

LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION

SURREY GROUP

REPORT AND PROGRAMME

JULY 1980

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The meeting at the Leg of Mutton and Cauliflower on 22nd July was again well attended. The court case regarding the Punchbowl Marathon was settled when it was unanimously decided that the 1981 event will have 2 courses. One of 30 miles and the other 20 with both courses being over the same route at the beginning and end. When discussing the programme, it was observed that the previous programme contained few walks actually organized by the Surrey Group of the LDWA. The chairman also commented that of the eleven events etc featured, three were runs indicating that the subversive group (The Long Distance Runners Association) were gradually taking over. With five regular annual events being organized by the Surrey Group I think we do our share in that direction although I'm sure more would be welcome if anybody wishes to organize an event. However it would be nice to see a few more social walks in the programme and all the organization this requires is a good knowledge of a route. So if you have a favourite walk, why not share it with your friends by including it in the programme? If you cannot get to the meeting let me have details of place and time of start together with an indication of the route for me to put to the meeting. It would be as well to give two or three alternative dates. There were four members present who were attempting the Leicester 100 road race the following Friday 26th July and the chairman extended the good wishes of the meeting for a successful event to the four contestants. This must have helped because all four

completed the race:- Alan Blatchford (21 hours 52 mins) Keith Chesterton (22 hours 25 mins) Ian McLeod (23 hours 15 mins) and John Westcott (23 hours 33 mins). Many thanks to all who gave valuable support specially Sue Coles and Chris Steer. After the meeting, Ann Seyer gave a slide show featuring her 420 mile walk over the three British peaks last September. Thank you Ann for a very interesting show.

FUTURE MEETINGS

It has been the custom to arrange 4 meetings per year but at the next meeting I shall suggest that the meetings be cut to 3 per year. The date of the three meetings to be determined by reference to the Strider closing date for copy so that the secretary is able to include an up to date full programme in the group news.

PAST EVENTS AND WALKS

The two recent coach trips were very successful. The first to Herting to walk part of the Downsman route to Steyning. Walkers enjoyed a sunny day and most opted to walk the whole 30 miles although one or two did go on the shortened version. Refreshments were available at the Steyning A. C. before catching the coach back to Guildford.

The second coach trip was to Swanage on the day of the Furbeck Flod. The coach was nearly filled in spite of the 6.30.a.m. start. Most opted to go on the event itself which was a lot tougher than expected. Again some travellers took a more leisurely stroll alighting from the coach near Corfe and making their way back to Swanage.

12 members went on the midsummer evening walk from Alan Blatchford's house. The overcast sky turned to drizzle during the walk. We started by helping to tread down a couple of paths through growing crops and then set out on a short circuit west of Guildford. One person joined the walk at the very end, just in time to sample the oats being dispensed by Barbara.

The Surrey Group did not organize any events of our own since the last report but many took advantage of the two events held in our area, The Weybac and The Tanners. Both were a great success and at the end of The Weybac, some members took part in the mile running race on the British Aerospace Sports Ground. Mark Pickard took the Bronze medal in this race.

THE LONG DISTANCE WALKERS HANDBOOK

Alan and Barbara Blatchford have published their second book. This is a guide giving brief details of long distance routes and challenge walks and where further information on each walk can be obtained. The book is divided into three parts:- Long distance routes, anytime challenge walks and challenge walks. The Long distance routes are given on a regional basis with sketch maps illustrating how the routes can be linked up with one another. Supported by photographs, the cost is £1.80. Available from Alan at most events in the area as well as the usual outlets.