

Surrey Group
NEWSLETTER
September 1996

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Items for the Newsletter

Reports of past events, letters and other items should be sent to the Editor before the end of December for inclusion in the next Newsletter. Preferably they should be typed but legible manuscript will be gladly accepted.

Best Wishes to Barbara Blatchford

First of all a big thank you to Barbara for organising the Midsummer Evening Walk from her home in Surbiton on 19 June. This is such a regular and much enjoyed event that there will be a big gap when she carries out her threat to move to the North.

Secondly Barbara had an operation on each of her feet a few weeks ago which has temporarily put her out of action but which should enable her to considerably increase her amount of walking when she has fully recovered. Some of the members clubbed together to send her some flowers and in a recent note to me she asked me to pass on her thanks. Barbara we all wish you well and look forward to seeing you on our social walks.

Brian Hoagh

Report : Downsman Proving Walk : Sunday 28 July

Attendance was adversely affected by the holiday season but the six who joined John Lay - Janet and Reg Chapman, Peter and Elaine Edwards, Molly Groundsell, and Dave Challenger - enjoyed a good day out following the South Downs Way. After a fairly sharp climb the SDW was reached and the effort was rewarded by splendid views southwards to the sea. Elevenses were taken in Kingston where the absence of Gillian produced some disappointment for the Brownies in the Church Hall. Soon the party reached the outskirts of Lewes and then it was on to the Trevor Arms in Glyde (well known to participants in the ever popular Rottingdean Windmill Walk held just two weeks earlier) where they arrived just before 2pm. Fortunately the good planning of John paid off because meals are not usually served after this time. However they had been warned by John and as a result seven good appetites were satisfactorily met by good quality food.

Fortified by the meal and a rest the party completed the circular walk to arrive back at Plumpton. At 21.75 miles it had been fractionally on the long side for a social walk but everybody enjoyed it, even Reg.

is a good way of putting a little back into an activity which gives such a lot of pleasure to a large number of people.

An Invitation to Walk with the Kent

10 November

Tom Sinclair of the Kent group has invited members of our Group to join the Kent Group on a social walk starting at 8.30am from the West Street car park, GR 612 593 in Wrotham. The distance should be about 17 miles. There will be a pub stop for lunch.

Anyone wishing to take part, or who need more details, should contact Tom on 01732 883705. For anyone wishing to travel to the start by train the nearest railway station is Borough Green. If you let Tom know I think he may be able to arrange for someone to provide a lift.

N.B. We have also been invited to walk with the London Group on 20 October from Petersfield, see Programme.

Mid-Week Walks.

At the Planning meeting held on 29 August it was recognised that there is now a demand for mid week walks for those who have managed to escape from the delights of full time employment. After a show of hands it was agreed that the most suitable day would be Thursday. The first walk will be held on Thursday 28 November. It is expected the walks will be between 15 and 20 miles with a pub stop for lunch. Members who do not usually take part in social walks will be particularly welcome to join these walks. And even more so if you have a favorite walk you would like to share. All suggestions will be welcome. Contact Brian Haigh, 01483 303020.

Venue for Planning Meetings

For at least three years the meetings have been held in Shere at either the Prince of Wales or the White Horse. When the location for the AGM was discussed in the last meeting there was a large majority in favour of holding the AGM in the Star near Woking. Unfortunately the Star no longer has a meeting room so the AGM will once again be held in Shere. One item on the Agenda will be 'Venues for Future Meetings' so if you know of a good pub well located for our members please let me know.

1003/13

PROGF

Sunday 29 September

Dansfold Ramble

12 or 20 miles from the Village Hall in Dansfold. Start 9.15am. More details from Brian Haigh; see to 17 Lower Edgeborough Road, GUILDFORD, Surrey GU1 2 DX.

Fri/Sat/Sun 4/5/6 October

Wales Weekend

The plan is to travel on Friday and walk on Saturday and Sunday. Once again Dan Hadfield, one time Chairman of our Group who now lives in Wales, will be our guide. A small number of vacancies are still available. Names asap to Molly Groundsell, tel : 01483 842508.

Sunday 20 October

London Group Walk

18 miles from Petersfield railway station. Start 10.05am. Leader Don Bolton. Pub stop for lunch in East Moon.

Saturday 2 November

Ashtead Afternoon Walk

A half day walk of about 12 miles followed by refreshments from the home of Dave and Pat Challenger, 44 Agates Lane, ASHTEAD (GR 178 577). Start 12.30. Please advise Dave in advance if you intend to go, tel : 01372 277138.

Sunday 10 November

Kent Group Walk

20 miles approx from West Street car park, Wrotham, GR 612 593. Start 08.30. Leader Tom Sinclair, tel. 01732 883705.

Thursday 28 November

Mid week Walk

About 18 miles. Pub stop for lunch. Start at 09.30 from car park just off A25 at Milton Heath, GR 155 487. Leader : Brian Haigh.

Saturday 7 December

Christmas Dinner

Once again at the Sun Inn in Dansfold almost opposite the Village Hall. The price is expected to be £17. Number is limited to 28 so place your order with

AMME

Mervyn early to avoid disappointment. Before the dinner there will be an optional walk starting at 9.00am from the Village Hall, GR 007 362, OS 186. Changing facilities are available. More details from Mervyn Harvey, tel : 01483 417973 or 01798 344309.

Thursday 12 December

Selbourne Circuit

Our second mid-week walk. About 15 miles. Start Bottom Zig Zags, GR 743 332. Good ups and downs, and good pub stop for lunch. Leader Keith Chesterton, tel 01483 563392

Friday 27 December

Windsor Wander

Return of an old favorite. 12 miles. Start 09.00 for walkers (10.00 for runners) at Airforce Memorial car park, Coopers Hill Lane, Englefield Green, GR 994 719. Organiser : Ralph Henley.

Sunday 29 December

Hangover Hobble

20 miles from the car park at the Recreation ground in Shere, GR 073 480, OS 187. Start 08.30. Pub stop for lunch.

Wednesday 1 January

Surrey Inns Kanter

12 or 20 miles from St. Catherine's Hall, Chestnut Ave, GUILDFORD, GR 992 485. Entry on day only. £1 (£1.50 for non-members and 50p for u-16s). SAE to Peter Bill, Abbots Corner, Abbots Drive, VIRGINIA WATER, Surrey GU25 4SE.

Sunday 12 January

Winter Tanners

30 miles in central Surrey from car park at GR 164 567 from 7.30 to 9.30 am. Experienced walkers only. SAE to Brian Haigh, 17 Lower Edgeborough Road, GUILDFORD, Surrey GU1 2 DX.

PROGRAMME continued

Thursday 16 January

AGM

7.30 for 8.00pm in the Prince of Wales, Shere. Resolutions for the AGM should be sent to the Secretary before the end of December.

Saturday 18 January

Punchbowl Marshals Walk

Contact Keith Chesterton for details; tel. 01483 563392.

Sunday 2 February

Punchbowl Marathon

30 miles in western Surrey. Similar route to last year. See for entry forms to Dave Challenger, 44 Agnes Lane, Ashted KT21 2ND.

Sunday 16 February

Social Walk

About 18 miles. Final details in next Newsletter. Leader Elaine Edwards. Tel. 01243 262475

Sunday 23 March

Social Walk

About 28 miles. Final details in next Newsletter. Leader A N Other. Volunteer needed, please contact the Secretary.

Sunday 13 April

Social Walk

About 20 miles. Final details in next Newsletter. Leader Peter Bull, tel. 01344 842508.

Sat/Sun 3/4 May

Downman Marshals Walk

Contact Roger Moss for more details, tel. 01252 659553.

Marshals Wanted

Additional marshals are needed for both the Winter Tanners Marathon on 12 January, and for the Punchbowl Marathon on 2 February. If you have a few hours to spare on either of these dates please contact Brian Huish or Keith Chesterton. It

Report : Molly's Meander : Sunday 11 August

Eleven sturdy walkers set out in fine drizzle from the car park in Hindhead. Our route took us through Golden Valley to Grayscott and on to Waggoners' Wells for a welcome coffee stop. By now the rain had stopped and the day was looking brighter. There were times when our leader was a bit uncertain about the route but Janet soon put her right. We had a pleasant pub stop at Passfield Common and then on our way back we passed a small herd of Highland cattle complete with a tiny day old calf. A surprise awaited the party when it arrived at the car park. Reg Chapman was waiting, tea ready brewed to accompany scones and cakes made by Molly and Janet during the previous evening. What a pleasant surprise. Many thanks to Reg and Janet.

Molly Groundwell

John Lay follows the GR5

In July John was a member of a mixed bag of LDWA members led by Ron Roweth of the Kent Group which followed the GR5 from its start on Lake Geneva to Modais, a small village south of Chamonix. During the walk which lasted two weeks they experienced good weather except for 16 hours of heavy rain at the very beginning. John took some superb transparencies which he showed after the planning meeting on 29 August. The high level shots were very good, particularly those of Mont Blanc which dominated the route for several days. Although temperatures reached the eighties even in July there were still some snow fields to negotiate. Most nights were spent in Refuges; the accommodation may have been basic - especially the outside loos - but this was more than compensated for by the superb five course dinners. Didn't they live well! The party covered 172 miles during which they climbed more than 43 thousand feet. They hope to complete the remaining 230 miles to Nice next year.

Greenland in 1997

Keith Chesterton is thinking of doing some walking in Greenland in the middle of next year. If anyone would like to join him they should give him a call on 01483 563392 to discuss details.

WANTED : THREE DRIVERS

If you can drive a minibus then you could be just the person to help Mervyn Harvey. Mervyn is the Transport Officer for the Downsman Hundred to be held at the end of May in 1997. To provide transport between the various check points and the Start and Finish he has calculated he will need three minibuses. Obviously he will also need at least three drivers so if you are able to help please let Mervyn know asap. His telephone number is 01483 417973 or 01798 344309.

Downsman Hundred : Good Progress

The latest committee meeting was held on 4 September when it was reported that good progress has been made in deciding the route and the location of the check points. More than 90% of the route will be on the South Downs Way but because some of the check points are not on the SDW it will be necessary to leave it for a short distance here and there. Application forms will be available well before the end of the year and in addition to showing the location of the check points it will also give details of the coach arrangements from Eastbourne to the start at Winchester. *(This will be additional to the minibuses needed by Mervyn mentioned above).* Plans for the Marshals Walk to be held during the first week end of May have also reached an advanced stage.

Car Parking in Tilford

A recent letter from the Parish Council included a request that organisers who start walks from Tilford should use the car park on the LHS of the road towards Hindhead rather than the smaller area on the edge of the green.