



LDWA Surrey Group

NEWSLETTER



October 1992

Group Officers

Chairman.	Tony Cartwright, 12 East Meads, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5SP Tel 0483 503768
Secretary.	Richard Hotchkiss, 1 Maplehurst, Ashwood Park, Fetcham, Surrey, KT22 9NT Tel 0372 459025
Treasurer.	Dave Challenger, 44 Agates Lane, Ashtead, Surrey. Tel 0372 277138
Membership Secretary	Brian Haigh, 17 Lower Edgeborough Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 2DX. Tel 0483 303020

CHRIS STEER MEMORIAL.

The most popular suggestion is a seat constructed in local stone. Perhaps associated with an engraved topograph. A sub committee of Tony Cartwright, Barbara Blatchford, Tony Youngs and Margaret Steer has been formed to pursue this. Suggestions for location to date include Crooksbury, Winterfold, Blatchford Down, several positions on Pitch Hill and awaiting the outcome of a decision on a national LDWA memorial.

NEW OFFICERS.

Your secretary is moving to Swindon in 1993, your temporary treasurer has already served the Group for many years (only taking on the job for part of the year to fill the vacant position) and your Chairman has served for 3 years in this position. Anyone prepared to consider standing for one of these posts at the AGM, please contact any committee member - if possible well in advance of the AGM.

PROGRAMME

Sat 24 Oct. An Autumn Afternoon Around Ashtead.

An afternoon walk of about 12 miles over Ashtead Common and Epsom Downs followed by refreshments. Starting from Dave Challenger's house, 44, Agates Lane, Ashtead (GR178577) OS 187 or Pathfinder Series 1206. 2pm start. Please phone Dave Challenger (0372 277138) in advance if you are coming for catering and car parking purposes.

Sat 21 Nov. Repeat Munro Marathon

7.30pm at the METHODIST CHURCH HALL, VICTORIA STREET, ENGLEFIELD GREEN, EGHAM, SURREY. There will be a small charge to cover the cost of hall and light refreshments. Any balance will go to the John Muir Trust. The slide show lasts about 2 hours including an interval. There will be a question and answer session after if required. Organiser and speaker - Tom Anderson (0784 432507). For details see meeting notes below. (I was not able to attend the first Munro Marathon but had excellent reports from those who did - Secretary)

Sun 22 Nov. Path clearance.

Organised by Dave Challenger (0372 277138). 09.30 Newlands Corner car park by cafe (GR 043493).

Sat 12 Dec Xmas walk

(9.30 am start) and dinner followed by disco and/or quieter bar. Details from Mervyn Harvey (0483 34184). £11.95. The Parrot, Forest Green. Members of other Groups particularly welcome. Form enclosed with Surrey Group Newsletter or from Mervyn.

1 Jan 1993 Surrey Inns Kanter.

20 and 12 mile routes from St Catherines Hall, Chestnut Av., Guildford (off Portsmouth Road) GR 992485. Start 0915 - 1100. Finish by 16.30. ENTER ON DAY ONLY. 70p adults, 50p cogs and UB40s, 30p under 16s, 10p less for LDWA members - includes teas. Bring OS maps 186,187, compass and pencil. Follow own routes on new course between pubs. Organised by Surrey LDWA. SAE to Keith Chesteron, "Firle", Chestnut Ave, Guildford, Surrey (0483 63392). 19th year of this event.

OFFERS OF HELP PLEASE, TO KEITH, GIVING AS MUCH NOTICE AS POSSIBLE.

10 Jan Winter Tanners.

30 miles. SAE to John Westcott, 31 Bracken Way, Chobham, Woking, Surrey, GU24 8PR for details and entry form. Best to do this in plenty of time to get your entry in by 30 Dec for a significant cost saving, it also eases admin. Offers of help to Jeff Ellingham (0428 683374) please.

Vales
0483 762843

14 Jan. AGM followed by quiz on local walks.

7.30 pm, Prince of Wales, Shere, OS186, GR 072476.

7 Feb 1993 Punchbowl.

15 or 33 miles. SAE to John Westcott, 31 Bracken Way, Chobham, Woking, Surrey, GU24 8PR for details and an entry form. Best to do this to get entry in by 30 Dec for the lowest entry fee. Pre entries before 24 Jan still have a significant saving. Entry on the day possible but easier for organisers if you can pre-enter. Offers of help to Jeff Ellingham (0428 683374) please.

20/21 Feb 1993. Surrey Summits Marshals walk.

Please contact Tony Cartwright in advance.

28 Feb. Petworth Perambulation.

17 easy going miles. Leader - Barbara Blatchford (0483 60085). Start 9.00, Petworth Town Centre Car Park (Approx. GR 976216) OS 197 or Pathfinders 82/92 and 81/91. Route is through Petworth Park, Easebourne Prior, Coudray House Ruins, Graffham and Ambersham. Pub stop in Midhurst.

21 March. Mervyn's Mystery Meander.

Leader - Mervyn Harvey (0483 34184). Hindhead to Headly 20 miles +. Start 9.00 am NT car park (GR 891358 OS 186). Pub stop with food available.

27/28 March. 1993 Surrey Summits.

4 April. A Common Walk To Frensham Pond

25 miles. Joint walk with Wessex Group. Lead by Pravda Correspondent and Plant Breeder, Peter Moore. Tel 0703 773692. (Must be an interesting story behind his title, perhaps the Wessex Group will enlighten us). Start 08.45 from Saint Matthew's school, Drift Road, Blackmore, GR 784336 (OS 186). Pub stop at the Hollybush, Frensham.

Sunday 25 April 1993. Firle Frolic

22 and a bit miles on beaches, downland, woodland, parkland, heathland, river banks and cliff tops. Start 9am from Seaford car park (between West Street and Steyne Road and next to the Police Station: GR 482989). Lunch at Firle. OS 198 & 199 or 1308 & 1324 cover the route. Illustrated route sheet available in April (please send sae) from Tony Youngs, 17 Linkfield Lane, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 1JF (0737 778615).

September 1993. Quanton Quadrilateral.

22 miles +. Tom Anderson. (0784 432507)

WALK REPORTS.

Tale of 2 PMs, 6 Sept 92, by Tom Anderson.

The day dawned grey and ominous, soon becoming real rain. This however did not dampen the spirits of the party of enthusiasts assembled at Great Missenden. Two arrived from Southend, one arrived by train and the remainder were old survivors from my previous walks.

The walk proceeded in steady rain to Hughenden Manor, one time house of Disraeli, now owned by the National Trust and well worth a visit. We then proceeded to our lunch time stop at the Harrow, where much food was eaten (unlike last year!). After all had enjoyed this repast, low and behold it stopped raining but remained overcast. Continuing the walk took us to White Leaf Cross, where Janet Chapman was surveyed by "Market Measures" - whoever they are and what for we were unable to ascertain.

We then trudged on along the Ridgeway to Chequers, the country home of the current PM. Then on by Cymbeline's Castle down to Wendover to catch the Chiltern Turbo back to Great Missenden. Many thanks to all who came, especially to Gillian Bull whose ebullient personality kept the party's morale in good shape.

(Thanks also to Tom for the walk and the report, Richard)

Roundabout Rudgwick by Tony Youngs.

Sixteen people turned up at Cranleigh on 19 July to find that Mervyn Harvey, having worked out the route of a really rewarding ramble round Rudgwick, had taken the opportunity of a holiday in Spain, leaving a batch of route descriptions and best wishes with Colin Wood.

After some discussion about which car park Mervyn had intended us to leave from, we set out at an easy pace to walk what we thought was 21 miles. Three impatient members vanished over the horizon after three miles or so and by their speed (and a short cut or two) earned themselves an extra hour in the Blue Ship. It is a model pub: no bars and no carpets; just serving hatches, brick floors and good beer.

In mid-afternoon the hare-like half of the party pressed on in the wrong direction, catching up the tortoise-like half at half past five. Serious study of

the map then revealed that seven miles of Mervyn's route remained to be walked. The whole party decided to make straight for Cranleigh and the cars.

Careful measurement on the map next day showed that we had walked almost 26 miles and that the full route was almost 28. We certainly could not complain of being given short measure. It is a very interesting route. I hope it will appear again in a future programme (with its full distance declared) and that Mervyn will lead it in person. Many thanks to Mervyn and Colin.

The Empty Coffin Walk.

10 night-owls turned up at the Juggs Arms, near Lewes, on the night of 19th June in the hope of finding the empty white coffin, written of in an early Strider (No 21). Most bolstered up their courage with alcohol from within the pub, but others knew that the night would demand all their vigilance. The quest would be more demanding than that for the perfect corn-circle and they were aware that this time the coffin might not be empty!

The Surrey Group demonstrated their wisdom, but not their courage, by staying away. 6 out of the 10 were outwith Surrey. At 11pm, the leader, grim faced Keith Chesterton, briefed his team. He said they were to have a diversion off the South Downs Way to reach their coffin at the right time.

Keith then ordered the "off". He ignored the suggestion from a walker with local knowledge that an easy path should be used and led the way up a steep slippery path through a dark wood. He wanted to test his group. After 2 hours on the moonlit tops, they reached a narrow road and an angry farmer, who demanded to know why they were using a track that was not a right of way. Here the leader showed why he was a leader and disappeared down another path, leaving his followers to provide the explanation. Later Keith said he had felt this track was a better route and no-one would be about at that time of night!

Soon they reached the road near Rodmell and the site of the empty coffin. This time there was no coffin. Keith said perhaps Virginia Woolf's spirit was now at rest, or perhaps her relatives were dead and could no longer put the coffin out. (John Hillaby

had suggested the original sighting of the coffin had been on the anniversary of her death).

So the trek continued - with a snack stop by Southease church and a drinks stop in the drizzle at Alfriston. The leader said he'd walked it before, but seemed unsure of the way. He then admitted that his previous walk had been 21 years ago, but that it was one of his favourites.

In Friston forest, the bad news was received that one of the 10 had strained his knee and could not walk any further. In traditional Surrey Group spirit the team decided to leave him behind and carry on. On the Seven Sisters stretch, they were too late for the dawn, but in time for a gale force wind to walk into. On this last stretch into Eastbourne, Keith rushed on ahead for an early breakfast, 4 stopped to rest and 4 from the original 10 finished the walk together. Our leader said this was a good average for his social walks and he couldn't understand why he hadn't had more walkers. He said that they may not have found the coffin, but they had passed the entrance test for next year's Cleveland 100. On that they might see the dog that did not bark!

LDWA PUBLICITY MATERIAL

is available from Janet Chapman (63 Yockley Close, The Maultway, Camberley, Surrey GU15 1QQ) so please contact her if you wish to display or distribute it.

CLEVELAND HUNDRED.

Surrey Group is manning a checkpoint. Offers of help to Janet Chapman please (0276 65169).

STOP PRESS

Village Hall Danby - Checkpoint 12 (GR 708086) 82.5 miles
Open 03.30 Sun till 02.30 Mon

Red Hat.

Somebody from Surrey lent Sue Ramsay a red hat on the South Downs 80. She is keen to return it. Would the owner please contact Jeff Ellingham(0428 683374)?

Surrey Group membership...

now stands at 116. Many thanks to Reg Chapman and Brian Haigh for their initiatives which have resulted in many new and renewing members.

Group Funds.

The Surrey Group has often made donations to the National Trust and Hurtwood Control when it has a healthy balance. (Both organisations own land in the area and manage significant areas with walkers enjoyment given a high priority). It is proposed to consider donations to these groups at the AGM.

LDWA National Membership

£6.50 p.a. for individual, £9.75 for family - to Kevin Uzzell, 7 Ford Drive, Yarnfield, Stone, Staffs, ST15 0RP.

Surrey Group 1993 Subscription

£1 due 31 Dec 92. Please use enclosed form or send with your name and address to Reg Chapman, 63 Yockley Close, Camberley, Surrey GU15 1QQ.

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