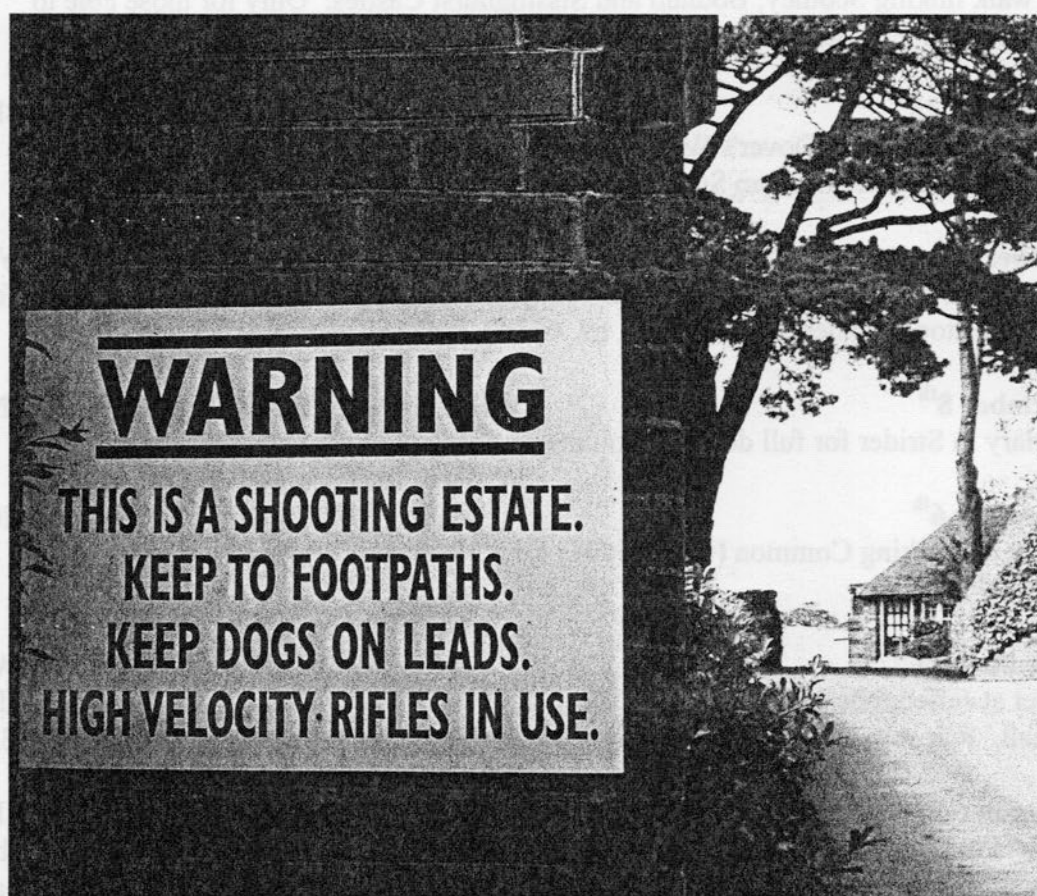


LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION — KENT GROUP

aims: to further the interests of those who enjoy long distance walking

NEWSLETTER



Freedom to Roam? You have been warned!



Number 67

August 2005

LDWA KENT GROUP WALKS PROGRAMME.....August to December 2005

Sunday August 14th

LENHAM LOUNGE

C. 20 ml. Meet at car park in centre of Lenham (GR 898522) for 8.30am start. Landrangers 178/188/189, Explorer 148. Pub stop. Leader: Ernie Bishop, tel. [REDACTED].

Saturday September 10th

WHITE CLIFFS FIFTY Marshals' Walk

For those who are willing to help on the main event. For details contact Gordon Harker, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Note – you do not have to do the marshals' walk in order to help on the main event!

Contact Mike Pursey ([REDACTED]) with offers of help.

Sunday September 18th

LES TROIS CHATEAUX

C. 34 ml. Meet for prompt start at 7.30am at Cranbrook car park near windmill (GR 776359)

Unsupported walk linking Scotney, Bodiam and Sissinghurst Castles. Only for those able to complete the distance. Pub stop. Leader: Maurice Faircloth, tel. [REDACTED]

Sunday September 25th

ROUND DOVER RAMBLE

C. 18 ml. Meet at car park on Dover's Western Heights (GR 314409) for 9am start.

Pub stop at Guston. Leader: Graham Smith, tel. [REDACTED]

Sunday October 2nd

TT FOR TWO

Tolsford Toddle 2 revisited. C. 26 ml. Meet at Village Hall car park, Lympne, (GR 120349) for 8.00am start. Pub stop. Leader: Mike Pursey, tel. [REDACTED]

Saturday October 8th

WHITE CLIFFS FIFTY (MAIN EVENT)

See Events Diary in Strider for full details. Volunteers needed to help with checkpoints, etc.

Sunday November 6th

FAR THING FROM THE COMMON

C. 20 ml. Meet at Farthing Common (GR 136404) for 8.30am start. Pub stop. Leader: Mike Pursey, tel. [REDACTED]

Sunday November 13th

FISH AND CHIPS AGAIN

C.20 ml. Meet at Jefferstone Lane, St. Mary's Bay (GR 090275) for 8.00am start. Park in roadside near village hall. Pub stop (fish and chips optional) Leader: Graham Smith, tel. [REDACTED]

Sunday December 4th

ANNUAL FAMILY LUNCH & WALK

This will be held at "The King's Arms", Meopham Green. A traditional Christmas lunch will be preceded by a short, gentle walk, suitable for all the family, starting at 10 am. Full details and a booking form are included as a separate sheet enclosed with this newsletter.

Wednesday December 28th

SEVENOAKS TWENTY SOCIAL WALK

Leader: Brian Buttifant – details will be in December issue.

Friday January 6th

WINTER NIGHT WALK

C. 20 ml. Meet at 9.30pm for 10.30pm start at the Rose and Crown pub, Wrotham (GR 612592). Leader: Ivan Waghorn, tel. [REDACTED]

Sunday January 29th

GROUP AGM

Ryarsh Village Hall. Details to be announced in December issue.

PUB MEETINGS continue to be held on the first Monday of each month (except if that coincides with a Bank Holiday, when they are postponed to the second Monday) at the Rose & Crown, Wrotham. Meetings commence at 8.30 p.m. All welcome.

COMMITTEE

Chairman.....

Secretary.....

Treasurer.....

Members.....

Social Walks Prog

Footpath Problems

Newsletter Editor.....Laurie Lowe.....

Notes from the Minutes of the June Committee Meeting:-

Membership of the Group now stood at 87 and 11 had been lost by failure to renew their subscriptions. Garfield Southall had sent by email, spreadsheets for all the local groups, with a request to check the 2000 not allocated to any group. Bill had not had time to look at the details but would in due course. Garfield also asked about whom in the group would need website privilege for updating the event details. Bill is to seek clarification of what is intended.

Sevenoaks Circular: - Brian B reported that Raleys had been booked for 19th March for the event next year at a charge of £110. The same route would be kept for another year and the 14 mile option retained. Entry forms need to be updated and to be ready for the White Cliffs. The grid reference for the car park could be added to emphasise that it is not at the start. There are about 40 badges in stock which should be enough for two years.

Future Hundreds:- An appeal needs to be put in the next newsletter to see how many might be prepared to help with marshalling at the Northumbria 100 next year.

A letter of thanks needs to be sent to all who helped at the Kent checkpoint for the Chiltern 100 in May. Bill is to collect the names of all concerned and prepare a draft letter for Brian B. Ivan should be able to help with names. Keith said that he found the Kent checkpoint to be one of the most welcoming. Congratulations need to be extended to Graham Smith on his first hundred and to all Kent finishers.

There was no news yet about the mid-Wales 100 in 2007.

Group badges: - Various samples of the new logo were considered. Tom Sinclair had sent a sample with the indication that any new logo would need National Committee approval but that was thought unnecessary. Keith is to produce a colour scheme for consideration at the next AGM.

Floor covering:- Bill read out an email from Laurie about the problems of storing the plastic sheet for covering hall floors and proposing the purchase of a 100m roll of thinner plastic that would be easier to store and provide about 25 sheets which could be thrown away after each use. The committee was not keen on the idea, with reservations about the weight of such a roll, suitability of the thinner sheet and reluctance to lose the existing durable sheets. It was decided that first an appeal should be put in the newsletter to see if anyone had suitable facilities and would be able to store the existing sheets. **See page 4.**

CHILTERN LANDMARKS HUNDRED – Results

Marshals' walk

Merv Nutburn	35.40
Brian Russell	39.29
Don Newman	39.43
Fiona Nutburn	Ret'd 50m

Main event

Andrew Boulden	28.40
Jill Green	34.40
Graham Smith	39.55
Mike Pursey	39.57
Avril Stapleton	41.51
Gordon Harker	42.14
Roger Munn	44.52
Keith Warman	44.52

Congratulation to Graham Smith on his first Hundred completion.

LDWA VICE PRESIDENT (and Kent Group member!) Ann Sayer has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for Services to Sport. Ann's walking achievements are legendary. She broke the Land's End to John O'Groats record in 1980, completing the route in 13 days, 17 hours and 42 minutes, a record that still stands. In 1977 she became the first woman to walk 100 miles in 24 hours and shortly after, the first in under 20 hours. She has frequently represented Great Britain at race-walking and broken several world track records.

Ann's End-to-End involved walking at 5 mph for most of the way and covering 60 miles a day for a fortnight.

A full report of Ann's achievements is expected to appear in the August "Strider".

ROGER'S WEALDEN WANDER

Sunday 8th May.

We assembled on a bright morning outside Frittenden Church. By "we", I mean 6 members only and Roger our leader. Where was everyone? Good weather forecast, central Kent location, what more is needed to get members out? Some of us were even in shorts, keen to face the virulent, young nettles of spring. And this they did in the first few hundred yards!

The route was unbelievably flat, the only climbing being over the stiles. Conditions under foot were good after a prolonged dry spell, although I can imagine that the whole area is under water during the wet, winter months.

We had an excellent pub stop – all who were eating settled for the good choice of roast turkey and a wide selection of vegetables. But beware of Wagstaff Farm, where a sheepdog claimed one victim

(a straggler who needed to be rounded up) Not too much damage but nasty for the victim nevertheless.

We watched the storm clouds building up during the afternoon but managed to dodge the resulting heavy showers. The final field crossing through tall wheat into Frittenden seemed to be about three miles long, and to go on for ever, although it looked less when I checked it on the map.

Ninety two percent of the membership missed a good walk!

Laurie Lowe.

NORTHUMBRIAN HUNDRED – WHITSUN 2006 - The Group has agreed to man one of the checkpoints on this annual event. This is normally accomplished by making up three shifts to cover the long opening times of checkpoints on one hundred mile events. The Committee are asking for volunteers – please contact a committee member if you are able to help.

A Macabre Event! – While checking an early draft of the route description for the White Cliffs Fifty challenge walk, I came across the following two instructions, containing what I hope were typing errors:- “X fld (68°), thru k-g and thru corpse to 2nd gate..... X st, thru iron gate and take tarmac path thru lynch gate.” This is on the night section, so beware!

Laurie.

Good Home Wanted – The group often uses village halls for checkpoint locations and we protect the wooden floors from damage caused by the mud clinging to walkers' boots, by covering the floor with large sheets of heavy-duty plastic. The committee is looking for someone who is willing to take on the storage and maintenance of this material.

There are 8 sheets measuring approximately 4x7 metres which are folded and stored in strong plastic bags. Several of these will need to be taken to the start of each event, collected after the event and cleaned prior to storage. The used sheets are often muddy, wet from spilt drinks and may even have the odd squashed sandwich included. A large, flat area is essential in order to spread the sheets out for cleaning and subsequent drying before refolding and storing.

Offers please to the Committee or Laurie Lowe on [REDACTED]

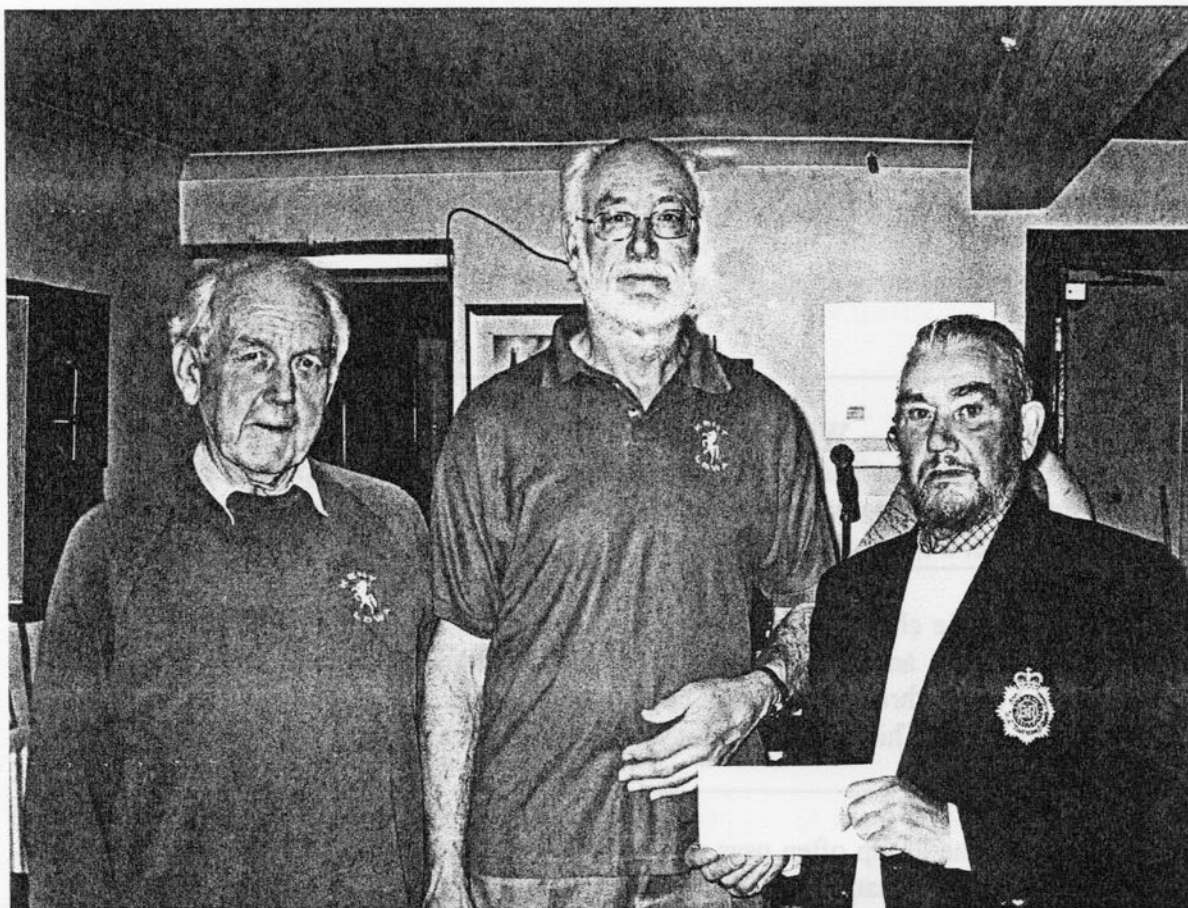
Kent Air Ambulance

Tom Sinclair, Pat and Bryan Clarke and Neal O'Rourke attended the Presentation of our cheque for £100 to the Kent Air Ambulance on Thursday 7th April at the Rose & Crown, Wrotham. Their representative was pleased to receive the cheque and thanked the Kent Group once more for their generous help. The evening was attended by Elvis Presley who sang very well and looked a lot younger than we had expected! See photo on next page.

Pat and Bryan

White Cliffs Marshals' Walk, 10th September & MAIN EVENT, 8th October

Volunteers will be needed to help on these two events. The main event in October will require plenty of helpers to be available at the start and to organise the 7 checkpoints around the route. This is a new event for the group and it is hoped that it will become a regular feature of our challenge events programme. Success depends on having good support from sufficient Group members to ease the tasks of the organisers. Contact Mike Pursey on [REDACTED] now with your offers of help.



Kent Air Ambulance Trust
Saving time – saving life

Dear Mr Gillibrand,

15th April 2005

Long Distance Walkers Association, Kent Group

Please pass on our grateful thanks to the members who helped to raise £100.00 for the Kent Air Ambulance Trust.

Their donation and support are greatly appreciated and will help us to maintain this vital emergency service for the people of Kent.

Yours sincerely,

David Philpott, chief Executive

KENT GROUP SOCIAL EVENING ON MONDAY 6th JUNE 2005 AT THE ROSE AND CROWN, WROTHAM.

Twenty Kent Group members attended at the Rose and Crown, Wrotham, for our usual monthly pub meet. The occasion, with buffet, was to celebrate the success of our members in the 2005 Chiltern Hundred event. Four successful 100 milers were there: Mike Pursey, Brian Russell, Graham Smith (first time) and Keith Warman. See photo below and list of results on page 3.



Poser Mud Par Excellence – latest developments

The Directors of 'Heartsease plc', the holding company for the makers of 'Poser Mud', are understood to be seeking legal advice, having been alerted by their ever-vigilant Public Relations Department to the following extract from a recent article in 'The Times' on the subject of 4 x 4 drivers.

"Presumably with such people in mind, a Shropshire businessman has started selling cans of spray-on mud. For £7.95 a shot those who drive 4 x 4s in our cities can pretend to have some justification for doing so."

After recent sojourns in the stockbroker belt of the Chilterns, possible diversification into the lucrative 4 x 4 market has featured in discussions at the last Board meeting at Poser Mud HQ. The Shropshire business man's blatant attempt to muscle in on an original idea is greatly to be deplored. Readers of this august (August) journal are invited to write to the Editors of 'The Times', 'Strider' and the Kent Group Newsletter to register their protests at another assault by big business on the struggling 'little man'.

Tom Sinclair.

From Paul Hatcher, [REDACTED]
E-Mail Groups@ldwa.org.uk

30 June 2005

NOTIFICATION OF LOCAL GROUPS REPRESENTATIVES MEETING

To be held at NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY on SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER

Last year's meeting proved very useful in that a number of items that were discussed, have been acted on and have had positive results. So please make an effort to send a representative so that you can be a part of these discussions.

The meeting is planned to start at 10.15, giving most people time to travel from home. Lunch will be provided. The meeting is expected to end by 3.30pm, giving most people time to travel home. Any representative travelling very long distances will be allowed to claim one night's accommodation. As a number of groups do offer to pay part of their rep's cost to attend, a space for this is to be found on the expense form, which will eventually be sent to your representative, when named. We thank all those groups who feel that they can afford to contribute to costs. However, there is no obligation to do so.

If another Group member wishes to accompany the official representative they may do so, but will have to pay their own expenses, (refreshments approximately £10) and will not be able to take part in the meeting

The Group desperately needs a representative who is willing to attend this meeting on behalf of Kent Group – please contact Bill Gillibrand or any committee member if you are able to do this.

THE NEW LORD SACKVILLE

Robert Sackville-West became Lord Sackville when his uncle, Lionel Sackville, died (see our Newsletter No. 64 - August 2004). As a child he lived for many years in Knole House and since 1985 he has lived with his family in a cottage in the park. Now he intends to decorate the House and bring it up to the standard a family expects in the 21st century. The Kent Group looks forward to continuing the good relationship with the Knole Estate, in particular in relation to our Sevenoaks Circular Walks.

Source: The National Trust.

A farmer went out one day and bought a brand new stud rooster for his chicken coop. The new rooster struts over to the old rooster and says, "OK old fart, time for you to retire."

The old rooster replies, "Come on, surely you cannot handle ALL of these chickens. Look what it has done to me. Can't you just let me have the two old hens over in the corner?" The young rooster says, "Beat it: You are washed up and I am taking over." The old rooster says, "I tell you what, young stud, I will race you around the farmhouse. Whoever wins gets the exclusive domain over the entire chicken coop." The young rooster laughs. "You know you don't stand a chance, old man. So, just to be fair, I will give you a head start."

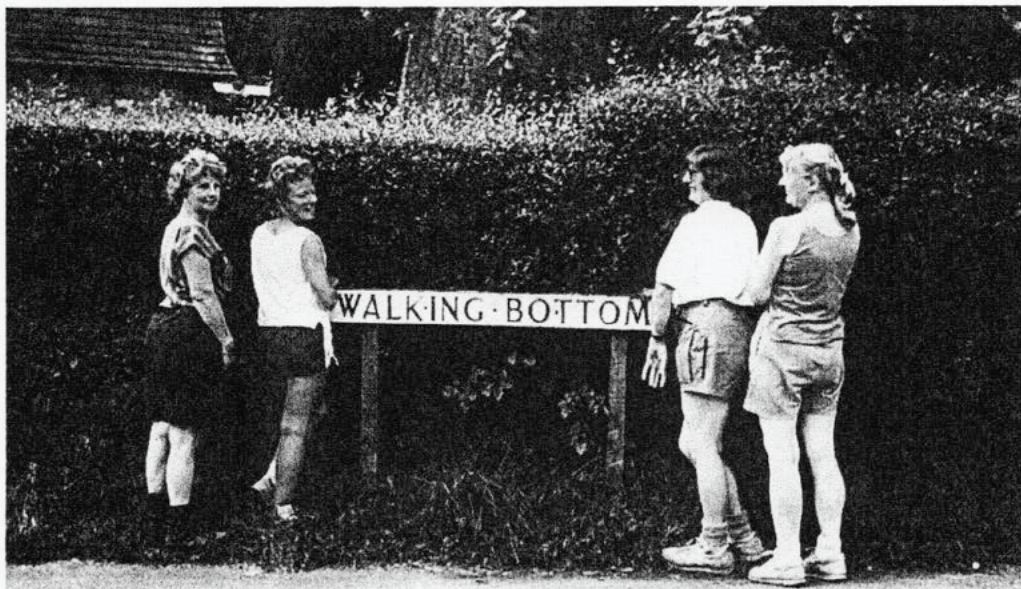
The old rooster takes off running. About 15 seconds later the young rooster takes off running after him. They round the front porch of the farmhouse and the young rooster has closed the gap.

He is only about five feet behind the old rooster and gaining fast. The farmer, meanwhile, is sitting in his usual spot on the front porch when he sees the roosters running by. He grabs his shotgun and - BOOM - he blows the young rooster to bits. The farmer sadly shakes his head and says, "Darn.....third gay rooster I bought this month."

Moral of this story?

Don't mess with the OLD FARTS - age, skill, and treachery will always overcome youth and arrogance!From Bryan Clarke.

Who are these ladies and where was the photograph taken? Answers to the editor in a plain brown envelope.



SUSSEX STRIDE - 30 & 50 miles.

27th/28th August 2005

REVISED 50 MILE ROUTE - SEE THE FABULOUS SUSSEX DOWNS FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE!.

Outgrowing the Marathon distance?

Ready to 'move up' but feel that 50 miles may still be too much?

Then why not give our new 30 MILE EVENT a try?

Making use of the same facilities in Rottingdean as the 50 mile event, the route traverses the challenging South Downs to the east and south of the old county town of Lewes. Four checkpoints offer support and sustenance - the time limit is 10 hours.

THE OBJECT

To complete a journey of about 50 miles in 20 hours, or 30 miles in 10 hours, over downland, bridle ways and footpaths, passing through a number of checkpoints in the correct sequence and within the opening and closing times.

For full information and an entry form SAE to:

SHIRLEY GREENWOOD



Or visit our website: www.wilen.fsnet.co.uk/SussexLDWA
The Standard Entry Form may be used.