

Surrey Group
NEWSLETTER
June 1999



Group Officers

- Chairman.** **Ann Sayer**
29 Twickenham Road,
TEDDINGTON, Middx, TW11 8AQ
Tel : 0181 977 9495
- Secretary
and Editor.** **Brian Haigh**
17 Lower Edgeborough Road
GUILDFORD, Surrey, GU1 2DX /
Tel : 01483 303020
- Treasurer.** **Barry Harrison**
58 Arundel Road,
KINGSTON upon THAMES, KT1 3RZ
Tel : 0181 949 1547
- Membership.** **Reg Chapman**
63 Yockley Close,
CAMBERLEY, Surrey GU15 1QQ
Tel : 01276 65169

Items for the Newsletter

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

New Constitution for Surrey Group

Following the conversion on 14 March 1999 of the LDWA to a company limited by guarantee all Groups were given 90 days to produce a constitution based upon a Model Constitution issued by the National Committee. To have not done so would have risked losing our insurance cover. Accordingly a new constitution was produced and this was accepted at our meeting on 11 May. In the same meeting a set of Bye-Laws was also accepted to supplement the Constitution. The Bye-Laws contain items from our previous Constitution which we were not allowed to carry forward into the new Constitution. Copies of both of these documents are included with this Newsletter thanks to the generosity of our Chairman. Any amendments to the Bye-Laws should be sent to the Secretary before the AGM to be held on 18 January 2000. Amendments to the Constitution can only be made with the prior approval of the Association's Executive Committee.

Vacancy for Group Secretary and Editor.

This is my seventh year as Secretary so I have decided to stand down at the next AGM in January 2000. During the twenty-one years I have been a member of the LDWA I have obtained a lot of pleasure from taking part in LDWA organised events. Seven years ago it seemed right to put a little back into the organisation by taking on the job of Secretary and Editor. Hopefully there is someone out there who is now willing to take over. I will be pleased to discuss the requirements of the job with anyone who is interested. Anybody who is interested should contact me in good time before the next AGM.

Brian Hough

Would You like to be a Marshal?

It is obvious that without Event Organisers there would be no events for walkers to enjoy; it is also true there would be no events without a continuing supply of marshals. Each year the Winter Tanners, Punchbowl and Surrey Summits all require a considerable number of marshals. Most times the organisers have sufficient but more than once it has been touch and go. It follows that offers from newer (and younger) members would be welcomed. If you have yet to help out on a Check Point why not volunteer to help? Do it now. I know your offer would be warmly appreciated. The current Organisers are John Westcott, Keith Chesterton, and Tony and Louise Cartwright.

Report : A Day with Santa

5 December 1998

At 8.30am on a crisp sunny morn Santa Claus, disguised as Mervyn, arrived at the Dunsfold Village Hall and whisked away eighteen Surrey members in his fairy coach to an unknown destination four miles short of Petworth. The group ambled through beautiful Petworth Park to reach a fairy grotto in Petworth where they were greeted by Liz, the fairy queen. Toasted tea cakes and hot drinks were on the menu. Suitably refreshed the walkers set off for a further six miles through the Sussex lanes to Kirdford and excellent Pub fare.

The Grotto for afternoon tea was in a field where the fairy queen dispensed her luscious lemon cake. Next the walkers were entertained by their very own shepherd, disguised as Dave Challenger, who found himself isolated from his friends by a flock of sheep.

The penultimate destination before the evening festivities was the Village Hall for refreshments and to prepare for the ball in the Sun Inn Castle. All excited the excitement was added to by problems with the locks on the toilet doors which threatened to prevent some of the walkers attending the ball.

Thank you Santa, thank you Fairy Queen, we hope to see you in December 1999.
From one of your little elves. *Editor's note : The author of this report, who is well known for her good appetite, prefers to remain anonymous.*

Report : Leith Hill Litter

11 February 1999

From Starvills Corner car park, not a thousand miles from Leith Hill, fourteen eager members commenced the seventeen miles walk going, would you believe, downhill. Weather conditions were excellent, it was 'a good to be alive' type of morning. Sunny and crisp after the sharp frost of the previous night and with just a trace of snow in places, highlighting the beautiful scenery. Through Forest Green and on to our first stop at the churchyard in Ockley. Time for a slurp or a call to nature but not both before our leader had us heading south to join the Sussex Border Path to follow into Radgwick for sustenance and refreshments, and a visit to the church. Fully refreshed and raring to go we headed north west, passing Baynards Park to reach the Roman road and our uphill trudge back to Starvills Corner. By now the ground had thawed so there were now lots and lots of mud on route but that almost went unnoticed because of the lovely company. A good day out was had by all. Many thanks to our leader, Dave Challenger.

Margaret Ackers

PROG

Sunday 20 June

Wool Gathering Around Woolbeding

20 miles. Start at 9.00am from free car park at north end of Midhurst.
Map SO 197 GR 887 218. Pub stop for lunch. Leader: Elaine Edwards.
Tel: 01254 262475.

Monday 21 June NOTE CHANGE OF DATE Midsummer Walk

Evening walk led by Louise and Tony Cartwright from their home at 12 East Meads, Ouslow Village. Start 7.00pm. Refreshments available at end. Please advise Louise (tel.: 01483 503768) if you intend to take part. She would welcome offers of desserts.

Thursday 15 July

Look Out and About

PLEASE NOTE THIS WALK HAS BEEN CANCELLED. Les Maple hopes to lead it sometime next year.

Sunday 25 July

Glenn Miller Passed This Way

20 miles. Start at 9.00am from Banstead Woods car park, off Lower Park Road. SO 187 GR 273 583. Pub stop for lunch. Leader John Lay. Tel.: 01932 346596.

9th Sept. Meeting

Sunday 26 September

Dunsfold Kanter

20 or 12 miles from Club House at George IV playing fields. GR 006 370.
Start 9.15am. More information from Brian Haigh, tel.: 01483 303020.

Saturday - Tuesday, 9 - 12 October

Lakeland Weekend

Replaces annual visit to Wales. Please contact Molly Groundsell early to book accommodation. Tel.: 01483 762843.

Sunday 17 October

Founders Challenge

26 miles. Start Peaslake at 9.00am. SAE to Bill Thompson, 86 Lynton Road, Acton, LONDON W3 9HW for entry form.

Sunday 24 October

Toby's Tour

18 miles. Start 9.00am in top car park on Puttenham Common. SO 186 GR 921 461. Pub stop for lunch. Leader Toby Cartwright, tel. 01483 503768

Thursday 11 November

A Walk to Remember

18 miles. Start Vann Road car park, off A286. GR 895 285. Pub stop for lunch. Leader Margaret Ackers, tel. 01428 605893.

Sunday 21 November

Winkworth Wander

18 miles. Start 8.30am in bottom car park at Winkworth Arboretum. SO 186 GR 997 414. Pub stop for lunch. Leader John Lay, tel. 01932 346596

Saturday 11 December

Xmas Walk and Dinner

Start 0845 from Village Hall in Dunsfold. Dinner is at 7pm in the Swan Inn. Leader Mervyn Harvey, tel. 01798 344309.

Monday 27 December

Windsor Winter Wander

12 miles. Start walkers 9.00am, runners/joggers 10.00am from RAF Car Park, Coopers Hill Lane, Eaglefield Green, GR 996 748. OS 175 or Explorer 160. Small charge for route description & mid walk drinks. Organiser Ralph Henley MABAC Running League tel. 01784 252104.

Saturday 1 January

Surrey Inns Kuster

12 or 20 miles. Start 09.15 onwards from St. Catherine's Hall, Chestnut Avenue, Guildford. Entries on the day only. Organiser: John Lay, tel. 01932 346596.

Sunday 9 January

Winter Tanners

30 miles with 20 mile option. SAE for entry form from John Westcott,

Jan 18th - Tues. Heading Hedonistic Hike

Report : An Exploration of Albury

18 March 1999

A short distance walk but very enjoyable nevertheless. Fifteen of us set off, led by Tony Youngs (past the Short tea-rooms now owned by Hilda Bray) each having been given a copy of Tony's usual beautiful, detailed route map. The walk had been advertised as 15 miles but we were told that if it was to be that long we would be carrying Tony for the last three! Along the route we visited the Saxon Church in Albury Park, and the sixteenth century pigeon house in Weston Yard. We walked through the cricket field where Montgomery is said to have addressed Canadian troops just before D-day, and over the ground which once contained the Chilworth Admiralty Cordite works. In the new Albury churchyard we saw the grave of Martin Tapper, an early protector of footpaths, and learned about the Catholic Apostolic Church, closed because there are no surviving Apostles to appoint a new minister. It was a great day out, full of interest. Fortunately we did not have to sit an examination at the end. Instead Molly Groundsell thanked us for our tuneful lunchtime rendition of Happy Birthday, by giving us each a large slice of her birthday cake. Thanks Tony.

Joan Wrenn

Report : Chobham Clump

22 April 1999

When I volunteered to revive the Chobham Clump a walk frequently led in days gone by by Chris Steer I did not realise it was usually undertaken as a half day walk which ended with afternoon tea at Foxhollow - the home of Chris and Margaret Steer. As I wandered around the commons of Chobham and Horsell, in the days before the walk, constrained by the M3 and Fairoaks Airport, trying to fit in a walk of about 18 miles I soon realised how much more sensible it would have been to make this a halfday walk. However a route was devised which had the advantage of visiting the Brickmakers Arms on the edge of Windlesham for lunch where we were joined by Peter Bull and John Lay. Simply in terms of numbers, four plus myself, the turn out did not score highly for quantity but that was more than made up for by quality - Margaret Ackers, Gillian Ball, Dawn Bishop, and Ann Sayer. Many thanks for supporting the walk. I hope you enjoyed it.

Brian Hoyle

Millennium Hundred : May 2000

Janet has accepted a request from the Kent Group for help at the Finish on the Marshals Walk (beginning of May) and for us to run the breakfast stop on the main event (end of May). Kent were very helpful to us when we organised the Downsman in 1997 so we should do all we can to help them. Please make a note of the dates and contact Janet to offer help.

Report : Fifty Frolic

16 May 1999

If the Queen can have two birthdays then so can Richard Ireson. And he did. And it was more energetic than his first! It is probably quite a while since so many cars were to be seen parked outside Richard's home in Crowthorne so early on a Sunday morning. Most of the regulars were there plus two local members of the LDWA who had seen the walk advertised in Strider. At 9.00am prompt for 8.45 start we were on our way westwards soon to reach Bagshot Common and then a well appointed garden nursery for elevenes. Windlesham came next at about midday but no stop for lunch yet. It was to be another hour before we arrived at the Belvedere on the edge of Windsor Great Park. Lunch was first class; plenty of choice and good quality. The return started off through the Park, across Ascot race course, in and out of Englemere nature reserve and on to the Coral Reef leisure centre - pity we did not have time for a swim.

It had all been very enjoyable but the best was still to come. A birthday party no less awaited us at the end. The ladies of the Ireson household, ably assisted by Richard's sons Peter and Edward, had been very busy indeed and we were faced with a table straining under the weight of a sumptuous spread. We sang Happy Birthday, Richard blew out his candles and a rather special day came to an end. Many thanks Richard. It was a good day.

Brian Haigh

Surrey Summits : 17/18 April 1999

The Organising Committee send their sincere thanks to all of the marshals (not least Jim Dunster whose name was somehow omitted from the Results) who gave up their spare time to make the event a success. The date for the next offering of our premier challenge event, 100km in 26 hours, has been fixed for 8/9 April 2000.

London LOOP* Launch.

Opportunity to walk with Ann Sayer

Waymarking of the entire southern section of the route - Erith to Kingston, 54 miles long - is now complete and local council leaflets are now available. Ann Sayer has been invited to the Grand Opening on Farthing Down south of Coulsdon at 2.30 on Friday June 25th. Prior to the opening Ann is planning to walk from Erith to Bexley via the Darent Valley on the Wednesday; on to Hornsey Green on the Thursday; and then, on the Friday, to join in with the organised walk from Hornsey Green to Farthing Down (11 miles). After the opening there will be another organised walk to Hamstead at 3.15. She may do the remaining 11 miles to Kingston on the Friday or perhaps Saturday. If you are interested in keeping Ann company on any or all of these walks, please contact her on 0181 977 9495 preferably after June 7th.

* LOOP - London Outer Orbital Path. Approx. 150 miles mostly following the greenery on the outer limits of the outer London boroughs. Parts of the northern section already exist.

Report : Richmond Round

15 December 1998

Eight handy souls met the Leader at the Diana Fountain car park in Bushy Park having variously negotiated the rush hour and ignored a disturbingly wet forecast. The leader was wearing trainers for a country walk - a sight never before seen by any members present. What sort of country could there be on a walk lying virtually entirely within the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames? Well, quite a lot really, though not quite like deepest Surrey: 3 Royal Parks complete with deer; a view of 3 stately homes and plenty of quite stately residences; a National Trail; a Lock; a hill; a coffee and mince pie stop; and lunch in a cafe in Richmond Park which sold beer only in cans, causing one member to abandon the walk in disgust. The leader provided a note of Points of Interest along the way, with apologies for not having been able to aspire to Tony Youngs' artistic compilations.

Ann Sayer