



LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION

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

SURREY GROUP

REPORT AND PROGRAMME

OCTOBER 1982

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20 members attended the meeting at the Leg of Hutton and Cauliflower on 16th September.

The Treasurer reported that a supply of Surrey Summits Badges had been purchased as agreed at the last meeting and although this made a large demand on the group's funds, when the profits from the Surrey Summits, The Punchbowl and The Heybac are added, we are still about £270 to the good. Later in the meeting it was decided to subsidize the annual dinner to be held on 18 December by charging £9 instead of the hotels price of £9.95

PAST EVENTS AND WALKS

Once again the midsummer evening walk proved to be a success as 14 members set out from 11 Thornbank, Guildford on a route to the south of the town which included the towpath of the River Wey and The Chanceries. Trying to find a new 8 mile route from the same venue becomes more difficult as the years go by but Barbara manages to do it each year. Even so we have another Guildford based organizer who would like to see the proposed North Downs Way bridge over the River Wey built (see programme entry for January 3rd) thereby bringing a bigger area within the appropriate distance. Back at 11 Thornbank, Barbara had prepared the usual feast for us.

Unfortunately the Heybac Walk was not featured under "future Events" in the April Strider but in spite of the lack of publicity, 101 people presented themselves at Godalming Bridge to walk the 17 miles along the towpath of the Wey navigation. Advertized as ascent nil, descent 100 feet and navigation aided by the presence of the river, this is the easiest walk in Surrey so it is necessary to introduce a few obstacles to make it a challenge. However, in spite of the waterlogged paths, holes in bridges, overgrown paths with stinging nettles 9 foot high and motorway working all 101 starters managed to make the finish at the British Aerospace Sports Ground.

The Tanners Marathon proved as popular as ever with over 1000 taking part. 725 started on the 30 miler with 94 making the effort of getting to the start by 5 a.m. for the 50 miler and another 254 less hardy souls content to enjoy the 10 miler.

In 1984, the 25th tanners will be held and already plans are being made to celebrate this quarter century. This milestone is also an appropriate time for Barbara Blatchford to write up a history of the event. To help her do this, Barbara would like to hear from anybody who took part in the first Tanners in 1960. If you did take part in this event which was probably the very beginning of the Long Distance Walkers Association, would you please contact Barbara.

Keith Chasterton is well known for his linear walks starting and finishing in remote places and although the named terminal points of The Blackdown to Jutser lived up to this reputation, the walk was in fact between two railway stations on the main London to Portsmouth line. In deference to the older members of the group, Keith reduced the mileage from his usual 3 to 45 but even so some of the 7 who took part were forced to run to keep up. The walk was organized to a very tight schedule. The midday pub was reached just 10 minutes before closing time, the toastop was achieved just after closing time but still managing to get a cuppa and finally arrival at Petersfield Station with 3 minutes to go before the train arrived and having to get tickets from a station attendant who just was not up to coping with such large numbers. In spite of the hazzards, all declared it to be an enjoyable walk.

There being a national committee meeting the day before in the south, it was nice to see 4 of our northern committeemen take part in the Chiltern Marathon - including the chairman. Unfortunately the route description was not up to the standard we expect from this event and there were many tales of participants getting lost in various places. The art was to hold back a little because if enough of the faster ones went wrong, a marshal was sent out to the offending spot to guide the slower ones through. Even so there were so many arriving at one checkpoint from the wrong direction that the marshals began to think they were in the wrong place. Vince, Smith once again got the weather right making a very pleasant day out with 370 finishing the 25 miles out of the 425 starters.

PATH CLEARANCE

The path clearance party which assembled near St Marthas Hill on 5th September was disappointingly small but those who did attend, hacked away happily at the undergrowth to make a very nice clear way for entrants on the Guildford Boundary. I hope this was appreciated by their using the path rather than the road running parallel. The next path clearance party is to take place on Sunday 28th November, just south of Wolbury (see programme). Please make a big effort to attend.

THE SURREY GROUP BADGE

There were 7 entries for the badge design competition announced in the last newsletter and all were up to a very high standard. A rather ornate heraldic mixture design submitted by John Foster was by far the favourite and arrangements are being made to have the design reproduced into a badge and it hoped to have these badges available shortly. Details of price etc will be announced in the next newsletter.

THE LEICESTER 100 ROAD WALKING RACE

Six Surrey Group members took part in the Leicester 100, five of whom finished and four of the finishers became new centurions. Sandra Brown became the 6th lady centurion and the LDMA's 3rd, Don Cooper's success came at his 3rd attempt just a couple of months before his 67th birthday by finishing in fine style to gain about 10 places in the last 15 miles. Mark Pickard who has had such great success in the ultra long distance running world found the discipline of walking not to his liking but bravely persevered to the end in spite of being in some agony for the last 20 miles or so and Roy Barnsley gained admission to the Brotherhood of Centurions after less than 2 years of serious long distance walking. The other finisher had done it before and should really have known better while Ian McLeod unfortunately hit some trouble in the early stages of the race and failed to meet the qualifying time at the 50 mile mark. Finishing times were:

<u>Race Position:</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>
20	Sandra Brown	22h 18m 24s
38	Roy Barnsley	22h 54m 43s
39	Don Cooper	23h 05m 01s
44	John Westcott	23h 19m 11s
45	Mark Pickard	23h 26m 17s

There were 55 finishers in all including 5 other LDMA members, 24 from the continent and 2 from the Isle of Man. The winners time was 17 hours 21 minutes 52 seconds.

THE EXHURST 100

The 1983 Centurion qualifying race will be the Exhurst 100 to be held on Friday/Saturday 24/25 June - right in the heart of the Surrey Group area. Already some Surrey Group members have shown interest in entering this event and I would like to hear from anybody else who is considering taking part. Also would anybody who will be willing to give support to the walkers for part of the 24 hours, please contact me giving an indication of the time they can attend. I have not yet got the full details but would think the race will start at 6.p.m. on Friday evening.

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Interest has also been shown by some members in taking part in the 100 English mile road race to be held in this delightful Dutch town which is approx 10 miles north of Eindhoven. This takes place on Saturday/Sunday 14/15 May 1983 and is a continental-centurion qualifying race for those who complete it within 24 hours. There are other shorter walks taking place at the same time. We are hoping to hire a minibus to transport participants and supporters there and back. Anybody interested in taking part or supporting please contact me.

AFFILIATION TO THE RACE WALKERS ASSOCIATION

Centurion qualifying races are held under AAA laws and RWA rules. This means that entrants are not permitted to enter themselves as representing any club or organization which is not affiliated to one or both of these bodies. The LDMA was affiliated to the RWA but the national committee decided not to pay the affiliation fee for this year thus preventing those who took part in the Leicester 100 from declaring themselves officially as LDMA members. Because of the interest shown by Surrey Group members in these types of walk, Ian McLeod proposed that we, as a group, should affiliate to the RWA. This would enable group members to officially register themselves under LDMA Surrey in not only the 100 milers but also other classic road walks such as The London to Brighton, Hastings to Brighton and Plymouth to Dawlish. The secretary will make enquiries and the motion will be discussed at the Annual General Meeting in January.

THE SNOWDONIA HUNDRED

The LDWA's loomier for 1983 is to be held in the Snowdonia area of North Wales over the weekend of 28, 29 and 30 May. After 2 years of giving entrants the additional challenge of completion of extra miles if they wished, this time you have the option of doing one of two routes - Graded by the organizers as difficult and impossible - the latter going over the summit of Snowdon.

I've no doubt there will be a strong contingent from the Surrey Group as is usual on the 100 miles and I would also like to have the Surrey Group manning one of the checkpoints. I would also like to co-ordinate transport between members and to this end I would like to hear from anybody who intends going to the event stating whether they will be participating or checkpointing and which of the following categories applies to you:-

- A. Will be going up in own car but would be willing to give a lift to another member.
- B. Have a car which could be used to go to the event and would be willing to give a lift to another member but would also be happy to accept a lift from somebody else.
- C. .. Have no transport and would like a lift.
- D. Wish to make your own arrangements for getting to the event.
- E. Would share the cost of hiring a minibus if one were arranged.

I know it is a little early yet and I will be repeating my request for information in the next newsletter. However, the organizers have offered to pay half of the hire cost of any minibus used as a support vehicle on the event. This offer has been made to all groups on a first come first served basis so if we are to take advantage of the offer, I shall need to have a fairly early indication that there will be enough support.

Finally may I apologize for devoting so much space in this newsletter to 100 mile events but this is just the way it has come up. I can assure you that the group does encourage more modest objectives as will be seen with the varied programme.

Good Walking everyone,

John Westcott
(Hon Secretary)

PROGRAMME TO APRIL 1983 SAE with all postal enquiries please.

The organizers of The Surrey Inns Kilter, The Winter Fanners, The Punchbowl Marathon and The Surrey Summits would like to hear from anybody who is willing to help man the checkpoints etc. This particularly applies to The Surrey Summits (the group's big one). If you require details of two or more of these 4 events or of The Coal Tax Kilter you need only send one SAE to John Hestcott but the actual entry must be sent in accordance with the instructions in those details.

The numbers following the event etc refer to the 1:50000 OS map covering the route or location.

SATURDAY 23 Oct 1982: CHAIRMAN'S CHOICE WALK II. (188). A social walk of about 25 miles starting at 9 a.m. from Castle Car Park, Farnham, GR 838475. The route will go through Alice Holt Forest, along part of the Pilgrims 140 route, visit both Fransham ponds, have a lunch stop at Elstead or Tilford and loop up with The North Downs way to return to Farnham. Leader Ian Hatfield.

FRIDAY TO SUNDAY 29 to 31 Oct 1982: WEEKEND IN THE BLACK MOUNTAINS. (161). Farnham weekends in the Black Mountains, Wales. The £28 includes all food, accommodation and transport from and back to Guildford. Other pickups convenient to route. Friday afternoon to Sunday night. Walks on Saturday and Sunday led by Tony Rowley of The Bristol and West Group. There was only one place left but when full, a reserve list will be kept in case of cancellations. Further details and bookings: Hervyn Harvey.

THURSDAY 18 Nov 1982: WALKING IN THE NORTH. (107). A slide show of the falls and dales as seen through the camera of the group's ex-patriot Yorkshireman: Brian Hall, at the Leg of Hutton and Cauliflower, The Street Ashted, GR 187500 7.30 p.m. for 3

SUNDAY 21 Nov 1982: COAL TAX KILTER. (107). Choice of 3 routes approx 12, 15 and 18 miles from Memorial Hall, Walton-on-the-hill, GR228551. Start any time between 9 and 10.30 a.m. but all to finish by 4 p.m. Entry fee is 30p for LDMK members and 40p for others. There are no manned checkpoints and route to be devised by entrants from grid refs given. Entries on the day only but further details can be obtained from Dave Challenger or Barbara Blatchford.

SUNDAY 28 Nov 1982: FOOTPATH CLEARANCE. (107). Path on Surrey Summits route to east of FOS at GR 100433. Operations start at 9.30 a.m. but you will be welcome if you turn up later. Bring your own tools. Cars should be parked in Holsbury St Hwy.

SATURDAY 18 Dec 1982: GASTRONOMICS GALLOP (186 & 187). The annual dinner raffle starting at 10 a.m. from Pond Lane, Peaslake, GR 086419. Morning and lunchtime stop at a pub and afternoon tea stop with some walking in between. There will be a five course dinner in the evening at The Warwood Inn Peaslake, the main course being roast sirloin of beef at a cost of £9. Bookings for dinner to Tony Youngs with a deposit of £1. At the Warwood Inn at 6 p.m. for dinner to be served at 7.

MONDAY 27 Dec 1982: WINTER WINDSOR WANDER. (176). Walk or run from Pettars Social Club, GR030714. Most of the route is in the lovely setting of Windsor Great Park with access to and from the start/finish point along the towpath of the river Thames. Walkers start at 9 a.m. on a 15 mile course and runners start at 10 a.m. on a 19 mile course. Map and notes available on the day. Entry fee 10p to cover paper work and squash. Probably bar facilities at the finish. Further details from Ralph Hanly

MONDAY 3 JAN 1983: SURREY INNS KILTER. (186 & 187). A Light hearted start to the new year, this walk starts from St Catherines Hall, Chestnut Avenue, Guildford, GR 992405. Checkpoints are unmanned but most of them are pubs. Two routes of 12 or 18 miles with starts between 9.15 and 11 a.m. All to finish by 6.30 p.m. Having started this event from the same venue for a number of years the organizer finds it increasingly difficult to introduce new pubs to the route and feels the building of the proposed bridge over the River Wey would put more within range. Entries on the day only but further details can be obtained from Keith Chesterton.

SUNDAY 16 JAN 1983: WINTER TANNERS. (185 & 187). A 30 mile walk in central Surrey is a route proving exercise for the famous summer event. Start and finish at the main gate of Leatherhead Football Club, GR 163560. No undercover but there will be 2 points along the route where hot and cold drinks will be available. Entry fee 30p before 10th January or 50p thereafter (including on the day). Start between 8 and 10 a.m. Details from John Westcott.

THURSDAY 27 JAN 1983: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND PROGRAMME PLANNING MEETING. (187). At the Leg of Mutton and Cauliflower, The Street, Ashted, GR 187580. 7.30 p.m. for 8.

Sunday 6 FEB 1983: PUNCHBOWL MARATHON. (185). A 30 or 20 mile walk in western Surrey starting and finishing at Chichester Hall, Witley, GR 947394. Starts at 8, 9 and 10 a.m. Please note that following comments last year, it is intended to lengthen the route to bring it up to the full 30 miles. Details from Jeffe Ellingham.

SUNDAY 27 Mar 1983: PYECOMBE PERAMBULATION. (198). 22 miles north of the South Downs and on them. Ascents of Wolstonbury, Montimbar and the east face of Devils Dyke will be attempted. Remains of Devils Dyke funicular railway, aerial cableway and standard gauge line await railway buffs. Lunch at the Plough, Pyecombe (ploughmans lunch or sandwiches, with 7 real ales, including Sussex County Ale brewed at Truleigh Farm). Start 9.30 a.m. BST from outside Henfield Village Hall, TQ 216160. Turn east off A201 at Free Car Park/Village Hall sign). Illustrated route sheet from Tony Youngs in February.

SATURDAY SUNDAY 9/10 APRIL 1983: SURREY SUMMITS. (185 & 187). A 100 kilometre challenge walk over the popular hills of central and western Surrey. Start and finish at Chichester Hall, Witley, GR 947394. Start at 10 a.m. Saturday 9th and all to finish by 12 noon on the Sunday. Closing date for entries will be 9th March. PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A WEEK EARLIER THAN THE PROVISION DATE PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED. Details from John Westcott.

IDEAS FOR FUTURE WALKS

Keith Chesterton suggested that it would be nice to have a social walk from Washington to Quebec. It will not be necessary to cross the Atlantic to do this one because the terminal points are two Sussex villages.

Ralph Henley was considering holding an event from Windsor Great Park to Richmond Park along the River Thames Towpath instead of his Winter Windsor Wander this year. Distance at this time of year and difficulty in arranging the necessary transportation prevented him from putting his idea into operation but he hopes to use the route some time in the future.