

LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION

SURREY GROUP

Report and Programme - September 1988

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participants use Walnut Tree close as an alternative. Keith Chesteron, knowing the area very well, pointed out that it was possible to use the towpath for part of the way and gave the appropriate instructions. The obstacles both gaining access to the towpath and on the path itself conformed well to Keith's usual standards. There were 25 who took part (including Keith's dog Poppy) and all finished the 17 mile route in times ranging from 2 hours 15 minutes to 6 hours.

The Lingfield Loop took place on a hot dry day when 10 members set off on a voyage of discovery on many paths unknown to all including the leader, not least, a Sussex bridleway near Dry Hill which did not appear on the OS map. However the party got to the pub on time and Wuxted Hill and Crowhurst passed on the return circuit.

We had another nice sunny day for The Guildford Boundary Walk and it was therefore disappointing that only 116 took part. With a staggered start participants set out between 9 a.m. and 12 noon. The official time for the first to start was 9.30 but you always seem to get those who are determined to upset the plans of the organiser. There were 111 who finished the 20 mile route in times ranging from 2 hours 57 minutes to 6 hours 45 minutes. Incidentally would anybody like 250 copies of The 1968 Guildford Boundary Way route description, complete with sketch maps.

PROGRAMME PLANNING MEETING - 20th Sept 1988

There were 14 members who attended the meeting, the second to be held at The Star Hotel at Woking. The low turnout was partly explained by 4 apologies that were tendered and there may have been one or two who turned up in the middle the field 900 metres to the south of the venue having taken notice of my having transposed the last 2 digits of the grid reference in the last newsletter programme. Whatever the reason it would be nice to see more members at the meeting in January especially as this is our AGM.

The meeting started on a sad note with the announcement of the sudden death of Peter Young - see further details later in this newsletter.

Liz Higgins reported that the group's funds were getting low, just £201 in the bank. With no further income likely to arise during 1988 and the secretary still to claim expenses for 2 newsletters the balance will be very low when the statement of income and expenditure is presented at the AGM in January. The main reason for the low balance is that we have had very little income from our events this year. The profit from our main money spinner, The Surrey Summits, was offset by a loss from The Punchbowl and our other events, although making a small profit, do not normally make a significant contribution to our income.

The meeting queried why The Punchbowl had made a loss when it had been very well supported. When adjustments were made for the value of food left over and badges in stock, the net loss was caused by the additional costs for clearing trees which were blocking the footpaths following the October storms and of course this cost should not recur. In any case the entry fee for the 1989 Punchbowl had been increased by £1 and this should ensure that a profit is made from this event.

Another point of concern which came out from the discussion on The Punchbowl accounts was the amount of money spent on food, £354.60 out of a total income of

ESBO.10. It was generally felt that too much in the way of refreshments was being supplied on events and walkers should be encouraged to be more self sufficient. The Winter Tannars was given as an example where an event was advertised as a tough winter event with minimal support but the amount of food being provided on that event tended to contradict this description. The organiser explained that The Winter Tannars details always stated there would be no food on the event but some had been provided basically from Surrey Group stock left over from other events with a little extra being spent as it was considered funds taken from entry fees allowed. The organiser said he would not provide food on The Winter Tannars in future - just hot and cold drinks.

It was decided to increase the Surrey Group subscription to £1.00 per year from 1989. Please remember this becomes due on 1st January 1989 and a remittance for this amount should be made to Liz Higgins.

OBITUARY - Peter Young.

It was sad to learn that Peter Young died suddenly on 12th August 1988. While at work he complained of a headache then shortly afterwards he collapsed and never recovered.

A floral tribute was sent to Peter's funeral on behalf of the Surrey Group for which a letter of thanks has been received from Arthur Buchan, a friend for over 30 years, who is administering the estate. Peter's mother also 'phoned me to ask me to convey her thanks to members of the Surrey Group, she was most touched by the gesture.

Peter joined the LDWA in 1980. He has always since then been an active member of the Surrey Group. At first he came along on one or two of our social walks - he even organised the 1985 annual dinner when it was held at The White Horse Hotel, Dorking. As his LDWA experience made him fitter, he tended to concentrate

more on events and became a very strong jogger/walker - he completed the 1986 Surrey Summits in less than 17 hours. He was always willing to do his share to help on events. On the 1987 Surrey Summits he retired just under half way but having heard we were short of transport to take the abnormally high number of retirements back to the venue he volunteered to make himself and his car available to help. He entered the 1988 Surrey Summits but found at the last minute he could not take part due to an ankle injury so again he made himself available to help as a marshal.

From discussions between Peter and Arthur on their walks together Arthur ascertained that Peter would like his ashes scattered in the field below the car park near Ransmore Church. This wish was respected in a simple ceremony shortly after the funeral so when you walk in that field please spare a thought for our departed friend.

UNOFFICIAL SOCIAL WALKS

The last newsletter included a programme of 5 unofficial social walks being led by Peter Hughes mainly aimed at new LDWA members in the Surrey Group area but Peter was hoping some of the longer standing members would also come along. The walks were planned in conjunction with mailshots being sent to new members, the addressees being taken from the list published in Strider.

The first 2 walks in the programme have now taken place and Peter is disappointed at the turnout. The mailshots have not produced a very good response either. The only written response came from a member stating he was not interested in the social walks but had joined the LDWA to take part in the events. Peter feels the mailshots have probably produced 2 members for the Surrey Group and that should be regarded as a measure of success but it would be a little more encouraging if there was a little more evidence of his efforts being worthwhile. He will finish the programme

of walks before making any judgement on whether to continue the policy or not.

The 3 walks in the remainder of the programme are:

Sunday October 16th from municipal car park Fernhurst (GR 895285) OS 197.

Sunday October 30th from car park at top of Boxhill (GR 181513) OS 187.

Saturday November 19th from Car Park at Newlands Corner (GR 043493) OS 186 (OS 187 also required).

I am sure Peter would like to see you come along to these walks.

SOME PAST WALKS AND EVENTS - in brief

On the Edenbridge Excursion, 19 set out, including 2 from Kent, 1 from Essex/Meris and 2 unaffiliated LDWA members. It was a warm day with a pleasant cooling breeze - beginners luck for Peter Hughes leading his first walk. Conditions underfoot were near perfect with only one soddy bridleway encountered. Peter says he now has the reputation as a leader of walks for softies! He considers this unfair as when he surveyed the walk he encountered such mud and water and at one point managed to get his better half stuck (literally) in a field. Highlights of the day included, Crockham Hill to Froghole, Toy's Hill to Ide Hill, the castle and Chiding Stone at Chiddingstone. Lunch was taken at the Cock Inn, Ide Hill and also managed to purchase refreshments at Crockham Hill and Chiddingstone. Yong Choo provided home made bread pudding at the end.

There was a fine drizzle as entrants for the Weybec Walk waited at the B&E sports ground for the coach to take them to the start at Godalming which tended to persist during the trip. However the threat of the rain abated soon after the runners and walkers got going giving way to overcast but quite pleasant conditions for the rest of the event. With the mass building programme in the centre of Guildford, part of the Way topath was closed and the organiser suggested

PROGRAMME TO MAY 1982

SAE with all postal enquiries.

FRI-SUN OCT 14-16 WEEKEND AT BRIKHAM. OS 202.

Travel to Brixham by minibus or car (depending on support) on Friday, walk on Dartmoor and/or Coastal Path on Saturday and Sunday morning then travel back during Sunday afternoon to arrive in Surrey early evening. Pickup and dropdown points to be arranged to suit those who take part. Stay at the Torbay Heights Private hotel Friday and Saturday, the hosts being Ron and Carole Walters who used to be active members of the Surrey Group before they moved to Devon. Cost around £40 to include transport, food, accommodation and route information. Bookings to and further information from Mervyn Harvey. *PLEASE NOTE THAT OS MAP 202 MAY NOT FULLY COVER THE WALKS.

SAT NOV 5 COMMONS CLUMP. OS 176 & 186. An afternoon stroll of about 12 miles over Chobham and Horsell commons visiting Staple Hill (at 300ft est, the highest point in north west Surrey), and Chobham International Airport. Starts from Foxhollow, Coshill, Chobham, GR 964511, at 2.p.m. Leader Chris Steer. There will be some refreshments afterwards so please let Chris know if you are coming for catering purposes. There should also be some fireworks this year.TUES NOV 12 THE CAMBRIAN WAY. OS 185. John Probert will show slides of his traverse of this rugged Welsh long distance path. The venue is The Star Hotel, Hook Heath, Woking, GR 994576.SUN NOV 22 WOPFLESDON COMMONS CLEARANCE AND FOOTPATH IMPROVEMENT. OS 185. Help clear overgrown footpaths, build a sleeper bridge and improve stiles over Backside and Broadstreet Commons. Materials and some tools to be supplied. Bring spades, bow saws and pruners if you have them. Please let Barbara Blatchford know if you

are coming so tasks can be matched to numbers.
Meet 9.30 a.m. at Normandy Village car park, north
west side of cross roads with A323. OS 927516.
Please bring your own food and drink.

SAT DEC 10 THE HURTWOOD HEDONIC HIKE. OS 186 & 187.
The annual dinner ramble of 20 miles minus from
Peaslake OR 006445 starting at 10 a.m. Stops for
elevenses, lunch and tea. Return by torchlight
to Peaslake by 6 p.m. in good time for dinner.
You can walk or dine or preferably both. Dinner
will be at The Hurtwood Inn where rooms will be
available for walkers to change in. Leader of the
walk Chris Steer and bookings for dinner to Tony
Youngs - see separate insert with this newsletter.

TUES DEC 27 WINTER WINDSOR WANDER. OS 176. Get rid
of those Christmas excesses with a walk of about 15
miles from Potters Car Park, 250 yards south of
Staines Bridge along Thorpe Road on the left. OS
030714. NOTE THIS IS A DIFFERENT VENUE FROM THAT
NOTIFIED IN THE LAST NEWSLETTER PROGRAMME.
Walkers set off at 9 a.m. and runners at 10 a.m.
The route is mainly in the lovely setting of
Windsor Great Park. Just turn up on the day.
There is a minimal entry fee to cover cost of
route description and map. You can help replace
some of the excesses lost in the convivial
atmosphere of the sports club bar which will be
open for lunch time drinks. Organiser is Ralph
Hanley.

MON JAN 2 SURREY INNS KANTER. OS 186 & 187. A light
hearted start to the new year. Venue at St
Catherines Village Hall, Chestnut Avenue,
Guildford. OS 992485. Entrants are required to
plot the route between unmanned checkpoints
(identified by grid references) and answer a
simple question based on a feature at the
location. Most of the checkpoints are at pubs.
Choice of two routes of 13 or 20 miles. Start
anytime between 9.15 and 11 a.m. and all to finish

by 4.30.p.m. After holding the cost of entry for many years, there has been a slight increase this year but at 50p for LDWA members and 60p for non members and other special rates for OAFs UB40s and under 16s this is still one of the cheapest LDWA events to enter. Entries on the day only but further details (if you need them) can be obtained from Keith Chesterion.

SUN JAN 15 THIRTEENTH WINTER TANNERS OS 186 (posn) & 187. A 30 mile walk in central Surrey as a route proving exercise for the famous summer event. Start and finish in the municipal car park to the west of Leatherhead Town Centre (near railway station). GR 163566. No undercover at start/finish point and only minimal support so only tough walkers or runners should take part. Starts between 8 and 9.30.a.m. The time limit is 9.p.m. although it gets dark about 4.30.p.m. and those who finish after 6.p.m. will have to register themselves. Entry fees: £1.00 for LDWA members, £1.50 non members and £2.00 all entries after 7th January including on the day. Details and entry form from John Westcott.

*PLEASE NOTE FINAL DETAILS AND ROUTE DESCRIPTION FOR THE WINTER TANNERS AND PUNCHBOWL MARATHON WILL BE SENT TO ALL THOSE WHO ENTER BEFORE 7th January and 21st January RESPECTIVELY. OTHER PRE ENTRIES WILL HAVE THE ROUTE DESCRIPTION AVAILABLE AT THE START. SO YOU GET THE ADVANTAGE OF STUDYING THE ROUTE IN ADVANCE AS WELL AS GETTING A CHEAPER ENTRY IF YOU ENTER EARLY.

TUES JAN 17 A.G.M. AND PROGRAMME PLANNING MEETING.
OS 156. At The Star Hotel, Hook Heath, Woking.
GR 994576. 7.30.p.m. for 8.

SUN JAN 22 CROOKSBURY CIRCULAR. OS 185. A walk of about 22 miles starting from Crooksbury Hill Car Park. GR 876457. at 8.30.a.m. Lunchtime pub stop. Leader Colin Wood.

SUN JAN 22 TWENTY-FIRST PUNCHBOWL MARATHON. OS 186.
For LDWA members only. Another tough 33 mile
event in western Surrey so again only tough
runners and walkers should take part. Start and
finish at Chichester Hall, Witley, GR 948394.
Start anytime between 7.30 and 8.30 a.m. Time
limit 12 hours. Only 3 checkpoints. Entry fee is
£2.50 before *21st January and £5.00 after
including on the day. Details and entry form from
John Westcott. Organiser Jeff Ellingham. PLEASE
NOTE THE PREVIOUSLY PLANNED 40 MILE OPTION WILL
NOT BE AVAILABLE.

THUR FEB 9 SLIDE SHOW. OS186. Slide show by Barbara
Slatchford at The Star Hotel, Hook Heath, Woking.
GR 994576. 7.30 p.m. for 8. The programme has
not yet been decided but Barbara hopes it will
be based on her visit to China planned for October
1988.

SUN FEB 12 SELBORNE EXPEDITION. OS 186. By popular
request this is a re-walk of the route already
trodden twice as part of the Surrey Group
programmes on which our chairman got his double
reputation for getting members up early on a
winter's day and culture walks. Tom Anderson
leads a walk of 20 miles plus in his favourite
Gilbert White country. Start from Selborne car
park, GR 742334, at 8 a.m. sharp.

SAT MAR 12 WOLDINGHAM WANDER. OS 187. An easy going
18 mile plus scenic downland walk. The route will
not be fully surveyed in advance so be prepared
for another voyage of discovery. Pub stop for
lunch. Meet 9 a.m. at car park on south side of
the Botley Hill to South Hawke Road at GR 356546.
Leader Barbara Slatchford.

SAT/SUN APR 6/7 FOURTEENTH SURREY SUMMITS. OS 186 &
187. The group's main event of the year. A 100
kilometre (62 mile) challenge walk over the
popular hills of central and western Surrey.
Start and finish point is Chichester Hall, Witley.

GR 940394. Start any time between 9.30 and 10.a.m. All to finish within 25 hours - whatever the start time. Closing date is 12th March although late entries may be accepted at the organisers discretion - depending on number of entries received. The route has again been altered which will take out Chinthuret Hill and put back Box Hill. Details and entry form from John Westcott.

SUN APR 15 AMBERLEY AMBLE. OS 197. A repeat of the first of Tony Youngs' South Downs series walks, last walked in 1976. Further details in the next newsletter.

SUN APR 23 HELP IMPROVE THE GREENSAND WAY. OS 187. Advance notice of a working party on the Eastern half of The Greensand Way. Some clearance but mainly stile improvement and signposting. Details in the next newsletter or from Barbara Blatchford in due course but keep the date free for major effort on a small section of this 35 mile route.

SUN MAY 14 SOUTH SURREY KANTER. 186 & 187. A 20 mile score Kanter for those walkers who want to exercise their brain as well as muscles - score maximum points by visiting as many checkpoints as possible identified by GRs and given in random order. Also a 15 mile standard Kanter for families/beginners - choose own route between checkpoints identified by GRs given in sequential order. ENTRIES ON THE DAY ONLY 50p for LDWA members and 60p for non members. Start times for both Kanters between 9 and 11.a.m. Venue to be arranged but will be in the Sunfold Area. Details from John Westcott in due course.

SUN MAY 21 DORKING DALLIANCE. OS 187. A 20 mile or so walk led by Richard Ireson from Dorking Town Station. GR 160499. Start at 8.45.a.m.

HELP WANTED

I would remind members that we are always looking for helpers on our events. Those who enjoy taking part in the events should bear in mind that it takes a lot of voluntary labour to promote them and would ask you to forego taking part now and again in order to give assistance. Events in this programme, and the persons to contact are:

Surrey Inns Kanter:	Keith Chetsterton
Winter Tanners:	John Westcott
Punchbowl Marathon:	Jeff Ellingham
Surrey Summits:	Jeff Ellingham

In the last 2 newsletters I have appealed for a volunteer to help organise the 1969 Winter Tanners. To date still nobody has offered their services. I require help to arrange the marshals and refreshments which entails giving a little time during the 2 or 3 weeks prior to the event as well as helping on the day. I would still take the entries and develop the route. Anybody who is willing to do this please let me know.

John Westcott