

Captains Christmas Letter 2018

Dear fellow Centurions,

Seasons greetings to you all, it has been an honour and privilege to represent you all as Captain this year.

Sadly, I have to report the sad deaths of our friends Ken Cardozo C941, Donald "Jimmy" James C421, Jan Vos C369, Ron Eaton C655, Peter Emery C625, Derek Pook C394 and Doug Fotheringham 373, we will remember them all and our thoughts are with their family and friends.

I would like to thank the Committee for their support and welcome new additions of David Jones and Richard Cole, our new treasurer. Richard took over from Richard Brown at last year's AGM and I would like to again thank Richard for his work for us all over the years.

Our next AGM will be on the 26th of January at the Bankside Community Space Southwark and hope as many will attend as possible. It is a good chance to catch up with fellow Centurions and to discuss the way forward. The motions passed at the AGM have a significant impact on us and its an opportunity to have your voice heard. We already we have the date announced for Castletown 2019 and plans going forward for 2020 Colchester.

This year's 100-mile event was organised by Graham Young and his team on the Isle of Man at the National Sports Centre Douglas, with 22 athletes facing the starter on the track. The pleasant weather in the morning gave way in the evening to stormy conditions over night and this had quite an effect on the field. We are indebted to the helpers who manned the feeding tables and gave encouragement in the stormy hours, also to our dedicated team of Judges who ensured the rules were adhered to, we thank you all.

David Talcott was the first home in 18h:55mins:41 secs with Karen Chiarello second and first Lady in 20h:07mins:56sec. Paul Jansen was third in 20h:52mins:45secs with Frank van der Gulik taking the 24-hour race. A detailed account is available on the website. There were 13 finishers and as each athlete walked up to the 100 mile mark the sense of achievement was clear to see; this race remains as much the sporting challenge now as ever.

I am pleased to welcome eight new Centurions:

Dave Talcott - Centurion 1188

Paul Jansen - Centurion 1189

Ignace Matthys - Centurion 1190

Dale Farquhar - Centurion 1191

Kris Hazenbosch - Centurion 1192

Marcus Bloemerts - Centurion 1193

Patrick Vandeweyer - Centurion 1194

Annic Denman - Centurion 1195

In December, Centurions were invited to the CVN reunion in Broek op Langedijk. It was an opportunity to socialise, with an interesting museum and boat trip and committee members Sue Clements, Chris Flint, myself and President Eric Horwell were on hand to present Centurion badges to new Centurions who attended. The meeting was also a

chance to show our appreciation of the support given to our event and thank our Dutch Centurions for their friendship.

Throughout the year Centurions have competed at events with distinction from 100 mile and masters events across the world to Winter and Essex leagues at home it reflects the versatile athletes we are, remember to wear the badge with pride. I know that already many will have personal goals for 2019 and I hope the race in Castletown will be among your plans either to race or support. Your Captain will be there on the road with you.

My best wishes to you all and in time honoured tradition please join myself and Centurions world wide in raising a glass at 2pm on Christmas day. The toast is “The Centurions”

Happy Christmas and the best for the New Year.

Martin Fisher C788

Captain - Centurions 1911