

LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION

SURREY GROUP

REPORT AND PROGRAMME

JANUARY 1981

Chairman:

Den Hadfield
9 Lawday Link
Upper Hale
Farnham

Farnham 722694

Secretary:

John Westcott
31 Bracken Way
Chobham
Woking

Chobham 6672

Treasurer:

Dave Challenger
3 Bwell Park Way
Bwell
Epsom

01 393 5478

Other organizers of walks and events:

Nervyn Harvey, 9 Guildown Road, Guildford. Tel 34184

Malcolm Tadd, 65 Trinles Road, South Nutfield, Redhill. Tel Nutfield
Ridge 3456

Bob Ford, 16 Brunel Road, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 2HF Tel. 27074

Jack Rossiter, 63 Lodge Crescent, Waltham Cross, Herts.

Barbara Blatchford, 11 Thornbank, Guildford. Tel 60085.

Peter Short, 4 Burn Close, Addlestone. Tel Weybridge 43481.

Andrew Young, 17 Paddock Grove, Beare Green, Dorking. RM5 4QL. Tel. 668

Vince Smith, Glencairn, Green Road, Thorpe, Egham, TW20 8CT

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33 attended the AGM at the Leg of Mutton and Cauliflower on 27th January. Unfortunately, for the second time, we found the function room occupied by another organization so this time we were allowed to use the main bar which was not being used by the customers because of decorating.

The treasurer presented the accounts for year to 31st December 1980, showing a balance at that date of £219.35. A detailed statement is being sent with this report to all Surrey Group members.

The election for officers created a little excitement when we had 2 nominations for chairman. Tony Youngs then withdrew his nomination, leaving Den Hadfield to take the post unopposed.

Dan, who joined the LDWA just over a year ago, has quickly settled into the association's activities, especially those of the Surrey Group. His gentle personality and willingness to assist on events etc. has gained him many friends and it seems he has been part of the group for years.

He enjoys running, regularly representing the LDWA in the fun runs to good effect. He has proved himself a very able walker and is getting the bug for the ultra long distance walks.

I would like to thank Tony for his services to the group while holding office but I'm sure he will still influence our activities from the back benches. Tony joined the LDWA in 1974 and his tall slender figure is now

1981 Subscription

Membership renewal/application

I enclose 40 pence for my subscription to the Surrey Group:-

Name _____ LDWA Number _____

Address _____

Detach and send to Dave Challenger. Cheques payable to LDWA - Surrey Group

recognized throughout the country. This is partly due to his habit of walking with Chris Steer thus increasing his chances of being in photographs published in Strider. Tony became the secretary of the Surrey Group in 1977 and he was then elevated to the chairmanship when I became the secretary in 1979. The informal but firm manner in which he has presided over our meetings has contributed greatly to their appeal. John Westcott and Dave Challenger were re-elected to their offices unopposed. There was a short discussion on the desirability of having a larger committee but it was thought the Surrey Group is working well on the present basis and the administration was left in the hands of the 3 officers.

The Urn, purchased last year, had proved very helpful. In view of the healthy financial position, it was decided that further equipment should be purchased for use on events. There seems a special need for 'gaz' lighting. It was left to the 1981 Surrey Societies committee to choose equipment to the value of £100 or such greater sum as required, commensurate with the other needs of the funds.

Jeff Ellingham suggested it would be a good idea to have a badge for the Punchbowl Marathon. This event is now firmly part of the programme. As the 1981 event was taking place on the Sunday following the meeting, it was clearly impossible to produce a badge for this year so the matter was left for discussion at the next meeting.

In spite of devoting the whole evening to the meeting (rather than having a slide show afterwards) we still found ourselves rushing through the business at the end, but we just managed to plan the programme before the landlord ushered us from the premises.

THE ALAN SLATCHFORD MEMORIAL FUND

To date just over £2400 has been donated to the Alan Slatchford memorial fund. The committee are still considering what form the memorial should take. Two possibilities are the purchase of some woodland or contributing to the National Trust appeal on helping youngsters to do conservation work. Keith Chesterton has asked me to thank all Surrey Group members who have contributed to the fund.

1981 SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscription for membership of the Surrey Group remains at 40 pence and is now due. Those who have not yet renewed, please make the necessary financial adjustment with the Treasurer. I have heard of members starting out on events clutching 40p in their hand, hoping to meet Dave on route. Having sighted Dave, their eager attempts to pay the money over have proved abortive because they have failed to catch the relentless pace at which our treasurer walks. I can assure you that Dave does on occasions assume a stance which resembles being stationary and I suggest you catch him in one of these moments or send the money to him with the detachable coupon overleaf. Copies of this report are being sent, with Strider, to LFWA members in the Surrey area, who are not yet members of the Surrey Group. If you have received the report in this way and would like to receive it regularly, you can secure a place on my mailing list by the painless process of handing or sending 40p to Dave.

1980 ENDS WITH THE SOCIAL SCENE

November and December seems to have become the traditional time when Surrey Group concentrates on social walks. I do not know whether this is from a sense of guilt trying to build up the enjoyment factor for the year, or to recharge the batteries for the events to come, whatever the reason we had three very enjoyable walks to end the 1980 programme, which by chance, were roughly in the same area. It was unfortunate that outside influences dictated that 2 of them were held on consecutive Sundays, but none the less all were well attended and all enjoyed good weather.

The Haslemere Circular, starting in Surrey, also took us into Sussex and Hampshire. It was a test of the route description for a pamphlet to be published by Liz Pamplin. For a while, the intending walkers were at a disadvantage as they waited in the Punchbowl car park for the leaders to arrive. We were then further delayed when a young girl, mistaking us for the Guildford Ramblers, quite happily set out with us until the misunderstanding was discovered and she was shepherded back to await the arrival of her own flock. When we did set out, everybody settled down to a fairly easy pace, but soon the presence of Jeff Ellingham acted as a catalyst on some of the walkers brainwashed into event conditions, so very soon a "fast group" was formed. We had a look at the various viewpoints on Blackdown, allowing 2 seconds for each, and even found the elusive trig point without difficulty. In spite of this rush, we arrived at the pub 10 minutes after closing time which was rather distressing for me because it is a favourite of mine - The Prince of Wales at Hammer Vale. Liz did warn us that the route description was no guarantee against getting lost and the Pampelines, going at their usual sedate pace, still managed to catch up with those who had been seen tearing off into the distance earlier. The 16 strong party which set off in the morning arrived back at the car park in small groups at varying times and by varying routes.

The Selborne Saunter took us out of the county entirely giving us an opportunity to see the Hampshire mud. Starting from Liss station, Keith Chesterton took us through mainly farmland to have lunch in a pub at Selborne. Immediately after lunch we had a strenuous climb up the Zigzag. The planned detour to the church at Newton Valence was cancelled because we were said to be too mucky. We then really hit the mud in the early part of the afternoon satisfying Keith's sense of humour as we waded through cattle trodden gate entrances instead of the perfectly good footpaths only a short distance away. We went along the Edward Thomas memorial path and down the slope past the Edward Thomas memorial into the village of Steep. We were told there is an Edward Thomas memorial window in the church, but once again we were denied seeing it, because our leader, having inspected his bedraggled flock, declared us unfit to enter the holy portals. The route then went south of the A3 before returning to Liss in the gloom.

The list of those involved in bringing about the Alford Appetizer seemed rather excessive for a social walk. Route planned by Barbara Blatchford, led and midday pub selected by John Westcott, Navigated by Keith Chesterton, modified by Ralph Henley and evening meal arranged by Jeff Ellingham. Setting out at 10 o'clock, we just managed to get the parking places before the local churchgoers. Going south, again penetrating the Sussex border, the morning walk included an inspection of Breshurst mill. It was noticed that there was a "PR" marked on the map at Roundstreet common and thoughts were directed towards a quick pint just around opening time, but this was one occasion when the map did not agree with the ground. The disappointment only served to put a more determined effort into the stride to reach the Half Moon at Kirdford. After emerging from the pub, we passed a stone tablet set in the wall of a cottage pointing out the dire consequences of drunkenness. I was a little worried that we would run out of route before we were due to get back to Alford

at 6.30, but having wine and dined, the pace was a little slower in the afternoon and the main party got back about 6.40. There was however, a breakaway group who wanted to make a detour to Park Mill lake, vowing they would catch us up. Unfortunately, navigating went a bit haywire and we had reports of woods moving. To offset the effects of what must have been the result of lary scene shifters from filming Hebeboth, the rebel trio decided to navigate by the North Star and The Plough. Some unkindly soul suggested by the Nose and Crown as well. They finally arrived back at 7.30. Everyone enjoyed the meal in the evening at the Crown, even if the vegetables were a little overdone while waiting for the late comers.

1981 BEGINS WITH THE EVENT SCENE

The new year, again by tradition, brings 2 events early in January. Our luck continued with the weather for these 2 events.

Keith Chesterton did another splendid job with his Surrey Inns Kantar. Walkers set out from St Catherines Hall at varying times and 39 completed the longer 18 mile course, while a further 81 opted for and conquered the 12 mile course. It was very nice to see so many families out together. It was interesting to note how many gardens Keith found with footpaths going through them.

The Winter Tannera attracted a field of 141 walkers who enjoyed fairly easy going to start with but encountered a little more mud when the ground frost began to thaw out. The route, unusually for the 30 miler, went mainly to the east of the A24 and most walkers expressed approval of the opportunity to inspect this relatively unfamiliar scenery. There were only 16 who did not complete the full route and most of these did the major part of the route. This is a route proving exercise for the summer event and in view of the many appreciative comments, it will be used for the event on July 5th (see programme).

MABAC FUN RUN LEAGUE

Having stayed in second place for most of the year, the LDWA managed to gain enough points in the final run to finish up the 1980 champions.

On 28th December, Ralph Hanley gave us a chance to get rid of the result of any over indulgence during the Christmas period, when he organized a 17 mile social run. 35 presented themselves at Staines bridge to run a course which went mainly through Windsor Great Park. All said they enjoyed it as they returned to Staines in times between 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours. It's interesting to note that on 6th February 1977, Ralph led a social walk called "The Windsor Wander" which basically went along the same route, taking us about 7 hours (including a visit to the Seven Stars).

The first run in the 1981 league was a gentle 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles on roads in Windsor Great Park. Ralph, in addressing the 253 runners before the start, said he made no apology for holding another run so soon in the lovely setting of the park. The LDWA managed to gain 581 points which was enough to start us off top, but only 5 points ahead of Feltham Puffers.

The second run will be held at 11 a.m. on Sunday 15th February at Wisley. We will be back to the rough again but the distance is less, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles seniors and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles Juniors and joggers

The dates for the 3 events in the Masters and Maidens series in 1981:-

July 19	Leatherhead Ten
Sept 13	Cranleigh Fifteen
Oct 14	Alan Blatchford Masters and Maidens Marathon.

Details from Dave Challenger in due course. Please also contact Dave if you would like to run for the LDWA on the fun runs

SPRING/SUMMER PROGRAMME 1981 - S&S with all postal enquiries please

We certainly have an exciting programme, with something for everybody. For those who do not wish to take part in the events but would still like to be part of the excitement, the organizers would very much appreciate offers of help to man the checkpoints. The events in the following programme are:- The Surrey Summits, Weybac Walk, Tanners, Chiltern Marathon and Guildford Boundary.

The number under the date is the OS 1:50000 map covering the walk.

- Sunday
1 Mar KENT KOCHER KAPER A coach trip to north Kent for a 20 mile walk by sea wall, marshes and woodland. Marvellous bird life including Britain's big cat heronry. The coach starts at the back of Guildford station GR 990496 at 7.30 a.m. and pickups by arrangement along the A25 to Hoigate. Start walking from Pilsbury GR 738708 at 9.30. Coach fare £2.25 Please bring your own food and drink. Let Mervyn Harvey know, as soon as possible, if you would like to go.
178
- Sunday
22 Mar TADD'S TODDLE A walk in eastern Surrey being led by Malcolm Tadd. Start from the White Hart, opposite the pond on Godstone Green GR 350516. Park next to the pond or further on the green. Don't forget to bring a torch if you want to view the ancient mine workings on route.
187
- Friday
27 Mar MOONLIGHT KAFFER A joint event with the Thames Valley Group. About 15 miles in the dark. Find your own route between checkpoints identified by grid references, but there will be notes to help you find the recommended route. There will be hot drinks available at the one manned checkpoint. At other checkpoints, a feature is to be noted. Starts between 10 and 11 p.m. from Valley End Cricket Club, Windleham Road, Chobham GR 952634, preferably 2 or more at a time. Entry fee 50p including a snack meal at the end. Please bring map, compass, pencil, torch, food and drink. Entries on the night only. Further details on telephone from John Westcott or Bob Ford.
186
- Sat/Sun
25/26 Apr SURREY SUMMITS The group's metric classic. 100KM over the most popular hills in mid and western Surrey. Start 12 midday from Guildford High Street. Time limit 26 hours. Closing date for entries is 26th April. Further details from John Westcott
186/187
- Sunday
17 May MERVYN'S MEANDER A sojourn into Hampshire of about 28 miles. Meet at the Castle car park, Farnham to start walking at 8.30 a.m. GR 838475. Leader Mervyn Harvey.
186
- Tuesday
2 June PROGRAMME PLANNING MEETING at the Leg of Mutton and Cauliflower, The Street, Ashted. 7.30 p.m for 8.
- Fri/Sun
19-21 June LYKE WAKE WALK A coach trip being organized by the Essex/Herts Group to which Surrey Group members are invited. Probably this 40 mile walk across the North Yorks Moors is the most popular recognized walk in the country. The coach will leave Waterloo station on Friday evening to arrive at Ravenstar at dawn (app 5 a.m.). Return late Saturday from Osmotherly to arrive back in London early Sunday morning. Details from Jack Bossiter.
- Wednesday
24 June MIDSUMMER EVENING WALK from 11 Thornbank, Guildford GR 983493. About 6 to 8 miles starting at 7 p.m. and finishing about 9.30. Leader Barbara Blatchford.

Sunday 28 June 186/187 WETBAC WALK An easy 17 mile walk from Godalming, along the towpath of the Way navigation to finish at British Aerospace sports ground. Details from Peter Short.

Sunday 5 July TANNERS Marathons This will be the 22nd promotion of this popular event, starting from the Leatherhead Football Club GR 163960. There will be a 10 mile route as well as the 30 miler following the route of the Winter Tanners (see earlier report). Details from Andrew Young.

Friday 10 July ANN SAYER'S END TO END A slide show given by Ann on her record breaking walk from Lands End to John O'Groats, at Chobham Club, Windsor Road, Chobham. GR ~~185114~~ - Entrance at the apex of the slip road. There is no charge but it is essential you let John Westcott know you are coming. I regret there is no public transport into Chobham during the evening, but I will try and arrange a lift from Woking or Sunningdale stations if anybody is stuck. 7.00/8.00

Friday 11 Sept THE CREATION OF TANNERS HATCH Noel Vincent, the first warden of Tanners Hatch, will give a talk, supported by slides on the conversion and building of this isolated Youth Hostel from 2 cottages. Venue is our usual HQ at the Log of Matton and Cauliflower, Ashted. 7.30.p.m. for 8

Sunday 13 Sept TWELFTH CHILTERN MARATHON This popular 25 mile walk will again start from Marlow Rugby Club. The route will be the abandoned one planned for 1980. Details from Vince Smith. Note: Entries close on 31st August or at 450 entries.

Sunday 20 Sept EIGHTH GUILDFORD BOUNDARY This 21½ mile route, starting and finishing at the Surrey University sports ground, approximately follows the pre 1974 Guildford Borough boundary. Details from Barbara Blatchford.

Tuesday 6 Oct PROGRAMME PLANNING MEETING AT the Log of Matton and Cauliflower, The Street, Ashted. 7.30.p.m. for 8

26th Jan AGM.

SPRING EVENTS IN NEIGHBOURING GROUPS

With Sussex going into the event business this year, Thames Valley repeating their venture last year and our other three neighbours witting on their old favourites, we can look forward to a varied and interesting supplement to our own programme without travelling too far. Details can be obtained from the organizers as shown in Strider. The events are:-

28 Feb	Seven Sisters Marathon	Sussex
1 Mar	Chiltern Kanter	Essex/Herts
15 Mar	Sevenoaks Circular	Kent
5 April	Wessex XXX	Wessex
10 May	Oxon 40/20	Thames Valley

I wonder how many Surrey group members will be able to bring all 5 certificates to the meeting on 2nd June.

THE SECRETARY'S BOOBS

Finally I wonder how many mistakes you can find in this report - you can score one for the manner in which I've described mistakes on this heading. After the comments I received following the last report I wrote 113½ times "eye muste learn too spel rite" and I just wonder if it's done any good.

Good Walking to everyone
John Westcott (secretary)