



NEW SURREY GROUP BADGE
APPROX. ACTUAL SIZE

PROGRAMME & REPORT
February 1983

LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION - SURREY GROUP

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Other organisers included in this newsletter:

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Guildford GU100S

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Ashford MK106S

Peter Short, 4 Barn Close, Addlestone, Surrey.
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Roger Smith, 14 Amberwood Rise, New Malden Surrey.

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 1982 by DON WATFIELD

In preparing this report I have been looking at the groups newsletter dated February 1982 and a number of events have already been reported. I will therefore just list them:-

Elph Healey's Winter Wistow Wander
Keith Chesterton's Surrey Inns Ramble
John Westcott's/Barbara Blatchford's Winter Tamers

One week after the Winter Tamers, postponed through bad weather i.e. heavy snow, we launched into Jeff Ellingham's Punchbowl NewsDew. This the event with variable distances to suit most entrants. The weather was a wee bit damp and the mud was up to the usual high standard for Surrey Group events.

March 14th saw us meeting at the Cissbury Ring car park to enjoy a splendid day on the South Downs lead by Tony Hooper (see page 46 of strider 34). I believe the Sussex Group members also enjoyed the walk.

Two weeks later we had another event organized by Graham Peddie. This was a two day walk between Tamers Hatch and Hindhead Footh Hostels. We had a number of members in the event. Yours truly together with a small group, including Ron Sayer who had walked from Tamers on the Saturday, spent a pleasant Sunday in bright sunshine walking from Hindhead to Tamers. The transport-sharing did not work out very well - more by lack than judgement. Hope to do better this year.

The weekend of 3/4 April saw the Group's big one - The Surrey Summits. This year, by way of a change, the direction of walking was reversed and the start time was brought forward to 10 a.m. Walking the route anti clockwise and the earlier start meant that much scenic route could be seen in the daylight. The fine weather and a clear night meant there were fast times. The leaders were back in Vitley 13 hours 12 minutes and out of 125 starters only 20 retired.

The national AGM on the weekend of 24/25 April was attended by a number of our members travelling up by motor. I am told it was a good weekend.

Sunday May 23rd saw the Surrey group, plus members of the Rabac Fun Run League and LDN members from further afield meet at Blatchford Down. After a picnic we heard from a National Trust official of the work being done to preserve the environment on the down. It made a nice day out with a difference. However, the clerk of the weather was in a bad mood, soaking us all in cold rain and whipping up a strong wind. Grateful thanks to Margaret Steer for the welcome tea, Barbara for overall organizing and the leaders of the various walks from all points of the compass.

At the end of May we had the Pilgrims 100 start at Healey Fort. The longer route for the 140 from Winchester also came through West Surrey to Healey Fort and thereafter followed the 100 route. Group members were kept busy at checkpoints through Surrey while other members were very busy doing the walk itself. In the 140 mile event we had 4 finishers out of a total of 26 who survived from Winchester. Mark Pickard, Bryan Kides, Ian McLeod and David Shore are to be congratulated on a fine effort. In the 100 mile event Sandra Brown, Pauline Shore and Barbara Blatchford were successful. Also completing the walk were the Carberights - male, female, long short and tall. From farthest David Woodyer finished and was no doubt pleased with his efforts. Here I missed anyone! If so, my apologies and congratulations.

The midsummer walk from Thunders and refreshments afterwards were as usual much enjoyed. Thank you Barbara.

The Weybec 17 mile walk along the towpath of the Wey navigation had 101 starters and 101 finishers. All very neat and tidy.

Over 1000 people took part in the Tamers Marathon on 4th July. The 62 event had the 50 mile event together with the usual 30 and 10.

John Westcott has already given a report on the Blackdown 17 hooter walk led by Keith Chesterton. See October 82 newsletter. I had great moments of amusement as Surrey members floundered about in head high bracken trying to find footpaths and fledge posts. Are well! all part of the rich tapestry of long distance walking.

The Chilliers Marathon, thanks to Vince Smith and Guildford Boundary, Barbara, were again both successful.

Saturday 23rd October saw the steirmen's choice Mark II (see separate report). I might add that a prominent Surrey Group member and ex National Committee member arrived at the start venue and could not find any walkers or indeed any familiar looking cars. On getting back home and recounting his tale of woe, the said member's wife pointed out that the walk was on Saturday 23rd and not Sunday 24th! Next year written reminders to all participants! You missed a good day Keith!

A new event came into the group's programme on Sunday 21st November. This was the Coal Tax Kanker arranged by Barbara Blatchford and Dave Challenger. A successful event with a good number of young entrants.

The group's Christmas dinner at the Burwood Inn, Peaslake was again an enjoyable evening. The rumble during the day in fine weather made a good appetizer for the evening festivities. Thanks to Tony Youngs and Chris Steer.

At the time of writing this report I have no details of the Winter Windsor Wander or the Surrey Inns Kanker but these events will have reports elsewhere.

Thanks to Bryan Nalgh for the slide show at the Leg of Mutton and Cauliflower on Thursday 18th November.

The group's footpath clearance scheme has had moderate success in 1982 and I trust that our organizer, Bruce Chadler, will be given every support in 1983 that this side of walking deserves.

Not wishing to blow the Surrey Group's own trumpet, but have you read page 47 in the December Strider.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all, a bit late, a successful year of walking in 1983.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL AND PROGRAMME PLANNING MEETING - 27th January 1983

29 members attended the meeting.

The treasurer presented the statement of accounts for year ended 31st December 1982 which was adopted. A copy of the accounts is being sent to all members with this newsletter. In addition to the £287.62 balance shown in the accounts, there was a stock of badges held at 31st December 1982 to the value of £251.50 being 242 Surrey Summits badges @ 75p ea and 175 Guildford Boundary May badges @ 40p ea. The secretary apologises for having omitted this information from the statement.

Des Hatfield, John Westcott and Dave Challenger were re-elected en bloc as Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Tony Youngs expressed a wish that it should be recorded as with acclamation. This will be the third year this trio has been together and the fifth year John and Dave have held their offices.

The proposition that the Surrey Group should affiliate to the Race Walking Association provided what is probably the most controversial debate ever known at a Surrey Group meeting. The motion was amended that members who are interested in road walking races should form a separate club for the purpose of affiliating. The motion as amended was lost by 7 votes to 10.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1983 ARE NOW DUE

The subscription for 1983 remains at 40 pence and it is gratifying to note that many members have already renewed without a formal reminder. Having seen our treasurer operate however, I can well understand how this situation has come about and can assure you that your confidence in electing him to look after our finances for the fifth year running is very good judgement. I was talking to Dave about the 1983 renewals just before a recent event when out of the corner of his eye he noticed a car come into the car park. "I'll get another one" he said and then swooped on the unsuspecting member with the dexterity of a falcon homing in on its prey to return the 40 pence and add another name to the list of members paid. If you are among those who have not yet paid and wish to avoid the possibility of finding yourself in a position plowed against your car, frantically trying to extract 40p from your back pocket to effect release, I suggest you send the sub to Dave now. A renewal form is enclosed.

THE PROPOSALS REMAIN

As I've no doubt everyone is aware, the LGSM's 100 offer is the Londoners and intending entrants should obtain details from Paul Cutler. In my last newsletter, I appealed for offers of help and also for those taking part to let me know, with the idea of trying to arrange some transport sharing. Although I realize it is still a little time before the event takes place, I would mention that I have not as yet had a very good response to my previous appeal. I would like to hear as soon as possible from anybody who is taking part in the event or anybody who is willing to help see the Survey Group checkpoint and letting us know which of the following categories applies to you:-

1. Still to going in own car but would be willing to give a lift to another member
2. 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 someone else.
3. Have no transport and would like a lift.
4. Wish to make own arrangements for getting to the event.

The vehicle idea seems to be a dead duck because I'm sure the organizers have enough for the event by now and therefore the offer of sharing half the cost of hire would no longer apply.

Incidentally, see Coles re organizing a walkout of the Southwicks route over the Easter weekend (April 1st to 4th) staying overnight at rough hotels or B&B and breakfast. If you are interested in getting a preview please contact Sue.

THE 300 MILE ROAD RACES

In view of the decision at the AGM regarding affiliation to the RCI, I have probably misjudged the group's interest in this kind of activity and should not be giving it as much prominence in this newsletter. However, I am to some extent committed to trying to organize a good Survey Group entry in the West Debenford and the Esherst. Therefore, at the risk of being accused and maybe jeopardizing my chances of being elected Secretary again, I reiterate the details:-

SINT DEBORGHDE: This is the name of a delightful 19thc Dutch town about 10 miles north of Eindhoven and on the weekend of 14/15 May, the G.L.A.T club is organizing a number of walks there from 12 kilometres to 100 "English miles". Maryn Hurry will be driving a minibus to the event if there is sufficient support and the cost will be about £40 to £50 depending on the number that go. Accommodation will be cheap because the organizers usually arrange this with local families. If you would like to take part in any of the walks or go over and help form a support base for our walkers, will you please let Maryn know. We will arrange for a block entry to be made.

DEBENT 300: The centenary qualifying walk for 1983 with 10 x 30 mile legs of a circuit which includes Debent, Nailwood and Forest Green with an out and back leg down Somersbury Lane. Start is 6 p.m. on Friday 24th June with a 24 hour time limit. Entry forms will be available from me (John Westcott) shortly, but I would also like to know of anybody who enters direct with the organizer so that I can include you in our support. Also anybody who is willing to give a little assistance in the way of support to the Survey Group walkers on Friday evening, during the night or on Saturday, please let me know.

PROGRAMME TO DECEMBER 1983 SAE with all postal enquiries please

I would like to remind you that organizers of events are always on the lookout for assistance to run the checkpoints so that if you are available and are not intending to walk or have a willing friend or relation who is willing to help, please contact the appropriate organizer. Events concerned in the following programme are The Surrey Summits, Weibac Walk, Tanners Marathon, Chiffers Marathon and the Guildford Boundary.

The numbers following the name of the event etc are the OS 1:50000 map covering the route or location.

SAF/SUN 5/6 MARCH: TANNERS TO HINDHEAD AND REVERSE (186 & 187). A chance to walk the 25 miles between these two Surrey Youth Hectels and back again the following day if you so wish. You can start from Tanners (GR 180515) or Hindhead (GR 094300) on the Saturday but from Hindhead only on the Sunday. Details from Graham Pebble.

THURSDAY 17 MARCH: WALKING IN THE KARACHAKONGA (187). A slide show to be given by Frances Davies at the Leg of Mutton and Cauliflower, Ashford, GR 187500, 7.30 p.m. for 9. Frances is considering organizing a package walking holiday to Nepal for the IOM in 1984. Although the slide show is of later date for its sake, it may be of special interest to anybody who would contemplate taking a walking holiday in that part of the world.

SATURDAY 19 MARCH: GERRY CHARNLEY MEMORIAL RUN (187). Graham Pebble is organizing a memorial run for the late Gerry Charnley who died in a climbing accident on Helvellyn last December. Briefing courses with choice of routes of 1, 2 or 3 hours approx. Closing date is March 12th. Sponsor forms and further details from Graham Pebble who would be pleased to receive donations to the memorial fund.

SUNDAY 27 MARCH: FYCOMBE PERAMBULATION (186). 20 miles north of the South Downs and on them. Remnants of Eburton, Neutiber and Wollstonbury Wills will be attempted. Remains of Devils Dyke steep grade railway, aerial cableway and standard gauge line await the railway buffs. Lunch at the Plough Fycombe (ploughmen's lunch or sandwiches with 7 real ales, including Sussex County bitter brewed at Trulligh Manor Farm). Start sharp at 9.30 a.m. British summer time from outside Heafield village hall, TD 236160. Turn east off A 280 at free car park/village hall sign. Illustrated route sheet from Tony Young.

SAF/SUN 9/10 APRIL: SURREY SUMMITS (186 & 187). A 100 kilometre challenge walk over the popular hills of central and western Surrey. Start and finish at Chichester Hall, Witley, GR 947284. Start at 10 a.m. Saturday and all to finish by 12 noon on Sunday. Closing date for entries is March 30th. Details from John Westcott.

THURSDAY 2 JUNE: PROGRAMME PLANNING MEETING (187). At the Leg of Mutton and Cauliflower Ashford, GR 187500. 7.30 p.m. for 9.

TUESDAY 21 JUNE: HOCUMBER EVENING WALK (186 & 187). From 11 Thornbank, Guildford, GR 303493. About 6 to 8 miles starting at 7 p.m. Leader Barbara Statchford.

SUNDAY 26 JUNE: WEIBAC WALK (186 & 187). An easy 17 mile walk along the top path of the Weib navigation from Godalming to the British Aerospace sports ground at Weibridge. Starts from Godalming at 10 a.m. with a coach available leaving Weibridge at approx 8.45 a.m. to transport walkers to the start. A place on the coach must be booked in advance. Details from Peter Short.

SUNDAY 3 JULY: TANNERS MARATHON (187). 20 and 10 mile courses in central Surrey starting and finishing at Leatherhead Football Club, GR 183560. Details from Andrew Young.

SUNDAY 10 JULY: BOONHAM BASH (186 & 187). About a 20 mile walk discovering some of the lesser known footpaths to the east of Guildford. Starts opposite the Green Bus at Burham, GR 016505, at 8.45 a.m. Leader Nerys Harvey.

SATURDAY 8 AUGUST: JACKSONS JAUNT (187). A figure of 8 walk with a total distance of 20 miles consisting of 2 x 10 mile circuits. Walkers can choose whether they walk the full 20 miles or just join the party for a 10 miles in the morning or the afternoon. The morning session starts at 9.30 a.m. and the afternoon session starts at 2.30 p.m. from the main car park in Cranleigh, GR 058250. Leader Phyl Jackson.

SUNDAY 11 SEPTEMBER: GUILDFORD MARATHON (175). A 25 mile walk to the Chilterns starting and finishing at Marlow Rugby Club, GR 862863. The route will be going up to the Wycombe this year. There will also be a 10 a'clock start for runners as well as the usual 9 a'clock start. Details from Vince Smith in due course.

SUNDAY 18 SEPTEMBER: GUILDFORD BOUNDARY WAY (186 & 187). The now well established 2 1/2 mile walk which follows approx the pre 1974 boundary of the Guildford Borough. Families and younger walkers are particularly encouraged to take part. Details from Barbara Blatchford in due course.

PATH CLEARANCE

It was decided not to organize a path clearance party this season as the summer is not really a suitable time for it. Barbara Blatchford did indicate that there is further work to be done on Blatchford Down and a date (or dates) will be arranged next meeting.

NATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Just a reminder that the Annual General Meeting of the LDWA will take place at 7 p.m. on Saturday 12 March 1983 at the Ross George Hotel, Clifton, Bristol. The annual dinner will follow in the evening but I understand this is now fully booked so it is unlikely you will be able to get a place if you haven't already booked. The Bristol and West Group will be organizing a couple of walks on the Sunday.

TWENTY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

The Tanners warthen included in the above programme is the 25th and as it is held annually, it naturally follows that the 25th will be held in 1984. Barbara Blatchford is compiling a history of the first quarter century of this popular event, out of which, the LDWA itself was formed. To help her, Barbara would like to hear from anybody who took part in the first Tanners in 1960. It was thought that the Tanners was going to be a "one off" job so no records were kept and hence the need to re-construct. All those who took part in the first Tanners will be entitled to a free entry on the 1984 event.

MASTERS AND WIDENS SERIES OF ROAD RACES

The three annual races organized by the Midac Fun Run League are to be held on the following dates:

- 8th May: Leatherhead 10 - Details from Peter Short.
- 10th July: Cranleigh 15 - Details from Ken Saunders.
- 9th October: Alan Blatchford Masters and Widens Marathon - Details from Roger Smith.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT - DISCOUNT TO LDWA MEMBERS

Dave Challenger has pointed out that Langa of Richmond have a wide selection of walking and camping equipment and will give a 10% discount to LDWA members. Their address is 15 Hill Rise, Richmond, Surrey and the telephone number is (01)-940 3283.

I would also like to remind members that LDWA member Ray Jolly runs a sports shop in Farnborough and will also give a 10% discount to LDWA members. The name of the shop is 4 Sport and the address is 83 Lynchford Road, Farnborough, Hants. Telephone Farnborough 42546. Ray attends many of the events with some of his stock and will be happy to put a particular item on hand if you give him a ring.

EXTRACT FROM LETTER

From an organizer who was explaining why he had had to change the route:

"..... Some of the paths I had intended to take do not exist on the ground and others are in such a state that even Smith would hesitate before leading us down them....."

There is no indication to which Smith the remark refers.

PAST EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

The introduction of a new event in November - The Coal Tax Easter - proved very popular with 109 taking part, ages ranging from 6 to 70+. The venue for this event was Wilton-on-the-Hill and the route was devised by using some of the 200 coal tax posts forming a circle round London as checkpoints. 88 completed the 12 mile course, 11 completed the 15 mile course and 22 completed the 18 mile course. It is hoped to organize another Coal Tax Easter in 1977 using some of the posts in the Esher area.

The new traditional post Christmas Winter Windsor Wander was very much enjoyed by the 42 walkers and runners who took part. Most had the choice of completing the 15 mile or 19 mile route but one or two who arrived at the point where the routes divide, found the way blocked on the 19 mile route because the royal family were walking in that part of the park. Many took advantage of the Fox and Hounds at Didsbury while others waited until the end to quench their thirst at the 10th just opposite the venue at Peters Sports Club.

A record number of 212 walkers took part in the Surrey Long Easter on 2nd January. I understand the muddy paths encountered were well up to the Keith Clouston standard so much so that Frances Davies has devised an alternative set of clubs for the "not the Surrey Long Easter" which appear elsewhere in this newsletter. For some it turned out to be a pilgrimage of sorrow, for when arriving at the Acacia at Romsey they learned that they were visiting their last post of Salix Alba in that establishment because Courage were to take the pub over at the end of the week. In addition to the mud elsewhere there was rain overhead to contend with but even so 129 completed the 13 mile course while a further 71 completed the 10 mile.

The Winter Tamers also had a record 278 entries with 219 of these making the starting line. The day was cloudy and mild but dry even though again a lot of mud was encountered. There were 204 finishers but a retirement rate of 15% is rather high for this event.

Our path clearing operations were directed towards the park on the Surrey Downs route just after closing off Salisbury Hill. There were only 8 who turned up but even so they got to work and soon had the vegetation cleared back so that progress along the path will not be impeded. We got the job done in time for a plot in the Kings Road at Salisbury and then in the afternoon, walked out part of the Winter Tamers route.

Brian Leigh gave us a very interesting slide show on 10th November about walking in the north. It certainly deserved to be better patronized but the 8 who did come along enjoyed seeing some of Brian's favourite views of all over the North of England as well as some incidents during challenge visits such as the Teesdale Marathon.

Our 2 autumn social walking activities are covered by separate reports.

CHAIRMAN'S CHOICE WALK 17 by Ken Hadfield

The walk this year was blessed with good weather. Mine in number, 8 ladies and 1 man, set off from Farnham castle at 9.15 a.m. Our route took us westwards through Dipseshall, across the A31 and the river Wey at Willey Mill. As we entered Alice Holt Forest, the morning mist began to lift and we were treated to some sunshine which was to remain with us for the rest of the day. At the southern end of the forest, we joined the Pilgrims 140 route for a short time but at Freshman Manor, we turned toward Freshman Great Pond thence onto the little pond. Liquid refreshment was taken at the Barley Row at Tilford. We spent a pleasant hour engaged in social sabbatage.

Back now on the Pilgrims route we proceeded through pleasant countryside till just off Shackleford, where we turned northwards onto Putterhoe Common. Now on the North Downs Way which brought us back to Farnham and our starting point.

Once again an enjoyable days walking in good company.

HIKING IN THE BLACK MOUNTAINS by Richard Ireson

Friday 29th October saw Surrey Group's hire minibus heading along the M4 for South Wales. Tony Rowley met us as we crossed the Severn Bridge and conducted us towards our destination. Stopping only in Abergavenny for some via ordinaire de pays Gwynedd we discovered the local off licenses don't open in the evening. However, after late night shopping at Tesco, we resumed our route. Arriving at Geofford Farm, we searched for our beds. Unfortunately our tax balance was unexpected so some of the party had to try every bedroom with a diligence normally associated with the need to pass every checkpoint (and indeed to go back again when taken in the wrong order).

Having unpacked, the Surrey Group real life expeditionary force was dispatched under John's leadership. Reporting back that good Braies were available at the Castle, we realized that everything pointed to a splendid weekend. However, our first challenge was fast approaching. Splitting into 2 dining groups we sat down to dinner. We started with a "creamy farmhouse soup" then onto roast pork with 11 vegetables, followed by trifle or fruit salad - all washed down with some local wine (from Tesco) and some less local wine (from Tony Youngs).

Mrs Prosser's cooking was fantastic. After a briefing by Tony Rowley in front of the blazing log fire in the drawing room with the wedgewood on the Welsh dresser, a full task force went to get Braies.

Saturday morning, after a full breakfast, we assembled to tackle the Black Mountains. First we were joined by Pauline and David Shore and Colin Seddon. Heading east, we ascended 500 metres of ridge to Mawn Fach (811 metres). Unfortunately the mist came in as we headed south east to Pen y Gader Fawr. There followed a long ridge walk, in the mist, where we aspired that views were spectacular. As we got to the end of the ridge, our leader showed himself to be in the best traditions of a British field Marshall. Leading sufficiently far from the front, the party split in two. The discussion as to the rear party's position ensued. It was commented that it was a pity that we were not going to Partrishaw church whose original road screen was a fine example. After discussion, we decided to go "that way". Eventually we met our leader who commented that it was a pity we had not been with him as he passed Partrishaw church. Rude scream!!

Refreshing ourselves at the Red Lion in Llanbedr at lunchtime, we ate our home made pasties and cakes from the oven of Mrs Prosser. We then headed up Table Mountain to Pen Cerrig-celch and then Pen Allt Newr (719 metres). As we descended by way of Rhydod Llysiann, the mist momentarily cleared. The vista that unfolded about us was indeed. As we dropped down it was clear that Surrey's reputation for liking a good deep bit of mud was well known and fully satisfied. After our 23 mile horseshoe we headed for a hot bath. After a splendid dinner (only 9 vegetables with the turkey) another Braie stopping session followed.

Sunday morning, after another full breakfast, we headed for a lower 12 mile walk down to Tretower calling at the Tretower Inn (of course) and back to Geofford. After a very full farmhouse tea, we that is, Neryn and June Harvey, Dave Challenger, Tony Youngs, Peter Young, Mark Scovell, John Westcott, Sue and Jeff Boyman, Carole and Ron Walters, Richard Ireson, Ian Blake, Joan Wren and Frances Davies, climbed back in the van after a very enjoyable weekend. We really recommend Mrs Prosser's Hospitality - Geofford Farm, Talgarth, Powys. Talgarth 711360.

Our thanks to Tony Rowley for leading and Neryn Harvey for driving.

CASTRONOWICS GALLOP by Carole Walters

Seven days before Christmas, we start our festivities with the Surrey Group's annual dinner raffle with an aperitif walk to stimulate our appetites for the sirloin of beef at the Harwood Inn at Feelsake in the evening. Rise "Christmas spirits" crunched across the hard frosty route recited by Chris Steer and Tony Youngs pretentiously. We wandered through some beautiful Surrey countryside and warmed up crossing Halesbury Hill although the skies threatened snow, only a few flakes were in evidence and these didn't last long, the sun gradually breaking through to give a lovely day for walking. Frances, Carole and Ron, in true festive spirit with Holly in their hats, while the landlord at the Kings Head for the first weevil. NO complaints from John Westcott so we assume the brew was acceptable. After a

photograph to prove we were still sober, we proceeded eastwards to catch the Wizard at Westcott (The Wizard must have finished the Cricketers). Chris organized the walk so that our boots were well coated with slurry, with the exception of Gipsy Challenger's boots - who with some levitation managed to keep his boots boots etc. - and all this left prior to measuring the new carpet from door to door. The strongest hangers together with various parties were a very successful party.

After almost falling asleep in the hostility, we headed for Blatchford Down. The sun sailing gently westward through the crisp air. We took note of the newly erected sheep fencing to the perimeter of the down with its new styles and 5-bar gates and saw accommodation its doors or so grazing lawfully. Farmers noticed a free roost that Dave had omitted to grab out during the initial path clearance - don't know why the cat down to take note, presumably to study its whereabouts. Keith Chesterton was looking for voters amongst the hedgehogs usually in the descent to Blatchford Hamlet where some of us attacked watercress sandwiches, various bread, bread pudding etc as dusk closed in. In darkness we returned via Burrows Cross with a clear starry sky, a new moon and the frost already falling. A jolly good walk enjoyed by everyone.

The two rooms available for us at the Burwood Inn to allow us to change for dinner were appreciated. Already other Surrey Group members, without ruddy complexion, were arriving and altogether 20 people sat down to the Burrows meal. Tony Young opened the speech making later with a reply from the chairman and a response from some local politician who somehow got himself into the party.

The food was good, great company and all in all a perfect day - don't especially for one or two who had booked rooms to stay the night.

In the walk: Chris Steer, Keith Chesterton, John Westcott, Gipsy Challenger, Heryn Harvey, Francis Davies, Barbara Blatchford, Ron and Carole Walford.

HOW THE SURREY ENDS PARTIES

An alternative set of clues to the group's new year favourite:

- 075491 What lays the footpath? What is the effect of 'bocking' it?
- 086437 How far down is solid ground? (If you reach Australia you have gone too far.)
- 088494 What is the depth of the pond to the valley off the footpath? Why are there no ducks swimming in it?
- 097510 What weight of mud can be carried on two travelling shoes?
- 098493 What width of dry ground is there between the frozen path and the fence? - answer to nearest millimetre.
- 094402 Is there anything in the funny logs, potatoes are giving you?
- 090473 Save the legibility of the checkbook signs with staff from 0-10. Wrong figures will not be accepted.
- 080478 Will it stop raining before you get back to the bus?
- 092405 How is it that this is so enjoyable?

WALKS AROUND MIMSWOOD

Vince Smith has recently published a book under the title 'Mimswood', being a guide to 15 walks in the area from Addlestone to Minsar Great Park. The walks are all around the 4 mile mark, which although modest by LMA standards, will undoubtedly be of interest to members who like the occasional saunter, especially with the family. The book costs 95 pence or can be obtained direct from Vince at £1.15 post paid.

THE SURREY GROUP BADGE

The Surrey group cloth badges are now available at a cost of £1 each. The two designs submitted by John Foster are reproduced on the front and back covers of this newsletter (the smaller design being the inner part of the larger). We finally decided to use the smaller design for the cloth badge, mainly because it was felt that members would consider the price of the larger to be too much.

The colours are royal blue on a white background.

If you would like a cloth badge as the design reproduce on the front cover of this newsletter, please send £1 and a stamped addressed envelope to Dave Challenger.

THE BADGE EXPLAINED

CROSS: Two. The field and the design. Colour on metal.

A TOWER: For Leith Hill, highest point in Surrey at 1000 feet. The conventional display of a tower construction (stone blocks) is also the symbolic method of showing chalk in geology/textiles. (A Paradox that Leith Hill stands on other than chalk.)

TOWER SUPPORTERS: "S" and "1" reverse side Stone Street, one of the early long distance walks across the county. Also S for Surrey. The waterford might suggest that the tower and its supporters is representative of an association whose members are strong in support of the dispatch of the contents of forming two handled tubs. Can be confirmed or denied.

INSIGNIA: LORA "walking man" logo.

A SCUD: of wings in celebration of the fleet of foot.

LETTERED BAND: Associations and groups title.

CHIEF: Acorn (Quercus Robur Linnaeus) rampant, supported on six old acorns representing the seven flags hoisted at Kingston.

The following is on the outer border which is not part of the cloth badge.

13 OF THE LETTER 'C': 'C' for centuries or hundreds - the number of the old land divisions in the county.

Dexter: (centre left) Pilgrims staff and satchel for the Pilgrims Way.

Sinister: (centre right) For Stone Street, a Roman surveyors measuring rod and survey instruments (a staff, 4 arms and 4 plumb bobs, one authentic) and flints principal road material in Roman Surrey.

MOTTO: "Gestum Abula". "Carry on walking" or "keep walking". Generally descriptive of the associations aim.

EXCERPT: Area of De Wrethene, first earl of Surrey in William II reign - 1067 to 1100.

Good walking everybody and wear your badge with pride.

John Westcott.

