

LONG DISTANCE  
WALKERS ASSOCIATION  
SURREY GROUP



REPORT AND PROGRAMME - FEB 1985

CHAIRMAN:

Dan Hadfield, 9 Lawday Link, Upper Hale, Farnham.  
Farnham 722694

SECRETARY:

John Westcott, 34 Bracken Way, Chobham, Woking.  
Chobham 6672

TREASURER:

Dave Challenger, 44 Agate Lane, Ashted.  
Ashted 77135

OTHER ORGANIZERS IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

Mike Hardie, 12 Leatherhead Road, Leatherhead.  
Leatherhead 372846

Tony Youngs, 17 Linkfield Lane, Redhill.  
Redhill 63611

Stanley Thornley, 19 Barn Meadows Lane, Great Bookham  
Bookham 54646

Brian Williams, 64 Mabeys Walk, High Wych, Sawbridgeworth  
Herts. 0279 724163

Peter Short, 4 Barn Close, Addlestone.  
Weybridge 42481

Barbara Blatchford, 11 Thornbank, Guildford  
Guildford 60085

Valerie Challenger, 12 Larkspur Way, West Ewell.  
01-377 0337

### THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

There were 35 members who attended the A. G. M. on 30th January. The little family room at the Lord Howard was not really up to catering for so many and one or two had to sit on the floor but the meeting went well.

A copy of the financial statement presented by the treasurer at that meeting for the period ended 31st December 1984 is reproduced in this newsletter. We still finished up with more money at the end of the year than we had at the beginning even though we made a number of donations and spent a large amount on equipment.

Among the donations was one to Mike Harvard to assist with his fund raising to take part in Operation Raleigh. Mike has agreed to give a talk to us about his adventures when he returns and possibly show a few slides.

It was agreed the group subscription be increased to 50p.

It was agreed that donations of £60 and £30 be made to the National Trust and the Hartwood Control respectively. Correspondence received from the National Trust had indicated that they expect 15p per entrant where organized walks used their properties. The feeling of the meeting was that while we very much appreciate the work of the National Trust we do not wish to set any precedent which may suggest we were paying to use rights of way. We will continue to make a discretionary donation from group funds, such amount to be decided at the A. G. M.

The meeting affirmed that the present informal arrangement for running the group continues and there was no need for a constitution to be drawn up.

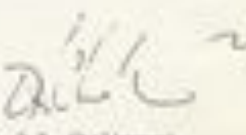
Dan Hadfield, John Westcott and Dave Challenger were "elected" Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer respectively again. Dan for the 5th successive year and John and David both for the 7th successive year. Its getting to be a life sentence.

A motion was discussed that too much road had been used in the routes of the last 2 L. D. W. A. 100 mile events. It was agreed the secretary write to the national committee expressing concern at the trend and asking them to influence future organisers to reduce road walking to a minimum.

**LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION  
SURREY GROUP**

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1983**

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>1983</u>	<u>1982</u>
		£	£
Balance Brought Forward		233.64	247.83
Members subscriptions (incl. £25.00 donations) *		17.88	80.85
Donations for use of equipment		4.00	4.00
<b>Excess:</b>			
Surrey 1000 Raster	23.90		
Muirar Tumara	1.08		
Punchmore Marathon	138.67		
Surrey Summits	262.14		
Guildford Boundary Walk	- *		
Victorian Raster	24.52		
<b>Total</b>		<u>450.21</u>	<u>332.75</u>
		<u>683.85</u>	<u>580.58</u>
* Membership 1983 - 121; 1982 - 129.			
* Total of £212.31 (incl. £39.85 from sale of badges) donated to 1st Guildford Suburb.			
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Rise of Hallie		5.00	23.50
Secretary's Expenses		100.36	106.44
Treasurer's Expenses		4.50	4.63
<b>Donations:</b>			
National Trust	40.00		
Mottwood Control	20.00		
Dunera Hatch (map case glass)	10.00		
S.K. Harvard (Operation Raleigh member)	50.00	90.00	5.00
Christmas Dinner		13.50	19.43
Equipment purchases		233.74	4.10
<b>Badges etc. (not expenditure):</b>			
Surrey Group	(139.73)		
Surrey Summits	(12.00)		
Guildford Boundary	- **		
Tee-shirts	-		
<b>Total</b>		<u>(151.73)</u>	<u>(51.53)</u>
Balance of income over expenditure		<u>532.12</u>	<u>529.05</u>
** See above.			
Cash in Hand	17.34		
Money at Bank in current account	206.47		
	<u>223.81</u>		
<b>Badges and Tee-shirts held in stock</b>			
Surrey Group 133 x £1.00	133.00		
Surrey Summits 341 x £0.75	255.75		
Guildford Boundary -	-		
Tee-shirts 4 x £3.50	14.00		
	<u>382.75</u>		

  
 S.K. Challenger,  
 Hon. Treasurer.  
 29th January 1984

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 1984

Looking over my last report, I made reference to plans being made for 1984. How did your plans for the year work out? I trust your year was as successful as planned.

As far as the group activities the year was a good one with all our walks having good attendances. The highlight of the year being the 25th Tanners Marathon with the usual large field of walkers/runners/joggers. Dare one think of the 50th Tanners. Perhaps not, and just take each year as it comes.

No doubt many of you are aware that the Surrey Summits Committee decided to disqualify the leading 8 finishers in the 1984 event due to infringement of the 'no running rule'. From remarks that I have heard and comments made to me it would appear that maintaining the event as a walk only is popular. I sincerely hope that the Surrey Group will be able to keep this tough challenge as it is and that the 1985 event, the tenth incidentally, will be a great success.

As chairman of the group I think I must thank John Westcott for all the hard work he does as our secretary, also for organizing the Winter Tanners and the Surrey Summits.

Thanks also to Dave Challenger for keeping the books in order.

To all other organisers of events, kanters and social walks thanks for your efforts.

As regards the group programme, we are always in need of helpers at the checkpoints and at the finish. Please do not be shy and it can be great fun.

As a closing thought, why not consider taking part in a walk one year and the following year be a helper.

All the best for 1985.

Den Sedfield.

## PAST EVENTS AND WALKS

### THE DALES TRAVERSE

Once again Mervyn Harvey organised another splendid trip by Surrey Group to places where the Summits exceed 1000 ft. The 28th September saw Barbara Blatchford, Molly White, Chris Coates, Keith Howitt and Richard Ireson climb aboard the minibus to head for the Yorkshire Dales. On the long drive up the M1 we heard an indeterminate weather forecast and wondered quite what type of week-end we were letting ourselves in for. Arriving in Airton, just south of Malham, a welcome meal awaited those who were soft enough to opt for bed and breakfast whilst the rain softened the campsite for Keith and Chris! Over dinner we casually mentioned our intention to walk the 25 mile traverse the next day to our landlady to be told in her broad Yorkshire accent "That can't be right, nobody does 25 miles". Having told her about the LDMA she returned to her kitchen with bemused laughter.

The next morning the sky had cleared and we headed into Malham, met up with Ken Mayhew, and headed for the west end of Mastiles Lane to start the Traverse. As we walked over the open dales we realised that the rain had gone and the sun was coming up. Having rented a camper van from the pub we descended to Kilnsey and Conistone. Then it was up to a superb high level limestone terrace that formed part of the Ancient Wharfedale Ridgeway. After dropping down into Kettlewell we began the long, long pull up to Buckden Pike. After lunch in the mist we dropped down to Buckden for a welcome tea (!) at the Post Office and then up and over to the next dale, through Arncliffe and as darkness fell we finished what all agreed was a splendid walk. Apart from the distance, nearly 6000 ft of ascent reminded us of the contrast to a walk in Surrey.

Sunday morning saw a short walk through Malham and up and over Gordale Scar. All agreed we would recommend both the Traverse (described in Strider, August 1983, p22) and Mrs Robinson's accommodation and cooking (Lindon House, Airton, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 4 SE, 07293 418). Many thanks to Mervyn.

Richard Ireson.

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### THE THIRD COMMONS CLIMP

This was a short 12 mile Saturday Afternoon Ramble round the heathlands, pine woods, ponds and streams of Milford, Horeell The Bleak, Longcross and Chobham Commons, situated in North West Surrey, including the highest point of Staple Hill 74m (or Chobham Clump to the locals), the summit of which was once again attempted and successfully climbed by all the party (in spite of an ice cream van in the car park!)

After a short diversion to inspect the earth works of the mysterious bee garden on the heath, the seventeen members and friends soon returned to "Foxhollow" and tucked into the high tea prepared by 'goodwife Margaret'.

For the fourth walk an exciting reversal of the customary route, with diversions, is planned.

Chris Steer.

### PEASLAKE 'PERITIF

Referring back to the previous 2 rambles, it is encouraging to see that the number walking prior to the evening festivities is steadily increasing. This year some 17 stalwarts, lead as customary by Chris Steer, set off at 10.a.m. from the car park at Peaslake to the accompaniment of such rhubarb-rhubarb! However the level of chatter diminished suddenly some 200 yards on when Chris turned east up a fairly steep and slippery incline in the direction of Holsbury St Mary, but shortly bearing right to pass the reservoir on the way up to the top of Holsbury Hill.

Unless you are very unlucky with the weather, the view from here is always enjoyable but this day was rather exceptional. Southward in the direction of Edhurst, an extensive thin slice of mist lying very low down obscured the far ground and left one with the distinct impression that coastal erosion had suddenly taken off in a very significant manner.

Realizing the strong emotions raised by such a scene can produce sudden and rapid dehydration - the bon sec being particularly vulnerable - Chris made tracks for the nearest first aid post in Holsbury St Mary, which was charmingly disguised as The Kings Head. By this time it was 11.05 and such is the ingratitude of man that there

immediately arose a complaining voice that as the pub opened at 10.30. we were half an hour late!

Suitably refreshed we were able to continue in an easterly direction up to the tower on Leith Hill. Here again we paused to admire the view, this time through the wide gap in the trees towards the north.

On down the slope, then left and northwards to Broadmoor and past the lake at Friday Street, finishing up at Abinger Bottom where we made our lunchtime stop at the Abinger Hatch. Good use was made of the varied selection of bar meals available and coupled with the huge log fire everyone within seemed most satisfied with their lot.

Time being called we left a little reluctantly going through the churchyard to stop just on the far side to contemplate the small but neat section that remains of the old coat. ON again through Saikes Farm, then over the road and fields to Gosnell, then finally Shere where we made our last refreshment stop - tea and games - very nice.

It was pretty dark by the time we left. There were, in the open, large growing fir trees that some proud residents had festooned with coloured lights to impress their distant neighbours - and we! Past Cottersmill Farm and Burgeones then over one long field and we were once again back in Peaslake. Rooms were available at the Inn for a quick change into something more suitable for the dinner.

The meal was served on time and fully merited the general approval by which it was received by the 37 present.

Brian Eigh made a most effective speech after the meal in which he presented a thumbnail sketch of, and paid tribute to, the chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. In his reply, Dan was rash enough to admit to enjoying his office as Chairman - none of your arm twisting needed there - yet.

Thanks to Chris for leading and also to Tony recited the route with him and also organized the dinner. Thanks also to Margaret who inspired the selection of the afternoon tea stop which was such a good choice. Everyone had enjoyed a first rate day out.

Ken Maybew.

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#### OTHER WALKS AND ACTIVITIES IN BRIEF

David and Barbara chose a sunny November day for their Victorian Kater. Most of the 131 starters were treated to a historical lesson, with it's theme being the former Lovelace Estate and it's 19th century buildings, as they navigated their way round an 18 or 12 mile course. I say most of the starters because I understand one gave up before getting out of the door. There were 124 who were registered as having completed their chosen (or enforced) route although quite a few contravened the 4.p.m. time limit.

On the path clearing session on Hackhurst Downs we again amazed John Cranham - the National Trust warden - how quickly superfluous vegetation was cleared. there is still a little tidying up required, mainly de stumping, which we will be going back to do on the afternoon of 14th April - after the fun run. It is hoped the path will be waymarked shortly.

A social walk 20 miles outside the Surrey area and advertized as having no pub stop does not seem to be a combination to attract a good turn out. Add to this the pouring rain as we got up that morning and it was surprising that about 14 assembled in the Selborne car park, including Roy Dillway who had cycled more than 20 miles to get there, to walk Tom Anderson's Selborne Expedition. This was a walk in Gilbert White country through the pouring rain but Tom's enthusiastic love of the area was quite evident in his conversation so that we could imagine the views even if we could not see them through the mist. We stopped at Hawkley for lunch, about 200 yards away from a pub, in spite of the advanced warning. Two took advantage of this unexpectedness but, such is the susceptibility of man to be brainwashed into thinking he is not going to have a pub stop, most of the party sat on the seat by the church wall to eat their sandwiches with rain dripping down their necks off the yew trees. I think Tom was trying to beat Keith Chesterton's record for the muddiest walk and although it was a good try, he never quite made it. Undoubtedly the potential was there and perhaps Tom will arrange for the walk to be repeated in the hope of getting some better weather.



Malph Kenley's winter Windsor Wander went well with 46 taking part on this meander through Windsor Great Park to get rid of the Christmas excesses. Once again the bar of the Fetters Sports Club was a welcome equivalent to the golfers 19th hole.

The Surrey Inns Canter was held on a beautiful clear day. There were 171 taking part with 109 completing the 12 mile course while 46 completed the 16 miler. Keith Chesterton boasts having the lowest entry fee of any event - 30 pence but even this modest sum offends his socialist outlook because he is reducing the fee to 10 pence for children next year. Another feature of next years event will be the use of St Catherine's bridge (currently under construction) which will mean routes can be planned further out to the east.

Unsettled weather caused some to doubt whether the Winter Tanners would take place but the day was fine enough if somewhat cold. The snow on the footpaths had laid about for a fortnight before the event making it icy to cause some problems but probably better than being mild and muddy. There were 166 starters and 147 finished the 30 mile route.

#### THE HABAC FUN RUN LEAGUE

As predicted, after the final run in the 1984 league the LDWA finished second from bottom and with the bottom team having withdrawn for the 1985 league we are now firmly at the bottom after the first run. In this league points are gained for participation as well as placings so anybody who takes part and finishes will gain points for their team and we could do with a few more points. Runs are usually about 4 to 6 miles across country and those arranged for the early part of 1985 are:-

Sun 10 March	Richmond Park
Sun 14 April	Hinswood
Sun 16 June	Farley Heath
Wed 10 July	Wimbledon Common.

Sunday starts are at 11.a.m. and the Wimbledon Common event will be held in the evening (probably 7 or 7.30). Further details can be obtained from Mike Hardle.

PROGRAMME TO JULY 1985 SAE with all postal enquiries

The following programme includes 3 events and these events can only take place with the help of volunteer marshals. In particular the Surrey Summits is our big occasion of the year and the marshals required are many and almost entirely drawn from Surrey Group members. If you can spare some time over the weekend of 30/31st March please contact John Westcott. I am sure Barbara Blatchford and Peter Short will be pleased to have offers of help on behalf of the Tanners and the Weybac respectively.

At the AGM it was agreed the Weybac be subsidized by up to £35, if necessary, to ensure that it did not get cancelled because of lack of support as it did in 1984.

The numbers following the event etc are the OS 1:50000 map(s) covering the route or location.

Sunday 3 March FIRE FROLIC (198 & 199): The seven part exploration of the South Downs that started with the Amberley Aisle in 1978 finds its finale in the Fire Frolic. Twenty plus miles by the river, by the sea and on the downs. Start 9.30 a.m. from Alfriston Car Park. TQ 520053. Illustrated route description available from Tony Youngs. If you wish to follow the route on one map the whole route is covered on OS 1" number 183.

Saturday and Sunday 30/31 March SURREY SUMMITS (186 & 187): A 100 kilometre challenge walk over the popular hills of central and western Surrey. Start and finish at Guildford. Start 10 a.m. Saturday and all to finish by 1 p.m. Sunday (26 hour time limit). Closing date for entries is 28th February. Details from John Westcott.

Sunday 14 April PATH CLEARANCE (187): To put finishing touches to the path cleared on 25th November between GRs 091484 and 097491 - mainly de-stumping. Meet 1 p.m. at Gomball Station Car Park just off the A25. GR 088478 or take your own way to the path between above grid refs.

Sunday 21 April STANLEY STAGGERS (187): A 20 mile social walk from Leatherhead western car park GR 163566 (near the station). The walk will start at

9.a.m. and will go mainly to the east of the A24.  
Out along the tops and back in the valley with a  
pub stop in between. Leader Stanley Thornley.

Wednesday 5 June PROGRAMME PLANNING MEETING (187):

At the Lord Howard Effingham GR 103561. 7.30.p.m.  
for 8

Friday and Saturday 7/8 June LIMNEY WAY (190 & 199):

A coach trip being organized by the Essex/Werts  
group to walk this 40 mile meandering route devised  
by John Merrill in the Peak District National Park  
from Castleton to Thorpe. The coach leaves the  
London area late Friday evening to travel overnight  
starting the walk early Saturday morning. After  
completing the walk board the coach to arrive back  
in London late Saturday night or early Sunday morning.  
Details from Brian Williams.

Sunday 23 June WEYBAC WALK (186 & 187): An easy 17 mile  
walk along the towpath of the Wey navigation from  
Godalming to the British Aerospace Sports Ground at  
Weybridge. Start from Godalming at 10.a.m. with a  
coach available leaving Weybridge at 3.45.p.m. to  
transport walkers to the start. A place on the  
coach must be booked in advance. Details from Peter  
Short.

Wednesday 26 June MIDSUMMER EVENING WALK (186 & 187):

From 11 Thornbank Guildford. GR 983493 starting at  
7.p.m. About 8 to 10 miles and the route will  
hopefully use the new St Catherine's bridge over the  
River Wey. Leader Barbara Blatchford.

Sunday 7 July TANNERS MARATHON (186 & 187): The Tanners

goes into its second quarter century with this years  
30 mile route going out as far as St Marthas hill,  
using part of the downs link and uses some of those  
very lovely paths on the lower slopes of the downs  
just north of the A25. The 10 mile mini marathon,  
with the optional quiz, will also be held in con-  
junction with the main event. Details from Valeria  
Challenger.

I am afraid the programme again does not include a slide  
show but it is a matter of getting another venue because  
the Lord Howard is not suitable. We hope to arrange  
something for the autumn.

#### KEITH CHESTERTON TO LEAD START OF BIG WALK

As part of their golden jubilee celebrations, The Ramblers Association are organizing a 2000 mile walk on footpaths around England. The start will be from Holloway College, Egham at 2.30.p.m. on 31st March 1985 and as it coincides with the National Council being held at the college that weekend there will be many ramblers taking part from all parts of the country. Keith Chesterton is to lead the first days session from Holloway College to Sunningdale Station where the E T A is 5.p.m. Remembering some of the incidents on the Hasbledon to Hasbledon and route finding on the Surrey Inns Kester I do hope Keith intends using less controversial and more penetrable paths on this occasion.

The following day (1st April) walkers start from Sunningdale Station along Keith's London Countryway which they follow for the next 4 days. Altogether 400 miles will be in the RA's south east area including, in addition to the London Countryway, parts of North Downs Way, Wealdway, South Downs Way, Essex Way and Thames Walk. The daily mileage is modest by LIMA standards and the 2000 miles will take 181 days.

The RA are anxious to see large numbers of walkers at the start and finish of the walk so do your best to get along to Holloway College on the afternoon of 31st March. It will be a nice "settle down" walk for those who took part in the Surrey Summits.