

CENTURIONS 1911



Captain's letter

July 2013

Dear Fellow Centurions

There is not long to go now until the IOM 100 miles event, which will be the Centurions' qualifying event and the RWA long-distance championship.

Centurion and RWA 100 Miles Event – IOM, 3-4 August 2013

To date, an amazing 95 entries have been received for the 100 miles. Our warm thanks to the organising team in the IOM for all their hard work to put on this event: we are immensely grateful. We look forward enormously to returning to the IOM and being part of this great celebration of long-distance walking. The IOM has a fantastic and quite unique walking culture and many first class walkers, and we hope to see many walkers qualify to become Centurions.

In addition to the 100 miles event, and an option to see how far you can go in 24h, the weekend also incorporates a starlight 20 miles walk, which was very popular and a great success in 2006. There is something for everyone! The circuit is a flat, half mile, road circuit.

For more information, see the link on our website www.centurions1911.org.uk

Social Walk in the West Country, 29 June 2013

The last weekend in June saw a happy band gather at Bristol Temple Meads station on a sunny and warm summer's day for the Centurions' 20 miles social walk from Bristol to Bath.

Centurions – Steve Kemp, Wendy Watson, Chris Flint, Kathy Crilley, Ann Sayer, Richard Brown and myself – were joined on the walk by family and friends who walked all or part of the distance.

It seemed particularly fitting and joyful that our President, Ann Sayer, took part in this walk as it was on the Bristol 100 that she qualified in 1977 to become our first lady Centurion.





At Bristol Temple Meads to see us off was John Webb, GB 20kms race-walker in the 1968 Mexico Olympics. John, who lives close to the Bristol-Bath walk-way/cycle path, cycled to Bristol for the start of our walk, and met us again at Bitton station, centre of the heritage railway and our lunch stop. I have sent John thanks and best wishes on behalf of all Centurions.

Our route took us along the old railway path from Bristol to Bath, information boards reminding us of the railway's role transporting coal from the long-disappeared Bristol collieries, before the path gives views of the River Avon valley with its rolling hills and pretty villages.

Arriving in Bath, we had a walking tour of some highlights of the city, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and an interesting place to visit. Bath is deservedly a popular tourist destination, but we managed not to lose anyone among the throng, though the galleries and shops offered strong temptations! After tea, we joined the Kennet and Avon canal to walk the short, interesting section of the towpath where the canal arrives in Bath down a flight of locks, before finishing at Bath bus and rail stations.

Photos of the party and a note on some sites of Bath are on our website www.centurions1911.org.uk

Let us have your ideas and suggestions for future social walks. Could you offer to lead one?

I look forward to seeing many of you in the next few weeks, at the National 50kms, the IOM 100, and at Roubaix's 60th edition of the 28h walk.

My very best wishes to you all

Sandra Brown, C 735, Captain randsbrown@btinternet.com