew Neilson C145, and Willy Watson C146. In September, the competitors, officials and attendants were invited to the Mansion House where the Lord Mayor, Sir Seymour Howard with the assistance of Mr. Charles Eade, editor of the "Sunday Dispatch", presented the 31 new Centurions with their badges, as well as the individual and team awards.

For the 1956 event, held on 6th-7th July, the race once again went north. 38 competitors lined up outside the Sheffield Town Hall and proceeded north towards Harrogate, where they would turn round and return to Sheffield. It was a severe test even for the most seasoned campaigner. The pace set by the leaders was very fast, but by midnight when the turning point was reached, heavy rain started, which was to continue throughout the night and right to the end of the race. In these conditions and over such a severe course through the Yorkshire hills and dales, Vic Stone's winning time of 17 hours 28 minutes 7 seconds was a triumph of

judgement and stamina. 21 walkers finished the course and the Centurions gained 8 new members. There were 3 new members of the hat-trick club, one of them being Jim O'Neill C102, the last of the pre-war Centurions. Both Hew Neilson and Willy Watson took their tally up to 7 completions.

Mr. Charles Eade, editor of the "Sunday Dispatch", was so pleased with the success of these events that he reflected on the great enthusiasm of the spectators along the road in the 1952 Bath to London race and decided that this route should be used again for the 1957 event. This view was upheld by the R.W.A. (Southern Area) who arranged it for 5th-6th July. For the start at Bath, the temperature at 4.00pm was hot but not oppressive as the 61 walkers set off on their journey to London. The early leader at Calne (18½ miles) was Hew Neilson C145, but he started to drop back after drinking a bottle of sour milk which eventually led to him retiring at 50 miles, just before Newbury. It was his first retirement in 8 outings. As night fell, so did the rain, which later became a ferocious storm with thunder and lightning.

Many of the walkers were unprepared for these conditions and had to pull out. In the final analysis only 18 managed to complete the course, 7 of them becoming new Centurions. The winner of the race was John Ridley of Queens Park Harriers in the very creditable time of 18 hours 12 minutes 4 seconds, to the great delight of his club mate and mentor Billy Baker C66, who was pleased to see Bill Morris and Bill Symes, both Centurions, complete the course to win a hard fought victory in the team race against Coventry Godiva, the only other team to finish. Immediately after the race John Ridley was taken to the West Middlesex Hospital for treatment to a severely blistered foot. Such was his fortitude that he refused to give in to the obvious pain. The only newcomer to the hat-trick club was Bill Symes C216, but this had now become old hat with so many Centurions competing every year or even twice a year if the opportunity presented itself. The question now was who would be first to reach double figures?

In 1958 the ownership of the "Sunday Dispatch" newspaper passed into the hands of the Beaverbrook Group. The editor, Mr. Charles Eade, relinquished his position and the newspaper eventually ceased publication in July 1960. The "Sunday Dispatch" Trophy was presented to the Race Walking Association to be awarded to the winning team in the 100 mile race. The names of the individual winners from 1951-1957 remain inscribed on the trophy as a permanent reminder of the Dispatch years. Centurions now had two trophies to compete for:- their own trophy the Hammond Cup for the first to reach 100 miles, and the R.W. A. owned "Sunday Dispatch" Trophy for the first team in the 100 mile event. Regrettably the members of the winning teams from the inception of the team competition in 1953 to 1957 are not officially recorded on this trophy.

Mere words are not enough to express the debt of gratitude that walkers of all abilities must owe the "Sunday Dispatch" and in particular Mr. Charles Eade. His aim following the 1951 race was to build up not only active participation but also public interest in the sport of race walking. To say that he achieved his aim is a bit of an understatement. Fields in the shorter races, especially the winter 7's ballooned to between 200-300, and would stop the traffic for several years to come, the single journey to Brighton would attract an enormous field and would become the most well known race in the world. (Even though it ended in 1985, there are many people who think it still goes on today).

The effect of seven years of sponsorship by the "Sunday Dispatch" was to almost double the number of Centurions from the previous 48 years. From the 152 listed Centurions in 1949, 121 new names were added to the handbook, which was republished in July 1958, but more importantly, with a race every year a new breed of walkers had emerged who would compete on a regular basis.

Off to the Seaside

With the loss of sponsorship from the "Sunday Dispatch", the future of 100 mile races and even the existence of the Centurions was put in jeopardy. But for the efforts of the Leicester Walking Club and in particular, Albert Johnson, this history may have been very different. They realised a long held ambition to promote a 100 mile race. The date and route for the race were not finally decided until February 1958. The date chosen, July 18th-19th unfortunately clashed with the Nijmegen marches in Holland, an event which many British walkers, especially Centurions attended. But, as it was the height of the holiday season, the offer of assistance and co-operation from the Skegness Town Council if the race was held on this date could not easily be refused. A route of 100 miles was planned between Leicester and Skegness via Peterborough which was to prove a great success. 41 started and the near perfect weather throughout the race meant that 25 finished. An added bonus was that the second half of the race was through the flat fen country which must have boosted the number of finishers. The winner and first of 13 new Centurions, at his first attempt, was Wilf Smith of the promoting club who would also win the team race. His time of 18 hours 2 minutes 37 seconds was a respectable target for others to attack in future years, as following the wonderful reception he and his fellow walkers received on the Skegness seafront, it was decided to repeat this race in alternate years.

In 1959 the four year cycle had come around and so it was the turn of Surrey Walking Club to promote the Brighton & Back. Due to detours caused by the extension of Gatwick Airport, the course was lengthened by just over 1½ miles, making it approximately 106 miles. As was customary for this event, a good field of 52 started in pleasant conditions. Frank O'Reilly of Lozells Harriers, who had finished second the year before, soon went to the front and built up a substantial lead, by the turn at Brighton he was 40 minutes ahead of the field and having held a steady pace of around 6 mph was up on Billy Baker's 1926 record time. He suffered stomach cramps at about 75 miles which slowed him considerably, but for this he might have got inside Baker's record although it would have needed to be worked out pro rata to account for the additional distance, his time at the finish being 18 hours 56 minutes 28 seconds.

Prior to 1959, walking in Holland was mainly confined to 'Marches and Endurance Trials', in fact there were only 3 registered race walkers in Holland. Nevertheless a party of 7 walkers from the L.A.T. Club of Amsterdam and a Swiss walker had come over to compete in the race. They were led by Lieuwe Schol, a Finnish born Dutchman who qualified along with his team mate Herman Stakenburg to become the first of a long list of Dutch Centurions. In total 20 managed to complete 100 miles, 15 of them for the first time. 9 of the 20 completed the full distance, Lieuwe Schol being one of them. Another to complete the full distance was Leslie Dennis of the promoting club who became the second St Dunstaner to join the Centurions. The team race was won by Highgate Harriers, all three of them becoming new Centurions. The winners and new Centurions were presented with their awards by the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Harold Gillett M.C. at the Mansion House as had previously been done in 1947 and 1955.

Shortly after the Mansion House presentations, the death on October 3rd 1959 of Jack Butler C2, was announced at the age of 89. For the third time in their history, the Centurions had to elect a new President. Being the lowest number still alive, the position fell to Earnest Neville C7, the man who had done more for race walking in general and the Centurions in particular during their 48 year history.

In April 1960, as the Centurions were entering their 50th year of existence, a special dinner was held at the House of Commons. The most senior members present were the President,

Earnest Neville C7, Henry Swabey C13, who was visiting from Canada, Tommy Payne C18 and T.C. Habishaw C25.

The 1960 race was the promised 2nd edition of the Leicester to Skegness 100 miles. This time it was held a few weeks earlier on 1st-2nd July. 45 started in perfect conditions that held up through the night and the second day. 30 finished, 14 of them becoming new Centurions. The time of 18h 02m 37s set up in the first race in 1958 was well beaten by the winner Frank O'Reilly, in fact he beat every expectation and every known time on road or track when he became the first man to walk 100 miles in under 17 hours. His time was 16 hours 54 minutes 15 seconds and it was his second win in successive years, a feat that had not been accomplished before unless you count Billy Baker's wins in 1926 and 1929. However as road performances cannot be counted for record purposes, the 100 mile record still belonged to Tom Richardson for his 1936 effort. O'Reilly was so far in front of the expected schedule that he caught the Skegness reception committee off guard and the Mayor was not there to receive him when he arrived on the seafront. The most amazing feature of his performance was his consistency. His time for the first 50 miles was 8h 27m 20s and for the second 50 miles, although it was flatter, 8h 26m 55s. His pace had been just over 6mph throughout the race, and when he realised he might be able to get home in under 17 hours he pushed hard, covering the last 10 miles in 96 minutes 15 seconds! Finishing in 4th place was Hew Neilson, clocking up his 10th completion. At the back of the field, and finding it hard going, was Len Matthews of Surrey Walking Club, he was the oldest man in the field at almost 67 years of age and was falling behind schedule, but with true grit, determination and years of experience behind him, he managed to complete the race with just under 20 minutes to spare, thus becoming the oldest ever new Centurion. One month after this event, Frank O'Reilly had the honour of representing his country, Eire, at the Olympic Games in Rome, the first time a Centurion had achieved this distinction.

For some time Centurions and other long distance specialists had wanted a 24 hour track race in order to match themselves against the performances of others over the previous 50 or more years. In order to meet this request a special invitation meeting was arranged by Walton A.C. at their headquarters at Stompond Lane, Walton-on-Thames. Apart from the long distance specialists, some of the fast men were also invited to attack records up to 4 hours and 50 Km. In the shorter event, Don Thompson, the recent winner of the 50 km gold medal at the Rome Olympics, broke his own National records at 20 miles, 3 hours, 25 miles, 4 hours, 30 miles and 50km. To return to the main event, which by coincidence, fell on exactly the same date as Henri Caron's world record in 1950, i.e. 14th-15th October, 15 of the best long distance walkers in the country faced the starter. For the first 12 hours a thrilling race was in progress, but the record of E.C. Horton, C63, set up in 1914 remained intact. At this point some of the competitors began to fall by the wayside. One of the first to go was Frank O'Reilly, he was lying in third place at the time having dropped back from second. He had covered 70 miles in just over 12 hours, such was the quality of this race. He was feeling very unwell but struggled on to reach 78 miles in 14 hours. In the meantime, Hew Neilson was having a terrific race at the front with Colin Young, a consistent 2 miles adrift in second place.

At 13 hours Neilson claimed his first record of the race with 77m 30y as opposed to 76m 930y by Richardson in 1936, his second came at 80 miles in 13h 34m 37s as opposed to 13h 55m 12s. From here he broke records all the way up to 24 hours. Young was closing slightly but it would be a few more hours before he also started to better the previous British figures. The progress of the various records is shown in the next table:

	Previous Records	World Record	British Records	New Records	
	Tom Hammond (GB) 1908	Henri Caron (Fra) 1950	Tom Richardson (GB) 1936	Hew Neilson (GB) 1960	Colin Young (GB) 1960
14 hours	81m 1110y*	82m 788y	80m 950y	82m 517y	79m 1705y
15 hours	Florimond Cornet (Fra) 1939*	87m 566y	86m 569y	87m 1040y	85m 1470y
<i>last hour</i>		<i>4m 1538y</i>	<i>5m 1379y</i>	<i>5m 523y</i>	<i>5m 1525y</i>
90 miles	16h 09m 50s	15h 30m 12s	15h 40m 48s	15h 28m 19s	15h 53m 10s
16 hours	89m 435y	92m 689y	91m 524y	92m 1318y	90m 1015y
<i>last hour</i>		<i>5m 911y</i>	<i>4m 1755y</i>	<i>5m 278y</i>	<i>4m 1305y</i>
17 hours	94m 668y	No Record	96m 1152y	98m 164y	95m 1570y
<i>last hour</i>	<i>5m 233y</i>	-----	<i>5m 628y</i>	<i>5m 606y</i>	<i>5m 555y</i>
100 miles	18h 04m 10s	17h 47m 46s	17h 35m 04s	17h 18m 51s	17h 48m 05s
18 hours	99m 1067y	101m 429y	101m 1230y	103m 615y	101m 61y
<i>last hour</i>	<i>5m 399y</i>	<i>4m 750y Av.</i>	<i>5m 78y</i>	<i>5m 451y</i>	<i>5m 251y</i>
			Percy Reading (G.B.) 1946 [†]		
19 hours	105m 275y	106m 1646y	105m 466y	107m 1175y	105m 1545y
<i>last hour</i>	<i>5m 968y</i>	<i>5m 1217y</i>	-----	<i>4m 560y</i>	<i>4m 1484y</i>
110 miles	19h 58m 40s	19h 33m 41s	19h 57m 16s	19h 25m 48s	19h 45m 54s
20 hours	110m 203y	112m 464y	110m 410y	112m 1262y	111m 330y
<i>last hour</i>	<i>4m 1688y</i>	<i>5m 1182y</i>	<i>4m 1704y</i>	<i>5m 87y</i>	<i>5m 545y</i>
21 hours	115m 575y	117m 342y	Hammond	117m 1550y	116m 265y
<i>last hour</i>	<i>5m 372y</i>	<i>4m 1638y</i>		<i>5m 238y</i>	<i>4m 1695y</i>
120 miles	21h 52m 58s	21h 32m 02s	Hammond	21h 24m 16s	21h 46m 23s
22 hours	120m 1156y	122m 712y	Hammond	122m 1432y	121m 235y
<i>last hour</i>	<i>5m 581y</i>	<i>5m 370y</i>		<i>4m 1642y</i>	<i>4m 1730y</i>
125 miles	22h 48m 21s	22h 30m 06s	Hammond	22h 25m 30s	22h 46m 49s
23 hours	125m 1354y	127m 1021y	Hammond	127m 1510y	126m 118y
<i>last hour</i>	<i>5m 198y</i>	<i>5m 309y</i>		<i>5m 78y</i>	<i>4m 1643y</i>
130 miles	23h 45m 51s	23h 27m 10s	Hammond	23h 25m 27s	23h 47m 09s
24 hours	131m 580y	132m 1320y	129m 749y*	133m 21y	131m 327y
<i>last hour</i>	<i>5m 986y</i>	<i>5m 299y</i>		<i>5m 271y</i>	<i>5m 109y</i>

From the figures above it can be seen that each of these walkers was having a great race in their respective events, with each of them establishing or breaking records. It is not clear if any of them had a specific race plan, and as the author of this history I can only make assumptions based on my researches and the published figures. As the reader you may think differently.

In the case of Tom Hammond (1908) there was only one amateur record of note, that of Fowler-Dixon (1877), 100 miles in 20h 36m 08s, there were of course professional records of both time and distance, but these could not be considered as this was an amateur race. It is known from the reports of his race that he had a few bad patches during the race, which are believed to be mainly in the later stages. He had taken the lead in his race at 30 miles and by maintaining a pace of just over 5 miles an hour, he was never passed. It seems that he was attempting to set figures at 5 mile intervals but may well have miscounted his laps on this 586 yard circuit. For instance his 84th mile was done in 10 min 41 sec, the 85th took 17 min 33 secs. Tom Richardson (1936) had only one thing in mind – to win the 100 mile race and hopefully set up an unbeatable target for others to follow. Such was his effort that when he reached 100 miles he had to rest for a few minutes before starting off again and then retiring at exactly 18 hours. Henri Caron (1950) was aware of the records of Richardson and Hammond, but only in estimated terms. His priorities were to attack the record held by his countryman Florimond Cornet and the specific kilometre time records. In this endeavour he was successful at 14, 15 and 16 hours and 140km. It would appear that after setting these records he had a problem or had to take a short rest. His time at 150km was 16h 35m 05s, it had taken him 35 minutes to cover the last 1.3 Km (approx. 1 mile)! Up until 16 hours he had been in front of Richardson's records. At 100 miles he was 12min 45secs behind, but then 160.9344 km has no particular significance to a Frenchman.

Hew Neilson had only one thing on his mind, that was to win the race, especially bearing in mind the quality of the opposition. He had won a road race and had completed more races of 100 miles or over than any other British walker. The only thing he had not done was to win on the track, which is where he made his debut in 1948. He was aware of the records held by Caron and Richardson, but treated the beating of them as a bonus if that was what it would take to win the race. At 80 miles he was ahead of Richardson but slightly behind Caron. By 90 miles he was just under 2 minutes in front of Caron, by 100 miles his lead over Caron was almost 29 minutes, adding further weight to the assumption that Caron must have stopped for a while. Neilson's pace so far had been consistent throughout the race. Colin Young is the only walker in this table of figures that did not set any records, due no doubt to the presence of Neilson in the same race. His objective, like Neilson's, was to win the race, but he had a more pressing task to fulfil first, that was to complete 100 miles and in so doing, qualify for membership of the Centurions. He was the only person to qualify from this race and became one of the few Centurions in this handbook to have a race heading to himself. From a steady start he gradually gained ground on the leaders, and by 50 miles he was in front of the old figures set up by Hammond in 1908, a position he maintained throughout the race, however he remained approx. ¾ mile behind Richardson and the same 2 miles behind Neilson, who he was gaining on slightly with each lap.

In a 24 hour race, fortunes can change quite easily and it is usually the last few hours where the race is won or lost, or records are broken. In his race, Hammond kept up his steady pace, attacking at 5 mile intervals. His 125th mile took 10min 45secs, the 126th was 14min 05secs, but it was in the last hour that he made the maximum effort, covering more than 5½ miles to set a record that would last for 42 years. With Richardson retiring in 1936 the next records to be set were by Percy Reading (1946). At 100 miles he was more than 23 minutes behind Richardson but more importantly he was about 5½ minutes ahead of Hammond. He managed to maintain his pace for the next 2 hours setting new records (by about 200 yards) at 19 hours, 110 miles and 20 hours. Thereafter his pace dropped and he was unable to get back in front of Hammond. Caron, having got over his obvious problems earlier in his race, was now going all out for the 200km record and Hammond's distance record of 212.964km. He was successful in his efforts and set new figures for 19 hours and 110 miles upwards, in addition to those for 170 – 210km.

In the 1960 race, Colin Young, with his 100 miles safely behind him, kept his momentum to stay ahead of Hammond; and in so doing he was able to unlap himself 3 times from Neilson and also get ahead of the figures set by Reading. It was only in the last 20 minutes or so that he went behind Hammond's figures to finish an annoying 253 yards short of the old record. In the meantime, Neilson, although slowing slightly, maintained his lead at the front of the race. His lead of 29 minutes over Caron at 100 miles was reduced to 8 minutes at 110 and 120 miles. By 125 miles it had come down to 4½ minutes and with just over half an hour to go at 130 miles, to 1min 40secs. It was beginning to look like he would not capture the 24 hour record, but a last half hour at over 5¼ mph pace, meant that he finished 461 yards ahead of Caron. The records set by Hew Neilson in this remarkable race are shown in bold type. The list is not complete as he would have certainly broken some of the metric records, unfortunately it seems that times were not taken at metric distances. An interesting point to note about this race is that six of the Centurions who were there to witness it had also been present 52 years earlier when Tom Hammond set his records. Just for the record, Neilson whose name and initials have so often been wrongly recorded was christened, Hew Daniel Marcher Hunter NEILSON. Future historians please note. The euphoria of the Centurions in the records set or recaptured in 1960, and the fact that one of their number had taken part in the Olympic Games, was marred when the death in October, of their former secretary, Chas J. Culling was announced.

At the beginning of 1961 there was some uncertainty, with no race planned it looked as if the 10 year run of a 100 mile race each year might be broken, that was until a group of enthusiasts from the Metropolitan Police, 'K' Division, decided to organise and promote a race. It was held on October 20th-21st from the Met. Police grounds at Chigwell, Essex. The race, held over a hard 10 lap course saw 19 of the 42 starters finish the course, the winner being Frank O'Reilly C276, in 18hrs 3mins 45secs. Second was Hew Neilson, 1 hour 50 minutes behind and third was the ever improving John Eddershaw of the Sheffield Club, but the performance of the race must belong to C295, Les Dennis the St. Dunstaner, he finished fifth in just under 20 hours 50 minutes. 7 new men became Centurions and were presented with their badges at a Mansion House reception in February 1962, where Colin Young C317, also received his badge from the memorable 1960 track race. This ceremony was witnessed by one of the largest assemblies of Centurions and their friends ever gathered together and will long be remembered.

On the 20th February, a finance sub-committee held a meeting to review expenditures and sources of income as there was a long standing rule that Centurions will not be required to pay a subscription. The first task of the treasurer at this meeting was to inform his fellow committee members of the death in a motor accident of J.P. Coopey, C323. He was not an outstanding athlete worthy of special mention, other than that afforded to all Centurions when the notification of their death is received. He is only mentioned here because he held the coveted silver badge for what must surely be the shortest time, having received it only 11 days earlier at the Mansion House presentations for the 1961 race.

The third in the series of races from Leicester to Skegness was held on 6th-7th July, 26 of the 45 starters completed the race, 13 of them for the first time. The winner once again was Frank O'Reilly C276, making it 4 wins in successive years. As if that wasn't remarkable enough, he completed the course in 16 hours 58 minutes, 16 seconds, the second sub 17 hour time in his outstanding career, and was still the only man to have beaten this time barrier. The Centurions meeting held in September was a mixture of good and bad news. A report was given of the sudden death of Vice-captain A.D. McSweeney C94, and the funeral service attended by many Centurions. On the brighter side, 4 of the most senior members, namely Bill Brown C12, Henry Swabey C13, Tim Payne C18 and T. C. Habishaw C25, were elected

as Vice-Presidents. Hew Neilson was elected to fill the vacancy left by the passing of Alf McSweeney.

On the weekend of 5th-6th July 1963, 52 walkers assembled on the Brighton Road for the quadrennial Surrey Walking Club race which this year had the added sponsorship of Messrs Wander Limited, manufacturers of "Ovaltine". This was not the only difference to this well established race, for this time it was not a journey to the seaside and back. By starting from the Brighton seafront it became a stroll up to town and back, in an attempt to avoid the ever growing traffic hazard. The race started at 5pm on Friday evening, about the same time as the motorists were leaving London. Fortunately, walkers and motor cars were travelling in opposite directions, and with the walkers expected to reach town in the early hours of the morning there should be no major problems. Unfortunately, you can't have it both ways and the walkers anticipated having to mix it with the Saturday morning holiday traffic for their return journey. Right from the start it was that man Frank O'Reilly who took the lead, a position he held for an amazing fifth time in successive years, right to the finish. He reached the 100 mile point in under 18 hours, in dry conditions but the last 5 miles to the finish were very different, as rain which would last to the end of the race, began to fall and would later become torrential, making it very difficult for those behind him. An hour and a half later a bedraggled Hew Neilson finished in second place with the Dutchman, Lieuwe Schol a further 8 minutes behind. The rain made it very unpleasant for the other 17 who completed the race and the 11 wisely stopped at the 100, but it had the magical effect of making the race much safer for those tired men, most of the motor cars seemed to disappear! Of the 31 who completed 100 miles or more, 17 became new Centurions, 6 of them from one club, the London Vidarians, all of whom stopped at the 100, thus establishing a new record for the most club members completing a 100 mile race. The race result also showed the first ever recorded disqualification in a British 100.

The weekend of 3rd-4th July 1964, saw 57 men, the largest number so far, face the starter for the now well established Leicester to Skegness race. Most of the regulars were there plus a number of newcomers which included a good contingent from Holland. The main question being asked was who would come second to Frank O'Reilly? Frank took the lead up to 30 miles but only by 3 minutes from Karl Abolins C233, with Neilson a further 3 minutes behind. Abolins, who was no newcomer, having qualified in 1955 and finished 3rd in the 1960 track race, soon took the lead which he held to the end in 17hours 32 minutes 16secs, proving his pedigree, O'Reilly finished 2nd, 15 minutes behind. Was this the end of an era? It was, for a week after the race Frank O'Reilly announced his retirement. Five wins, two seconds and one "flop" (as he put it) in eight starts, is a remarkable record in anyone's book, especially when two of those wins were sub 17 hours, the only man ever to achieve it. His retirement left the way open for others like Abolins, who had suffered in the shadow of his dominance, to show their worth. In all, 28 completed the race, 13 of them completing their first 100. The result sheet showed that the accurate measurement of this course was 100 miles 350 yards.

Once again it looked as though 1965 would be a barren year for Centurions, that was until the Metropolitan Police stepped in and arranged another race from their Chigwell headquarters. The organisers and walkers were very fortunate with the exceptionally mild conditions, as this race was held on 8th-9th October. A total of 54 started the race, over 50%, 30 in fact completed it, 13 for the first time, the same number as the previous year. The winner of the race was Hew Neilson in a mediocre (compared to previous years) time of 19 hours 16 mins 37secs. This was his 3rd win, 2 road and 1 track, it was also his 16th completion. No one else was even into double figures yet! Of the 54 starters, 10 were Dutch, 8 of whom completed the course, 6 of them for the first time. One of their new Centurions

was Hendrick J. Doornekamp who has no special claim to fame, except for the fact that he walked the whole race in clogs!!

Holland now had 14 members of our society, Italy 2, Russia, France and Switzerland 1 each. This race also saw the addition of a new country to the growing international list, when John Kelly of the USA joined our ranks. There were 379 listed Centurions, 20 of them born outside the UK. In his circular letter, the secretary made remarks about a new edition of the handbook which had not been updated since 1958, he expressed the opinion that it would be ready by the Spring of 1966. He also made mention of the Centurion finances saying that the bank balance was quite low, bearing in mind the ever increasing number of silver badges that would need to be paid for, plus the general running costs and the new handbook. An appeal for donations was made which was met by the usual generous nature of Centurions.

January 1966 saw a small party of Centurions, led by the secretary and captain, on a visit to Holland to present the new Centurions with their badges. As was expected they received a very warm welcome from our Dutch friends, but not from the weather, as Amsterdam was under six inches of snow with more falling. They were informed that the 14 Dutch members (exactly the same number that had attended our inaugural meeting in 1911) had formed a society of their own to be called quite simply 'Dutch Centurions' with Lieuwe Schol C291 as their President and Jon van der Kwaak C365, their secretary, the qualification being simple: first and foremost you must be a Centurion, secondly, you must be Dutch. Their secretary, Jon van der Kwaak, presented a cup to be known as the "Netherlands Challenge Trophy" for competition between English and Dutch Centurions in our 100 mile races. This meant that in future we would all be competing on an international basis, albeit unofficial. There was a record breaking number of starters for the biennial Leicester to Skegness race which was won for a second time by Karl Abolins in just over 18 hours 10 minutes. 84 started and 47 finished, one of them being Cyril Evans C158 of Leicester, who became only the second man to get into double figures. 27 became new Centurions, 12 of them Dutch and therefore eligible to join the newly formed Dutch Centurions. The match for the "Netherlands Challenge Trophy" was won by the British, but with this new influx of Dutchmen it might not be so easy in future.

At the September meeting the deaths were announced of Earnest Parslow C41 and John Prior C92, mention was made of a possible legacy from John Prior to boost the ever decreasing funds. In his Christmas letter the captain, Tom Richardson informed the members of two more deaths. J. (Len) Cockell C134 and one of our founders and Vice-Presidents Tommy Payne C18. Tommy had recently moved to the Isle of Wight, but was more well known in his native North East, where he was a record breaker before the First World War. He was a little man with a big heart, and would probably be better known to most people as an uncle on the BBC wireless, than as one of the great walkers.

June 23rd-24th 1967 saw the 19th edition of the Brighton and Back. Although the number of starters, 44, was slightly down on recent editions, everything else seemed to be perfect. The race was held on the weekend of the longest day, with a full moon thrown in for good measure, but someone forgot to arrange the weather which had been fine for the previous two months. At the start of the race, rain was coming down by the bucketful which eventually eased on the return from Westminster Bridge and had stopped by the time the walkers got back to Croydon. By this time some of those who had started in a motley collection of protection against the elements, ranging from bicycle capes and sou'westers to plastic bags, had already retired. The night passed without incident except for the retirement of John Lees, the early leader, leaving the way clear for Gerd Nickel of Germany who went on to win and thus become the first German member of the Centurions. By the afternoon the rain had returned in the form of thunderstorms, but unlike the 1963 race it did not abate the constant flow of traffic on the Brighton Road. In total only 13 finished the full distance with 3 others

retiring at 100 miles. 5, including the winner became new Centurions. Soon after this race, the Surrey Walking Club took the regrettable but inevitable decision to end this famous series of races. The traffic conditions and their inherent danger which had been mentioned by Henry Colldén as far back as 1921, had now become intolerable. This meant that Billy Baker's record from 1926 would now last for all time, a fitting tribute to a superb athlete, but more importantly, if Surrey Walking Club were to fulfil their obligation to promote a race every four years, a new course would have to be found for 1971. At the September meeting the treasurer reported that the legacy from John Prior C92, was in excess of £480, a very welcome gift and much needed boost to the dwindling finances. It was decided to purchase a top of the range chronometer which would be suitably inscribed with the name of the generous benefactor, John Prior. The meeting was also informed of a previous gesture from this Centurion, i.e. the John Prior Salver, presented to the first Centurion in the single journey London to Brighton race. It had gone missing and every endeavour should now be made to trace its whereabouts.

During the past 20 years, the number of Centurions had risen by an average of 14 each year, but as we all know, what goes up must also come down, and so the announcement of the passing of Centurions was now becoming a regular task for the secretary or captain. Not everyone can be mentioned in these pages, but two famous names worthy of note were reported in July 1968. The first was Edgar Broad C28, one of our founders and the first winner of the Stock Exchange London to Brighton in 1903, the other being that remarkable character Oscar Makeham C71. Both were well into their 80's.

The 1968 race from Leicester to Skegness on 3rd-4th August was held in conditions more akin to the winter 7's, the temperature did not go above 50° throughout the race, 56 started, with 32 of them finishing the race, 15 of whom became new Centurions. If the 15, 7 joined the rapidly growing number of Dutch Centurions. The race was won by Karl Abolins for the third time in succession, but the real race was for second place where new man John Hedgethorpe got the better of Mart Kastelijns by just one second, in the excellent time of 19 hours 1 minute 40 seconds, and less than 20 minutes behind the winner. In 5th place was the Dutch president Lieuwe Schol C291 who became only the third Centurion to complete 10 British 100's. For the first time in its history the 'Sunday Dispatch Cup' was won by a Dutch team, all three were new qualifiers from the L.A.T. club of Amsterdam. At the AGM held in August, a proposal was made that the Centurions promote a 24 hour track race in 1969. It was withdrawn when it was explained that as the 'Centurions' were not a club, they were unable to promote an event.

At a meeting held in February 1969, the John Prior Salver which had been reported as missing at the September 1967 meeting, was produced and it was agreed that it should be engraved with the names of each winner from the year of its donation.

The proposed track race was staged by the Leicester Walking Club on a brand new tartan track in August 1969. 22 started and only 8 retired before the end of the 24 hours. The race was won by Colin Young C317 with a distance only 1½ miles less than his epic performance in the 1960 race. In second place some 8½ miles behind was Ivo Domansky, the first of 5 new Centurions and the first from his country, Czechoslovakia.

Six weeks after the Leicester track race, a second qualifying race was held at Winterbourne, Bristol, promoted by Chas Shelly C356 of the Bristol Walking Club. The race was 10 laps of 10 miles on virtually traffic free country roads, which proved a great success, so much so that the Bristol club offered to stage it every 4 years, thus filling the gap between the biennial Leicester to Skegness and the quadrennial Surrey race, and ensuring that there would be a race each year.

59 walkers faced the starter, His Grace the Duke of Beaufort. It could be said that they had a police escort throughout the race, but not from the local constabulary, for the winner was

John Hedgethorpe C413 of the Essex Police, and the 30th and last to finish was P. Cox also of the Essex Police. 15 became new Centurions, 8 of them from Holland. Several walkers had now adopted the Dutch practice of walking together throughout the race, two of them being local lads Trevor Chorley and Les Gwinnell as well as the 3 Lancashire walkers who finished in equal third place with a sub 20 hour performance to win the 'Sunday Dispatch' trophy.

At the September meeting, all 20 new Centurions from the two 1969 races were elected to membership. It was also announced that there was a second legacy in excess of £440 from the John Prior estate, to aid the general funds and cover the cost of the 20 new badges which had now risen to £65. These badges would be the last from Messrs Daffern & Co., who had supplied them from the very beginning. The die for our badges was passed on the Messrs Marples and Beasley of Birmingham who confirmed that the die was our property and that they would be please to produce our badges in future.

In February 1970, the R.W.A. was asked if they could provide 5 walkers for a 24 hour race at Rouen, France. The R.W.A naturally turned to the Centurions for guidance. Karl Abolins C233, Paddy Dowling C331, John Eddershaw C299, John Hedgethorpe C413 and Colin Young C317 were all accepted to represent Great Britain in a match race against the French with Joe Lambert C223 as team manager. Our team, a good mixture of North, South and Midlands walkers, put in some excellent performances for a race held in early May, with each of them well over the hundred. They were only prevented from making a clean sweep of this race by the Frenchman Gaetan Hacquebart in 4th place. This event which nowadays is much more informal, has over the years attracted many British walkers, most of them Centurions.

A month after the Rouen race, Colin Young and Paddy Dowling accepted an invitation in the toughest of all events – the 530Km Strasbourg to Paris race. Paddy had to give it his best just before the halfway point, but Colin went all the way to finish an excellent 5th and thus become the first British athlete to complete this gruelling challenge.

The biennial Leicester to Skegness race was held in two different months!, the race taking place over the weekend of July 31st – August 1st. The bare figures are that 65 started, 31 finished and 13 became new Centurions (4 of them Dutch). The race itself was unremarkable except for the fact that Karl Abolins C233 won it for the 4th time in succession. The result sheet showed 14 new Centurions, one of them being C453, Trevor Chorley of the Bristol Walking Club. But Trevor Chorley was already a Centurion, having qualified in the 1969 Bristol race to become C435! This is not a mistake, just another of those strange coincidences. It would appear that Trevor Chorley did not identify himself as a Centurion on his entry form, and nobody else realised that he was a Centurion. At the AGM in September, the new Centurions were elected to membership and their badges were issued, including the Dutch members. It was not until after the meeting that the mistake was noticed, and rather than trying to retrieve the badges and adjust the records, it was decided to leave number 453 out of the numbering. However the minutes of the meeting, for some strange and as yet undiscovered reason, told a different story. The new Centurions were listed in the minutes without the name of Trevor Chorley, and numbers 448 to 452 & 454 to 461 were allotted to them. The number 453 was not allocated, the reason given being "The number having been missed in the making of badges". How a number could have been left out by a new supplier who has just been awarded the contract, or why, if this was a genuine mistake, it could not have been made after the original order (at this time in our history, badges were still be made to specific order) is a mystery. It is clear that this was a deliberate attempt to cover up the embarrassment of a simple clerical error. It is fair to say that since this unfortunate occurrence, (Centurions are only human after all, and can make mistakes) the records have been meticulously checked to make sure that such a mistake could not happen again. There have been a few near misses, due mainly to the bad transcription of Dutch names, but so far, never a repeat of this one off error in a very long history. At that same meeting in September,

after a long discussion it was decided to add the position of vice president, as opposed to Life Vice President to the list of officers. The newly elected vice presidents were Hew Neilson C145, Liewe Schol C291, and Jon van der Kwaak C365. Mention was also made of the continued delay in the reprinting of the handbook. Since the 1958 edition there were now 185 new names to be added, more than half as many again as previously recorded.

The Seventies – New Beginnings

The long awaited (7th edition) new handbook was finally published to coincide with the Diamond Jubilee dinner which was held on 1st May 1971 at the House of Commons. 37 Centurions and their guests attended this function which had been planned and arranged by the President, Earnest Neville C7, in his own inimitable style. It is a wonder where he got his enthusiasm from at the age of 88, especially when one considers that he had recently overcome a serious eye operation in the previous year, and the loss of his wife of more than 60 years, just a few weeks before this function, but then, 70 years of his life had been devoted to the sport of race walking in general and the Centurions in particular, he having promoted the first Brighton and Back time trial in 1902.

The following week, Colin Young C317 was once again at Rouen, where he won with an incredible distance of 215.835 km, almost 14 miles ahead of his nearest rival. This win earned him a second selection for the gruelling Strasbourg-Paris race, in which he came a magnificent 3rd. The weekend of 25th-26th June saw the new Surrey Walking Club promotion, a 10 x 10 mile lap course at Ewhurst, Surrey. The event, which incorporated a 100 km race, attracted a field of 73, 40 of whom completed the 100 miles. The winner and first of 26 new Centurions was John Moullin of Belgrave, he became only the second man to beat 17 hours in Great Britain, his time being 16 hours 55 minutes 44 seconds, only 1½ minutes behind the best recorded time of Frank O'Reilly C276 in 1960. This was his first and only 100 mile race. The event also saw the addition of 3 new countries to the ever growing list. The first being Belgium in the form of Emile Alomaine, who 2 weeks earlier had been classified 4th (35km short of the full distance) in the Strasbourg- Paris race. The other two being John Argo of Canada and Jim McGown of Eire. The result sheet showed C. Janssen of Holland in 30th position with a time of 22-23-34. A re-check of the results showed that an error had been made by the recorders and that he was in fact a lap short and would have been out of time at the full distance. And so an embarrassing mistake in the Centurion records was narrowly avoided. Shortly after the Ewhurst race, the President, E.H. Neville wrote to the secretary J.G. Slaughter, suggesting that a full report of the Jubilee dinner, the Ewhurst race and the revised history as written by the captain, should be produced in a new (?) publication to be called "The Centurion". Unfortunately this was never produced, if it had been, it would have been a revised version of "Centurion Notes" and "The Centurion", which were published in the late forties and early fifties. Perhaps Earnest Neville was getting a little forgetful in his old age.

In November, news came from the USA of a rival organisation known as the "Centurions Club of America". Two of the founders were John Argo C483 (US C5 in 1970) and Chris Clegg C135 (US C7 in 1971). US Centurion numbers 1, 2 and 3 were awarded to three amateur walkers who completed in an indoor track race against professionals in 1878. The American series of races started at Columbia, Missouri in 1967, but only one or two people managed to achieve the distance from an average of 30 starters. No doubt they will improve on this in the future.

In his Christmas letter, the captain Tom Richardson C100 apologised for not circulating the prepared 1970 Christmas letter but gave a brief resumé of the 1970 event. To quote from his letter “owing to a miscalculation 453 was awarded to a competitor already qualified and has now been left blank. At the time I was awarded No. 100, number 99 was the subject of a claim under consideration by a sub-committee, which later decided against the applicant, so we now have two blank numbers 99 and 453 (further explanations of these blank numbers are covered elsewhere in this introduction).

In March 1972, the deaths were announced of A.J. Stirling-Wakeley C143, winner of the 1951 Brighton and Back, and Dennis Hill C352, who was tragically struck down by a car when out training with the blind walker, John Simpson. In May, while Colin Young C317, Dave Boxall C464 and Brian Saunders C468 were finishing 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the Rouen race, and thus gaining selection for the Strasbourg – Paris race, John Lees of Brighton & Hove was setting a new record of 53½ days for walking across America. Part of his training had been walking from John O’Groats to Lands End in March!

The biennial Leicester to Skegness race took place on the weekend of 28th-29th July with 65 men facing the starter. John Lees went in to an early lead and maintained it for most of the journey, until his exploits earlier in the year took their toll and he was passed by his clubmate Dave Boxall who won the race in 17 hours 58 minutes and 49 seconds. John Lees finished 2nd, just under 17 minutes later to become the first of 18 new Centurions. A long way down the field, walking with his clubmate A. Norman C452, John Eddershaw C299 completed his 10th British 100. Of the 41 finishers perhaps the most notable came in last, with just 5½ minutes to spare. This was a very tired Hew Neilson C145 who clocked up his 20th and what would prove to be his last British 100. In the 70 years since the first Brighton and Back time trial, Centurion numbers had risen to 503 with 12% (60) being from Holland.

In August news came through of a third Centurion organisation which had been formed in Australia. Two of its founder members were Fred Redmond C163 and Len Mathews C316. There was also notification of a proposed track race to be held in October, the main aim being to attack the 12 hour record of 73 miles 145 years held by Edgar Horton C63 since 1914. At the September meeting a full set of accounts covering the period 1969-71 were produced. One of the items shown in the accounts was the purchase of a President’s badge of office, but of most concern was the rising cost of Centurion badges, they had now risen to more than £2.00 each. The 59 badges presented in the 3 year period had cost more than £145.00. The cost of posting 3 circulars each year was also a matter of some concern. In October there was news of yet another organisation which was co-founded by Alan Blatchford C350. This was the Long Distance Walkers Association. Its main aim was to promote long distance walking in the countryside, for walkers, strollers, hikers and ramblers, without any form of competition or prize other than the satisfaction of completing the walk. In November the sad but inevitable news was received of the death of Earnest Neville C7, at the age of 89 years. In his Christmas letter the captain speculated on how, or even if, we should replace such a unique personality. He suggested that there was no need to hurry, and with a movement so large and widespread, might it not be advisable to set up regional organisations?

On 13th January 1973, a memorial service for E.H. Neville was held at All Souls Church, Langham Place in London. It was followed by an informal meeting of Centurions at Imber Court, where it was decided that there should be a new President, who should be nominated by postal nominations and formally elected at the AGM in September. The term of the president’s office was left undecided but it was agreed that the custom of the lowest number as the chairman at meetings should be retained, and under no circumstances would the Centurions be bound by a constitution.

In May a 100 mile race was held at St. Oedenrode in Holland, the winner was Jan Vos C369 who became Continental Centurion number 1. The race also produced the first ever

female Centurion when Adri van Dirven completed in 23 hours 9 minutes. There were now four countries in which one could qualify as a Centurion.

The British race was the second edition of the Bristol 100 which was won by Dave Boxall C464, for his second successive win. 53 started, 36 finished and 20 became new Centurions. 4 days before the AGM was held in November, one year after the death of former president E.H. Neville, the secretary informed a meeting of the offices that 51 nominations for president had been received from the 450 ballot papers that were sent out, the result being a tie at 12 votes each for T.W. Richardson C100 and J.G. Slaughter C218. The secretary Tod Slaughter declined the nomination and therefore Tom Richardson became the 4th President of the Centurions. The officers meeting also agreed that all officers should be re-elected annually.

At the AGM itself, the secretary informed the members of the result of the ballot and the decision to re-elect annually. The officers proposed and it was agreed to abolish the offices of Life President and Life Vice-President. The existing officers were re-elected with the addition of Hew Neilson to replace Tom Richardson as captain. 12 Vice-Presidents were elected, with those former Vice-Presidents who had passed away being struck from the record. One other item that was decided at this meeting, was that all existing Centurions should make a one off payment of £1.00 and all new Centurions £2.00, in order to receive circulars, notices etc., but that the tradition of presenting Centurion badges without charge to the new Centurions will be maintained.

In April 1974, the death was announced of former Vice-Captain and former record holder, Percy Reading C121 the winner of the 1946 track race. His name will forever be kept alive, it being the first to be inscribed on the Hammond Trophy.

It being an even year, the first weekend of August saw the ever popular Leicester to Skegness race well supported by 64 starters. 40 finished with 21 of them becoming new Centurions. The early and long time leader was a German walker who eventually fell foul of the judges, many at the time thought justifiably, and thus became only the second walker to be disqualified in a 100 mile race. This left the way clear for Peter Markham the leader of a strong squad of Leicester walkers, however he was soon overhauled by Dave Boxall C464 who went on to complete a hat-trick of victories in successive years. The Leicester Walking Club finished 7 of their walkers for a new club record in 100 mile racing, in fact they had 2 teams on the result sheet. The race also saw another new country added to the ever growing list when F. Weissenböck of Austria joined the ranks of the Centurions. Some might say that two new countries were added when Richard Vlotman, a South African born British national qualified, but the first South African and also British national citizen was A.H. Ch. St. Norman C50 who qualified in 1912.

In an attempt to get more people to attend the AGM the 1975 meeting was held before the Metropolitan Police 7 mile race at Imber Court in January, it did not however have the desired effect. With such a short time interval since the previous meeting there was little to discuss but the secretary stressed that he would pursue the new Centurions from 1973 and 1974 for their £2.00 towards postage costs, and this action would continue to be taken for future new Centurions.

The last weekend of June saw the second edition of the Ewhurst 100, promoted by Surrey Walking Club. The winner in just under 18 hours was for the fourth year in succession, Dave Boxall C464, from a record field of 94 starters. The number of finishers was a record too, 56, with 36 of them from overseas. Of the 29 new Centurions the Dutch added 17 to their tally.

In September, John 'Paddy' Dowling C331, who was well known for turning up for a race almost anywhere in France, took part in the Roubaix 28 hour event, where he put up a modest performance considering he was unsupported. Another Centurion who was doing his bit overseas was Chris Clegg C135, in fact he was as far overseas as one can get, Melbourne,

Australia. Chris duly qualified as an Australian Centurion (Aus C11) and became the first walker to be a member of three different Brotherhoods of Centurions.

In 1976 the Centurions once again attempted to arouse more interest by holding a meeting prior to the Imber Court race in January, unfortunately the result was similar to the previous year. There was some discontent from the captain Hew Neilson C145, when a resolution was passed to reimburse him with the costs of producing and posting his excellent Christmas letter. He said it was his contribution to the society he held so dear and refused the offer of payment.

In May, Charlie Megnin C288 organised and promoted a 24 hour track race at Woodford Green. 23 started and a ding dong battle, reminiscent of the 1960 race, was fought out between Colin Young C317 and Derek Harrison C466, the result being a win for Harrison with 131 miles 336 yards, only 9 yards better than Colin Young's performance in the 1960 race, for third on the all time British list. Young finished just over 2 miles behind. Harrison's times at 150 and 200 km were submitted and ratified as British records, even though they were slower times than Neilson would have put up in the 1960 race where times were not taken at these distances. 15 completed 100 miles, 8 of them for the first time, with 6 of the 15 going on to complete the 24 hours. Hew Neilson C145 and Paul Sargent C430 also completed the 24 hours but failed to reach the 100 mile mark. In this race Eddie McNeir C375, at the age of 75, completed his 10th 100 to become only the 4th Centurion to reach double figures, but more remarkable is the fact that his first completion was achieved at the age of 65.

The biennial Leicester to Skegness race was held as usual on the last weekend of July. The field of 57 included 31 Dutchmen plus a few other overseas walkers, so the British walkers were outnumbered by almost 2 to 1. The winner in a time of 17 hours, 15 minutes 50 seconds was Derek Harrison who joined the very exclusive band of Centurions who had won on both road and track, his second victory in the same year! Despite the very cold night, the new ruling that 'shorts must be worn throughout the race' was strictly upheld, nevertheless 38, exactly two thirds of the field made it to the finish line. 20 of them were Dutch, one of them being Willem Mansveld C411 who completed his 10th 100 from 10 starts, 1 was French and one was from Denmark, another new country to add to the list. The remaining 16 were British, eight of them from the promoting club who closed two teams. Of the 14 new Centurions six were Dutch, bringing their numbers up to 98.

At the AGM in September, the question of dwindling finances was once again discussed but the major discussion was on the subject of wearing tracksuit bottoms. The Centurions would make representations to the RWA rules committee as this ruling could not have been intended to apply to ultra distance events, in fact Charlie Shelly C356 stated that he would not promote the Bristol 100 if this rule had to be strictly applied.

In May 1977, the second Dutch 100 mile race was held at St. Oedenrode. One of the competitors was a British woman, Ann Sayer. She was an experienced fell and cross country walker, but this was her first actual race. She completed the race in 21 hours and 46 minutes to become the first British lady to become a Continental Centurion. Also taking part in this event was triple Centurion, Chris Clegg C135 who completed the race to become a quadruple Centurion!

The third edition of the Bristol 100 was held on 14th-15th October, when 84 walkers faced the starter, His Grace the Duke of Beaufort. The winner for the second year in succession was Derek Harrison C466 in 17 hours 43 minutes. For the first time in British 100 mile history, two women were allowed to complete on equal terms with the men, they were Ann Sayer and Dianne Pegg. Both of them duly completed to number amongst the 56 finishers, but their performances were recorded separately at the end of the race results. Is this

equality? They were also qualified along with 27 others to be eligible for membership of the Centurions!

At the AGM held a week after the race, the subject was discussed at great length. Assistant secretary Frank Jarvis C258 who was against women becoming Centurions alongside the men put forward a motion that a women's section of the Centurions with numbers W1, W2 etc should be formed. The motion was not seconded. George Halifax C580 put forward a more severe motion 'that women should not be admitted to the Centurions', this also failed to find a seconder. As there was no substantive motion that could receive a negative amendment, the opposite motion was put and properly seconded 'that qualified women should be admitted to the Centurions'. This was agreed on a majority vote. It was pointed out that these two women complied with rule 2 of the 'Centurion Society', i.e. they were amateurs and had walked 100 miles within 24 hours. It was then proposed and seconded that women should be awarded Centurion numbers in chronological order of their performance as per rule 3. This was agreed on a majority vote (three against). Finally it was proposed and accepted that all those walkers, having complied with the Centurions definition, be elected to the society. The three objectors could have voted against this final motion and therefore rule 5 would have applied as in the case of James Aldred, but fortunately commonsense prevailed, and so Ann Sayer and Dianne Pegg became the first female Centurions being awarded numbers 599 and 608 respectively. When the allotted numbers were adjusted to include the two ladies, it was noticed that Geurt Reeringh C412 had been allotted number 620 and so another mistake was narrowly avoided.

The meeting also discussed the ever rising cost of Centurion badges. Due to the high price of silver and the continued high inflation that had been a feature of the seventies, the cost of badges had risen threefold. Suggestions were made that promoting clubs should donate part of the entry fees to meet the cost of medals, or that Centurion badges should only be awarded in nominated races, such as the Ewhurst and Bristol 100's, which were held on a four year cycle. Decisions were held over until the next meeting.

In the Spring of 1978, news came through from Canada of the death of Henry Swabey C13 at the age of 98. Henry was the last of the 14 members who attended the inaugural meeting on 11th May 1911. A letter from his son-in-law said that he had been in poor health for the last five years, suffering from Alzheimer's disease. Prior to that he had been reasonably active and his prized possession was his Centurion badge. To see Henry was to see the lucky C13 badge. The death was also announced of Chas Shelley C356, organiser of the Bristol 100. In May Derek Harrison C466 set new world best figures for 24 hours on the road when he walked 219,500 Km at Rouen.

On the weekend of 27th-28th July, the eleventh and what would prove to be the last Leicester to Skegness race was held. The increasing costs and the inherent danger from traffic at peak holiday time made it impossible to continue with this classic race. The pre-race favourite Derek Harrison took an early lead but was forced to retire with badly damaged feet caused by wearing new shoes, leaving the way clear for the winner and first of 24 new Centurions. This was, as in the first race 20 years earlier, a member of the promoting club, John Heywood of Leicester. In all 41 of the 64 starters finished the course, only 10 of them being British walkers. The breakdown of new Centurions was: 14 Dutch (3 female), 7 British, 1 Belgian, 1 German and 1 Luxembourger, another new country to be added to the growing list. One of the new Centurions who became C631 was Don Thompson, the 1960 Olympic gold medallist who had come out of retirement to achieve his final goal in walking. The last two to complete the race were Adrie van Dirven, the first ever overseas female Centurion and Hendrik Doornekamp C377, the Dutch walker who does the race in clogs!

At the A.G.M. in September, the subject of the rising cost of Centurion badges was once again raised. The cost of providing badges for the 1978 race was £168.00. It was agreed that

the time honoured tradition of presenting all new Centurions with their badge, free of charge, must be upheld; and that any club promoting a 100 mile race shall contribute at least 75% of the cost of badges for new Centurions. The gist of a letter from Hans Leendertse C427, secretary of the Dutch Centurions was read out, enquiring about an update of the handbook and their willingness to pay for it. The number of Dutch Centurions had increased by 61 since the last issue. The assistant secretary Frank Jarvis C258, took this to mean that the Dutch were giving an undertaking to fund the full cost of production for a new handbook, instead of the intended meaning that each Dutch Centurion would purchase a copy. A simple mistake to make, which naturally led to some confusion.

On December 7th, the first and so far, the only true Centurion, came into being, when Dave Ainsworth C540 organized a 100th birthday celebration for Bill Brown C12, at the Ford social club. Bill Brown had worked there in his younger years, possibly building model T's? 1989 started with a sad blow to the Centurions, when the death on February 7th of the secretary, Tod Slaughter C218 was announced. Tod had been secretary for almost 24 years, having taken over from Chas Culling C51 who had held the office for 33 years. For more than half a century the smooth running of the Centurions had been maintained by these two dedicated men. Would there ever be anyone, as dedicated to replace them? Only time will tell.

A meeting of Centurions was called for March, at which Frank Jarvis C258 was elected secretary with Hew Neilson C145 as his assistant, in addition to his role of captain. All the other officers including the existent vice-presidents were re-elected. Frank Jarvis, in accepting the rôle of secretary, stressed that he would not carry out his duties without charge to the society as had previous officers. He felt that the true cost of running the society should be made known. Outstanding matters from the previous meeting were dealt with, but it was agreed that the 75% surcharge for new badges would not apply to the forthcoming Ewhurst 100, as the decision had not yet been made public and race arrangements were already well in hand.

The Ewhurst 100 was held on 23rd-24th June, but before the race was even started there had been problems which led to articles being published in the national press. Ann Sayer C599 and Dianne Pegg C608 had been refused entry by the Surrey Walking Club on the grounds that there were insufficient facilities to accommodate ladies at the Ewhurst venue, and had they accepted their entries they would have to accept entries from a host of continental females as well. Whether or not this was the true reason, one will never know. A late entry was however, accepted from Dave Boxall C464 who had previously withdrawn having been selected for a 2 day race in France, which was cancelled 2 days before it was due to take place. A total of 107 men, the greatest number ever, started the race, one of them would fall foul of the judges on the first 10 mile lap. The early leader was Derek Harrison C466, but he was overtaken at 50 miles by Dave Boxall who went on to score his fifth British win. 77, another new record, completed the race, 37 of them for the first time. With such a large number of new qualifiers, the cost of providing their badges was going to put a great strain on Centurion finances. It was partly off-set by a generous donation from Surrey Walking Club and a number of individual donations. The secretary, Frank Jarvis, had started a correspondence with Messrs Haseler & Restall Ltd., a division of Marples & Beasley, which would take almost 12 months to resolve. It started as a simple enquiry about the current cost of our badges and the location and ownership of the die.

In September a new national championship over 100km was held, many of the contestants being Centurions or aspiring Centurions trying to bridge the gap between the Hastings and the London to Brighton classics, and the supreme challenge. The winner and first holder of a new trophy, the 'Wilkinson Sword', presented by the razor blade company, was Peter

Hodkinson. The team winners were Leicester who received a shield presented by Tom Reynolds C116.

At the A.G.M. held in October, the secretary informed the meeting that a new handbook up to and including the 1978 race had been printed, as expected there was no financial contribution from the Dutch Centurions but they had purchased a number of books. All of the Centurion papers had been received from Mrs. Slaughter, but there was great concern that the first two minute books were not amongst the paperwork. The secretary then went on to give a report on the progress of the Centurion badges. He stated that the cost of each badge was currently £14.40, an increase of more than £4.00 since the first quotation only 4 months earlier and that a cheaper alternative would have to be found for the future. After a lengthy discussion it was decided that the new qualifiers from the 1979 race should receive the existing silver badge. As there were 11 badges in stock, only 26 would need to be purchased at a cost of approx. £370.00. However if all 37 had needed to be purchased the cost would have been in the region of £530.00, a sum the Centurions could not possibly afford for future events if the increase in numbers were to continue at the same alarming rate. The secretary was instructed to place an order for the 26 new badges, and so C587 would be the last of the original silver badges. The matter of a new cheaper design was left in the hands of a small sub-committee headed by the secretary. The new Centurions were then formally elected but none were presented with their badges as it would have been unfair to present the 11 badges that were available but not the others.

As the year drew to a close the badge manufacturers, Haseler & Restall finally submitted an estimate for new badges, this time silver plated at a cost of £2.90 each on a bulk rate of 200, and confirmed that they were in possession of our die, but there was no news of the new badges for those Centurions who had been waiting almost 6 months since qualifying.

The Eighties - a Time of Change

If 1979 had started badly, then 1980 would follow suit when the death in early January, at the age of 91 was announced of Billy Baker C66, the Brighton and Back record-holder. The problems over the badges for 1979 continued amid much correspondence and were finally resolved when they were delivered in April, 10 months after the event. The problem now was how best to present them. With so many having to go overseas, it was decided that it would be unsafe to entrust such a valuable cargo to the postal service, and so they would be presented at the Leicester race, more than a year after they were earned.

The new style Leicester race took place on 25th-26th July when 98 walkers faced the starter, a new record for a Leicester race. The race started from the town centre and proceeded west for 13 miles to join a 10½ mile circuit just outside the village of Congerstone. After 7 laps of this circuit the walkers would retrace their steps back to the start: 64 were successful in this event. The winner for a record breaking sixth time in his career was Dave Boxall C464 by just under 20 minutes from the first of 28 new Centurions, Tony Collins C688 of Birmingham. The time gap and even the result might have been different but for the fact that Tony went off course during the night, costing him about 8 minutes. Freddie Baker C266 completed his 10th 100 and there were 4 new Dutch Centurions, bringing their total up to 125, 17½% of the registered members.

At the general meeting held in September, the first recorded payment from the benevolent fund which was started almost 50 years earlier, was made when the meeting agreed to send £10.00 to Jim "Whiskers" Marriot C265 who was seriously ill. A report was given on the badge situation. Messrs Haseler & Restall did finally produce the badges for the 1979 race,

but after several letters the die was not forthcoming (it is now assumed to be lost). It was decided not to have any further dealings with this company and that the badge sub-committee should seek estimates from other companies. The 28 new qualifiers were elected to the Centurions, and like those from the Ewhurst race would have to wait for their badges until a new supplier was found. The secretary, Frank Jarvis C258 commented on the high cost of awarding badges to new Centurions and suggested that a qualifying event should be held every 4 years and that applicants for the Centurion badge should be confined to residents of the U.K. The cost of supplying Centurion badges for continental walkers (at average cost) over the past six years was approximately £1,090.00. This whole matter which would have been a major change to years of tradition was held over to the next meeting. At the election of officers, the President, Tom Richardson C100 decided to stand down after 9 years in office. Bill Harris M.B.E. C97 was elected to replace him. Billy Baker C66 was deleted from the list of Vice-Presidents and, Gordon Doubleday C142 was elected as an addition to the list, all of whom were re-elected, along with the other officers.

While the AGM was in progress, Ann Sayer C599 was walking from Lands End to John O'Groats, a feat she accomplished in 13 days 17 hours 42 minutes, beating the previous running record by 3 days ¾ hours!

The badge sub-committee got down to business almost immediately after the meeting and within a fortnight, arrangements had been made with Messrs A.D. Brooks of London, for the supply of a new die and 200 silver plated badges at a total cost of just over £300.00. The badges were supplied at the end of November, less than 10 weeks after the initial enquiry, a far cry from the performance of the previous suppliers. Things were now looking up in a year that had started so badly; especially when the confirmation of a track race, to be held at Brighton in May, was received. The proposed 4th edition of the Bristol 100 had fallen through and it looked as though there would not be a race in 1981. Good luck can however easily turn bad as it did when the captain Hew Neilson went to Holland for the Dutch reunion. He had taken the badges for the overseas Centurions with him, unfortunately they were stolen from his motor car.

In May 1981, 10 replacement badges were ordered with an additional 118 to take the numbers up to 999. There should now be no reason for the Centurions to encounter such problems as had beset them over the past few years. The track race at Brighton, sponsored by the Endeavour Motor Co. and known as the "Endeavour 24 hours" was held on 23rd-24th May. Only 20 of the 26 entrants toed the line, notable absentees being, Emile Alomaine C470 and the very good French walker, Alain Moulionet. The event was somewhat spoilt by persistent rain, therefore no records were set, but nevertheless the first 3 all got above 120 miles, with local man Dave Boxall in 4th place just short. The winner with an excellent 129 miles was Geoff Tranter C507, from the other 13 who lasted the distance. 11 completed 100 miles, the only new man being George Beecham of Belgrave Harriers, who became the fourth Centurion to have the distinction of a race title to himself in this handbook.

The first Saturday in September saw the annual single journey from London to Brighton. What had always been feared, finally happened, when Dave King of Belgrave Harriers was struck and killed by an out of control motor car. This freak accident, which would lead to the demise of this classic race, had first been warned about as long ago as 1921.

The notification of deaths of Centurions was becoming a more and more regular occurrence, far too many to mention in these pages, but some are worthy of note. During the summer, A.H. Bevis C57, a regular chairman at Centurion meetings, died at the age of 97. In mid-September Eddie McNeir C375 died at the age of 81, not a remarkable age when one considers some of the past Centurions, but a remarkable man who did his first 100 at the age of 65 and did 9 more in successive years to become only the fourth Centurion to reach double figures (*Editor's note: after the 2010 race 21 Centurions had reached double figures*). His

last competitive race was the London to Brighton at the age of 78, where he finished a few minutes outside the time allowance. He left a legacy of £200.00 to the Centurions to be used in a way they thought best. The Centurions decided to put the money in a special account to provide an individual plaque to be known as the Eddie McNeir Shield, for the first finisher aged 65 or over in any future qualifying race.

Shortly before the AGM in October, a letter was received informing the secretary that F. (Jerry) Wilmot C70 was an inpatient at the Star & Garter Home, Richmond. As he was in reasonable health apart from a few minor problems, the officers decided to send 'Bilmo' as he was affectionately known, £10.00 from the benevolent fund, the second such payment in two years. At the A.G.M. itself, the secretary was in the happy position of being able to announce that the difficulties of the past 2½ years, in respect of the Centurion badges, had finally been resolved. Badges up to 999 were held in stock and had been paid for. Furthermore, due to the generosity of Centurions, the finances were once again stable and quite healthy. He went on to propose that a plaque, suitably engraved, should be presented to retiring presidents to mark their term of office, the first of them to be presented to Tom Richardson C100. He also proposed that the president should be elected for a term of 2 years. The proposals were agreed. At the election of officers, Frank Jarvis C258 was elected as the new president, thus creating a vacancy for the secretary. That vacancy was filled by Hew Neilson C145, with the outgoing secretary to assist him through the transition until a new assistant secretary could be found. The other officers were re-elected with two new vice-captains, John Eddershaw C299 and Peter Worth C491. The year ended with the sad news that the final link with 1911 had ended. Bill Brown C12, the senior man and last of the 48 original Centurions, passed away in December, shortly after his 103rd birthday.

With the administrative problems of the last few years now safely behind them, Centurions could now get on with the main reason for their existence - long distance walking. In the early part of 1982, four Centurions had taken part in a 24 hour track race against 12 runners, at Altrincham. They finished with very creditable performances in positions 4, 5, 6 & 7, none more so than Ann Sayer C599, 7th with 116 plus miles, only two months after setting a hatful of records in a 48 hour race at Nottingham, beating the previous ladies running record by almost 26 miles. Needless to say, Ann walked throughout the race.

The second race on the new Leicester lap circuit was held on 20th-21st August. A strong field of 77 which included 3 women were set on their way by the Lord Mayor of Leicester in calm and pleasant conditions, 55 of them eventually returned to Leicester after a cold and windy night where almost everyone had to resort to wearing a track suit, thus making a mockery of the 1976 ruling - a triumph for common sense. They were led home by Mike Holmes, son of Harry C303. Among the 33 new qualifiers were three female walkers, Irene Corlett finished in 3rd place with a magnificent time of 18 hours 54 minutes 5 seconds, Aaf de Rijk of Holland was some 2¾ hours behind her 18 hours 28 minutes 1 second set earlier in the year at St. Oedenrode. The third of the three ladies was Sandra Brown of the L.D.W.A. She had turned up with a rucksack and boots, not knowing what to expect. After being assured that her belongings would be kept safe and there would be no need for her boots, she completed the race in an average time, seemingly without any undue effort, collected her belongings and caught her train back to London. At the presentations held in Leicester, Miss McNeir, daughter of Eddie C375, presented the first McNeir Shield to 68 year old Jac Heidendaal C674.

At the general meeting held in September, the deaths were announced of two former winners, John Henderson C113 (1937) and Rex Whitlock C175 (1952) plus F.J. 'Bilmo' Wilmot C70 amongst others. 4 presidents plaques had been purchased as agreed at the previous meeting. 3 of them were presented to Tom Richardson C100, Bill Harris M.B.E. C97 and Frank Jarvis C258 who was re-elected as president. All the other officers were re-elected

with Bill Symes C216, Freddie Baker C266 and George Halifax C580 being elected as new vice-presidents. Freddie Baker had also been co-opted as assistant secretary to Hew Neilson. At the Dutch reunion a surprise gift of a presidential chain of office, with a Centurion insert was presented to Leiuwe Schol C291, their first and so far only president.

Surrey Walking Club promoted their 100 mile race at Ewhurst as usual on the weekend of the shortest night, 24th-25th June 1983. There were no ladies among the 84 starters because of Surrey Walking Club's determination to adhere to the Victorian beliefs that women could not, or should not compete on equal terms with men. The 54 finishers were led home by Carl Lawton of Belgrave Harriers. He was the first of 28 new Centurions which made up for his aborted attempt the previous year. The last finisher and last of 13 new Dutch Centurions was Hubert Wouters who timed the race to perfection, finishing in 23 hours 57 minutes. Another qualifier was Richard Brown, husband of Sandra C735 who was competing in the Manchester to Blackpool race as her club would not allow her to take part in their 100. They became the first British husband and wife pairing.

Amongst the deaths announced at the meeting in October were Jim 'Whiskers' Marriot C 265 and Len Mathews C316. Len was one of the co-founders of the Australian Centurions and was the designer of the Centurion certificates. A major item under discussion was the whereabouts and ownership of the "Sunday Dispatch" cup. John Keown C473, the R.W.A. trophy secretary was in possession of the trophy as it was allegedly R.W.A. property. A letter written by Peter Worth C491 relating to the ownership was read out, but the contents were not accepted. The President Frank Jarvis C258 was commissioned to investigate the matter. All the previous officers were re-elected with the exception of Frank Jarvis. After a very close vote with three nominations, Gordon Doubleday C142 was elected to the Presidency.

The 1984 race promoted by Leicester Walking Club on 27th-28th July was meant to be on a new course at Sleaford, unfortunately a sponsorship arrangement fell through and so they had to resort to their lap course at Congerstone. It turned out to be an excellent and exciting race with 31 of the 64 starters finishing the course. The winner and first of 10 new Centurions was local man, Brian Adams in a sub 18 hour time. He had a fierce competition with John Cannell C388 who also went under 18 hours but was 14 minutes adrift at the end. The star performance of the race however, was that of Sandra Brown C735. In only her second hundred, she put up the remarkable time of 18 hours 36 minutes 29 seconds and then had to wait 14 minutes for her husband Richard C760 to finish. Whoever said it was a lady's prerogative to keep a man waiting could never have witnessed a walking race! Two other ladies, Marleen Willems of Holland and Hilda Krols of Belgium completed the race to join the fledgling band of female members of the Brotherhood of Centurions. (The ladies in an expression of equality did not want any special distinction). There were no over 65 completions to qualify for a McNeir Shield, although George Hall B.E.M. C107 gave it a very good try, 48 years after qualifying!

At the general meeting in September, the death of former President Bill Harris C97 was announced. A discussion on the "Sunday Dispatch" trophy resulted in the opinion that it had been presented to the Centurions and that every effort should be made to recover it for future presentations on the understanding that it could not be taken out of the country when won as it had been for the last 3 years by a Dutch club. A discussion was also on the term of the President's office, suggesting that a new President should be elected each year, however this was not thought to be viable and therefore Gordon Doubleday C142 was re-elected for a second year along with all the other officers.

For a long time it had seemed as though there would not be a race in 1985, it would have been the first barren year since 1950, but John Hedgethorpe C413 was able to secure some sponsorship from British Telecom in order to promote a race at the Colchester garrison track. It was not only a 24 hour track race, but also incorporated the 100 km championship, and

attracted a field of 31. It was a strange race in many ways, with apparently no definitive rules about leaving the track. Some had come only for the 100 Km race which was won in a new record time by Edmund Shillabeer C590, some decided to stay on for the 100 miles and some decided to go the full distance. 15 were successful in completing 100 miles, the winner being Charlie Weston C584 in 19 hours 21 minutes 40 seconds. 8 became new Centurions, the first of whom was Bob Dobson who had earlier broken the 12 hour record set by Edgar Horton C63 in 1914. It is also believed that Bob set new figures at 10, 11 and 13 hours, but these records have never been ratified. The only lady in the race was Carol Bean who completed her 100 with just 11 minutes to spare, the winner of the 24 hour race was Peter Worth C491, who like Carol Bean, hardly ever left the track. During the last hour, some of those who had left the track some time earlier, came back just to complete the 24 hours. The results showed that 18 were on the track when the final gun was fired. With people coming and going throughout the race plus the added confusion of the recording sheets being blown all over the track, the recorders job became a nightmare, hence the uncertainty of Dobson's records. The team race for the "Sunday Dispatch" trophy was 3 to score not 2 as it had previously been. It was won by York Postal W.C. with David Mowbray C742, the only member to complete 100 miles. None of the 3 over 65 competitors, George Hall C107, George Woods C683 and Hew Neilson C145 won the Eddie McNeir award. Regrettably this would prove to be Hew Neilson's last attempt.

In his Christmas letter, which incidentally was the only one he received payment for, as he finally decided to accept the honorarium that had been offered many times before, the captain Hew Neilson praised the appointment of Peter Worth C491 to the Vice-Presidency and informed the members that in addition to the Leicester race in 1986 there would also be another track race at his own club, Woodford Green, to celebrate its Diamond Jubilee. The race turned out to be a memorial to him after his death from a sudden heart attack on January 9th 1986.

At the Metropolitan Police race at Imber Court on January 11th, an emergency meeting was called, its only purpose being to elect a new secretary. Freddie Baker C266 was elected to fill the vacancy.

The Hew Neilson Memorial track race was held on the last two days of May 1986 and proved to be one of the most successful ever, due in no small part to the expert organisational skill of Charlie Megnin C288. He had even arranged to have part of the track coned off to create the extra 2½ yards need to make it a 40 yard track and a straightforward 400 laps for 100 miles. The organising and recording was in complete contrast to the Colchester race the year before. 27 started, including Pam Ficken, Hew Neilson's daughter, who although not a race walker managed a creditable 25 miles in just over 6 hours, a fitting tribute to her father. The first of the 18 walkers who completed 100 miles, 5 of them for the first time, was Bob Dobson C786 in 17 hours 52 minutes 1 second. Geoff Tranter C507 was at that time some 6½ miles behind but closed to within 1½ miles at the end of the 24 hours. Bob Dobson 127 miles, Geoff Tranter 125½ miles. 16 completed the 24 hours. The first of the 5 new Centurions was Phil Carroll of Yorkshire Walking Club. He was presented with a new trophy which had been donated by the Neilson family, "The Hew Neilson 145 Trophy". It was a silver salver with Hew's Centurion badge as its centerpiece.

The Leicester race was held on the now established course at Congerstone on 25th-26th July. 59 started and 33 finished, the winner being the relatively new to race walking, Richard Brown C760. 18 completed for the first time and 2 new countries, Denmark and Switzerland were added to the ever growing list. One notable absentee was Paddy Dowling C331 who, earlier in the month, had taken part in a 1,000 mile race against runners. He finished second in just under 15 days and only 7 hours behind the winner!

At the general meeting in August, two nominations were received for the vacant position of captain. John Eddershaw C299 and Peter Worth C491. As John Eddershaw had a number of commitments due to his Presidency of the R.W.A. he declined the nomination in favour of Peter Worth who also took on the additional role of assistant secretary. Another election was that of Charlie Megnin C288 as Vice-President. The secretary outlined the final details of the Centurions 75th anniversary dinner, a project Hew Neilson had been working on at the time of his death. The dinner which was held at the Irish centre, Camden Sq., London on September 13th was a great success and by a happy chance was attended by exactly 100 Centurions and guests. The event was slightly marred by the announcement of the death in Australia of Fred Redman C163. Fred was one of the Centurion Vice-Presidents and a co-founder of the Australian Centurions. The week after the dinner, a party of 9 walkers and attendants were to be found at the Roubaix 28 hour race. All 9 walkers successfully completed the event with some very good performances, none more so than Edmund Shillabeer C591 who finished equal second with a fraction under 240km. The next best performance of 226.5 km was by Paddy Dowling who had started going to this race in 1975. A week after the race this glutton for punishment was at Lands End where he proceeded to walk to John O'Groats, beating the existing record for this journey by 1½ hours.

The 1987 race at Ewhurst on 26th June was different to the previous editions in two ways. Firstly, the R.W.A. had officially designated it as the National Long Distance Championship, secondly and perhaps more important was the fact that Surrey Walking Club had finally relented and allowed women to enter the race. 3 ladies were numbered among the 54 starters and all three were successful, one of them being Ann Mansveld, who at 61 years of age became the senior lady Centurion. She walked the race with her husband Willem C411 who had qualified 20 years earlier in the last Brighton and back. In total 38 completed the race, 11 of them for the first time. Dave Boxall C464 and Louis Oostvogels C521 both completed for the 10th time. The winner in 17 hours 55 minutes 10 seconds was John Cannell C388 but his win was not without problems. Apart from having to contend with the 4 men who finished within half an hour of him, he went straight past the dogleg on one lap during the night, the referee allowed him to do the dogleg twice next time round in order to make up the distance.

The A.G.M. was held in September at Woodford Green, following their 1 hour track races. It was chaired by Tom Richardson, C100 and would prove to be his last Centurion function, his death was reported in October. The secretary reported that the new handbook (ninth edition) would be available early in the New Year. 177 new Centurions had qualified since the last edition, an increase of more than 25%. He also drew attention to the anomaly of the election of Vice-Presidents. In 1973 the office of Vice-President had been abolished in favour of annual elections. During that 14 year period there were many occasions when no nominations were received and therefore the Centurions would not have a Vice-President. The meeting agreed to restore the office of Life Vice-President and reinstate all those that had been deleted from the list. In his Christmas letter the captain, Peter Worth C491 revealed that he had been given a scrapbook which had been kept by Tommy French C61, covering a period from 1910-1952. The scrapbook which has been extremely useful in the compilation of this handbook is now a part of Centurion archives.

The 1988 race was held on 29th-30th July on the usual Leicester circuit, despite concern for the safety of walkers on the outward and return sections from the town centre. 75 started the race, most of them regular protagonists with a strong Dutch contingent and a good number of first timers. The race became a titanic battle between the two previous years winners and was reminiscent of the great contest between Hew Neilson C145 and Vic Stone C202 in the 1955 Brighton and Back. The winner was Richard Brown C760 in the fourth fastest recorded time only 35 seconds outside the magical 17 hour barrier. John Cannell C388 had to settle for second place, less than 10 minutes behind. In total 47 completed the race. 19 were first

timers, 12 of them Dutch, bringing their numbers up to 175. At the A.G.M. held in October, the secretary reported that the Centurions trophy, The Hammond Cup had been mislaid and that urgent action should be taken to trace its whereabouts. He also reported that owing to severe back problems, the captain, Peter Worth C491 would be retiring from active long distance walking and would be standing down as captain. John Eddershaw C299 was elevated from the vice-captaincy to take his place. John was also elected to the restored list of Life Vice-Presidents as were Piet Jansens C389 and Ann Sayer C599.

Colchester A.C. had planned to hold another track race in 1989 but unfortunately it was not possible. In its place and to maintain the continuity of a race each year, the Metropolitan Police announced that they would be staging a 100 mile race at the Hendon Training Centre. It would be a memorial race to Arthur Eddlestone C531 who had died in a climbing accident in 1984.

The fears and concerns for the safety of walkers in road races that had been expressed over the years, were overcome on 29th-30th July 1989, by staging the Arthur Eddlestone Memorial 100 completely within the grounds of the Metropolitan Police Training Centre at Hendon. The precisely measured 1 mile circuit was a mixture of roads with ramps to prevent stepping up to pavements, a part of the athletics track and a slalom course through the car park. 77 walkers were set on their way by the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Sir Peter Imbert Q.P.M. in fine bright conditions which later gave way to high winds and squally showers which lasted for most of the race, and led to many of the 35 retirements.

The winner of the race in 18 hours 11 minutes 8 seconds was Edmund Shillabeer C590. Several excellent performances were recorded, including Sandra Brown C735 in 8th place and getting back to sub 20 hour form 2 years after the birth of her daughter. Gerrit de Jong C456 and Geoff Tranter C507 both completed their 10th British 100's. Exactly half, 21 of the finishers became new Centurions, 8 of them policemen. One of the new police Centurions was Peter Addison who did an extra lap, just to be certain. Another first timer was Reit Horber who became the first lady Centurion from Switzerland. Her husband Eric C809 had qualified in 1986. For several of the finishers, this was their 2nd or 3rd 100 of the year, having competed at Rouen or St. Oedenrode. Most of this new breed of distance walkers would also take part in the Roubaix 28 hours a few weeks later when the biggest party ever went over for this classic event.

At the A.G.M. the secretary informed the members that The Hammond Cup had been returned but it had not been engraved since 1965 and was missing its base. It was agreed that it should be restored to its former dignity if the money could be found. The ongoing problem with the "Sunday Dispatch" trophy was also raised. It had been generally agreed that it was the property of the R.W.A. but was for the exclusive use of the Centurions. The biggest problem would be that when it was won by a Dutch team, (as it so often was) they were unable to take it back to Holland due to the insurance arrangements. The matter was to be taken up again with the R.W.A. to see if a solution could be found. In these days of high interest rates and rising inflation such matters were likely to be expensive and so once again an appeal was made. The Centurions responded in their usual generous way.

The Unstoppable Browns

Since the heady days of the mid seventies and early eighties when fields of up to 100 would start the annual race, the numbers were now dropping to more manageable proportions, generally being contested by the same band of enthusiasts and occasional newcomers, plus those who would not give up in their attempts to achieve Centurion status. There was also

the new breed, a small band of ultra distance specialists who, with travel becoming so much easier, would race on the continent 4, 5 or even more times a year. The leaders of this group were Richard and Sandra Brown, who because of their success in the French Cir-Select races, were invited to compete in the Paris - Colmar race, the revised version of the Strasbourg-Paris event in which Colin Young C317 had been successful 20 years earlier. Both managed to complete this most gruelling of walking challenges, Sandra finishing second in the ladies race. A few weeks later on the 27th-28th July, they would finish 1st and 2nd in the biennial Leicester race.

Because of major road works on the Congerstone course and the dangers walkers faced in getting to it, Leicester Walking Club decided to move the event to a new course at the small village of Hungarton to the east of the city. The circuit was 18 laps of just over 5½ miles on undulating country lanes - a true test. 55 started and 31 finished, 13 of them for the first time. In winning the race, Richard Brown C760 notched up his 3rd victory, while his wife, Sandra C735 notched up her 5th ladies win. Jan Vos C369 became the 5th Dutchman to reach 10 completions. At the A.G.M. held in October, two new elections were made. John Hedgethorpe C413 was elected as a vice-president and Piet Jansens C389 was elected as a vice-captain to represent the 180 Dutch members.

At the end of October, Colin Young, Sandra Brown and Bob Dobson C786 took part in a 24 hour track race at Etrecty in France. Although it rained throughout the race, both Colin and Sandra set new world best figures at 100 miles (specially recorded) and 24 hours. Colin's records were in the M55 age group, and Sandra's were obviously ladies records.

In June 1991, Richard and Sandra Brown were once again invited to compete in the Paris to Colmar race, Sandra repeated her second place of the previous year, while Richard was forced to retire at the half way (155 miles) point. He made up for his disappointment the following week by winning the Ewhurst 100 miles in 17 hours 52 minutes 47 seconds. 45 had started the race, 31 finished, 10 of them for the first time in what was a fairly uneventful race, that is until the end when the Watts brothers, Bob C838 & Ken C859 who had unintentionally walked the whole race together and were safe in 3rd position, were doing battle against the traffic in the last few hundred yards, only to see Per Pedersen C800 sweep past them and steal 3rd place by just 13 seconds.

On the inspired suggestion of Peter Worth C491, the Centurion's meeting was held in October before the start of the Chippenham to Calne race. As had so often happened before, the secretary opened the meeting by reading the roll of honour of those that had passed away during the year. One of those on the list was former captain, Vice-President and the incumbent R.W.A. President Peter Worth. Another was the much respected administrator and organizer Lionel 'Timber' Woodcock C144. The secretary informed the meeting that 1991 marked the 25th anniversary of the formation of the Dutch Centurions and displayed a shield that would be presented to them to mark the occasion. He also informed the meeting of the very generous offer from Richard and Sandra Brown to provide a new base and bring the engraving up to date on "The Hammond Cup" at a cost of nearly £300.00. It was noted that there was no record of assets held by the Centurions and that a list should be prepared. One important item that had just come to light was the original minute book. (The second minute book is still missing). Notification was given of the possibility of a 100 mile race in Central London, organised by the Metropolitan Police. Richard Brown suggested that it could be extended to include a 200 km and 24 hour event which would become a qualifying event for Paris - Colmar if the French Authorities were in agreement.

On the 31st July 1992, the second 100 mile race was held on the undulating Hungarton course, 59 started and 28 finished. They were led home in 18 hours 50 minutes 29 seconds by the seemingly unbeatable Richard & Sandra Brown who crossed the line hand in hand. The victory, however, was awarded to Sandra who had led all the way, the first time a woman had

won our 100 miles. The only other woman to finish was Jill Green who became 1 of 10 new Centurions. Earlier in the year Richard and Sandra Brown had both completed the Paris - Colmar race, where Sandra finished second for the third year in succession.

At the general meeting held in October, John Keown C473 was elected as a Vice-President and confirmation was given that the 1993 race, organised by the Metropolitan Police with assistance from the Surrey Walking Club, would be a 200 km/24 hour event and a qualifying race for the Paris - Colmar event.

At their annual reunion in Holland, the Dutch Centurions for the first time in their history, elected a new President, Hans Leendertse C427. He replaced Lieuwe Schol C291 who had decided to stand down after holding the office for the first 25 years of their existence.

With all the trials and tribulations of the late seventies and most of the eighties behind them the Centurions had come into the nineties in a fairly subdued fashion. There had been no major problems and apart from the antics of the new breed of ultra distance walkers, not much to add to their long and illustrious history. The only important event of 1993 would be the first ever 200 km event in Great Britain - or would it? In May a small party of the new breed made their separate ways to St. Oedenrode in Holland, to take on the Dutch in their multi event race. Amongst them were the unstoppable Browns. Sandra easily won the ladies race as expected. Richard won the race in determined style, he had set himself a target of breaking the British best performance of Frank O'Reilly in 1960, and by sticking rigidly to a pre-determined plan and schedule, did so in 16 hours 50 minutes 28 seconds. Whether or not it was a world best time for 100 miles cannot be accurately determined, as many exceptional walkers have set exceptional figures in longer races where 100 mile times were not taken.

The 200 km / 24 hour race was held on August 21st-22nd in Battersea Park, London. It was the first time a 24 hour race had been held in Great Britain other than on the track. A 4 km circuit had been established, starting and finishing at the bandstand for ease of recording as this was essentially a 200 km race. Regrettably for those who decided only to do 100 miles, their race would finish at a lonely caravan more than half a mile away from the main centre of activity. 105 walkers started the race, the second largest number in any British ultra distance race. 58 completed the 24 hours, however the first 3 were not required to be on their feet for the full 24 hours, having already reached 200 km. 25 became new Centurions but only 10 of them continued beyond the 100 mile mark. The first new Centurion and also first at 100 miles and overall winner was Alexsey Radionov, who became only the second Russian walker to join our ranks since George Lind C24 in 1908. His 200 km time of 22 hours 4 minutes 39 seconds was more than 50 minutes better than the runner up, Richard Brown C760. One might have thought that Richard would be the first British walker at 100 miles, but as his target was the full 200 km distance he was beaten to the 100 by just over a minute, by Chris Berwick of Leicester who stopped at the 100 mile mark. The whole event was a tremendous success and thought to be one of the best races ever seen in Great Britain, so much so that there were calls for it to be repeated.

The general meeting was held in London in October and was preceded by a video recording of the Battersea Park race. In his report the secretary confirmed that the assets register had been compiled, but whilst compiling it he discovered that the John Prior salver had gone missing for a second time, it was last produced in 1969. He also informed the members that work had been started on compiling a new style handbook (10th edition) and that any information which could be included would be gratefully received. His final report was on the Centurion badges which had caused so much concern in the early eighties. Although badges up to 999 were held in stock, many were found to be unsatisfactory and consideration should be given to replacing them and increasing the stock.

If the 1993 race was an unparalleled success, then the 1994 race was quite the opposite. It was held on the last weekend of July on the Hungarton course near Leicester. From a small

entry list, 32 toed the line at the start of the race, only 4 of them Dutch, their smallest turnout for many years. Whether it was the lack of facilities, the toughness of the course (is there an easy 100 miles?), a slackening of interest in long distance racing or the hot July weather that caused the low turnout, nobody knows. 27 minutes after the start, the field was increased by 2 when the Watts brothers who had transport problems were given permission by the referee to start late, they would not however be allowed any extra time.

The combination of hot weather and a hard course certainly took their toll as only 13, the lowest number in a road race since the pre-war days, managed to complete the course with only 3 becoming new Centurions. This situation was a matter of great concern to Leicester Walking Club who had promoted 19 races since 1958. Would they have to find yet another new course? Would they continue to promote 100 mile races? Only time would tell. The race was won once again by Richard Brown C760, his fifth 100 mile win, or sixth if you include the joint victory with his wife Sandra, on the same course two years earlier. Sandra C735 finished second in the race, it was her eighth time as first lady.

At the A.G.M. held at Leicester after their 7 mile race in October, a report was given on a discussion between the Centurions and the R.W.A. trophy secretary in respect of the "Sunday Dispatch" trophy. While it was generally agreed that the trophy was the property of the R.W.A. it was not listed on their register. The plinth was in a rundown condition and there was no space for any additional shields to update it. It was agreed to investigate the possibilities of restoring or replacing it, with some financial assistance from the R.W.A. Surrey Walking Club announced that due to the growing safety problems encountered at the last Ewhurst race, their 1995 promotion would probably be held in Battersea Park.

Earlier in the year a unique event took place. The long awaited channel tunnel (it was first planned some 150 years ago) was finally completed and before it was opened for business the Daily Mail sponsored a charity walk through its 50 km length. 100 celebrities and others were chosen to take part in this never to be repeated event. Two of them were Centurions, Alec Ross C854 who kept popping up on the television reports in his police uniform, and vice-captain Charlie Weston C584 (the similarity of their Centurion numbers is just a coincidence), who was the first person to come into the daylight in his union jack shorts, until he was required to fall behind the 'celebrities'. Charlie actually walked about 70 km in order to cope with the dreadfully slow pace. He would race ahead and then double back behind the main party so that he could catch them up again. Both men were excellent ambassadors for the sport of walking.

In February 1995, the secretary, Freddie Baker C266 emigrated to Australia with his promise to return for a visit whenever possible. His last action after handing over the reins to his assistant, Bill Sutherland C890 with his much regretted letter of resignation, was to visit the printers and deliver the pre-addressed envelopes for the Christmas letter.

The Surrey Walking Club race was held as expected in Battersea Park on August 5th-6th 1995 amid very hot and humid conditions. The race had been moved from Ewhurst for safety reasons but with hoards of people in the park taking part in various competitions and the constant threat of being run down by roller skaters, one wonders if even a park circuit can be called safe. 65 walkers faced the starter, many of them experienced Centurions, some for the first time and some having yet another try. 32 completed the course and for only the third time in our history, one walker was disqualified. The winner of the race in what for him was a slow time of 19 hours 23 minutes 16 seconds, was once again Richard Brown C760, equaling the record of 6 wins by Dave Boxall C464. Finishing some way down the field but still first lady (9th time) was his wife Sandra C735 also in a slow time. Both of them joined the list of those with 10 British completions. The reason for their slow times is that earlier in the year they had both set new best times for the journey from Lands End to John O'Groats! Of the 13 new Centurions the performance that surely have been most pleasing, was that of Pam Ficken

who took only 6 minutes longer than her father when he first qualified. Her father was the much respected Hew Neilson C145. Pam had been brought up with the traditions of the Centurions, now at long last she could hold her head high and be numbered among them. Hew would have been so proud. The race was also used as a selection race for a team of 5 men and 5 women to represent England in the forthcoming Roubaix 28 hour race, Pam Ficken was one of those selected.

For the second time, the A.G.M. was held on the morning of the Chippenham to Calne race in October, Bill Sutherland C890 was formally elected to take over the vacant position of secretary with Chris Flint C849 as his assistant. Mick Marshall C305 was nominated and elected as a new Vice-President. The new secretary reported on outstanding matters. Before leaving for Australia, former secretary Freddie Baker C266 had successfully negotiated the replacement of the defective badges and the supply of an extra 250, taking the numbers to 1250.

This exercise had been very expensive (£880.00) and had depleted the funds to such an extent that the treasurer had to chip in £100.00 from his own pocket to overcome the difficulties. No progress had been made on updating the "Sunday Dispatch" trophy and bearing in mind the financial situation, the matter was held over. Progress on the new edition of the handbook was very slow, this was because of the new format the Watts brothers had chosen to adopt, it would be very different to previous editions and therefore required extensive research. Several Centurions had replied to their request for information, but much more would be needed if their proposed compendium was ever to be published. It was reported that a proposed joint promotion between the Leicester and Coventry clubs for 1996 had fallen through, in its place the London Vidarians Walking Club offered to try to stage an event in the Colchester area.

The London Vidarians proposed race for 1996, started to take shape in early January, it was originally going to be a 3 mile circuit on isolated country roads at Feering near Colchester. After suggestions and advice from John Hedgethorne C413, it was decided to hold the event in Colchester's Castle Park. A small compact circuit was found but on further investigation it was discovered that a new tarmac towpath had been laid alongside the river Colne. By using this as an out and back dogleg the circuit was increased to just over 2 miles. With sponsorship from Colchester Council (negotiated by John Hedgethorne) the race took place on 3rd-4th August.

In the presence of the local press and Anglia Television, the Mayor of Colchester set a small field of 39 walkers on their way. The 26 competitors who completed the race did not encounter the same problems as those at Battersea Park a year earlier, in fact the only difficulties were crossing two narrow bridges over the river. 11 walkers became new Centurions and once again a walker was disqualified. At 7.30 a.m. the Mayor of Colchester was awakened from his slumbers to return to the venue in time to greet the winner, for a record 7th time, Richard Brown C760 in 18 hours 12 minutes 4 seconds. An hour and a half later, Sandra finished in 3rd place for yet another win in the ladies race. It would seem that a mere 100 miles is far too easy or short for the unstoppable Browns. Earlier in the year they had been off on their travels again, this time to Australia, where they both took part in a 1,000 mile race, where Sandra set a multitude of new best performances. Other Centurions who had been on their travels during the year were Jill Green C898 who completed her third Chalons - Colmar race of 210 miles and her clubmate Bob Watts C838 who was making his second attempt at the mens race from Montreuil on the outskirts of Paris. He was forced to retire just after the first 100 miles due to exhaustion from the excessive heat which in some places was as high as 110°.

The A.G.M. was once again held on the morning of the Chippenham to Calne race. Matters held over from the previous meeting were discussed, the main one being the publication of

the new handbook. The Watts brothers, Bob C838 and Ken C859, explained that research was still going on but due to a lack of personal information from existing Centurions, the compendium project would have to be put on hold for a while, although much of the information already gathered would be included in the revised handbook. Another matter the Watts brothers had agreed to deal with was the new plinth for the "Sunday Dispatch" trophy. As Centurions were now solvent, thanks to the generous nature of the members, this project could now go ahead. Although the financial situation had now been stabilised, there was no knowing how long the situation would last with major items in the offing. It was decided that the money in the benevolent fund, which had hardly ever been used, should be transferred to the general account. All enquiries in respect of the Prior salver had now been exhausted, it was agreed that the matter should now be dropped - but not forgotten.

On the positive side, the "Unicorn Trophy" for the winner of the Bristol 100 had been returned by the last winner, Derek Harrison C466. Trevor Chorley C435 of the former Bristol Club agreed that it should become the property of the Centurions and could be awarded to the first lady to finish the annual 100.

The meeting closed with a discussion of the future of qualifying events. 1997 had been earmarked for a 24 hour record attempt on a new track at Ware, Hertfordshire. It was thought that an event in the Midland area could be staged for 1998, and as 1999 would mark the centenary of Surrey Walking Club, they would be promoting a special event. The year 2000 would see the coming of the new millennium, and as there were proposals in hand for a new facility to celebrate it at Greenwich, there might be a chance of staging a race on the site.

Following a suggestion from Piet Jansens C389 that the British Centurions should hold an annual reunion similar to the one held by the Dutch, a questionnaire was sent to the members with the Christmas letter to gauge their opinions. The response was generally favourable and that it should be kept simple. The officers set up a sub-committee which decided that as there had not been any such function since the 75th anniversary in 1986, it should be a formal affair. The venue chosen was the splendid setting of the R.A.F. Club in London's Piccadilly and it would take place on September 27th 1997.

For the first time in eight years there was no British representative in the Paris-Colmar race, that is not to say that the Centurions were not represented. Alexsey Radionov C901 finished 2nd in the mens race and Marleen Radder-Willems C783 won the ladies race from Chalons-sur-Marne to Colmar, the first Centurion victory in the toughest event in sport!

The viability of the track race at Ware, had, for some time, been in doubt. A final decision was made and the event took place on the weekend of 19th-20th July. 25 walkers started the race, 23 of them being existing Centurions. The 2 non Centurions failed to reach 100 miles, and so for the first time in history there were no new qualifiers. 11 passed the 100 mile mark and went on for the full 24 hours as did 3 others who failed to reach the 100. With a new definition of walking being rigorously applied for the first few hours, two walkers failed to meet the criteria and were subsequently disqualified. The star of the show was undoubtedly Sandra Brown who took the lead at 3 hours and from then on was never headed. This was her first undisputed win, unlike the joint victory with her husband at Leicester in 1992. She broke her own records at 100 miles, in 19 hours 27 minutes 15 seconds, and at 24 hours with a distance of 121 miles 59 yards, (194.785 km) plus others *en route*. The first man, some 2½ miles behind Sandra was Per Kleis Pederson C800 who had flown over for the race after finishing the 4 day Nijmegen marches. A week earlier he had walked the length of his country, Denmark. Martin Fisher C788 joined the list of those with 10 or more completions. Another outstanding performance was that of Eric Horwill C390. This was his first 100 mile completion since first qualifying in 1966, the longest recorded span between successful attempts! In addition to gaining this dubious distinction, he was selected to represent Great

Britain in the Roubaix 28 hour race, and at 64½ years of age is believed to be the oldest international debut.

During the year the deaths of three senior Centurions were announced. George Hall B.E.M. C107 who, along with the three remaining pre-war Centurions, was congratulated the previous year on his 60 years of membership, Harry Callow C172, the instigator of the Chippenham to Calne race and Les Barrett C123 who had on occasions chaired the Centurions A.G.M. as the lowest numbered Centurion present.

As the final preparations were being made for the reunion dinner in September 1997, Bob Watts C838 and Ken Watts C859 were busy printing the long awaited 10th edition of the handbook. It was to be in a completely new style and its publication was eagerly awaited. Also, the new plinth for the "Sunday Dispatch" trophy was being made.

The 1998 Centurion event was held on the Isle of Man on June 20th in conjunction with the annual Isle of Man Parish Walk. This tough and unremitting course finished on the promenade at Douglas where the remaining 15 miles were completed. A record entry of 592 participants made this the biggest Parish Walk ever and laid the grounds for what was a most successful promotion of Centurion walking. A record 35 walkers finished the full 85 miles of the Parish Walk, 26 coming from the Isle of Man. Of these, 11 successfully walked the extra 15 miles up and down the promenade to complete the full 100 mile distance. Considering the toughness of the course, it was not surprising to see that there were only 4 new Centurions.

The 1998 A.G.M. saw Gordon Doubleday C142 stand down from his dual role as President (since 1983) and Treasurer (since 1948). His service to Centurions is unlikely to be rivaled in the future and there were many accolades to his many years of selfless service. John Eddershaw C299 stood down after a decade as Captain so that he could take on the role as President while Paul Sargent C430 took on the Treasurer's role. Colin Young C317 was a popular choice as the new Captain while Bob Watts C838 took on a new position as Archivist.

The new Club Captain went straight to work in his Captain's letter that year, raising public awareness of Ron Wallwork's Millennium Challenge concept which would hopefully see a festival of walking in the year 2000, culminating in a 1000 Furlongs (125 Miles) event.

The 1999 Centurion qualifying event was in the safe hands of Surrey Walking Club who hosted the 24 hour walking event in Battersea Park as part of their centenary celebrations. They also published a book to mark their centenary, 'Unbroken Contact', edited by Sandra Brown, another welcome addition to Centurion history. 1999 also marked another anniversary; it was 40 years since Lieuwe Schol C291 became the first of many Dutch walkers to join our ranks.

The Battersea Park race saw 60 starters battle early rains and an intermittently rough surface underfoot. A sudden drop in temperature and heavy rain before night fell dampened the enthusiasm of some of the 60 starters and 21 dropped out before the 24 hours deadline. Remembered as the occasion when Marcel Dekker C957 got 'locked in the lavatory' he nevertheless led a strong Continental contingent who achieved qualification as a Centurion, with Chris Cattano C963 the only UK walker to qualify. Overall, 34 competitors covered at least 100 miles, 14 being British with the rest hailing from Holland, Denmark, Belgium and Germany.

The consistent excellence of Sandra Brown was a cause for much discussion. During the year in which she turned 50 years of age, she walked in excess of 100 miles within 24 hours on 9 separate occasions. Amongst these were 4 finishes in 4 Centurion races (England, Holland, Australia and New Zealand) and a World Best hundred track performance of 19:00:47 in New Zealand in July.

The 1999 A.G.M. saw Bill Sutherland C890 stand down as Secretary and be succeeded by Ken Munro C370.

The year 2000 began with the sad news that one of the most well known and active Centurions, John Hedgethorpe C413, had died in sudden circumstances in January. John was one of the stalwarts of racewalking. From his first involvement in athletics to his final days, his story his involvement was non-stop all-round commitment. He was an international walker and winner of the 1969 Bristol 100, a race organiser par excellence including ultra-distance events, editor of our sport's Race Walking record publication, and held many positions of office at the various clubs he belonged to.

The 2000 Centurion event, billed as The Captain Barclay Millennium Challenge, offered distances of 50 miles, 100 km, 100 miles and 1000 furlongs (125 miles). It was held on an excellent course adjacent to the Rowley Mile racecourse at Newmarket on 12-13 August. A memorable reception attended by the Mayor of Newmarket and other local dignitaries and superbly organised by Ron Wallwork C893 the evening before the race, marked it out as a special occasion, plus the race began by walkers starting from the centre of Newmarket and following the historic route to the racecourse.

The start time of 3pm on Saturday 12th August was perhaps fortuitous as the afternoon temperature touched 25°C and conditions were very trying for the first few hours. Although no one managed to reach the 1000 furlong post, 22 of the 55 starters reached 100 miles, Ian Statter C968 led the 10 new Centurions to the finish in a convincing time of 19.11.12. Of the 6 new British Centurions, three (Maureen Latham C974, Dave Eldridge C975 and Norman Smith C976), were from the Isle of Wight. The last of the Centurion finishers, Piet Van de Kroft C977, made his objective with 4 minutes 33 seconds to spare.

Everyone involved in the weekend's proceedings seemed delighted at the success of the event and happy for the organiser, Ron Wallwork C893 and 1966 Commonwealth Games champion, who had worked tirelessly for over a year to make sure the Millennium Challenge was truly a memorable occasion. All participants received a pin (Millennium Member of the Racecourse) and a beautiful engraved medal (Captain Barclay Challenges).

The new millennium saw the Centurions embrace the brave new online world with Roger Le Moine C802 announcing a Centurion's website. The year also saw Club Vice Captain Sandra Brown become the first person to qualify for all 5 Centurion badges, completing her set with a sterling performance, along with husband Richard and Jill Green, through snow and blizzards in Colorado in the U.S.A.

In February 2001, the Centurions were informed that the Coventry Godiva Club would not be able to promote the annual Centurion qualifying event as previously arranged, meaning that for the first time since 1950 there would be no 100 mile race. To resolve the situation and maintain tradition, Chris Flint, the Vidarians President, suggested the London Vidarians might promote the event on the 1996 Colchester course that John had helped to arrange and that it be held in his memory.

With limited resources and a maximum of 6 months to make arrangements and promote the event, it seemed an impossible dream, but with assistance from Bob Watts C838, Ken Watts C859 and Ron Wallwork C893 the project got off the ground. The event was titled the 'Hedgethorpe Hundred' but it was actually a 24 Hour race. It turned out to be a great success despite inclement weather and a few hiccups along the way.

The field contained 2 Ukrainian athletes, neither of whom were successful. With 3 attendants, they remained in Colchester and ran up large accommodation/food bills before leaving without paying, stating that race organisers would settle such accounts. This resulted in over £600 of loss. However, showing the best side of Centurionism, an appeal among members and the wider walking fraternity saw this amount recouped by generous donations.

The race turned into a battle of between Richard Brown C-760 and Bob Dobson C-786 who were never more than a few minutes apart. There had not been a race of such drama since 1955 when Hew Neilson raced Vic Stone, and in 1986 when Richard Brown raced John

Cannel. Bob finally won out over Richard, 19:46:11 to 19:50:39, to become, at age 59, the oldest winner of an Open event and National championship. It was the closest ever recorded finish in a British 100, with the exception of the joint win by Sandra and Richard Brown in 1992. Overall 15 of the 47 starters reached the hundred milestone, three qualifying as new Centurion members C978 to C980.

2001 saw the death of two of the greats of the Centurion world. In March Frank O'Reilly C276 died aged 76. Frank had dominated long distance walking in the late fifties and early sixties and was the first walker to break the 17 hour barrier. Then, in June, Gordon Doubleday C142 died after more than 40 years service as treasurer and 15 years as president.

In July Jill Green C898 and Herbert Neubacher C959 completed the centurion race in New Zealand and so joined Sandra Brown as holders of all five centurion badges. No sooner had they joined Sandra in this feat than she raised the ante. Malaysian racewalking judge Khoo Chong Beng had previously announced that Malaysia would be hosting an inaugural 24 Hour Endurance Walk, offering Malaysia Centurion status to anyone reaching the 100 mile mark. The event was held in August with a large field of over 180 starters, including 30 international walkers. Fully sponsored by various Malaysian entities such as the Departments of Tourism and Sport, the organisers were able to fund the trip for selected overseas entrants with subsidised airfares and all Malaysian accommodation costs covered. The race itself was held in the Genting Highlands Resort at 5000' altitude about an hour's drive outside Kuala Lumpur and was judged differently to our events; anyone given a report was docked a lap as a penalty. Overall, 11 walkers completed the 100 miles within 24 hours. Sandra Brown was amongst them and thus secured all six Centurion badges.

The 2001 race was named the Hedgethorpe 100 in tribute to John Hedgethorpe C413 whose sudden death was deeply felt throughout the walking fraternity. This energetic walker and race organiser will be remembered by this race held in his home town. Charles Aronsanyan C979 became the first Nigerian to become a Centurion.

The 2001 AGM was held at the New Astley Club, Newmarket, and was followed by a most enjoyable 90th anniversary dinner, organised by Ron and Joan Wallwork. The guest speaker was 1960 double Olympic medallist Professor Peter Radford, who had written a much acclaimed book entitled "The Celebrated Captain Barclay".

The Lancashire W.C. commemorated its 95th Anniversary in 2002 by hosting a 24 hour track race at Stanley Park, Blackpool in August. With a restricted field size of only 35 walkers, it was an elite group which greeted the starter's gun and not surprisingly 19 of them completed 100 miles or more. The Blackpool lights certainly brightened up the ordeal for the 3 successful new qualifiers which included two from the host club. Ad Leermakers C561 made history by becoming the first Dutchman to win an English 100 miles/24 hour race and the fourth non-British walker to accomplish this feat. The others were Frenchman C. Hubert in 1953, German G. Nickel in 1967 and the Russian A. Rodionov in 1993. It was a fine result for the organising club with two of the three new centurions, Joe Hardy C981 and Hazel Fairhurst C983 in Lancashire Walking Club colours. The other new centurion, John Stubbs C982, was almost a 'local', representing Manx Harriers.

Roger Le Moine C802 was forced, due to ill health, to announce in December 2002 that he would no longer be able to continue maintaining the fledgling Centurions website and the hunt was on for a new web champion. The mantle would eventually be passed to Kathy Crilley C933.

In 2003 Surrey Walking Club decided to break with tradition and stage their four yearly event away from their home base and so the Rowley Mile winning post at Newmarket once again hosted the start and finish of the Long Distance Walking Championship, with 50 laps in-between for the full distance of 100 miles. The Newmarket venue proved to be the correct choice. If the previous few years had seen only a smattering of new members, 2003 was

something else. The winning enclosure saw more Centurions than 'top hats and Tatler's'; 72 walkers started, 31 reached the 100 mile mark and the Centurions welcomed 17 new members, of which there were 4 Dutch, 3 Belgian and 10 British. The race was unusually exciting with Peter Ryan C983 displaying all his native Sheffield steel, leading for most of the race; after succumbing to fatigue in the final hours, slowing drastically and listing sideways, he held on to take first place in 19:57:35, less than a minute ahead of Dutchman Willem Mutze C927 who recorded 19:58:30. The honour of being the 1000th Centurion fell to Wendy Watson but although she received the coveted C1000 number, she was not the 1000th Centurion, that was reserved for C1002 (numbers 99 and 453 were never issued - see preceeding text in introduction).

The 2003 A.G.M., usually held in the latter stages of the year, was moved in 2004 to the month of February. There were a number of changes to the Executive; President John Eddershaw C299, Captain Colin Young C317 and Secretary Ken Munro C70 all stood down and new members came to the fore; Carl Lawton C750 took over the Presidency, Charlie Weston C584 became the new Captain and Chris Flint C849 took on the role as Secretary. It was noted that Minute Book No. 2 covering 1946 - 1959 was missing, presumed destroyed.

The 2004 100 mile qualifier was held in mid-August at the historic town of Colchester where Centurions were once garrisoned. It was hosted by the London Vidarians, led by Chris Flint C849 with assistance from Ron Wallwork C893 of the New Astley Club and Jerry Everett of Colchester Harriers. The incorporation of a sharp incline within the Castle Park made the route even more difficult. The race attracted an entry list of 58, including a strong contingent from the Continent. Out of the 48 starters, a total of 24 walkers achieved the 100 miles and 13 new Centurions, C1001 to C1013, were admitted to the Brotherhood of Centurions. The prized C1002 badge for the thousandth centurion went to Dutch walker Gerrit van Haandel.

The 2005 100 mile qualifier at Kings Lynn in Norfolk in late July was very well organised by Peter Duhig, Cath Duhig C986 and Ron Wallwork C893. The trend of the last few years continued and 2005 saw an amazing 81 starters, of whom 37 finished the hundred; overall, there were 16 new Centurions including a strong contingent from the Isle of Man. This successful race showed the benefit of good organisation and involving the local community. Sean Hands displayed his strength in high performance ultra distance walking, completing the 100 miles in 19.02.57 and becoming not only a new Centurion, but winning the race to become national champion in his first attempt at the distance. Sandra Brown C735 completed her 20th finish and equalled Hew Neilson's 20 finishes in the period 1948-1972. She had previously stood in equal second place on 19 finishes with Freddie Baker C266 and Gerrit de Jong C456. One of the highlights of the day was the presentation to her of a new trophy donated by Freddie Baker to recognise those walkers who complete 20 UK 100s, the Fred Baker Plate, the inaugural names being Hew Neilson and Sandra Brown.

2005 also saw the release of an insert to the existing handbook to update the list of all new Centurions since the 24 hour Track Race at Ware in 1997. It was produced by Sue Clements C950 and Charlie Weston C584 after referring to the meticulous records of Gerrit de Jong C456. They subsequently began the task of producing the next edition to be released in 2011, our Centenary year. The text would be transcribed into electronic format, then revised and updated after consulting Gerrit de Jong C456, Piet Jansens C389 and Tim Erickson of the Australian Centurions.

In 2006, the Centurions accepted the invitation from the Isle of Man Veterans Athletics Club, to hold the annual qualifying event in conjunction with a 100mile/24hour event that they were holding at the National Sports Centre in Ramsey on 19-20 August. The course of just over $\frac{3}{4}$ mile included a lap of the Douglas track and a lap of the famous Douglas Bowl. It was another well organised, successful race and for the first time in a 100 mile walk in the

UK, the use of a computer chip in the shoe of each competitor was used, enabling certified laps and timing. The race achieved a remarkable number of new Centurions; out of 76 starters, 42 completed the 100 miles, 25 being new Centurions. Sean Hands C1014, led throughout the event to win in 19:16:03, ahead of Sandra Brown C735 whose second place finish in 19:28:38 constituted her 21st UK 100 mile finish, finally putting her ahead of Hew Neilson's 20 finishes.

October 2006 saw the death of arguably our best known Centurion, Don Thompson MBE C631 1960 Olympic 50K gold medalist, at the age of 73 after a brain aneurysm. His funeral service at Aldershot Crematorium saw one of the largest assemblies of Centurions ever seen, as well as many others from race walking and athletics in general. Centurion 409 Harry Dorras was the eulogist.

The 2006 A.G.M. was held in October at the Royal Air Force Club in Piccadilly and all Officers and Committee were re-elected to serve for a further year. This was followed by a very successful 95th anniversary dinner later in the evening. The guest speaker was Peter Selby, not a Centurion but one who had assisted, over decades, those tackling distance events in the UK and further afield. A presentation was made in recognition of Sandra Brown's C735 outstanding contribution to ultra distance walking. This award was sponsored by Brian Scrivens C337 and accepted on the recipient's behalf by husband Richard Brown (760). Sandra was not present as, in keeping with her reputation, she was racing over 24 hours at Tooting!

The 2007 Centurion qualifier was hosted by the Surrey Walking Club, being held at Battersea Park in London on 28-29 July in conjunction with the RWA 50 km championship. Although this well organised race was conducted in difficult conditions there was a successful participation rate with 54 out of 58 entrants starting the race. Conditions were trying with continuous rain throughout the night but it did not stop 28 walkers finishing the 100 mile walk within the requisite 24 hours, of whom 8 were new Centurions. New Centurion Annie van der Meer C1055 was the winning female walker with a time of 21:18:00 and, Jill Green C898, with a time of 23:49:42, was the inaugural winner of the Chas Shelley Trophy for the first woman finisher over 65 years of age. At the time of writing, Jill still holds the trophy and we await a further winner. Piet Jensens, the Dutch Centurions secretary, worked hard to ensure a strong Dutch contingent and they dominated, taking the first 3 places in the men's event, the first 2 places in the women's event and winning the Hew Neilson Trophy, The Sunday Dispatch Trophy, The Hammond Cup, The Bristol Trophy, The Ko van der Kwaak Cup and The Bill King Memorial Trophy.

The 2008 A.G.M., held in February, saw Treasurer Paul Sargent C430 stand down after 11 years of service, to be replaced by Hans Rennie C915. All other Officers were elected unopposed.

The 2008 Centurion qualifier, was held in August at the Milton Keynes Athletics Club track. Of the 29 entrants, 25 started and 17 finished of whom 5 qualified as new Centurion members. Ian Richards C1064, an Olympian, was the first English walker to complete the distance and a first time Centurion. Ian had returned to walking after an absence of nearly 30 years and his time of 19:37:11 was a superb new M60 best time. A third name was added to the Fred Baker Plate when Martin Fisher C788 completed his 20th English Centurion hundred with a time of 22:49:20. Chris Flint C849 finished the hundred for the 18th time and, after the walk, organised the presentation of the prizes.

December 2008 saw the death, at just 48, of Jerry Everett C951 from complications after heart surgery. Jerry held many offices within athletics and was a key Organising Committee figure at three Colchester 100 mile events including the one in which he had qualified. So highly was he regarded that past and present internationals, all in Representative GB blazers, formed a guard of honour as his coffin entered a packed crematorium chapel.

At the 2008 AGM Jill Green C898 was elected as a Vice-President.

The 2009 Centurion 100 Miles championship at Newmarket had a historical perspective. In 1809 Captain Robert Barclay Allardice was bet that he couldn't walk 1000 miles in 1000 hours for 1000 Guineas, meaning he had to walk one mile in every consecutive hour 24 hours a day, the challenge therefore taking 42 days with the maximum of an hour and 20 minutes sleep at any one time (if you walk miles back to back in different hours). He completed the challenge on 12th July 1809, losing three stone in the process and his challenge was hailed as 'one of the greatest human feats ever attempted.' 200 years later, champion jockey, Polar explorer and BBC presenter, Richard Dunwoody MBE recreated this challenge, walking the same mile 1000 times in Newmarket, but this time to raise money for charity. The challenge commenced on May 29th and ended successfully on 10th July with the final mile along the Newmarket Racecourse before a packed house assembled for the Darley July Cup Meeting. The finish was covered live on Channel 4 television.

The following day the annual Centurion qualifying event, incorporating the RWA National Long Distance championship, started on a fairly tough course of 50 two mile laps at Newmarket Racecourse. Despite a seven hour downpour during the night 28 people completed the hundred within 24 hours. There were eleven new Centurions, 4 of them English and 7 from overseas. Sandra Brown's (C735) hundred increased her grand total to 135 events of 100 miles or more, a feat that will probably never be matched, and her time of 19.57.24 was a W60 world best.

The main decision made at the 2009 AGM was the venue, date and time for the Centenary Dinner. A number venues had been visited it was agreed that the House of Commons was the only fitting venue for such a prestigious occasion, particularly as it had been the venue for the 50th anniversary in April 1960. The AGM also discussed and gave its support to the invitation by the Isle of Man V.A.C. to host the 100 miles at the National Sports Centre at Douglas in 2010. Unfortunately the Isle of Man event had to be cancelled due to unforeseen problems with the course. This left a potential vacuum and the realisation that the pattern of holding an annual 100 miles event since 1951 would be jeopardised. Later in the year the offer by London Vidarians Walking Club to host the event at Castle Park, Colchester was accepted.

In March 2010 the sad news of the death of Reverend David Christie-Murray C155 was reported. He had been prominent in race walking for decades and an active Centurion to the last, attending AGMs and other events until not long before his demise. At a moving Memorial Service Surrey Walking Club colleague Sandra Brown C735 delivered a eulogy.

The Colchester 100, held 8-9 August 2010, went ahead after a lot of hard work and perseverance by Chris Flint C849, London Vidarians President. The route incorporated a sharp incline within Castle Park making the route even more difficult. Out of the 25 who started, 4 completed 100 miles for the first time and became Centurions, including the Spanish walker Jose-Mora Bernardo, a previous Paris-Colmar race competitor. The race was won by Sandra Brown C36 in 20:23:30. Chris Flint C849 completed his 20th UK 100 and became the fourth person to have his name inscribed on the Hew Neilson salver. After the walk he still had sufficient energy and drive to organise the presentation of the prizes.

The Future

The Centurions have inspired complementary Brotherhoods in 5 other countries: the Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand, America and Malaysia. There are members spanning 21 nationalities around the world. Participation continues to be strong and reflects the popularity of ultra distance competition and the objective of becoming a Centurion.

We express our thanks to the multitude of officials and helpers who have organised and supported races, and in so doing, have enabled 1080 walkers to become British Centurions. It would not have been possible without their help. Throughout our proud history Centurions have always occupied many of the top posts in race walking at National, Area, County and Club levels. Indeed, Pam Ficken C934 is currently the President of the Race Walking Association.

As this Handbook reaches completion Surrey Walking Club are making plans to stage their 4 yearly event. This time it will mark the Centenary of the Centurions and it is hoped that the race will attract walkers from across the racewalking fraternity. It will be an occasion to reflect on the previous 100 years of history and look to the future. There will undoubtedly be more walkers who succeed in their attempt to become Centurions.

The Promoters

This list shows the number of races promoted by the various clubs, (to whom we are all grateful) covering the 87 events included in the following pages

ROAD RACES

London to Brighton & Back	Surrey Walking Club	16
Brighton to London & Back	Surrey Walking Club	1
London to Brighton & Back	Surrey W.C. / Sunday Dispatch	2
Battersea Park 200km / 24 hours	Surrey W.C. / Met. Police W.C.	1
Newmarket 100 miles	Surrey W.C. / London Vidarians W.C.	1
Ewhurst 100 miles	Surrey Walking Club	6
Battersea Park 100 miles	Surrey Walking Club	2
Battersea Park 24 hours	Surrey Walking Club	1
Bath to London	R.W.A. / Sunday Dispatch	2
Birmingham to London	R.W.A. / Sunday Dispatch	1
Blackpool to Manchester & Back	R.W.A. / Sunday Dispatch	1
Sheffield to Harrogate & back	R.W.A. / Sunday Dispatch	1
Newmarket 100 miles	New Astley Club	1
Newmarket Captain Barclay 200km / 24 hours	New Astley Club	1
Chigwell 100 miles	Metropolitan Police W.C.	2
Hendon 100 miles	Metropolitan Police W.C.	1
Isle of Man 100 miles	Manx Harriers	1
Isle of Man 100 miles / 24 hours	Isle of Man Vets A.C.	1
Kings Lynn 100 miles	Lynsports	1
Colchester 100 miles	London Vidarians W.C.	4
Leicester to Skegness	Leicester W.C.	11
Leicester 100 miles (Congerstone)	Leicester W.C.	5
Leicester 100 miles (Hungarton)	Leicester W.C.	3
Bristol 100 miles	Bristol R.W.C.	3

TRACK 24 HOUR RACES

1877	Lillie Bridge, Fulham	Unknown
1908	White City, London	Middlesex W.C.
1909	White City, London	Blackheath Harriers
1936	Horsfall Playing Fields, Bradford	Yorkshire W.C.
1946	White City, London	Metropolitan W.C.
1948	Motspur Park, Surrey	Surbiton Town Sports Club
1949	Horsfall Playing Fields, Bradford	Yorkshire W.C.
1953	Motspur Park, Surrey	Surrey W.C. / Sunday Dispatch
1960	Walton, Surrey	Walton Athletic Club
1969	Leicester	Leicester W.C.
1976	Woodford Green	Woodford Green A.C.
1981	Withdean, Brighton	Brighton & Hove A.C.
1985	Colchester Garrison	Colchester A.C.
1986	Woodford Green	Woodford Green A.C.
1997	Wodson Park, Ware	Friends of Wodson Park
2002	Blackpool	Lancashire W.C.
2008	Milton Keynes 100 miles	Milton Keynes A.C.

LIST OF EVENTS

in which Amateurs have qualified to become Centurions

100 miles Track Race, Lille Bridge, London

1877 (Aug. 21-22) Challenge Race – against E.M.R. Dundas

London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles

1902 (Oct. 31-Nov 1) Surrey Walking Club (time trials)

London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles

1903 (Nov. 6- 7) Surrey Walking Club (time trials)

London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles

1907 (June 21-22) Surrey Walking Club (time trials)

London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles

(July) Surrey Walking Club

Middlesex 24 Hours Track Race (White City)

1908 (Sept. 11-12) Middlesex Walking Club

Blackheath Harriers 24 Hours Track Race (White City)

1909 (Sept. 17-18) Blackheath Harriers

London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles

1911 (July 14-15) Surrey Walking Club (time trials)

London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles

1912 (Aug. 30-31) Surrey Walking Club (time trials)

London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles

1913 (July 6-7) Surrey Walking Club (time trials)

London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles

1913 (Oct. 24-25) Surrey Walking Club (time trials)

London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles

1914 (July 7-18) Surrey Walking Club (time trials)

London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles

1921 (June 24-25) Surrey Walking Club

London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles

1926 (June 18-19) Surrey Walking Club

London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles

1929 (June 21-22) Surrey Walking Club

- London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles**
 1933 (June 23-24) Surrey Walking Club
- 24 Hours, Track, Bradford, Yorkshire**
 1936 (Sept. 18-19) Yorkshire Walking Club
- London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles**
 1937 (June 17-18) Surrey Walking Club
- 24 Hours, Track, White City, London**
 1946 (June 14-15) Metropolitan Walking Club
- London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles**
 1947 (June 20-21) Surrey Walking Club
- 24 Hours, Track, Motspur Park, Surrey**
 1948 (Aug. 13-14) Surbiton Town Sports Club
- 24 Hours, Track, Bradford, Yorkshire**
 1949 (Sept. 23-24) Yorkshire Walking Club
- London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles**
 1951 (July 6-7) Surrey W.C. and "Sunday Dispatch"
- Bath to London, 100 miles**
 1952 (Oct. 3-4) R.W.A. and "Sunday Dispatch"
- 24 Hours, Track, Motspur Park, Surrey**
 1953 (July 3-4) Surrey W.C. and "Sunday Dispatch"
- Birmingham to London, 103½ miles**
 1953 (Aug. 7-8) R.W.A. and "Sunday Dispatch"
- Blackpool to Manchester and Back, 100 miles**
 1954 (July 23-24) R.W.A. and "Sunday Dispatch"
- London to Brighton and Back, 104 miles**
 1955 (July 1-2) Surrey W.C. and "Sunday Dispatch"
- Sheffield to Harrogate and Back, 100 miles**
 1956 (July 1-2) R.W.A. and "Sunday Dispatch"
- Bath to London, 100 miles**
 1957 (July 5-6) R.W.A. and "Sunday Dispatch"
- Leicester to Skegness, 100 miles**
 1958 (July 18-19) Leicester Walking Club
- London to Brighton and Back, 106 miles**
 1959 (July 3-4) Surrey Walking Club

Leicester to Skegness, 100 miles

1960 (July 1-2) Leicester Walking Club

24 Hours, Track, Walton , Surrey

1960 (Oct. 14-15) Walton Athletic Club

Chigwell, Essex 100 miles

1961 (Oct. 20-21) Metropolitan Police W.C.

Leicester to Skegness, 100 miles

1962 (July 6-7) Leicester Walking Club

Brighton to London and Back, 106 miles

1963 July (5-6) Surrey Walking Club

Leicester to Skegness, 100 miles

1964 (July 3-4) Leicester Walking Club

Chigwell, Essex 100 miles

1965 (Oct. 8-9) Metropolitan Police W.C.

Leicester to Skegness, 100 miles

1966 (Aug. 5-6) Leicester Walking Club

London to Brighton and Back, 106 miles

1967 June (23-24) Surrey Walking Club

Leicester to Skegness, 100 miles

1968 (Aug. 2-3) Leicester Walking Club

24 Hours, Track, Leicester

1969 (Aug. 8-9) Leicester Walking Club

“Bristol 100 miles”

1969 (Sept. 26-27) Bristol Race Walking Club

Leicester to Skegness, 100 miles

1970 (July 31-Aug 1) Leicester Walking Club

“Ewhurst 100 miles”

1971 (June 25-26) Surrey Walking Club

Leicester to Skegness, 100 miles

1972 (July 28-29) Leicester Walking Club

“Bristol 100 miles”

1973 (Sept. 25-26) Bristol Race Walking Club

Leicester to Skegness, 100 miles

1974 (Aug. 2-3) Leicester Walking Club

“Ewhurst 100 miles”

1975 (June 27-28) Surrey Walking Club

24 Hours, Track, Woodford Green

1976 (May 28-29) Woodford Green A.C.

Leicester to Skegness, 100 miles

1976 (July 30-31) Leicester Walking Club

“Bristol 100 miles”

1977 (Oct. 14-15) Bristol Race Walking Club

Leicester to Skegness, 100 miles

1978 (July 27-28) Leicester Walking Club

“Ewhurst 100 miles”

1979 (June 22-23) Surrey Walking Club

“Leicester (Congerstone) 100 miles”

1980 (July 25-26) Leicester Walking Club

24 Hours, Track, Brighton

1981 (May 23-24) Brighton and Hove A.C.

“Leicester (Congerstone) 100 miles”

1982 (Aug. 20-21) Leicester Walking Club

“Ewhurst 100 miles”

1983 (June 24-25) Surrey Walking Club

“Leicester (Congerstone) 100 miles”

1984 (July 27-28) Leicester Walking Club

24 Hours, Track, Colchester

1985 (Sept- 14-15) Colchester Athletics Club

24 Hours, Track, "Hew Neilson", Woodford Green A.C.

1986 (May 30-31) Woodford Green A.C.

“Leicester (Congerstone) 100 miles”

1986 (July 25-26) Leicester Walking Club

“Ewhurst 100 miles”

1987 (June 26-27) Surrey Walking Club

- 1988 **“Leicester (Congerstone) 100 miles”**
 (July 29-30) Leicester Walking Club
- 1989 **“Arthur Eddlestone Hendon 100 miles”**
 (July 29-30) Metropolitan Police A.C.
- 1990 **“Leicester (Hungarton) 100 miles”**
 (July 27-28) Leicester walking Club
- 1991 **“Ewhurst 100 miles”**
 (June 28-29) Surrey Walking Club
- 1992 **“Leicester (Hungarton) 100 miles”**
 (July 31-Aug 1) Leicester walking Club
- 1993 **“London 200K” (24 Hours) Battersea Park**
 (Aug 21-22) Surrey W.C. and Met. Police. W.C.
- 1994 **“Leicester (Hungarton) 100 miles”**
 (July 29-30) Leicester Walking Club
- 1995 **“Battersea Park 100 miles”**
 (Aug. 5-6) Surrey Walking Club
- 1996 **“Colchester 100 miles”**
 (Aug 3-4) London Vidarians Walking Club
- 1997 **24 Hours, Track, Ware, Hertfordshire**
 (July 19-20) Friends of Wodson Park
- 1998 **“Isle of Man Walk” 100 miles**
 (June 20-21) Manx Harriers
- 1999 **“Battersea Park, London” 100 miles/24 Hours**
 (August 14-15) Surrey Walking Club
- 2000 **“Captain Barclay Millenium Challenge, Newmarket 200K / 24 Hours”**
 (August 12-13) New Astley Club
- 2001 **“Hedgethorpe 100”, Colchester**
 (August 4-5) London Vidarians Walking Club
- 2002 **24 Hour, Track, Blackpool**
 (August 10-11) Lancashire Walking Club
- 2003 **Newmarket 100 miles**
 (July 26-27) Surrey Walking Club/London Vidarians
- 2004 **Colchester 100 miles**
 (August 21-22) London Vidarians Walking Club

“Kings Lynn” 100 miles

2005 (July 30-31) Lynnsport

“Douglas Isle of Man” 100 miles/24 Hours

2006 (August 19-20) Isle of Man Vets A.C.

Battersea Park 100 miles

2007 (July 28-29) Surrey Walking Club

Milton Keynes Track 100 miles

2008 (Aug. 15-16) Milton Keynes A.C.

Barclay Centenary 100 miles

2009 (July 11-12) New Astley Club

Colchester 100 miles

2010 (August 7-8) London Vidarians Walking Club

How to use this handbook:

The following pages show the list of Centurions and the events in which they qualified. Each page contains four columns of information.

The first column shows the Centurion number and when followed by a dagger † indicates that this Centurion has passed away. The figure in brackets indicates the number of times this Centurion has completed 100 miles or more in Great Britain.

The second column shows the name of each Centurion and the club he or she represented when qualifying.

The third column shows the time at 100 miles when each Centurion first qualified.

The fourth column shows the time taken at the finish of the event where it was more than 100 miles, or the distance achieved within 24 hours.

Where appropriate, footnotes have been added to give further explanation.

The history of the Centurions was thoroughly researched and revised in 1996/97 for publication in an entirely new style. This edition builds on the successful format of its predecessor and brings the information up to date.

Every endeavour has been made to ensure the accuracy of information contained in the handbook, but it is inevitable that some errors may have been made. Any such discrepancies should be made known to the Hon. Secretary.

All Centurions are requested to inform the Hon. Secretary of any change of address or telephone number and to pass on the unfortunate news of the passing of fellow Centurions.

LIST OF CENTURIONS AND EVENTS IN WHICH THEY QUALIFIED

100 miles Challenge Track Race, (Lillie Bridge, London) 1877

Started: 2			Finished: 2	Time at 100 miles
1	†	J.E. FOWLER-DIXON	London A.C.	20.36.08

London to Brighton and Back, 1902 (104 miles)

Started: 9			Finished: 3	Time at 100 miles	Time at finish
2	†	J. BUTLER	Polytechnic H.		21.36.27
3	†	G. H. SCHOFIELD	Surrey W.C.		22.35.00
4	†	W.J. TAYLOR	New Barnet		22.55.40

London to Brighton and Back, 1903 (104 miles)

Started: 6			Finished: 5	Time at 100 miles	Time at finish
5	†	(2) H.W. HORTON	Surrey W.C.		20.31.53
6	†	(2) F.J.WAKEFIELD	Surrey W.C		20.55.51
7	†	E.H. NEVILLE	Surrey W.C		21.13.50
8	†	E. ION-POOL	Ranelagh H.		21.58.40
9	†	E.C.WRAY	Surrey W.C		23.26.10

London to Brighton and Back, 1907 (104 miles)

Started: 6			Finished: 6	Time at 100 miles	Time at finish
10	†	(2) T.E. HAMMOND	Blackheath Harriers		18.13.37
11	†	J.R. BARNES-MOSS	Middlesex W.C.		20.23.32
12	†	(2) W. BROWN	Polytechnic H.		20.38.01
13	†	(2) H. SWABEY	Surrey W.C		21.50.37
14	†	W.G. PRYOR	Surrey W.C		22.56.38
15	†	(2) F. BLAND	Polytechnic H		23.08.00

London to Brighton and Back, 1908 (104 miles)

2 Started, Neither Finished

Middlesex 24 Hours Track Race (White City) 1908

Started: 42			Finished: 27	Time at 100 miles	Distance Miles Yds
16	†	C.M. SAMPSON	Polytechnic H.		117.1223
17	†	F.R. LEATHERBY	Middlesex W.C.		115.1613
18	†	(2) T. PAYNE	Lancashire W.C.		108. 733
19	†	B.H. WARDEN	Middlesex W.C.		108. 431
20	†	A. ORMROD	Lancashire W.C		107. 644
21	†	J. ILES	Unattached (Wales)		106. 785
22	†	E.R. GILLESPIE	Middlesex W.C.		106. 154
23	†	H.J. CLARK	Finchley H.		105.1504
24	†	G. LIND	Polytechnic H. (Russia)		104. 851
25	†	T.C. HABISHAW	Queens Park H.		103. 819
26	†	J. HARPER	Small Heath H.		100. 586
27	†	H.C. TAYLOR	Polytechnic H		100. 586

Blackheath Harriers 24 Hours Track Race (White City) 1909

Started: 50		Completed 100 miles: 25	Finished: 17	Time at 100 miles	Distance Miles Yds
28	†	(2) E.F. BROAD	Surrey W.C.		120.1420
29	†	R. BRAMHAM	Sheffield United H.		117. 570
30	†	A.E. GERARD	Unattached (Grimsby)		112.1551
31	†	A.C.W. BUCK	Bank of England S.C.		107. 649
32	†	E. FORGE	Essex Beagles		106. 484
33	†	R.L. PARKER	Highgate H.		106.1436
34	†	H. STESSIGER	Surrey W.C.		106. 172
35	†	A.P.REID	Unattached (Newark)		103. 713
36	†	R. BIDMEAD	Stock Exchange Boxing Club		103. 685
37	†	F. WEBB	Middlesex W.C.		103. 577
38	†	A.W. JACKSON	Unattached (Grimsby)		102. 62
39	†	F.G.DOWNS	Vegetarians W.C.		101.1605
40	†	(2) E. HAILSTONE	Unattached (Eastbourne)		101. 567
41	†	E. PARSLow	Surrey W.C.	21.03.47	100. 586
42	†	F.H. WALLIS	Blackheath H. & S.W.C.	22.55.46	100.1173
43	†	W.T. MITCHELL	Garratt W.C. & S.W.C.	23.01.30	100. 586
44	†	A. GRUBB (Snr)	Highgate H.	23.06.27	100. 586
45	†	F.T. LOCK	Ashcombe A.C.	23.06.44	100. 586
46	†	E.C. HAYNES	Middlesex W.C.	23.05.56	100.1173
47	†	E.G. MITCHELL	Lancashire W.C.	23.32.50	101. 000
48	†	L. NORWOOD	Sheffield United H.	23.44.21	100. 586

London to Brighton and Back, 1911 (104 miles)

Started: ??		Completed 100 miles: ??	Finished: ??	Time at 100 miles	Time at finish
49	†	T.E. BARTLETT	Surrey W.C.	23.40.00	25.37.30

London to Brighton and Back, 1912 (104 miles)

Started: ??		Completed 100 miles: ??	Finished: ??	Time at 100 miles	Time at finish
50	†	A.C. St. NORMAN	Surrey W.C. (S. Africa)		21.18.45
51	†	C.J.CULLING	Valentines S.C.		21.40.44
52	†	(2) H.B.S. RHODES	Surrey W.C.		23.32.31

London to Brighton and Back, 6/7 July 1913 (104 miles)

Started: 9		Completed 100 miles: 3	Finished: 3	Time at 100 miles	Time at finish
53	†	O.W. SUGDEN	?		23.11.54
54	†	F.J. FRECKER	Surrey W.C.		23.42.00

London to Brighton and Back, 24/25 October 1913 (104 miles)

Started: ??		Completed 100 miles: 2	Finished: 1	Time at 100 miles	Time at finish
55	†	J.E. BURWASH	Surrey W.C.	22.31.51	23.45.02
56	†	H. BLAKE	Woodford Green	22.43.20	

London to Brighton and Back 1914 (104 miles) Open race

Started: 9

Completed 100 miles: 7

Finished: 7

Health and Safety Veterans Race *(see Footnote)*

Started: 4		Completed 100 miles: 1	Finished: 2	Time at 100 miles	Time at finish
57	†	A.H. BEVIS	Surrey W.C.		22.09.01
58	†	G. HESKETH	Manchester W.C.	22.22.53	23.41.28
59	†	L. WILLIAMSON	Surrey W.C.	22.22.54	23.16.42
60	†	J.H. NELSON	Surrey W.C.	22.29.45	23.21.27
61	†	T.J. FRENCH	Queens Park H.	23.01.49	23.49.57
62	†	S.H. RUTTER	Surrey W.C.	23.34.35	24.47.12

(Footnote) It would appear from their entries, that Hesketh C58 and Williamson C59, reached the 100 mile point side by side. In fact, Hesketh being over 45 years of age, was competing in the “Veterans” race which had a 45 minute pre-start. The other Veteran to complete the course was Frank Penn of Croydon. Frank finished in 25.46.10 but was outside the 24 hour mark at 100 miles.

London to Brighton and Back 1921 (104 miles)

Started: 12		Completed 100 miles: 3	Finished: 3	Time at 100 miles	Time at finish
63	† (2)	E.C. HORTON	Surrey W.C.	19.08.20	19.50.41
64	†	J.B. BELCHAMBER	Belgrave H.	20.03.35	20.53.35
65	† (3)	J.N. THOMAS	North London H.	23.35.15	24.23.42

London to Brighton and Back 1926 (104 miles)

Started: 19		Completed 100 miles: 12	Finished: 14	Time at 100 miles	Time at finish
66	† (2)	W.F. BAKER	Queens Park H.	17.27.35	18.05.51
67	†	D. PAVESI	(Italy)	18.51.25	19.35.29
68	†	J.K. CHALK	Belgrave H.	19.03.30	19.45.28
69	†	R.J. HARGREAVES	Surrey W.C.	20.23.00	21.09.12
70	†	F WILMOT	Surrey W.C.	21.00.35	21.52.15
71	†	O.F. MAKEHAM	Garratt W.C.	21.28.10	22.14.56
72	†	L.M. WULCKO	Surrey W.C.	22.03.20	22.58.50
73	† (2)	B. WEBSTER-SMITH	Southgate H.	22.15.20	23.03.08
74	†	F.S. MORRIS	Hampstead H.	22.33.15	23.22.53
75	†	G. TOMPKINGS	Belgrave H.	22.33.15	23.26.23

London to Brighton and Back, 1929 (104 miles)

Started: 25		Completed 100 miles: 17	Finished: 15	Time at 100 miles	Time at Finish
76	† (3)	A.F. SPICER	Hampstead H.	19.26.40	20.19.12
77	†	F.R. SCOTT	Surrey W.C.	19.36.55	20.24.40
78	†	J.C. JOHNSON	Surrey W.C.	20.50.00	21.40.48
79	†	A.E.H. WINTER	Polytechnic H.	20.55.10	
80	†	R. CROOK	Ashcombe A.C.	21.01.00	21.52.38
81	†	H.J. DEVONSHIRE	Finchley H	21.21.56	22.19.55
82	†	A.E. COUSINS	Surrey W.C.	21.30.45	22.25.40
83	†	C.F. HAKANSON	South Shields H.	21.35.37	22.35.21
84	†	W.T. SHORE	Queens Park H.	21.29.34	22.34.45
85	†	C.H. CALDER	North Manchester A.C.	21.42.38	22.44.47
86	†	T.E. SEEDS	Valentines S.C.	21.46.06	22.53.08

87	†	J.J. TRAVELL	Queens Park H.	22.11.32	23.03.24
88	†	C.H.HILL	L.C.C. Tramways A.C.	22.24.13	23.37.56
89	†	W.N. BOYS	Finchley A.C.	23.15.04	24.18.31

London to Brighton and Back, 1933 (104 miles)

Started: 17		Finished: 10		Time at 100 miles	Time at Finish
90	†	D. GUM	Essex Beagles		18.53.07
91	†	A.G. WHITE	Belgrave H.		20.48.16
92	† (3)	J. PRIOR	Surrey W.C.		20.57.24
93	†	J.M. BURR	Dunlop W.C.		21.24.46
94	† (3)	A.D. McSWEENEY	Highgate H.		21.37.18
95	†	H. BEMBRIDGE	Dunlop W.C.		22.14.09
96	†	J.W. LOCK	Surrey W.C.		22.56.48
97	†	W.J. HARRIS	Valentines S.C.		23.37.20
98	†	A.N. HOLLAND	Essex Beagles	23.36.30	24.37.45
99		This number not allocated. See page 12 "The Stiff & Makeham Affair".			

Yorkshire W.C. 24 Hours Track Race (Bradford) 1936

Started: 25		Completed 100 miles: 14		Finished: 2	Time at 100 miles	Distance Miles yards
100	† (6)	T.W. RICHARDSON	Woodford Green A.C.		17.35.04	101.1230 (18hrs)
101	† (2)	G.P. BIRCHALL	Lancashire W.C.		19.40.35	
102	† (3)	J. O'NEILL	Lancashire W.C.		19.51.52	
103	† (2)	A.W. KING	Hampstead H.		20.22.25	
104	†	H.HOLMES	Yorkshire W.C.		21.05.39	
105	†	W. WHITEHEAD	Yorkshire W.C.		21.07.52	
106	†	H. KIRKBRIGHT	Yorkshire W.C.		21.35.27	
107	† (5)	G. HALL	Royal Sutton Coldfield		22.19.40	
108	†	S. REED	Yorkshire W.C.		22.29.46	
109	† (2)	H. BARRACLOUGH	Yorkshire W.C.		22.46.22	
110	†	W. PENNINGTON	Lancashire W.C.		22.54.10	
111	†	J. BROOK	Manningham All-Rounders		22.57.08	
112	†	J.E. MARSON	Yorkshire W.C.		23.14.27	

London to Brighton and Back, 1937 (104 miles)

Started: 17		Completed 100 miles: 11		Finished: 11	Time at 100 miles	Time at Finish
113	†	J.F.L. HENDERSON		Sussex W. C.	17.53.40	18.37.40
114	†	A.G. STIFF	"The Gaslight" Sports Assoc.		19.39.00	20.32.18
115	†	S. CLARK	Woodford Green A.C.		19.52.30	20.47.24
116	†	T.C. REYNOLDS	Surrey W.C.		20.24.20	21.16.09
117	†	W.F. COCKLE	Valentines W.C.		20.30.00	21.19.46
118	†	J.B.CROSS	Woodford Green A.C.		20.52.00	21.42.10
119	†	F.G.FULLALOVE	Essex Beagles		22.29.00	23.32.45
120	†	A.B.GRIGG	Sussex W.C.		22.29.45	23.29.45

Metropolitan W.C. 24 Hours Track Race, (White City) 1946

Started: 26		Completed 100 miles: 8		Finished: 4	Time at 100 miles	Distance Miles Yds
121	†	P.J. READING	Polytechnic H.		17.58.44	129. 749
122	†	N. SMITH	Yorkshire W.C.		19.32.25	118.1723
123	†	L. BARRETT	Enfield A.C.		19.45.24	119. 743

124	†	R. ANDREWS	Woodford Green A.C.	20.38.36	115.1380
125	†	C.F.D SUTTON	Belgrave H.	20.44.11	
126	†	F.N. LITTLEFAIR	Woodford Green A.C.	21.52.37	
127	†	R. MARTIN	Belgrave H.	22.16.57	

London to Brighton and Back, 1947 (104 miles)

Started: 28		Completed 100 miles: 17	Finished: 15	Time at 100 miles	Time at Finish
128	†	S.E. HORTON	Surrey W.C.	18.11.54	18.56.20
129	†	S.F. ABLE	Essex Beagles	18.40.08	19.30.14
130	†	M.Y. HORTON	Surrey W.C.	19.28.22	20.19.25
131	†	S.G. LAST	Polytechnic H.	20.08.23	21.02.14
132	†	W.G. SMITH	Portsmouth A.C.	21.04.18	21.54.29
133	†	L.E.LAMBERT	Gosport B.A.C.	21.04.37	21.53.10
134	†	L. COCKELL	Surrey W.C.	21.30.08	22.25.05
135	† (2)	C.C.CLEGG	Leicester W.C.	21.39.42	
136	†	F. O'NEILL	Lancashire W.C.	22.06.18	22.51.31
137	†	J.C.R.COOMBER	Highgate H.	22.27.36	23.23.15
138	†	L.H. TOUSAIN	Polytechnic H.	22.31.43	
139	†	G. WAKEMAN	Birmingham W.C.	22.46.54	
140	†	B. MARSHAM	Essex Beagles	22.53.08	23.50.07
141	†	G.G.SWAN	Surrey W.C.	23.11.04	
142	†	G.S. DOUBLEDAY	Belgrave H.	23.26.41	24.31.41

Surbiton Town Sports Club 24 Hours Track Race (Motspur Park) 1948

Started: 14		Completed 100 miles: 8	Finished: 6	Time at 100 miles	Distance Miles yards
143	†	A.J. STIRLING-WAKELEY	Belgrave H.	18.56.13	122.1411
144	†	L.W. WOODCOCK	Surrey W.C.	22.42.30	
145	† (20)	H.D.M.H NEILSON	Woodford Green A.C.	23.03.50	103. 442

Yorkshire W.C. 24 Hours Track Race (Bradford) 1949

Started: 23		Completed 100 miles: 11	Finished: 6	Time at 100 miles	Distance Miles yards
146	† (2)	W.F. WATSON	Lozells H.	20.26.56	112. 000
147	†	J.H. PERKINS	Yorkshire W.C.	21.18.07	
148		C. ROYLE	Lancashire W.C.	21.41.23	
149	†	P. LAMBERT	Metropolitan W.C.	22.33.10	105.1320
150	†	S.G. WILLETTS	Godiva H.	22.48.31	
151	† (2)	F.J. PLUMB	Sussex W.C.	23.03.47	104. 440
152	†	E. BLAKEMORE	Yorkshire W.C.	23.46.16	
153	†	H.G. ANGEL	Yorkshire W.C.	23.50.51	100.1340

London to Brighton and Back, 1951 (104 miles)

Started: 36		Completed 100 miles: 25	Finished: 20	Time at 100 miles	Time at Finish
154	†	C.E. WINGATE	Brighton & C.H.	18.55.38	19.40.54
155	†	D.H.A. CHRISTIE-MURRAY	Surrey W.C.	19.31.51	20.35.25
156	†	C. HUBERT	Asnieres S.C. (France)	19.32.38	20.18.15
157	†	J.W. HAYWARD	Enfield A.C.	19.55.31	20.48.54
158	† (6)	C.G. EVANS	Leicester W.C.	20.04.13	20.49.08
159	†	E.W. SHAW	Metropolitan W.C.	20.06.56	20.52.14
160	†	J.P. THOMAS	Enfield A.C.	20.21.55	21.12.11
161	†	M.Z.E. CAZALY	Surrey A.C.	20.25.21	21.14.40

162	†	R.P. GUILMAN	Polytechnic H.	20.50.13	21.34.30
163	†	F.J. REDMAN	Metropolitan W.C.	20.53.44	
164	†	J. WILSON	Belgrave H.	21.04.46	21.59.30
165	†	V.J. DILLON	Surrey W.C.	21.10.49	21.57.04
166	†	C.C. SAUNDERS	Highgate H.	21.16.28	22.17.02
167	†	W. LONGSHAW	Highgate H.	21.35.49	22.32.10
168	†	C.F. LEDGER	L.T. & T.B.S.A.	21.38.28	22.34.53
169	†	L.H. GRIFFITHS	Surrey W.C.	22.04.06	23.05.25
170	†	F.C. WOOLHOUSE	Surrey W.C.	22.08.07	
171	†	W.A. LOCKE	Steyning A.C.	22.10.31	23.02.17
172	†	H.A. CALLOW	Trowbridge A.C.	23.04.27	
173	†	H. STALLARD	Dover A.C.	23.20.04	
174	†	R.J. BOARD	Highgate H.	23.31.21	24.31.16

Bath to London, 1952 (100 miles)

Started:		Completed 100 miles:	Finished:	Time at 100 miles
175	†	G.B.R. WHITLOCK	Metropolitan W.C.	17.44.40
176	†	J.F. HOLDING	Woodford Green A.C.	19.07.41
177	†	T.B. KENT	Woodford Green A.C.	19.11.33
178	†	H. TAYLOR	Sheffield United H.	19.32.56
179	†	A.E. SHARP	Polytechnic H.	20.05.18
180	†	N. STEPHENSON	Sheffield United H.	20.08.30
181	†	S.G. SPENCER	Belgrave H.	20.09.45
182		J. HARTLEY	Sheffield United H.	20.47.19
183	†	R.G. HARROLD	Trowbridge A.C.	20.51.58
184	†	C.E. PHILLIPS	Trowbridge A.C.	20.51.58
185	† (3)	R.W. STONE	Coventry Godiva H.	21.16.08
186	†	W.T. MORRIS	Queens Park H.	21.22.42
187	†	C.M. GROOM	Walton A.C.	21.38.30
188	†	C.D. TURBAYNE	Polytechnic H.	21.38.30
189	†	R.J. TURNER	Walton A.C.	21.38.30
190	† (2)	H. SNOOK	Eastleigh	21.44.00
191	†	F.S. HERRING	Belgrave H.	21.50.00
192	†	J.H. JANSEN	Essex Beagles	22.10.32
193	†	J.F. BANFIELD	London Vidarians	22.15.01
194	†	R.A. DITCHFIELD	Lancashire W.C.	22.25.37
195	†	H.C. PAGETT	Lozells H.	22.28.17
196	† (2)	H. PEEL	Lozells H.	22.28.17
197	†	J.B.F. MORGAN	Newport	22.33.35
198	†	F.G. KAVANAGH	Brighton	22.50.26
199	† (1)	I. WILLIAMS	Coventry Godiva H.	23.08.15
200	†	F.J. HARMER	Herne Hill H.	23.13.45
201		J. LIDDLE	Surrey W.C.	23.26.14

Surrey W.C. 24 Hours Race (Motspur Park) 1953 (100 miles)

Started: 21		Completed 100 miles:10	Finished: 4	Time at 100 miles	Distance Miles yards
202	† (2)	V.W.G. STONE	Polytechnic H.	19.12.31	
203	†	W.P. EVERARD	Essex Beagles	19.37.39	119. 672
204	†	A.W. MARLER	Enfield A.C.	21.28.30	

Birmingham To London, 1953 (103½ miles)

Started: 53		Completed 100 miles: 29	Finished: 29	Time at 100 miles	Time at Finish
205	† (6)	A. STAINES	Leicester W.C.	18.50.59	19.34.35
206	†	H.C. CHARLES	Birmingham	19.28.52	20.17.30
207	†	E.M. WILDE	Royal Sutton Coldfield	19.54.45	20.40.32
208	†	T.W. LOWN	Essex Beagles	21.18.40	22.05.36
209		P.G. MALINS	Royal Sutton Coldfield	21.26.11	22.21.45
210	†	W.F. FALCONER	Wibsey Park H.	21.34.28	22.21.56
211	†	W.G. HOOD	Eastleigh A.C.	22.05.35	22.52.34
212		B.J. RAWLINGS	Leicester	22.07.52	22.53.40
213		W.S. YOUNG	Surrey A.C.	22.08.37	22.53.46
214	(2)	J.M. PRICE	Birmingham W.C.	22.14.12	23.10.27
215	†	J.A.D. MAGOG	Highgate H.	22.19.24	23.07.50
216	† (6)	W.D. SYMES	Queens Park H.	22.35.03	23.35.31
217	†	H. HARTILL	Lozells H.	22.44.23	23.35.31
218	†	J.G. SLAUGHTER	Highgate H.	22.54.38	23.49.33
219		G.A. THWAITES	Surrey W.C.	23.00.05	23.56.00

Blackpool to Manchester and Back, 1954 (100 miles)

Started: 42		1 DQ	Finished: 20	Time at 100 miles
220		G.J. BIRCHALL	Lancashire W.C.	19.32.27
221		T.L.M. DALLY	Lancashire W.C.	20.37.19
222	†	A. RIGBY	Sutton (Macclesfield)	21.35.15
223	†	J.W. LAMBERT	Lancashire W.C.	21.44.00
224	†	L.H. KING	Stock Exchange A.C.	22.40.35
225	†	G.D. BIRD	Sheffield United H.	22.40.35
226	†	C.F. HEWITT	Leicester W.C.	22.48.28
227		C.J. WOODHOUSE	Preston H.	23.02.31
228	†	E.E. RIDDELL	Lancashire W.C.	23.20.27

London to Brighton and Back, 1955 (104 miles)

Started: 72		Completed 100 miles: 47	Finished: 26	Time at 100 miles	Time at Finish
229	†	J.O. CULVER	Essex Beagles	18.31.55	19.26.27
230	† (2)	J. HAYWARD	Enfield A.C.	19.06.20	20.00.15
231	†	J.H. COMBER	Essex Beagles	19.26.55	20.28.00
232	†	L.S. FAIRMAN	Polytechnic H.	19.31.33	20.42.55
233	(7)	K. ABOLINS	Royal Sutton Coldfield	19.52.15	
234	†	T. MILNER	Highgate H.	19.55.25	21.02.05
235	†	H.W. SHIELDS	Belgrave H.	20.02.22	21.06.25
236	† (2)	T.G. SHARLOTT	Leicester W.C.	20.12.53	21.13.59
237	†	H.W. SHEPHARD	Polytechnic H.	20.37.09	21.43.30
238	†	H. JOHNSON	Trowbridge A.C.	20.45.20	21.46.24
239	†	T.H. THOMAS	Newport H.	21.14.57	
240	† (3)	J.H. PALMER	Peterborough A.C.	21.29.41	
241	†	D.H. ASHENDEN	Polytechnic H.	21.34.37	
242		S. SHIRELY	Polytechnic H.	21.37.52	22.38.54
243	†	R.E. STROWGER	Surrey W.C.	21.38.25	
244	†	W.G. LAWRENCE	Woodford Green A.C.	21.41.22	22.41.44
245	†	F.G. WELLSTEAD	Surrey W.C.	21.44.24	
246	†	P. WILSON	Belgrave H.	21.53.55	23.07.29
247	†	S.J. PRICE	Lozells H.	21.59.21	
248	†	A.H. FOSTER	Woodford Green A.C.	22.01.29	
249	†	P.A. JOBSON	Surrey W.C.	22.02.44	

250	†	(2)	J.R. TAYLOR	Highgate H.	22.04.51	23.20.20
251	†		C. WHITFIELD	Royal Sutton Coldfield	22.09.59	
252	†		J.J. GROCOTT	Lancashire W.C.	22.11.53	
253	†		G.A. BROWN (St. Dunstons)	Polytechnic H.	22.12.07	23.16.58
254	†		F. DUFF	Highgate H.	22.12.07	23.16.58
255	†		F. PEARCE	Lancashire W.C.	22.29.50	
256			V. MURRAY	Lancashire W.C.	22.29.50	
257	†		W.J. LASHMAR	Brighton A.C.	22.51.25	
258	†		F. JARVIS	Belgrave H.	23.25.22	
259	†		B. BUTTERWORTH	Lancashire W.C.	23.44.53	

Sheffield to Harrogate and Back, 1956 (100 miles)

Started: 38			Finished: 21		Time at 100 miles	
260	†		J.L. BARRACLOUGH	Lancashire W.C.	18.26.12	
261	†		R. SMITH	Lancashire W.C.	19.26.37	
262	†	(4)	N. HOPKINSON	Sheffield United H.	19.35.54	
263	†	(2)	I.E. PERCIVAL	Lancashire W.C.	20.40.53	
264	†		J. MORRIS	Staveley Works A.C.	20.52.30	
265	†	(7)	J.B. MARRIOTT	Leicester W.C.	21.32.57	
266		(19)	F.P. BAKER	Highgate H.	22.30.13	
267	†		E. LUDLAM	Yorkshire W.C.	22.31.47	

Bath to London, 1957 (100 miles)

Started: 61			Finished: 18		Time at 100 miles	
268		(2)	J.E. RIDLEY	Queens Park H.	18.12.04	
269			A. RESTA	Milan (Italy)	19.56.56	
270	†	(2)	V.T. WEBB	Coventry Godiva H.	21.16.56	
271	†		H.C. HOOPER	Polytechnic H.	21.56.06	
272	†		L.J. SOANE	Metropolitan W.C.	21.57.43	
273		(2)	H. MARTIN	Trowbridge A.C.	22.35.14	
274	†		C. HAYES	Trowbridge A.C.	23.23.02	

Leicester to Skegness, 1958 (100 miles)

Started: 41			Finished: 25		Time at 100 miles	
275		(3)	W.O. SMITH	Leicester W.C.	18.02.37	
276	†	(7)	F. O'REILLY	Lozells H. (Eire)	18.22.14	
277	†	(2)	J. WHITLEY	Yorkshire W.C.	18.58.13	
278	†		V.H. BURR	Birmingham W.C.	19.50.36	
279		(2)	H. FOREMAN	Leicester W.C.	19.53.52	
280		(3)	A. TOMPKINSON	Leicester W.C.	22.03.57	
281	†		J. ALEXANDER	Surrey W.C.	22.04.55	
282			L. LEHNER	Zurich (Switzerland)	22.06.33	
283	†	(2)	E. LEECH	Leicester W.C.	22.38.52	
284	†		V.R. WILSON	Worcester H.	22.44.26	
285	†		J.E. TODD	Lancashire W.C.	23.07.37	
286	†		J. COVINGTON	Surrey W.C.	23.28.18	
287			J.S. HARDY	Metropolitan Police Engineers	23.32.27	

London to Brighton and Back, 1959 (106 miles)

Started: 52		Completed 100 miles: 20	Finished: 9	Time at 100 miles	Time at finish
288	†	C. MEGNIN	Highgate H.	19.05.28	20.27.10
289	†	(5) S. McSWEENEY	Highgate H.	19.58.01	
290	†	(3) W.J. TRAER	Surrey W.C.	20.10.19	
291		(15) L. SCHOL	Suomi (Holland)	20.42.35	22.00.10
292	†	G.V. RHODES	Surrey W.C.	20.42.42	22.02.49
293	†	C.R. BOND	Ilford A.C.	20.43.42	
294	†	J. DERRICK	Leyland Motors A.C.	21.29.12	
295	†	(2) J.L. DENNIS (St. Dunstons)	Surrey W.C.	21.38.30	23.21.05
296	†	(5) E.J. ROGERS	Trowbridge A.C.	21.53.10	23.16.41
297	†	R.G. DICK	Highgate H.	21.57.44	
298		(6) T. TIDY	Steyning A.C.	22.02.26	
299		(12) J.H.T. EDDERSHAW	Sheffield United H.	22.25.55	
300	†	A.P. POTTON	Surrey W.C.	22.36.40	
301	†	(5) L.F. MORSE	Metropolitan Police	22.44.38	
302	†	(2) H. STAKENBURG	LAT (Holland)	23.54.33	

Leicester to Skegness, 1960 (100 miles)

Started: 45			Finished: 30	Time at 100 miles
303		H. HOLMES (Jnr)	Yorkshire W.C.	19.31.08
304	†	S.R. MANTOR	Enfield A.C.	20.36.58
305		M.F. MARSHALL	Woodford Green A.C.	20.59.54
306		A.J.COOPER	Leicester W.C.	21.41.47
307	†	H. TETLOW	Lancashire W.C.	21.51.24
308	†	(2) S.C. WYLES	Woodford Green A.C.	21.53.08
309	†	(4) B. OSBORN	Birmingham W.C.	22.55.25
310		(2) J. BILLINGTON	Leyland Motors A.C.	21.59.00
311		A. KIRKPATRICK	Leicester W.C.	22.35.06
312	†	R.H.WHITE	Yorkshire W.C.	22.36.49
313	†	D. CATTELL	Lozells H.	22.42.22
314		E. BILLINGHAM	Royal Sutton Coldfield	23.06.10
315	†	P. OBBENS	LAT (Holland)	23.24.06
316	†	(2) L MATHEWS	Surrey W.C.	23.40.45

Walton A.C. 24 Hours Track Race, 1960

Started: 15		Completed 100 miles: 9	Finished: 9	Time at 100 miles	Distance Miles yards
317		(3) C.A. YOUNG	Newham & Essex Beagles	17.48.05	131. 327

Metropolitan Police 'Chigwell 100', 1961 (100 miles)

Started: 42			Finished: 19	Time at 100 miles
318		(2) L.E. PIPER	Surrey W.C.	22.16.12
319		(2) W.N. COWLEY	Lancashire W.C.	22.28.30
320	†	(6) F.G. NICKOLLS	Surrey W.C.	22.41.06
321		N.A. KNOTT	Woodford Green A.C.	22.41.49
322	†	(2) B.F. ENNEW	Southend A.C.	22.57.45
323	†	J.P. COOPEY	Coventry Godiva H.	23.01.45
324		J. HARRIS	Bristol R.W.C.	23.23.44

Leicester to Skegness, 1962 (100 miles)

Started: 45			Finished: 26	Time at 100 miles
325	†	J. HAMPSHIRE	Wakefield H.	20.48.32
326		D. LE MARINEL	Jersey A.C.	20.59.27
327		G. GOODAIR	Wakefield H.	21.07.00
328		D.F. PARSONS	Godiva H.	22.01.31
329	(3)	P.J. MULDER	Tempo (Holland)	22.07.20
330	(2)	W.B. HOWARTH	Leyland Motors A.C.	22.09.27
331	(9)	J. DOWLING	Sheffield United A.C.	22.09.27
332		C.J. BOLTON	Lancashire W.C.	22.09.27
333		D.S. CAREY	Trowbridge A.C.	22.42.54
334	†	D. MONCRIEFF	Sheffield United H.	22.57.57
335	† (2)	R.C. WHITTLE	Stourbridge & District H.	23.12.43
336	†	J.R. FOZARD	Yorkshire W.C.	23.20.51
337		B.W. SCRIVENS	Royal Sutton Coldfield	23.45.30

Brighton to London and Back, 1963 (106 miles)

Started: 52		1 DQ	Completed 100 miles: 31	Finished: 20	Time at 100 miles	Time at finish
338	†	(2)	J.M. GOODALL	Woodford Green A.C.	19.45.22	20.41.29
339	†		W.T. HILL	Surrey W.C.	20.26.36	21.31.43
340			R.W. HYLAND	London Vidarians	20.47.17	
341		(2)	W.G. TUCK	Highgate H.	21.03.52	22.21.00
342			L.C. SIMMONDS	Unattached	21.06.40	
343	†	(3)	M. HODIAMONT	R.W.V. (Holland)	21.28.57	22.27.55
344	†	(2)	B. EGLINTON	Belgrave H.	21.28.57	22.27.55
345	†	(2)	C. YESCOMBE	Belgrave H.	21.28.57	22.27.55
346	†	(2)	H.G. DILLON	Yorkshire W.C.	21.34.55	23.52.06
347			D.B. HOPKINS	London Vidarians	22.24.10	
348			D.J. MELIA	Surrey W.C.	22.30.14	
349			D. O'SULLIVAN	Surrey W.C.	22.48.10	
350	†	(3)	A.W. BLATCHFORD	Epson & Ewell H.	22.50.06	
351	†		A.J. CLARKE	London Vidarians	22.51.46	
352	†		D.H. HILL	London Vidarians	23.01.53	
353	†		C.T. MASON	London Vidarians	23.02.34	
354			A. PARSONS	London Vidarians	23.25.20	

Leicester to Skegness, 1964 (100 miles)

Started: 57				Finished: 28	Time at 100 miles
355	†	(2)	S.S SMITH	Lancashire W.C.	20.28.38
356	†	(3)	C.J SHELLEY	Trowbridge A.C.	20.34.38
357		(2)	W. DUFFIN	Gosport A.C.	21.19.20
358	†	(3)	J.E. LEECH	Surrey W.C.	21.26.47
359	†		J. SMITH	Peterborough	21.33.19
360	†		H. HEKELAAR	Suomi (Holland)	22.14.10
361			G.M. BARRAS	Wakefield	22.23.18
362	†		R.E.YOULDON	Highgate H.	22.31.20
363			J.M. CARTWRIGHT	Wakefield	22.36.15
364	†		R. LOKEMA	LAT (Holland)	22.46.55
365	†	(3)	J. van der KWAAK	AV Leiden (Holland)	22.47.23
366	†		J.C. DRAPER	Woodford Green A.C.	22.53.00
367			E.J. SKIDMORE	Dudley & Stourbridge A.C.	23.02.55

Metropolitan Police 'Chigwell 100', 1965 (100 miles)

Started: 54		Finished: 30		Time at 100 miles
368	(2)	T.J. KON	AV40 Delft (Holland)	19.26.12
369	(13)	P.J. VOS	R.W.V. Holland	19.27.41
370		K. MUNRO	Cambridge H.	20.59.55
371		L.C. TAYLOR	Metropolitan Police A.A.	21.08.10
372	†	R.F. HODGES	Metropolitan Police A.A.	21.15.07
373		D. FOTHERINGHAM	Belgrave H/M.P.A.A.	21.31.09
374		W.F. NICHOLS	Cambridge H.	22.23.25
375	† (10)	E.A. McNEIR	Cambridge H.	22.32.10
376		J. KELLY	Millrose A.A. (U.S.A.)	22.53.07
377	(6)	H.J. DOORNEKAMP	AV Altis (Holland)	23.03.15
378	†	F.A. den ELZEN	AV40 Delft (Holland)	23.23.58
379	(2)	W. TIMMER	R.W.V. Holland	23.23.58
380	(5)	A. SINNEMA	LAT (Holland)	23.27.41

Leicester to Skegness, 1966 (100 miles)

Started: 84		Finished: 47		Time at 100 miles
381		R.S. THORPE	Wakefield H.	19.51.06
382		J.H. BARRACLOUGH	Yorkshire W.C.	20.22.22
383		G.P. YOUNG	Boundary H. (I.O.M.)	20.24.30
384	(2)	M.T. BLYTH	Leicester W.C.	20.26.15
385	(3)	J.J. NUTT	Leicester W.C.	20.34.44
386		E.K. LIVERMORE	Woodford Green A.C.	21.07.41
387	† (3)	M. KASTELIJNS	Telstar (Holland)	21.41.46
388	(5)	J.W. CANNELL	Boundary H. (I.O.M.)	21.45.21
389	(3)	P. JANSSENS	R.W.V. (Holland)	21.46.37
390	(2)	E. HORWILL	Dudley & Stourbridge H.	21.51.09
391		B. MAWER	Sheffield United H.	22.07.07
392	†	L.F. SCHOLTEN	LAT (Holland)	22.09.58
393		P. BORST	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.13.10
394	(3)	D.G. POOK	Hinckley College	22.20.05
395	† (6)	D.D. SEDDON	Royal Sutton Coldfield	22.35.24
396	† (2)	P. MASKELL	Metropolitan Police A.A.	22.39.53
397	(2)	K. KRUYMER	LAT (Holland)	22.46.20
398	†	D.R. HILL	Leicester W.C.	22.48.32
399	(4)	W. TEENSMA	LAT (Holland)	22.49.44
400	† (4)	C.G. van de HEUVEL	Prince Hendrick (Holland)	22.49.50
401	(2)	W.R. STAPLEFORD	Hinckley College	22.52.34
402	(2)	E. van WIERINGEN	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.55.05
403		M. van KUILENBURG	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.07.14
404	†	R. EENLING	AC Lionitas (Holland)	23.14.20
405	(6)	F. GERRISH	Metropolitan Police A.A.	23.21.56
406	†	W.R. MEIJER	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.24.57
407	(2)	G. COZIJN	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.41.46

London to Brighton and Back, 1967 (106 miles)

Started: 44		Completed 100 miles:16	Finished: 12	Time at 100 miles	Time at Finish
408		G. NICKEL	(Germany)	19.46.03	20.46.51
409	†	H.Z. DORRAS	Metropolitan W.C.	20.05.02	21.10.20
410		P. CASSIE	Steyning A.C.	21.21.14	22.19.44
411	(14)	W. MANSVELD	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.22.08	23.28.35
412	† (4)	G. REERINGH	LAT (Holland)	22.23.38	23.36.16

Leicester to Skegness, 1968 (100 miles)

Started: 56		Completed 100 miles: 14	Finished: 32	Time at 100 miles
413	†	(5) J.A. HEDGETHORNE	Essex Police	19.01.40
414	†	(2) J.A. HUDSON	Lancashire W.C.	19.20.52
415	†	R.P. MANNING	Wakefield H.	19.56.20
416	†	(2) J. ZWARTHOED	LAT (Holland)	20.52.05
417		(8) G.C. PETERS	LAT (Holland)	21.06.11
418	†	(2) F. van DUYNHOVEN	Helmondse (Holland)	21.23.50
419	†	J.R. REED	Southampton	21.58.38
420		G. TIGCHELAAR	LAT (Holland)	22.19.02
421		(2) D.E. JAMES	Royal Sutton Coldfield	22.19.12
422		D.H. TRIGG	Leicester W.C.	22.20.42
423	†	I. van HOUTE	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.25.27
424		M. HAGUE	Sheffield United H.	22.27.56
425		(3) D.J. MALYON	Printers F.C.	23.11.01
426		C. KRIJNEN	Telstars (Holland)	23.28.58
427		J. LEENDERTSE	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.43.00

Leicester W. C. 24 Hour Track Race, 1969

Started: 22		Completed 100 miles: 14	Finished: 14	Time at 100 miles	Distance Miles Yds
428		I. DOMANSKY	Lokomot, Kladno (Cz)	18.55.28	121. 64
429		E. LEE	Wakefield H.	21.10.37	105. 986
430		(6) P. SARGENT*	Worcester A.C.	23.10.58	102. 282
431		(2) P. BRIGGS*	Yorkshire W.C.	22.24.50	101. 888
432		J. GRAYSON	Wakefield H.	23.19.52	

* Centurions Sargent C.430 and Briggs C.431 were inadvertently allocated the wrong numbers. Sargent, who completed a greater distance in the 24 hours, was correctly recorded above Briggs in the results. A check on the intermediate timings of the race revealed that his 100 mile time of 23.10.58 is correct. His time was previously recorded in this handbook as 22.10.58. As this mistake was not discovered until 1997, these two Centurion numbers were not changed.

Bristol R.W.C. 'Bristol 100', 1969 (100 miles)

Started: 59			Finished: 30	Time at 100 miles
433		A. DAY	Lancashire W.C.	19.54.18
434	†	(3) A. ETCHES	Sheffield United H.	21.21.52
435		(3) T.M. CHORLEY	Bristol R.W.C.	21.35.54
436		L. GWINNELL	Bristol R.W.C.	21.35.54
437		F. WREY	Basingstoke A.C.	22.17.44
438	†	(5) D. NIEZEN	LAT (Holland)	22.21.45
439	†	(4) J. VIJVERBERG	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.21.46
440	†	(5) A. BRÜEL	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.21.47
441	†	(2) C. van MONTFORT	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.24.44
442		(7) A.J. SOETERS	LAT (Holland)	22.43.16
443		J.M. BRÜEL	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.08.08
444		J. van HELVOIRT	VOLT (Holland)	23.30.07
445	†	W.M. EVANS	Bristol R.W.C.	23.31.44
446		N.E. SCHROTEN	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.41.32
447	†	P. COX	Essex Police	23.45.11

Leicester to Skegness, 1970 (100 miles)

Started: 65		Finished: 31	Time at 100 miles
448		LAT (Holland)	19.18.50
449	†	Royal Sutton Coldfield	19.52.21
450		Birmingham W.C.	21.10.57
451	(2)	Birmingham W.C.	21.10.57
452	† (3)	Sheffield United H.	21.30.24
453	This number not allocated (see page 31 of Introduction)		
454		Trowbridge A.C.	21.51.30
455		LAT (Holland)	22.10.18
456	(19)	AVS (Holland)	22.27.29
457		Lancashire W.C.	22.50.35
458	(6)	Unattached	23.03.25
459	(2)	Bristol R.W.C.	23.10.33
460		R.W.V. (Holland)	23.10.33
461	†	Dudley & Stourbridge	23.51.27

Surrey W.C. 'Ewhurst 100, 1971 (100 miles)

Started: 73		Finished: 40	Time at 100 miles
462	†	Belgrave H.	16.55.44
463	(2)	LAT (Holland)	17.46.31
464	(12)	Brighton & Hove A.C.	18.26.33
465		R.W.V. (Holland)	19.20.30
466	(5)	Boundary H. (I.O.M.)	19.34.35
467		R.W.V. (Holland)	19.41.32
468		Brighton & Hove A.C.	20.02.13
469	†	Blackheath H.	20.09.48
470		C.A. Gembloux (Belgium)	20.18.14
471		Surrey W.C.	20.19.37
472	(2)	(W. Germany)	20.24.42
473	† (4)	Belgrave H.	20.49.27
474	(6)	Belgrave H.	20.49.27
475		Surrey W.C.	21.18.09
476		Metropolitan W.C.	21.50.05
477	(3)	R.W.V. (Holland)	21.51.03
478	† (3)	Sparta (Belgium)	21.50.03
479		Surrey W.C.	22.06.13
480		Surrey W.C.	22.06.13
481		LAT (Holland)	22.20.10
482		Calry (Eire)	22.24.04
483	†	Ontario (Canada)	22.27.15
484	(5)	Veternen (Holland)	23.07.23
485	†	Brighton & Hove A.C.	23.07.23
486	†	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.20.25
487		(Germany)	23.34.59

Leicester to Skegness, 1972 (100 miles)

Started: 65		Finished: 41	Time at 100 miles
488		Brighton & Hove A.C.	18.15.34
489	†	Brighton & Hove A.C.	19.35.20
490		Trowbridge A.C.	20.05.32
491	† (8)	Enfield H.	20.36.17
492		Ilford A.C.	21.29.17
493	† (2)	(Holland)	21.39.06

494		D. HARRIS	Dudley & Stourbridge	21.45.55
495		D. BUXTON	R.A.F. Chivenor	21.47.17
496		G.N. KUNST	LAT (Holland)	22.15.52
497	(6)	P.J. van ELSWIJK	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.29.25
498		J. van BEKKUM	LAT (Holland)	22.38.43
499	†	T. COX	Trowbridge A.C.	22.54.10
500	†	J. WILLIAMS	London Vidarians	23.02.54
501	(7)	J. RITTERBEEKS	Ceasar (Holland)	23.14.40
502		E. JONES	Lancashire W.C.	23.22.10
503		C. JANSSEN	Fortuna '67 (Holland)	23.25.27
504		R. BOXELL	R.A.F. Chivenor	23.33.25
505		G.CARTER	Surrey W.C.	23.36.00

Bristol R.W.C. 'Bristol 100', 1973 (100 miles)

Started: 53		Finished: 36		Time at 100 miles
506	(2)	A. PETERS	LAT (Holland)	19.12.13
507	(12)	G. TRANTER	Royal Sutton Coldfield	19.15.00
508		B.J. DAYMOND	Essex Police	20.13.42
509	† (5)	W. MAXWELL	Leyland Motors	20.52.29
510	(2)	J. van ANDEL	LAT (Holland)	21.09.07
511	†	J. van der BERGEN	R.W.V. (Holland)	21.17.22
512		R. FLYNN	London Vidarians	21.40.13
513	(2)	J.P. HURLEY	London Vidarians	21.58.26
514	(2)	W. van DOOREN	VOLT (Holland)	21.59.59
515		F. MOSTERT	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.18.51
516	(2)	K. FELLE	Verine (W. Germany)	22.25.48
517	(3)	J.W.ROSE	R.A.F. Innsworth	22.46.55
518	†	J. MORGAN	Bristol R.W.C.	22.49.21
519		A.C.BENJAMIN	Bristol R.W.C.	22.55.50
520	†	J. van ALFEN	LAT (Holland)	22.55.51
521	(10)	L. OOSTVOGELS	Fortuna '67 (Holland)	22.58.03
522		K. van ROSMALEN	LAT (Holland)	22.58.03
523	† (4)	G. BREITKREUTZ	B.T.G. (W. Germany)	23.00.56
524		J. van LEEUWEN	VOLT (Holland)	23.21.43
525		S.G. GARDNER	Boundary H. (I.O.M)	23.24.40

Leicester to Skegness, 1974 (100 miles)

Started: 64		1 DQ	Finished: 40	Time at 100 miles
526		P. MARKHAM	Leicester A.C.	18.46.31
527		D.P. NEAGLE	Ilford A.C.	19.15.11
528		J. VROOMEN	Ceasar (Holland)	19.51.32
529		R. VLOTMAN	Brighton & Hove A.C. (S.Africa)	19.55.23
530	†	J. STÜTZLE	V.F.L. Munderkingen (Germany)	20.09.34
531	† (2)	A.F. EDDLESTONE	Cambridge H.	20.29.17
532	(5)	E. HOEPFNER	T.S.V. Verden (Germany)	20.50.01
533		B.G.G. BORGST	R.W.V. (Holland)	21.27.58
534	(3)	E. WARNER	Leicester A.C.	21.53.36
535		A.G. BARBER	Ilford A.C.	21.59.59
536	(5)	F. WEISSENBOCK	Arbeiter (Austria)	22.18.46
537	† (5)	C. LOCKHORST	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.23.04
538	† (2)	W.S. ROW	Leicester A.C.	22.27.49
539	†	C.G. RUSHTON	Leicester A.C.	22.43.11
540		D.A. AINSWORTH	Ilford A.C.	22.44.41
541	† (6)	M. BRUIJL	LAT (Holland)	22.46.56

542	(2)	M. SARGENT	Worcester A.C.	22.50.56
543		T. HAGENBEEK	LAT (Holland)	23.20.05
544	(2)	D. de KLEIJN	LAT (Holland)	23.24.48
545	(4)	R.R. van der POORTEN	C.A. Turpange (Belgium)	23.25.08
546	†	R. MORRIS	Leicester A.C.	23.43.21

Surrey W.C. 'Ewhurst 100', 1975 (100 miles)

Started: 95			Finished: 56	Time at 100 miles
547	†	K. READ	Surrey W.C.	19.20.21
548		M. BROCK	Attila (Holland)	19.33.28
549	†	D.A. VALE	Surrey W.C.	19.43.30
550	†	M.E. TURNER	Brighton & Hove A.C.	19.49.10
551		D.C.W. ROSE	Cambridge H.	20.24.35
552		A. de BUCK	R.W.V. (Holland)	20.30.10
553	†	J.E. BROOKS	Unattached	21.21.15
554	† (6)	H. KRAAN	R.W.V. (Holland)	21.34.00
555		A. BEAN	Steyning A.C.	21.53.05
556		M. DAVITT	Cambridge H.	22.01.21
557	(2)	K.G. ROOST	Verlea A.C.	22.03.26
558	(2)	C. CLEPHAS	Heythuysen (Holland)	22.07.45
559	†	W.I.W. KUIJPERS	Kimbria (Holland)	22.13.49
560	(9)	J.P. van STEEN	Fortuna '67 (Holland)	22.32.51
561	(10)	A. LEERMAKERS	Attila (Holland)	22.34.50
562	(4)	J.A. ARTS	Fortuna '67 (Holland)	22.48.58
563	(6)	J.G. van WAKEREN	Unitas (Holland)	22.52.39
564		M.LOCH	Hamm (Germany)	22.52.39
565		B.E. ASHMEAD	Bristol R.W.C.	22.54.45
566	† (4)	D. van NUGTEREN	R.W.C. (Holland)	22.56.04
567	†	H. BERTENS	Attila (Holland)	23.08.21
568	(4)	P. PROVIS	A.S.C.H. Le Havre (France)	23.14.20
569		A. van der HOUT	Attila (Holland)	23.20.31
570	(2)	H. van OORT	Attila (Holland)	23.20.31
571		T. JANSEN	Attila (Holland)	23.20.31
572	†	W. BROUWERS	Attila (Holland)	23.20.31
573		E. TIETZ	Hamburg (Germany)	23.22.57
574	(3)	J.A. VERDAASDONK	Sprint (Holland)	23.49.36
575	†	M.M. HENDRIKX	Sprint (Holland)	23.49.36

Woodford Green A.C. 24 Hours Track Race, 1976

Started: 23		Completed 100 miles: 15	Finished: 8	Time at 100 miles	Distance Miles yards
576		G. EASTWOOD	Woodford Green A.C.	20.29.39	115.1705
577	(2)	J. ROSSITER	Enfield H.	21.02.43	
578		D. W. SHARPE	Newham A.C.	21.39.26	103.1434
579		A. PICKERING	Surrey W.C.	22.01.35	
580	†	G. HALLIFAX	Surrey W.C.	22.49.35	
581	†	K. R. TURNER	Woodford Green A.C.	22.53.36	
582		R. THEW	Yorkshire W.C.	23.09.54	
583	† (3)	D. REAVEY	Dawlish & South Devon	23.20.57	

Leicester to Skegness, 1976 (100 miles)

Started: 57			Finished: 38	Time at 100 miles
584	(4)	C. WESTON	Highgate H.	18.29.14
585		R. COLVER	Leicester W.C.	19.54.04

586	(2)	P. op 't BROEK	Noad/Ceaser (Holland)	20.20.09
587		D.J. PALFREMAN	Leicester W.C.	20.25.59
588		P. RÖHNER	R.W.V. (Holland)	21.09.43
589		A. DAYKIN	Dawlish & South Devon	21.16.27
590	(6)	E.H. SHILLABEER	Dawlish & South Devon	21.45.19
591		M.H. LOACH	Leicester W.C.	22.23.52
592	(2)	F. P. RÖHNER	Unitas (Holland)	22.51.36
593		R.F. WOUTERS	Noad/Ceaser (Holland)	22.55.08
594	(3)	O.S. HANSEN	Trongarosn (Denmark)	23.00.43
595		D.A. WISSEKERKE	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.06.54
596		A. GIJSELAERS	Noad/Ceaser (Holland)	23.15.48
597		J. LIMBERT	Leicester W.C.	23.33.52

Bristol R.W.C. 'Bristol 100', 1977 (100 miles)

Started: 84		Finished: 56		Time at 100 miles
598		J. PEEL	Hermes Club (Belgium)	20.30.34
599	(2)	ANN SAYER	Essex Ladies	20.37.14
600	†	D. BOLTON	Sheffield H.	20.44.50
601	†	W. WINSTONE	Trowbridge A.C.	21.32.14
602		J. MORRIS	L.D.W.A.	21.47.24
603		E. TUINSTR	LAT (Holland)	21.48.44
604	(5)	C. van der HEIJDEN	OLAT/Fortuna (Holland)	21.54.55
605	(3)	J.G. PEDDIE	Surrey W.C.	21.56.47
606		J.F. THOMAS	Bristol R.W.C.	21.57.19
607		P. van der KOP	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.02.28
608		DIANNE PEGG	Medway A.C.	22.05.30
609	† (2)	M. van der KOLK	LAT (Holland)	22.07.00
610		J. van der MEER	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.07.00
611	† (5)	E.J. WINYARD	L.D.W.A.	22.13.20
612		E. MURRAY	Lancashire W.C.	22.25.17
613		F. MULLER	Heythuysen (Holland)	22.30.17
614		M. GREAVES	L.D.W.A.	22.36.02
615	(7)	P. TIERENTIJN	A.C. Turnhout (Belgium)	22.47.44
616		J. van HEES	Adelaar (Holland)	22.48.44
617		B. BREEN	Lancashire W.C.	22.50.58
618	(2)	L. TIMMERMANS	OLAT/Fortuna (Holland)	23.13.51
619		B. MORRIS	L.D.W.A.	23.16.58
620		E. CARELS	Grimbergen (Belgium)	23.22.53
621	†	K. WARD	Dawlish & South Devon	23.30.05
622		B. COPP	Weymouth & St. Pauls	23.31.09
623	(2)	C. BASTIAANSEN	Fortuna '67 (Holland)	23.32.05
624	(2)	J.P. JAMET	A.S.C.H. Le Havre (France)	23.40.44
625	(2)	P. EMERY	Enfield H.	23.41.17
626		F. HAGEN	(Norway)	23.52.52

Leicester to Skegness, 1978 (100 miles)

Started: 64		Finished: 41		Time at 100 miles
627		J. HEYWOOD	Leicester W.C.	18.19.00
628		L. SCHWATRZ	C.A. Spora (Luxembourg)	19.28.18
629	(2)	D. MAASSEN van der BRINK	R.W.V. (Holland)	20.17.18
630	(9)	J.W. DIJKGRAAF	LAT (Holland)	20.33.52
631	† (4)	D.J. THOMPSON	Metropolitan W.C.	20.46.48
632	† (8)	P.W. HASTINGS	L.D.W.A.	21.56.26
633	(2)	G. van LONDERSELE	KAC Eendracht (Belgium)	22.10.44

634		T. BAKKER	OLAT/Fortuna (Holland)	22.34.20
635		G. DOWLING	Yorkshire W.C.	22.37.00
636	(2)	A. KENT	Leicester W.C.	22.44.56
637		ANNIE FRENKEN	Kimbria (Holland)	22.47.58
638	(2)	L. SPRIETSMA	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.47.59
639	(3)	M.H. TROMP	OLAT/Fortuna (Holland)	22.47.59
640	(5)	K. BAKKER	OLAT/Fortuna (Holland)	22.47.59
641		H. van WEZEL	LAT (Holland)	23.03.03
642		R.K. EVANS	L.D.W.A.	23.08.28
643		J. van KEMPEN	Unitas (Holland)	23.11.56
644		J. van der HOEFF	OLAT/Fortuna (Holland)	23.23.29
645		F. BLEHER	T.S.G. Ehingen (Germany)	23.25.42
646		MINI STARRENBURG	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.28.41
647		H. den BREEJEN	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.32.40
648		G. HIBBERD	South Yorkshire Police	23.40.18
649	†	J. van der LINDEN	LAT (Holland)	23.43.44
650	(2)	ADRIE van DIRVEN	Achilles (Holland)	23.48.18

Surrey W.C. 'Ewhurst 100' 1979 (100 miles)

Started: 107		Finished: 78		Time at 100 miles
651		J. KOOISTRA	LAT (Holland)	19.24.59
652	†	R.I.M. PURKIS	Metropolitan W.C.	19.35.45
653		G. DUFLOU	Olympia (Belgium)	20.18.20
654		E. BISHOP	L.D.W.A.	21.02.59
655		R.W.EATON	Woodford Green A.C.	21.25.00
656	(4)	F. DOLAN	Lancashire W.C.	21.33.14
657	†	S. GRAVES	Lakeland A.C.	21.33.14
658		J.D. MOORE	L.D.W.A.	21.39.04
659		J. VRIELING	LAT (Holland)	21.51.30
660	(5)	H.W.C. OKKES	R.W.V. (Holland)	21.52.56
661	(2)	M. BARNBROOK	Cambridge H.	21.59.05
662		B.J.M.EVERS	LAT (Holland)	22.02.58
663		L. WELLEKENS	Ajax S.V. (Belgium)	22.07.49
664	(3)	J.R. WESTCOTT	L.D.W.A.	22.19.17
665		J. van RIJSWIJK	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.19.29
666		A.A. WIJSMAN	Fortuna '67 (Holland)	22.25.14
667		J.W.M. DRIJVERS	Attila (Holland)	22.31.38
668		S. BOLLE	Maisons Lafitte (France)	22.37.46
669		K.W.J. MASON	Surrey W.C.	22.43.10
670	(2)	A. BAINBOROUGH	Dawlish & S. Devon	22.44.42
671	(2)	R. WEIDMAN	C.S.M. Epinay (France)	23.01.37
672		J.P.L. van der HOEVAN	Olympus '70 (Holland)	23.16.27
673		A.W. ARMSTRONG	L.D.W.A.	23.16.58
674	†	J. HEIDENDAAL	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.18.11
675	(5)	J. COOLEN	Fortuna '67 (Holland)	23.27.42
676		W.H. HULSMAN	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.35.04
677	†	G. DUERINCKX	A.C. Maraton (Belgium)	23.36.04
678		J.F. LACOURT	E.S. Colombes (France)	23.37.23
679	†	P. de RIJTER	Fortuna '67 (Holland)	23.38.27
680	†	J. LOYENS	A.C. Turnhout (Belgium)	23.38.27
681		F. MACHET	A.S.C.H. (France)	23.40.53
682	(3)	K.J. SAUNDERS	L.D.W.A.	23.41.50
683	†	G.H. WOODS	Southend A.C.	23.43.42
684		M. INGER	A.S.C.H. (France)	23.44.13
685		A.F. PERKINS	Ilford A.C.	23.45.47
686		C. HAYES	Cambridge H.	23.55.15

Leicester W.C. 'Leicester 100', Congerstone 1980 (100 miles)

Started: 98		Finished: 64		Time at 100 miles
688	(12)	A.J. COLLINS	Holloway Polytechnic	18.04.51
689	†	P.C. DELBEKE	Kortrijk Sport (Belgium)	19.15.50
690	(2)	T. BICKE	Vlierzele Sportief (Belgium)	19.51.46
691	(3)	A.A. van ANDEL	R.W.V. (Holland)	19.52.31
692	(3)	P. van LEUR	OLAT (Holland)	19.52.32
693		J. ERINGTON	York Postal W.C.	20.20.58
694	(2)	C. BENT	Leicester W.C.	20.39.17
695		E. GROCOCK	Sheffield United W.C.	20.42.51
696	(5)	D. STANIFORTH	Sheffield United W.C.	20.44.41
697	(2)	M. JONES	Leicester W.C.	20.58.37
698	(2)	E. DOBSON	Border H.	21.02.50
699		W. GRICE	Yorkshire W.C.	21.05.15
700		C.B.O. DEDEL	OLAT (Holland)	21.43.18
701		D. LONG	York Postal W.C.	22.02.15
702	†	D.L. WILKINSON	Leicester W.C.	22.14.07
703		J.P. MONNIER	C.S.M. Epinay (France)	22.24.57
704		B.M.K. CHESTERTON	L.D.W.A.	22.25.37
705	†	R.B. BROWN	L.D.W.A.	22.35.00
706	†	L.P. HEY	Lancashire W.C.	22.44.54
707		J. GRIMLEY	L.D.W.A.	22.57.03
708		C.A. SNOEIJIS	Attila (Holland)	23.06.16
709	†	M. POWELL-DAVIES	L.D.W.A.	23.15.11
710	(3)	I. McLEOD	Unattached	23.15.17
711		E. MacDERMID	G.E.C. Whetstone A.C.	23.22.25
712		R.C. HODGKISS	Southampton & Eastleigh	23.28.34
713		H. CHARPENTIER	C.S.M. Epinay (France)	23.36.14
714		M.R. BOOTH	Enfield H.	23.37.56
715	†	A. OLBERT	Union Brunn (Austria)	23.48.15

Brighton and Hove A.C 24 Hours Track Race, 1981

Started: 20		Completed 100 miles 11	Finished: 14	Time at 100 miles	Distance Miles yards
716	(3)	G. BEECHAM	Belgrave H.	22.45.12	104. 557

Leicester W.C. 'Leicester 100', Congerstone 1982 (100 miles)

Started: 77		DQ: 1	Finished: 55	Time at 100 miles
717		M. HOLMES	York Postal W.C.	17.21.52
718		IRENE CORLETT	Boundary H. (I.O.M.)	18.54.05
719		W. CARR	York Postal W.C.	19.24.40
720	†	R. STORER	Leicester W.C.	19.26.43
721	† (2)	R.S. PORTER	Metropolitan W.C.	20.24.05
722	(2)	A.D. van OIJEN	OLAT (Holland)	20.59.33
723	(2)	A. RADDER	OLAT (Holland)	21.09.45
724	(3)	R. MICHELL	Surrey W.C.	21.13.26
725		AAF de RIJK	LAT (Holland)	21.15.58
726		B. GALE	Trowbridge A.C.	21.23.32
727		J. MAEBE	OLAT (Belgium)	21.25.14

728		F.T.B. HART	Leicester W.C.	21.31.14
729	† (2)	H. COENEN	Unitas (Holland)	21.32.53
730	(2)	G. VLUGGEN	Unitas (Holland)	21.37.17
731	(2)	J. SAVELBERG	Unitas (Holland)	21.37.17
732	(6)	J. BELLWOOD	York Postal W.C.	21.44.10
733		M. COPE	E.Y.O.C.	21.50.09
734	(3)	J. DUNSFORD	Belgrave H.	22.12.40
735	(24)	SANDRA BROWN	L.D.W.A.	22.18.24
736	(7)	G. DAVIES	Dawlish & S. Devon	22.49.17
737		R. CORLETT	Boundary H. (I.O.M.)	22.54.43
738	(2)	R. BARNSELEY	A.J.A.R.S.	22.54.43
739		D. COOPER	Unattached	23.06.01
740		R.B. MOSS	York Postal W.C.	23.13.16
741		W. JOHNSON	York Postal W.C.	23.13.16
742	(5)	D. MOWBRAY	York Postal W.C.	23.13.16
743		M. PICKARD	Epsom & Ewell	23.26.17
744		J. BAERT	Unitas (Holland)	23.27.22
745		M. EVERAERS	Unitas (Holland)	23.37.35
746	†	J. SCOTT	Cleveland Nuclear A.C.	22.38.14
747		L. KEPPELS	Unitas (Holland)	23.44.19
748		E. du MAINE	OLAT (Holland)	23.45.38
749		R. HUNT	Unattached	23.57.56

Surrey W.C. 'Ewhurst 100', 1983 (100 miles)

Started: 84		Finished: 54		Time at 100 miles
750		C. LAWTON	Belgrave H.	17.51.51
751	(7)	W. van den WITTENBOER	OLAT (Holland)	19.42.07
752		M. JONES	R.A.F. & Dawlish & South Devon	19.56.59
753	(2)	A. den HARTOG	R.W.V. Holland	20.12.09
754		J. SCHMIDT	OLAT (Holland)	20.27.18
755	(3)	E. van HERPE	Racing Club Ghent (Belgium)	20.38.00
756		R. DAY	Belgrave H.	20.38.00
757	(2)	L. WILLEMSE	A.C. Turnhout (Belgium)	20.42.44
758		D. SLOT	LAT (Holland)	20.49.06
759		J. SCHARMIN	Brussels A.V. (Belgium)	20.54.25
760	(16)	R.A. BROWN	Surrey W.C.	21.03.49
761		K. EMSLEY	Corby A.C.	21.26.36
762	(2)	R. THACKER	Lancaster & Morecambe A.C.	21.40.45
763		C. KLIJN	LAT (Holland)	21.46.25
764	† (5)	J. WISSINK	R.W.V. (Holland)	21.53.21
765		A. CARTWRIGHT	Unattached, Guildford	21.54.18
766		D. EARL	Steyning A.C.	21.54.18
767		W. van RIEMSDIJK	LAT (Holland)	22.02.36
768		S. TILL	Surrey W.C.	22.13.18
769		A. TOP	Brussels A.V. (Belgium)	22.19.29
770		P. van GEMERT	LAT (Holland)	22.20.31
771		B. van HOEF	OLAT (Holland)	22.42.30
772	(5)	D. TIMMERMAN	Racing Club Ghent (Belgium)	22.55.03
773		C. van DIJK	OLAT (Holland)	23.08.33
774		B. PURCHASE	Steyning A.C.	23.20.52
775	(2)	G. RENEERKENS	Unitas (Holland)	23.25.51
776		W. BROUWER	OLAT (Holland)	23.36.37
777		H. WOUTERS	Unitas (Holland)	23.57.00

Leicester W.C. 'Leicester 100', Congerstone 1984 (100 miles)

Started: 68			Finished: 31	Time at 100 miles
778		B.ADAMS	Leicester W.C.	17.39.28
779		K.W. JAMESON	York Postal W.C.	19.25.38
780		L. MELIS	A.C. Turnhout (Belgium)	21.41.40
781		T. KEMP	L.D.W.A.	22.33.18
782	(4)	D. BAKER	Royal Sutton & Birmingham	22.50.17
783	(7)	MARLEEN WILLEMS	OLAT (Holland)	23.19.29
784		HILDA KROLS	A.C. Turnhout (Belgium)	23.20.14
785		J.F. MURPHY	York Postal W.C.	23.36.40

Colchester A.C. 24 Hour Track Race, 1985

Started: 31		Completed 100 miles 15	Finished: 18	Time at 100 miles	Distance Miles yards
786	(3)	R. DOBSON	Ilford A.C.	20.58.25	104. 876
787	(4)	D. COX	Chelmsford A.C.	22.25.47	104. 433
788	(22)	M. FISHER	Yorkshire R.W.C.	22.58.45	100. 467
789	(5)	O.M. BROWNE	Ilford A.C.	23.05.49	100.1242
790		R. SIMMONS	Sheffield United W.C.	23.14.58	101. 560
791		A. O'RAWE	Southend A.C.	23.26.12	100.1250
792	(2)	I. BRADWELL	Medway A.C.	23.38.34	100. 999
793		CAROL BEAN	Steyping A.C.	23.49.05	100.1008

Woodford Green A.C. 'Hew Neilson 100' Track Race 1986

Started: 27		Completed 100 miles 18	Finished: 18	Time at 100 miles	Distance Miles yards
794		P. CARROLL	Yorkshire R.W.C.	22.08.22	105.1066
795	(2)	P. GORDON	Unattached	22.24.02	105.1015
796		G. FISHER	Yorkshire R.W.C.	22.33.09	100. 440
797		A. CHANDLER	Lancashire W.C.	22.37.01	103. 904
798		PAULINE WILSON	Loughton A.C.	23.39.55	101. 613

Leicester W.C. 'Leicester 100', Congerstone 1986 (100 miles)

Started: 59			Finished: 33	Time at 100 miles
799	(4)	C. KEOWN	Boundary H. (I.O.M.)	21.08.05
800	(11)	P.K. PEDERSEN	Postens M.F. (Denmark)	21.08.46
801		C.H. van DELFT	LAT (Holland)	21.08.52
802	† (4)	R.R.L. LE MOINE	Surrey W.C.	21.18.42
803	(6)	N. RASMUSSEN	M.K. Morrevang (Denmark)	21.42.22
804	(2)	R. de ROOVERE	A.C. Lierse (Belgium)	21.46.07
805		A.G. THACKER	Leicester A.C.	21.50.24
806		P.W. BAXTER	Leicester A.C.	22.34.37
807	† (5)	G. BEATTIE	Medway A.C.	22.38.03
808	(2)	PIA RIJPLOEG-EISEMA	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.48.45
809	(2)	E. HORBER	T.L.A.V. Thurgau (Switzerland)	22.49.42
810		M. JANSEN	LAT (Holland)	22.50.07
811	(3)	R. OSGOOD	Havant A.C.	23.01.13
812		F. van de BURG	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.19.13
813		J. OERLEMANS	OLAT (Holland)	23.16.28
814	(2)	M. van de WIJST	OLAT (Holland)	23.18.53
815		D. BLAND	Unattached	23.19.13
816		L. MASSOP-ZWEMMER	LAT (Holland)	23.20.06

Surrey W.C. 'Ewhurst 100', 1987 (100 miles)

Started: 54		Finished: 38	Time at 100 miles
817		Surrey W.C.	20.14.34
818		R.W.V. (Holland)	20.26.13
819		OLAT (Holland)	21.43.36
820	(3)	Boundary H. (I.O.M.)	21.56.45
821		R.W.V. (Holland)	22.11.26
822	†	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.41.07
823		R.W.V. (Holland)	22.43.11
824		Merseyside Fire Brigade	23.08.24
825	(8)	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.28.44
826		OLAT (Holland)	23.36.50
827	(2)	OLAT (Holland)	23.40.52

Leicester W.C. 'Leicester 100', Congerstone 1988 (100 miles)

Started: 75		Finished: 47	Time at 100 miles
828		Boundary H.	18.34.56
829	(3)	Leicester W.C.	19.15.58
830		OLAT (Holland)	20.33.59
831	(2)	L.I.F.A. (France)	20.48.33
832		R.W.V. (Holland)	20.49.53
833		Attila (Holland)	21.19.15
834	(2)	OLAT (Holland)	21.21.32
835		R.W.V. (Holland)	21.24.37
836		Houtland A.C. (Belgium)	21.32.13
837		LAT (Holland)	21.46.07
838	(9)	London Vidarians	21.50.20
839	(4)	LAT (Holland)	22.22.30
840		OLAT (Holland)	22.58.38
841		R.W.V. (Holland)	23.00.48
842		R.W.V. (Holland)	23.00.48
843		L.D.W.A.	23.14.50
844		LAT (Holland)	23.18.50
845	(3)	Newham & Essex Beagles	23.53.27
846		LAT (Holland)	23.53.31

Metropolitan Police W.C. 'Arthur Eddlestone 100' Hendon 1989

Started: 77		Finished: 42	Time at 100 miles
847	(2)	OLAT (Holland)	19.39.42
848		Cambridge H.	19.48.00
849	(20)	London Vidarians	20.17.28
850	†	A.C. Herentals (Belgium)	20.44.43
851		OLAT (Holland)	20.46.47
852	†	OLAT (Holland)	21.09.49
853		Medway A.C.	21.27.56
854		Cambridge H.	21.51.01
855		Belgrave H.	22.04.58
856		Enfield H.	22.12.51
857	(2)	T.L.A.V. Thurgau (Switzerland)	22.41.58

858		S.J. BENNETT	Ilford A.C.	22.42.18
859	(15)	K.F. WATTS	London Vidarians	22.54.53
860		P. ADDISON	Havering A.C.	22.57.00
861		U. KAMM	SC Prinz Eugen (W. Germany)	23.03.36
862		I. ELLMORE	L.D.W.A.	23.07.02
863		C. MITCHELL	Cambridge H.	23.17.52
864		J. REMANDE	Individual (France)	23.37.53
865		K. WILSON	L.D.W.A.	23.47.00
866		M. CRAWLEY	L.D.W.A.	23.49.31
867		J. BURTON	L.I.F.A. (France)	23.54.55

Leicester W.C. 'Leicester 100' Hungarton 1990 (100 miles)

Started: 55		Finished: 31		Time at 100 miles
868		J. MAISENBACHER	Kampfelbach (Germany)	21.34.28
869		P. KOKS	R.W.V. (Holland)	21.57.56
870		M. BYRNE	Sheffield United W.C.	22.00.10
871		L. CREO	Worcester A.C.	22.20.55
872		W. LAWRENCE	Basingstoke A.C.	22.24.38
873		B. WATKINSON	York C.I.U.	22.25.53
874		J. KOOLEN	OLAT (Holland)	23.02.28
875		JEAN BLEACH	Steyning A.C.	23.22.47
876	†	RENEE SCOTT	Bolton United H.	23.27.21
877		D. LONG	L.D.W.A.	23.30.43
878		R. LAUSMANN	S.G. Weilimdorf (Germany)	23.37.10
879		G. MESSMER	S.G. Weilimdorf (Germany)	23.37.10
880		H. CHRISTENSEN	M.K. Morrevang (Denmark)	23.50.03

Surrey W.C. 'Ewhurst 100' 1991 (100 miles)

Started: 45		Finished: 31		Time at 100 miles
881	(5)	L.A.D. WATSON	Surrey W.C.	21.17.26
882	†	T. JONGEN	Attila (Holland)	21.46.12
883		R. van HARDEVELD	LAT (Holland)	22.18.17
884		D. BROWNLEE	L.D.W.A.	22.33.20
885		G. FOOT	L.D.W.A.	22.50.27
886	(3)	C. PUNSELIE	OLAT (Holland)	23.09.52
887	(2)	C. RIJNDORP	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.17.46
888	(2)	D. APPLETON	Folkestone A.C.	23.37.26
889	†	J. BAKKER	LAT (Holland)	23.43.58
890		W. M.S. SUTHERLAND	Highgate H.	23.49.36

Leicester W.C. 'Leicester 100', Hungarton 1992 (100 miles)

Started: 59		Finished: 28		Time at 100 miles
891		D.R. CASTIAU	Sambre E.T. Meuse (Belgium)	21.45.11
892	(2)	C. DURAND	Attila (Holland)	22.09.50
893		R. WALLWORK	Lancashire W.C.	22.26.07
894		J. HACK	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.48.21
895	†	J. STELLO	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.48.21
896		H. CILLESSEN	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.54.03
897		P. DUNCAN	Belgrave H.	23.01.11
898	(9)	JILL GREEN	London Vidarians	23.13.59
899		I. GARMSTON	Lancashire W.C.	23.16.24

Surrey W.C./Met. Police W.C. 'London 200K' 1993 (24 Hours)

Started: 105		Completed 100 miles: 53		Finished: 58	Time at 100 miles	Distance Kilometres
901		A. RADIONOV		Olympic S.C. (Russia)	17.32.30	22.04.39
902		C. BERWICK		Leicester W.C.	17.57.07	
903		D. VANDENDAUL		C.A. Brabant (Belgium)	18.52.40	24.13.27
904		J. CECILLON		C.P. Neuilly sur Marne (France)	18.52.40	23.52.13
905		J. REMY		L.M.A. Meung sue Loire France)	19.45.45	184.000
906		N. HERMS		U.S. Torcy (France)	20.12.52	180.000
907		LILLIAN MILLEN		Kendal A.C.	20.13.15	
908		J-C le COMPTE		A.C. Tamines (Belgium)	21.30.07	176.000
909	(4)	P.S. BHATTI		Birchfield H.	21.51.46	168.000
910		A. van der HOFF		R.W.V. (Holland)	21.52.16	
911		G. den OUDEN		R.W.V. (Holland)	21.59.25	172.000
912	(9)	K. PERRY		Southend A.C.	22.02.32	
913	†	H. PASCAL		Y.A.C. Maisons Laffite (France)	22.04.33	172.000
914		M. ARIS		Surrey W.C.	22.22.35	168.000
915		H. RENNIE		Cambridge H.	22.23.19	
916		H. van der HOFF		R.W.V. (Holland)	22.35.28	
917	(2)	A. V'T OOR		R.W.V. (Holland)	22.08.40	
918		M. SMEETS		R.W.V. (Holland)	23.15.15	
919	(3)	R. WICHE		OLAT (Holland)	23.15.15	
920		J.M.W. REESINK		R.W.V. (Holland)	23.21.59	
921		M. LEWIS		Trowbridge	23.31.21	
922		G. NEDERLOF		R.W.V. (Holland)	23.34.31	
923	(2)	CHRISTINE GRAY		Surrey W.C.	23.36.34	
924		M. MEHEUST		C.P. Neuilly sur Marne (France)	23.43.56	
925		R. HEINDRYCKX		N.L. (Belgium)	23.57.12	

Leicester W.C. 'Leicester 100', Hungarton 1994 (100 miles)

Started: 34			Finished: 13	Time at 100 miles
926		B. ASHWELL	Leicester W.C.	20.31.54
927	†	(2) W. MUTZE	R.W.V. (Holland)	20.43.50
928		R. COLE	York C.I.U.	23.30.16

Surrey W.C. 'Battersea Park 100' 1995 (100 miles)

Started: 65		1 DQ	Finished: 32		Time at 100 miles
929	(3)	C. de JONG		R.W.V. (Holland)	19.49.47
930	†	(2) B. MILLEN		Kendal A.C.	22.28.25
931	†	D. ZOETARDT		Vita (Belgium)	22.40.21
932		T. DAMEN		Attila (Holland)	22.59.59
933		KATHY CRILLEY		Surrey W.C.	23.05.21
934		PAMELA FICKEN		Surrey W.C.	23.09.53
935		B. YATES		Worcester W.C.	23.17.19
936		D. KATES		Ilford A.C.	23.20.39
937		P. VERSTRAETEN		Vita (Belgium)	23.23.12
938	(11)	H. van der KNAAP		R.W.V. (Holland)	23.32.40
939	(2)	R. PLATT		Southend A.C.	23.33.41
940		MAUREEN COX		Manx H. (I.O.M.)	23.36.43
941		K. CARDOZO		Rowens Club	23.38.50

London Vidarians W.C. 'Colchester 100' 1996 (100 miles)

Started: 39	1 DQ	Finished: 26	Time at 100 miles
942	(2) A. BOERTJES	R.W.V. (Holland)	18.33.14
943	P. de BEER	LAT (Holland)	20.45.47
944	(10) J. VISSER	R.W.V. (Holland)	20.52.31
945	(2) W. VERVOORT	Attila (Holland)	22.58.53
946	G. ROBERTSON	Colchester H.	23.10.45
947	J. FENTON	Birchfield H.	23.20.42
948	G. PAYNTON	L.D.W.A.	23.24.50
949	(7) F. LEIJTENS	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.36.14
950	(3) SUSAN CLEMENTS	L.D.W.A.	23.42.37
951	† J. EVERETT	Colchester H.	23.47.37
952	H. RENSEN	A.V. Athletics (Holland)	23.48.18

Wodson Park, Ware, 24 hours Track Race 1997

Started: 23 DQ: 2 Completed 100 miles: 11 Finished: 14

Despite pleasant weather, a well prepared track and good organisation no new Centurions emerged from this race. It saw Sandra Brown C.735 secure a comfortable win over Per Kleis Pedersen C.800, with Chris Flint C.849 taking the Men's UK national title.

Manx Harriers "Isle of Man Walk " (100 Miles) 1998

Started: 39		Finished: 11	Time at 100 miles
953	R. HUGHES	Manx Harriers (I.O.M.)	22.15.48
954	A.KNEALE	Manx Harriers (I.O.M.)	22.55.05
955	L.NICQUE	Volharding (Belgium)	23.03.34
956	(4) S.COX	Manx Harriers (I.O.M.)	23.51.30

Surrey W.C. "Battersea Park" 100 mile/24 Hrs 1999

Started: 60	DQ: 1	Completed 100 miles: 34	Finished: 39	Time at 100 miles	Distance Miles yards
957	(9)	M.DEKKER	R.W.V. (Holland)	19.18.26	115.50
958		M.COLLINET	Liège (Belgium)	19.21.22	
959	(2)	H.NEUBACHER	A.A.Aachen (Germany)	21.40.38	105.00
960		T.van der POL	R.W.V. (Holland)	21.42.19	
961		CHRISTINA ELSENGA	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.34.28	105.50
962		R.GORDIJN	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.39.25	
963		C.CATTANO	Southend A.C.	22.44.19	105.00
964		N.van HAGEN	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.51.05	
965		R.van MEENSEL	R.W.V. (Belgium)	23.29.22	
966	(6)	J.LEIJTENS	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.30.36	
967		H.LITTEL	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.33.06	

“Captain Barclay Millennium Challenge” Newmarket (200km/24 hr) 2000

Started: 54		DQ: 1	Completed 100 miles: 22	Finished: 23	Time at 100 miles	Final Miles/Time
968	(5)	I.G. STATTER		Surrey W.C.	19.11.12	120.0/23.35.55
969		V.KAZANTSEV		Krok Minsk (Belarus)	19.45.13	118.0/23.33.14
970		P.CANTERS		OLAT (Holland)	20.53.52	
971		KAREN BRØGGER		Phoenix (Denmark)	21.46.30	
972	(4)	P.KING		Belgrave Harriers	22.48.59	
973		J.PAYN		Lancashire W.C.	23.10.10	
974		MAUREEN LATHAM		Isle of Wight A.C.	23.35.46	
975		D.ELDRIDGE		Isle of Wight A.C.	23.35.46	
976		N.W. SMITH		L.D.W.A.	23.46.02	
977	(6)	P.van der KROFT		R.W.V. Holland	23.55.27	

London Vidarians W.C. “Hedgethorpe 100” Colchester 2001

Started: 47		DQ: 2	Completed 100 miles: 15	Finished: 15	Time at 100 miles
978		H.van BROEKHOVEN		R.W.V. (Holland)	20.08.47
979		C.AROSANYAN		Surrey W.C. (Nigeria)	21.40.44
980	(8)	R.de WOLF		R.W.V. (Belgium)	22.43.10

Lancashire Walking Club 24 hour Track Blackpool 2002

Started: 35		Completed 100 miles: 19	Finished: 23	Time at 100 miles	Distance Kilometres
981		J.HARDY	Lancashire W.C.	22.00.20	161.200
982	† (2)	J.STUBBS	I.O.M. Vets A.C.	23.18.59	164.650
983	(3)	H.FAIRHURST	Lancashire W.C.	23.31.27	162.239

Surrey W. C. London Vidarians Newmarket (100 Miles) 2003

Started: 72		DQ: 1	Finished: 31	Time at 100 miles
984		P.RYAN	City of Sheffield A.C.	19.57.35
985		SILVIANE VARIN	Unattached (France)	20.34.58
986	(3)	CATH DUHIG	Ryston Runners	21.27.43
987	(5)	D.JONES	Yorkshire R.W.C.	21.39.08
988	(2)	P.ALTEA	L.A.T. (Holland)	21.44.04
989		W.BOTMAN	L.A.T. (Holland)	21.56.48
990		J.BISPHAM	Kendal A.C.	22.14.17
991	(2)	A.ZOON	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.22.11
992		M.VANDEVOORDE	R.W.V. (Belgium)	22.31.29
993	(2)	A.SHORT	L.D.W.A.	22.45.37
994	(2)	F.DEVOGHT	R.W.V. (Belgium)	22.53.19
995		J.de VOS	L.A.T. (Holland)	22.57.58
996		J.van GORP	R.W.V. (Belgium)	22.58.46
997		A.WILMOT	Halstead Road Runners	23.33.19
998		D.EVANS	Lancashire W.C.	23.40.16
999		J.SEARSON	Spartan A.C.	23.49.22
1000		WENDY WATSON	L.D.W.A.	23.50.11

London Vidarians W.C. Colchester (100 Miles) 2004

Started: 48	DQ: 1	Finished: 24	Time at 100 miles
1001	(4) K.MARSHALL	Ilford A.C.	21.01.27
1002	G.van HAANDEL	R.W.V. (Holland)	21.40.08
1003	R.PITTS	Isle of Man Vets A.C.	21.53.20
1004	(2) CONNIE RAIJMAKERS	OLAT (Holland)	22.11.54
1005	(2) H.RAIJMAKERS	OLAT (Holland)	22.11.54
1006	SHARON GAYTOR	Redcar R.W.C.	22.41.08
1007	H.PRINSEN	OLAT (Holland)	22.58.00
1008	E.WESTERHOFF	OLAT (Holland)	22.58.00
1009	(3) B.HULISELAN	OLAT (Holland)	23.06.49
1010	D.ADAM	OLAT (Germany)	23.21.59
1011	P.KOOLEN	OLAT (Holland)	23.21.59
1012	M.IMMINK	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.40.27
1013	REMKE RUTGERS	L.A.T. (Holland)	23.48.55

The Norfolk 100 mile Challenge 2005

Started: 69	DQ: 1	Finished: 38	Time at 100 miles
1014	(2) S.HANDS	Manx Harriers (I.O.M.)	19.02.57
1015	ROSEMARY CRELLIN	Unattached (I.O.M.)	21.33.59
1016	(2) E.HARKIN	Unattached (I.O.M.)	21.33.59
1017	M.LAMBIOTTE	Marcheurs Florette (Belgium)	21.41.00
1018	(2) W.VERMEULEN	R.W.V. (Belgium)	22.12.59
1019	(2) F.DERIJCKE	R.W.V. (Belgium)	22.21.12
1020	KIM HOWARD	Southend A.C.	22.23.39
1021	T.PLATE	R.W.V. (Holland)	22.37.10
1022	(5) F.van der GULIK	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.02.23
1023	K.WILKINSON	Unattached (I.O.M.)	23.02.32
1024	D. O'TOOLE	Unattached (I.O.M.)	23.08.42
1025	H.de VRIES	OLAT (Holland)	23.16.54
1026	J.BORELLO	A.A.Kirkeby (Denmark)	23.17.36
1027	S.CALLISTER	Unattached (I.O.M.)	23.18.09
1028	J.FLIPSE	R.W.V. (Holland)	23.44.45
1029	R.HOLLANDS	Unattached	23.47.58

I.O.M Vets A.C. "Douglas I.O.M." (100 miles/24 hours) 2006

Started: 76	Completed 100 miles: 31	Finished: 42	Time at 100 miles
1030	SUE BIGGART	I.O.M. Vets	20:08:19
1031	(3) M. SOBCZAK	OLAT (Holland)	20:16:26
1032	M. GEORGE	Manx H. (I.O.M)	20:34:16
1033	CATHERINE LOWEY	Unattached (I.O.M.)	20:50:32
1034	J. WADDINGTON	I.O.M. Vets A.C.	20:57:42
1035	A. GOSNELL	I.O.M. Vets A.C.	21:21:20
1036	T. MOFFATT	Unattached (I.O.M.)	21:43:10
1037	M. BIESMANS	LAT (Holland)	22:13:40
1038	(2) A. TITLEY	I.O.M. Vets A.C.	22:19:59
1039	S SILLE	I.O.M. Vets A.C.	22:28:22
1040	A. KINVIG	I.O.M. Vets A.C.	22:29:39
1041	D. DOYLE	I.O.M. Vets A.C.	22:41:54
1042	T. van der BERG	LAT (Holland)	22:47:03
1043	D. CHAMBERS	Unattached (I.O.M.)	22:48:05
1044	D. LOOKER	Unattached (I.O.M.)	22:57:21
1045	E. DIKKEN	OLAT (Holland)	23:01:39

1046	M. BELLANDO	Unattached (I.O.M.)	23:08:05
1047	ANNE OATES	Unattached (I.O.M.)	23:08:05
1048	JACKIE CAMPBELL	Manx H. (I.O.M)	23:19:33
1049	TERRI SALMON	Unattached (I.O.M.)	23:19:33
1050	C. CALE	Manx H. (I.O.M)	23:21:12
1051	G. HAIN	A.U.R.A. (Australia)	23:31:54
1052	G. EVANS	I.O.M. Vets A.C.	23:40:00
1053	M. GELLION	I.O.M. Vets A.C.	23:45:29
1054	(3) H. VANDEPUTTE	R.W.V. (Holland)	23:55:39

Surrey W.C. Battersea Park (100 miles) 2007

Started: 54		Finished: 28	Time at 100 miles
1055	ANNIE van der MEER	R.W.V. (Holland)	21:18:00
1056	D.F. HAWKINS	Milton Keynes A.C.	21:57:13
1057	H. VOORTMAN	LAT (Holland)	22:32:42
1058	(2) L. SCHAEERLAECKENS	Sparta Bornem (Belgium)	22:41:28
1059	K. KOHLER	Unattached (Germany)	23:07:10
1060	C. WEVERBERGH	OLAT (Belgium)	23:10:38
1061	CAROLINE MESTDAGH	R.W.V. (Belgium)	23:37:45
1062	R. SCHOORS	R.W.V. (Belgium)	23:37:45

Milton Keynes A.C. "Milton Keynes Track 100 miles" 2008

Started: 25		Finished: 17	Time at 100 miles
1063	V. MENNEN	A.V. Unitas Sittard (Holland)	19.33.48
1064	I. RICHARDS	Steyning A.C.	19.37.11
1065	P. HUNTJENS	A.V. Unitas Sittard (Holland)	23.07.24
1066	B. AUSTIN	Milton Keynes A.C.	23.45.18
1067	(2) S. PENDER	Enfield & Haringey A.C.	23.56.11

Barclay Bicentenary Newmarket (100 miles) 2009

Started: 53		Finished: 28	Time at 100 miles
1068	G. HEUNKS	RWV Rotterdam (Holland)	20.49.27
1069	M. WALL	Leicester Walking Club	21.08.39
1070	MARIE-PAULE VANDENABEELE	OLAT St.Oedenrode (Belgium)	22.25.06
1071	CAROL BAIRD	A.C.T. R.W.C. (Australia)	22.34.05
1072	J. KONING	SV de LAT Amsterdam (Holland)	23.01.59
1073	M. HAUMESSER	Villeneuve a Ascq (France)	23.05.39
1074	B. BLOM-HERTBEEK	SV de LAT Amsterdam (Holland)	23.07.48
1075	S. KEMP	Unattached (Essex)	23.21.20
1076	A. TRIGG	Leicester Walking Club	23.21.41
1077	J. ASSELBERGHS	OLAT St.Oedenrode (Belgium)	23.23.29
1078	M. SUTTON	Ilford A.C.	23.45.18

London Vidarians W.C. Colchester (100 Miles) 2010

Started: 25

1079 J.M. BERNARDO
 1080 BERNIE BALL
 1081 R.W. SPENCELEY
 1082 C. PEETERS

Finished: 13

C.A.B. Siurell (Spain)
 Manx Harriers (I.O.M.)
 Yorkshire R.W.C.
 S.V. de LAT (Holland)

Time at 100 miles

21:48:31
 22:56:03
 22:56:03
 23:23:15

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Some Centurion Statistics

The following list shows the international breakdown of the 1080 Centurions listed in this handbook.

Country	Men	Ladies
Great Britain	679	28
Holland	246	13
Belgium	45	3
France	19	1
Germany	17	-
Denmark	5	1
Austria	2	-
Russia	2	-
South Africa	2	-
Switzerland	2	1
Italy	2	-
Australia	1	1
Belarus	1	-
Canada	1	-
Czechoslovakia	1	-
Eire	2	-
Luxembourg	1	-
Nigeria	1	-
Norway	1	-
U.S.A.	1	-
Spain	1	-
	1032	48

Mens Qualifying Times

THE FAST ONES <i>Those under 18 hours</i>			THE NOT SO FAST ONES <i>or those with excellent pace judgement!</i>		
462	J. Moullin Ewhurst 1971	16.55.44	749	R. Hunt	23.57.56
717	M. Holmes Leicester 1982	17.21.52	926	R. Heindryckx (Belgium)	23.57.12
66	W.F. Baker London to Brighton & Back 1926	17.27.35	777	H. Wouters (Holland)	23.57.00
901	A. Radionov(Russia) London 200 kms/24 hours 1993	17.32.30	686	C. Hayes	23.55.15
100	T.W. Richardson York 24 Hour Track Race 1936	17.35.40	687	W. Bakker (Holland)	23.55.15
778	B. Adams Leicester 1984	17.39.28	867	J. Burton (France)	23.54.55
175	G.B.R. Whitlock Bath to London 1952	17.44.40	302	H. Stakenburg (Holland)	23.54.33
463	N. van't Hoff (Holland) Ewhurst 1971	17.46.31	846	H. Ruyter (Holland)	23.53.31
317	C. Young Walton 24 Hour Track Race 1960	17.48.05	845	B. Wagstaff	23.53.27
750	C. Lawton Ewhurst 1983	17.51.51	626	F. Hagen (Norway)	23.52.52
113	J.F.L. Henderson London to Brighton & Back 1937	17.53.40	1067	S. Pender	23.56.11
902	C. Berwick London 200 kms/24 hours 1993	17.57.07	1054	V. Vandeputte (Belgium)	23.55.39
			977	P. van der Kroft (Holland)	23.55.27

The Ladies

THE FAST ONES *Those under 19 hours*

THE NOT SO FAST ONES *or those with excellent pace judgement!*

718	Irene Corlett Leicester 1982	18.54.05	793	Carol Bean	23.49.05
907	Lillian Millen London 200 kms/24 hours 1993	20.13.15	650	Adri van Dirven (Holland)	23.48.18
599	Ann Sayer Bristol 1977	20.37.14	950	Susan Clements	23.42.37
725	Aaf de Rijk (Holland) Leicester 1982	21.15.58	1000	Wendy Watson	23.50.11
1055	Annie van der Meer (Holland) Battersea Park 2007	21.18.00	1013	Remke Rutgers (Holland)	23.48.55
985	Sylviane Varin (France)	20.34.58			

Centurions with 8 or more completions of 100 miles
or further within 24 hours

735	Sandra Brown	24	Winner 2004. Winner : 1997 (Track), Joint Winner 1992. 23 times 1st Lady
788	Martin Fisher	22	
145	Hew Neilson	20	Winner : 1995, 1960 (Track, 1965
849	Chris Flint	20	
266	Fred Baker	19	
456	Gerrit de Jong	19	
760	Richard Brown	16	Winner : 1986, 1988, 1990, 1991, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1998. Joint Winner 1992
291	Lieuwe Schol	15	
859	Ken Watts	15	
411	Wim Mansveld	14	
369	Jan Vos	13	
299	John Eddershaw	12	
507	Geoff Tranter	12	Winner : 1981 (Track)
464	Dave Boxall	12	Winner : 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1979, 1980
688	Tony Collins	12	
938	Hans van der Knaap	11	
800	Per Kleis Pedersen	11	
521	Louis Oostvogels	10	
375	Eddie McNeir	10	First completion aged 65, 10th aged 75
561	Ad Leermakers	10	Winner 2002 (Track)
944	Jaap Visser	10	
146	Willy Watson	9	
331	Paddy Dowling	9	
560	Jack van Steen	9	
630	Jan Willem Dijkgraaf	9	
838	Bob Watts	9	
912	Kevin Perry	9	
898	Jill Green	9	
957	Marcel Dekker	9	
107	George Hall	8	
265	Jim "Whiskers" Marriott	8	
417	Gerrie Peters	8	
491	Peter Worth	8	24 hour Winner, 1985 Track
630	Jan Willem Dijkgraaf	8	
632	Phil Hastings	8	
825	L. Houben	8	
158	Cyril Evans	6	
216	Bill Symes	6	

Previous Editions of the Centurions Handbook

	Published	Containing Nos	Covering period to:
1st Edition	August 1913	1 - 54	July 1913
2nd Edition	May 1921	1 - 62	July 1914
3rd Edition	December 1929	1 - 89	June 1929
4th Edition	July 1938	1 - 120	June 1937
5th Edition	May 1951	1 - 153	September 1949
6th Edition	July 1958	1 - 274	July 1957
Addendum	December 1959	275 - 302	July 1959
7th Edition	May 1971	1 - 461	July 1970
1st Addendum		462 - 487	June 1971
2nd Addendum		462 - 505	July 1972
8th Edition	March 1979	1 - 650	July 1978
9th Edition	February 1988	1 - 827	June 1987
Addendum	December 1991	828 - 890	June 1991
10th Edition	September 1997	1 - 952	July 1997
Addendum	December 2005	953 - 983	July 2005
Addendum	December 2007	953 - 1062	July 2007
11th Edition	December 2010	1 - 1078	December 2010

