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This Newsletter was edited by Peter Hughes and printed by Chris Steer.
The next Newsletter will be sent out in October.

The committee would like to take this opportunity of welcoming all new members to the group and thanking existing members who have renewed their subscriptions. Our membership this year already totals 120 which is an improvement on last year. Our special thanks also to all the organisers and helpers who make our activities possible.

Our recent activities have been very well supported; social walks, in particular, are thriving with some attracting 25 people. This is very encouraging, please keep coming and lets have some feedback on what you liked/disliked.

SOME PAST WALKS AND ACTIVITIES

SELBORNE EXPEDITION (report by Tom Anderson)

It was a surprise to have 16 members present at the early hour of 8am to walk the Selborne Way (for the third time), as the omens were not very promising, heavy rain overnight and during the drive down. However, the gods looked kindly down upon us and the rain ceased as we left the car park and only returned as we descended the Hanger in the evening.

The expedition went to plan despite heavy mud in many places, slowing us all down. The leader refrained from boring members about Gilbert White etc., but amused everyone by dispersing a group of young bullocks by returning their charge head on! The Hawkly inn was again used for our lunch time stop and was rated 7 out of 10 on the Youngs scale.

The only other person (apart from the leader) who has done all three Selborne Expeditions is the one and only Tony Youngs, so he has been awarded a special certificate! May I also congratulate the two younger members of the party (whose names I forgot to ask) on completing a very hilly and muddy course. Many thanks to my wife Anne for supplying the hot soup and rolls at the finish. Finally thanks to all who completed the walk you were all good company.

AMBERLEY AMBLE (report by Tony Youngs)

On a dull morning 26 people, four of them veterans of the first, 1978, Amberley Amble, walked through Arundel Park and besides the Arun to an early lunch stop at Surgham. Then, two members of the party, astonished to find the rest of us moving off from the George and Dragon at the appointed time to take the Lepers' Path up Uppham Down lost the group and each other. One was recovered by a rescue party which itself missed its way, rejoining the group in Parham Park. The other enjoyed a short cut along the South Downs Way to Amberley Station. Keith Chesterton, in his haste to get to his next appointment, took a shorter cut near the end thus missing the only section of the route that was wet under (and in parts, over) foot, which must have been a great disappointment to him. Despite these misadventures the party was most tolerant and congenial; I have seldom so much enjoyed leading a walk.

For a copy of the illustrated route sheet send a SAE to Tony Youngs (address on page 1).

IMPROVING THE GREENSAND WAY (report by Tony Youngs)

My thanks go to all those kind souls and energetic bodies who worked so hard to erect 29 waymark posts and a stile step and to clear an overgrown section of the Greensand Way in Reigate and Banstead. It was a worthy contribution to the Surrey County Council's efforts to sort out the problems on the ground and to publish a new guide to that half of the Greensand Way which is in Surrey by 15 July 1989. Then starts a celebratory week of walks on the Way - see the SCC's programme of Summer Walks and Events May-August 1989 (you will be able to pick up a copy in your local library).

The guide book to the Surrey section can be obtained from the County Engineer, Highway House, 25 Chessington Road, West Ewell, Epsom KT17 1TT. A special pre-publication price of £2 applies before July 7, thereafter it will cost £2.50. These prices include postage.

The Greensand Way is now complete. The 30 mile East Kent section from Yalding to the Saxon Shore Way near Hamstreet was opened by Fay Godwin, President of the Ramblers, in April. A guide to this last section, printed by the Kent County Council and published by the Ramblers' Association, Kent Area, at £1 is now available.

PLANNING MEETING MAY 11

14 members attended a very lively meeting. This report covers points that were discussed which are not covered elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Our Challenge Event Programme was discussed and it was decided that we should gradually introduce some changes. A major objective is to ease the workload of our existing organisers and helpers, and hopefully encourage some new helpers/organisers to come forward.

It was felt that the Minters Tanners and the Punch Bowl Marathon should alternate in future years. Thus the Minter Tanners will not take place in 1990, though a social walk will be offered to try out the 1990 Summer Tanners route.

It is also likely that the Guildford Boundary Walk will only run on alternate years, being replaced by some new event in the years it is not run.

The re-introduction of a Kanter Event in October/November is to be considered; this may be achieved by moving one of the other Kanters.

The committee welcomes your input on these matters and is keen to hear from any new organisers and helpers.

The Surrey Group has been asked to comment on proposals for a special award that is being devised for those walkers who successfully complete the Surrey Summits, the Wealden Waters and the Three Forests War within a specified time period.

This resulted in a long discussion, the main conclusions are reported here.

Overall, except for two members, there was a marked lack of enthusiasm for the project. It was agreed that the qualifying rules should be as simple as possible; only 3 consecutive different events should qualify. The award should be given retrospectively from 1981 when the Wealden Waters started and

marshall's walks should be allowed to count. Financing of the scheme is difficult because money will have to be found in advance to buy up a stock of badges; qualifiers for the award would purchase their badge and certificate so ultimately the scheme might become self financing. The group decided that it was unwilling to provide money for this award. A suggestion was made that plaques should be awarded instead of badges as these could be produced as required and therefore money would not need to be found in advance.

After the meeting I passed on the group's views to Laurie Lowe who is acting as recorder/organiser of this award. He has now finalised the details based on comments received from all interested parties and is documenting the award in the August Strider. The Kent and Essex & Herts groups are more enthusiastic about the award and have put up enough money to get it started. Perhaps we may have to reconsider our position on the financing.

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MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

ALPINE WALKING HOLIDAYS

Ron Roweth a Kent LDWA member is leading walking tours in the French, Swiss and Austian Alps for parties of about 6. He wants to hear from people who have ideas for or are interested in such tours in 1990. Ring him on 01 464 1811.

CHARWOOD FOREST MARATHON

A new LDWA event not in Strider. 26.5 miles for walkers and runners in the Charwood Forest area of Leicestershire on Saturday September 26. SAE to Ian Partridge, Vale Cottage, Stathern Lane, Harby, Melton Mowbray, LE14 4BU.

THE PUBLIC INTEREST WINS THE WATCH ON WALTON HEATH (report by Tony Youngs)
Members with a high boredom threshold and a long memory will recall that I represented them and the Ramblers' Association at a public enquiry about the Walton Heath Golf Club's wish to extend their already extensive golf courses over a further sixteen and a half acres of common land. I wrote in the February 1988 Report and Programme on the latest developments in this complicated affair. Now there is good news. The Golf Club did, as predicted, appeal against the Reigate and Banstead Borough Council's decisions, first that the construction of two new golf holes "would constitute development for which an application is required", and secondly, to refuse planning permission for the work. A letter from the Secretary of State for the Environment to the Club's solicitors in February conveyed the decision that planning permission was required and that "The preservation of the wider public amenity should be accorded a higher priority than the needs of your clients for two additional golf holes in the area in question". Full marks for content if not for style. So ends, it is to be hoped, a story that began in 1984 when the Club alarmed local residents by felling trees and bulldozing sixteen and a half acres of the Heath. The next threat to what is now a reasonably wide corridor between the golf courses and the M25 will come from those who wish to add a lane to each carriageway of the motorway.

FULL-TIME RIGHTS OF WAY OFFICER FOR REIGATE AND BANSTEAD (report by Tony Youngs)
The intrepid members who overcame all obstacles to walk the Reigate Round in 1986 or 1987 or both will be pleased to hear that the Chief Executive and Town Clerk has written to me to say that the Council has approved the appointment of a full-time permanent Rights of Way Officer at Senior Officer level. He goes on to say "It is my intention that this appointment should mark a change in the Council's approach to Rights of Way matters, and new systems will establish a programme of work and deal with complaints in a systematic way ...". This was a most timely decision; I was able to read extracts from the letter to a meeting held in Redhill in April to set up a new Ramblers' Association Group for the Borough.

PROGRAMME JUNE TO DECEMBER 1989

The organiser/leader of each walk/event is given in the heading line. Telephone numbers and addresses are on the first page of this Newsletter. Please enclose SAE with all written enquiries.

A busy programme especially in October and November. It would have been nice to have spread the social walks more evenly across the period but we are governed by the availability of the leaders who offer walks. I am aware of the need for more shorter walks (15-20 miles) to encourage beginners to long distance walking and the request for some Saturday social walks. I hope to meet these demands in 1990 but need some new leaders to do this. Do not hesitate to volunteer your services!

- SUN JUN 11 WANDERING AROUND WOKING. OS 106. HEIKYH HARVEY
Over 20 miles from Jolly Farmer, near Worplesdon GR 983543. Start 8.30am.
- WED JUN 21 MIDSUMMER EVENING WALK. OS 106. BARBARA SLATCHFORD
6-8 miles from 11 Thornbank Guildford GR 983493. Start 7pm. Ring Barbara if you are coming.

SUN JUN 25 THE BASING WALK. JOHN WESTCOTT

23 miles from Fleet Station (0900) or 15 miles from Ash Station (1030) mainly along the Basingstoke Canal to the Astra Sports and Leisure Club, Kings Head Lane, Byfleet GR 037615. Entry £1.00 (£1.50 non LOMA and £2.00 for all after June 18). It is hoped to arrange a coach from Byfleet to the starts of the walks. The fare will be £2 and must be booked and paid for in advance. If there is insufficient support, those who have booked will have to go on the train and there may be a small surcharge - arrangements will be notified in final details. Send a SAE to John for full details and an entry form.

SUN JUL 2 TANNERS MARATHON. OS 187. ALAN VIRGO

Challenge Events not advertised in Strider because of the 500 rule. 10, 30, or 50 miles from the Leatherhead Football Club GR 143560.

SUN JUL 23 HASLEMERE CIRCULAR. OS 186. PETER HUGHES

Start 9am. from car park Devil's Punch Bowl GR 891358. This will be based on the Haslemere Circular Walk devised by Elizabeth Pamplin (with possible variations) - described as "23 miles through some of the best bits of West Surrey".

SUN AUG 20 TURVILLE TRAVERSE. OS 175. TOM ANDERSON

A carefully sculptured route of 24 hilly miles through the loveliest part of the Chilterns, with no monuments, no history lessons, and no wells. Now wait for it, a choice of three pubs for the lunch time stop!! Start 9am. at Hambladen GR 785854, this is car park well outside village and it has toilets.

SUN SEP 10 CHILTERN MARATHON JOHN PERYER

Organised by Middle Thames Ramblers but normally well supported by Surrey Group members. 26.5 mile circular from Marlow Rugby Club, passing through some of the most spectacular scenery in the Chilterns. Start walkers 0900 (runners 1000). Time limit 9hrs. Entry £2 before September 1 (£2.50 on the day).

THU SEP 14 PLANNING MEETING/SOCIAL EVENING. OS 187 PETER HUGHES

At Prince of Wales, Shere GR 072476. 7.30pm for 8. A new venue for a change. Suggestions for future venues welcomed.

SUN SEP 17 GUILDFORD BOUNDARY WALK. OS 186. JOHN WESTCOTT

An interesting 20 mile challenge walk following approximately the 1933-1973 boundary of Guildford Borough. Start and Finish is Henley Fort, The Mount, Guildford, GR 982489. Start for walkers 9.30-11am (faster walkers after 10am) and runners 12 noon. Entry £1 up to September 10, £1.50 after that date including on the day.

FRI-MON LONG WEEKEND IN THE LAKE DISTRICT. TOM ANDERSON
SEP. 22-25

Based in mountain hut in SW Lakes. Fantastic walking guaranteed. This weekend is probably already full as only 6 people can be accommodated in the hut. However a reserve list is being built up and other kinds of accommodation may be found. So it is still worth contacting Tom if you are interested.

FRI-SUN WEEKEND IN ABERGAVEENY. PETER HUGHES
OCT 13-15

Based in guest house type accommodation in Abergaveeny with walks led by ex chairman Dan Madfield (who now lives in S. Wales). There has been a good response and about 10 people are already interested. It may be necessary to use several guest houses. The price of such accommodation appears to be about £12 a night for bed and breakfast. Some people intend to travel on Friday morning, the majority Friday evening, others early Saturday morning. The intention is to have 2 full day walks, returning on Sunday evening. Travel will be by car, sharing will be encouraged.

SUN OCT 22 CRANLEIGH CIRCULAR. OS 186/187 COLIN WOOD

About 25 miles from Cranleigh recreation hall/swimming pool car park GR 659290. Start 9am. Colin enjoyed leading his first walk in January so much, that he immediately volunteered to do another.

SUN OCT 29 COMMONS CLIPP. OS 176/184 CHRIS STEER

An annual classic from the President, about 12 miles from Chris's house GR 984611. Start 1.30pm. Please ring Chris in advance if you are coming; I believe this guarantees you a cup of tea and other goodies afterwards!

SUN NOV 5 CHILTERN PERSPECTIVE. OS 165 IAN HUNT

Between 20 and 25 miles from the car park at the rear of Waitrose in Berkhamsted GR 992079. Start 9am. Ian has kindly volunteered to show us some of his local Hertfordshire/Chiltern countryside. We are very keen to encourage new leaders, especially those offering new territory so lets have a good turn out for this walk.

SUN NOV 19 PATH CLEARANCE

*White downs 9.30am (with walk to start)
Map of 114474*

Details in the October Newsletter.

SUN NOV 26 HEON MEANDER. OS 185/197 TONY YOUNGS

9.00am

About 20 miles from Petersfield Station GR 743235.

SAT DEC 16 HURWOOD HEDDVIC HIKE. OS 186/187 PETER HUGHES

The annual Xmas bash. About 15 miles from Peaslake GR 084448, with coffee, lunch and afternoon tea stops! Bring torch. Start 10am. This is followed by dinner at the Hurwood Inn - more details about this in the October Newsletter. Tony Youngs and Chris Steer, organisers of past years, are resting (or still sibering up from last year?). I will attempt to maintain the high standards they have set.

WED DEC 27 WINTER WINDSOR WANDER. OS 176. RALPH HENLEY

About 15 miles from Royal Air Force Memorial Car Park GR 995718. Walkers 9am, runners 10am.