



LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION

SURREY GROUP

Report and Programme - February 1967

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Sat JANUARY 1988

There were 21 members who attended the meeting. It should have been one more but Keith Chasterton went to the Earl Bagh instead of the Lord Howard and as nobody else turned up there, decided the meeting had been cancelled because of fog, and so went home. In the past Keith has turned up at the Chairman's dinner a week late and set up an event he was organising at the wrong hall. It would seem Keith does not wish to join in our activities.

The treasurer presented the statement of account for year ended 31st December 1986 showing a balance of income over expenditure as at that date of £426.29. The full statement is reproduced elsewhere in this newsletter.

It was decided to make donations of £20.00 and £25.00 to The National Trust and the Burwood Control respectively.

Des Redfield, John Westcott and Liz Wiggins were elected chairman, secretary and treasurer respectively. Des, having previously declared that he would not be seeking re-election at this AGM, was persuaded to change his mind and allow himself to be elected for a seventh successive year. Des Challenger resolutely stuck to his declared intention to terminate his 8 year run as treasurer giving way to the Group's first ever female officer. The meeting gave him a vote of thanks for keeping the books in such good order during his period of office and I too would like to add my personal thanks to Des for the support he has given the chairman and myself since we were first entrusted with our respective offices back in 1979. I would also like to welcome Liz to our ranks. I am sure she will continue to look after the group's finances just as diligently. For my own part, I am happy to continue as secretary.

Derek Nagall's latest news to group members have included a notification that now the LSWA is a Governing Body of the Sports Council, local groups are entitled to have representation on the Regional Standing Conference for Sports and Recreation. The entitlement is 2 delegates per region and the area covered by the Southern Region includes 4 local LSWA groups - Surrey, Thames Valley, Wessex and Wiltshire. It was not known what benefits could be derived from having representation but the recommendation from the national committee is that local groups should have representation on the RSCSR in order to find out. Some members at the meeting thought the LSWA activities should not be associated with a sports body and it was difficult to see how attending the conference would assist the group in view of our strong financial position but it was agreed to accept the national committee's recommendation to arrange for delegates to be appointed for our region.

As Derek Nagall had requested the name of the group's representative by December 1986, John Westcott had registered himself as such on a temporary basis and no nobody at the meeting was willing to take the job on, he agreed to liaise with the other 3 group's representatives if anybody is interested in taking on the job of Surrey Group's representative would they please contact John Westcott for further details. The job of delegate would involve attending 4 to 5 meetings per year. I do not know where these meetings will be held but the secretary's address is Gaverham near Reading.

Tony Troup reported that Walton Heath Golf club wish to extend their golf course by 100 acres which would involve diverting 2 footpaths. Tony will be speaking against the proposal at a public enquiry on behalf of the RR and requested a motion to state he also represented the Surrey Group of the LSWA. The meeting duly agreed.

The newly elected chairman, concerned at the amount of time taken at the meeting on reporting past events and asserting the authority mandated to him by the meeting, requested all organisers of walks/events etc to let the secretary have a written report to be included in the newsletter either at the meeting or earlier by post if not attending the meeting. This would dispense with the need to have this item on the agenda. I would go further and suggest it would be better to let us have a written report some after the walk taken place as Tom Anderson always does. I can then put the report into the computer at intervals then relieving me of some of the work at the peak period just after the group meetings.

MEMBERSHIP FOR 1987

Just a gentle reminder that subscriptions for 1987 are now due. If you wish to remain on my mailing list for the Surrey Group Newsletter would you please remit 50p to Liz Higgins.

SNOWDONIA HEREED

As at 7th January 1987 there were over 200 entries on it will probably be fully subscribed by the time this newsletter is circulated. If you want to try the address for entry forms is on page 2 of Strider 48.

On the last Snowdonia Hereed in 1983, the Surrey Group missed the checkpoint at Boat Bayard (81 miles). Geoff Saunders, some time ago, gave us the option of missing that checkpoint again and I have written to him indicating we are taking up that option but as yet I have not got enough responses to see it. So if anybody would like to experience a weekend in the tranquil solitude of a quiet glade deep in the mountains of North Wales (apart from about 400 walkers going through) would you please volunteer your services to John Watrous.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - JANUARY 1987

Yes indeed it is time again for the thoughts of chairman Don. No, not in a booklet as per chairman Bob but a few informal words as per Surrey Group style.

I feel as a group we can look back over 1986 with a sense of satisfaction. The social walks were enjoyed by all who went along to take part. Especially I greatly enjoyed Tom Anderson's Ashbury Escapade and look forward to the others that Don has got planned along the Ridgeway!

As you all know the November 100 was a great success. Thanks to John Watrous for the great amount of work he put in to it, and no doubt a few sleepless nights!

Looking ahead our early season challenge events are on an even keel, with the Winter Tasters being postponed due to 'winter' weather conditions. Tony Young is starting his South Downs walks at the western end. This all indicates to me we have a good year ahead and I trust you who take part will enjoy yourselves. May I wish you every happy mile in 1987.

Well, in spite of my threat to resign as chairman it appears I am to remain. In a way it can be looked upon as a vote of confidence, but I warn you I shall not give you a second chance. You will have to throw me out.

Don Hatfield

DATE, VALUE, SYNOPSIS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Commons Clump - 11 Oct

This Good annual walk, devised and led by the editor (of Strider) from his home, inevitable they say for the refreshments afterwards, attracted 13 walkers. Conditions were dry under and over foot. After an alteration to the usual route to include a good stretch by the Bourne Stream instead of Russell Green, we were back on "The Clump" - must be good time to find that the Six trees we had pecked up and gone home! Never mind, we were carried back to cups of Margrove's tea and a fine spread.

Chris Street

Slide Show - 4 Nov

We went to Gillian Hall's home where she showed us how she had recorded her holiday to Morocco, particularly walking in the Atlas mountains, on film. The viewing room was a bedroom, most of us sitting on beds with backs to the wall and legs outstretched. Ian Redfield, as chairman, was seated in the big throne like arm chair with his favourite wife sitting at his feet and it did get so in mind that the room looked like his children getting their trust before they went to bed. The show proved very interesting, the slides giving a good indication of the scenery and the local people. A significant spread, with a choice of red or white wine was served after the show.

John Westcott

Franklin Easter - 9 Nov

In spite of a small early, 40 starters and finishers enjoyed a good day out. Being my first effort at organising an event, it was nice that so many commented on the route saying how much pleasure it gave.

I feel that if more publicity had been given the numbers would have been greater. Anyway the next one will have a long route over 20 miles so it can go to Strider.

My thanks to Jeff Ellingham for his advice and route checking, Dave Street for reserving times and my wife, Jean, for being a very good tea lady.

Ian Redfield

Belgate Round - 20 Nov

Buskers have made including one guest, the RA Footpath Secretary for Bognor and Binstead, George Bebo's, set out on the Belgate Round in rain gear, which came off after half-an-hour and then stayed off all day. One obstruction promised in the route description had been removed and another exacerbated, but the others were still there to provide amusement. After a stop at the Bus Festival we enjoyed shafts of sunlight spot-lighting the hills as we walked towards them through Leigh and Buckland. When we gained the ridge I carefully let 12 walkers get ahead while I acted as my own backmarker. Eight of us walked together over Gildy Hill, looking out to the lights of Selsey and beyond, and down to Belgate Station. The others turned up later.

Belgic and Burtland have just appointed an additional Highway Inspector who is to spend most of his time on rights of way. So I cannot promise the same entertainment in future.

Tony Trough

or another point of view - 200000 POUNDS FIGHTING - A ROCKLIFE REPORT.

As the mist cleared in the half morning light of Belgic station on 23rd November 1958 a group of Dedicated Freedom Fighters assembled to liberate the paths of Belgic and Burtland for the people. Tony, our experienced leader, handed us handwritten instructions with a sketchmap of the campaign. I admit I felt fear as techniques of surmounting barbed wire obstacles were explained. We were warned of resistance; some of our resources had passed to the Council's Director of Technical Services and to those occupying the land.

We started. I cracked a half hearted joke. Someone, at least tried to laugh. As we spread out over Priory Park I wondered if this was how Tom Stephenson felt when he led the attack on Slader. Tony, like Tom, insisted that some of us should carry arms. We passed golfers who were oblivious of our mission, ignored rattle and metal shooting across our path, sidestepped a 6 foot high wattle fence and, at last, along as we approached the expected wire of Deas Farm. It had been hastily wrapped in white sheet. We advanced, fearing this symbol of surrender was to trick us on. ahead lay an unknown depth of our slurry pathed by the generator of an electric fence. Courageously we went through it without casualty. Regrouping, we entered The Fox Pavilion. Friendly but downtrodden locals offered us ale. we pledged to restore the rights fought for by parliament.

As Tony put down his glass we recognized the signal to continue. Now we entered on the doublet path cleared for us earlier by a Tom volunteer. Through Stambolade, Leigh and Burtland we skirted after obstacles to assault the heights of Colley Hill. As we grew tired the darkness of the night engulfed us. Tony and half the others were suddenly nowhere to be seen. I committed Don but neither of us would admit the truth. We would just have to make our way back as best we could. Heading for the red light of the radio mast we listened to the heavy traffic thundering to trap us on Belgic Hill. we cut down a muddy gully and, with relief, saw the others heading safely home. Proudly Tony told us of our success and promised action is dispatched.

Richard Brown

Path Clearance - 20 Nov

The main objective of the path of the path clearing party was a bridleway in Waterfold that had not been used for many years. Thanks to some very energetic activity it was opened up and signed in readiness for the Water Sausers.

Football Preamble - 13 Dec

There were 16 of us who set out from Poodlake with the objective of working up an appetite for our dinner in the evening. It was not long before we opened up the Wadell at Fitch Hill and although most seemed to be drinking coffee, not long after ransacking the walls we were led into somebody's back garden. On to Shandy Green where we visited The

Bricklayers Arms for lunch and having "glared" out 2 other diners so that our party could fit snugly into a corner of the bar, we heard some tales from Ray Jolly, commencing from an operation, about his experiences as a soldier in the area. Later in the afternoon we stopped at There for tea where we had the choice of set teas called "There delight" and "There Extravagance" - got the best here I'd reserve for the dinner to come. We finished back at Pudding Lane where another 14 joined us for dinner at the Rutland Hotel. Oh I almost forgot - we did a walk as well.

John Westcott

Winter Window Winder - 28 Dec

There were 30 runners and 28 walkers who took part in this annual exercise to get rid of any excesses accumulated over the festive period. Some arrived a little late owing to the wrong time being stated in the newsletter. The arrangements were changed this year. The start was at Eaglefield Green and both runners and walkers took the same route which proved to be a long 17 miles. Previous events had included that long climb up Cooper's Hill and Ralph Huxley was not going to let participants also this year because we started at the top. True to tradition, after going round Windsor Great Park, the route went on an additional loop down to the Thames where running or walking through The Meads proved a very wet experience. The bar at the Eaglefield Sports Club was very welcome but it was a pity most of the walkers arrived back too late to take advantage of the facilities.

John Westcott

Surrey Iron Easter - 1 Jan

The numbers were down for the Thirteenth's Surrey Iron Easter. Out of the 125 who took part, 52 completed the long course, 88 completed the short course, 2 returned without completing their chosen route and 3 did not register back at the finish. The routes were mainly to the north of Guildford, the short going to Herriot Wood College and the long to Firbright. Keith is persevering with the same route next year but he must be coming out of ideas for new routes.

John Westcott

Winter Toppers - 18 Jan

Owing to adverse weather the Winter Toppers was postponed until 8th February. A short report will appear in the next newsletter.

Long Distance Walkers Association

SURREY GROUP

Statement of account for year ended 31st December 1985

	1985	1986
INCOME		
Balance Brought Forward	275.77	314.29
Members Subscriptions (inc 421.18 donations)	81.50	80.31
Donations for use of equipment etc	48.00	5.00
Events:		
Surrey Iron Easter	27.45	
Visitor Tasters	84.50	
Punchbowl Banquets	141.80	
Surrey Summit	242.95	
Poets Easter	118.00	
Wycher	18.85	
Guildford Boundary Walk	8.00	
Froebel Easter	1.20	412.20
Total		900.45

*Membership: 1985 = 134; 1986 = 135.
 *Profit of £94.97 donated to Surrey Wildlife Trust.

EXPENDITURE

Gifts of Balls	20.50	15.00
Secretary's Expenses	99.66	152.25
Treasurer's Expenses	4.00	7.62
Tony Cartwright's computer services	29.75	29.50
Donations:		
National Trust	50.00	
Burlwood Control	45.00	126.00
Christmas Dinner	8.00	13.30
Equipment Purchases		28.41
Badges etc (see expenditure)		
Surrey Group	15.00	
Surrey Summit	145.75	
Punchbowl	137.27	
Tee Shirts	18.00	82.50
Total		591.96
Balance of Income over expenditure	628.23	312.49
		940.72

Cash in hand 5.50
 Money at bank in current account 618.22
623.72

Badges and Tee-shirts in stock:
 Surrey Group badges - 125 @ £1.50 187.50
 Surrey Summit Badges 20 @ £0.75 15.00
 Punchbowl Badges (all sold) 137.27
 Tee shirts 2 @ £2.00 4.00
Total 343.77
 D & Challenger
 Box Treasurer
 1913 Jan 1987

Finally, I was very pleased when Lew Ruffald chose to include a few words about Gillian Bell's achievements during 1988 in his speech after the annual dinner. Gillian, always cheerful, is one of our most enthusiastic members, joining in most of our activities including events, social walks and meetings as well as organizing the slide show in November. In 1988 she went into the ultra long distance arena in a big way conquering both the Surrey Summit and the Downs. She also relates her experiences in her annual of triumph.

John Westcott

A RELUCTANT HUNDRED MILES

Several members tried to persuade me to enter for the Downsian Hundred. "No way!" was my reply. I was going to marshal and thoroughly enjoy the event.

My main goal for the year was to complete the Surrey Summit, preferably not by coming in last. Well, after training and research I did this, having walked through the night with a gentleman whose wrist came to the top of my head. Fortunately also has nothing to do with it (it's all of 5ft 10ins), it's all in the mind they tell you! Actually, they are right you know.

The problem was, nothing was further from my mind than doing the hundred. There was going to be a marathon hundred at the beginning of May, and a week before this the Surrey Group had a social walk. "Why don't you give it a go?" some of them said. This came the remark, "Staying in the half way stop and you know I can walk sixty miles. It's only a little way further."

I began to think again and had the details of the marathon walk sent to me a couple of days before. A very kind friend taking a car load down to Winchester, offered to pick me up at my home. How spoiled I was! I had it on a plate. I gathered my things together the night before and was thoroughly looking forward to the walk, not feeling anxious at all. My companions in the car were great company. I came to meet the other people three days. One professional hundred mile walker where I was staying at Eastbourne. I told him I was only going to Stapeley. I hadn't made any plans for Eastbourne. Everyone laughed, but little did they know, I was being serious.

The start was just like a friendly social. I knew nearly all of the fifteen starters and I couldn't have felt more at home. Back to my surprise we all seemed to walk at my pace for the first few miles. Needless to say I was now at the back with two very pleasant companions. Although it was overcast and drizzling during the morning, it was most enjoyable. By the afternoon the sun was shining, the countryside was beautiful and our support checkpoints were excellent. At about 50 miles one of my companions was suffering with his back and decided to change into running shoes which he wore until the end. It is amazing how infectious a pain or ache can be! Oh well I was half way to Stapeley and the evening was lovely, with a variety of English wild life emerging for its evening meal. The wild flowers were so pretty in the sunset. Later we saw a huge shooting star. No, I was not hallucinating. We all saw it, there were comments that it may have been something to do with the radio activity around due to the Chernobyl accident a few days earlier.

The night turned cold and very windy on the down and through some snowdrifts our torches were still in the support van. So Sigmar was reached by braille; we could not read our route, so had to feel the checkpoints signs instead. By the time we reached the van I think we were all feeling a little low, but were soon cheered by hearing that we were not lost and the German job-creators were behind us.

Feeling rather weary, we made a slight detour into Sleeping in the early hours of the morning. Well that was it. I could retire.

Richard and his Courtwrights were most hospitable and gave us all a very good breakfast. Soon I was told my gear was in the support vehicle which had just left and no one had any intention of retiring. Well, Haddlescombe was not far and our Sleeping friends told me I could ring them from there. So it went on for the next few checkpoints. I never did see a telephone box and I was continuously being told that apart from being tired there was nothing wrong with me. Besides, there was no facilities for retirement, so it would confuse the system. My reply was always the same: "but I can't walk a hundred miles". "Everyone feels like that" was the reply. Our marchers, Bernard and Jim were just wonderful. I can't think how they put up with me. I hope I have managed to persuade them since the event, that I am not a permanent depressive!

As the second day proceeded into early evening, the walk brought back memories of giving birth. One couldn't retire during either.

By the time I reached No-peep I am ashamed to say I was feeling very angry. As a result my pace improved and to my delight I suddenly recognized where I was and knew the rest of the way to Eastbourne. But what on earth was I going to do when I arrived there in the middle of the night? I was given very kind offers of floor space but didn't see why these people should have to put up with me any longer than necessary. I remembered Hirstine: bed and breakfast, telephone! Great! We all wanted to use the 'phone, so the pace quickened. On arriving in the town, someone asked us if we wanted to use the 'phone to call an ambulance. Eric was sleeping, Chris was walking very well. In my selfishness I was convinced as one fell as tired as I did. My 'phone call was successful. I had a bed for the night and a lift, but not until I reached Eastbourne. I was told that when I fell I was going to be permanently damaged for the rest of my life I would regret it if I did not continue. I won't repeat my reply.

We made it in the end in just over 48 hours.

In conclusion, I wonder if any other hundred miles has received so much help, kindness and continuous support and encouragement for a hundred miles they had little intention of doing. I did not deserve to finish. Now I am very glad I did, and shall never forget all the wonderful people who helped me.

Elaine Bell

PROGRAMS TO EXPERIENCE 1987. See with all postal enquiries.
Numbers in brackets are 1150000 OS map covering the event or location.

Sunday 22 Feb: **WINDHEAD FEEBLE** (1975) Starts from Englefield
Great Park by the pavilion (near the Harley Road OS 997714
at 11 a.m. for a 10 mile skuafter into Windsor Great Park.
Fox and paper might be useful. Refreshments afterwards
while answering questions to test your observation on the
walk. Led by Tom Anderson but please ring Anne Anderson if
you are coming for catering purposes.

Sat/Sun 7/8 Mar: **TASSERS TWO DAY WALK** (195 & 197). Tassers TN
OS 149515) to Windhead TN (88002000) on the Saturday along
the Surrey Downs route, stay overnight at Windhead Youth
Hostel and return to Tassers TN on Sunday by a different
route. Approx 50 miles each day. Cost £1.00 plus postal
charges. Details from Graham Fossie.

Sunday 22 Mar: **CHAIRMAN'S CHOICE** (1986) A 20 mile walk from
Perham Castle Car Park (between Golf Club and Cricket
Ground OS 838475. Start leaving early at 9 a.m. Luncheon
at the Fox and Goose, Greywell. A good selection of cooked
food is available and if you wish to partake please let Don
know before the day so he can let the landlord know rough
numbers expected. Leader Don Hatfield.

Sat/Sun 4/5 April: **SUNNY SIXKICK** (186 & 187) The group's walk
event of the year. A 100 kilometre odd alpine challenge
walk over the popular hills of central and western Dorset.
Starts at 10 a.m. on Saturday from Catchpole Hill Witley OS
847294 and all to finish by 12 noon on Sunday giving a 20
hour time limit. Closing date for entries is 4th March.
Details from John Westcott.

Sunday 20 April: **COCKING CONSTITUTIONAL - BARK II** (197) Last
walked in 1970. Open downsland with splendid views, the
ancient yew grove in Stables Vale, Golden Alee at the Barn
and Borede. Droughted, the structured 15th century church of
St Marles and the now cleared Devil's Jump. 22 miles.
Start 9 a.m. 400 yards south of the South Down Way on the
Midhurst-Catchpole road (K250). SU874162. Apple car
parking on grass verge. See illustrated route sheet from
Tony Young. Please let Tony know if you need food at the
Barn and Borede.

Sunday 17 May: **SHICKER ID ERNHORNI** (197). A 20 mile walk
starting from car park near Peraburnt crossroads. OS
880285. 9 a.m. Pub stop for lunch. Leader Mervyn Harvey.

Tuesday 21 May: **PROGRAMME PLANNING MEETING** (187) at Witley Hall,
Beigate. OS 249904. 7.30 p.m. for 8.

Sunday 7 June: WISSEK TUNING EAST (180 & 187). A course across orienteering event for walkers/joggers. Checkpoints given in random order north points between 10 and 50 points depending on location. Routes of 20 miles or 12 miles (based on the "best" route). Entry - on the day only. Start any time between 9 and 11 a.m. from Wessak Memorial Hall, GR 017454. Enquiries to Dave Challenger.

Fri/Sat/Sun 19/20/21 June: WALTERS RICHMOND MARATHON WALK (149 & 150). Travel Friday afternoon/evening to compete close to event H.Q. Saturday - take part in the 25 mile event and stay at the campsite Saturday Night. Sunday - Circular walk in the Cotswolds returning back to the Guildford area in the evening. Contact Barbara Hitchford or Don Redfield.

Wednesday 24 June: RICHMOND CYCLED WALK (186 & 187). A stroll of about 7 miles from 11 Thornbank, Guildford. GR 003485. Starting at 7 p.m. Leader Barbara Hitchford.

Sunday 5 July: TAKERS MARATHON (160 & 167). A 20 mile event in central Surrey. Start and finish Leatherhead Football Club. GR 153550. Walkers 9 a.m. Runners 11 a.m. Also the 10 mile mini-marathon with optional quiz. Details from Alan Virgo but they will be available at most Surrey Group functions.

Sunday 12 July: THE LAMOURE PIERMADANCE (174). Tom Anderson's walk in the Ridgeway series this year takes us to the Lamours down to rich more hill forie, barrows, tumuli and of course the White Horse at Uffingham! A route map will be available at start and light refreshments (limited) at the finish so don't rush off or you will miss out on the goodies. This is another interesting area of man's endeavours in very ancient times. Distance in excess of 24 miles. Start on grass verge about half way between North Farm and Sheepdrove Farm (off B1001). GR 332750 at 9 a.m.

Saturday 18 August: SPITHEAD WALK (190). Starting from the Chairman's home - 5 Lashley Lick, Upper Eals. GR 031491. At 2 p.m. Approximately 12 miles followed by refreshments. Leader Don Redfield. Please let Don know if you are going on the walk so he can get an idea how many are to be catered for.

Sunday 13 September: CHILTERS MARATHON (175). A 25 mile event in the Chiltern hills. Details from Vince Smith.

Sunday 20 September: GUILDFORD BUREY WALK (156). A 20 mile event starting Guildford. Details from Barbara Hitchford.

It is hoped to arrange a weekend in the Devon Downs this autumn travelling down to South Wales Friday afternoon, walk led by Tony Swaley on Saturday and Sunday then return home Sunday evening. It will be interesting as this will be the area in which the 1960 LDWA 100 will be held and the last time Tony played host to a Surrey Group weekend of this nature in the Black Mountains in 1962. 15 of us had a very enjoyable weekend. Details will be in the next newsletter but in the meantime would anybody who is interested in going on this weekend please let John Westcott know so that we can get some idea of likely support.

Since the meeting I have received a letter from Rex and Cherie Walters who used to be very keen members of the Surrey Group before they moved to Brisham where they are now resident proprietors of The Torbay Heights Private Hotel. They are organizing walking weekends (Coastal and Dartmoor) for groups and would like to see the Surrey Group taking advantage of their special offer - dinner, bed and breakfast, 7 nights for £29. Hopefully we can also include a trip to Devon in a programme. We will discuss this at our next meeting.

Anybody wishing to stay in the Brisham area may like to know the address which is 57 Dury Road, Brisham, Devon. TQ5 9AA. Telephone: 08845 4726.

HELP WANTED

Once again I am appealing for help with the events. We have the Surrey Summit coming up where we always need a lot of members to help with manning the checkpoints and transportation but this time the Newton and Kildean 15 is being held over the same weekend so as some of my regular helpers will be engaged with helping or running in that event I shall need a few more volunteers for the Surrey Summit. Offers of help to John Westcott please.

I expect Dave Challenger will be looking for help with the Pointe Noire. Helpers can also take part in this event either being one of the later starters or earlier finishers.

I will be making an appeal for helpers on The Chiltern Marathon and Guildford Newbery in the next newsletter.